SLO Bytes HardCopy

A publication of the San Luis Obispo PC Users' Group
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April 5, 2015 General Windows SIG review by Alan Raul

How we underestimated the iPad
http://gizmodo.com/how-we-underestimated-the-ipad-1695474121

Pretending to Work at the Apple Store
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x364TSJTXuQ

Intel Compute Stick
http://www.intel.com/content/www/us/en/compute-stick/intel-compute-stick.html

3 Things You Need to Know About Google Inc.'s Tiny New Chromebit Computers
http://www.fool.com/investing/general/2015/04/03/3-things-you-need-to-know-about-google-incs-tiny-n.aspx

Google's Chromebit Turns Any TV into a Chrome PC for Under $100
http://gizmodo.com/googles-chromebit-turns-any-tv-into-a-chrome-pc-for-und-1694793903

Costco has the Surface 3 bundle for pre-order, comes with Office 365 and a Type Cover
http://www.winbeta.org/news/costco-has-surface-3-bundle-available-pre-order-comes-office-365

Thinking about PC Backup Strategies
https://www.thurrott.com/windows/1782/thinking-about-pc-backup-strategies

Which Office 365?
https://www.thurrott.com/cloud/office-365/2432/which-office-365

Amazon Dash
https://fresh.amazon.com/dash/

Amazon launches "Home Services" business
http://arstechnica.com/business/2015/03/amazon-launches-home-services-business-wants-to-give-you-drum-lessons/

Alan Raul

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April 2015 Second Session review by Ralph Sutter

Viewing Media on Your TV Set

If you want to watch programs on your TV but prefer not to use DISH, Direct TV or Charter Cable, there are numerous alternatives.

Free content OTA (Over the Air)
Connect a digital antenna to your television to view local programming. (Amplifier boosts reception)
Antenna selection tool to determine how sophisticated an antenna you will need for your location;
http://www.antennaweb.org/Address.aspx

Also see **Which OTA HDTV channels are available in my area?**; https://www.tablotv.com/channels/

http://hdtv-antenna-review.toptenreviews.com/ Scroll past reviews for a good overview of OTA antennas.
Generally speaking, outdoor antennas will bring in more channels.
Install an antenna rotator in conjunction with an outdoor antenna and a signal amplifier for optimum OTA results.

Also see Indoor antenna reviews: http://www.tomsguide.com/us/best-tv-antennas,review-2354.html

Consumer Reports article on indoor OTA antenna
http://www.consumerreports.org/cro/news/2013/07/indoor-hdtv-antennas/index.htm

Free Content – via the Internet

Use your computer and view programming on-line
Here are some links for free programming viewable on your computer.

ABC http://abc.go.com/
NBC http://www.nbc.com/video
CBS http://www.cbs.com/watch/
FOX http://www.foxsports.com/foxsportsgo/mobile.html?windowspc (This downloads an app)
ESPN http://espn.go.com/watchespn/index
Hulu http://www.hulu.com/ (free with a pay option-Hulu Plus)

NOTE: Some Internet-connected TVs and DVD players allow you to access on-line content directly, bypassing the computer.

Article from AARP
http://www.aarp.org/home-family/personal-technology/info-02-2013/watch-television-online-internet-tv.html

Methods for transferring content from your computer to your TV
Run an HDMI cable from your computer to your TV – suggested by Dick James

How to connect your computer to your TV (Cables to Go)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RDfak20J2Do

Connect your computer or smart phone wirelessly to your TV
using any of the following devices

Apple TV $67.87 at http://www.amazon.com/Apple-TV-MD199LL-Current-Version/dp/B007I5JT4S; Amazon Prime
 https://www.apple.com/appletv/ (web site)
 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i_GUuJyyyRQ (9:30)
 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6jyaHWkkhf4 (8:00)

Chromecast Dongle ($29.99 at http://www.amazon.com/Google-Chromecast-Streaming-Media-Player/dp/B00DR0PDNE; Amazon Prime

 http://www.google.com/chrome/devices/chromecast/
 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WHMCyCd5SDk (3:27)

Roku Player $84.00 at http://www.amazon.com/Roku-3-Streaming-Media-Player/dp/B00BGGDVOO;
Amazon Prime so free shipping included)
https://www.roku.com/
https://www.roku.com/how-it-works Company video - all products
https://www.roku.com/products/roku-3 Company video for Roku 3
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4p6T13YYtDU (5:06)

Comparisons - **Apple TV vs Roku Player**
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tou3hetyHF4 (14:09)

http://www.macpowerusers.com/2015/03/29/248-revisting-cutting-the-cord/ - Link suggested by Alan Raul

Ralph Sutter

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May 3rd Programming Schedule *by John Waller*
During the Second Session, John Waller will be doing a demo of Dacuda PocketScan; a small portable scanning device.

John Waller

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President's Message *by Earl Kaplan*
An interesting discussion started during the meeting when one of the most complex questions in the field of computing was raised. This question, put very simply, is what constitutes a computer. This is not a question trying to define the electrical components of a computer but a definition of what can be done by a piece of hardware we call a computer.

We all have heard the advertising hype which attempts to show that the mainframe computer of 1970 really was exceeded in compute power by the cellular phone of 2014. Like most numbers in the realm of statistics this statement requires a lot of explanation.

In the 1970s the comparison between one computer and another was usually expressed in MIPS. MIPS stood for millions of instructions per second. This number had come out of the hardware industry of the 1960s and was a pretty good measure in that decade. In the 1970s the use of multiprocessing and multithreading became the rule and the use of a pure number of instructions executed in any time period lost significance. In current technology this issue has become even more complicated. The continuing miniaturization of computing devices means that even the smallest device has a CPU capable of multithreading and multiprocessing at a level unheard of even two decades ago. Every one of these powerful devices can certainly qualify on a hardware level as being a computer.

When we discuss what each device can do it becomes more of a philosophical issue rather than a hardware issue. When we use our cell phone to check email are we not using it like a dumb terminal but with wireless communication rather than wired. It then becomes a question of where we draw the line as to when a device becomes a full-fledged computer as we start doing web searches and messaging and GPS functions. In truth it really doesn't matter all that much where we draw the line; it is different for every person. The device has computational capabilities and we use it for those purposes for which we personally need it. If it satisfies our needs for computer information it is a computer.

Will the need for a desktop computer ever go away? I personally do not believe that will happen, ever. Writers, planners, project managers, anyone with a need for detailed information requiring large quantities of textual information will not ever switch to a 5 or 6 inch screen. They may use a portable device to feed data points into a program which ends up been monitored on a desktop machine or projected for a group to look at but the need for words, numbers, and visual symbols will not go away.

The market for desktop machines will definitely be smaller as people discover that their needs can be met by a portable device, but a complete fade-out is highly unlikely.

Earl Kaplan

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Treasurer's Report for April 2015 by *Bob Styerwalt*

Income: March 2 thru April 5, 2015		
	Renewing Members	$50.00
	New Member	$25.00
	Refreshments Income	$20.00
Expenses		
	Hall rent	$90.00
	Refreshments cost reimbursement	-------
Bank Statement ending 3/31/2015		
	Checking account balance	$3503.97
	Interest paid this period	$0.30
	Deposits	$95.00
	Withdrawals	$110.77

Renewing members: Linda Styerwalt and Jim Middlemist renewed their memberships.
New Member: Clint Weirick joined the group during the April 5 meeting. Welcome!

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Webmaster Notes *by Ralph Sutter*
I have added a link to the Photo SIG. Go to www.slobytes.org/digital/links.html and you will see a listing of web sites mentioned at the Photo SIG meetings.

The 2015 **Southwest Technology & Computer Conference** will be held from June 12-14, 2015 at the Kellogg-West Conference Center & Hotel @ Cal Poly Pomona. This is the 22nd annual SWCC. I've attended many of them, first in San Diego and now in Pomona.

I have always found the three day event to be informative, enjoyable and modestly priced. Your $85 registration fee includes registration and meals. Lodging is available adjacent to the conference hall for $89-$95/night.

Learn more at http://www.theswcc.org/.

 Ralph Sutter

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Photo SIG Report *by Ralph Sutter*
The next meeting of the Photo SIG takes place on Sunday, May 10th beginning at 2:00 pm. The topic is **Photography in the Field.**

This meeting will consist of two parts. During the first part, we will take pictures both inside my house and outdoors.

In the second part, we will share our images, discussing composition, artistic intent and challenges encountered during the photo shoot

NOTES from the meeting of 04/12/2015; **Architectural Photography**
Members of the Photo SIG each showed images of buildings and other structures. Some members shared multiple versions of a single image, explaining how they enhanced the image.

Alan Raul demonstrated **Sway**; www.sway.com a freeware Microsoft product for displaying images on line.

He also screened images modified with the freeware application,
Photofiltre; www.photofiltre-studio.com; download athttp://static.infomaniak.ch/photofiltre/utils/pf7/pf7-setup-en-7.2.1.exe

Explore other links discussed at www.slobytes.org/digital/links.html or by clicking on the Links tab at the top of this page.

Likewise, you will find notes from previous meetings of the Photo SIG atwww.slobytes.org/digital/notes.html or by clicking on **Notes** tab at the top of this page.

Meetings take place at the home of Ralph and Connie Sutter. Directions and contact information are available here.

More information about the SLO Bytes Photo SIG is available at www.slobytes.org/digital.

Ralph Sutter

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Take a look at the **PUSH archives**, http://www.slobytes.org/newsletter/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

Take a look at http://www.kcbx.net/training.html to view the various computer-related classes available at the **KCBXnet Training Facility**.

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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**.

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Club Information and Meeting Times

SLO Bytes, a PC Users Group dedicated to educate its members in the use of personal computers, digital devices and software, meets on the first Sunday of each month at the **Independent Order of Odd Fellows** (IOOF) **Hall** at 520 Dana Street, San Luis Obispo. All meetings are open to the public at no cost. Special interest groups meet 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 for additional information about SLO Bytes and the scheduled presentation.

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.

Article Submission Deadline for articles is the 20th of each month. Articles should be e-mailed to the editor (ralph at rsutter.com).

Computer-related businesses wishing to advertise in HardCopy may now do so. The rate is $15.00 per month or $120.00 per year for a business card size announcement. Content in ad copy is subject to approval by the SLO Bytes Board of Directors.

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Outside Special Interest Groups (SIGs)

Linux SIG normally meets at 6:30 PM on the Thursday following our Sunday's General Meeting at the KCBXnet Training Center, 4100 Vachell Lane, San Luis Obispo.

Photography SIG normally meets at 2:00 PM on the second Sunday of each month at Ralph Sutter's home in Arroyo Grande. Call Ralph at 478-0826 for directions.

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SLO Bytes Officers/Volunteers

Officers
Earl Kaplan – President: earlkaplan at gmail.com
John Waller - Vice President; Programs Chair/Publicity: johnlwaller at sbcglobal.net
Bob Styerwalt – Treasurer; Membership: rstyerwalt at gmail.com
Ralph Sutter – Secretary, Webmaster/HardCopy Editor, Photo SIG Leader: ralph at rsutter.com
Alan Raul – Training Officer: alan at alanraul.com

Other Volunteers
Nancy Vrooman – Refreshments
Peter Stonehewer – Refreshments
Ken Stilts – Set-up/Clean-up

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SLO Bytes Website: slobytes.org