Orange Bytes

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

Main Meeting, February 5

**Garrett McAllister of New Horizons Computer Learning Centers will give
a presentation on iPhone, iTouch, iPad, & Apple Computers. (See page 3)**

**Big prizes for our February raffles
(such as a Blu-Ray DVD Burner & an Asus DVD Burner) (See page 4)**

January raffle winners' pix (Page 17)

We will have a Consignment Table and E-Waste Collection during the Feb. 2012 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++.

Come, Care, and Share................................Science 109
Any computer-related topics you want to discuss. Social Networking.

Beginners Digital Photography……...........Science 131A
Topics about digital photography.

Microsoft Word, Excel, and Outlook…….…Science 306
Three parts of the Microsoft Office Suite plus Open Office.

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

10:30 a.m.

Beginners PC Q & A .... Irvine Hall
Building your own PC and other topics!

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

Access/Excel VBA………………….…………Science 306
Access & Excel VBA code.

10:30 a.m.

Advanced Digital Photography………………..Science 131A
Flameblots and loose ends relating to modern auto-focus cameras.

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

Mobile Computing.... …….............................Science 109
This SIG discusses mobile devices.

12:00 Noon

PIG SIG…………………………..……...Hashinger Courtyard

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

12:30 p.m.

Advanced PC Q & A…………………….......….……Irvine Hall
PC hardware & software topics and the Internet.

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

**NOCCC website:
http://www.noccc.org**

Future Meeting Dates in 2012:

Mar. 4, Apr. 1, May 6

Table of Contents

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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"

Our speaker, Garrett McAllister, is an Account Executive at New Horizons Computer Learning Centers of California. His profile is on LinkedIn: http://www.linkedin.com/pub/garrett-mcallister/30/61b/140. His presentation will cover Apple products iPhone, iPad, iTouch, and computers.

## President's Message

By Jim Sanders, NOCCC

S o, 2011 is history, and we have had our first meeting of 2012.

April is only two months away, and that will mark the **36th anniversary of the founding of the club**. For all but a few months of that time, **Chapman University** has been our host. Actually, for a great deal of the time Chapman College was our host. When Chapman first changed its designation to University from College, at least one club member was overheard commenting "My are they putting on airs." I have to admit that at the time I did not know what distinguished one from the other, and decided I should look it up. This is what you can find on Dictionary.com today: "an institution of learning of the highest level, having a college of liberal arts and a program of graduate studies together with several professional schools, as of theology, law, medicine, and engineering, and authorized to confer both undergraduate and graduate degrees. Continental European universities usually have only graduate or professional schools." Clearly, Chapman University meets those criteria.

The reason that I bring this up, is that at the January board meeting, John Heenan, your Treasurer, keeper of the database, person that picks up the mail from our P. O. Box, and all-around good guy, handed me some mail addressed to the president of the North Orange County Computer Club. One was a Christmas card from the President of the University, James L. Doty,

highlighting Chapman's 150th anniversary. The second contained a nice cover letter that said in part, "It is my great pleasure to present to you the first issue of Chapman University Pillars – a newsletter dedicated to recognizing Chapman's most generous supporters." It is nice to be included amongst that august group, even though compared to the donations of some of Chapman's supporters, NOCCC is pretty small potatoes. Still, as a thank you for the wonderful facilities that are made available to the club, we have made a number scholarship donations to deserving students and, over the years, that has added up to a respectable sum.

The newsletter itself was a very nice four page full color piece. Amongst the several included photos, was one of the Women of Chapman presenting a check for $250,000 to the University. The third piece of mail contained a very attractive Christmas tree ornament commemorating the 150th anniversary of the University.
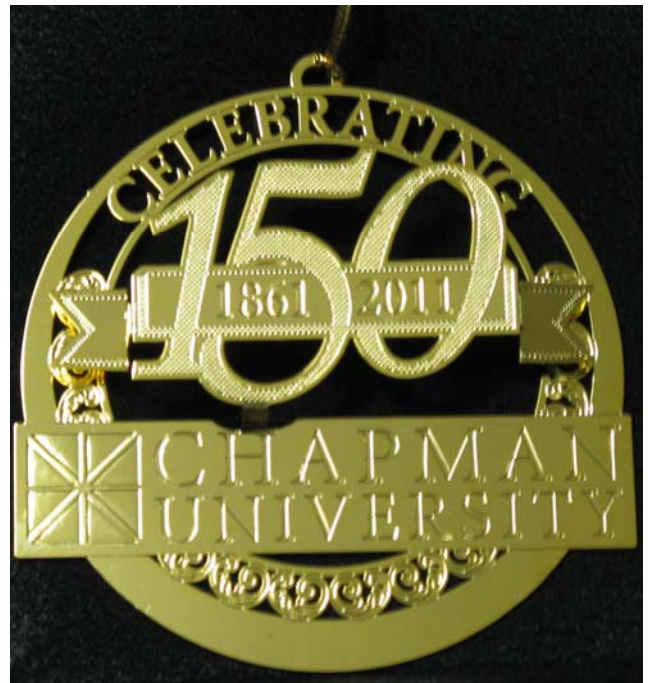
As long as I'm talking about time, I would like to remind you that the annual elections are not that long away. Come June, we will be having our annual elections. There is a possibility that we may have a real crisis on our hands if some of you do not step forward in support of your club and volunteer to run for some of the offices. **I have been President long enough, and for several reasons choose not to do it again.** As has been noted, the office of VP is currently vacant. John Heenan has said, again, that he would like to retire from the office of Treasurer. Simply put, the club cannot function without officers. A real possibility if these positions cannot be filled is that the club will have to be disbanded. I would really hate to see that happen, but far too few volunteers have been carrying the load for far too long a time. So think about it. Decide what you would like to have happen. **See you next month.**

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 2012** 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 FEBRARY 2012 CLUB RAFFLES

GENERAL DRAWING PRIZES*:
- ❖ LG Blu-Ray DVD Burner
- ❖ 100 iHome Web Cam
- ❖ Logitec LS11 speakers
- ❖ Plus other goodies

* 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!**)

- ❖ Asus DVD Burner
- ❖ Extech DMM Test Kit
- ❖ iHome Web Cam
- ❖ Plus other goodies

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 **February 2012** 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%.

3) **You can fill out a Consignment Table User List and item tags at the table:** The user list and each tag must contain:
   a) Seller's name
   b) Seller's NOCCC membership number
   c) Item name and description
   d) Item asking price

4) The seller may pick up all items and/or money at any time, but **no later than 2 p.m. on the day of sale**. Any items and/or money not picked up by 2 p.m. will become the property of NOCCC and will be subject to disposal at the Club's discretion. The club has no storage room available for unsold items

5) NOCCC is NOT RESPONSIBLE in any way for items bought and/or sold at the Consignment Table. Each item is placed and sold on an AS-IS BASIS.

E-Waste 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 February.
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.
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Public Relations.
    Open
University Liaison
Jim Sanders...............................544-3589.................... president@noccc.org
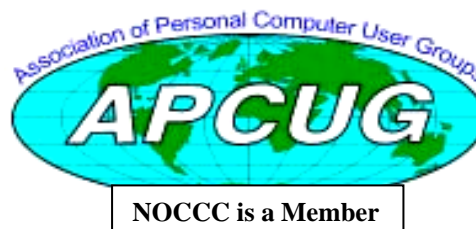
NOCCC Help Volunteers

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.

Subject	Name	Phone	Contact
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
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	aec@cclift.com	(909) 860-9515
Come and Share	Science	109	9:00	Dr. Patricia Adelekan	p_adelekan@yahoo.com	(714) 628-9844
Word, Excel, & Outlook	Science	306	10:30	Tia Christian	lwilliams_00@yahoo.com	(714) 263-6105
Mobile Computing	Science	109	10:30	Ben Lochtenbergh	bal@msn.com	(949) 653-2545
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
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.

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

Word Tips

Displaying the AutoShapes Menu

If you have used Word for any length of time, chances are pretty good that you are already familiar with AutoShapes and how to use them in your document. If you have quite a few AutoShapes to insert in a document, you may find it handy to work with a floating AutoShapes menu instead of using the AutoShapes option on the Drawing toolbar. There are two ways you can display the floating AutoShapes menu. The first involves the use of the Drawing toolbar to get started:

1. Display the Drawing toolbar. (Click on the Drawing option on the Standard toolbar.)
2. Click on the AutoShapes option on the Drawing toolbar. The AutoShapes menu appears.
3. Position the mouse pointer over the bar at the top of the AutoShapes menu.
4. Click and drag the AutoShapes menu away from the Drawing toolbar.
5. Release the mouse button. You now have a floating AutoShapes menu.

The other method of displaying the floating AutoShapes menu is even a bit simpler:

1. Choose Picture from the Insert menu. Word displays a submenu.
2. Choose AutoShapes from the submenu. Word displays both the Drawing toolbar and the floating AutoShapes menu.

Understanding Frames and Text Boxes

If you are a relatively new user of Word, you may not be familiar with the term *frame*. Prior to Word 95, the only way to place boxed text in a document, independent of the main document text, was to use a frame. In Word 97, Microsoft made the switch and focused almost exclusively on text boxes. In modern versions of Word, if you want to insert a frame, you need to either customize your toolbars or go through a rather convoluted process. This is described in a previous issue of *WordTips*.

The relationship between frames and text boxes may be confusing to some people. Why, for instance, should one be used in preference to the other? If text boxes are the latest-and-greatest thing, then why didn't Microsoft simply make frames more robust rather than come out with text boxes in addition to frames?

According to Microsoft sources, even though frames continue to be available in the latest versions of Word, in most cases you should use a text box in preference to a frame. Text boxes provide nearly all the advantages of frames, along with many additional advantages. For example, text boxes allow you to do the following, which cannot be done directly with frames:

- Create links that allow text to flow from one text box to another.
- Create watermarks.
- Use most of the formatting options on the Drawing toolbar, including 3-D effects, shadows, border styles, colors, fills, and backgrounds.
- Select from a greater variety of text-wrapping options.
- Change the orientation of text within a text box.
- Group text boxes together and collectively change their alignment or distribution.

This is not to say that text boxes are suitable for all uses. Indeed, text boxes cannot handle some Word features, which are available in frames. You should use frames if you want to use text that contains the following:

- Comments (annotations).
- Footnotes.
- Some fields, such as AutoNum, AutoNumLgl, AutoNumOut, TC, TOC, RD, XE, TA, and TOA.

The upshot of all this is that you need to carefully consider how you will be using your frames or text boxes in order to determine which is the best for you. If you are still in doubt, you can always start with a text box and later convert it to a frame, if you discover you can't do what you want.

Automatically Saving Changes to Defaults

Many configuration changes that you make to Word are stored in a special template called Normal.dot. This template is used to help create new, blank documents and to define some of the system-wide settings used by Word. As you make changes to these settings, Word marks Normal.dot as "dirty" so that it will be saved when you exit the program.

By default, Word saves Normal.dot without any notification to you. However, you may want notification. Why? In case there were some changes done without your explicit action—for instance, by running a macro. If you want Word to notify you when it is about to save Normal.dot, follow these steps:

1. Choose Options from the Tools menu. Word displays the Options dialog box.
2. Make sure the Save tab is selected. (See Figure 1.)
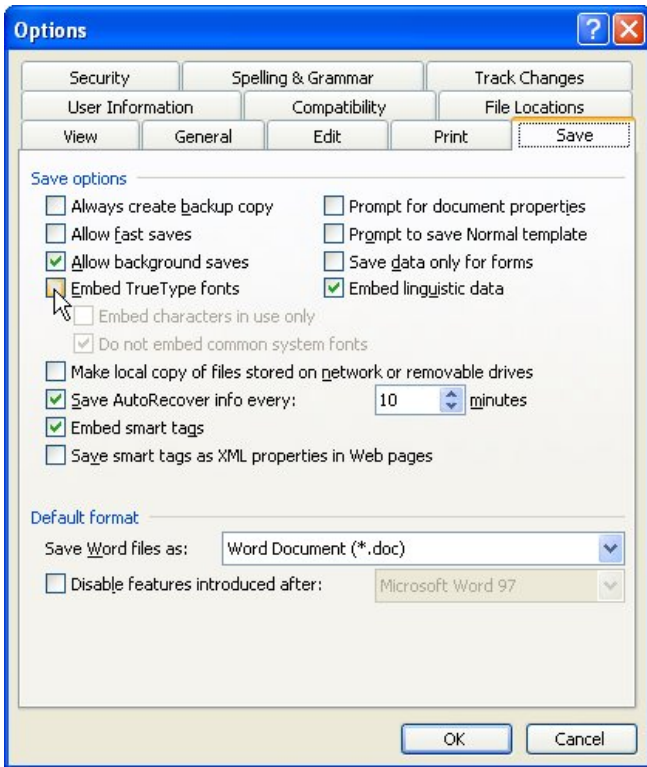
Figure 1. The Save tab of the Options dialog box.

3. Make sure the Prompt to Save Normal Template check box is selected.
4. Click on OK.

Creating a Numbered List

Numbered lists are used quite extensively in many types of documents. For instance, numbered lists are used extensively in *WordTips* to detail the steps that must be followed to implement a tip. Word makes it very easy to insert a numbered list into your document. To do so, follow these steps:

1. Type your list, only pressing **Enter** at the end of each item in the list. If an item runs more than one line, do not press **Enter** at the end of each line (let the text wrap to the next line automatically).
2. Select all the items (paragraphs) in the list.
3. Click on the numbered list tool on the Formatting toolbar.

Quickly Displaying Formatting Specs

There may be times when you want to quickly determine what the formatting is that is applied to either a character or a paragraph. Word allows you to quickly view this information by following these steps if you are using Word 97 or Word 2000:

1. Press **Shift**+**F1** or choose What's This? from the Help menu. This causes the mouse pointer to change to an arrow with a question mark beside it.
2. Point to the character or paragraph in question and click the mouse button.

Word displays a "balloon" that looks like the dialog balloons used in some cartoons. The balloon contains detailed information about the formatting of the character you pointed to, as well as the paragraph in which the character appears. You now have two options:

- Click on a different character to see more formatting information.
- Press **Esc** to make the balloons go away and return the mouse pointer to normal.

If you are using Word 2002 or Word 2003, simply select some text or place the insertion point within a word. Press **Shift**+**F1** and the Reveal Formatting pane appears at the right side of the screen. This pane shows the formatting applied to the text you select in the main portion of the screen. When you are done reviewing the information in the Reveal Formatting pane, you can close it just as you would any other pane.

Moving Drawing Objects

Other issues of *WordTips* present different ways to create various objects using the Drawing toolbar. If you want to change the positioning of these objects once they are placed in your document, you can do so in this manner:

1. Using the mouse, point to the shape you want to move, and click on it. Word places small square boxes called *handles* around the shape. (See Figure 2.)
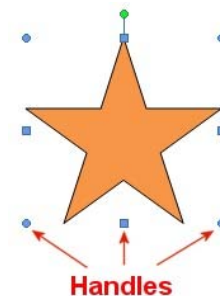
Figure 2. A selected drawing object has handles around it.

2. Using the mouse, point to the object. The mouse pointer should turn into a four-headed arrow.
3. Click and hold down the mouse button. Drag the object to the position desired.
4. Release the mouse button.

Excel Tips

Unwanted Data Changes

Have you ever been typing data into a worksheet, only to look back and find that Excel had made changes to words or letters you entered. For instance, you may have a client named Hempstead-Gorton Enterprises, and you enter their initials into a cell as HGE. When you press the space bar or move to another cell, Excel changes the initials to HE.

This is one of those cases where Excel is second-guessing you and is doing a poor job of it. What is happening is that AutoCorrect is kicking into play, and sees HGE as a common typing error. Thinking that you meant to type "he," AutoCorrect makes the change for you.

If such unwanted changes are giving you the fits, you can follow these steps to correct the problem:

1. Choose AutoCorrect Options from the Tools menu. Excel displays the AutoCorrect tab of the AutoCorrect dialog box. (See Figure 3.)
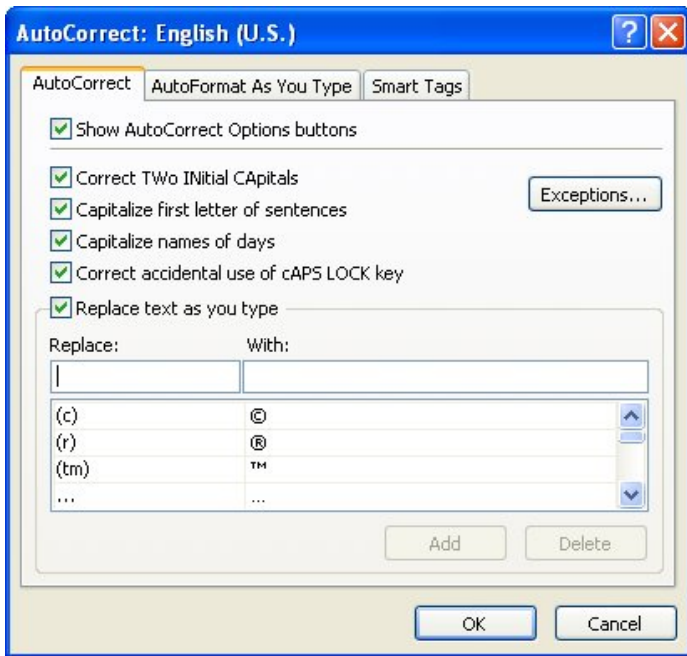
Figure 3. The AutoCorrect tab of the AutoCorrect dialog box.

2. At the bottom of the dialog box you see a list of AutoCorrect entries. Scroll through the list and select the one that is giving you problems. For instance, if you don't want "hge" corrected to "he," then locate and select the entry that has "hge" on the left and "he" on the right.

3. Click Delete.
4. If there are other entries you need to remove, repeat steps 2 and 3 for each of them.
5. Click OK to dismiss the AutoCorrect dialog box.

Now you can type away without Excel incorrectly changing your acronym.

Fixing the Decimal Point

Most electronic calculators have an option that allows you to specify a fixed location for a decimal point. This comes in real handy when you are working with dollars and cents, for instances. With the decimal point fixed at two places, you can enter "213" and have the calculator translate it as "2.13". Likewise, if you enter "2", the calculator translates it as "0.02".

Excel has a feature that allows you to do the same thing. To fix the number of decimal places assumed when inputting information, follow these steps if you are using Excel 2007:

1. Click the Office button and then click Excel Options. Excel displays the Excel Options dialog box.
2. At the left of the dialog box click Advanced.
3. Under Editing Options, make sure that the check box for "Automatically Insert a Decimal Point" is selected. (See Figure 4.)
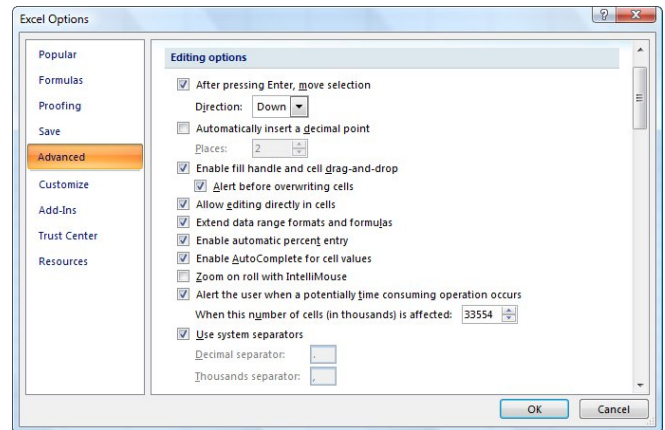

Figure 4. The advanced options of the Excel Options dialog box.

4. Using the Places control, specify how many decimal places Excel should assume.
5. Click the OK button.

If you are using an older version of Excel, follow these steps instead:

1. Choose Options from the Tools menu. Excel displays the Options dialog box.
2. Make sure the Edit tab is selected. (See Figure 5.)

Figure 5. The Edit tab of the Options dialog box.
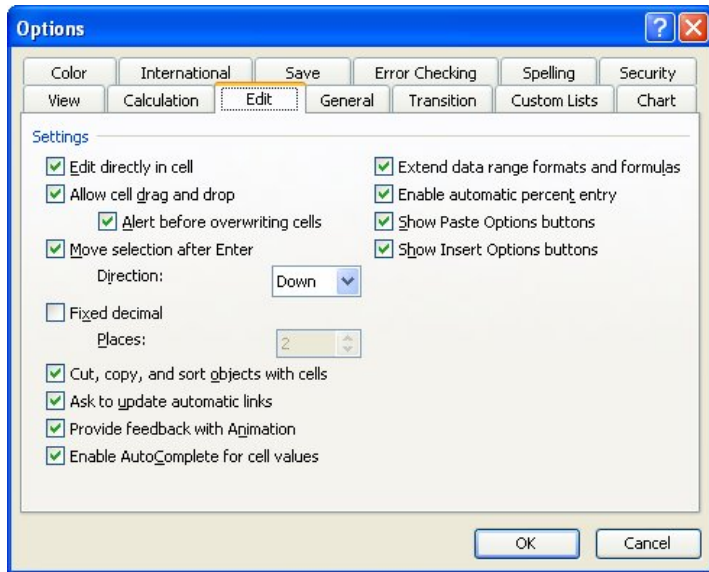
3. Make sure the Fixed Decimal check box is selected.
4. Using the Places control, specify how many decimal places Excel should assume.
5. Click OK.

Tombstone Date Math

Robert loves to work on genealogy. Sometimes when he finds an older cemetery, instead of the birth and death dates being visible on a tombstone, just one date is visible and an age. For example, "born: Jan 18, 1801, died 81 yrs, 11 mths, 17 days" or "age: 93 yrs, 8 mths, 22 days, died March 18, 1901." Robert is wondering if there is any way to calculate the missing date to the day.

There is a way to do this, but it doesn't involve the use of regular worksheet functions. While Excel includes a rich assortment of worksheet functions that allow you to manipulate dates, the "basis date" for Excel is January 1, 1901; this is the date from which all dates are calculated. (You can change the basis date, but only by three years, to 1904. This capability is provided for compatibility with Excel on the Mac.) This means that older dates—such as those you would find in the cemetery for genealogy purposes—can't be directly calculated in Excel.

Fortunately, VBA doesn't have this limitation. This means that you can easily create a user-defined function (a macro) that will do the math for you. Start by placing the starting date (either birth or death date) in cell B1. Then, in cells B2:B4 enter the number of years, months, and days by which you want to adjust the starting date. Thus, if B1 contains a birth date, then cells B2:B4 should be positive (you want to add them to the starting date). If B1 contains a death date, then B2:B4 should be negative (you want to subtract them from the starting date).

Then, create this macro:

```
Function FindDate(Start As Date, iYrs As Integer, _
```

iMths As Integer, iDays As Integer)

```
  Application.Volatile
  Dim D As Date

  D = DateAdd("yyyy", iYrs, Start)
  D = DateAdd("m", iMths, D)
  D = DateAdd("d", iDays, D)

  FindDate = Format(D, "m/d/yyyy")
End Function
```

In whatever cell you want to display the calculated date you can enter the following formula:

=FindDate(B1,B2,B3,B4)

The result of the function is a formatted date that represents the start date adjusted by the years, months, and days you specify. So if cell B1 contains 1/18/1801, cell B2 contains 81, cell B3 contains 11, and cell B4 contains 17, then the function will return 1/4/1883. Similarly, if cell B1 contains 3/18/1901, cell B2 contains -93, cell B3 contains -8, and cell B4 contains -22, then the result returned will be 6/26/1807.

Selective Summing

Excel contains a built-in function that allows you to easily specify which values should be summed from a column. This function, SUMIF, is used in the following manner:

=SUMIF(Testrange,Test,Sumrange)

In this usage, SUMIF uses three arguments. The first is the range of cells to be tested, the second is the test to use, and the third is the cells from which the sums are to be pulled. For instance, let's say that the cells in B2 through B27 contained days of the week (Monday, Tuesday, etc.), and that cells C2 through C27 contained the gross sales generated on those days. If you wanted to only get a sum for the sales on Mondays, you could use the following formula, perhaps in cell C28:

=SUMIF(B2:B27,"Monday",C2:C27)

This examines B2 through B27 and checks if the cell contains the text "Monday." If it does, then the corresponding cell is selected from C2 through C27 and added to the sum.

If you wanted to quickly pull sales totals for different days, you could modify the above scenario just a bit. All you would need to do is place the day on which you want to sum in cell B28. Then, in cell C28 you would place the following formula:

=SUMIF(B2:B27,B28,C2:C27)

Now the test for SUMIF is taken from cell B28. Thus, if B28 contains "Monday," then the sum will reflect the total of Monday's sales. If it contains "Wednesday," then Wednesday's sales will be summed, and so forth.

Ed's Tips

Avoid Hard Sells with New PC Purchase

QUESTION: We're ready to purchase a new PC and want to be ready for any "hard sells". What should we look out for?

http://edwardns.com/blog/avoid-hard-sells-with-new-pc-purchase

Copying and Pasting

QUESTION: Occasionally I want to forward only a portion of an email message. What's the best way to do that?

http://edwardns.com/blog/copying-and-pasting

How to Recover From Lost Password

QUESTION: I have an older Windows XP computer and when I went to turn it on I realized that I had forgotten the user password. Is there a way to recover the password?

http://edwardns.com/blog/how-to-recover-from-lost-password

Should I Purchase A Warranty?

QUESTION: I'm in need of a new printer since my current one has started making a terrible noise and it won't let me do anything. Should I pay for an extended warranty this time?

http://edwardns.com/blog/should-i-purchase-a-warranty

Microsoft

Beware Of "Confirm Your Account" Scams

One common phishing scam asks you to confirm your user name and password to maintain an account. See an example of this type of scam and learn how to avoid it:
http://blogs.msdn.com/b/securitytipstalk/archive/2011/11/01/beware-of-confirm-your-account-scams.aspx

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.

Preparing a Review or Article for the NOCCC Orange Bytes

By Steven Breitbart, NOCCC

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

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

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

The NOCCC Reviews Editor, Ted Littman, (714) 779-1936, reviews@noccc.org 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. 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

Reviews Editor's Corner

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 the next page.

Books

Operating Systems & Computing

Computers for Seniors for Dummies – Choosing the right computer and learning how to use it. By Nancy Muir from Wiley. MSRP=$25.

Social Networking & Internet

New: The Internet for Dummies – Authored b7 Levine & Young from Wiley. MSRP=$25.

Twitter for Dummies – How to connect with others in 140 characters. Book by Fitton, Gruen, & Poston from Wiley. MSRP=$22.

New: Twitter Marketing for Dummies – Use Twitter to build your network, spread your message, & communicate with your customers. By Kyle Lacy from Wiley. MSRP=$25.

New: LinkedIn for Dummies – How to join & use the largest online network for professionals. By Joel Elad from Wiley. MSRP=$25.

New: Mom Blogging for Dummies – Learn how to set up your blog and use it to sell your products & services. From Wendy Piersall from Wiley. MSRP=$25.

New: The Back Channel – How audiences are using social media & changing presentations forever authored by Cliff Atkins. From New Riders. MSRP=$35.

Mining the Social Web – Analyzing data from social media sites by Matthew Russell. From O'Reilly. MSRP=$40.

Digital Photography & Design

New: Adobe Photoshop Elements 10 Classroom in a Book – The official training workbook from Adobe Systems. From Adobe Press/Peachpit Press. MSRP=$45.

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.

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

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

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.
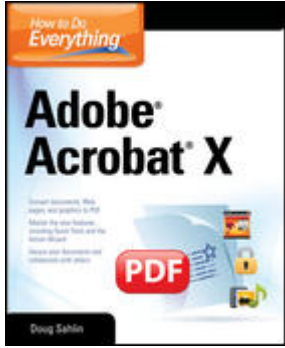
> **I never teach my pupils. I only attempt to provide the conditions in which they can learn.**
> **Benjamin Franklin**

How to Do Everything:
Adobe Acrobat X

Book Review by Ted Littman, NOCCC

Author: Doug Sahlin
Publisher: McGraw Hill, 2011,
ISBN-978-0-07-175293-0, 363 p.

Price: $25 list, $14 at amazon.com.

According to the publisher: *"How to Do Everything: Adobe Acrobat X shows you how to create, secure, optimize, and distribute PDFs. get tips for adding multimedia features, collaborate with other users, streamline document reviews, and collect different file types in a PDF Portfolio. Based on Acrobat X Pro, which includes all the features of Acrobat X Standard and more, this hands-on guide helps you maximize the capabilities of this powerful software in no time."*

The book is organized into three parts: I (2 chapters describing the software's features including what's new in version X), II (5 chapters on creating PDF documents), and III (8 chapters on editing and optimizing PDF documents). It tells you "how to" use just about every feature of Acrobat in a step-by-step manner. It is basically the type of tutorial that might be used in a classroom setting, except that you set the pace in learning the use of Acrobat.

If you have some familiarity with using PDF documents, you can focus on the new features that interest you. In that regard, the book should be useful to those with advanced capabilities as well as novice users.

Before discussing the book further, I should say something about the ubiquitous PDF document format that Adobe invented in the early 1990s. According to Wikipedia (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adobe_Acrobat), "A*dobe Acrobat is a family of application software developed by Adobe Systems to view, create, manipulate, print and manage files in Portable Document Format (PDF). All members of the family, except Adobe Reader (formerly Acrobat Reader), are commercial software, while the latter is available as freeware (vers.10.1) and can be downloaded from Adobe's web site (*http://get.adobe.com/reader/*). Adobe Reader enables users to view and print PDF files, but has negligible PDF creation capabilities. Acrobat and Reader are widely used as a way to present information with a fixed layout similar to a paper publication."*

Screenshots are liberally used throughout the book to aid in following the author's directions. They are in black-and-white and sized large enough to avoid eye strain, even for those readers who are seniors. In addition, there are explanatory highlighted items labeled **Note**, **Tip**, and **Did You Know?** Each

chapter starts with a **How To...** list of the subjects to be covered and concludes with a brief **Summary**.

The book is very reasonably priced for the content provided and should be a useful addition to your reference collection. However, in comparison to several other McGraw-Hill books on computing that I recently reviewed, author Sahlin writing is rather bland and somewhat boring. But, if you want a basic primer on Acrobat X and you prefer book-reading to PC-viewing of the large number of online tutorials, help files, and other free aids (as well as the help files built into the Acrobat software), this book should suit you fine.

In my work as Editor & Publisher of the monthly NOCCC newsletter, I found the book "right up my ally," since the newsletters are created in Microsoft Word and then converted to PDF from within Word. The PDF format is used by our commercial printer to provide us with hard copies that are mailed to our members. We also upgrade the PDFs that are posted in color on our web site by adding internal and external links and other electronic enhancements.

For more information on the book, check out this web site:
http://www.mhprofessional.com/product.php?isbn=0071752935

Facebook: The Missing Manual, 3rd Edition,

Review by Dr. Patricia Adelekan, NOCCC SIG Leader

This is an easy-to-read 271-page paperback reference guide for using virtually every Facebook feature. It is a handy tool. . . a user's guide (that did not come with the site when first created). In it, Vander Veer guides readers step-by-step through creating a Facebook account, adjusting privacy settings, uploading photos, creating and/or joining networks, and more.
Anyone needing a brief guide to the basics will find *The Missing Manual, 3rd edition* helpful; it is an excellent guide for a neophyte Facebook user. For those looking for more thorough information on social media websites, you might decide to use another manual.

E.A. Vander Veer, the author, describes Facebook as a "Free-to-use, wildly popular social networking site . . . a way to connect with other people. . . it combines the best of blogs, online forums, and groups photo sharing, and much more." She explains that tracking the connections its members make with each other, Facebook makes it easy to find and contact people. Further, Vander Veer expertly explains what kinds of things you can do on the site (Facebook) and how to go about doing them, such as:

Social Activities - How to look up (and be looked up by) long-lost friends, school mates, relatives and pals   2) Make new friends.   3) Form groups and event s   4) Make yourself heard 5) Play games   6) Buy and sell stuff and 7) Keep tabs with kids.

Professional Uses - How to market yourself, your product, and your company   1) "Pages" and "Ads" 2) Find a Gig, 3) Find an employee 4) Get-up-to-date information 5) Collaborate.

Each of the 14 chapter deals with different aspects of Facebook as follows:
Ch. 1. Getting Started
Ch. 2. Joining a Network
Ch. 3. Finding and Adding Friends
Ch. 4. Sending Messages to Friends
Ch. 5. Exchanging Automatic Updates
Ch. 6. Participating in Groups
Ch. 7. Facebook and the Real World: In-Person Events
Ch. 8. Going Shopping
Ch. 9. Hiring and Getting Hired
Ch. 10. Advertising on Facebook
Ch. 11. Advertising on Facebook
Ch. 12. Customizing Facebook and Adding Apps
Ch. 13. Playing It Safe: Facebook privacy
Ch. 14. Facebook Mobil
These major headings allow the reader to quickly locate relevant information.
In addition, there is the "Appendix" that describes how to get help: a) "Facebook Help," b) "Getting Help from Other Members," c) "Contacting Facebook," and c) "Useful Facebook-Related Websites."
Finally, there is a detailed "Index" leading to various related topics.

Numerous screenshots accompany the text. A particularly interesting section is her discussion of the Notes application. In it, she describes ways to use Notes, especially how to utilize the feature. The "Notes" section is partitioned off into small rectangle boxes.

A cursory look through the guide reveals that each page is uniquely designed to help you with specific Facebook tasks, such as signing up, networking, shopping, joining groups, finding or filling a job, and a whole lot more. You'll discover how to create your page and make connections with other members in no time -- everybody who went to your school, for example, or those who work at your company or play on your favorite team. Bingo: instant access to the personal and professional details of all the folks you're connected with, the folks they're connected with, and so on, and so on.

Finally, With *Facebook: The Missing Manual*, 3rd Edition, you learn to:
- Join a network, whether it's in your area, or work-related, or based on other interests
- Look up old friends, find new ones, and decide who you'd like to keep track of
- Contact members by poking them, writing on their walls, and sending them gifts

- Get automatic updates from Facebook friends and send updates to them
- Participate in groups of particular interest and hook up with members face-to-face
- Buy and sell using Facebook's uniquely targeted marketplace and classified ads
- Find a job or hire employees by combing through Facebook's member pool
- Use Facebook as a collaboration tool to keep team members, co-workers, clients, and projects up to date
- Play it safe by using a multi-pronged approach to ensuring your privacy

Since the book is a reference tool, with an explicit table of contents and a detailed index, the layout should accommodate people wanting to find answers to specific issues rather than having to read the entire book. I highly recommend it for any neophyte or skeptic user of Facebook. One must settle for the fact that several readings of a selected topic are often necessary to adequately comprehend what the guide explains. Indeed, it is advisable to keep the manual handy while working with Facebook – as a handy reference. The Notes and Tips sections are also highly useful.

For more information:
http://shop.oreilly.com/product/0636920016458.do
List price=$20. At Amazon.com, $14.

Light It, Shoot It, Retouch It
Learn Step by Step How to Go from Empty Studio to Finished
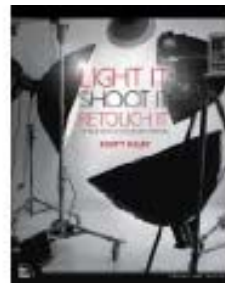
Book Review by John Krill, NOCCC SIG Leader

Image by Scott Kelby
Publisher: New Riders
Pages: 238
Chapters: 13
Price: $46.99 (Amazon: $27.68, Kindle: $19.79)

In 50 years of using a camera, I've owned only two electronic flashes. I won't even go into the flash bulb era. So, to say I'm ignorant in my knowledge of artificial lighting, is an understatement. In my 4 years as a Marine Corps photographer I would go anywhere, do any assignment, but I would do anything to stay out of the studio. So when I was asked to review this book my first though was: Not in a thousand years!

I changed my mind. Why? Because I have two projects that are entirely portrait-based and artificial lighting will be necessary. So here goes.

About The Author Scott Kelby

Scott Kelby has written so many books on photography and Adobe Photoshop that I gave up counting all of them at Amazon. He knows Photoshop. He is one of the most experienced experts on Photoshop. Scott Kelby just knows.

I mention all this because he knows how to write and how to present information in a way we can all understand.

His website is: http://www.scottkelby.com/.

What It Is?

This book is a how-to for setting up a small studio lighting system. It details what equipment to purchase, how to shoot with one, two, and three lights, and the steps the author used to process the images in Adobe Photoshop.

That's it in a nutshell.

How Each Example's Lighting Setup Is Presented

There are 11 different setups using one, two, and three lights and one setup using four lights, where he demonstrates the arrangement of the lights and their power settings and what settings he uses on his camera. He then goes through a step-by-step process of editing the image.

There are also several illustrated photos of each shooting showing the entire studio setup and the posing of the model. One nice thing he does is illustrate each lighting system with an overhead photo and he also removes all the extra clutter, cables mostly, that helps in showing the each layout clearly.

Since the lighting and shooting steps are fairly straight forward they tend to take up the least time. The major discussion is on using Photoshop. This is usually a long explanation for each step in creating the perfect image in Photoshop.

Even though most of the book involves using Photoshop, that doesn't take anything away from the lighting and shooting of each shot. All the information you need is presented in a very clear manner.

A Big Bonus

A really great bonus is at the end of the book. He goes through all the lighting setup over again BUT he uses hot shoe flashes. For me this is a big plus. Now I can get started on building a portable studio. This is much less expensive way of starting out in artificial lighting.

And Then There Is That Gear Guide.
Lastly is a complete guide to all the equipment used in the book.

Don't Forget the Extras Online

You can go online and download all the images that they use in the book. **Note:** The book uses RAW images but they only provide high res JPGs online. You can still load the JPGs into the Photoshop RAW editor.

If you have never set up multiple lights and controlled them by one unit (That's me!), then take a look at the video provided.

The link to the photos and the video is:
http://kelbytraining.com/books/lsr.

Just Get Started

Now I need to get online and use the book as a guide and start building my own studio.

Do You Want To Tweet?

By Linda Gonse, Editor / Webmaster, Orange County PC Users' Group, CA; September 2011 issue, Nibbles & Bytes; www.orcopug.org; editor (at) orcopug.org

Many more people are turning to Twitter now that they realize using it is more than announcing your breakfast menu and where you shop for your socks. So, if you are thinking of joining in on this real-time, constantly changing, global communication, but are unfamiliar with some of the jargon, let me help get you started.

When a person writes 140 characters or less in their message box on Twitter and presses **Send**, the message appears in their "timeline" and in e timelines of all the people who have chosen to "follow" that person. The message is called a tweet. You send tweets, get tweets, and read tweets.

When referring to other people on Twitter, the terms "tweeps" or "peeps" are used. I have seen "Twitterers" but that has too many letters to be used much. (No one uses "twits" which would be a negative term not linked to Twitter.)

All of Twitter has been called the "Twittersphere" but again, too many letters to refer to it in a tweet, unless it's in a short tweet. Tweets that you read and enjoy can be forwarded to people who follow you. Forwarded tweets are called Retweets. You can also flag a tweet you write with a hashtag which looks like a pound (weight) symbol. The # symbol plus wordorwordswithnospaces is inserted in a tweet, usually at the end. It allows that tweet to be seen by everyone who searches for that subject; for example: #twitterhumor

Hashtags have other purposes, too, but are not ever necessary to use in a tweet.

I often get breaking news from subjects that "trend" -- this is where a multitude of tweets are sent about the same time and the same subject. These tweets may or may not be marked with hashtags. Trending topics recently were Occupy Wall Street, RIP Steve Jobs, Chaz Bono.

January 8, 2012 Main Meeting Report

By Steven Breitbart, NOCCC; photos by John Krill & BenLo

NOCCC President Jim Sanders first opened the meeting with a bit of club business. Ted Littman, the editor and our club Secretary is looking for help putting together the Orange Bytes, the club newsletter. The whole issue is printed and mailed to members, but it is available in color on the club web site at an earlier date.

Jim also reminded people the club needs a Vice President, one of the officers required by the club. Also, that this current term will be Jim's **absolute last term** as club President. Elections will be held during the June meeting. Please consider joining the Board or running for an office.

Our speaker, Anthony Simonetti, is an Account Executive at New Horizons Computer Learning Centers of California. His profile on LinkedIn at http://www.linkedin.com/pub/anthony-simonetti/9/ba9/7ba describes what types of classes are available at New Horizons: Microsoft, Adobe, Cisco, Citrix, CompTIA, Linux, Novell, Java, VMWare, ITIL, Project Management, Six Sigma, Business Software applications and much more. They are also Microsoft Certified Gold Partner and a Cisco Learning Associate.

The presentation topic was supposed to be about the Internet browser, Google Chrome. However, there were several general questions about search engines. Anthony was able to answer all of the questions from the audience. A web page can appear higher in a list of search results by using Search Engine Optimization (SEO). Essentially you need to include keywords in your website that people will search for. Also, the more links to a particular website from other websites will cause that website to appear higher in the search results.

Google already has a method to promote a website called AdWords, which is a paid service. It puts the ad in the Sponsored Links section at the top of the search results. Anthony said he was once working for a non-profit company and they got a grant from Google for several thousand dollars of free ads.

Google Chrome is an attempt to give people an easier Internet experience. It seems as if Google is trying to combine a browser and a search engine. Chrome is available for Windows, Linux, and Macintosh. The software takes up approximately 1 MB of memory on a hard disk, so it is easy and quick to download and install.

Most features of other popular browsers are present, if not directly accessible from a menu. Chrome presets a clean, uncluttered window to start with. Multiple tabs can be opened and bookmarks can be saved and also imported. Browser history, passwords and default search engines can also be imported. If you want to change anything, such as the home page, font size or you want to access the history list, you need to go through the settings menu, which is represented by a wrench at the right of the address bar. Except the address bar is now called the omnibox and can be used to enter search terms. According to Anthony, it is a faster browser and integrates well with Facebook, Flash, YouTube, and Gmail. He did a demonstration of Firefox versus Chrome side by side downloading his Gmail and Chrome was a bit faster.

Applications can be added. For example, one can get an app to get Chrome to act like Outlook and notify you when you get a new Gmail message. A separate security process is used for each tab, but Anthony acknowledged that Internet Explorer is best for security.

The default search engine can also be changed. You can easily set the search engine to Bing or Yahoo! Other search engines can be used as well, but that was a bit more complicated. You still enter the search terms from the Google Chrome window; you just get search results from the other search engine.

Anthony covered a bit about Google Plus, Google's recent entry into social media. You can "+1" a web page. I suspect this is similar to liking something in Facebook. The more "+1s" a web site has, the higher the site appears in a Google search.

Another interesting meeting. **See you next month.**

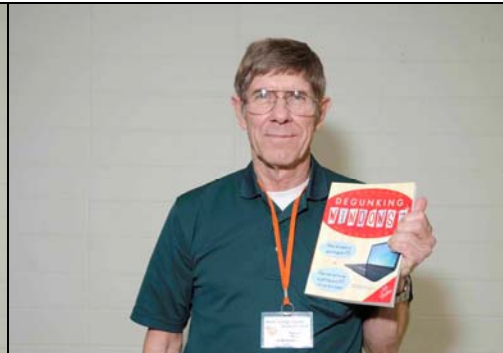# January 8, 2012 Raffle Winners

Photos by John Krill, NOCCC

Bill Van Horn
Blu-Ray DVD Burner

Bob Van Horn
Epson All-in-One Printer

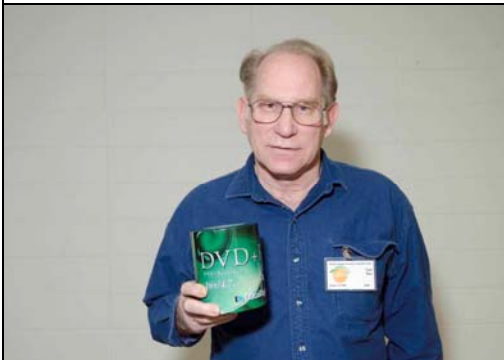
Jim Sanders
Windows 7 Book

Jim Sanders
USB Hub

Dr. Don Armstrong
Screwdriver Set

Line for Raffle Tickets

Carl Rau
DVD Pack

Richard Miller
Flashlight

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!

Beginner's Digital Photography

By John Krill, SIG Leader

A Photo Shooting Holiday

Would anyone be interested in spending an hour or more walking the Chapman campus, taking photos and talking about how we take pictures?

An Update on Buying a Digital Camera

One of the members e-mailed me asking that I recommend a camera to him. He gave me a list of requirements for a camera and asked me to name a camera model. See last month's report for the details.

The Update: Howard Phillips was the member who e-mailed me asking for suggestions for a new digital camera. So what did he buy? It was a *Nikon 1 V1*. He brought it to the meeting. It's an impressive camera.

Now Howard has to show us some really great photos from the camera. You can do it Howard.

It should also be noted that another member brought in a new digital camera and it was the little brother to the Nikon 1 V1. It is the Nikon 1 J1. We think Nikon may have a hit on its hands. Both members really like their Nikon 1. I'm saving for mine (Nikon 1 V1.)

I'm Still Hoping That an Android Pad User Will Volunteer

I would like to demonstrate Adobe's new Photoshop Touch App (http://tv.adobe.com/watch/adobe-touch-apps/what-is-adobe-photoshop-touch/) I will pay you to install the software App on your Android ($10.00). Any one interested?

The February Meeting

Part of the meeting we will continue viewing the instruction video that Larry was showing in this month's Advance Digital Photography SIG meeting.

We may also go outside and show some ways to take interesting pictures.

We may also touch on *Photoshop Elements 10*. I just received it and I still need a bit of time to get used to it.

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.

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.

As 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.

We had 15 members at our SIG meeting.

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 month's photos.

SkyDrive Photos for the December 2011 Club Meeting: http://tinyurl.com/75skc6m

PS: If you saw the actual link to the photos you would think it never ended. It's the longest link I've ever had to deal with. Solution is the TinyURL web site. Give it a really long link and they give you a nice short one. That's the link you see above.

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

Email: noccc.bgphotosig@gmail.com

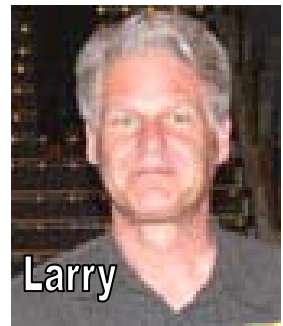*This SIG meets in Science 127 at 9:00 a.m.*

Advanced Digital Photography

By Larry Klees, SIG Leader

Last Month
The topic was auto focus. Auto focus has been improved with a bewildering array of enhancements which also makes it difficult to understand. We discussed multiple focus zones, automatic tracking, focus assist, and focus locking.
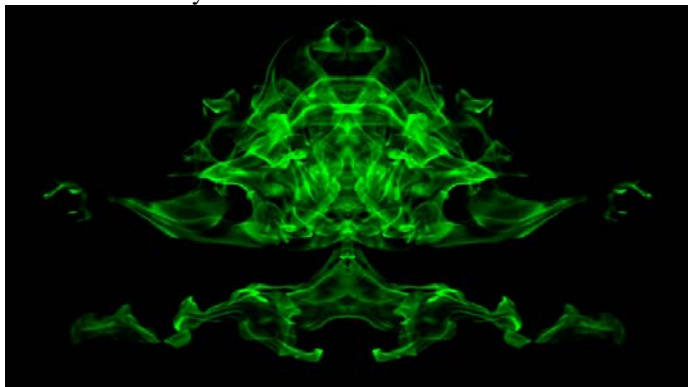
At the February Meeting
We may tie up a few remaining loose ends pertaining to auto focus and

actually experiment with focusing on moving objects (if people bring their cameras).

We will also delve into Flameblots. These are interesting and fun as well as easy to do.

Come, Care, and Share

By Dr. Pat Adelekan, SIG Leader

This is a wonderful 21st Century SIG with the latest tech gadgets/tools and concepts.
In December we had Video/Tech expert and instructor, Terry Cross, and Jack Smith from Boeing in Westminster, CA. They gave A presentation about social media,

its role in changing their lives and ways of communication. Terry, my cousin, recited a poem that he wrote about how hi-tech is here whether we like it or not--that it's a 21st Century phenomenon. And, that a solution to understanding and benefiting from it is through intergenerational projects and activities.
Jan. 4, 2012 brought Anthony Simonetti, a 2010 Chapman University graduate in the field of communications. Anthony is also a sales representative from New Horizon's Computer Learning Center of Southern California. He gave us a "close-up" and "hands-on" with Google Chrome. We all learned a lot and had fun. He was also the guest speaker for the Main Meeting in the afternoon.

At the Feb. 5 Come, Care and Share: We shall focus on "LinkedIn" and "YouTube" and the effect these two Social Media web sites are having on our lives. We shall have a guest expert on Apple products: the iPad, iPod, and iPhone and how these gadgets are also here to stay and the impact they have on our lives, in business and in the world. What's next in Apple? We will see at this SIG.

Ben Lichtenbergh (Leader for the 10:30 a.m. Mobil Computing SIG) will also be our guest at our Come, Care, and Share SIG. I suggest that each attendee do some research on these topics. Go to a computer store and experience "hands-on" there. Gather

information that helps you. I further suggest, if you have not done it yet, create a notebook or scrapbook with some of this information, pictures and photos about the personalities (Steve Jobs, Mark Zuckerberg, etc) and gadgets that are rapidly changing the world and how we live and do business. Before we know it, they will also be obsolete and disappear.
We welcome all NOCCC members and guests to attend this exciting avant-garde and apropos 21st Century SIG.
--

Visual Basic for Applications
(Access/Excel VBA)

By Bob Dickson, SIG Leader

The January session was devoted to reviewing the logic and code in an earlier project written for a church organization. The requirement was to get the functions to work in harmony when certain command buttons were clicked. It can require more than a little testing (which means lots of time) to check out the many combinations that can occur when functions need to occur in a certain sequence and can be turned on or turned off depending on which buttons are clicked in various sequences. This is the 'fun' part of programming but it's necessary if the app is to be used. No new ground was covered but it was 'brain jogging' to get into the code and logic. It's amazing how much that was so clear a little while ago can become so 'rusty' so quickly when not referenced regularly. Work will continue on using sorts and menu items during January so that, hopefully, there will be some new developments in those areas to go over at the February session. Fill your coffee cup, buy a donut, and come up to SCI 306 at 10:30 am and share your knowledge or ask your questions.
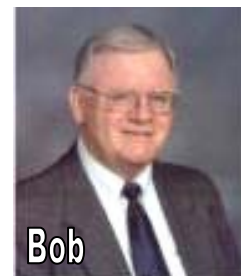
Microsoft Access

By Bob Dickson, SIG Leader

This session was devoted to Helen's Dolls project. During the month I developed a new form and a new report as well as did some work on queries to select a subset of the database depending on data contents in a selected field. This saves having to go through the entire database when only a subset of the data is desired.

Most of the time was spent working with the data itself. This project involves converting Helen's manual records on her dolls collection to a computer database. One of the major efforts for her is to get pictures of every one of the dolls. She did make pictures of all the dolls but needs to rework some of them before the next meeting. Also, the identification number of each doll needs to be verified to the manual records to ensure the data describes the correct doll. The record was adjusted to delete a couple of fields that we decided are no longer needed, and we included a comment field. That's a nice feature of Access: fields

can be included, changed and/or deleted very easily. Helen will manually cross-reference her manual records with the computer-generated numbers during January so we can update the database at the February session. Come up to Sci 306 at noon and let us share your experience or (hopefully) answer your questions.

This SIG meets in Science 306 at Noon.

PC Q&A

By Jim Sanders, SIG Leader

There was very little activity in the January *build your own computer* SIG. However, there are several thoughts that I would like to pass on to the readers of this column. There is a lot to be said for "do it once and do it right" even though that often cost you more money upfront. One personal example of that is the case that I use for my main machine. About 12 years ago I was putting together an upgrade to my computer and wanted a new and better case. I chose a full-size tower case because I wanted lots of expansion room, and I wanted it to be attractive. I ended up choosing a Lian-Li brushed aluminum case that I like the looks of, that is light weight, that intrinsically provides better cooling, that used thumbscrews for most fastening functions, a removable hard disk bay that mounted behind fresh air fans, and a number of other good engineering design features. I think I have had six or seven different motherboards installed this case, at least three if not four different power supplies and several different hard disks and optical disks. With the exception of four of the CD and DVD drives that failed, all the rest of the components were changed because I was upgrading for one reason or another.
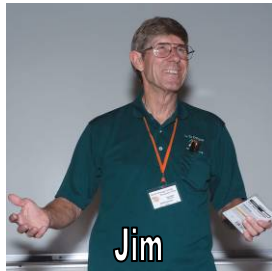
Without exception, the motherboards were changed because I wanted "bigger, better, faster" performance from my computer. Most of the time it was to get a faster CPU chip which usually required newer, faster memory as well. Sometimes it was more than one excuse for doing the upgrade. One was because the latest and greatest high-speed SCSI hard disk controller required a PCI slot that I didn't have. Another was because the ATI Radeon All-in-Wonder video card with television tuner required a later version of the AGP video connector. One was because I wanted USB 2.0 that was built into the motherboard. I could go on with a much longer list of all the different reasons that changes were made. Some of them are justified if for no other reason than I needed to become familiar with the more recent technology. Like a lot of people who make their living working on and with computers, during the day my computer was a tool, and at night it was often a toy (well sometimes during the day as well) and both uses benefited from a spiffier computer. The hard disks were usually changed in order to increase the available capacity (it is a lot easier to buy a bigger hard disk than it is to figure out what old junk to delete in order to gain more space) and sometimes slightly better performance. One power supply

was replaced simply because it was five years old and the cost to replace it represented relatively inexpensive insurance for my main computer. One was replaced because the new CPU chip required more 3.3 V current. One was replaced because the hotdog video card that I purchased required a lot more power and two power connectors just for the video card.

Is there a point to all of that? Well, actually there are several points. One obviously is that for the last 12 years I have not had to pay for an additional computer case and have been happy with the function and appearance of the one I have. Because it is a large generic case, I have always had expansion space to place items in, all of the full-size ATX motherboards fit with room to spare. The ATI 6870 video card is already pretty long, but it could've been 2 inches longer without being a problem. I was able to do incremental improvements to my computer system. A lot of people who simply buy a computer have to deal with at least the minor trauma of having to decide if they should spend the money for a whole new system now, or live with their existing computer even though they are not happy with it. Another aspect of the overall formula is the operating system. When you purchase an OEM system (Dell, HP, Sony etc.) almost without exception you get an OEM version of the OS. Because they sell it to the OEM cheap, the licensing restriction on that OEM copy of the OS is that it can be installed on one motherboard, period! It can be reinstalled on that motherboard if it crashes. It can even be reinstalled on a replacement motherboard that is identical. But at least in theory, if you tried to install it on a new or different motherboard, during the required activation process with Microsoft, the different hardware would be detected and the activation would fail. There are probably some exceptions, but that is the agreement.

On the other hand, if you purchase the retail package version of the OS, whether it is the full version or the upgrade version, you do not have that problem. The licensing agreement is still one operating system license and one computer at a time (it violates the agreement to buy one OS and use its serial number to install it on several different computers at the same time), but the Windows XP serial number that I am using is from one of the 40 copies of the original XP that was given out to NOCCC members after a demonstration by Microsoft at a club meeting. That is the original pre-service pack one version of the installation CD. So I have used that same copy of the OS on the equivalent of more than six different computers over the years. The last time I did an upgrade, the activation failed with an error message saying I had activated my copy of the OS too many times. When I finally got through to a real person at Microsoft, and asked where in the agreement it said there was a limit of X activations, he gave me some song and dance about a glitch in the system and made it work again. Why is that important? Using the "Repair install in-place" procedure, I kept all of my installed software and configuration data when I upgraded to the new motherboards. Granted, that procedure is not a cakewalk, but it sure is easier than trying to reinstall several dozen applications (if you can find the install disks) and configure your hard disk with all of the sub-directories that you are used to and transfer all the data from your old machine to the new.

There is also the small question of quality. I always try and buy

components for computers that I build that have at least two or three year warranties if not more. When it comes to a manufacturer claiming that they are producing a quality product, I consider a long warranty as putting their money where their mouth is. I think you'll find that almost all the OEM brands of computers have a one-year warranty at the maximum. Obviously most of the OEM brand computers run longer than that, but you can bank on the fact that they don't spend any more money on quality components than they figure they statistically have to in order to achieve an acceptable failure rate. So think about some of these points then, bring them to the February meeting for discussion. The February build your own computer SIG will be the last on the topic and then I will switch to something else. **I hope to see you there!**

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.
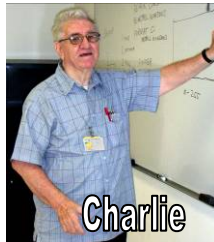
Understanding Operating Systems

Charlie Moore, SIG Leader

This SIG is lead by Charlie Moore and is a continuing discussion group about Operating Systems for computers.
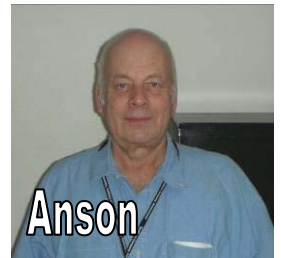
This SIG meets in Science 111 at 10:30 a.m.

Charlie

Linux Desktop & Administrator

By Bob Ray, SIG Leader

We started by doing a general lesser review of the major Linux Distributions (Distros), which included Debian, Ubuntu, and Fedora. I might add a note here that these reviews have been done many times in the past. However, these distributions are a moving target and are continually being enhanced, updated and upgraded (in a big and major way). I attempted to make a general comparison among these distributions; the strengths, weaknesses, advantages, and disadvantages, etc., of each. A complete and thorough review of these Linux Distributions is no small task. We will continue examining these systems in the future.

Bob & Duke

We took a look at the Southern California Association Linux Expo known as SCALE, which is being held in Los Angeles close to LAX. This expo is/was scheduled for 3 days in January 2012. Starting Friday Jan 20th thru Sunday the 22nd. There are a hundred (approximately) or so software-type companies participating in this event. We reviewed a published list of these

Expo participants. Every BIG and major software company around the Globe will be represented at this event (Ah! Er! Uh! Except for one?).

We also talked briefly about a couple of new, major, and extremely important additions to the Linux community of software products. OpenShot a video editor, and OpenCAD a computer aided design product. These two are rated in the "Biggie" category, just under Open Office and LibreOffice. Some critics say the addition of these two now make the Linux package a complete system with one stop shopping for all the major and basic needs of Personal, Small Business, and Corporate groups. AND; I will add that you can shop with your fingers and leave your wallet and credits cards safely in your pocket! WARNING to USERS! ("A Functioning Full Brain Required") for proper usage. We will track and follow these packages on our agenda periodically in future meetings.

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

Visual Programming

Anson Chapman, SIG Leader

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

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

Anson

Microsoft Office

Tia Christian, SIG Leader

These sessions are open forums for problems incurred using Microsoft **Word**, **Excel**, **Outlook versions 2003 to 2007, and Open Office** and their resolutions. During these SIG sessions, different topics will be discussed during each session on these four software applications and their functionalities. *Tia welcomes your attendance. The more in attendance, the better the SIG session!*

Tia

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

From the Desk of the Membership Chairman

By Ben Lochtenbergh, bal@msn.com

Muriel Fitzsimmons's flyer promoting NOCCC has been printed and a **stack** is now available at the Irvine Hall table during our Sunday meetings. The plan is to post it on www.noccc.org. Other ways of printing and distribution are being considered and will be implemented.

I've been Membership Chairman for nearly a year now. I've seen the membership count decline from 207 to 176. I've seen members die, members no longer able to walk, and members move out of Orange County but still staying in touch via the Internet. These are the inherent problems of clubs with a faster aging membership rate and a slower adolescent population rate. We've tried a number of things to make attendance and membership more attractive, like raffle tickets for parking, 35th anniversary Polo shirts, and bigger raffle prices like a **Blue-Ray disc burner**. Shifting our focus to the reason why people join, and renew, an important reason is "technical support," and rightly so. There are several SIGs that address this issue. Some problems are: getting personal attention of the SIG leader; what are the other attendees going doing when a question doesn't interest them; and does the leader or anybody know the real answer. Often it's better for a leader to show what he knows, unintended learning may take place, and attendees go home having learned something useful. I had such an experience just talking with John Larson on the bench in front of Irvine Hall. He explained how he backs up a hundred PCs and I changed my methods of backing up to his way. Continuing this idea, many attendees know useful things they could share it they wish. Last year we saw a several club members present at the main 2 PM meeting. This should be encouraged.

Jim Sanders doesn't want to continue his presidency after June 2012. There is no Vice President waiting in the wings. This poses a major problem for our club and membership. None of the members have stepped up to the plate, even though it has been known for many months, if not a year. On the positive side, this is due to the excellent job Jim has been doing for four years now. I think most of us realize that no one can do a better or the same job as Jim. In short, I've qualified it by saying: "**He is the club**!" Now what? Are we going to continue as a club? As it is, we are the largest computer club in the area; it would be a shame if it were to end, or splinter into fractions. Who can lead a board meeting? Who knows Robert's Rules of order? Who has the resources that Jim commands? What are some of these resources?

❖ Rapport with the University, vendors, and news media.
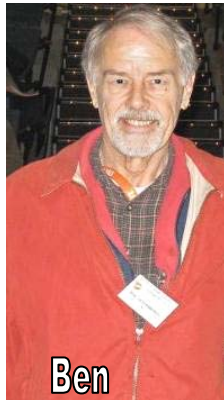
❖ Space to hold board meetings within North Orange County.

❖ Deep knowledge of the history of our club.

❖ A devoted following helping with his delegated tasks.

Who is man enough to take on such task?
A woman? That may even be better!
An outsider? We've not succeeded to 'hire' from within. Could it be a good opportunity for a young person, training to become an industry leader?
Our expectation should be to get less of a performance from your new president, but **the show must go on**, and a surprise can happen.

Jim will not leave the club. He's willing to continue bringing the club's equipment to Irvine Hall. He's willing to avail his house for the club's board meetings. He has not spoken about his willingness to remain the liaison to the University, etc. I think he will continue to lead his computer SIGs, which I believe is one of the major attractions of our club, especially for new members. They can get 'free' advice about their computer issues, as soon as they are a member.

Mobile Computing SIG

By Ben Lochtenbergh, SIG Leader

We entered four more devices into our database, and made some changes to the content during the last meeting. New was the ability to mail **the latest device list** from the database, as part of our SIG's monthly email. Two new people showed up at our SIG saying they would join NOCCC later in the day. And they did! The meeting ran ten minutes over time but nobody seem to mind. Ninety minutes doesn't seem enough, even though we focused on only one app which in a simple way showed the real power of today's mobile computing. **Synchronizing devices**, or sync for short. The PowerPoint presentation was 15 slides, the last slide was a request to download this app onto the member's devices. I wanted to demonstrate how it works during the SIG. As it was, nobody had downloaded it. There were a variety of excuses, the best: "I only had one day to do it." Then again, how many have (dared) to download App so far? Luckily, Richard Miller volunteered his Motorola DROID Global smartphone for downloading the app.

This month's app was the free **OurGroceries**, from www.ourgroceries.com. I was impressed by its implementation. I like their user friendly approach, the efficient flow of information, and ease of navigation. Perhaps the veteran status of the San Franciscan developers was important to me too. For years I've entered our shopping list on small paper sheets. I always told my wife: "**If it is on the list it's almost as good as in the house.**" This worked well.

A year ago I started using a text file on my Droid 2 smartphone. It worked okay, except **only I** could enter and remove items from the list. Well, now we have the best of both worlds. She can add and remove items, like bread, butter, and milk via her **BlackBerry** smartphone, and I can see changes within a minute
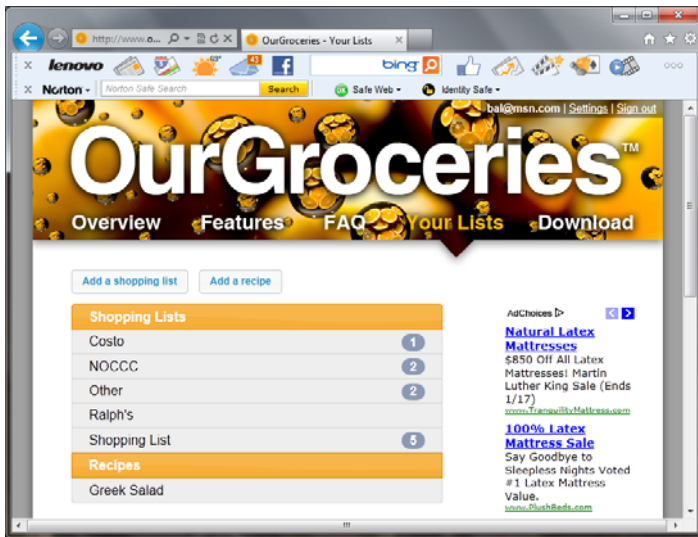
on my Droid 2, and vice versa. Not only that, I can use my Motorola Droid 2 smartphone, my Motorola Xoom tablet, Lenovo tablet PC, and HP desktop PC also can view, add and remove items from OurGroceries Shopping List. Thus we have five devices capable of accessing our lists. Yes, multiple lists are possible with the same account, so we have different lists for specific stores. Using our volunteer's device, we downloaded and installed the OurGroceries app. It showed 3 items by way of example. Next we had his device request my email address to add him to our OurGroceries account. Soon I received the email in my Outlook inbox, and I approved it immediately. In one minute, his device showed all the lists with items my wife and I have.

We added and deleted some items using my tablet PC, which everyone could see on the big screen, and his device showed the results too within a minute. Then I grabbed my Droid 2 smartphone. I created a new list which I named NOCCC. Both the big screen and Richard's device showed the new list within a minute. I added one item by typing Honey. The other devices showed that within a minute. Then, to really show off to the newbies, I added a second item, by **speaking Olive Oil** into my Droid 2 device, which has a build-in microphone. The results, again, showed on the big screen and Richard's in about a minute.

This app has more features which I mentioned only briefly, and new features are to being developed as we speak. The app is free for anyone, but you must accept looking at the ads. About the ads I saw, I found them less objectionable, then the average ad. If one doesn't like to see these ads, you can spend **$4.99 to eliminate ads**. I might do that someday, and thereby support the developers. Looking at the ads, see image, I noticed the relation to my latest online searches. However, I bought the merchandise elsewhere, and I'm waiting for delivery! There are other shopping apps available but I still like this one after a one hour search last week. I'm always happy to learn about a better app if someone knows one.

I just would like to close with thanking our volunteer Richard Miller for sharing his Droid Global, and my son for the inspiring demonstration during my visit over Christmas

This SIG meets in Science 109 at 10:30 am.

The Night before Toastmasters Tech Tools*

T'was the night before Toastmasters when throughout several stores, I searched and I search for Tech Tools galore.
For androids, for notebooks, for iPads 1 and 2.
On Internet web, on Facebook, on TI web & wire;
I searched in person, and, on laptop
Until my Kindle was on fire.
Most members were warm all snug in their beds
While visions of bean dip and cinnamon rolls danced in their heads. Dr. Pat in her turban and Gregorio in his cap - - had just got off their computers and decided to clap.
When all of a sudden in through the door, who should appear?
Wes Hoover, the District Governor with Krish and Mahesh looking for gadgets and gigabytes and connectivity gear.
Then came their driver James Paiget, so lively and quick, he picked up a touch-screen tablet, paid -- and, then split.
From the bottom of the shelves to the top of my shopping cart,
I looked and I searched for Tech Tools so smart. I heard the manager exclaim --as we left to depart: Tech Tools Toastmasters you've really touched our hearts.

Happy New Year !!! WHAT A GREAT WAY TO START!!

*By Linda Jaeckels, DTM , Club Mentor
For Tech Tools Toastmasters Club No. 1#2094157
Anaheim, California, USA, 12/17/2011
This is a Poem about members of the new Tech Tools Toastmasters Club No. 2094157 trying to get used to technology. It reads or recites to the rhythm of "Twas the Night Before Christmas." Reprinted with permission of Linda Jaeckels.

The Tech Tools Toastmaster Club is a fun multi-generational club helping members to learn more about current technology and lessening their fear and intimidation of various technological devices, tools and terms.
The club meets from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on the first Tuesdays of the month at the New Horizon Computer Learning Center of So. Cal, 1900 S. State College Blvd. Ste. 100, Anaheim Ca. 92806.

For more information, please contact:
Dr. Patricia Adelekan, DTM, Coordinator, 714-628-9844,
p_adelekan@yahoo.com
Or Jim Paget, Public Relations, (714)628-9844
jpaget@sbcglobal.net

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 859 leaves San Bernardino destined for Orange County at 8:55 am. For the return trip, train 663 leaves nearby Orange Metrolink at 3:11 pm and train 860 leaves at 5:37 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 January 9, 2011

The NOCCC Board held its regular monthly meeting at President Jim Sanders' residence on Monday, January 9, 2012.

All Board members attended except Dr. Don Armstrong. The Vice President's position is still open. Jim Sanders again reminded us that he will not serve as President beyond his current term and it is imperative that someone volunteer for the open VP job. It has been a long-standing practice for the VP to serve as the next President.

Secretary's Report: given by Ted Littman. The minutes of the December 5th Board meeting published in the January 2012 Orange Bytes was motioned for approval, seconded, and approved by all in attendance.

Treasurer's Report: given by John Heenan. Net income for coffee and donuts/cookies was $4.50. The Raffle earned $60; cost to NOCCC of the prizes was not available. 10 parking stubs were turned in for free raffle tickets. The total unit cost for production/shipping/distribution of the December print newsletter was $1.63. For the period July-Dec. 2011, it averaged $1.55.

Memberships: As of January 1: Regular (1-yr.) = 148, Regular (3-yr.) = 10, Family = 6, College Student = 0, Newsletter = 12; Total of 176 Members. This represents a decrease of four. There were 15 renewals in December and 2 new members on Jan. 8. The Board accepted the Treasurer's report.

Opening & Closing: Richard Miller prepared the coffee. He also got the donuts and cookies. There were no significant problems.

Main Meeting: Anthony Simonetti of New Horizons Computer Learning Centers presentation on Google Chrome was attended by about 36 people. (See the Main Meeting report elsewhere for details.)

Programs: The next Main Meeting is Sunday, February 5th, followed by the BOD meeting on Monday, February 6th at the President's residence. The speaker for February will be Garrett McAllister of New Horizons Computer Learning Centers. He will talk about the iPhone, iTouch, iPad, and Apple computers. A potential speaker for March has been contacted.

Public Relations: Ed Schwartz's column in the Orange County Register, *Stump the PC Club*, has been discontinued.

Publications & Reviews: given by Ted Littman. Two books on social networking were taken for review at the meeting on Sunday. The January newsletter had three reviews by NOCCC members. Two book reviews were received for the February newsletter Ted also urged all newsletter contributors to email their inputs for February to him early as this is another short period between meetings. Several were received today!

Membership: given by Ben Lochtenbergh. Copies of the flyer prepared by Muriel Fitzsimmons for use in publicizing the activities of NOCCC by posting on the bulletin boards of local organizations, schools, etc. were distributed to attendees at the January Main Meeting and the Board Meeting. Ben discussed the issues of our declining membership as well as our concern that we do not yet have a candidate for President following the current term.

Raffles: given by Gerry Resch. In the absence of Gerry, Steven Breitbart did the raffles. Ticket sales brought in $60. Ted donated one book for the raffle and will contribute several books for the Feb. raffles. Jim will purchase the "big" prizes.

SIGs: by Dallas Hazleton. Dallas reported on attendance at the various SIG meetings. Attendance was: Advanced PC Q&A SIG (17), Mobile Computing (9), Come, Care, Share (4), Beginners Digital Photography (13), Mobile Computing (13), Operating Systems (8), Linux (8), Advanced Digital Photography (6), & Beginners PC Q&A (3). The least attended SIGs were Visual Programming (1), Access/Excel VBA (1), and Microsoft Office (2).

Old Business: Nothing to report.

New Business: Richard discussed the problems he had with contacting people at Google regarding obtaining a Main Meeting speaker.

The Board meeting was adjourned at 9:27 PM.

NOCCC Bylaws

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

NOCCC Fee Schedule

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

Membership Level ($)	1 Year	3 Years
Individual Member	35	90
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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 February meeting!

Donuts $1/Each & Cookies $.50/Each
No Freebies!

Put your dollars & quarters in the collection can.

Do You Text?

By Claudia Horack Bristow, President, Hilton Head Computer Club, SC; September 2011 issue, Island Computing www.hhicc.org

In what seems like a relatively short period of time, cell phones have become ubiquitous. There are no age limits for cell phone users. Seniors and more senior seniors use them. Our children and grandchildren seem never to be parted from their phones, which is frequently a good thing. Not only is it fun to chat with the grandkids, calling a grandchild is sometimes the only way I can reach my son!

Some people can't bear to be away from their phones; others only want them for emergencies or travel. Many people I know, and most of my kids, have foregone landlines in favor of cell phones. Some uses are appropriate; others are inconsiderate or dangerous.

Since my kids always have their phones with them, I figured I would be able to reach them more easily. Nope! Kids don't answer their phones these days. However, all is not lost. They respond well to a text message.

Following the principle "if you can't beat them, join 'em," I purchased a cell phone with keyboard. The results have been very gratifying but there IS a problem.

It is all those abbreviations my son uses. Half the time I didn't have a clue what he meant. Some were fairly obvious, like LOL ("lots of love") but wait, it turns out that LOL can, and usually does, mean "laughing out loud." So much for a mother's feel-good interpretation.

As the texting continued, the use of texting slang increased. At first I just asked my son what the acronym meant. But then it occurred to me that I was ruining my "cool" texting image by revealing my ignorance of the language. I began Googling unknown "words." Through Google I discovered that ROFL stands for "rolling on the floor laughing"; BRB stands for "be right back"; BTW is "by the way"; IK is "I know"; AMOF, "as a matter of fact"; HTH, "hope this helps" to name just a few.

By far the quickest way to interpret texting slang is to Google the word but there are also online texting "dictionaries" and articles that are fun to browse.

Here are a few texting slang sites. Check one or two out:
http://www.webopedia.com/quick_ref/textmessageabbreviations.asp
http://textingabbreviations.blogspot.com/
http://www.yourdictionary.com/dictionary-articles/texting-slang.html

Pick out a few of the interesting ones, slip them in your next text, and WOW your kids and grandkids. GL and HF.

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Are You an NOCCC Member?

Consider all that you get with membership and Join Now!

▪ **Meetings**. Keep up with what's going on in the computer world. Hear outstanding industry representatives make presentations of the latest and greatest in computer products.

▪ **Special Interest Groups**. Our SIGs cover a broad spectrum of computer issues. Whether you are a beginner or a power user, attend the lectures and demonstrations, and share your knowledge about computers.

▪ **Raffle Drawings**. We have distributed thousands of dollars worth of hardware, software, and books as prizes at our Main Meeting.

▪ **Consignment Table**. We have a consignment table during 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.