**SLO Bytes HardCopy
A publication of the San Luis Obispo PC Users’ Group
Vol. 36 No. 2 February 2020**

**January 5th, 2020 First Session Notes** *by Alan Raul*

*Avila Beach Polar Bear Plunge - The 8th annual Avila Beach Polar Bear Plunge is a celebration of fitness, nature, a New Year, camaraderie and still having dessert.*[*http://www.avilabeachpolarbearplunge.com/*](http://www.avilabeachpolarbearplunge.com/)

*magicJack Automated Call Screening - Block unwanted calls from automated calling systems, telemarketers and others.*[*https://wp.magicjack.com/features/automated-call-screening/*](https://wp.magicjack.com/features/automated-call-screening/)

*Don’t Trust. Verify.*[*https://www.privateinternetaccess.com/blog/2019/12/dont-trust-verify/*](https://www.privateinternetaccess.com/blog/2019/12/dont-trust-verify/)

*California Consumer Privacy Act may help take back your privacy and give you more rights over your data*[*https://www.usatoday.com/story/tech/2019/12/27/california-privacy-law-could-help-all-americans-protect-their-data/2700206001/*](https://www.usatoday.com/story/tech/2019/12/27/california-privacy-law-could-help-all-americans-protect-their-data/2700206001/)

*Avast Online Security and Avast Secure Browser are spying on you*[*https://palant.de/2019/10/28/avast-online-security-and-avast-secure-browser-are-spying-on-you/*](https://palant.de/2019/10/28/avast-online-security-and-avast-secure-browser-are-spying-on-you/)

*LastPass Parent Company Sold to Private Equity Firms*[*https://www.pcmag.com/news/372604/lastpass-parent-company-sold-to-private-equity-firms*](https://www.pcmag.com/news/372604/lastpass-parent-company-sold-to-private-equity-firms)

*LogMeIn agrees to be acquired by Francisco Partners and Evergreen for $4.3B*[*https://techcrunch.com/2019/12/17/logmein-agrees-to-be-acquired-by-francisco-partners-and-evergreen-for-4-3b/*](https://techcrunch.com/2019/12/17/logmein-agrees-to-be-acquired-by-francisco-partners-and-evergreen-for-4-3b/)

*1Password (AgileBits) announced in November that they were partnering with a venture capital firm.*[*https://techcrunch.com/2019/11/14/fourteen-years-after-launching-1password-takes-first-funding-a-200m-series-a/*](https://techcrunch.com/2019/11/14/fourteen-years-after-launching-1password-takes-first-funding-a-200m-series-a/)

*1Password partners with Accel for continued growth*[*https://blog.1password.com/accel-partnership/*](https://blog.1password.com/accel-partnership/)

***Alan Raul***

**▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫**

**January 5th Second Session Notes** *by Ralph Sutter* **Ralph Sutter** demonstrated some of the capabilities of the smart home device, **Amazon Echo** including how to pair it with a **Gosund Wi-Fi enabled switch**; [https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B07DQDNBZ2/ref=ppx\_yo\_dt\_b\_asin\_title\_o00\_s00?ie=UTF8&psc=1](https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B07DQDNBZ2/ref%3Dppx_yo_dt_b_asin_title_o00_s00?ie=UTF8&psc=1) so that one can use voice commands to control a TV or other electrical device. This $17.99 switch doesn't require a **Smart Home Hub**, just **Amazon Echo** and a Wi-Fi connection.
Sutter's notes are available at <https://www.slobytes.org/presentations/sutter-0120/Alexa%20and%20Home%20Automation.docx>

Sutter also mentioned the capabilities of **Amazon Echo Studio** and how to link it to other Amazon devices.
 **Ralph Sutter**

 **February 2nd,2020 Programming Schedule** *by Ralph Sutter*

In the **First Session**, **Alan Raul** will offer a Questions and Answers program from 12:45-2:00 p.m. Usual topics include security issues, recent changes in Windows operating systems, tablets and smart phones as well as demos of software and hardware. We always encourage questions and observations from the audience.

There will be a break from 2:00-230pm, offering coffee, light snacks and an opportunity to talk with other members of the group.

During the **Second Session**, **Alan Raul** will demonstrate a NAS (Network Attached Storage). A NAS is an intelligent storage device connected to your home or office network. You can store all your family and colleagues’ files on the NAS, from important documents to precious photos, music and video collections. By using a web browser or mobile apps, you can access files and use various services provided by the NAS via the Internet.

**Ralph Sutter**

***▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫***

**Treasurer’s Report** *by Kaye Raul*

|  |
| --- |
| DECEMBER, 2019 |
|   |   |
| BALANCE ON HAND 11/30/2019 | $2,622.64 |
| **INCOME** |   |
| Dues - Renewing Members | $100.00 |
| Refreshments Donation | $10.00 |
| TOTAL INCOME | $110.00 |
| **EXPENSES** |   |
| Meeting Room Rent | $65.00 |
| APCUG Dues | $50.00 |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | $115.00 |
| BALANCE ON HAND 12/31/2019 | $2,617.64 |
| **RENEWING MEMBERS**Anne Julian, Donn Ragle, Roy Sheehy, Constance Thomas |

 **Photo Group Report** *by Ralph Sutter***Meeting of 01/12/2020**
**TOPIC**: Photo Editing Software; Please share images that you modified using your favorite image manipulation software.

**Ralph Sutter opened the meeting, calling the group's attention to several recent posts on the Links Page of the group's web site. See**

 **Screen Capture Tutorial; Luminar 4 Sky Replacement** <http://www.fullbean.com/tutorials/luminar-sky.mp4>

 **on YouTube at** <https://youtu.be/ZXp-ENp8LV8>

 **Skylum Luminar as an Adobe Photoshop Elements Plug-in** <https://www.fullbean.com/tutorials/luminar-photoshop.mp4>

 **Luminar 4 Update Available; Open Luminar 4, Click on Help/Check for Updates**

**Ralph then showed images that he had manipulated using the Sky Replacement feature of Luminar 4.**

**Alan Raul distributed a list of the software that he uses to alter images.**

**See his list at** <https://www.slobytes.org/digital/raul-software.html> **Alan demonstrated several of the possibilities that the programs make possible.**

**Kaye Raul improved some already crisp images using color adjustments available in Luminar.**

**Linda Styerwalt likewise explored how she could improve photos with that software.**

**John Waller moved beyond Skylum Luminar, using advanced techniques in Adobe Photoshop.**

**Here are the revised tentative dates for the meetings of this group in 2020.**

**The next three meetings have been moved back one week due to intervening schedules/holidays**

 **February 16th**

 **March 15th**

 **April 19th**

 **May 17th**

 **June 14th**

 **July 12th**

 **August 9th**

 **September 13th**

 **October 11th**

 **November 8th**

 **December 13th**

 **NEXT MEETING: Sunday, February 9th, 2020@ 2:00 pm;**

 **LOCATION:
Home of Connie and Ralph Sutter**

**498 Hansen Hill Road**

**Arroyo Grande, CA**

**Map at** [www.slobytes.org/digital/sutter-map.html](http://www.slobytes.org/digital/sutter-map.html)

**Dashcam video at** [www.slobytes.org/digital/images/dashcam-to-photo-group.mp4](http://www.slobytes.org/digital/images/dashcam-to-photo-group.mp4)

***Ralph Sutter***

**▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫**

**Push Library**
Look at the **PUSH archives**, <http://www.slobytes.org/push/>. This is a repository of articles where you will find tips, product reviews, and personal recommendations contributed by computer clubs across the country.

They are provided courtesy of the Association of Computer User Groups, **APCUG**, the national organization with which SLO Bytes is affiliated.

The actual **PUSH** articles are hyperlinked from the index located at

<http://www.slobytes.org/push/index.html> (All articles on one long page)

<http://www.slobytes.org/push/push-condensed.html> (Links to **PUSH** articles by month received)
You can view additional APCUG publications here: <http://www.slobytes.org/apcug/index.html>

**▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫**

**SLO Bytes Bulletin Board**
Everyone can read the SLO Bytes Bulletin Board at <http://slobytes.org/smf/index.php?board=1.0> but only subscribers can post comments or respond to the posts of others. Despite the usual connotation of **subscribe**, it costs nothing to join the

bulletin board. It is free to all current SLO Bytes members. However, to guard against cyber-mischief by spammers and
other ne’er-do-wells, I have disabled self-registration. If you want to be added to the bulletin board, please send your request to me at ralph@rsutter.com.

If you are currently registered with the SLO Bytes Bulletin Board and wish to change your password, you will find a video screen capture of how to do so at <http://www.slobytes.org/documents/change-bb-password.mp4>

 **Club Information and Meeting Times**

**SLO** **Bytes**, a PC Users Group dedicated to educating its members in the use of personal computers, digital devices and software, meets on the first Sunday of each month at the **San Luis Obispo Guild** **Hall** at 2880 Broad Street, San Luis Obispo. There is a map available at <http://www.slobytes.org/slo-guild-map.html>.

All meetings are open to the public at no cost. A general interest and Q&A session occurs from 12:45 PM to 2:00 PM and guest speaker presentations begin at 2:30 PM. Contact **John** **Waller** (johnlwaller at sbcglobal.net) or visit [slobytes.org](http://www.slobytes.org/index.php) for additional information about SLO Bytes and the scheduled presentation. All ideas for speakers or presentation subjects are welcome.
 **HardCopy** is a monthly publication of **SLO Bytes PC Users' Group** located in San Luis Obispo, California. Information in this newsletter is derived from both our own membership and other PC user group newsletters.

The purpose of this publication is to inform our members of meetings and provide information related to the use of PCs and various operating systems.

Membership dues are $25 per year. Membership entitles you to our monthly newsletter via e-mail, technical assistance, eligibility for raffle gifts when drawings are held, a voice in the affairs of the club, and comradeship.

***▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫***

***Outside Special Interest Groups (SIGs)*
Linux SIG** normally meets at 6:30 PM on the Thursday following our Sunday's General Meeting at the KCBX.NET Training Center, 4100 Vachell Lane, San Luis Obispo. View the web site at [www.slolug.com](http://www.slolug.com).  **Photography SIG** normally meets at 2:00 PM on the second Sunday of each month at Connie and Ralph Sutter’s home in Arroyo Grande. Call Ralph at 805 478-0826 for directions. Visit the website at [www.slobytes.org/digital](http://www.slobytes.org/digital)

***▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫***

***SLO Bytes Officers/Volunteers***

**Officers**Earl Kaplan – President: earlkaplan@gmail.com
John Waller - Vice President; Programs Chair/Publicity: johnlwaller@sbcglobal.net
Kaye Raul – Treasurer; Membership: kaye@kayeraul.com
Ralph Sutter – Secretary, Webmaster/HardCopy Editor, Photo SIG Leader: ralph@rsutter.com
Alan Raul – Training Officer/Linux Group Leader: alan@alanraul.com
 **Other** **Volunteers**
Nancy Vrooman – Refreshments
Peter Stonehewer – Refreshments
Ken Stilts – Set-up/Clean-up

▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫

**Disclaimer**: Neither SLO Bytes PC Users' Group, its officers, editors, or contributors to this newsletter assume liability for damages arising out of this publication of any article, including but not limited to the listing of programming code, batch
files and other helpful hints. Articles from this newsletter may be reprinted by other user groups if credit is given to both

the author and newsletter from which it was taken. Reproduction of articles with a specific copyright notice is prohibited without prior permission from the original author.

**SLO Bytes Website**: [slobytes.org](http://www.slobytes.org/index.php)