Orange Bytes

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

Main Meeting, August 7

We are working on obtaining a speaker for the next meeting. You will be notified by email
when a commitment is obtained. (See page 3)
Lots of nifty prizes for our August raffles (See page 4)
July raffle winners' pix (Page 19)
We will have a Consignment Table and E-Waste Collection during the August 2011 meeting. (See page 5)

Special Interest Group (SIG) & Main Meeting

9:00 a.m.

Linux for Desktop Users .... *Science 131*
Topics about the Linux operating system. Beginner's Qs here.

Visual Programming .... *Science 111*
Visual Basic, Visual BasicScript, Visual C++ and Visual J++.

Microsoft Word, Excel, and Outlook .... *Science 109*
Topics about these three parts of the Microsoft Office Suite.

Beginners Digital Photography .... *Science 127*
Exploring Picassa.

Reviews & Consignment Tables, Coffee & Donuts: Irvine Hall lobby

10:30 a.m.

Beginners PC Q & A   ....*Irvine Hall*
Beginners' questions about PCs.

Linux Administration .... *Science 131*
More topics about the Linux operating system

10:30 a.m.

Advanced Digital Photography .... *Science 127*
We will examine, dissect, and analyze top quality photos from around
the world in order to improve our own photos.

Understanding Operating Systems .... *Science 111*
Help with DOS, Windows, OS/2, etc.

Mobile Computing ....*Science 109*
This new SIG discusses mobile devices. ***No meeting in August***

Microsoft Access .... *Science 306*
Database applications and more.

12:00 Noon

PIG SIG .... *Hashinger Courtyard*

12:30 p.m.

Advanced PC Q & A .... *Irvine Hall*
PC hardware & software topics.

2:00 p.m. Main Meeting .... Irvine Hall

NOCC website:
http://www.noccc.org

Future Meeting Dates in 2011:
August 7, Sept 4, Oct 2, Nov 6, Dec 4

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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

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Circulation - *Oversees mailing and distribution of the newsletter.*
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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) 779-1936, reviews@noccc.org

Copy Editor - *Does final proof reading of the newsletter for typos and misspellings.*
Dennis Martin…………….(951) 926-3065, dennismartin@dslextreme.com

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The following positions are available:
Social Media Contacts – *Maintain and write articles for the newsletter.*

Contributing Editors - *Write articles for the newsletter.*

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 or (714) 779-1936.

Celebrating 35 years of "Friends Helping Friends"

Orange Bytes

Aug. 7th Main Meeting 2 p.m. Irvine Hall.

Jim and other BOD members are working to obtain a speaker for the August meeting. Unfortunately, we have to go to press for the print version of our newsletter before the specifics are available. We will let you know by email.

President's Message

By Jim Sanders, NOCCC President

In my opinion, the July meeting was one of the best meetings that we have had in quite a long time. As has often been the case lately, trying to find a speaker for the Main meeting has been a bit of a chore. A lot of commercial companies seem increasingly reticent to devote the time and money required to have a representative of the organization do a presentation at our club meeting. For the July meeting, I and I hope a few others, had been beating the bush trying to find a speaker without much success. Just before the timing on that attempt became critical, John Krill volunteered to do a presentation on the Microsoft SkyDrive program.

When John volunteered to start taking photos of the raffle prize winners, getting the photos to our editor became an issue. The Picasa web online storage that John had been using for his Beginning Photography SIG, only allows you to download one picture at a time which was a little bit of a pain.

I suggested that he could use the YouSendIt.com site to send the pictures to the editor not realizing that they had recently reduced to 50 MB the size for a single file that you could transfer for free. That was less than what is usually needed to transfer all of the photos to the editor in one zip file. I did a little Googling and found that Adobe offered a free 100 MB file transfer capability with their Adobe SendNow feature.

John did a little searching and came up with Microsoft's SkyDrive offering. It has a slightly different modus operandi than the other two, but with 25 GB of readily accessible online storage there are a lot of different things that you can do in terms of transferring information from one individual to another.

The primary thrust of the presentation was to show what the SkyDrive program could do. With a secondary one being to compare SkyDrive and how it does its thing with how the other two do theirs. What I thought made this a particularly good meeting, was the Q&A interaction with the audience.Not only were there some very good questions comparing the MO of the above three sites, but one of the members brought up the dropbox.com site, another asked how that compared with the Picasa site.

The ensuing exchange of questions, answers, and personal experiences with the different sites was very informative and a great example of the club's motto "Friends helping Friends" operating at its finest. Read more in the Main Meeting report.

On a down note, when Steven Breitbart returned from his vacation last month he was not feeling very well. After a bunch of tests by the doctors, he was informed that he had lung cancer. This is particularly a bummer for someone who has never smoked.

On the plus side, if you can think of it that way, he said the doctors have informed him that it is a particular strain of cancer that they are very familiar with and that they are optimistic that their established treatment regimen will have good results. All I can say is that I hope they are right, and wish you all the best – Jim.

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, re views@noccc.org is regularly sent copies of books and software by the publishers for review by our members. We need NOCCC members to take these items and commit to reviewing them promptly. The reward for doing a review is 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

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.

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 2011 from Gene Barlow for only $25 (download) or $25 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.

Techsmith - You can get SnagIt 10, an outstanding screen capture program, and Camtasia Studio 7, to quickly record, edit and publish multimedia demos and presentations, bundle for $269, an $81 savings: https://store.techsmith.com/government.asp. You can download SnagIt 10 alone for $42.95.

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. 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 40% off all books and videos from O'Reilly, Microsoft Press, Pragmatic Bookshelf, and SitePoint, or 50 % off books you purchase directly from O'Reilly. Just use code DSUG when ordering online, 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, you can return it to O'Reilly and get your money back; see 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: http://memberservices.informit.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 including New Riders, Macromedia Press, Adobe Press, and Peachpit.

Free Internet Libraries - Upon retiring from college teaching/administration, Walter Antoniotti began developing Free Internet Libraries for students, teachers, and professionals. (http://www.businessbookmall.com/Free Internet Libraries.htm) 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)**

THE AUGUST 2011 CLUB RAFFLES

GENERAL DRAWING PRIZES:*
- ☐ D-Link Wireless N router
- ☐ Learn to solder kit
- ☐ Universal AC charger with Micro USB cable
- ☐ More Gadgets and Surprises!

* Parking stubs are good for two raffle tickets each!
See the article immediately below this list!

MEMBERS-ONLY DRAWING PRIZES:
(Wear your NOCCC Badge and get a free ticket!)
- ☐ Western Digital 1.0 TB hard disk drive
- ☐ Universal AC charger with Micro USB cable
- ☐ Precision Screwdriver set
- ☐ More Gadgets and Surprises!

Save Your Parking Permits!

To offset the cost of parking in the Lastinger Underground Parking Structure, the NOCCC Board approved a motion to give each member two NOCCC General Drawing raffle tickets in exchange for the Lastinger-parking permit. Turn the bottom-half "receipt" part of your permit to the Rafflemeister on the same day or hold it until the next meeting. **Gerry Resch, the Raffle Leader, will exchange it for two raffle tickets.**

The reason for this is that the NOCCC Board has found that some people are not attending meetings or not renewing their memberships because of the parking situation. Chapman University has allowed us to park in the Lastinger Parking Structure under Wilson Field for only $2 for the whole day of our meeting; normally $2 is good for only two hours. The advantages of parking there are clear; you don't have to drive around looking for a legal spot (remember, don't park on the private home side of the street), the car doesn't get hot and you don't have to parallel park. There is even an elevator available to get down to the parking area.

Consignment

The NOCCC Consignment Table in the lobby of Irvine Hall will be available during the August 2011 meeting. It is open on even months, the same as the e-Waste collection.

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%.

    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

3. **You can fill out a Consignment Table User List and item tags at the table:**
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 Collection

California disposal laws have made it illegal to put monitors and computers in the regular trash. Omni Technics, Inc. will be at our regular meetings to collect E-Waste on even months, so bring your "junk" in August.
Check their web site for more information: http://www.ca-recycle.com/. Or call (562) 627-1910.

NOCCC Officers

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

President
Jim Sanders .... 544-3589 .... president@noccc.org
Vice President
    Open
Secretary
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Mary Cornett.................. (949) 716-0779 .... pacificblu.mary@gmail.com
Dallas Hazleton........................... 526-1592 .... ghazleton4@dslextreme.com
Ben Lochtenbergh…….......(949) 653-2545 .... bal@msn.com
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Dallas Hazleton .... 526-1592 .... ghazleton4@dslextreme.com
Programs/Speakers Coordinator
Mary Cornett…………........(949) 716-0779 .... pacificblu.mary@gmail.com
Public Relations.
Mary Cornett…….................(949) 716-0779 .... pacificblu.mary@gmail.com
University Liaison
Jim Sanders .... 544-3589 .... president@noccc.org

Chapman U. Campus Security .... 997-6763......... open locked rooms, problems

NOCCC is a Member

NOCCC Help Volunteers

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 deal with. Call (714) 779 1936 or e-mail Ted Littman at helpline@ noccc.org with additions, deletions, or corrections. Most volunteers prefer being contacted by e-mail. Mention NOCCC in the Subject line.

Apple II	Gerry Resch	714-772-6667	gerry@gerryresch.com
Computer Boards	Martin LaRocque	562-697-4318	6 - 9 p.m.
Corel Draw	Larry Klees	714-879-7962	larryklees@yahoo.com
Digital Photography	Larry Klees	714-879-7962	larryklees@yahoo.com
Excel	Gerry Resch	714-772-6667	gerry@gerryresch.com
GPS Navigation	Bob DeWolf	714-879-8269	rsdewolf@adelphia.net
Linux	Bob Ray	714-634-7520	bobsdesk@dialup4less.com
Lotus 1-2-3	Gerry Resch	714-772-6667	gerry@gerryresch.com
Memory/Interrupts	Martin LaRocque	562-697-4318	6 - 9 p.m.
Microsoft Office	John Heenan	714-998-7660	heenanjc@sbcglobal.net
Mobile Computing	Ben Lochtenbergh	949-653-2545	bal@msn.com
PC Hardware	Jim Sanders	714-544-3589	jsanders@ligasmicro.com
Photo editing & Pshop	Larry Klees	714-879-7962	larryklees@yahoo.com
QuickBooks - all ver.	Linda Russell	909-949-4930	qbqueen@verizon.net
Tcl/Tk & UNIX	Bob DeWolf	714-879-8269	rsdewolf@adelphia.net
Windows 7, Vista & XP	Jim Sanders	714-544-3589	jsanders@ligasmicro.com
Windows 9X & XP	John Heenan	714-998-7660	heenanjc@sbcglobal.net
WiFi & Networking	Jim Sanders	714-544-3589	jsanders@ligasmicro.com

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

Do you want to be an NOCCC Help Volunteer and assist other members with computing subjects that you know well? If so, please contact Ted Littman at tedlit@roadrunner.com or (714) 779-1936.

SIG Leaders

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	131	9:00/10:30	Bob Ray	bobrobo@dialup4less.com	(714) 634-7520
Beginner's Digital Photography	Science	127	9:00	John Krill..	noccc.bgphotosig@gmail.com	(949) 497-8658
Visual Programming	Science	111	9:00	Anson Chapman	aeccrcss@hotmail.com	(909) 860-9515
Word, Excel and Outlook	Science	109	9:00	Tia Christian	lwilliams_00@yahoo.com	(714) 263-6105
Access/Excel VBA	Science	306	10:30	Bob Dickson	robertbdickson@socal.rr.com	(714) 539-1304
Advanced Digital Photography	Science	127	10:30	Larry Klees	larryklees@yahoo.com	(714) 879-7962
Mobile Computing	Science	109	10:30	Ben Lochtenbergh	bal@msn.com	(949) 653-2545
Understanding OS's	Science	111	10:30	Charlie Moore	mooreca@roadrunner.com	(714) 529-9071
Access	Science	306	12:00	Bob Dickson	robertbdickson@socal.rr.com	(714) 539-1304
PC Q&A	Irvine Hall		10:30/12:30	Jim Sanders	jsanders@ligasmicro.com	(714) 544-3589

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

## Ed Schwartz
NOCCC Member & PC Q&A Guy

Ed is a PC instructor, computer troubleshooter, and amateur photographer. He also writes a weekly computer Q&A article for the Orange County Register (OCR) that appears in the Wednesday Business section of the Orange County/Southern California newspaper.

In addition to the weekly print OCR articles, you can find the articles online at http://gadgetress.freedom-blogging.com/pcclub/ as well as all of Ed's free tech advice columns at his online blogs, **Stump the PC Club**, (http://edwardns.com/blog/ and **OCR Articles** http://www.edwardns.com/). Here he provides useful current and archived information on subjects ranging from Antivirus to Windows 7. Ed says: "My goal is to share what little knowledge I have to make your life easier."
To contact Bob or ask him a question, go to: http://edwardns.com/blog/contact-me.
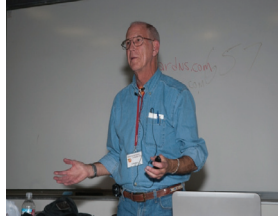
To make things even simpler, you can subscribe to Ed's free email blog posts at the following web site: http://feedburner.google.com/fb/a/mailverify?uri=edsinfo&loc=en_US.

Here are two examples of recent email blog posts:

QUESTION: When I delete messages in Outlook Express I have various symptoms including the fact that the Delete button doesn't always work and [...]. For the answer, go to: http://edwardns.com/blog/cannot-delete-outlook-express-emails.

QUESTION: When I create a Microsoft Word document that includes pictures the file size is many megabytes. Am I doing something wrong? For the answer, go to: http://edwardns.com/blog/resizing-pictures-before-adding-to-a-document.

Ask Bob Rankin
Using Spam Filters to Protect Your Inbox

"By some estimates, over 90 per cent of all email traffic is spam. Anti-spam email filters do their best to keep spam from reaching your inbox, but no spam filter is perfect. You may need to tweak your filters to catch particularly clever spam, or to allow some legitimate email to reach you."

Read more: http://askbobrankin.com/antispam_email_filters.html#ixzz1N34L2Sp

Who's Watching You On the Web?

"Every time you use the Web, you leave traces of your activity in many places. Some of that is the way the Internet was designed, and some is a little more tricky. If you're interested in hiding your online tracks with web privacy software, read on."
Read more: http://askbobrankin.com/whos_watching_you_on_the_web.html#ixzz1N34xQxmB

Why You Should Dump Outlook and Windows Live Mail
"Are you still struggling with the limitations of Outlook, Outlook Express, or Windows Live Mail? Join the many email users who have dumped desktop email clients for the ease and convenience of web-based email. Here's Bob's advice on why it's time to switch to webmail."
Read more: http://askbobrankin.com/why_you_should_dump_outlook_and_windows_live_mail.html#ixzz1N35mnfHt

Is Your Email Secure?

"Many consumers are blissfully unaware of the threats knocking on the doors of their email inboxes. Popular free email service providers such as Google, Yahoo, and Hotmail, stop a vast number of threats at their mail servers without any attention from end users. But some threats still get through, so consumers using desktop email software, and businesses that operate their own email servers must defend themselves. Here are some of the email security software programs that get the job done."

Read more: http://askbobrankin.com/is_your_email_secure.html#ixzz1N36Gkzfo

What to Do When Your Antivirus Fails
"Your trusty antivirus software found a virus on your system, but it can't remove the infection, even after multiple scans, removal attempts, and system restarts. Now what do you do?"

Read more: http://askbobrankin.com/what_to_do_when_your_antivirus_fails.html#ixzz1N36eZQWy

Online Job Search Tools
"The job market has never been tougher on workers searching for employment opportunities. Sure, competition is fierce. But also, the marketplace where applicants look

for work has become highly fragmented. Here are some online tools to help with your job search."
Read more: http://askbobrankin.com/online_job_search_tools.html#ixzz1N37PhBgu

Microsoft at Home
8 Tips: How to Take Super Vacation Photographs
"Shooting great vacation photographs, even with that new digital camera, takes smarts and know-how. To help you take terrific digital photos on your next trip and to add fun photo effects to them, Microsoft At Home asked top photo gurus for their professional photography tips."
Read more: http://www.microsoft.com/athome/photos/vacation-snapshots.aspx

Vacation Checklist: Prepare Your PC
"Whether you're leaving the office for the holidays, going on vacation, or taking a business trip, there are a number of things you can do to prepare your computer for your time away."
Read more: http://www.microsoft.com/atwork/remotely/vacation.aspx

Tips for Printing Digital Photos At Home
"It's easy to capture and preserve memories as digital snapshots with Windows 7 and Windows Vista, and so is turning them into stunning scrapbooks or photo albums."
Read more: http://www.microsoft.com/athome/photos/printdigitalpix.aspx

National Security Agency
Central Security Service

NSA's Guide to Securing Your PC & Mac
"NSA has developed and distributed configuration guidance for operating systems. These guides are currently being used throughout the government and by numerous entities as a security baseline for their systems." The guide covers both PC and Mac systems

Read more:
http://www.nsa.gov/ia/guidance/security_configuration_guides/operating_systems.shtml#microsoft

http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2385688,00.asp?kc=PCRSS03129TX1K0000625&utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+ziffdavis%2FPCMagazineTips+%28PCMag.com+Tips+and+Solutions%29&utm_content=My+MSN

Free Software
"San Francisco based Ninite (www.ninite.com) offers about 85 of the most widely used free Windows programs which can be selectively installed without any intervention by the user once the programs have been selected from the Ninite list. What is especially helpful and useful is that the single installer which is downloaded remembers which programs were selected, and rerunning the installer which was originally downloaded will automatically check for the latest versions and updates, and install them; there is no need to re-download a new installer unless additional programs are selected, or previously selected programs are no longer desired. It is not necessary to create an account on the Ninite website, and no signup is required to make full use of the services."
By Ira Wilsker, APCUG Director; Columnist, The Examiner, Beaumont TX; Radio & Talk Show Host

Word Tips

Copyright © 2010 by Sharon Parq Associates, Inc. Reprinted by permission. Thousands of free Microsoft Word tips can be found online at http://word.tips.net.

Questions, Comments, and Contact
If you are interested in asking a question, making a comment, or contacting WordTips. You are welcome to do both, but there are a few things you need to understand before you submit either one. Go to: http://word.tips.net/contact.html?awt_l=6DOAw&awt_m=JxjTUryK.5kF4X
"What Happens to My Question?
As you can imagine, WordTips receives LOTS of mail each week from people needing help. They typically look at all the queries within a day of so. If they know the answer right off, they will answer you back right away. If they need to do research, they collect all the requests and then look at them once a week. They only choose one or two requests to appear in the Help Wanted section of each issue of WordTips.

Because of the volume of requests for help, this means that your query might not even make it into the newsletter.

If your question is selected for use in a Help Wanted section, readers often respond with potential solutions. These are tested out, and the best ones are formatted into tips which appear in future issues of WordTips. If there are no responses, or if the solutions provided by readers don't work, then there are no future tips related to the question.

Please don't be worried or get angry if your query is not answered. To be honest, they don't have time to respond to every query.

In the meantime, you might try searching for an answer at the WordTips Web site. There are thousands of tips on the site, all geared toward helping to use Word better. All you need to do is use the Search box located at the upper-right of every page. (Look quick—you'll see a Search box even on this page!)"

Changing the Bullet Type

Word allows you to easily create bulleted lists in your documents. As a default, Word uses a small dot as the bullet. You can change the bullet to any character you desire. You can change the bullets by following these steps if you are using a version of Word prior to Word 2007:

1.   Choose the Bullets and Numbering option from the Format menu. Word displays the Bullets and Numbering dialog box.
2.   Make sure the Bulleted tab is selected
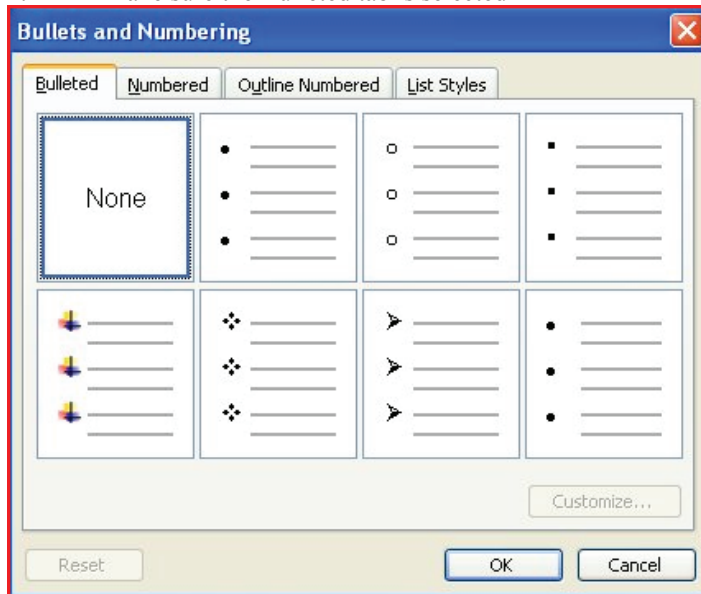
3.   Select a bullet style from those shown in the dialog box.
4.   If you don't like any of the styles shown, select one of the styles and click on Customize. Word displays the Customize Bulleted List dialog box. Select one of the six bullet characters available in the dialog box.
5.   If you use one of these, you can skip to step 10.
6.   If you do not like any of the bullet characters shown, click on the Bullet button. (In Word 2002 or Word 2003, click on the Character button.) Word displays the Symbol dialog box.
7.   Select a symbol to use as a bullet from among those shown.
8.   You can select a different set of symbols by selecting a different typeface in the Font drop-down list.
9.   When you have selected a symbol, click on OK. Word displays the Customize Bulleted List dialog box again.
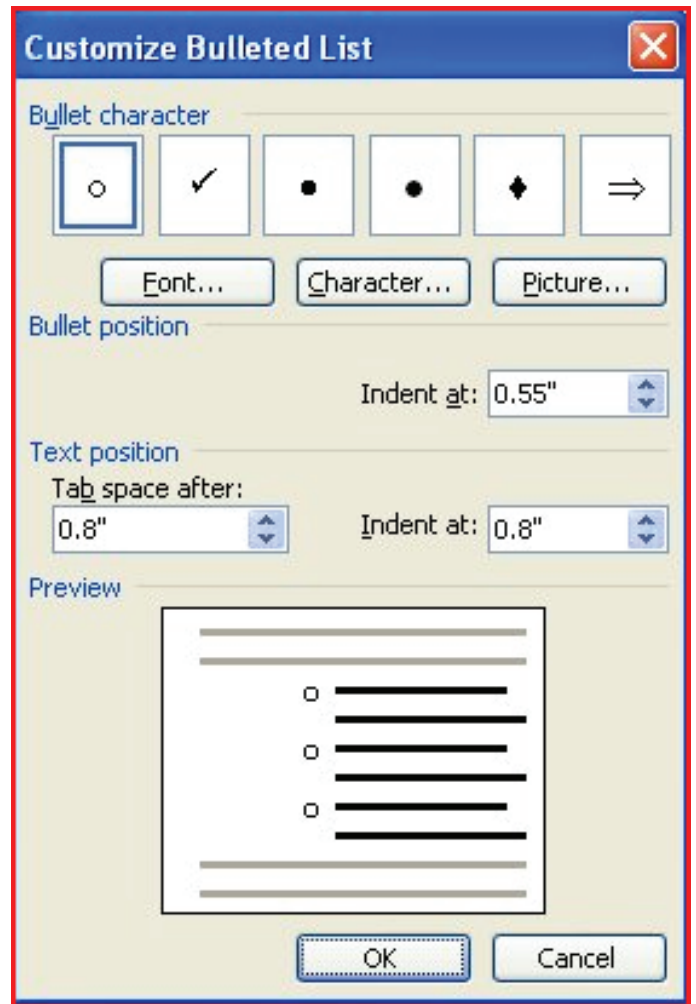
10.   Click on OK to close the dialog box.

If you are using Word 2007, then the steps are different:
1.   Make sure the Home tab of the ribbon is displayed.
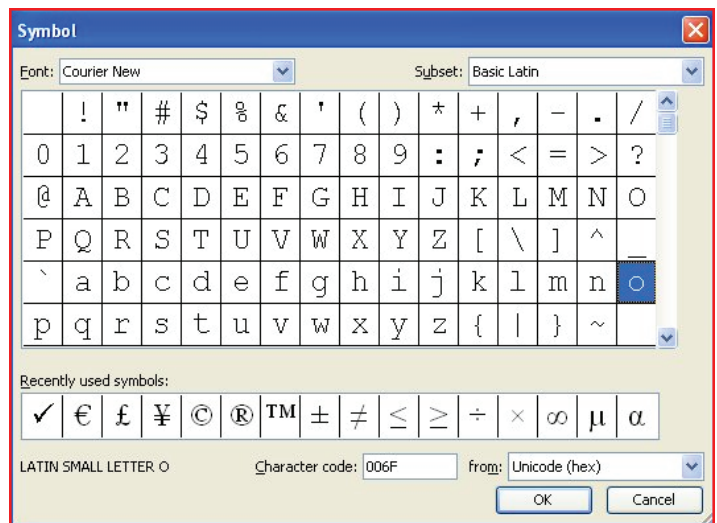
2.   Locate the Bullets tool within the Paragraph group. Click the down-arrow at the right of the Bullets tool. Word displays a palette of options.
3.   Select a bullet style from those shown in the Bullet Library portion of the palette.

4.	If you don't like any of the styles shown, click Define New Bullet. Word displays the Define New Bullet dialog box.
5.	Click the Symbol button. Word displays the Symbol dialog box.
6.	Select a symbol to use as a bullet from among those shown.
7.	You can select a different set of symbols by selecting a different typeface in the Font drop-down list.
8.	When you have selected a symbol, click on OK. Word displays the Define New Bullet dialog box again.
9.	Click on OK to close the dialog box.
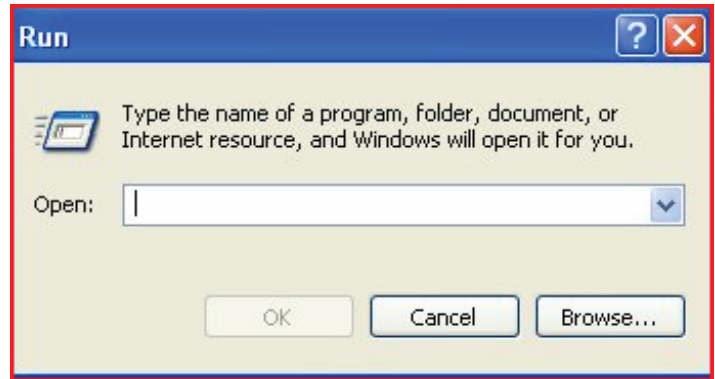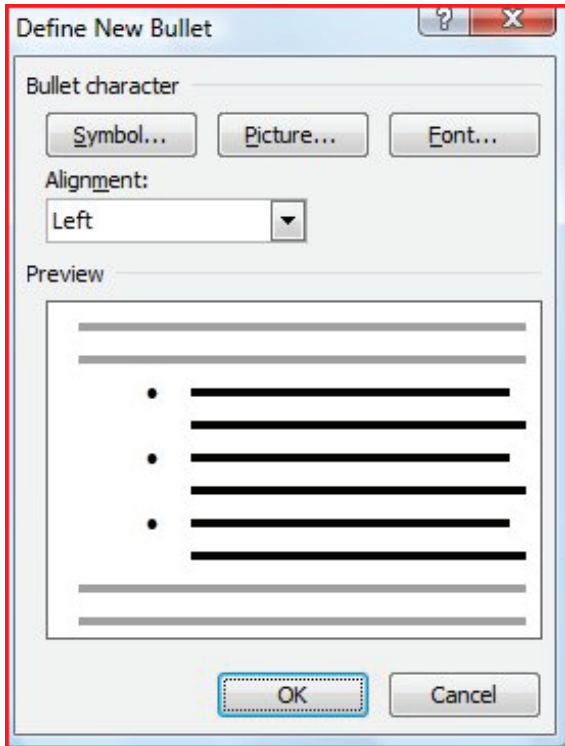
3. Click OK.

Excel starts, but in doing so, it bypasses all the files in the various startup folders (such as XLStart), and depending on your version of Excel it skips loading the toolbar file (Excel.xlb). You know you are in safe mode because the words "Safe Mode" appears in the title bar. You can use Excel as you normally would, and then exit the program. The next time you start the program—without the safe mode switch—it runs as it normally does.

Setting Spell-Checking Options

Word includes a spelling checker that you can use to proof the text in your worksheets. There are a few options that you can set for the spelling checker. For instance, you can make sure the spelling checker doesn't check words that are all uppercase or those that have numbers in the word.

To change the spelling checker options, follow these steps if you are using a version of Excel prior to Excel 2007:
1.	Choose Options from the Tools menu. You will see the Options dialog box.
2.	Make sure the Spelling tab is selected.
3.	Make changes in the options, as desired.

Excel Tips

Starting in Safe Mode

If you are having problems with Excel, it could be because of the files and add-ins that are loaded whenever you start Excel. To test this theory, you can start Excel in "safe mode." Follow these steps:
1.	Choose the Run option from the Start menu. Windows displays the Run dialog box.
2.	In the Open box, type the path to the Excel program, and add the /s switch at the end. For instance, the command line you enter might look like this:
   "c:\program files\microsoft office\office\excel.exe" /s
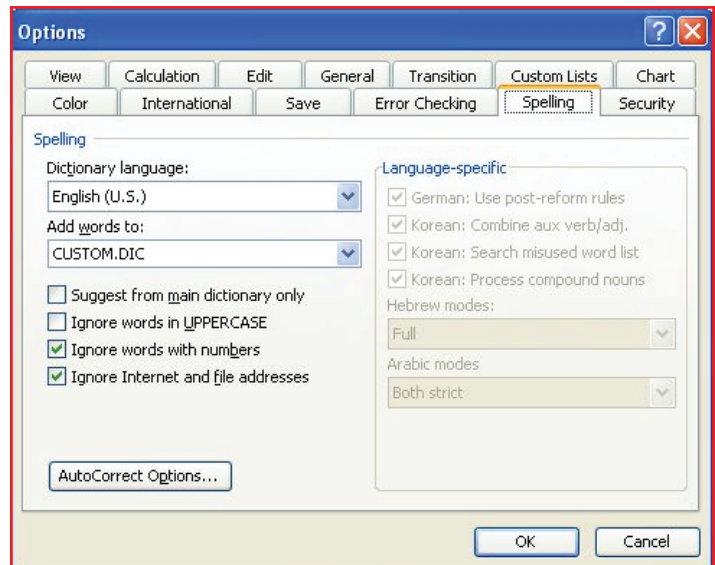
4.	Click on OK.

You can change the same options in Excel 2007 by following these steps:

1.	Click the Office button and then click Excel Options. Excel displays the Excel Options dialog box.

2.	At the left side of the dialog box click Proofing. Make changes in the options, as desired.

3.	Click on OK.
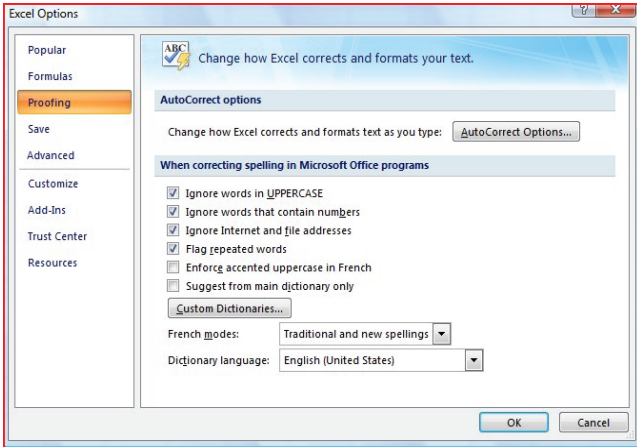
Dates with Periods

Lee prefers a date format that uses periods, such as 5.24.08. He wonders if there is a way to create such a format and if that format can be set as the default date format used by Excel.

Defining the date format in Excel is easy. Just follow these steps:

1.	Select the range of cells you want to format.

2.	Right-click the range to display a Context menu, from which you should choose Format Cells. Excel displays the Format Cells dialog box.

3.	Make sure the Number tab is displayed. In the Category list, choose Custom.

4.	In the Type box enter "m.d.yy" (without the quote marks).

5.	Click OK.
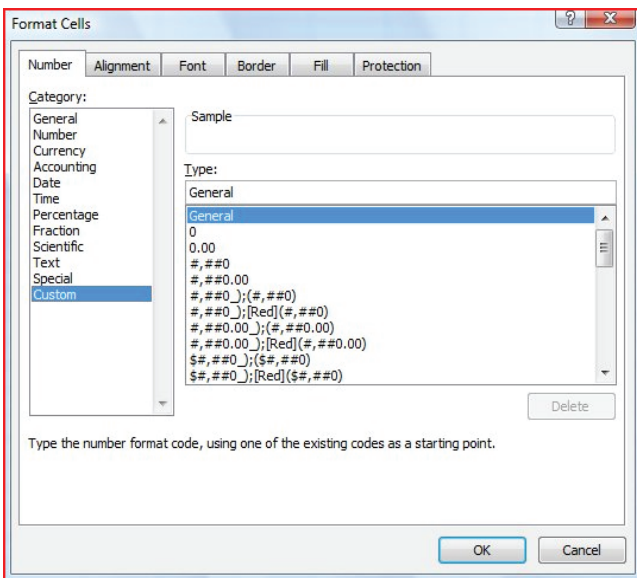
That's it; you now have a format set to display dates you want. If you want the format to be the default for all dates, then you are going to have to make a change in the Regional Settings of Windows itself. (Excel draws its default from these settings.) The exact way you do this varies depending on the version of Windows you are using, but in general there is a choice in the Windows Control Panel that allows you to specify regional settings. All you need to do is modify those settings to reflect the date format you want to use. The change will affect not only the display of numbers in Excel, but in other Windows-compliant programs, as well.

Shuttle XS35GT

By Bob De Wolf, NOCCC

It's happened again. I've been bit by the must have new gadget bug. This time it's a complete fan-less PC system with all the features of a standard PC that fits in the form factor of a full-size external DVD reader/burner. Actually, its a bit smaller. My burner is 2 inches wide at the front and the XS35GT is only 1.5 inches. Since the XS35GT is a bare-bone system, I needed to purchase some parts to complete the project. Here is the parts list:

1)	XS35GT bare bone system (no memory, HD, DVD, OS included) including the following:

1.	Intel Dual-Core processor D510 (Pineview-D)

2.	Hyperthreading: 2 threads per core

3.	Intel 64 architecture, clock: 1.66 Ghz, L2 Cache: 1024Kb, Power: 15W max

4.	Supports 2GB DDR2 PC6400 RAM max.

5.	NVIDIA ION Graphics with 512 MB DDR3 RAM, VGA and HDMI (1080p) output.

6.	5 USB ports.

7.	40 W power brick type power supply.

2)	2 Gb DDR2 PC6400 Patriot RAM

3)	500Mb Western Digital Black 7200 RPM HD.

4)	Logitech wireless keyboard/mouse combo.

5)	Windows 7 CD

When you purchase one of these from Fry's, you can only return it for 15 days so you have to get right on it so you'll know if there are any problems. Access to the interior is very easy since both side panels are removable. One of the mounting brackets uses very small screws. It requires a jeweler's screw driver to put them in. I felt a bit like I was working on a watch while doing it.

Once I had the parts installed, I installed Windows 7, then I stopped for lunch. Before I go further I should tell you that at this point I was using Corsair RAM. The parts list above is the final configuration. After lunch, when I attempted to boot the

Products Available for Review

The NOCCC regularly receives copies of books and software from vendors 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. You can pick up the product in the lobby of Irvine Hall between 9 A.M. and Noon 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 page 3.

Boxed Programs and CDs

Vipre Antivirus Premium 4 – A high-performance antivirus + antispyware software with an integrated firewall. And it isn't bloated! From Sunbelt Software. MSRP=$40.

Norton Internet Security 2011 – Symantec's premier protection suite for viruses, spyware, spam. MSRP=$70.

Norton Utilities – Symantec's PC optimization suite. MSRP=$50.

Books

Operating Systems

New: **Degunking Windows 7** – Get your Windows 7 PC running quickly & efficiently. From McGraw-Hill MSRP=$25.

Books *continued*

Office & Home Programs

New: **How to Do Everything – Adobe Acrobat X** – How to create, secure, optimize, & distribute PDFs. From McGraw-Hill. MSRP=$25.

New: **Microsoft Office 2010 All-in-One for Dummies** – Get up to speed on all the applications (Word, Outlook, PowerPoint, Excel, Access, Publisher, & Common Office Tools). From Wiley. MSRP=$35.

New: **Microsoft Access 2010 Programmer's Reference** – This 1200-page reference book tells you everything you need to know about the latest Access database program. MSRP=$45.

Digital Photography & Design

New: **The Portrait Photography Course** – Principles, practices, & techniques. By Mark Jenkison, from Peachpit Press. MSRP=$40.

New: **Professional Portrait Retouching Techniques for Photographers using Photoshop** – Learn how the pros do it. By Scott Kelby, from New Riders. MSRP=$50.

New: **Canon PowerShot G12** – From snapshots to great shots by Jeff Carlson from Peachpit Press. MSRP=$25.

New: **The Photoshop Elements 9 Book for Digital Photographers** – New Riders book by Scott Kelby & Matt Kloskowski. MSRP=$50.

New: **Adobe Real World Photoshop CS5 for Photographers** – From Peachpit Press, MSRP=$60.

New: **Chasing the Light: Improving Your Photography with Available Light**. For photographers of all levels. By Ibarionex Perello. From New Riders. MSRP=$45.

New: **Adobe InDesign CS5 Classroon in a Book** – The official training workbook from Adobe Systems. Includes a CD. From AdobePress. MSRP=$55.

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.

Product Reviews

How to Do Everything: Digital Photography

Review by Gordon Sricckland, NOCCC
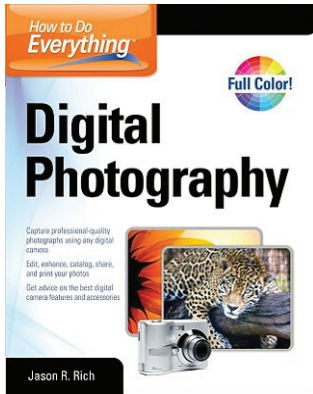
This handsome Mc Graw Hill book (384+xvi pages, $25.00 MSRP, $16 at amazon.com) is intended for the beginning and intermediate level amateur photographer using a point-and-shoot or low-end SLR digital camera. The book is well-produced, covers a broad range of topics of potential interest to the beginner, is written in an informal style, and is illustrated with a multitude of color photos, mostly taken by author Jason R. Rich, demonstrating the points that he is making. The book does a good job of addressing its intended audience. However, to extract maximum benefit from this substantial volume, it will be best for the reader, although perhaps a beginner, to be of a studious and persevering frame of mind, for the book contains a great deal of information to take in.

The book is organized into four major sections entitled "Get to Know Your Digital Camera" (three chapters), "Tips and Strategies for Taking Professional-Quality Photos in Any Situation" (seven chapters), "Edit and Digitally Enhance Your Photos" (three chapters), and "Showcase, Share, Present, and Store Your Photos" (two chapters). There is a detailed six-page table of contents, and a comprehensive thirteen-page index, which should facilitate using the book as a reference for specific topics.

The informal character of the book is enhanced by setting many of the points the author makes into separate, randomly occurring blocks of text with titles such as "Tip," "Note," "Caution," "How To," and "Did You Know." The "Tips" are especially frequent. This style of presentation is perhaps appropriate for the intended audience, but incorporating more of this material into the main body of text might make for smoother reading.

The author is a professional photographer and teaches photography classes and workshops. No doubt he therefore has a good grasp of the more technical aspects of photography. However, in his desire to make things easy for the beginner, he sometimes indulges in oversimplifications and inaccuracies that may put off the more informed reader. For instance, in discussing lens focal length, he uses the equivalent focal lengths for 35mm cameras, e. g., "A normal lens on a digital SLR camera has a focal length of about 50mm." This is fine if the reader is always going to encounter lenses and cameras labeled with the 35mm equivalent of the actual focal lengths, but otherwise, the potential for confusion is obvious. In the author's defense, it must be noted that this particular passage in the book has a fine series of pictures of the same scene shot at various focal lengths and showing graphically the wide-angle and telephoto effects that can be obtained by varying the focal length. The discussion of lens aperture is also somewhat confusing, in that the distinction between aperture and the corresponding f-stop number is not always clear, e.g., "The faster the lens, and the smaller [!] the maximum aperture, the more costly the lens will be."

However, it was not the purpose of this book to present a rigorous and detailed discussion of the technical aspects of photography. Rather, the author does a good job of summarizing the wide range of practical tools and techniques that are available to the amateur photographer. He starts with the process of acquiring and becoming familiar with a camera; considers the many ways and situations in which the camera can be used; and then discusses how the resulting photos can be processed, distributed, and stored. Overall, the author does a good job of presenting this material for the beginning to intermediate amateur, and I would recommend it to such a reader, with the proviso that he be willing to spend the time necessary to take it all, or at least a good portion, of it in.

Jason Rich maintains web sites at http://www.JasonRich.com and www.JasonRichPhotography.com. The first of these describes his manifold publishing activities (he has written "more than" 45 books); the second presents over 40 galleries of his impressive photography.

Snagit 9.1

Review by Gordon Strickland, NOCCC

As is suggested by its name, Snagit is a utility for capturing the contents of a portion of a computer display for incorporation into a separate document. My review of this highly regarded product was carried out on a Pentium 4 machine running Windows XP. However, Snagit also runs on Windows Vista and Windows 7.

The installation of the program, which can be done in English, French, or German, went much as one might expect and without any substantial difficulty, with one exception. At one point in the installation one is to enter a software key, which was said to be on a sticker "on the sleeve" for the CD-ROM disk, but there was no disk sleeve as such. I minutely examined the exterior of the case that the disk had come in, and also the outside of the box that the case had come in, but no sticker. Somewhat disgruntled, I went ahead with an alternative installation for a free 30-day trial version. After the installation was complete,

I returned the disk to its case. As I did so I noticed that on the inside of case, in the recess for the disk, there was indeed a sticker with a software key. In the installed version of Snagit there was provision for entering the key retroactively. Summoning up all my typing skills, I was able to enter the 29-character key successfully after only two tries, and so I am now presumably out of the 30-day trial mode.

The documentation included in the box is minimal, consisting of an information sheet equivalent to about eight letter-sized pages. However, this is informative, and is enough to get one started with straightforward tasks. For detailed questions there is a good help file that is indexed and searchable. The Techsmith web site, www.techsmith.com, has numerous tutorials and provisions for question and answer interaction.

The Snagit program consists of two principal components: the Snagit control program, and the Snagit editor. The control program directs the user in a straight-forward way through the acquisition of an image on the screen, whether it is the whole screen, a window of the screen, or any image within a window. Thus the user has much more flexibility in the selection of an image than would be provided by the Print Screen key on the keyboard of a standard setup. When the desired image has been captured, it is automatically sent to the Snagit editor, where the user can impose a wide variety of alterations and enhancements. When the user has the image as he desires it, he can send the image to the clipboard, save it as a file, or deal with it in other ways. In this way the user can develop a file or document containing any number of captured images.

About ten days ago my wife and I were in her car heading south on the 5 freeway when we were suddenly confronted with a car heading almost directly across the freeway and presenting his left side to us. My wife was driving and she managed to slow her car somewhat, but we still slammed into the other car with great force, totaling my wife's car. As a result she is about to start shopping for a new one. To assist her, I am in the process of using Snagit to capture images from automobile manufacturers' web sites of various cars that I believe would be just right for her. I am incorporating these into a fact sheet and each will be accompanied by an appropriate caption. This should be a compelling document, but I am afraid that my wife may ignore it, and go her own way. However, I must not blame Snagit for that.

Snagit will capture video sequences from the Internet. The files into which Snagit records these can be as large as 2 gigabytes, but they are in the AVI format. Thus, if you burn one of these files onto a disk with the idea of playing it later on a home DVD player, make sure that the player can accommodate the AVI format. Many will not. Unfortunately, I was not able to test this part of Snagit, as the video capture feature would not work on my machine. In frustration I installed the program on a second machine, my Windows XP laptop, but again the video capture feature would not work. To judge from postings on the Internet, many users do have difficulties with the video capture feature.

I would recommend the program to anyone who wanted a flexible screen capture capability for incorporating captured images into documents, presentations, and other files. However, if the screen capture capability is important to you, you might want to try the free trial version first to make sure that it will work on your machine.

I carried out this review using a provided disk with Snagit Version 9.1. Since the issue of this, Techsmith has released a new version of the program, Version 10.0. This contains quite a number of detail improvements, but in general seems to follow the structure of the previous version. The list price for the current version is $49.95, but you can get it at a discount (see Membership Benefits page in this newsletter) and a free, limited-time trial version is also available. A version for Mac OS X is also now available.

Editor's Note: Snagit has a lot more capability than Gordon's review addresses. Read more at: http://www.techsmith.com/snagit/features/win/.

"More than just simple screen capture, Snagit empowers you to communicate faster, clearly explain concepts, and archive digital information. All with point and click convenience. You can easily capture, edit, share and organize a screenshot of exactly what you see on your screen. The more you use Snagit, the more ways you'll find to use it."

Technology At The Margins

Reviewed By Anson Chapman, NOCCC

This is an unusual book in that it does not describe IT technology per say, but the impact of this technology on the people in the economically lower 40 per cent. In other words, it strives to describe (through various means) how people who make about $1 or less per day can be provided with the means to improve themselves and then become net contributors to the marketplace by becoming buyers and creating marketplaces.

The authors are basically people who have a great deal of experience in living and working in developing areas of the world and they try to show that there is an emerging international ethos that shows how the developed areas (countries) are helping developing areas (not necessarily countries) use IT and communications technology to improve there standard of living.

Basically, they are saying that even though there is no immediate return on investment, this is not charity, but is the preparation that will eventually allow for a return on investment sometime in the undetermined future. They then describe several areas that are

being going into effect at the current time and point to others needed to get off the ground.

The areas underway currently are:

- Health Education
- Disease surveillance and information gathering
- Remote classroom instruction
- Microfinancing
- Minimizing impact of natural disasters

All of the above are covered in some detail and it is fascinating reading. Enough references are provided such that the reader may continue covering these and many other related subjects.

While the book shows the many facets that have promise, it is lacking in discussing many difficulties such as the misuse of these technologies either by external or internal entities. Many of these same technologies can be used against these poor people and will be very effective since they do not have the societal skills or cultural background to be aware of them. Additionally there are few or no oversight activities except by some (not all). And, we all know the detail of who watches the players.

As an example, in Microfinancing, people take out small low interest loans so as to buy equipment in order to be more productive. In many countries this has resulted in a gradual increase in their standard of living. However, it can also be used by unscrupulous groups to put these naïve people in more and more debt. Beware of the company store!!!

All in all a good if biased book; I hope there will be additional ones with less propagandizing and more attention to the practical efforts of providing both services, protection, and plans for these and other services. The authors are to be congratulated on presenting this in a readable form. Follow on would be appreciated.

For more information on the book, go to: http://www.wiley.com/WileyCDA/WileyTitle/productCd-0470639970.html

This is a 166-page hard-cover book by Sailesh Chutani, Jessica Rothenberg Aalami , and Akhtar Badshah. MSRP = $40; $20 at Amazon.com. Issued December 2010.

Akhtar Badshah is a Senior Director of Global Community Affairs at Microsoft Corporation: http://www.huffingtonpost.com/akhtar-badshah/technology-at-the-margins_b_459368.html. Follow Akhtar Badshah on Twitter: www.twitter.com/msftcitizenship.

Construction at Chapman

Construction is being done on Argyros Hall and the some paths near it, including some from the Lastinger Parking Structure, may be blocked. Be careful; Sunday is a workday for the construction crew; in May, a large crane was lifting things to the upper floors. More information is available at the Chapman web site www.chapman.edu/about/community/construction/. This site includes links to two webcams that show the construction.

For construction and campus event questions, please call the Community Hotline at (714) 744-7880.

Transportation Information

Meeting Information
The NOCCC meetings are 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. A map of the Chapman University campus is also available at 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. 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 train 857 leaves San Bernardino destined for Orange County at 7:30 am. Train 859 leaves at 8:55 am. For the return trip, train 858 leaves nearby Orange Metrolink at 3:55 pm and train 860 leaves at 5:35 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.
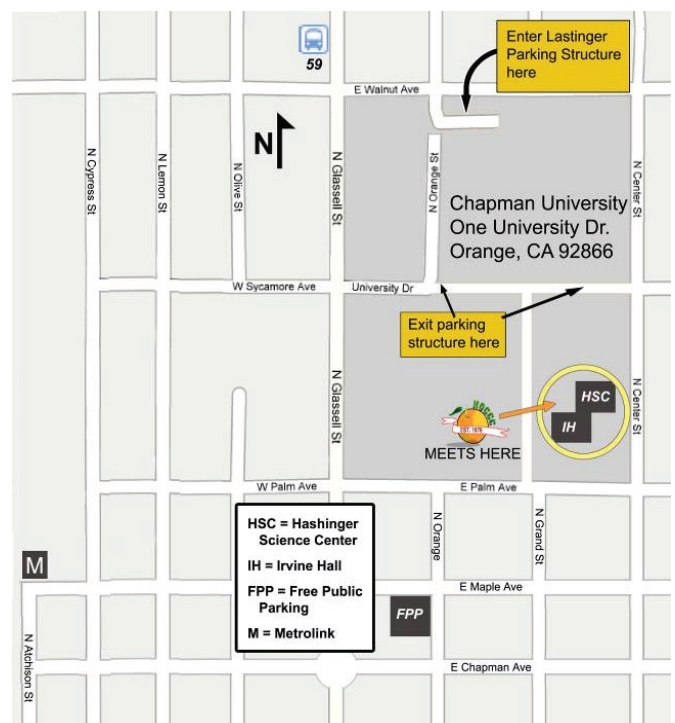
Board Meeting Minutes
July 11, 2011

The NOCCC Board held its meeting at President Jim Sanders' residence on Monday, July 11, 2011.

All Board members attended except Dr. Patricia Adelekan, Mary Cornett, and Steven Breitbart. The Vice President's position is open. Long-time member, Don Armstrong, also attended. Secretary's Report: given by Ted Littman. The Board Meeting Minutes of the June 6 Board Meeting published in the July 2011 Orange Bytes was motioned for approval, seconded, and approved by all in attendance.

Treasurer's Report: given by John Heenan. Net income for coffee, cookies, and donuts was $.23. The Raffle earned $47; cost of the prizes was not reported. No consignment was held. One club t-shirt was sold for $15. The average cost of producing and delivering the Orange Bytes for the past ten months ending in May was $1.36 per copy.

Memberships: As of May 30. Regular (1-yr.) = 153, Regular (3-yr.) = 12, Family = 7, College Student = 1, Newsletter = 12; Total of 184 Members, which is a decrease of 3 from the previous month. In June, there were 8 member renewals. The Board accepted the Treasurer's report.

Opening & Closing: The coffee was late in being prepared. Chapman Security did not open the elevators, bathrooms, classrooms, or Irvine Hall, and had to be called.

Main Meeting: The presentation by SIG Leader John Krill on SkyDrive was attended by 35-40 people. It was one of the better meetings with lots of Q&As. More details are in the Main Meeting report elsewhere in this newsletter.

Programs: The next Main Meeting is Sunday, August 7th, followed by the BOD meeting on Monday, August 8th at the President's residence. We do not have a firm commitment for a speaker next month. Jim will explore several possibilities.

Public Relations: No report in the absence of Mary Cornett.

Publications & Reviews: given by Ted Littman. Three books were taken for review at the meeting on Sunday. Three book reviews were received. Tony Loechner used a desktop publishing program to produce the July newsletter. Ted provided the copy-edited inputs.

Membership: given by Ben Lochtenbergh. With sadness it was reported that member Bill Phillips had died. It was noted that Board member Steven Breitbart was receiving chemo and radiation treatment for lung cancer. He has our best wishes.

Raffles: given by Gerry Resch. Ticket sales were. Jim will procure items for the August raffles. The Board increased the authorization of funds for prizes to a maximum of $150 from $100. Gerry was directed to exchange one Chapman parking stub for one General Drawing raffle ticket rather than one Members Only ticket. Gerry was authorized to sell 13 raffletickets for $10 and 6 tickets for $5.

SIGs: given by Dallas Hazelton. Attendance at the SIG meeting varied widely. At mid-morning, total attendance at the SIGs was 61. Again, the Microsoft Office SIG was not held in the absence of the SIG leader. The President will contact the SIG leader to determine if it should be dropped. Ben notified us that his Mobile Computing SIG will not be held in August.

Old Business: None

New Business: John instigated a lengthy discussion on our concern over the declining membership. He presented statistics for the past decade. Club viability is a major concern. In addition, our P.O. bulk-mailing rate for the Orange Bytes is in jeopardy. John suggested reducing the dues. It was noted that declining membership was a common problem for most computer clubs as well as other organizations.Ben suggested that we procure "business" cards for the Board members that could be used to publicize the club and its web site. Gerry will get cost information.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:33 PM.

NOCCC Bylaws

The club's Bylaws are available at our website: www.noccc.org/bylaws/.

Orange Bytes in Color and More at the NOCCC Website. 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 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.**

July 10, 2011 Main Meeting Report

By Ben Lochtenbergh, NOCCC;
Photograph using my Motorola XOOM tablet

I had a chance to observe John Krill minutes prior to the start of his presentation. He seemed to get ready as if preparing for combat. My particular interest in this is "what could I (and other club members) do if we were to present?" It may be some kind of combat against all kinds of fears possible. So I was taking clues to improve my presentation skills. I think members had a great afternoon, and that it inspired them to look in their arsenal of experience to do a presentation in the future.

John has the pleasant aura of certainty which carries well with his audience. His topic: "Saving files on the Internet." In doing so, he offered three venues, and as a surprise, a fourth venue was offered by one of the attendees. It turns out she was not a member (yet) but a most welcome addition to the audience. John was sporty enough to give it due attention, see photograph with "DropBox" on the big screen.

The three software options presented by John were: "YouSendIt.com," "SendNow" from Adobe, and "SkyDrive" from Microsoft Windows Live. The fourth one, "DropBox" was suggested by Carol Evans. All four can be researched by googling each name as listed above. They each have a number of plans, like the first one has a button COMPARE PLANS to click, which John showed. The second one by Adobe has a button 'Send large files now' which shows its price structure. The third one has a button 'Get SkyDrive-it's free!' It shows a list of files and folders which you may have uploaded (and forgot about), you navigate it much like with Windows Explorer, which most PC users should know. The fourth one has a button, 'Pricing' which shows: Free, 9.99/month, and 19.99/month. (See John's report elsewhere in this newsletter.)
John went over file sizes, maximum storage allowed, and prices for each of the software offering. He displayed the prices of the paid offerings, which I remember as ranging from free to $9.99 per month and $190 per year. It appeared to me, that the pricing schemes were more complicated than the actual uploading and downloading procedures. John took the time to demonstrate an upload of all three. The file sizes he used were about the same, for fair comparisons I suppose, slightly less than 50MB. While

one was uploading, he went on demonstrating the next venue, occasionally checking the upload progress. As an old-school PC user, I am still pleased with today's reliability of multitasking. It all worked fine, and John had the time and presence of mind, to try out the fourth venue! Someone in the audience asked: "How large a file will DropBox allow?" This was quickly resolved by Jim Sanders, who with his Netbook computer, using the University's Wi-Fi, Googled for the answer. "2GB". John was most responsive to his audience.
I myself, generally, avoid trying to remember sizes and prices. They change too often, but luckily in a favorable direction (cheaper, bigger). There is competition out there. Companies like Microsoft change methods frequently too.
Later on during the presentation, the audience questions went into the direction of saving photographs on the Internet. This was not surprising, because John is the SIG leader of "Beginners Digital Photography, room 127 every NOCCC Sunday 9:00 – 10:30 am. The question of using Pandora came up, and was answered by making the distinction that Pandora is only for photography. Very interesting to me was John's reaction to someone taking a photograph of him. He retorted: "I don't like people taking pictures of me." This reminded me of years ago (when I was the only one in school with a digital camera) taking a college class in a black-and-white photography and film development. I took a digital photograph sometime during the middle of the semester of the teacher; he made a similar comment: "I don't want you to take pictures of me." I offered to delete the photo immediately, but the teacher, apparently didn't grasp the concept of deleting one digital picture on a camera, so I didn't.
This was a worthy presentation by one of our own. Thank you John for 'mission accomplished'.

Shuttle XS35GT

machine it would begin and then dump memory with a blue screen. At one point I tried to run the memory test program that comes with Windows. It hung up and would not complete.

Back at Fry's I was sent from the Returns desk to the Service department. The friendly man at Service opened the machine and put in a DDR2 from his tool box. The machine booted up without a hitch. The man in Service said the Corsair memory was incompatible with the machine and sent me over to the parts desk where they exchanged my Corsair memory for Patriot, which was the same price. At the cashier I was told that I could try the Patriot for 15 days and if it didn't work, bring it back for an exchange or a refund.

When I put in the Patriot RAM the system booted up and ran without hitch. Well, there are a couple of quirks. I tried the wireless Internet feature and it worked. I won't be using that since I prefer the higher transfer rate of a wired system.

July 10, 2011 Raffle Winners
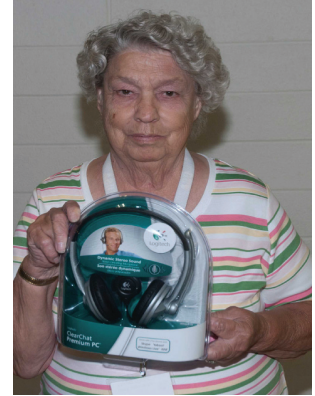
Photos by John Krill, NOCCC

Bob Dickson

Thomas Fitzsimmons

Dallas Hazleton

Helen Phillips

Helen Phillips

Ken Adachi

Martin LaRocque

Bob Dickson

Ken Adachi

***Your photo could be here - but only if you buy a raffle ticket.
$1 per ticket or 6 tickets for $5!
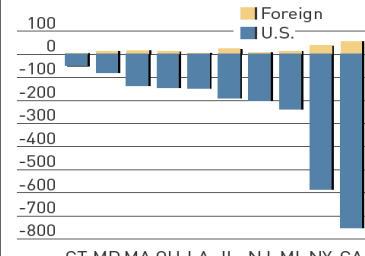Remember, parking permits are good for 2 free tickets!***

Hola Texas, Adios California

From 2004 to 2008, net migration added more people to Texas than any other state. California and New York suffered the greatest losses.

10 top gainers, in thousands, 2004-08

Foreign
U.S.

TX FL NC GA AZ SC TN NV WA CO
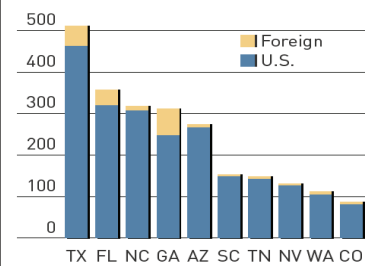
10 top losers, in thousands, 2004-08

Foreign
U.S.

CT MD MA OH LA IL NJ MI NY CA

Source: Center for Global Markets and Freedom, SMU Cox School of Business

Beginner's Digital Photography

By John Krill, SIG Leader

John

Using the Web to find equipment

• Use DPReview to find equipment that fits your requirements.
• Then go to any one of several online photo stores to find out if you can STILL get what you want.
• Check for availability and price.
• Call your local camera store or search the Web for the best price.

Warning: Using the Web to purchase equipment may be a risky business if you have no knowledge of the company you are dealing with. I would advise staying with the better known brands such as: Buy.com, Amazon.com, BHPhotoVideo.com, Adorama.com, and some of the larger and better known local photography stores. I learned the hard way what can happen when you go to an online business that has prices too good to be true. I will never do it again. I personally stick with the online businesses that I mentioned above.

Question: Using a flash and setting the correct flash mode. One question that gets asked frequently is: How do I eliminate Red Eye automatically in the camera?

Answer: Many digital cameras have the option to eliminate Red Eye at the time the flash image is recorded but it's not the default setting. This means you must set Red Eye elimination from the camera's menu. With the Nikon D40X it is an option from the Flash settings.

Flash mode / flash compensation

Press this button and turn the command dial to change flash mode.

In P, A, S, or M modes:
• Flash on
• Red-eye reduction
• Red-eye reduction with slow sync
• Slow sync
• Rear-curtain sync

In Auto / Vari-Program mode:
• Auto flash
• Auto with red-eye reduction
• Flash off

Question: What is the difference between Program Mode and AUTO Mode?

Answer: When you select Program Mode, the camera will control the aperture and speed settings. In Auto Mode, the camera controls: the ISO, the White Balance, Shutter Speed, and finally the Aperture. In short, when you use Auto Mode your camera becomes a Point-and-Shoot. Auto Mode controls everything.

August 2011: I plan on digging deeper into Picasa. See what really works well and is truly useful and what parts of this photo organizer should be avoided. If anyone has a question for me on using Picasa let me know and I will try to answer it at the next meeting.

Still looking for good digital photo editing books. Know of any? I'm trying to figure out what is good. It isn't easy unless you have the book in hand and use it over and over to answer questions. So if you have used such a photo-editing book, please let me know.

Standard Stuff That Is Always In This Report

This report should be up on the SIG's blog. I may go into greater detail and I will include screen shots as well.

I've been lax in posting to the blog. I hope to correct this. Because our meetings are once a month and last for only one and a half hours, there is much more I can cover with the blog.

If you have a special request for information regarding digital photography let me know. E-mail me using the address listed below.

Check out the SIG Blog for other information and maybe info on what we will discuss at the next meeting.
newAs always we will answer any and all questions.

If you have a special request for information regarding digital photography let me know. E-mail me using the address listed below.

See you at the next meeting.
Note: I am using a new Web location for the photos I take at the meeting. I now upload the photos I take to Microsoft SkyDrive. A link will be put here every month to the folder with that months photos.

SkyDrive Photos: https://skydrive.live.com/redir.aspx?cid=64f55afd7868d4fb&page=play&resid=64F55AFD7868D4FB!129

PS: I know it's a LONG link and if you go to the NOCCC web site you can find the link at the Beginners Digital Photography SIG report.

SIG Blog: http://nocccbgphotosig.wordpress.com/

Picasa Photos: http://picasaweb.google.com/noccc.bgphotosig

Email: noccc.bgphotosig@gmail.com

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

Advanced Digital Photography

By Larry Klees, SIG Leader

Last Month
The July meeting was about Precision color matching. I had very carefully planned four separate demonstrations. After some general questions and answers we talked a bit about photographing fireworks and gargoyles. We also tied up a couple of loose ends from the previous meeting about focus stacking. There was some difficulty getting the equipment set up and then there was only enough time for three of the four demonstrations - none of which went according to plan. I have been doing color matching for years and have been doing the precision variety for the last several. When I figure out what went wrong with the demonstrations at the meeting, we will revisit this topic. It is normally easy to do and very useful. We did skirt the related topic of white balancing; but not too much was covered due to time constraints.
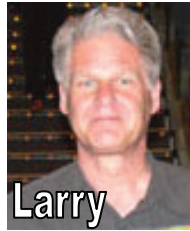
At the August Meeting
Pixel-Pusher's Favorites

There is a very useful tool you can use in your quest to improve you own photographs. Study the quality work of other photographers. I currently have a cup full of milkweed seeds that I want to photograph. Milkweed seeds are quite attractive. They consist of a small variegated brown seed topped with a large silky white tuft. They remind me a little of dandelions. I have photographed dandelions before and have found them like roses (almost cliché from being so common) and therefore quite difficult to do with style.
For example, I took this photo about four years ago and I think had some success.

But as sometimes happens, my more recent endeavor, leaves me unimpressed. Armed with my new focus stacking software, I was able to use f/5.6 instead of the f/22 required for the previous shot. The result is quite sharp and has tremendous depth of field. I was very careful with the lighting but that solid black background just leaves me unimpressed.
Not wanting to repeat this mistake with the milkweed seeds, I turned to Pixel-Pusher's Favorites. Pixel-Pusher is my Flickr screen name. Over the last several years I have been gathering excellent examples of work by other photographers around the world.

I checked these favorites and found no less than five gorgeous examples of dandelion photos. One of those is just what I want to do with my milkweed seeds.

The next SIG meeting will be laced heavily with group participation as we look at Pixel-Pusher's Favorites. We will do a very quick overall scan of these marvelous images and then choose which ones we want to analyze for camera technique, composition, lighting etc.
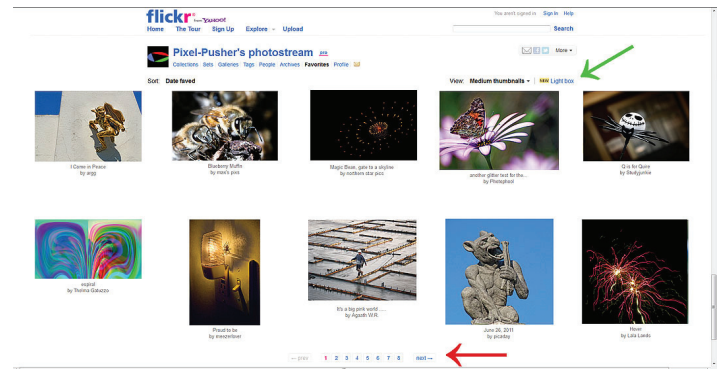
For a preview that you will like and to improve the interaction at the meeting, please visit the following link
http://www.flickr.com/photos/11314491@N05/favorites/

You will find yourself at the beginning of Pixel-Pusher's Favorites. Your screen will resemble this example.

From this screen you will be able to view a portion of Flickr without having to be a member or have an account. You can use the elevator bar or scroll up and down the page to see images. You can switch to other pages (Note: the red arrow at the bottom). This will allow a quick scan of the 500 or so images. There are a variety of places to click on this screen that will send you to other places. The backspace key will bring you back to this screen. The CTRL+ and CTRL- keys will enlarge or reduce the images.

Note: the images shown in this example are ones I own the copyright to. The images you will see are in general much better. Their copyrights are owned by their individual photographers.
(You will find very few of them that are included for information purposes rather than beauty.)

To see the images at their best, please click on "Light Box" (indicated by the green arrow). You can then use the keyboard's arrow keys to go forward or backward at your own pace. If you find some that pique your interest or fancy be sure to bring them up at the meeting so the entire group can discuss them.

Come to the meeting and I guarantee you will find it both enjoyable and educational.

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

Visual Basic
for Applications
(Access/Excel VBA)

By Bob Dickson, SIG Leader

The July session was admission of defeat: there just isn't any way to re-orient a User Form in Excel VBA! It's going to print in portrait orientation. Period! Mercy, I spent hours working in Excel on my PC and on the Internet including Microsoft Support. It just can't be done (other than the method Richard provided in the previous month but that doesn't produce quality output). OK, I gave up and ... redesigned the User Form so that it looks good in portrait orientation. Bummer! Actually, it does look pretty good even though it's been 'squeezed' a little. So the church project can move forward now that the print-orientation situation has been put to rest (victory is great, but surrender ends the fighting, too. I give up). Richard and I went though the program and reviewed various functions. There are a couple of embellishments I want to put in (Oh, oh!) and then it will be ready to be turned over to the users. A wonderful first Excel VBA project. My thanks to Richard for his support and sharing his vast experience in Excel VBA. That's NOCCC: friends helping friends.

But the above wasn't the only Excel VBA project I'd worked on. While letting the steam blow off due to the above project, I provided an Excel VBA solution to our church administrator for prayer requests. Many people turn in prayer cards each Sunday requesting special prayers for a family member or a friend. The requests are printed in the weekly bulletin. The church has a policy on how long a request will remain on the list, unless renewed. The administrator has been with us for less than a year and she doesn't personally know many of the members so the list has been growing since she's not sure when to delete a request. I wrote a program to manage the list so that she can delete the request my date or by name. When deleted, the request goes to a 'deleted' worksheet where it remains until it is permanently deleted. This covers the situation where the wrong request is deleted or if an old request is requested to be put back on the active prayer list. The click of a button will reinstate the request. I also provided the ability to sort the output in 3 different sequences. The administrator loves the program. Not an earth-shaking app, but it's the kind of useful little app that can save a person some considerable time and effort which is a great reason to learn how to write apps in these widely available programming tools. Master Richard thought it was a neat little app, too. Got some questions or knowledge to share concerning Excel VBA? Come up to Sci. 306 with a full coffee cup and join us.
NOTE: due to a schedule conflict for August, there will NOT be an Excel VBA SIG session for August only. Instead, the Access SIG Session will be held from 10:30 AM until noon. (This is for AUG. ONLY.)

Microsoft Access

By Bob Dickson, SIG Leader
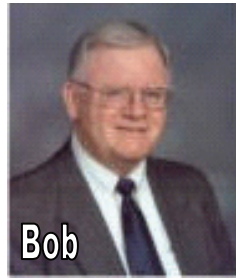
The July session concentrated on Helen's Doll-lightful Collection of a couple hundred dolls. Helen and I reviewed the status of her Quilts Project. She's gotten all of her quilts into the database and printed a large 3-ring binder showing all of the quilts with the technical info right in the form with the picture of the quilt. She's rightfully proud of her product. And she should be. It was a lot of work but now she can show anyone any quilt. The database is on her laptop so even at someone else's house she can get out her laptop and WOW the attendees.

Now she'll turn her full attention to her Dolls Project. We discussed at length what to put in each form. Much of the data she has written down, but she will have to dig up other data. Also, I suggested she take pictures of front, back, left, and right. That way, she can show the doll to the best advantage of the viewer. She'll be busy photographing the dolls during the month and collecting the data. In July we'll work on putting her data into a Dolls database. Helen said she's learned a great deal at these sessions, more than what she was getting out of her Access classes at the local school. While she's taking pictures, I'll work on some variations of forms and functions for her to decide to put into the database. Got an interest in databases? Have you created an Access app? Come up to Sci. 306 and share with us. NOTE: for August ONLY, the Access SIG session has been moved to 10:30 am – noon since the Access VBA SIG session has been cancelled in that time slot (for AUG. ONLY!)

This SIG meets in Science 306.

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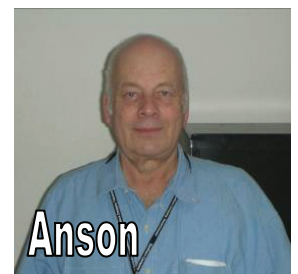
This SIG meets in Science 111 at 9:00 a.m.

PC Q&A

By Jim Sanders, SIG Leader

One of the subjects that we touched on during the July session was how to tell if your cell phone is unlocked. Why should you even care? Well if you have any plans of traveling to a foreign country, then money is the reason why you might care. If you have a GSM phone (and if you have almost any provider except Verizon, US Cellular, Alltel, Cellular South, QWest, Cricket, Metro PCS and Sprint PCS, you probably do) then international travel with your phone will be easier. GSM - Global System for Mobiletelephones - One of the few mobile phone standards with a self-explanatory name that is actually more or less accurate. It's the closest thing there is to an "international" standard -- GSM systems are used in nearly 200 countries. The heart of your cell phone's identification is a SIM card. These have become pretty standardized and if you remove the SIM from one phone and insert it into another, your service provider will think it is the same phone, or at least that it is you, and allow access to your voicemail for instance. This can only happen if your cell phone is unlocked.

If you travel abroad, and use your cell phone in another country, you are likely to get hit with some rather significant roaming charges, even if you are making a local call within the country. A common way of avoiding this charge is to purchase a SIM card from a local provider and insert it in your phone. When you do this the same phone that you were using in the United States now becomes a local cell phone in the country that you are located in. This eliminates the roaming charges and gives you a local phone number if other people want to give you a call. Another use for this procedure solves the problem of you have a iPhone which you dearly love, and at the moment you're with the carrier that you dearly hate, AT&T. With an unlocked iPhone you could go to T-Mobile, transfer your phone number, insert the SIM card that T-Mobile gives you, and you're in business. CDMA phone users are faced with a significantly more daunting task to get their phones unlocked and you have to jump through more hoops in order to get it programmed for a different carrier.

Whether you are trying to see if your phone is locked, or trying to find a program or information that will allow you to unlock your phone, Google is the place to go. There are way too many sites offering different levels of service or information to even begin to try and touch on them here.

As I mentioned at the Main Meeting, starting in August I'm going to change the theme of my 10:30 AM SIG from Beginners PC Q&A to Building your own Computer. The August meeting will be mostly spent on establishing the ground rules for what we will be talking about. Initially I am contemplating discussing what parts would go into a computer that had a budget of $500 for the main part of the computer, a budget of $750, and a budget of $1000.

I was planning on outlining quite a few of the various aspects that we would want to discuss, but Gordon Strickland did such a great job of outlining a number of considerations in picking the parts for a build-it-yourself computer, that I decided to simply use what he had already written. Thanks Gordon!

Gordon's list:
Considerations in Assembling a PC

New Features
Providing for new features, such as SATA 3 and USB 3, is obviously desirable. However, it is perhaps worth noting that in the past not all newly introduced features have lasted. For instance, IBM's much-heralded PS2 systems, with their micro-channel architecture, did not become the wave of the future despite apparent advantages. A more relevant example might be 2.88 MB floppy drives. These would seem to offer an obvious advantage, but they never caught on.

Reliability
Reliability of an assembled system is obviously desirable, but may be difficult to assess. Do some brands have a better record in this respect than others? Does selecting components that are at the outer edges of current performance limitations imply greater risks of failure? Perhaps also too much importance can be attached to long life. Judging from the history of PC development, one would be misguided in expending great effort and expense to assemble a system that would be almost sure to last, say, 20 years, when it would be almost sure to be obsolete long before then.

Case Selection
In the selection of a case, compact size would appear to be a desirable attribute. However, a larger case will allow the installation of more drives, and, perhaps more important, make it much easier to assemble and reassemble the internal components. In my present setup, the floppy and hard drive connectors on the motherboard are cunningly located deep behind drive enclosures. I cannot get at them without removing the motherboard from the case, an obviously inconvenient situation. For me, having a case and motherboard that allow easy access to all connectors and components would be much more important that having a compact overall size.

Fan Noise
Perhaps in the brave new world of multi-core processors this is no longer so much of a problem, except for fanatical gamers, but in my old (6 years) Pentium 4 system, which I use in an upstairs study, without air conditioning, cooling has been a severe problem. I have addressed this by installing a very large CPU cooler, and two case fans. These currently seem to do the job, but they are very noisy. This is annoying enough in general use, but especially so when trying to listen to music of watch a movie. For my next system quietness is going to be a prime consideration.

BIOS Considerations

In the selection of a motherboard, an important consideration may be the capabilities of its BIOS. This would depend on the user's desires and requirements. Back in 2004 I upgraded a failing Pentium 3 system that had been happily supporting two floppy drives through the floppy drive connector. After I had installed a new processor and motherboard, hooked up the old drives, and got into the new BIOS to configure the system, I was startled to find that the new BIOS would support only one drive through the floppy connector. I eventually solved the problem, at least partially, by devoting the floppy connector to a 5 ¼" drive, and connecting an external 3 ½" floppy through a USB port, but this was not exactly where I wanted to be. Another, more recently discovered limitation of the "new" BIOS is that it will not run Windows 98 with more than 1 GB of memory. This might be a problem for a Windows 98 devotee.

So bring your thoughts to the next meeting and we will attempt to generate a list of parts considerations for the different price points. The meeting or two after that, we will discuss the relative merits of different parts that different people think part A should be chosen over part B. Some time after that, if a member of the club wants to purchase all of the parts necessary to build one of the class of computers, I offer to do the assembly at the club meeting. So bring your thoughts and questions to the next meeting and we'll see where this path leads us.

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.

Microsoft Office

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 included the upgrade from Microsoft Office 2003 to Office 2007; using Add–In; e-mail compatibility issues from Office 2003 to Office 2007; installation requirements for installing Office 2007 on a PC using Windows XP as well as one using Vista 2007; PowerPoint 2003 compatibility issues with a slide presentation consisting of an AVI and file viewing. Future meetings may include discussions of OpenOffice.org, a free office suite.

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

Linux Desktop & Administrator

By Bob Ray, SIG Leader

We got off to a late start in our last meeting mainly because we all seemed to needing that "kick-start" cup of that high-octane black stuff that is the main ingredient that makes the whole world go around. So, while we were all checking and waiting for the red light to come on the coffee pot, we filled the first part of our Linux SIG meeting with idle talk about mostly nothingness. You know, the usual stuff: Life, Death, Taxes, the National Debt, etc.

Later on we briefly discussed a variety of subjects. First we did a short introduction to a new monetary system called "bitcoin." This new virtual currency seems to be stirring up a lot of controversy especially in government circles. I won't recap any of the features of this virtual money here other than to say this stuff seems to be catching on and growing in popularity all around the world. I will mention that what is unique to us in the Linux SIG is that all of the software is completely open source and runs on hundreds of Distributed Linux servers. Nobody actually owns any controlling interest other than "all" trading members collectivity as a group. For those of you who would like further information about bit-coin, you can do an Internet search.
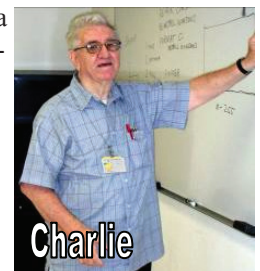
We did some tinkering around with Debian 6.0 and we also booted up Fedora 15 for some show-and-tell

These SIGs meet in Science 131 at 9:00 a.m .and 10:30 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.

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

Mobile Computing

By Ben Lochtenbergh, SIG Leader

The July meeting was again well attended, some have become real regulars, others returned from vacation, plus we had some new faces who asked some previously answered questions. I took that as an opportunity to show off the Alarm App again, which I think is so clever. I compared it to the old wind-up alarm clock's reliability; I can still recall hearing my father winding up the alarm clock before bedtime. I, myself have now achieved a level of trust in my Xoom alarm that exceeds my trust of the usual battery operated alarm clock, one that most of us use today. The Xoom alarm went off three times during the SIG session; I handled it matter-of-factly, without letting it interrupt whatever was demonstrated at the time. The HDTV is very handy for this.

Ben

I enjoyed showing off the Translate App. We spoke in different languages into the Xoom tablet, viewed the written text as spoken, viewed the translated text, and then pushed the speaker icon to hear the translated language being spoken. I believe that Apple devices have the same capability using this free Google Translate technology. This is a must-see-to-believe phenomenon; I don't know anyone (personally) doing this today.

The Swype App, which really isn't an Android Market App yet, worked fine. They call it a Beta version; I downloaded it just a few days before the meeting, because I thought it would make a good SIG demonstration. One way to look at it is it's really just another way of entering information into a computer. I hear that people after they learn how to do it, like it very much, and I can see that already after a few tries. I'm still typing this column using the old PC keyboard, but in the future I'll try swiping.

One of our members bought a new Acer tablet and took it to the SIG. So now we have two Android tablets at our SIG (twice as many as before :-). This expands the realm of possibilities of what can be demonstrated in future.

P.S.: It looks like there will not be a Mobile Computing SIG August 7, because yours truly will be on vacation, and no stand-in could be found. September 4 should be another exciting Mobile Computing SIG.

This SIG meets in Science 109 at 10:30 am

From the Desk of the Membership Chairman

By Ben Lochtenbergh, bal@msn.com

It is with great sadness that I heard that member Bill Phillips past away. I have pleasant memories chatting with him on several NOCCC Sundays. Bill and his wife Helen were regulars at Bob Dickson's Microsoft Access/VBA SIG. His pleasant personality will be missed by many I'm sure.

In Loving Memory
William B. Phillips

Entered This Life
November 13, 1934
Atlanta, Illinois

Entered Eternal Life
May 14, 2011
Placentia, California

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures;

I also, I learned some unfortunate news about our illustrious board member, and frequent contributor to the Orange Bytes, Steven Breitbart, he has been diagnosed with lung cancer. He never smoked in this life! We hope that he has a well-known issue that our medical professionals can cure in due time. He is undergoing treatment. We sure would want things to work out for him. He is one of the most valuable members of our club. He is pro-active, easy to work with, and an asset to any organization.

Thanks to Our Members Who Renewed in June 2011

- ☐ John Harding
- ☐ John Johnston
- ☐ Dort La Morte
- ☐ Frank Luer
- ☐ Bill McDaniel
- ☐ Charlie Moore
- ☐ Bill Niles
- ☐ Bob Osaborn

Large File Transfers

By John S. Krill, NOCCC

Problem: Sending a large file or many files to a recipient. Many e-mail systems do not allow large files to be included or they limit the number of files included in an e-mail.

Solution: Web sites that will allow you to upload a large file where a recipient can then download the file.

This report is only for the free version of each service. All but Microsoft's SkyDrive have upgraded services for a fee.

Note: All the services require that you sign up for the service.

Product	Max File Size	# of Files	Storage Space	Time Limit	# of Download / File
YouSendIt.com	50 MBytes	1 per Transfer	None	7 Days	100
Adobe's Send Now	100 MBytes	1 per Transfer	None	7 Days	100
Microsoft's SkyDrive	100 MBytes	No Limit	25 GBytes	No Limit	No Limit
DropBox	Unknown	Unknown	2 Gbytes	No Limit	Unknown

YouSendIt

This Web site allows the transfer of one file at a time. The file size is limited to 50 Mbytes and the recipients have 7 days to download the file. If you have more than one file then you must repeat the process for each file or ZIP all the files. YouSendIt will e-mail each recipient that a file is waiting for download. Once the download it complete the sender will be notified by e-mail that transfer is complete.

Web Address: www.yousenditnow.com

Pro: Easy to use. Many recipients.
Con: 50 Mbyte file size is too small. Only one file per transfer. Constant pop-up about their upgraded fee service. Constant e-mails requesting you to sign up for an upgrade fee service.

Adobe's SendNow

Adobe's Send Now works in a similar way as YouSendIt but will allow for files of 100 Mbytes max. The service is easy to use. There are no constant requests to upgrade to a fee service. They leave that entirely up to you to decide.

Web Address: www.acrobat.com/sendnow/en/home.html

Pro: Easy to use. 100 Mbyte file size. Many recipients.
Con: 1 file per transfer.

Microsoft Live SkyDrive

In order to use SkyDrive you must have either a Hotmail or Live e-mail account.

SkyDrive is an online storage system that has the ability to allow others to view, modify, and/or download the files you have put online. You decide who has permission to do this by posting e-mail addresses. Once you allow someone access via their e-mail address, you can notify them, via e-mail of the address location of the files they need to download. There is no limit on the number of files the recipient can download nor is there a time limit for accessing the files. At any time, you can disable a person's permission to access your files.

Any type of file can be uploaded. They do provide a special Photos folder that makes it easy to view and download pictures.

Permission to get access to files is via each SkyDrive folder. For example, you may have one folder where the entire world can view and download files and another folder where permission is limited to a few via their e-mail addresses.

I get the impression that Microsoft hasn't decided what direction to go with SkyDrive. Web Address: www.live.com (Select Skydrive from the Menu bar.)

Pro: It's free. 25 Gbytes of storage space. Creating folders, and uploading files was easy. No limit on the number of files a person can download. Uploading files is also an easy process. You can allow anyone access to your files or give only certain people permission via their e-mail address. You can create folders to isolate files in order to limit permissions.

Con: Though the basic system works, there are parts of SkyDrive I couldn't get to work. SkyDrive's automated e-mail function seemed to work but an e-mail was NEVER sent.

Large File Transfers

They have a system of giving your Messenger friends permission to access your files but that didn't appear to work. There is no upgraded fee services. What you see is what you get.

DropBox

This sites works from an application that you install on your computer. Dropbox creates a folder on your computer where you put files you want to transfer to another computer and the DropBox application will upload the files to its web site where they can be downloaded to another computer. I can't tell you more because I didn't have time to use it and really didn't like the idea of Drop-Box controlling the upload of files. If they can control one folder then someone can get access to all your folders through DropBox. Every time someone tells me something can't be done the next day it gets done.

Web Address: www.dropbox.com

Pro: Appears very easy to use. Get 2 Gbytes of online storage for files.
Con: Don't like the idea that Dropbox controls the upload process. I'm old-school and this just doesn't sit well with me. I couldn't find any information on file size limits. They may have none. I just don't know.

Conclusion: If transferring files is your only requirement then I would use Adobe's SendNow. It just works. And it doesn't get in your way.

I do like SkyDrive and have been using it for some time to share files and photos with others. Once I figure everything out or Microsoft fixes some of the functions then it will be an even more useful tool.

Shuttle XS35GT

I connected the machine to my TV with a VGA cable. It sits unobtrusively alongside the TV in the cabinet and delivers a sharp HD quality picture. I plan to use the system to display and work on digital pictures and home video. Of course with a PC there are a lot more possibilities.

The TV by itself can show video and digital pictures, but the capabilities provided are lame. The Shuttle PC with the NVIDIA graphics puts the computer screen on the TV at native resolution and it's virtually silent. Windows 7 displays the pictures and video with high quality at the native aspect ratio. Overall I'm very pleased with the results.

Cost of the system was $417 not including sales tax, rebates, shipping and W7.

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!
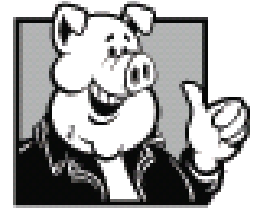
Free coffee & tea at the August meeting!

Donuts $1/Each & Cookies $.25/Each
No Freebies!
Put your dollars & quarters in the collection can.

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Production — Orange Bytes was produced with Adobe In Design® and Microsoft Word ® using the True Type fonts Arial, Bodoni and Times New Roman.

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 Send e-mail address changes to membership@noccc.org

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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	3Years
Individual Member	35	90
Each Additional Family Member	15	45
Full-Time* Enrolled College Student	20	
Enrolled High School Student	15	
*Minimum 12 Semester Hours		
Business Member + Ad (Business Card)	180	
Business Member + Ad (¼ Page, ½ Page)	465	800
Business Member + Ad (Full Page)	1,475	

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

QUICK MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL

Date: _____   I am a new member ☐
          This is a renewal; my membership number is _____

Name _____

Address_____

City _____

State_____ Zip _____ Phone (_____) _____-_____

email_____

Fees: see this page 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

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 even-month meetings, in which members can sell or buy all kinds of computer & software 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 numerous interesting assignments available. As an all-volunteer organization, you can join with other members in a variety of activities: solicit newsletter ads, write articles for our newsletter, conduct a seminar, run a SIG, give a Main Meeting presentation, 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 Reviews/ 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 not free on Sunday, even if the gate is up. **However, the permit vending machine is about 100 feet south of the entry area. There are other machines elsewhere in the lot.** Find one, buy a permit, and put it on your dashboard. 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. For more information, see the Transportation Information section.

Orange Bytes