



# September's Program Facebook

For our September meeting our President Larry Mobbs has arranged for Dave Roberts, IT person for the Port Huron Area School District, to give a presentation on Facebook. Facebook is a Social Networking Service that helps people “connect and share with the people in your life”. Members can share posts, photos, and other content with their friends. Businesses are increasingly using Facebook to interact with consumers and to increase sales. Come to our meeting and find out what Facebook is all about!

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## 2010/2011 Executive Committee

President	Larry Mobbs <a href="mailto:lmobbs@comcast.net">lmobbs@comcast.net</a>
Vice President/ Program Coordinator	Jim Sanderson <a href="mailto:jim-donnas@att.net">jim-donnas@att.net</a>
Treasurer	Paul Cannon <a href="mailto:pauca@comcast.net">pauca@comcast.net</a>
Secretary/ Newsletter Editor	Judy Callender <a href="mailto:callenderj2@gmail.com">callenderj2@gmail.com</a>
Membership Coordinator	Jane Wheatly <a href="mailto:jwheatly1187@comcast.net">jwheatly1187@comcast.net</a>
Software Librarian	Norb Demmel <a href="mailto:dasboot@comcast.net">dasboot@comcast.net</a>
Promotions/ Librarian	Sharon Kirby Agee <a href="mailto:hummingbird5@avci.net">hummingbird5@avci.net</a>
Web Page Editor	Pam Raisanen <a href="mailto:phraisanen@gmail.com">phraisanen@gmail.com</a>
Club Website	<a href="http://www.bwcomp.org">www.bwcomp.org</a>
Club Mailing Address	C.O.M.P. PO Box 595655 Fort Gratiot, MI 48059-5655

## Flash Drive of the Month

by Norb Demmel

**COMP Club Flash Drives are to be turned in to Norb Demmel at the October 2011 General Meeting. At that time they will be wiped clean, and Flash Drive programs for September and October 2011 will be downloaded to the Drives.**

**So PLEASE remember to download programs that you want to keep from your COMP Flash Drive BEFORE the October 2011 COMP General Meeting.**

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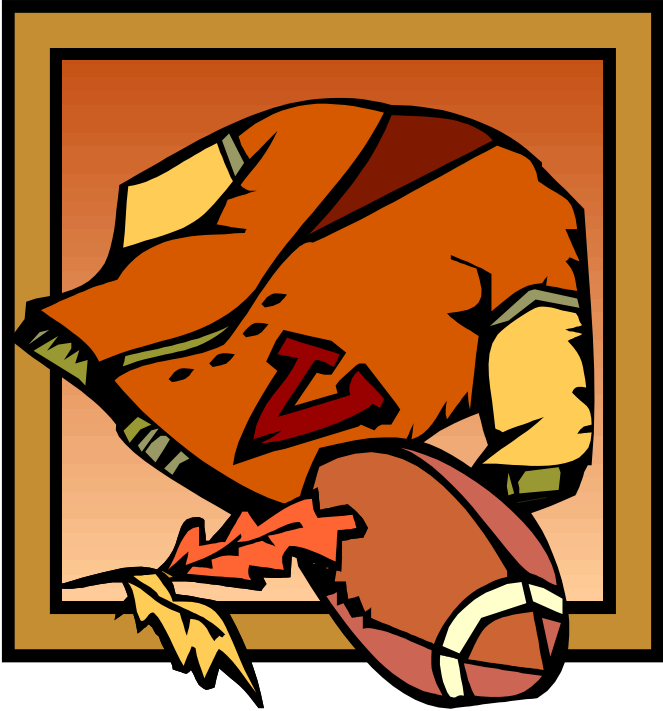
# Northward Images

## Photography Photo Restoration Instruction

by  
Paul Cannon

*Individual training provided by  
Appointment.*

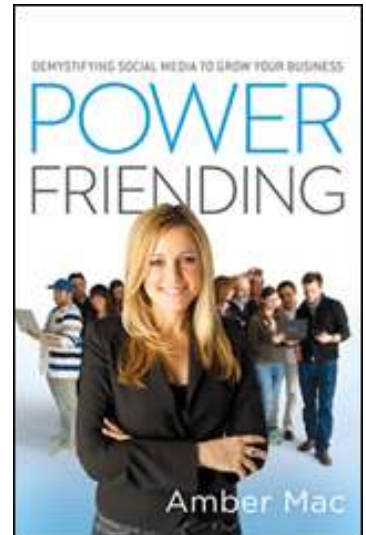
Contact Paul at :(586) 291-9764  
Email to: [paucan@comcast.net](mailto:paucan@comcast.net)  
<http://northwardimages.com>



COMP is a member of the  
Association of Personal  
Computer User Groups

# Power Friending: “Demystifying Social Media to Grow Your Business”

By Amber Mac (Amber MacArthur)  
Published by Penguin Group (USA) Inc. 2010  
978-1-59184-328-3  
Pages: 245  
USA: \$24.95 / CDA: \$31.00  
[www.ambermac.com](http://www.ambermac.com)



*Review: By Gregory West, Member of Sarnia Computer Users' Group ([scug.ca](http://scug.ca)) and Member of Port Huron, MI Computer Group ([bwcomp.org](http://bwcomp.org))  
[prospector16 \(at\) gmail.com](mailto:prospector16@gmail.com)  
Blog: [gregorywest.wordpress.com](http://gregorywest.wordpress.com)*

I bought this book as an aid in my research into the world of social media, knowing that Amber MacArthur would have it all explained in plain English, covering all the bases. I was right, she did, and then some.

As an avid listener to Amber Mac and Leo Laporte via the [Twit.tv](http://Twit.tv) network, with the show: Net at Night, I learned how deep Amber's involvement is with technology and more so, social media. Her insights into this subject are extensive and I knew this book would reveal a guide that would set me on my exploration of social media.

Anyone, whether you own a business, operate a nonprofit group, or simply want to promote you own media for fun, this book is a guide, and Amber sets out to help you “build up your social media strategy, one Internet friend at a time”.

The book consists of nine enlightening chapters starting with a “brief” history on the evolving social media which helps put thing into perspective and sets the groundwork for this book. Amber continues on in this journey telling how real people and companies struggle though mistakes, lies, and failures as well as many success stories. From the failures we quickly learn what not to do in creating our own social media awareness. The success stories are many and they help to give us not only ideas but courage to continue through the social media wilderness learning a little bit more with each step Amber takes us.

Amber demonstrates three rules at the onset: “A IS FOR AUTHENTICITY” - “B IS FOR BRAVERY” - C IS FOR CONSISTENCY”. Each rule is explained with examples of how people / companies both failed and prospered by either following or disregarding these rules.

In chapter four: “CARPENTRY AT ITS BEST”, we are given the necessary social media tools to work with such as blogs, videos, wikis and more. Each tool is explained how and why it works and what it can do for you. Following each tool is a real life example how it works for others. I found this chapter most interesting and helpful. Chapter five is one of my favourites in which Amber discusses “The Strategy”. Time management, spreading your word, responding and bringing the message home are a few topics covered. Here Amber shares her “Ten Best Practices...”A must read.

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

Amber points out success stories and failures too, all with examples so we don't make the same errors. One thing I really am a glad about is the Notes in the back of the book. Here are Amber's gems that refer to a topic on a certain page in the book with a website source that will take you deeper into the world of social media marketing.

I must give this book is easily a ten plus in not only content and information but Amber's personal stories that keeps the material moving.

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## Deadline

The deadline for submissions for October's News letter is **Wednesday, September 28, 2011**. Submissions can be e-mailed to [callenderj2@gmail.com](mailto:callenderj2@gmail.com), subject heading: COMP Newsletter.

# COMP Library

Members may donate or check out items  
by contacting Sharon Kirby Agee  
[hummingbird5555@gmail.com](mailto:hummingbird5555@gmail.com)

Adobe Photoshop CS3 (one on one)  
Adobe Photoshop Elements (classroom in a book)  
Windows 2000 Professional  
Windows 2000 Professional-Bible  
Microsoft Office 2007  
Creating Hollywood style movies  
Building the perfect PC  
Windows Vista (illustrated)  
Slide.ology  
How Computers Work  
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The Digital Shoebox  
PowerPoint 97  
HTML  
The Windows Vista Book  
Publisher 2003  
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Digital Image Suite  
How to use Adobe Photoshop 7  
Cortez Peters Keyboard Drills  
Photoshop 7 for Dummies (both windows & Mac)  
Computer Friendly  
Learning Microsoft Office 97  
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The Photoshop Elements 7 Book  
The Photoshop Elements 8 Book  
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Adobe Photoshop CS5 Classroom In a Book  
Color Management DVD  
Microsoft Windows Vista - Quick Reference  
HTML 5  
Microsoft Office 2010, Visual Quickstart Guide  
Photoshop for Video  
Getting Started with Camera Raw  
Adobe Photoshop Elements 9: Learn by Video  
Mastering Exposure in Digital Photography: Video  
Get Your Photography on the Web  
Understanding Adobe Photoshop CS5  
Microsoft Windows XP (for home users)



# Executive Committee Report

June's Executive Committee meeting took place 6/22/11 at Jane Wheatly's home. Present were EC members Larry Mobbs, Norb Demmel, Paul Cannon, Pam Raisanen, Sharon Kirby-Agee, Jane Wheatly, Jim Sanderson, and Judy Callender.

## **Special Interest Groups (SIGs)**

Larry Mobbs suggested still having 3 SIGs in a month, on the same topics, at the 3 different locations. The problem is that we have not had enough people coming to the SIGs. Norb Demmel suggested having one SIG each month, and is willing to host the first one—a Video SIG—at his home. It was decided that the Club would have one SIG on the third Thursday of each month—September's SIG will be the Video SIG on 9/15/11 at Norb Demmel's home, October's SIG will be the Explorer SIG on 10/20/11, hosted by Ron Walters at Crosswell Computers N' Vacuums, and November's SIG will be the Photo SIG on 11/17/11 at Paul Cannon's home. The Executive Committee will then determine if this should be continued into the next year. (No SIGs are planned for December.)

## **Advertising**

Discussed the fact that there has been no information on COMP meetings in the Times Herald. Sharon Kirby-Agee has been unable to get information from the Times Herald on who she should contact. Committee members mentioned they have also had no luck getting information into the Times Herald on other Clubs that they belong to.

## **Flash Drives**

The COMP Club Flash Drives are 2 GB, so they do not have enough room for 2 years of COMP programs. At the September General Meeting it will be announced that the Flash Drives will be wiped clean when they are handed in during the October General Meeting, then the September 2011 and October 2011 programs will be downloaded at that time. This will give members time to download anything from the Flash Drives that they want to keep.

## **COMP Picnic**

No COMP Picnic this year. Pam Raisanen can't have it at her place, she is gone a lot and is busy when she is here. Other places that Committee members considered were not deemed acceptable for various reasons.

## **Christmas Party**

If we choose the Dorsey House for the COMP Christmas Party, we will have to make a refundable deposit. The Committee will be making a final decision on the location of the COMP Christmas Party in September. Norb Demmel will be talking to the owner of the Dorsey House to let her know that the decision will be made in September.

## **Christmas Gifts**

Norb Demmel spent about \$320 last year for 36 Christmas gifts. We had 33 people, so the remaining gifts (3 reams of computer paper) were raffled off to Club members the following month. The Committee agreed to raise the amount for Christmas gifts to about \$350, roughly about \$10 per person if about 35 people show up (although if more than 35 people sign up for the Christmas party the amount for gifts might be raised).

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**COMP Club Officer positions were determined**

- President—Larry Mobbs
- Vice-President—Jim Sanderson
- Treasurer—Paul Cannon
- Secretary & Newsletter Editor—Judy Callender
- Webmaster (aka Web Page Editor)—Pam Raisanen
- Flash Drive (aka Software Librarian) & Raffle—Norb Demmel
- Promotions & Librarian—Sharon Kirby-Agee
- Membership Coordinator—Jane Wheatly



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# eBooks

*By Wil Wakely, President, Seniors Computer Group, CA  
February 2011 issue, Bits and Bytes, The Official Electronic  
Newsletter of the SCG [www.SCGsd.org](http://www.SCGsd.org)  
[wilw\(at\)adnc.com](mailto:wilw(at)adnc.com)*



It took a long time for e-books to arrive on the scene, but now they are here in a swarm, offering many styles, file formats and displays. In a few years, when standards are established, this confusing variety will disappear. Currently, the major players are Kindle by Amazon, Nook by Barnes & Noble, Sony eReader, and a lot of fledglings trying to get their foot in the door.

The concept of the e-book is great: a portable electronic book containing hundreds of titles; low cost books in digital format so no paper printing is required; variable type font selection for ease of reading; immediate downloads for impulse purchases; access to the Web for blogs, magazines and newspapers; audio text-to-speech for when your eyes are tired. And I know of other advantages besides these. Recently, there has been a price war and Amazon and others have slashed prices drastically. I predict that Walmart will have an e-book for \$39.95 in the not too distant future. The e-book concept has been around for years; I recall promoting the idea 25 years ago, but at that time the technology was not yet available to make it practical. What was missing was an inexpensive low cost display; cheap large memory; a fast computer chip; and a small, lightweight, powerful battery. None of these existed at that time, but now they are here and the concept has been actualized.

Several types of displays are now available: Kindle uses a black/white display called e-ink. It is low power for long battery life and reflective so sunlight doesn't fade it; in fact, it is viewed best in bright light. The downside is that a book light is required to read in bed without disturbing your bed partner.

The Nook is a color display using liquid crystals, which is poor in bright light and a battery power hog. However, it is color and can be viewed in the dark, the darker the better.

Qualcomm has developed a color display called Mirasol that uses interference colors like butterfly wings or oil-on-water; it also uses very little power for long battery life. Like the Kindle, it is reflective for viewing in bright light. Although holding great promise, it is not yet on the market, but is due later this year in some e-book. Every day hundreds more books become available in digital format. Google claims to be converting almost every book in print to digital format, and they have the resources to do it. Amazon and Barnes & Nobel offer huge book selections on their Web sites. Surprisingly, Amazon sold more digital books last year than printed ones.

A major problem is the plethora of file formats that are too numerous to describe here. For more info go to: <http://bit.ly/fznE77> In time, these will boil down to just a few standard file formats. In the meantime, there are free conversion programs which will allow you to read almost any file format on your e-book, regardless of the model.

If you are an avid reader, I would recommend that you consider an e-book. It will save you money in the long run on the cost of books (NY Times Best Sellers, \$9.99 and many free ones), Plus, all the neat features make it a joy to use.

# eBook Readers Compared

*By Constance Brown, President, Canton/Alliance/Massillon User Group, Ohio*

*February 2011 issue, The Memory Map*

[www.camug.com](http://www.camug.com)

*president (at) camug.com*



Technology with new capabilities and applications is constantly available. It can be difficult to stay focused on what will be most suitable for our requirements when we are constantly wowed by the latest innovations. Suppose you wish to read eBooks and listen to music. How many pieces of equipment will allow you to do this? Here are a few: computer, web book, a variety of phones, iPad, some mp3 players, some GPS devices and some eBook readers.

The cross application of many of these devices is amazing and sometimes confusing. In January we heard a presentation from the Stark County District Library about eBooks and eAudio books and were introduced to a variety of devices that can be used to check out these Books. The library has a links to lists of compatible and incompatible devices at <http://www.overdrive.com/Resources/DRC/Default.aspx>.

During the presentation, I became interested in the comparison between Apple's iPad and Barnes and Nobles Nookcolor. Both of them have one disadvantage when compared to other readers such as other Nook products, Sony, Kobo or Kindle: the screen is not E Ink or E Paper.

That means the battery is being drained when it is in use and that it will be more tiring to the eyes and perhaps impossible to read in bright light. However, Nookcolor lets you read books and a magazine in full color and works both in Wi-Fi and 3G networks. It has 8 Gig of internal memory, enough to hold 6,000 books, and is expandable to 32 Gig. Over 2 million book titles are available, and it has internal support for Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint.

Additional features include resizable text and graphics with AliveTouch™, audio, Read to Me, Keep your last page, read between devices, LendMe™ technology, borrowing, and you can share updates on Social sites like Facebook® and Twitter®. It runs with the Android™ Operating System. The price tag is \$249. More information is available at <http://www.barnesandnoble.com/nook/index.asp>. Here the comparison stops. Nookcolor was not designed for Internet browsing or communicating via email.

Apple's iPad comes with 16 Gig to 64 Gig of internal memory. Some iPads are Wi-Fi only and others are either 3G or Wi-Fi. The price tag varies from \$499-\$829. The iPad is much more than an eBook reader. It offers Internet access and applications. It is still awaiting an app to be released that will let the reader view eBooks full screen. You can page through websites, write an email, flick through photos, or watch a movie with just the touch of a finger. The 3G data plan is through ATT and starts at \$14.99 per month. It has many computer capabilities, especially when it comes to browsing the Internet and reading email.

When it comes to comparing eBook readers that use E ink and E paper, it is a bit more difficult to make a selection. The Kindle is great, but doesn't allow for you to check out eBooks from the library at this time. Kobo from Borders does not allow you to listen to EAudio and requires that books be loaded from a computer. Sony and Nook have their own trade-offs with weight, bulkiness, and a screen that is sometimes difficult to read in sunlight in the case of the Sony. So if an E Reader is in your future, you will have to select what best meets your needs. Having an eReader certainly beats having to carry heavy, bulky books through the airport in order to satiate your reading appetite as you wait for your next flight!

# Special Interest Group News

SIGs are geared for members to share their interests and abilities in areas that range from intense study to coffee, donuts and conversation. Don't miss the opportunity to come early for dinner and tech talk.

**Read this month's Executive Committee Report for info on the SIGs.**



## Photo SIG

The Photo SIG meets at the home of Paul Cannon. Bring photos or tips to share. We will continue to look at what photo editing programs can do. Bring your dinner at 6 PM or come for the meeting at 7 PM. For directions or more information contact Paul at [pauca@comcast.net](mailto:pauca@comcast.net).

## Video SIG

The Video SIG meets at Norb Demmel's home. Creating, and editing skills are covered. Bring your own dinner and come at 6:00 PM. The meeting starts at 7 PM. For additional information email Norb at [dasboot@comcast.net](mailto:dasboot@comcast.net).



## Explorer SIG

The Explorer SIG is hosted by Ron Walters. Topics vary to meet the groups needs. Meet at Crowell Computers N' Vacuums by 6pm to go out to dinner. The meeting starts at 7 PM. (Enter through the front door.)

To request program topics and location, contact Ron at [ronaldw152@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ronaldw152@sbcglobal.net).

## Web SIG

We will be taking our laptop computers to meet during the day at Vantage Point in Port Huron. Time will be scheduled on an as requested basis. If you are interested in joining us, contact Pam Raisanen at [compinfo@greatlakes.net](mailto:compinfo@greatlakes.net).

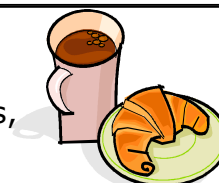


## Pig Sig Dinner

This social event meets at 5:30 PM before the club meeting. This SIG is located at Tony's Food Paradise, 502 Huron Avenue, in downtown Port Huron.

## Donut SIG

Come for coffee and donuts or just to chat after the club meeting at Tim Horton's, 3829 Pine Grove Ave, Fort Gratiot, MI 48059.



# September's Calendar

## **Wednesday 9/7/11—General Meeting**

- 5:30pm—7:00pm Pig SIG at Tony's Food Paradise, 502 Huron Avenue.
- 7:00pm—9:00pm COMP Club General Meeting at the Acheson Community Resource Center, 514 McMorran Boulevard.
- 9:00pm—??????? Donut SIG at Tim Horton's, 3829 Pine Grove Ave., Fort Gratiot (the north-end Tim Horton's).

## **Tuesday 9/13/11—Executive Committee Meeting**

- 6:00pm—7:00pm get-together at Jane Wheatly's home before the COMP Executive Committee Meeting (bring your own meal).
- 7:00pm—??????? COMP Executive Committee Meeting at Jane Wheatly's home, 1952 Harvey Rd, Kimball.

## **Thursday 9/15/11—Video SIG**

- 6:00pm—7:00pm get-together at Norb Demmel's home before the Video SIG (bring your own meal).
- 7:00pm—9:00pm Video SIG at Norb Demmel's home, 2605 Riverside Dr., Port Huron.

## **APCUG NOTICE:**

### **APCUG TAKING NOMINATIONS FOR THEIR BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND THEIR BOARD OF ADVISORS**

APCUG will be conducting their elections during the month of November, 2011. During this time we are looking for a few good men and women to bring in new ideas to both the Board of Directors and the Board of Advisors.

Are there services and programs you might like to see APCUG offer? Would you or one of your members, be willing to serve to help computer user groups worldwide by assuming a leadership position?

There will be one Board of Directors or Advisors meeting per month. The meeting will not require any traveling, as you can gain access to the meeting either via your computer or phone. The meetings are usually on Sunday evenings at 9 PM Eastern Time. Advisors and Directors are asked to serve on committees. You will also be asked to attend our annual meeting.

Do you know anyone in your group who might fill the bill? If so, kindly nominate them and if that person accepts the nomination, we request a recent picture and up to a 250 word biographical sketch.

Nominations can be sent to [electioncommittee@apcug.org](mailto:electioncommittee@apcug.org). The deadline for nominations is Sept. 15th. If you have questions, please send them to the same address.