

# orange Bytes

Award-Winning Newsletter of the North Orange County Computer Club\*

Vol 35 • No 2

February 2010

## Main Meeting, February 7

Staff personnel from Time-Warner Cable will give a presentation. (See Page 3)

There will be a Consignment Table and E-Waste Collection during the Feb. 2010 meeting. (See Page 5)

**NOCCC Handicapped Members Access (See Page 3)**

## Special Interest Group (SIG) & Main Meeting

**9:00 a.m.**

**Linux for Desktop Users.....Science 131a**

Topics about the Linux operating system. Beginners Qs in here also.

**Visual Programming.....Science 111**

Visual Basic, Visual BasicScript, Visual C++ and Visual J++ for Beginners.

**Microsoft Word, Excel, and Outlook.....Science 109**

Topics about these three parts of the Microsoft Office Suite.

**Microsoft Access.....Science 306**

Creating inventories of hobby items and more.

**Beginner's Digital Photography.....Science 127**

This SIG is for newbies who want to improve their skills. We will talk about Photodex's ProShow Gold software, including working with sound tracks.

**10:30 a.m.**

**Beginners PC Q & A .....Irvine Hall**

Beginners' questions about PCs.

**Linux Administration.....Science 131a**

Topics about the Linux operating system.

**10:30 a.m.**

**Advanced Digital Photography..... Science 127**

How to take macro photos and how to select the equipment for taking them.

**Understanding Operating Systems.....Science 111**

Help with DOS, Windows, OS/2, etc.

**Visual Programming for Apps (VBA).....Science 306**

Using VBA to customize your program by using the power of the built-in wizard feature.

**12:00 Noon**

**PIG SIG.....Hashinger Courtyard**

Lunch and conversation.

**12:30 p.m.**

**PC Q & A.....Irvine Hall**

Q & A about PCs. Plus more on USB 3 & SATA 3.

**2:00 p.m.**

**Main Meeting.....Irvine Hall**

NOCCC website:  
<http://www.noccc.org>

Future Meeting Dates in 2010:  
March 7, April 11, May 2



\*SWUG 1st Prize in 2004, 2005, 2006 APCUG 2nd Prize in 2003, 2004, 2005      Founded April 1976

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## Orange Bytes Staff

**Publication Chairman** - Oversees publication tasks and converts the Orange Bytes newsletter to PDF for printing and web posting; transmits PDF to Printer.

Ted Littman ..... (714) 779-1936, [tedlit@roadrunner.com](mailto:tedlit@roadrunner.com)

**Editor** - Edits and makes final selections of the articles to be included in the newsletter.

Ted Littman ..... [editor@noccc.org](mailto:editor@noccc.org)

**Associate Editor/Production** - Receives articles from the editor and lays out the issue of the newsletter.

Ted Littman ..... [editor@noccc.org](mailto:editor@noccc.org)

**Circulation** - Oversees mailing and distribution of the newsletter.

Richard Miller.....(714) 309-1504, [rrrmil@yahoo.com](mailto:rrrmil@yahoo.com)

**Reviews Editor** - Communicates with the vendors and members who evaluate products and write reviews. Makes sure members meet deadlines. Sends a copy of the newsletter to vendors of products we review.

Ted Littman .....(714) 779-936, [reviews@noccc.org](mailto:reviews@noccc.org)

**Copy Editor** - Does final proof reading of the newsletter for typos and misspellings.

Dennis Martin.....(951) 926-3065, [dennismartin@dsxextreme.com](mailto:dennismartin@dsxextreme.com)

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The following positions are available:

**Contributing Editors** - Write articles for the newsletter.

**Commercial Swap Meets** - Distributes the newsletter and NOCCC flyers at swap meets.

**Commercial Advertising** - Obtains ads from vendors for the newsletter.

**Classified Advertising** - Obtains computer-related, non-commercial ads for the newsletter free to NOCCC members.

Contact [editor@noccc.org](mailto:editor@noccc.org) or (714) 779-1936.

*Celebrating 33 years of  
“Friends Helping Friends”*

## **Feb. 7th Main Meeting 2 p.m. Irvine Hall**

**The Time-Warner Cable speakers will give a two-part presentation according to our contact at the company. The technical part will be on broadband distribution and the future direction that the technology may go. The second part will cover the pros and cons of different broadband offerings. So, if you have questions in either of these two areas or both, be sure and attend the main meeting.**

## **President's Message**

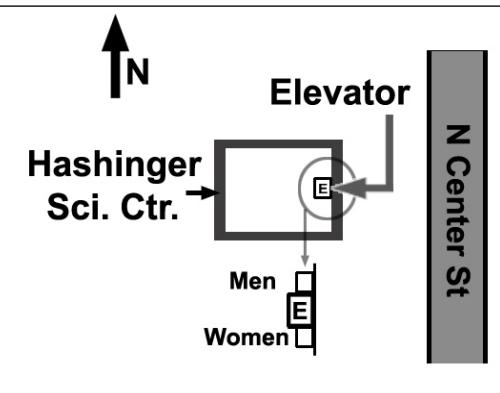
*By Jim Sanders, NOCCC President*

For those of you who like to keep track of such things, I am announcing some changes in the leadership of the club. As was noted earlier Robert Love had to resign his position as a member of the Board of Directors due to a number of personal issues at home. I have been asking for someone to volunteer to take his place on the Board, and I am pleased to report that Ben Lochtenberg volunteered to do that. It was made official at the January 11 meeting of the Board when I, as President of the club, appointed him to the Board and the other members of the Board agreed. It is nice to have a new member on the Board that has a fresh outlook on how things are going and can contribute new ideas on how to improve the club.

Just to keep life interesting, a few days before the January 10th meeting, Vice President Jim Morrison notified me that for extreme personal reasons he was resigning his position as Vice President of the club. As I am sure most of you understand, the board can limp along without one of its eight Directors. However, being without a VP is a little bit dicier. Thanks to a small amount of serendipity, things have worked out okay. Jeff Stevens had expressed some interest in the position left open by Robert Love, and I had invited him to the board of directors meeting to see how things were done and possibly accept that position himself if Ben Lochtenberg decided to turn down the position after seeing how we do things at the meeting. As previously reported, that didn't happen.

What did happen is that there was some discussion about what could be done to fill the position of VP of the North Orange County Computer Club. I asked Steven Breitbart if could fill the position until the June elections and he said he had to decline as he had too many things going at the moment. After a small amount of arm twisting, Bob Dickson, who does such a great job of providing the club members with hot coffee and donuts, and leading the Microsoft Access SIG, and leading the Visual Programming for Apps SIG, agreed to assume the position of VP for the club. This opened up a director spot on the board which ever so conveniently could then be filled by the "just happened to be there" Jeff Stevens. So if this is a little confusing, Bob Dickson is now the club VP and Ben Lochtenberg and Jeff Stevens are the new Directors on the Board.

Mary Cornett has arranged for a representative of the Time Warner Cable Company to be the presenter at the February 7 meeting. It should be interesting to learn about some of the challenges of being a cable provider. And, if you are a customer, you might even be able to get an answer to a question that has exceeded the mental capacity of the person you get on the phone when you call them. In addition, there will be a nice Epson inkjet printer in the general drawing, and a multi-function DVD burner in the members drawing. See you there!



*NOCCC meeting attendees please note that food and beverages are not permitted in Irvine Hall per Chapman University regulation*

# Membership Benefits

As a valued member, we bring you a section of discounts and offers as part of the entire “Benefit of Belonging.” (Caveat: we are unable to endorse these companies, but make these offers available as a service to our members.)

## User Group Offers - Software and Hardware

**User Group Relations** – You can now order the latest release of **Acronis True Image 2010** from **Gene Barlow** for only \$29 (download) or \$29 plus S&H (on a CD). This top-rated backup utility has many new features and will work with Windows 7. Use the following link for special pricing for user group members: [www.ugr.com/TrueImage.html](http://www.ugr.com/TrueImage.html)

**Techsmith** - You can get **SnagIt**, an outstanding screen capture program, and **Camtasia** Studio, to quickly record, edit and publish multimedia demos and presentations, bundle for \$269, a \$50 savings. Go to <http://store.techsmith.com/order/bundlegov.asp>. You can download SnagIt 9.1 alone for \$49.95.

**ZoomWare** - Ai Squared is pleased to introduce ZoomWare, revolutionary new software that magnifies and enhances everything on your computer screen. It is perfect for those who squint at the computer screen and lean in to read the fine print. Members of APCUG clubs (NOCCC is one of them) can get a 20% discount! Normally, the download version is \$149, but with the discount it is just \$119. A CD version is also available for \$140, which is a \$35 savings and ships within 3 to 5 business days. To take advantage of your special APCUG member discount, simply purchase ZoomWare online at [www.GetZoomWare.com](http://www.GetZoomWare.com) and enter the following code at checkout: APCUG08. Learn more or get a free trial version at [www.GetZoomWare.com](http://www.GetZoomWare.com).

## User Group Offers - Books and Magazines

**Pearson Education** Products including Prentice Hall Professional, Addison-Wesley Professional, IBM Press, Exam Cram, Que Publishing, and Cisco Press. Get 35% off list price by purchasing directly from the publisher combo site: [www.informit.com/join](http://www.informit.com/join). Sign in or create an account. Enter the membership code “USERGROUP” (all caps). Select your items and check out. You are required to register and apply the code once, but you must be logged in to receive the special pricing.

**O'Reilly Books** - Get 35% off all books and PDFs from O'Reilly, No Starch, Paraglyph, PC Publishing, Pragmatic Bookshelf, SitePoint, or Syngress books you purchase directly from O'Reilly. Just use code DSUG when ordering online, [www.oreilly.com/store/](http://www.oreilly.com/store/), or by phone, (800) 998-9938. Free ground shipping on orders \$29.95 or more in the US. If for any reason you are not completely satisfied with your purchase, return it to O'Reilly and get your money back ([www.oreilly.com/oreilly/cs/guarantee](http://www.oreilly.com/oreilly/cs/guarantee)). A return shipping label is included with every direct purchase and directions are posted online in case you misplace it.

**Peachpit Press Books Discount** - Get 35% off by joining the Peachpit Club. Use the following hyperlink to sign up:

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[http://memberservices.informat.com/my\\_account/login.aspx?partner=52](http://memberservices.informat.com/my_account/login.aspx?partner=52) to sign up as a member. User group members should note that once you have become a Peachpit Club member, you might use your user group coupon code ON TOP of the permanent savings you earn as a member of the club. Just log into the site before you make a purchase to ensure this permanent discount will be in effect, and then enter coupon code **UE-23AA-PEUF** (case-sensitive) at checkout! This coupon code is an exclusive offer that may not be used in conjunction with any other coupon codes. The offer applies to all titles at [peachpit.com](http://peachpit.com) including New Riders, Macromedia Press, Adobe Press, and Peachpit Press.

**Smart Computing** - [www.smartcomputing.com](http://www.smartcomputing.com) For each paid membership (subscription to either Smart Computing or Computer Power User) via personalized membership forms or by telephone, the NOCCC will receive one credit. When the NOCCC has accumulated 5 credits, Smart Computing will donate one subscription to us (Great to use as an opportunity-drawing prize or a “thank you” to a member, etc.) Call customer service at (800) 733-3809 and tell them you are with the North Orange County Computer Club. If you go to their website to subscribe, click on User Groups and there is a drop down menu with our group’s name on it.

**Free Internet Libraries** - Upon retiring from college teaching/administration, **Walter Antoniotti** began developing **Free Internet Libraries** (<http://www.businessbookmall.com/Free Internet Libraries.htm>) for students, teachers, and professionals. Of special interest to PC users are these free computer libraries:

**Free Business Software**  
(<http://www.businessbookmall.com/Free Business Software Internet Library.htm>)

**Free Software Tutorials**  
(<http://www.businessbookmall.com/Software Tutorials Internet Library.htm>)

**Excel Internet Library**  
([http://www.businessbookmall.com/Microsoft\\_Excel\\_Directions\\_For\\_Beginners.htm](http://www.businessbookmall.com/Microsoft_Excel_Directions_For_Beginners.htm))

## THE FEBRUARY CLUB RAFFLES

### GENERAL DRAWING PRIZES:

- ❖ **Epson 3-in-1 Color Stylus Printer**
- ❖ **Switching to Windows Microsoft 7 Book**
- ❖ **Absolute Beginner's Guide to Creating Web Pages Book**
- ❖ **Microsoft Office Excel 2007 Visual Quickstart Guide Book**

### MEMBERS ONLY DRAWING PRIZES:

(Wear your NOCCC Membership Badge and get a free ticket!)

- ❖ **Multifunction DVD Burner**
- ❖ **Easy Computer Basics, Vista Ed. Book**
- ❖ **The Non-Designer's Design Book**

## Consignment

The NOCCC Consignment Table **will** be available during the **February 2010** meeting. It is open on even months, the same as the e-Waste collection: so bring your items for sale. For your information:

- 1) Only current members can place items for sale, but non-members are welcome to purchase items from the table. This is a great place to get some money for your surplus computer items, and help the NOCCC at the same time.
- 2) The consignment table operates on a 90/10% basis — with the owner getting 90%, and the Club treasury 10%.
- 3) **You can fill out a Consignment Table User List and item tags at the table:**  
The user list and each tag must contain:
  - a) Seller's name
  - b) Seller's NOCCC membership number
  - c) Item name and description
  - d) Item asking price
- 4) The seller may pick up all items and/or money at any time, but **no later than 2 p.m. on the day of sale.** Any items and/or money not picked up by 2 p.m. will become the property of NOCCC and will be subject to disposal at the Club's discretion. The club has no storage room available for unsold items
- 5) NOCCC is NOT RESPONSIBLE in any way for items bought and/or sold at the Consignment Table. Each item is placed and sold on an AS-IS BASIS.

## E-Waste

California disposal laws have made it illegal to put monitors and computers in the regular trash. **Omni Technologies, Inc.** will be at our regular meetings to collect E-Waste **on even months**, so bring your "junk" in December. Check their web site for more information: <http://www.ca-recycle.com/>.

## NOCCC Officers

The area code for the following phone numbers is **714** unless noted.

### President

Jim Sanders ..... 544-3589 ..... [president@noccc.org](mailto:president@noccc.org)

### Vice President

Bob Dickson ..... 539-1304 ..... [robertbdickson@socal.rr.com](mailto:robertbdickson@socal.rr.com)

### Secretary

Ted Littman ..... 779-1936 ..... [secretary@noccc.org](mailto:secretary@noccc.org)

### Treasurer

John Heenan ..... 998-7660 ..... [treasurer@noccc.org](mailto:treasurer@noccc.org)

### Directors

Steven Breitbart ..... 486-3070 ..... [sbreitbart@socal.rr.com](mailto:sbreitbart@socal.rr.com)

Tia Christian ..... 263-6105 ..... [lwilliams\\_00@yahoo.com](mailto:lwilliams_00@yahoo.com)

Mary Cornett ..... 995-5551 ..... [pacificblu.mary@gmail.com](mailto:pacificblu.mary@gmail.com)

Dallas Hazleton ..... 526-1592 ..... [ghazleton4@dslextreme.com](mailto:ghazleton4@dslextreme.com)

Ben Lochtenbergh ..... (949)653-2545 ..... [bal@msn.com](mailto:bal@msn.com)

Richard Miller ..... 309-1504 ..... [rrmil@yahoo.com](mailto:rrmil@yahoo.com)

Gerry Resch ..... 772-6667 ..... [gerry@gerryresch.com](mailto:gerry@gerryresch.com)

Jeff Stevens ..... (949)855-6576 ..... [jeffchris@cox.net](mailto:jeffchris@cox.net)

### Editor

Ted Littman ..... 779-1936 ..... [editor@noccc.org](mailto:editor@noccc.org)

### Webmaster

Jim Sanders, Acting ..... 544-3589 ..... [president@noccc.org](mailto:president@noccc.org)

## Volunteers, Committees, and Projects

### Consignment Table

Richard Miller ..... 309-1504 ..... [rrmil@yahoo.com](mailto:rrmil@yahoo.com)

### Raffle Leader

Gerry Resch ..... 772-6667 ..... [gerry@gerryresch.com](mailto:gerry@gerryresch.com)

### Helpline

Ted Littman ..... 779-1936 ..... [tedlit@roadrunner.com](mailto:tedlit@roadrunner.com)

### Membership Database

John Heenan ..... 998-7660 ..... [treasurer@noccc.org](mailto:treasurer@noccc.org)

### Membership Chairman

**Open**

### SIG Coordinator

Dallas Hazleton ..... 526-1592 ..... [ghazleton4@dslextreme.com](mailto:ghazleton4@dslextreme.com)

### Programs/Speakers Coordinator

Mary Cornett ..... 995-5551 ..... [pacificblu.mary@gmail.com](mailto:pacificblu.mary@gmail.com)

### Public Relations

Mary Cornett ..... 995-5551 ..... [pacificblu.mary@roadrunner.com](mailto:pacificblu.mary@roadrunner.com)

### University Liaison

Jim Sanders ..... 544-3589 ..... [president@noccc.org](mailto:president@noccc.org)



## NOCCC Help Line

The Help Line is in the true spirit of the NOCCC, which is to help others to learn more about computers. The following is a list of Help Line subjects that a NOCCC volunteer is able to help you with. Call (714) 779-1936 or e-mail Ted Littman at [helpline@noccc.org](mailto:helpline@noccc.org) with additions, deletions, or corrections.

Apple II  
AutoCAD  
CPU Aided Investing  
Computer Boards  
Computer Security  
Corel Draw  
Desktop Publishing  
Digital Photography  
Excel  
GPS Navigation  
Linux  
Lotus 1-2-3  
Memory/Interrupts  
Microsoft Office  
Photo editing & Pshop  
QuickBooks - all ver.  
QBooks 5 & Quicken  
Tcl/Tk & UNIX  
Vista  
Windows 9X & XP  
Wireless



*The names of our volunteers are only available in the printed version of the Orange Bytes.*

## SIG Leaders List

Contact the SIG leaders by e-mail, preferably, rather than by telephone.

SIG	BLDG	RM.	TIME	LEADER	E-MAIL	PHONE
Linux for Desktop/Admin.....	Science.....	131A	9:00/10:30 .....	Bob Ray.....	<a href="mailto:bobrobo@dialup4less.com">bobrobo@dialup4less.com</a>	(714) 634-7520
Beginner's Digital Photography	Science.....	127.....	9:00.....	Ed Schwartz.....	<a href="mailto:Edwardns@cox.net">Edwardns@cox.net</a>	(949) 374-4845
Visual Programming	Science.....	111 .....	9:00 .....	Anson Chapman.....	<a href="mailto:aecrcss@hotmail.com">aecrcss@hotmail.com</a>	(909) 860-9515
Word, Excel and Outlook	Science.....	109.....	9:00 .....	Tia Christian .....	<a href="mailto:lwilliams_00@yahoo.com">lwilliams_00@yahoo.com</a>	(714) 263-6105
Access	Science.....	306.....	9:00 .....	Bob Dickson .....	<a href="mailto:robertbdickson@socal.rr.com">robertbdickson@socal.rr.com</a>	(714) 539-1304
Advanced Digital Photography	Science.....	127 .....	10:30 .....	Larry Klees .....	<a href="mailto:larryklees@yahoo.com">larryklees@yahoo.com</a>	(714) 879-6405
Understanding OS's	Science.....	111 .....	10:30 .....	Charlie Moore .....	<a href="mailto:mooreca@adelphia.net">mooreca@adelphia.net</a>	(714) 529-9071
Access VBA	Science .....	306.....	10:30.....	Bob Dickson .....	<a href="mailto:robertbdickson@socal.rr.com">robertbdickson@socal.rr.com</a>	(714) 539-1304
PC Q&A	Irvine Hall.....		10:30/12:30 .....	Jim Sanders .....	<a href="mailto:jsanders@ligasmicro.com">jsanders@ligasmicro.com</a>	(714) 544-3589

Please report SIG changes to Ted Littman, [editor@noccc.org](mailto:editor@noccc.org), or (714) 779-1936.

## The Best Things in Life Are Free

Written by Lou Torraca, President, The TUG, HI  
[www.the-tug.org](http://www.the-tug.org); AF06HI(at)gmail.com

This article has been obtained from APCUG with the author's permission for publication by APCUG member groups; all other uses require the permission of the author (see e-mail address above).

The moon belongs to everyone,  
The best things in life are free.  
The stars belong to everyone,  
They gleam there for you and me.  
The flowers in spring, the robins that sing,  
The moonbeams that shine, they're yours, they're mine.  
And love can come to everyone,  
The best things in life are free.

So goes the song, written in 1927, way before PCs were all the rage! Well, guess what, some of the best programs and utilities for your PC are also free, yup, I said free! I have been asked a lot of questions recently about some of them so I decided to do a list of the ones I use plus others I know about and have been tried and recommended.

Thinking about a new computer? Are you a bit techie? If so, you could save yourself some money as well as have the satisfaction of putting your own together by yourself. Not so inclined? You can still save on programs and utilities. Without further ado, here is a list for you to consider.

First for the techie who wants to put together their own PC...an operating system that is totally free.



What is Ubuntu?

Ubuntu is a community-developed operating system that is perfect for laptops, desktops, and servers. Whether you use it at home, at school or at work Ubuntu contains all the applications you'll ever need, from word processing and email applications, to web server software and programming tools.

Ubuntu is and always will be free of charge. You do not pay any licensing fees. You can download, use, and share Ubuntu with your friends, family, school, or business for absolutely nothing.

New versions are released every six months. That means you'll always have the latest and greatest applications that the open source world has to offer.

Ubuntu is designed with security in mind. You get free security updates for at least 18 months on the desktop and server. With the Long Term Support (LTS) version, you get three years

support on the desktop, and five years on the server. There is no extra fee for the LTS version; we make our very best work available to everyone on the same free terms. Upgrades to new versions of Ubuntu are and always will be free of charge.

Everything you need comes on one CD, providing a complete working environment. Additional software is available online.

The graphical installer enables you to get up and running quickly and easily. A standard installation should take less than 25 minutes.

Once installed your system is immediately ready-to-use. On the desktop you have a full set of productivity, Internet, drawing and graphics applications, and games. Pretty neat isn't it? Download: <http://www.ubuntu.com/>



Now for everyone else, here are some really excellent programs and utilities you can have at no cost. (BTW, many of these free programs and utilities have a donation button where you can voluntarily help the developer with updates, new apps, etc. I suggest you try the app first and then if you really like it and decide to keep it, you can make a donation, however this is strictly a voluntary thing.)



First is the number one priority...anti virus. I've used both AVG and Avast for a long time and, knock on wood, have never had a problem. Both also have pay versions that include lots of other stuff, but I'll be listing all those types of apps as we go along.

To download AVG: <http://free.avg.com/download-avg-anti-virus-free-edition>

To download Avast!: <http://www.avast.com/eng/download-avast-home.html>

Both of these work well and provide you with protection from viruses, but do yourself a favor and read the information that both provide and follow the instructions...this applies, of course, to all programs, apps and utilities!



Next, you need a firewall and the most popular and the one I use is Zone Alarm which for a free app, provides a lot of flexibility and prevents the bad guys from getting into your computer as well as making your computer invisible to anyone on the internet. To download the free version: <http://www.zonealarm.com/security/en-us/zonealarm-pc-security-free-firewall.htm>



10 years of malware experience combined in one dynamic application. Ad-Aware - Anniversary Edition offers radically improved performance and efficiency, along with comprehensive malware protection. With real-time monitoring, threat alerts, and automatic updates you can rest easy knowing that you are protected. Download: [http://www.lavasoft.com/products/ad\\_aware\\_free.php](http://www.lavasoft.com/products/ad_aware_free.php)



SpyBot-Search and Destroy complements Ad-Aware.

If you see new toolbars in Internet Explorer that you didn't install, or you experience other problems, you may have spyware. This program helps prevent marketing companies from gathering information about your Web surfing and purchasing habits, and selling it to advertisers. Download: [http://download.cnet.com/Spybot-Search-and-Destroy/3000-8022\\_4-10122137.html](http://download.cnet.com/Spybot-Search-and-Destroy/3000-8022_4-10122137.html)

Windows Defender is a free program that helps you stay productive by protecting your computer against pop-ups, slow performance and security threats caused by spyware and other potentially unwanted software. All 3 of these programs work to keep your PC running smoothly. I use them and they definitely make a difference.

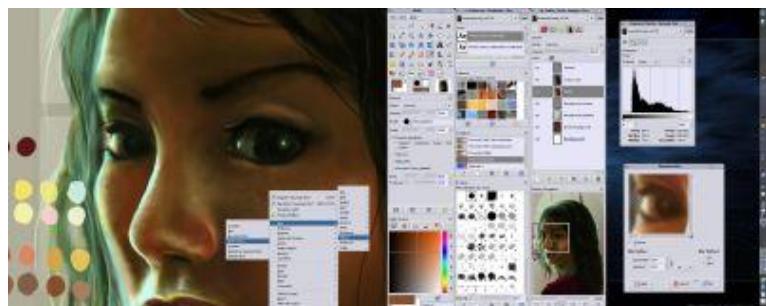


Now you have your PC pretty well protected; how about productivity apps? No problem. OpenOffice.org 3 is the leading open-source office software suite for word processing, spreadsheets, presentations, graphics, databases and more.



It is available in many languages and works on all common computers. It stores all your data in an international open standard format and can also read and write files from other common office software packages. It can be downloaded and used completely free of charge for any purpose. Sounds like the big guys Office? It does and it also does pretty much everything that other guy does! Download: <http://download.openoffice.org/>

Next, a free program that rivals Adobe Photoshop...and we know what that costs!



The name is a bit misleading but the program is spectacular! **GIMP** can be used to process digital graphics and photographs. Typical uses include creating graphics and logos, resizing and cropping photos, changing colors, combining images using a layer paradigm, removing unwanted image features, and converting between different image formats. GIMP can also be used to create animated images using an improved layers method. The full capabilities of the GIMP extend much further, however, and include advanced image editing, manipulation, and professional graphics creation. It is often used as a free software replacement for Adobe Photoshop, which is the dominant bitmap editor in the printing and graphics industries. Download: <http://www.dphotojournal.com/download-gimp-photo-software/>

To keep your system running at its best, CCleaner is a freeware system optimization, privacy and cleaning tool.



It removes unused files from your system - allowing Windows to run faster and freeing up valuable hard disk space. It also cleans traces of your online activities such as your Internet history. Additionally it contains a fully featured registry cleaner. But the best part is that it's fast (normally taking less than a second to run) and contains NO Spyware or Adware! :) Download: <http://www.ccleaner.com/> While you're there, I'd also recommend downloading their defragger, another app which will help keep your system running smoothly. You can schedule daily, weekly or just manual defrags...it's pretty easy to use and does an excellent job.



Last, but not least, a program I can't live without. Yankee Clipper III, a powerful Windows clipboard extender/memory-now in its third generation. Handles Pictures, RichText, URLs, etc-any size. Features printing, drag and drop, optional permanent storage of clippings. Familiar "Outlook" interface. Just a couple of its features: Saves past 200 text and RTF, 20 BMP and Metafile, and 200 URL clipboard entries. Has the ability to save and re-use "boilerplate" clippings. Simply right-click on the item and select "send to boilerplate." Unlimited boilerplate collections can be created.

Download: <http://www.intelxual.com/products/YC3>

That's it until next time. If you like the freebies on this list, login at the top of the page and let me know; there are lots more out

there. Enjoy all the goodies, but remember to be careful as the bad guys are lurking!

Aloha, Lou

## The Linux File System Structure

By Bob Ray, NOCCC

For anyone who wants to become knowledgeable or do something with the GNU/Linux computer system beyond just using the Desktop basics, then knowing all about the file structure is probably the most important area to know about in detail. This file structure is the backbone of a GNU/Linux system. And, more than just the system backbone it could also be described as the ribs, lungs, guts, arms, and legs of the computer system. Knowing all about or more about the file system is like knowing your way around town. Hopefully what is provided here will give the reader a street map view of what makes up the computer system from a software standpoint of what's where and where's what. In the following documentation, the use of the words "directory" and "sub-directory" are used interchangeably; please don't let this confuse you. There is one and only one directory on a single common GNU/Linux computer system and that's the main root directory, known and shown as "/", everything else is a sub-directory under this main directory. This point will be stressed again later.

There are many other resources available that describe the GNU/Linux file system. However, all that I have seen over the years, have been very short and incomplete with confusing descriptions. Other file structure system descriptions, in book form, have been outdated, or too much or too big to digest at any one time. Hopefully the descriptions that follow will be informative and just the right size. So, here we go!

### The /bin Directory

This directory is showing 113 files on my Ubuntu 9.04 system. These files are some of the major executable functions on the system. These represent the most common functions like: date, gzip, gunzip, cp (copy a file), mv (move a file), mkdir (make a directory), ls (list the contents of a directory). These executable command line functions are owned by the root operator, but permission is granted to read and execute and is given to all users. Note that file permissions will be reviewed in a future article. If you list all of these functions shown in this directory and do a man (manual documentation page) or info (informational documentation page) for each one you will be giving yourself an introduction and self-education to many of the bash shell script commands available.

### The /boot Directory

This directory, along with the /boot/grub sub-directories, shows a total of 26 files on my Ubuntu 9.04 system. These files include the actual operating system binary executable code, operating system configuration files and other related support files. Unless you are going to experiment with dual booting or

customizing the operating system, it is recommended that you not “mess” with these files.

### **The /cdrom Directory**

This directory, for the most part, has been replaced by the /media directory. If you want to manually mount a cdrom or dvd, they can be mounted at this mount point. More information regarding this is described in the /media and /mnt directories.

### **The /dev Directory**

This is the device directory. Every device attached to your computer system needs specific special software to “handle” that device. Some devices are handled inside of the operating system; those would be considered monolithic included devices. There are also many generic type drivers for common or older computer peripheral equipment. Some device handlers can be attached to the computer operating system as dynamic or hot plugged as needed. These device drivers are located in this directory. My laptop running Ubuntu 9.04 is showing approximately 500 such software drivers available. Additional device drivers can be had for some products by going to the manufacture’s web site and downloading specific drivers. Under current Distributions of Linux, this process of finding and installing Device Drivers is becoming much easier---this would be a Linux Administrator topic for future discussion.

### **The /etc Directory**

The etcetera directory is showing 214 sub-directories and a bunch of additional files. There is a lot of very important system stuff located here. My guess is that the Linux Standard Base (LSB) developers put many critical system data files and configuration files here because this information just did not fit into other specifically designated directories. Maybe this directory could have been named or called “miscellaneous?” A few files shown here are for passwords. The /etc/hosts file found here can be set-up and used to define and identify your computer and other computers on your local network. The /etc/crontab file can be set-up to automatically run jobs on a scheduled basis. For example: hourly, daily, weekly, monthly, and so forth. The name you have chosen for your computer is found here in the hostname file. Files named host allow and host deny are found here. These would allow you to choose other computers on a network that you specifically do and/or do not allow access to you computer. There are hundreds more files and directories in the /etc directory.

### **The /home Directory**

The /home and /home/user directories were discussed in the November 2009 issue of NOCCC Orange Bytes newsletter in the Linux Desktop section and will not be repeated here.

### **The /lib Directory**

This directory is where all or most of the libraries are placed. A library is a file like most other files. It's called a library because

multiple groups of common software functions, in source or in binary form, are grouped together in a single file for applications to use. Some libraries are reused or shared by different users or system applications. These libraries are commonly called dependency libraries. These software groups can be static linked into a program or dynamically linked and loaded at execution time by the calling program. My Ubuntu 9.10 desktop system is showing several hundred such sub-directories and files. Libraries are generally packaged by the system or utility or by specific user applications. These libraries are generally shared by the operating system or by different user applications.

### **The /lost+found Directory.**

This directory is probably one of the most misunderstood of all the main top level directories. Some GNU/Linux distributions do not even mention this in published documentation. If you know of something or someone who was “once lost” and then “got found,” well this directory might be custom-made just for them. Actually, this directory has a specific reason for being. One use is for files that, for whatever reason, have become corrupted to a point that they cannot be repaired. For example, if a file has lost its sector tracking. The system wants to do something with the file so it would throw it in this directory. Another very good use of this directory is, when a process (a.k.a. Program) or a piece of executing code becomes corrupted or dysfunctional while running for whatever reason, the system would cause the program to cancel and force the program to “take a dump”, a memory dump that is. A snapshot of the running program would include the programs brains, the guts, all of the stored resident data and other pertinent information to be copied as is, and thrown into this directory. This would then allow a developer or computer programmer to be able to examine this code to determine the reason for cancellation or look for a “bug”. Newer terminology for this procedure is called Computer Forensics; I always wanted to wear one of those long white coats.

Some software applications will allow special applications that have canceled for unknown problems to be automatically transmitted, via the Internet, back to the developer, or support group, for review. Another function of this directory would be when a developer or a program has a problem situation occur that they do not know what to do with--so they can then “loose it” somewhere. Hence, this directory. This directory should not be confused with the standard the Desktop GUI Trash Can.

### **The /media Directory**

The /media directory is a relatively newly added directory to the Linux Base. This directory has been added to Linux file system structure to accommodate all of the hot plugged devices and the hot plugged media such as; USB devices, memory cards, CD's and DVD's, etc. In the past, devices and media had to be manually mounted under the /mnt directory which tended to be both tedious and confusing, especially for new users of Linux. Now, with current versions of GNU/Linux, when you insert a floppy or CD or DVD in your computer it should auto mount

and indicate by showing a corresponding icon on the Desktop within seconds.

### The /mnt Directory

The /mnt (mount) directory, in part, has been replaced by the /media directory facility. However, it can still be used for specific procedures. For example, if you add a hard drive to your system you would need to perform the mount procedure. Also, if your computer system is part of a local or remote network you might need to do a mount procedure before your system can see and use certain portions of the network.

### The /opt Directory

I'm really not sure what this sub-directory is for. Like junk in someone's garage, it's just there and left over from way back. My Desktop system is showing zero items in this directory. Advice: don't delete this directory, be safe, it must have a reason for being!

### The /proc Directory

The /proc directory: Could this named directory stand for "procedure?" My Desktop system is showing 210 items here. This directory is probably the second most misunderstood within the Linux file system and if that's not enough, consider the fact that it really does not even exist as a real file. What I mean is that when you shut off your machine, the image of this memory type file disappears. When you turn on your computer and the operating system boots up, this file is dynamically created in RAM memory as part of the BIOS probe. This file will contain a working map of the internal guts that make up your machine hardware configuration and is used as a direct extension of the Linux brain. General advice would be: "like a skunk," don't poke or mess with this directory.

### The /root Directory

First, a definition of the word "root" as used within the Linux Operating System. The root directory is defined as the "/" top level directory. Actually the "/" directory is the only directory on a Linux System! Everything else is a "sub" directory under the main root directory. Next is a definition of the root operator also known as the system administrator; this can be you or anyone else who has full administrative privileges. This /root sub-directory is owned by the root user. The root user can go anywhere and do most anything on the authorized computer system. Now, about the /root sub-directory. This directory is reserved for privileged operations by the root user operator and contains scripts and executable programs that otherwise would not be allowed by a regular user, and some systems disallow all or any access over a network for security reasons. The organization and access restrictions within this directory are considered to be one of GNU/Linux greatest security features.

### The /sbin Directory

This directory (system binaries) contains 153 items on my Ubuntu 9.10 Desktop system. These items are mostly executable binary programs with special privileges needed to access and execute. These are all items that would or could be

used by the system administrator or by the operating system itself. Permission and access are restricted for security reasons.

### The /selinux Directory

This directory is showing a zero number of items on my Ubuntu 9.10 Desktop system. And, this is just fine with me! Briefly, SELinux, "Security Enhanced Linux" was developed because a higher level of administrative authority was deemed necessary by large corporate and institutional networks. This is "Big Iron" stuff, where these larger networks would need many administrative persons, all with root and administrative privileges, the security situation would or could be easily compromised and difficult to manage at best. Under Fedora 11 and newer releases, this feature is forced upon single users and small office home office (SOHO) users, making it more difficult to use and administer small computer systems. For the individual user, it's another brick wall to knock down. My opinion is that it's more of a burden than an enhancement and not needed; so, I'm glad the Ubuntu Distribution team has purposely left it out.

### The /srv Directory

This directory stands for "server" or maybe "service" or "take-a-guess!" Actually, I think it's for version control management for software source code. My Ubuntu 9.10 Desktop system is showing one sub-directory named /crs which contains one sub-directory called /CVRROOT which contains 33 items. It looks like this facility is for developer/programmers to use in checking out and then checking back in source code that is being developed by groups of programmers in the open source community. Just betting a long shot on this one.

### The /sys Directory

The "system directory. There's a lot of stuff in this directory. Not sure, but the actual operating system might be hiding in here somewhere. It looks like Linux modules both static and dynamically loaded could be here. Also, there might transient system modules here?

### The /tmp Directory

This temporary directory is exactly what it says it is. A place to put temporary files, like work files that are created by applications on a regular or daily basis. All of the files showing on my system have been created within 24 hours. These files are automatically deleted on a regularly scheduled basis. The last time I checked, which was years ago, these files would be deleted by a cron job. Historically, a specific cron job would be scheduled to run at 2am when most computers would not be busy. For computers like laptops or boxes that are turned off, these scheduled cron jobs would run when the computer is turned on and booted. Note that other cron jobs like automatic backups can be scheduled. You can create your own cron jobs, refer to cron documentation found elsewhere.

## The /usr Directory

This user directory is loaded with stuff. Although “your” files and special configurations for you would be in your /home/your-name-here directory, most applications and binary executables would or could be shared by other users. These shared files would be placed within a sub-directory here. Remember that Linux was developed as a multi-user system from day one. So, if you load down an application from the Internet for use on your system, the main “guts” would most likely be placed here. Examples: The /usr/game sub-directory would hold software for games. The /usr/share/doc sub-directory holds much documentation. Take a look at this directory and its sub-directories and explore the contents.

## The /var Directory

The /var directory, which I'm guessing is short for “various?” Printer spool files are an example of sub-directories found here. Each printer attached to your computer has a sub-directory here. If there are multiple users set-up on your computer then there would be additional spool files for them. Plus, if your computer is part of a shared network with shared printers, there may be even more additional spool file sub-directories. If a computer is set-up as an Internet Server, then HTML files would be found here by default.

## In Conclusion

This description of the GNU/Linux file system structure is considered by me to be a work-in-progress and of a pre-release nature. If given a release number it would be something like 0.50. Meaning that a periodic or later review and work will most likely have certain corrected, revised and updated content. Also, due to self imposed time constraints, I'm certain some editorial housekeeping will be in order. So, if you see something that's not quite right, please just “sweep it under the rug”. Or, better yet, anyone wishing to comment or express an opinion may e-mail to [bobsdesk@dialup4less.com](mailto:bobsdesk@dialup4less.com), your comments will be welcome and appreciated.

(See p. 22 for Bob Ray's Linux SIG report & article.)

## How I Fixed My Corrupted Recycle Bin

*Written by Sandee Gimblett, a member of the Tacoma Open Group for Microcomputers, Tacoma, WA  
[www.tapcug.org/](http://www.tapcug.org/); maggiebs (at) harboret.com*

*This article has been obtained from APCUG with the author's permission for publication by APCUG member groups; all other uses require the permission of the author (see e-mail address above).*

After recovering from a severe system crash on my laptop running XP, I discovered that I had a corrupted recycle bin. When I opened the Recycle Bin, no files at all would appear; yet when I chose to empty the Recycle Bin, the message would ask if I wanted to delete 76 files. I said not to delete the 76 files. I then created a test file, deleted it, and, again, no files would show up when I opened the Recycle Bin. When I said to empty the recycle bin again, it now asked if I wanted to delete 77 files, which confirmed my suspicion that the deleted files were actually in the Recycle Bin, but I just couldn't get access to them.

I eventually discovered that the files were in the following directory, accessed via the Command Prompt, in a folder named: C:\Documents and Settings\Sandee\Recent.

After several attempts to repair the Recycle Bin without success, including running ReplBin.reg and other registry repair techniques, here is what finally worked:

1. My Computer
2. Local Disk (C:)
3. Tools
4. Folder Options
5. View
6. Clicked on SHOW HIDDEN FILES AND FOLDERS  
(I keep this option checked anyhow)
7. Un-clicked on HIDE PROTECTED OPERATING SYSTEM FILES (This should usually NEVER be unchecked, but I unchecked it so I could get access to the Recycle Bin operating system hidden folder)
8. Chose APPLY TO ALL FOLDERS, chose APPLY, and clicked OK.
9. Right-Clicked on RECYCLER file and renamed it to RECYCLER-BAD
10. Created a dummy file and deleted it.
11. Rechecked my Recycle Bin icon on my Desktop again, and...
12. VOILA! My newly deleted dummy file was there and all is well again!

# Reviews Editor's Corner

## Products Available For Review

The NOCCC regularly receives copies of books or software from the publishers for our review. We can also request specific products for you to review. These reviews are published in this newsletter, the Orange Bytes. Then, you get to keep the book or software. If you are interested in doing a review, please call or send me an e-mail and provide your membership number, phone number, and e-mail address; or pick up the product in the lobby of Irvine Hall at the next NOCCC meeting. **Ted Littman, (714) 779-1936, reviews@noccc.org.**



## Note to Reviewers

- ❖ You have 2 months to submit a review. Due-cause time extensions must be requested from the Reviews Editor.
- ❖ You must leave a security deposit (check, credit card number, or cash equal to the product's list value.), returnable upon our receiving an acceptable review.
- ❖ If you decide to return the product without reviewing, there is a \$2 penalty after the first month and a \$5 penalty after the second month.
- ❖ Guidelines for preparing your review are addressed on the next page.

## Boxed Programs and CDs

None.

## Books

### Operating Systems

**New: Switching to Microsoft Windows 7** – The painless way to upgrade from Windows XP or Vista. From Que. MSRP=\$20. **Networking with Microsoft Windows Vista** – A complete beginner's guide to creating, configuring, administering, & using a small network of computers with the Vista operating system. From Que; MSRP=\$40.

**Creating Vista Gadgets** – Sams; Rajesh Lal. MSRP=\$35.

### Office & Home Programs

**New: QuickBooks 2010, The Missing Manual** – From O'Reilly. MSRP=\$30.

**New: Profiles in Performance** – Case studies on performance management from Wiley. MSRP=\$45.

**Ado.net 3.5, LINQ, & EF w/VB2008** – From Murach  
For database programmers. MSRP=\$52.

**Office 2008 for the Mac on Demand** – If you use this Microsoft suite on your Mac, this book by Steve Johnson should be of interest. From Que. MSRP=\$30.

**FileMaker Pro 10 In Depth** – Written by Jesse Feiler & published by Que, this book covers the features of this powerful database system and is aimed at the FileMaker developer community. MSRP=\$40.

### Internet

**New: Teach Yourself Facebook in Ten Minutes** – From Sams. MSRP=\$15.

**New: Teach Yourself Flickr in 10 Minutes** – From Sams. MSRP+\$15.

**New: Teach Yourself YouTube in Ten Minutes** – From Sams. MSRP=\$15.

**New: All a Twitter** – From Que. MSRP=\$20.

**New: iPhone; The Missing Manual** – From O'Reilly. MSRP=\$25.

**New: Web Geek's Guide to Google Chrome** – The browser of your dream? By Ledford & Davis from Que. MSRP=\$20.

**New: Murach's Ado.net 3.5 LINQ and the Entity**

**New: Microsoft Expression Web 3 in Depth** – A comprehensive book on this powerful web development software. From Que. MSRP=\$40.

**New: Microsoft Expression Web 3 on Demand** – All about this web creation program in a visual step-by-step format. From Que. MSRP=\$30.

**Framework with VB 2008** – MSRP=\$52.50.

**Understanding AJAX** – If you are already an experienced Web developer, this book by Joshua Eichorn, senior architect for Uversa, will show you exactly how to create rich, useable, Internet applications using AJAX. MSRP=\$40.

**Microsoft Expression Blend Unleashed** – Sams; Brennan Williams. MSRP=\$50. For developers of interactive Web & desktop applications; take graphical assets & blend them with functional .net code through the power of XAML and the WPF platform.

**Microsoft Voice & Unified Communications** – From Addison-Wesley. MSRP=\$40.

### Digital Photography & Design

**New: The Shot Doctor** – The Amateur's Guide to Taking Great Digital Photos. By Mark Soper from Que. MSRP=\$20.

**New: Adobe InDesign Styles** – Author Michael Murphy explores styles in InDesign CS4 for graphic designers, art directors, and production artists starting with the simplest concepts and building up to the most intricate and time-saving concepts. Peachpit Press. MSRP=\$45.

**New: Real World InDesign CS4** – This book covers the waterfront on Adobe's new design suite. Authored by Olav Kvorn & David Blatner, it is published by Peachpit Press. MSRP=\$55.

**New: The Photoshop Elements 8 Book for Digital Photographers** – Coauthored by Scott Kelby from New Riders, this book shows you "how to do it" and is full of color illustrations. MSRP=\$50.

**New: Teach Yourself Photoshop CS4 in 24 Hours** – Sams. MSRP=\$35.

**New: The Adobe Illustrator WOW! Book/CD** – Peachpit Press. MSRP=\$60.

**New: Designing Brand Identity** – Authored by Alina Wheeler from Wiley, a hardcover book. MSRP=\$45.

**Packaging Sustainability** – This Wiley book covers tools, systems, & strategies for innovative package design. \$50.

## Security

**The New School of Internet Security** – Security experts Adam Shostack & Andrew Stewart address the biggest, toughest problems and how to solve them. From Addison-Wesley, MSRP=\$30.

**Router Security Strategies, Securing IP Network Traffic Planes** – From Cisco Press, this book by Gregg Schudel & David Smith, this book tells you how to segment and protect traffic in the data, control, management, and services planes. MSRP=\$65.

**Cisco Networking Simplified, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed.** – A comprehensive visual explanation of networking technologies from Cisco Press/Prentice Hall. MSRP=\$40.

**CCIE Professional Development Network Security Technologies and Solutions** – A comprehensive, all-in-one reference for Cisco network security – Authored by Yusuf Bhaiji, from Cisco Press, this 790-page hardcover book has an MSRP=\$80.

**The New School of Information Security** – Addison-Wesley;Adam Shostack & Andrew Stewart. MSRP=\$\$30. Why critical problems exist & how to solve them.

**Cisco ASA, PIX, and FWSM Firewall Handbook, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed.** – From CISCO Press, MSRP=\$60.

**that you get to keep the book or software.** If we do not review them, they may stop sending these items in the future.

**Important!** There are two articles at the following link. One provides suggestions and guidelines for preparing a review or article for the Orange Bytes. The second provides guidelines for submittal. Please read both. The link is:

[www.noccc.org/bytes/info/index.html](http://www.noccc.org/bytes/info/index.html)

The NOCCC reserves the right to refuse to publish any article or review at the discretion of the editors of the Orange Bytes newsletter or officers of the club. Reasons may include, but are not limited to, length and quality of the review or offensive nature of the product or of the review.

## Orange Bytes and More at the NOCCC Web Site; Webmaster Needed

*By Steven Breitbart, NOCCC*

**Jim Sanders**, the NOCCC President, has been updating the NOCCC web site. **Nevertheless, we urgently need a volunteer to be the Webmaster. If you can help, contact Jim Sanders** at [president@noccc.org](mailto:president@noccc.org) or (714) 544-3589.

The latest issue of the Orange Bytes is now available in PDF format, in color and with live internal and external links. There is no user name or password needed. Older issues also are available. Go to our website:

<http://www.noccc.org/bytes/index.html>.

## Preparing a Review or Article for the NOCCC Orange Bytes

*By Steven Breitbart, NOCCC*

There are two sections in the NOCCC newsletter, the Orange Bytes, where our members can contribute reviews and articles. They are the **Computer Talk** section and the **Product Reviews** section.

Articles in the **Computer Talk** section can be about almost any computer or technology related experience that you have had. For example, getting a new ISP, getting an ISP to change your connection speed, converting a PC to Linux, using a MacIntosh PC for the first time - the list is endless.

The **Product Reviews** section can be a review of almost any type of computer hardware, software, or book about a computer-related topic. The item can be something you have bought or obtained from the NOCCC. Once you agree to do a review, you will generally have 2 months to complete it. These reviews are published in this newsletter, the Orange Bytes

The NOCCC Reviews Editor, Ted Littman, (714) 779-1936, [reviews@noccc.org](mailto:reviews@noccc.org) is often sent copies of books or software by the publishers for review by one of our members. **We need NOCCC members to take these items and commit to reviewing them promptly.** The reward for doing a review is

**When I took office, only high-energy physicists had ever heard of what is called the Worldwide Web.... Now even my cat has its own page.**

**Bill Clinton (1946 - ),  
*Announcement of Next Generation Internet Initiative, 1996***

# Product Reviews

## Web Geek's Guide to Google Chrome

Review by Ted Littman, NOCCC

According to the publisher (Que), Google Chrome “is the world’s hottest new browser,” and is “a web browser for today’s Internet and today’s user.” Since this is a book review rather than one of the browser, my focus will be on the usefulness of the book.

Authored by Jerri Ledford and Yvette Davis, the 249-page book was first issued in June 2009 and has a list price of \$20, but can be purchased for about 35% less from the publisher or the usual online discounters. For more information, visit the publisher’s web site: <http://www.informit.com/store/product.aspx?isbn=0789739739>.

Content-wise, the book is divided into four parts following a six-page Introduction:

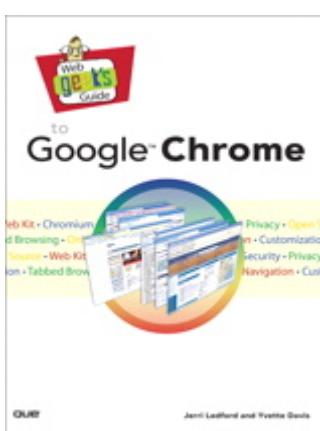
- Google Chrome and Browsing the Way It Should Be
- Tinkering Around Under the Hood
- Chrome for Power Users
- Appendices

The first three parts are divided into chapters of 6, 4, and 2 respectively and the three Appendices cover shortcuts, the non-Windows (i.e., Mac & Linux) user, and a glossary of terms used in the book.

### Web Browsers

Before I discuss the book, let’s talk a bit about **web browsers**, the software programs that allow you to access the Internet with all its wondrous things. If you want to learn more about web browsers, read the Wikipedia article at: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Web\\_browser](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Web_browser). (Complementing browsers are the **search engines** of which Google is the dominant player with a 63% market share in the U.S. – see [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Web\\_search\\_engine](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Web_search_engine).)

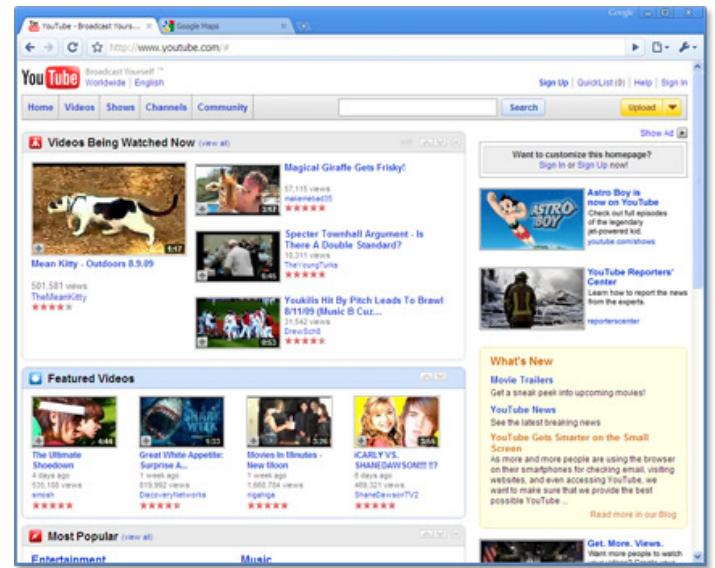
As you probably know, Microsoft’s Internet Explorer (released in 1995 and now in version 8) is the leading web browser with about 65% of market-share, followed by Firefox, Safari, Opera, and others. These are free to users with support revenue coming from advertising and special services. The hot-shot folks at Google, who have been trying to replace Microsoft as the dominant company in the world of computing, introduced Google Chrome in late 2008 as its entry to challenge Internet Explorer. According to Google: “*Google Chrome is a browser that combines a minimal design with sophisticated technology to make the Web faster, safer, and easier. Use one box for*



*everything--type in the address bar and get suggestions for both search and Web pages. Thumbnails of your top sites let you access your favorite pages instantly with lightning speed from any new tab. Desktop shortcuts allow you to launch your favorite Web apps straight from your desktop.”*

(You can download Google Chrome 3.0 at: [http://download.cnet.com/Google-Chrome/3000-2356\\_4-10881381.html?tag=mncol;txt](http://download.cnet.com/Google-Chrome/3000-2356_4-10881381.html?tag=mncol;txt) and read the review by cnet. There also is a 4.0 Beta version.) Cnet writes: “*Chrome is Google’s attempt to make the Web browser disappear and to focus on the applications and pages users are viewing, rather than on the border with its tools. Some of Chrome’s basic underpinnings are quite novel, but people will recognize other features as they exist in other, open-source Web browsers on the market today.*

*Chrome is blazingly fast and is easily the quickest browser available. Based on Webkit, the same open-source engine that powers Apple Safari, Google’s Android mobile platform, and several other Web-browsing tools, Chrome’s interface is a drastic departure from other browsers. Instead of the traditional toolbar, Chrome puts its tabs on top. Moreover, the tabs are detachable: “tabs” and “windows” are interchangeable here. Detached tabs can be dragged and dropped into the browser, and tabs can be rearranged at any time. By isolating each tab’s processes, when one site crashes, the other tabs do not.”*



### Book Review

Since I never had tried Google Chrome, I read the book from cover-to-cover first and then downloaded the software. (FYI, I have been using I.E. 8 for the most part and occasionally Firefox 3.5.7.)

In the Introduction, the authors tout the claim that Chrome is the web browser of the future, but it can be used to advantage now. The book layout and contents are summarized and the special highlighted features described. The authors say that the audiences for the book are beginner and intermediate users. To

help readers keep current, they claim to provide a web site with a blog where regular updates of Chrome and other Google applications are posted. (As of this writing, the link takes you to a GoDaddy.com-hosted page with the notation “*This web site is coming soon.*”)

Part I discusses why (the authors perceive that) Google entered the “browser wars,” compares Chrome with the major browsers, covers installation and initial usage, tells you what the “Omnibox” is and how to use it and how Chrome protects the user against a browser crash, and recommends safety measures to go beyond Chrome’s built-in capabilities.

Part II covers the ways you can customize (tweak) the open-source browser to suit your personal needs and change its appearance if you don’t like its minimalist display.

Part III spends a lot of space on “tricks” for power users even though the authors claim the book is for beginners and intermediate users! Then, in spite of the hype, tells you how to fix the most frequently encountered problems. Well, Chrome is relatively new and we shouldn’t expect perfection up front, should we?

The Appendices has pages of keyboard shortcuts if you are proficient and prefer it to using the mouse, a brief comment on using Chrome with Linux or Mac operating systems – yes you can, and finally, a glossary of terms used in the book.

Here’s my assessment of the book. Considering all of the advanced material covered, the book is more likely to appeal to advanced computerists (especially if you do programming) rather than users at the lower end of the capability spectrum. Beginner and Intermediate users probably can get any help they need in installing and using Chrome from the significant free Help resources on the browser’s web site, even though the book serves this purpose too. The book’s figures all are in black-and-white and many of the screen-shots are painfully small to view. And, the authors spend too much space providing historical perspective and technical details, interesting, but unnecessary to configure and use Chrome today; and, to convince you to switch from your present browser. For the majority of Internet users, I suspect that it will be a while before “minimalist” Google Chrome (even with its superior speed) becomes the browser of choice over its “kitchen-sink” competitors.

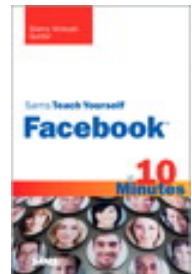
**A slip of the foot you may soon recover, but a slip of the tongue you may never get over.**

**Benjamin Franklin**

## Sams Teach Yourself Facebook in 10 Minutes

Reviewed by Donald Heinlein Sr., NOCCC

**F**a phenonenon that is sweeping the country and the rest of the world and can be exploited for pleasure and business. *“It is a privately owned & operated social networking website of 350 million users that connects people with friends and others who work, study, and live around them.”*



There are 15 lessons to the book with 207 pages of helpful “How To” instructions without the need of asking the grandchildren. I worked through a number of lessons such as sharing videos, joining groups, tracking and finding events. The book was very intuitive and it worked better than I expected. The groups were too many to mention and I explored a few of them.

Lesson 4, Understanding Facebook’s Terms of Service, was well explained with Do’s and Don’ts as well as using one’s own common sense to keep one out of trouble. The screen shots were a bit blurred. Opening the program and following along is a must.

In summery, author Sherry Kinkoph Gunter gives some excellent advice on protecting yourself and keeping your privacy.

I recommend this book to people wanting to learn or to enhance their skills with Facebook.

This 2010 book is from Sams Publishing (<http://www.informit.com/store/product.aspx?isbn=0672330873>) and has a list price of \$15. It can be bought from amazon.com for \$8.76 as well as other online sellers. It also is available in eBook format.

**I'm a great believer in luck, and I find the harder I work the more I have of it.**

**Thomas Jefferson**

# January 10, 2010 Main Meeting Report

**By Steven Breitbart, NOCCC**  
(Photos by Jim Sanders)

This report was written from an audio recording of the meeting and the descriptions of the meeting in the January Orange Bytes since I was elsewhere.

NOCCC SIG Leader Charlie Moore and President Jim Sanders gave presentations on installing Windows 7. Charlie gave this presentation to the ORCOPUG (Orange County PC Users Group) in November, 2009 and the majority of the December PC Q&A SIG, run by Jim, was about installing Windows 7.

The main point of the presentations was to use an "upgrade version" to do a "full or clean install" of Windows 7. This can mean a savings of about a \$100 and in general, yields a more reliable operating system (OS). The information was available from Microsoft's Knowledge Base, but was apparently not easy to find.

Initially, Charlie demonstrated the use of Microsoft's Windows 7 Upgrade Advisor which checks a PC to see if it meets the hardware requirements for Windows 7. The Upgrade Advisor is available free from Microsoft. According to the Advisor, Charlie's test PC (a 2.2 GHz, Core 2 Duo with 2GB of RAM, and 2 SATA hard disks with a total of 480 GB of storage available) would be OK except for Windows Mail, Parental Controls and Ultimate Extras. Charlie said that these features were available separately.



A question was asked whether the Windows 7 Upgrade Advisor might be too optimistic. According to Charlie, the more RAM and a faster CPU, the better. Jim said that the minimum stated requirements for Windows 7 - a 1 GHz CPU and 512 MB of RAM - will produce a "heartbeat," a 2 GHz CPU with 1 GB of RAM will get you to a "brisk walk" and a 3 GHz CPU with 2 GB of RAM will run Windows 7 well.

Being a consultant, Charlie purchased the Windows 7 Ultimate upgrade to have the greatest experience level with Windows 7. Charlie booted the PC from the Windows 7 DVD using the 64-bit version (more on this choice was addressed later). He selected custom or advanced install and clicked on the button

for Drive Options. One of the options is format, which did a quick format of the hard drive. There were no options for the file system and it didn't ask for the serial number of the previous version of Windows. Thus, using this procedure, Windows 7 can be installed over any other old OS. The installation took about 25 minutes. Whereas Vista took up 22 GB on the hard drive, Windows 7 required "only" 11 GB.

The question of application compatibility with the 64-bit system was addressed. In general, Jim said, most applications do not care about whether a 32-bit or 64-bit OS is being used. Some applications, such as Photoshop and some games will take advantage of a 64-bit OS. The other programs that would deal with the most basic parts of the OS are anti-virus programs.

A 64-bit OS can address more than 4 GB of RAM. Starting with Vista, a 32-bit OS, it can access 4 GB of RAM. In theory, Windows 7, a 64-bit OS, can address an astounding 16 exabytes (An exabyte is  $10^{18}$  bytes.) of RAM! You get to this number by doubling the maximum amount of RAM for each bit you add to the OS. Thus, a 33-bit OS could access 8 GB of RAM; a 34-bit OS could access 16 GB of RAM, and so on. The 64-bit OS is also faster, but reportedly the difference is not very noticeable.

Charlie said that he assumes that if the hardware cannot run a 64-bit OS, the installation will tell you. There were software incompatibilities noted as well. Both were with Intuit products; TurboTax and QuickBooks were mentioned. TurboTax requires a 32-bit OS only; Jim said it may have to do with their copy protection methods.

There are also OEM versions of Windows 7 available. They are less expensive, but come with a caveat; no support is provided by Microsoft and they are locked to one specific piece of hardware and will not be installable on any another machine. The retail version can be reinstalled on another PC if the first one dies.

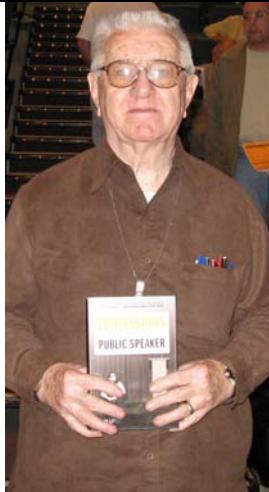
Charlie spent over ten hours working on a client's PC which came with Windows 7 Home Premium. An upgrade to Professional was bought because it (and Ultimate) have an XP emulation mode and the business needed to run QuickBooks. QuickBooks wouldn't install even when using the XP emulation and a new version of QuickBooks was required. The all-in-one printer and scanner also had problems. Charlie couldn't stop until QuickBooks was up and running so he could be paid with a check printed out using QuickBooks!

Charlie said that he was not very impressed with Windows 7. There is no Classic View for the Start Menu and Control Panel. On the test PC that he used, which is a Media PC he's building, Charlie liked Vista, except that it always thought his Broadband connection was PPPOE and he could find out how to change it to always on. He then checked out Windows 7, and couldn't find the Network Connections windows to determine what default settings had been implemented. He also said there was less of a learning curve from Windows XP to Vista than from Vista to Windows 7.

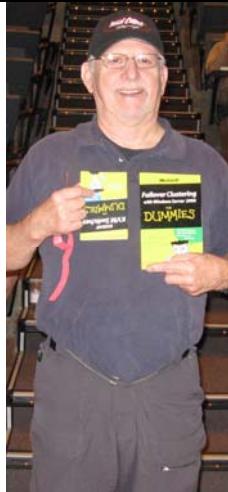
**(Continued on page 23)**

## January 2010 Raffle Winners

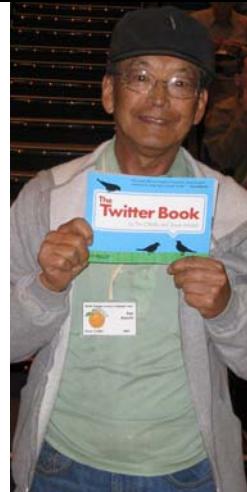
*Photos by Jim Sanders, NOCCC*



*Charlie Moore*



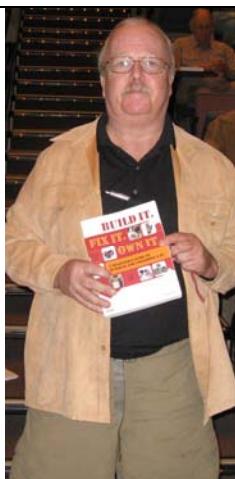
*Barth Bybee*



*Kaz Adachi*



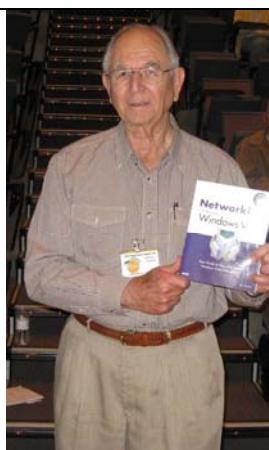
*Martin LaRocque*



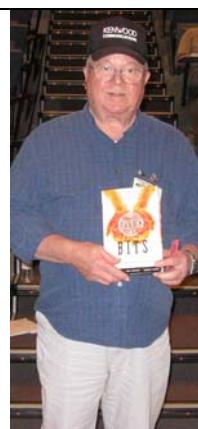
*Richard Miller*



*John Szary*



*William Thomas*



***Your photo could be here, but  
only if you buy a raffle ticket  
or wear your membership  
badge!***

***Wear your Membership Badge  
for one free ticket!***

***See Page 4 for a list of prizes that will be  
available in February.***

# SIG Meeting Reports

## Beginner's Digital Photography

Ed Schwartz, SIG Leader, Report by John Donan



This month's meeting discussed several features in Adobe's Photoshop Elements including the cropping tool in relation to the digital camera aspect ratio. Also discussed were the advantages of using Adjustment Layers. Another topic included the use of Clipping Groups to create fancy text. Next month's meeting will cover some of the neat features of Photodex's ProShow Gold software including working with sound tracks.

*This SIG meets in Science 127 at 9:00 a.m.*

## Advanced Digital Photography

By Larry Klees, SIG Leader



### Last Month

There are several common types of photograph that pose problems which can be difficult to deal with: Things that are highly reflective, things that are transparent, things that have black on black colors and things that have white on white colors. Each of these pose special problems for a photographer. At the January meeting we examined the last two. Black on black requires accurate exposure and careful contrast control to prevent details from getting lost in the shadows. White on white has the same problems except the details get lost in blown-out highlights. Last month, we explored several methods to handle these shots.

First, proper exposure is a must. Most cameras today do a good job automatically. However if you must err, it is better to be slightly under-exposed than over-exposed. Over-exposed pictures are pretty much toast with blasted out highlights that can seldom be fixed. Under-exposed images can usually be adjusted (the only penalty being a small amount of noise in the shadows).

Adobe PhotoShop and PhotoShop Elements each has a shadow/highlights tool which can be of great help. However, your image editing program may not have this tool, or the problem may be too severe for the shadow/highlights tool to fix.

Several image editing programs have a Curves tool. This tool, which can do many things, works wonders with shadows and highlights. The "Before" photo on the right is especially



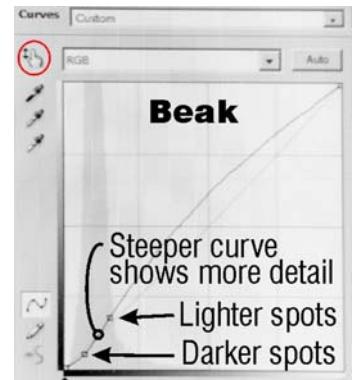
problematic. The beak is black on black and the tail is white on white. If you look carefully at the adjusted image below, you can see more contours in the beak and feathers on the tail.



This bird was shot with the tail in full sun and the beak in full shade. This created such a severe problem that masks were required for the white tail area and the black beak area. For most pictures these masks are not required.

First we will deal with the beak. Note the curves diagram on the right. This one is from PhotoShop, but GIMP, Photo Paint, Paint Shop Pro, and others have a similar tool. On the graph you can see a straight diagonal line that goes from lower left (dark tones) to upper right (light tones). Our purpose is to very slightly lighten the black beak and increase the contrast in the dark tones to accentuate the details.

Usually this change can be made globally to the entire photograph. Note the little pointing finger circled in red near the upper left corner of the box. This is a feature new to the last two versions of PhotoShop and it makes this task very easy. I just clicked on the pointing finger and then selected one of the lighter areas inside the bird's nostril and clicked on it. This automatically added the darker spots dot indicated on the graph. A very dark but not completely black spot works well. Then I selected one of the brightest areas of the beak and clicked there. This added the lighter spots dot on the graph. Then with a click and upwards drag on the image, the lighter spots dot is moved higher on the graph. Returning the pointer to the nostril, clicking and dragging in a downward direction moves the darker spots dot lower on the graph.



The result is that a segment of the graph customized to the tones on the beak has been made steeper. This significantly increases the contrast to all of those dark tones all over the entire photo or in the selected / masked area. Note that the slope on the upper half of the graph has been reduced (but just slightly) which will cause a barely noticeable reduction in contrast to the lighter tones. Since this particular photo is so critical, the beak was

masked and the remainder of the photo (most importantly that white tail) remained unaltered.

Now let's tackle that white tail. The curves tool was again selected and the pointing finger was again clicked. A bright though not completely white spot on the tail was clicked to add the lighter spots dot onto the graph. Then a darker area of the tail was clicked to add darker spots dot to the graph. Clicking and dragging each of these spots on the tail moved their corresponding dots down on the graph to steepen the curve and reveal the feather details. This time the lower (darker tones) portion of the graph is slightly flattened but again this is only a small amount.



Other programs have their own methods of adding dots to the curve and moving the dots to reshape the curve but the rest of the process remains the same. Select a small custom part of the curve and make it steeper. This increases the contrast and brings out the details of the selected tones; while only slightly reducing the contrast to the remaining tones.

#### [At the February Meeting](#)



We will look at macro photos and the equipment that takes them. You can use very versatile and expensive equipment like above or you can use slightly less versatile but much less expensive equipment as shown on the right. That is an inexpensive point and shoot camera perched on top of a good quality \$40 monocular microscope combination. You can spend even less on close-up attachments. You can even get good results with lenses from the 99 cent



store. Come find out how.



*This SIG meets in Science room 127 at 10:30 a.m.*

## Microsoft Access

*By Bob Dickson, SIG Leader*



Talking about a topic and watching someone perform the topic can be entertaining, but to really learn more about the topic, one must actually work with it. In Jan, I began working with a regular attendee of this SIG to build an Access application for his wife's collection of quilts. She's been making quilts for years and has a wonderful collection. So we began to design a database to hold all of the data she's been collecting manually for the past many years. Together we worked on the initial file design. We came up with a couple of fields that would definitely be useful. There will be many more, I'm sure, after he and his wife begin to consider entering data. This is the best way to learn Access: Use it! Over the next couple of months we'll take some time in the SIG sessions and add to this Quilt database. He doesn't have Access on his computer at home so I converted the mdb format to the mde format. That will execute on his computer without him having to install Access. If the project seems to be working out and appears to be desirable, he'll purchase Access. We're developing using the 2003 version so he should be able to locate a copy pretty easily. We'll keep some time open for general questions and to demonstrate other aspects of the 2003 Access database program. If you have an Access program and want to discuss it, by all means let's do it. Or if you have a PC-based task you're working on and want to see if maybe Access can help, please ask about it in the Feb Session. Fill your coffee cup, buy a donut, and join us.

*This SIG meets in Science 306 at 9:00 a.m.*

## Visual Basic for Applications (Access VBA)

By Bob Dickson, SIG Leader

I upgraded my HP laptop from Vista to Windows 7 in December. I was hoping that Access 2003 would run under Win 7 because I had lots of problems with Access 2003 under Vista. Unfortunately, Win 7 was not an improvement. Access 2003 has the same problems in Win 7 as it had in Vista. Bummer! So in Feb I'll bring my older laptop that has Windows XP and Access 2003 and we'll work with VBA in that environment. That works, and since many people are still running XP and 2003 it'll be useful for them. In the Feb VBA session we'll explore using VBA to customize your program by using the power of the built-in wizard feature. See you.

*We will follow the Access SIG in Science 306 with the VBA SIG at 10:30 a.m.*

## PC Q&A

By Jim Sanders, SIG Leader



One of the questions at this month's SIG was which router should I get? The answer to that depends on a whole lot of different things. Is hardwired good enough or do you need wireless WiFi? Are you mostly going to be accessing the Internet from different machines using a WiFi router or are you going to be transferring large files between computers? Does the equipment that you wish to use with a WiFi router already have an adapter or are you going to have to purchase a new one? If the main reason for going to a WiFi router is that you can access the Internet on your laptop from most anywhere in the house, you need to know which series of adapter is built into the laptop. If your laptop has an 802.11 G built into it, it doesn't do you very much good to spend the extra money to get the 802.11N router.

As a side note, I would comment that at least now it is possible to purchase a real 802.11N router. The IEEE has finally approved the 802.11N high-throughput wireless LAN standard as of last September. Prior to that, all of the so-called "N" routers were built to the draft specification, not the final/real specification. Most vendors are saying that their draft version hardware can probably be updated such that they are compatible with the final specification, no guarantees. An additional complaint about this final version however, is that not all features of the specification are required to be implemented in order to claim that it meets the specification. So for instance, the fancy new "N" router that you see advertised for what seems to be a great price, may have achieved that price because they eliminated the multiple input multiple output feature or some other feature.

But, to get back to the question at hand, for most people, the 802.11G version of the router will be fast enough, cost

considerably less, and without question be compatible with the widest range of equipment. The question was asked, is it fast enough to keep up with the Internet? And the answer is, unless you have an exceptionally fast Internet connection, yes. Most broadband services are providing a download Internet connection that is less than 6 million bits per second. The 802.11G WiFi router provides a maximum data transfer rate of 54 million bits per second. Even if you took away half of that speed for overhead, it would still be considerably faster than your Internet connection. If you are running a LAN that has a server of some sort where most of your files are kept, and you transferred a lot of data over that link, then spend the extra money for the latest and greatest technology.

One of the topics that should get increasing coverage in the next few months is USB 3. When USB 1 was released, most of those devices that use the specification were relatively low speed and it seemed wonderful that you could have up to 128 devices hooked up to your computer through the USB bus, or at least in theory that was true. When the first external hard disks that were connected to the computer via the USB 1 interface were tested, the throughput was found to be painfully slow. But at least it worked. When USB 2 with its maximum data transfer rate of 480 million bits per second was released a lot of people jumped for joy. Once again, even though it was a huge improvement over the first release, real life data transfer rates between an external hard disk and the computer tended to be in the 10 to 20 MB per second range in stead of the theoretical 48 MB per second. A tolerable data-transfer rate, but with our ever-increasing need for speed, way less than what we really wanted to have available.

USB 3 promises to solve that problem by offering a maximum data transfer rate of 5000 million bits per second or 5 GB per second if you would rather. Just like its predecessor USB 2, USB 3 has a fair amount of overhead that will reduce the actual throughput to considerably less than the maximum data bit rate. I have not yet been able to find any hard numbers, but most of the opinion seems to be that the new standard in real life will probably offer about 10 times the performance of USB 2. The real-life numbers that that represents are probably going to be in the range of 100 to 150 MB per second in the beginning and improving to the 200 to 250 MB per second range as the technology matures. That is faster than most current hard disks can transfer data from the read head and is fast enough that you could boot and run from a USB 3 interface hard disk with quite nice performance. USB 3 is going to be backward compatible with the older hardware that is in most equipment today. It is expected that a large number of motherboard manufacturers will offer both standards on their boards such that there can be no problems with existing USB equipment.

I plan to spend some time on the USB 3 topic during the February PC Question and Answer SIG. In addition, I will explore how the release of the SATA 3 specification may impact our computers.

*Jim's two SIGs meet in the Irvine Hall at 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m., respectively. The first is the Beginner's PC Q & A and the second is for everything and everyone else.*

## Linux Desktop

By Bob Ray, SIG Leader



We experimented with a number of things and issues in the last session. We took an Ubuntu 9.10 Live DVD designed for a 64-bit AMD CPU and boot-loaded with this and then executed this on a 32-bit Intel processor. It ran successfully.

Everyone in the room was not only surprised, but no one could offer any ideas as to how this could actually work. We reloaded everything and double-checked that this was really the case. Each time we got the same result. It worked. We used various Desktop Applications and connected to the Internet. The final question of how all of this could possibly work remained unanswered. Perhaps in the future the answer will reveal itself.

We discussed at length why a firewall is needed. We also discussed when, where and why a firewall is NOT needed. For example, if you are running a stand-alone Desktop system using Ubuntu 9.10, a firewall would not automatically be installed and started. Why? Because there is nothing to firewall against. Meaning you are not running any server applications--no server ports are open. Your Internet/browser and mail clients might be the only open items, and they have built-in security, but that's it, and these are not servers. I commend the Ubuntu team for making simple things simple and easy things easy to use.

*This SIG meets in Science 131a at 9:00 a.m.*

## Computer Logic vs. Human Logic

By Bob Ray, NOCCC

The question is: Can Human thought and Logic outdo computer logic or vice versa? The assumption here is that computers can actually think...now...or in the future. This is not a question of speed or Meg's and Gig's, but of the ability to reach a solid end result on a common problem or of making the smartest choice between two items. Example: The following biology problem was part of a student class test question used over half-a-century ago. The test question was: Can a brother and sister be identical twins? Yes or No!

Answer number 1: No, of course not! This was the answer that the instructor wanted. Only 3 out of 27 got this answer correct in my high school Advanced Biology class in the early 1960's. Did I get this answer correct? Ask Me!

Answer number 2: Yes! They can be...but not to each other. This answer is only for those who risk challenging academic authority. This alternative answer can have negative implications for the student. The end result for the student is

that it's better to get with the program and go with the flow. Give Him or Her or It what He or She or It wants.

Answer Number 3: Sometimes/Maybe/None of the Above! We have definitely reached the Age of "The Brave New World." Especially in California where human "in vivo" test tube type babies are being created and raised in broods. Sad, but True!

The problem with the twins question is a failure to fully qualify the statement, condition or expression. Which is a critical consideration in computer programming. Wartime slogan: Loose code can sink programs! Or, tight and squeaky is much better than loose and sloppy. The computer programming cardinal rule number one is: Never use or mix "AND"s and "OR"s with "NOT"s within the same expression. I have worked with programmers over the years who's coding philosophy and style was to only go with logical positives like "YES" and "True" and avoid the using logic negatives like "NO" and "NOT" and "False".

Unfortunately the original question still remains unanswered. Although artificial intelligence has been hyped in the past for years, it remains to be seen in the real world. I would suppose that in the future some sort of intelligent "thing" will be created. Probably some sort of android or humanoid with "chit" for brains...ah...that's chips and information technology. This new intelligent little critter is badly needed especially at the state and federal levels of government where emotional and political decisions being made have little or no regard to common sense and basic smarts.

*(See p. 9 for another Bob Ray Linux article.)*

## Microsoft Office SIG

Tia Christian, SIG Leader



These sessions are an open forum for problems incurred using Microsoft Word, Excel, and Outlook and their resolutions. During these SIG sessions, topics have been discussed on creating Labels in Word and exporting to Excel and printing them. Primary session topics have been the upgrade from Microsoft Office 2003 to Microsoft Office 2007, in addition to the requirements for installation of Microsoft Office 2007 from Microsoft -In; e-mail compatibility issues from Microsoft Office 2003 to Microsoft Office 2007 Word, Excel, and Outlook; and PowerPoint products; installation requirements for installing Microsoft Office 2007 on Windows XP as well as Vista 2007; PowerPoint compatibility issues on PowerPoint 2003 slide presentation consisting of an AVI; file viewing.

*This SIG meets in Science 109 at 9:00 a.m.*

# Visual Programming

Anson Chapman, SIG Leader



This SIG is lead by Anson Chapman and is a continuing discussion group about computer programming using Visual Basic, Visual Basic Script, Visual C, Visual C++ and Visual J++ for Beginners.

*This SIG meets in Science 111 at 9:00 a.m.*

## Understanding Operating Systems

Charlie Moore, SIG Leader



This SIG is lead by Charlie Moore and is a continuing discussion group about Operating Systems for Computers. Charlie also will be the Jan. 10<sup>th</sup> Main Meeting speaker.

*This SIG meets in Science 111 at 10:30 a.m.*

### (Main Meeting Report.....continued from page 17)

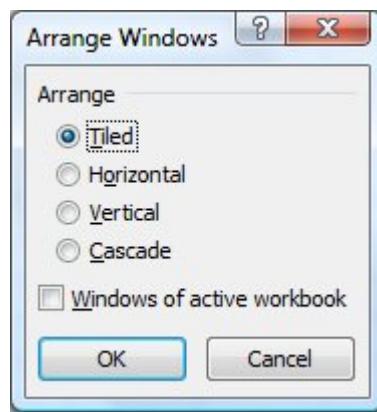
Jim was going to talk about why we should get the Professional or Ultimate version of Windows 7, because, as already mentioned, it has a Windows XP mode available which runs on a virtual PC. The PC Jim was going to use was a new Shuttle PC (AMD Athlon II, X4 Quad-Core Processor, model 630 with 4 GB of RAM. Some of the RAM was needed for video, so not all of the 4 GB was accessible).

Implementing XP mode requires changes to the BIOS settings; the Secure Virtual Machine Mode must be enabled. Jim's research lead to a large amount of information which contradicted the information obtained from Microsoft. Regardless, many things needed to be set up: the license, name, password and updates for the virtual PC software, whether you want to be able to update the virtual version of XP, how much of the hard disk you want to allocate for the virtual PC or if you want this amount to be dynamic, a name for the hard disk drive, how much RAM to allocate to the virtual PC, whether you want share the drive, have network connections and many other decisions that needed to be made. Jim showed screen shots of all of the steps. At the end of all this work, he got an error message that said he couldn't install the XP mode.

Jim promised to report back when he succeeds in getting XP mode to work. Still, thank you Charlie and Jim, another interesting meeting. **See you all next month.**

## Viewing Multiply Places In an Excel Worksheet

The easiest solution is to open additional windows for the worksheet. Choose Window | New Window (prior to Excel 2007) or display the View tab of the ruler and click New Window in the Window group (Excel 2007). Excel opens additional windows that contain the exact same worksheet. You can then choose Window | Arrange (or click Arrange All in the Window group of the ribbon) to arrange the windows any way desired:



When you open additional windows in this manner, the windows are independent of each other, meaning that you can scroll them independently. If you make a change in one window, the same change is made in all the windows. (This makes sense, since they all display the same data.)

Once the windows are situated the way you want them, you could save the arrangement as a view (View | Custom Views or, in Excel 2007, Custom Views in the Workbook Views group of the ruler). That way you could quickly recall the appearance of your windows any time you desire.

Source: [www.tips.net](http://www.tips.net). Copyrighted by Sharon Parq Associates, Inc. Used with their permission.

# Club Business

## Transportation Information

### Meeting Information

The NOCCC meeting is held at Chapman University, in the Hashinger Science Center and Irvine Hall, near the northwest corner of Center Street and Palm Avenue.

### Parking Information

Most of this information is on the back cover. For more information, see [www.chapman.edu/map/parking.asp](http://www.chapman.edu/map/parking.asp). A map of the Chapman University campus is also available at [www.chapman.edu/map/map.pdf](http://www.chapman.edu/map/map.pdf).

### Bus

Several Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) buses service Chapman University. Route 54 runs East and West on Chapman Ave. The 59 runs North and South on Glassell Avenue, but doesn't start early enough for the 9:00 a.m. SIGs. Get the most current information or use a trip planner at [www.octa.net](http://www.octa.net). OCTA also has a Consumer Information Center at (714) 636-7433 (RIDE).

### Railroad

Metrolink trains can get you to the NOCCC meeting from the Inland Empire. There are stops in the cities of Riverside, Corona, and Anaheim Hills. Parking your vehicle is free at the train station. (See M on map below.)

On Sundays, Inland Empire-Orange County Line trains 857 and 859 leave San Bernardino destined for Orange County at 7:30 am and 8:55 am. For the return trip, trains 858 and 860 leave nearby Orange Metrolink at 2:50 pm and 4:30 pm. The Metrolink station is four-and-a-half blocks from Chapman University. For specifics regarding your trip, check the web site: <http://www.metrolinktrains.com> or call 1-800-371-5465.



## January 11, 2010 Board Meeting Minutes

The NOCCC Board Meeting was held at President Jim Sanders' residence on Monday, January 11. Jim called the meeting to order at 7:38 P.M. Also in attendance were John Heenan, Ted Littman, Dallas Hazleton, Richard Miller, Steven Breitbart, Bob Dickson, Ben Lochtenbergh, Gerry Resch, and guest Jeff Stevens. Board members not in attendance were Mary Cornett and Tia Christian.

### President's Report

Vice President, Jim Morrison, submitted his resignation and Bob Dickson agreed to replace him. Ben Lochtenbergh agreed to serve as a Board member, filling the position vacated several months ago by Robert Love. Jeff Stevens also was added to the Board, taking the position made available by Dickson's move to the VP slot. We now have a full complement of Officers & Directors.

**Secretary's Report** (by Ted Littman): It was motioned to approve the Secretary's Report as printed in the December Bytes; this was seconded and approved by all in attendance.

**Treasurer's Report** (by John Heenan): Net income for Coffee & Donuts was \$7.15. The General Raffle earned \$76. The average unit cost to produce & distribute the Orange Bytes over the past month was \$1.14.

**Membership:** Regular (1-yr.) = 211, Regular (3-yr.) = 10, Family = 6, Newsletter = 12; **Total of 240 Members**, down 6 from last month. This decline may be due to the timing of applications recorded rather than a loss of membership. John will provide the Board with a graphical record of the club's membership at the next meeting. The Board accepted the Treasurer's report.

**Main Meeting:** The speakers were NOCCC Operating Systems SIG Leader, Charlie Moore and President, Jim Sanders. (See Main Meeting report by Steven Breitbart elsewhere.) There were about 45 attendees, a significant increase over December.

**Opening & Closing:** Bob Dickson again set up the Coffee & Donuts table in the lobby of Irvine Hall and all went well. A few issues were reported by a SIG leader & members.

**Next Scheduled Meetings:** The next Main Meeting is **Sunday, February 7<sup>th</sup>**, followed by the BOD meeting on **February 8<sup>th</sup>** at the President's residence. Subsequent monthly meeting dates obtained from Chapman U. through May 2010 are listed on the front page of the Bytes.

### Committee Reports

**Programs:** Mary Cornett by telephone confirmed the commitment from Time-Warner Cable to provide several technical speakers for the February Main Meeting. Jim is in contact with a local vendor regarding a March speaker.

**Public Relations:** No report.

**Publications & Reviews:** Ted emailed the production schedule for the next newsletter to BOD members & SIG leaders. He reported that two book reviews by NOCCC members were in the Jan. OB, both of which will be distributed by APCUG to other user groups for republication. One book & one software program were taken out for review on Jan. 10<sup>th</sup>. Two book reviews are pending for Feb. He also has reviews and articles from other user groups provided by APCUG. Jim Sanders took photos at the main meeting. Steven will do the minutes based on Jim's tape for publication in the next Bytes. Richard Miller will receive the February newsletter from the printer and deliver it to the Post Office for mailing.

**Raffles:** The raffles was held with a "special" prize of a large hard disk for the Regular raffle. Jim made a motion to have "special" prizes for subsequent Regular & Members raffles with the cost not to exceed \$100 per meeting. It was seconded and approved after some discussion.

**SIGs:** Dallas checked the various SIG meetings and urged SIG leaders to provide write-ups for the newsletter. It was suggested that they be urged to attend the Random Access portion of the Main Meeting and invite members to attend their SIG meetings. Ed Schwartz informed Jim that he will not be available to run the Beginner's Digital SIG after the Feb. meeting due to other commitments.

**Consignment Table:** Not held in January.

**Old Business:** Nothing significant.

**New Business:** Steven will prepare an article on nearby off-campus eating places. The Board welcomed new volunteers Ben Lichtenbergh and Jeff Stevens.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:28 P.M.

*This report was prepared by NOCCC Secretary Ted Littman.*

## NOCCC Fee Schedule

The fee schedule has been set up to increase club membership, attract people with an interest in computing, and attract local computer-related businesses to place ads in the Orange Bytes with or without becoming NOCCC members. We are also offering members the opportunity to help our club financially by making donations that should be income-tax deductible since we are chartered as a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. Donors will be acknowledged in the Orange Bytes and the Membership level will be shown on the Member's Badge. **Your regular dues is tax deductible!**

Membership Level (\$)	1 Year	3 Years
Individual Member.....	35.....	90
Each Additional Family Member .....	15.....	45
College Student.....	20	
High School Student.....	15	

Business Member + Ad (Business Card) .....	180
Business Member + Ad (1/4 Page, 1/2 Page) ....	465 , 800
Business Member + Ad (Full Page) .....	1,475

Membership Donations (\$)	
Contributing Member .....	75
Supporting Member .....	100
Advocate Member .....	250
Patron Member .....	500

February 2010

## Welcome to Our Member Who Joined in December 2009

Your Board of Directors welcomes our member who joined in November 2009:

 **Tony Loechner**

## Thanks to Our Members Who Renewed in December 2009

- ❖ Donald Armstrong
- ❖ Tia Christian
- ❖ Allen Chronister
- ❖ J. Barrie Clark
- ❖ James L. Farnsley
- ❖ James A. Goda
- ❖ Carl E. Grinstead
- ❖ John Krill
- ❖ Sid Liptz
- ❖ John E. Lundgren
- ❖ Howard W. Phillips
- ❖ Len M. Poche (family)
- ❖ Gordon Stickland
- ❖ Robert J. Van Horn
- ❖ Don L. Wightman

We invite you to take an active roll in running NOCCC and planning its activities. Please contact President Jim Sanders or one of our other officers at a monthly meeting or by e-mail ([editor@noccc.org](mailto:editor@noccc.org)).

## NOCCC Bylaws

You may view the club's Bylaws at our website:  
<http://www.noccc.org/bylaws/>.

## SIG Leaders Wanted

We would like to expand our Special Interest Group topics to include:

- Computer Aided Investing
- Home Automation
- PC Hardware Essentials
- Internet and the World Wide Web
- Computer Security
- Genealogy 101
- Desktop Publishing

If you have knowledge of and an interest in any of these areas, or others, please consider leading a SIG. Contact Jim Sanders, President of the NOCCC, with your SIG ideas.

# Upcoming Computer Shows

By Steven Breitbart, NOCCC

Here is a list of all the computer related shows I found for the first few months of 2010. I recommend checking the web sites before going.

## West Coast Expos Computer Fair ([lacomputerfair.com](http://lacomputerfair.com))

Fairplex in Pomona

January 23 & 24, 2010 was the only one listed on their web site as of January 17.

## Bagnall's Camera Expo ([www.cameraexpo.com](http://www.cameraexpo.com))

Brookhurst Community Center in Anaheim

February 21

March 21

April 18

May 16

## Hyperactive-ACP Computer Show

(<http://www.swapmeethyperactive.com/>)

Hyperactive Computers Parking Lot, Santa Ana

March 28th

May 30th

## The W6TRW Amateur Radio Association

(<http://www.w6trw.com/swapmeet/swapmeet.htm>) Northrop

Grumman Aerospace Systems parking lot, Redondo Beach.

Last Saturday of the month,

7am to 11:30am

If you know of any other computer, technology or other shows in the Southern California area that NOCCC members might be interested in, please send me information about it.

## FREE AD SPACE

If you are a NOCCC member, and have a computer related, **non-commercial or "talent Available" ad** that you would like to have placed in this newsletter or on the NOCCC web site, send an e-mail with a copy of your business card or ad to the NOCCC Editor at [editor@noccc.org](mailto:editor@noccc.org).

**If you have had an ad previously, you must request that we continue to run it for the remainder of this calendar year.**

**Your business card  
would look good here!!**

**For information about advertising in the  
Orange Bytes, contact [editor@noccc.org](mailto:editor@noccc.org).**

**Classified ads by NOCCC members cost \$5  
for 1-25 words and \$10 for 26-50 words.**

# Pig SIG Open to All



Meet us outside Irvine Hall from about noon to 12:30 p.m. There are several benches where NOCCC people gather, eat and chat. Just look for the member badges, grab a chair and join in! This is an informal group; so many different subjects are discussed. It's a great opportunity to mix, mingle and network.

**Free coffee  
at February meeting!  
Donuts \$1.00/each.**

## Food Available During the NOCCC Meeting

By Steven Breitbart, NOCCC

What is a hungry NOCCC member to do during the monthly meeting? Thank you, of course to Bob Dickson for all the donuts and coffee, but sometimes a person needs "real" food.

On-campus restaurant locations are listed on the Chapman University web site at [www.chapman.edu/dining/locations/default.asp](http://www.chapman.edu/dining/locations/default.asp). The only ones open Sunday are the Jazzman Café and Bakery, in Beckman Hall, and the Residence Center Dining Commons. Beckman Hall is east of our meeting location at Hashinger Science Center and is open 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Get to the Residence Center Dining Commons by walking north on Center Street past Walnut Avenue. The Dining Commons is open from 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. for Brunch and from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. for Deli and Salad.

Many restaurants are available off-campus as well. Our meetings are at North Center Street and East Palm Avenue, five short blocks from the traffic circle at North Glassell Street and Chapman Avenue, the heart of Old Towne Orange. In fact, the Chapman University web site has a page on Old Towne Orange at [www.chapman.edu/about/oldeTowneOrange.asp](http://www.chapman.edu/about/oldeTowneOrange.asp) and a map of many local restaurants at [www.chapman.edu/images/userImages/mattmill/Page\\_4515/OTOrangeRestaurantMap.jpg](http://www.chapman.edu/images/userImages/mattmill/Page_4515/OTOrangeRestaurantMap.jpg). Almost everything from A to Z, soup to nuts, North Pole to South Pole is close by. Check it out.



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The important thing is not to stop questioning. Curiosity has its own reason for existing. One cannot help but be in awe when he contemplates the mysteries of eternity, of life, of the marvelous structure of reality. It is enough if one tries merely to comprehend a little of this mystery every day. Never lose a holy curiosity.

Albert Einstein



## Membership Renewal

When you turn in your Membership Renewal check, PLEASE fill out a Membership Renewal Application.

Memberships may also be renewed on our Website:  
[https://mmm1427.rapidsite.net/  
 citivu/noccc/order3.html](https://mmm1427.rapidsite.net/citivu/noccc/order3.html)

Send e-mail address changes to [membership@noccc.org](mailto:membership@noccc.org)

**Commercial display advertisements are welcome, contact [editor@noccc.org](mailto:editor@noccc.org).**

### RATES

One Page Vertical .....	7.0" x 9.5"	\$150
Half-page Horizontal .....	7.0" x 5.0"	\$80
Half-page Vertical .....	3.5" x 9.5"	\$80
Quarter-page .....	3.5" x 5.0"	\$45
Business Card .....	3.5" x 2.0"	\$15
Center Spread.....	14.0" x 9.5"	\$300

**Deadline: Tenth of the month**

Discounts: 3months=10%, 6=15%, 12=20%  
 If you are interested in advertising in the publications of multiple User Groups throughout the region or nationally, you can learn more by contacting <http://www.apcug.org>

Readers, please tell our advertisers that you saw their ad in the *Orange Bytes*

### QUICK MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ I am a new member   
 This is a renewal; my membership number is \_\_\_\_\_

#### PLEASE PRINT!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

email \_\_\_\_\_

Fees: see page 25 for fee schedule; \$35 for single membership

Since the North Orange County Computer Club is incorporated as a 501 (c) (3) organization, checks are 100% tax deductible when made payable to North Orange County Computer Club.

Amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

MC / Visa No. \_\_\_\_\_ Expires \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your check payable to North Orange County Computer Club and mail with your application to:

**North Orange County Computer Club  
 PO Box 3616  
 Orange, CA 92857**



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## Are You an NOCCC Member?

### Consider all that you get with membership and Join Now!

- **Meetings.** Keep up with what's going on in the computer world. Hear outstanding industry representatives make presentations of the latest and greatest in computer products.
- **Special Interest Groups.** Our SIGs cover a broad spectrum of computer issues. Whether you are a beginner or a power user, attend the lectures and demonstrations, and share your knowledge about computers.
- **Raffle Drawings.** We have distributed thousands of dollars worth of hardware, software, and books as prizes at our Main Meeting.
- **Consignment Table.** We have a consignment table during select monthly meetings, in which members can sell or buy all kinds of computer items.
- **Get help with your current computer problems.** In the [Random Access](#) portion of the Main Meeting, you may ask your question of the entire assemblage. More than likely someone will have the answer.
- **NOCCC Help Line.** NOCCC volunteers, experts in their fields, are ready to assist you with your computer problems. They can be contacted by email or by telephone.
- **The Orange Bytes Newsletter.** Our [award-winning](#) newsletter reports on club activities and provides articles about current computer issues and reviews of software and books.
- **Product Reviews.** Write a review for the *Orange Bytes* and keep the software, hardware, book or CD!
- **Volunteer Work.** We have several interesting assignments available. As an all-volunteer organization, you can join with other members in a variety of activities: write articles for our newsletter, conduct a seminar, run a SIG, show new members around, join a committee, assist in setting up the meeting or participate in computer-related community volunteer work.

Become an NOCCC member by signing up at the Membership Desk during a general meeting, usually the first Sunday of the month. Or simply fill out the form on the reverse side of this page and send it in.

**Meeting Information** — The NOCCC meeting is held at Chapman University, in the Hashinger Science Center and Irvine Hall, near the northwest corner of N. Center St. and E. Palm Ave.

**Parking Information** — Chapman University's main parking lot is the underground Lastinger Parking Structure under Wilson field on the north side of the campus. Enter from Walnut Avenue, just east of Glassell Street. Parking is free on Sunday.

**Buy a permit; the vending machine takes bills, coins and charge cards.** Do not park in any other lot, in a reserved space or back into a space.

Free street parking also is available on the campus-side of the streets only. **Parking in front of any residential housing will result in an expensive parking ticket.** A City of Orange public parking lot, located on the southwest corner of E. Maple and N. Orange, is also free and only 2 blocks from the meeting. See page 23 for more information about parking and transportation.

