

SLO Bytes HardCopy

A publication of the San Luis Obispo PC Users' Group
Vol. 31 No. 3 March 2015

February 2015 General Windows SIG review by Alan Raul

The following software and links were discussed at the meeting:

Lenovo ThinkServer TS440 Server (A Home Server running Windows 8.1)

<http://alanraul.com/server/>

It is simple, cheap and effective...

<http://homeservershow.com/forums/index.php?/topic/8819-lenovo-ts440-server-running-windows-81/>

Paul Thurrott - Microsoft News and Analysis by Paul Thurrott – Windows, Office and Mobile

<https://www.thurrott.com/>

SuperSite for Windows – Where Technology and Business Intersect - Rod Trent leads the discussion and delivers on the editorial promise of the SuperSite for Windows

<http://winsupersite.com/>

Neowin - Tech news, views and reviews, covering Microsoft and the world of tech

<http://www.neowin.net/>

Microsoft Videos on YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/user/Microsoft/videos>

A presentation on **Easy Desktop** from the APCUG Video series

<http://microseconds.com/easydesktop-9-0/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=30HndWKddps>

Alan Raul

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March 1st Programming Schedule by Ralph Sutter for John Waller

The topic of the Second Session is **Desktop Configuration**.

Several members will bring their laptop and show the desktop of the machine, commenting on why they prefer their configuration. We invite others to do the same.

The goal of the session is to generate a discussion on setting up a desktop and techniques for accessing commonly used programs.

Contact **John Waller** (johnlwaller at sbcglobal.net) or visit www.slobytes.org for additional information about SLO Bytes and the scheduled presentation.

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President's Message by Earl Kaplan

Well, February showed us that showing APCUG videos was not a great idea, so we did learn something from the experience. What we have not learned is what do our members want to hear about, what are they interested in, and what would hold their attention. The only way we, the Board members can know what interests you, the members, is by some feedback from you. I have asked on a number of occasions and gotten ONE reply. Should we have coffee and cookies and just go home?

We were scheduled to have a presentation on a product called **Easy Desktop** a month ago and technical difficulties prevented that from happening. That was fortunate because Easy Desktop is a program which solves a problem which does not exist with a solution that does not work. In addition, Windows 10 will provide a built in function that will solve this problem in a much more logical manner. The presenter from APCUG dislikes icons because he has close to one hundred icons on his desktop and finds it impossible to locate what he needs when he needs it. He also, repeatedly, states that he prefers the command line, which, by the way, does not provide anything like icons or Easy Desktop to help you find what you are looking for.

Is this a problem any of you have? Would you like to hear some logical solutions to this dilemma? An email to earlkaplan@gmail.com stating so will get it put on the program as the earliest possible date.

Earl Kaplan

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Treasurer's Report for February 2015 by Bob Styerwalt

Income: Jan 5 thru Feb 1, 2015		
	Renewing Members	\$300.00
	New Member	\$25.00
	Refreshments Income	\$18.00
Expenses		
	Hall rent	\$90.00
Bank Statement ending 01/31/2015		
	Checking account balance	\$3,341.17
	Interest paid this period	\$0.28
	Deposits	\$270.00
	Withdrawals	\$133.93

Renewing members: Five members renewed by mail during the month – Anne Julian, George Shepard, Constance Thomas, Ed Lynn and Mike & Nancy Atkisson. Seven members renewed at the February meeting – Dave Burns, Nancy Vrooman, Ray Miklas, Bob Mires, David Shaw, Ray Sheehy and John Waller. Thanks to all for your continuing interest.

We have a new member, Joey Smith, who joined at the February meeting. Welcome!

Treasurers' Comments: Tell your friends and neighbors about SLO Bytes, especially the younger ones.

Bob Styerwalt

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Webmaster Notes by Ralph Sutter

Thanks to material submitted by Bob Grover and Bob Styerwalt, I have expanded the archives of HardCopy, the SLO Bytes monthly newsletter, to include all editions from 1985 to present. You will find publications back to 2002 at www.slobytes.org/news.html. Earlier publications reside at <http://www.slobytes.org/oldnews.html>.

If you want to see what the SLO Bytes web site looked like in 2002, take a look at <http://www.slobytes.org/2002-website/default.htm> or browse other dates via the Wayback Machine at https://web.archive.org/web/*/http://www.slobytes.org.

Ralph Sutter

Photo SIG Report by Ralph Sutter
Notes from 02/08/2015

The theme for the 02/08/15 meeting was **Transformations - Color to Black and White**. Ralph Sutter opened the meeting showing a PowerPoint file in which the images slowly changed from color to black and white. Members commented on the effectiveness of the transformation.

Sutter then showed some color photos that he had taken recently and then changed them to grey scale using the **Convert to Greyscale** tool in **Irfanview**. He repeated the process, this time using the **Decrease Color Depth/Two Color (black/white)** tool. Members commented on which photos were enhanced when transformed.

Ralph then created a slide show of his images using Irfanview's **Slideshow** tool. He showed how to order the images, insert title pages that he had created in Word and add music.

Next, other club members showed their Color/BW image pairs, explaining how they did the conversion and which image worked best. The group discussed various ways to turn a color image to black and white. Shooting the original image in camera raw affords the greatest leeway in later photo manipulation.

Members observed that sometimes they changed images from color to black and white for artistic effect. Other times, they rescued an unusable color shot when they switched to black and white.

The topic for the March 8th Photo SIG is Simple Video Editing using Microsoft's freeware program, Movie Maker. Members are encouraged to bring short video clips to that meeting for hands' on editing.

The Photo SIG group meets on the next Sunday after the SLO Bytes General Meeting.

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. Take a look at the Notes of previous Photo SIG sessions at www.slobytes.org/digital/notes.html.

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@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@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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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

