

Licking County Computer Society

Random Bits

L.C.C.S.
P. O. Box 612
Newark, Ohio 43058-0612



2006 General Meetings of LCCS

High Tech Meets High Touch

November 21, 2006

Presented by Lisa Gillispie Written by Ron Sherwood

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High tech meets high touch – that’s how Lisa Gillispie characterized Creative Memories software that she demonstrated at the November general meeting. Creative Memories’ Memory Manager 2.0 provides users with a means to import, organize, journal, enhance, share, create, print and archive digital images. After images are imported into Memory Manager, they may be sorted and organized by various attributes including date taken and tags applied by the user.



In addition to organizing digital images, Memory Manager provides basic editing functions like red-eye correction, cropping, lightening, darkening, and resizing. Once they’re corrected, the images can be shared by creating prints, email attachments, slide shows, or albums and storybooks. It’s the latter two that merge tech with touch. Templates correspond to various albums offered by Creative Memories. This allows users to drag and drop images into the templates, finalizing their arrangements on the computer before printing. Once the prints are made, the user simply inserts them into the album pages.

Creative Memories also offers free downloading of Storybook Creator. With Storybook Creator, users drag and drop photos and add text to one of the many templates available. The “storybook” is then sent to Creative Memories where it is printed and bound into a book.

In addition to software, Creative Memories sells “hardware” in the form of filing systems for photo prints, negatives, and CDs. These are constructed of acid-free materials to provide safe, long-term storage for photo media.

A MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

Random Bits, the newsletter of the Licking County Computer Society, is your publication and it needs the cooperation of all members. Your editor is seeking help from you, the members, for the next four issues. Volunteers have written articles in this, the last issue of 2006, and I’m asking for more volunteers to contribute to the newsletter. The greatest need is for someone to write up the General Meetings. Since there will be three General Meetings in each issue, the articles do not have to be long. Where are those of you with digital cameras? Photos are appreciated and you can send them to me in jpg format. It would be sad to have a speaker and not have an article in Random Bits about the program.

- - - continued on p 2

Next General Meeting

PROGRAMS

February 20, 2007
Gail R. Emelko
Getting Your Inbox to Zero!

March 20, 2007
Georgia Porter

Computerized Sewing

For future monthly General Meeting programs, please go to:

www.lccsohio.org/meeting.htm

Licking County Computer Society Meeting**December 19, 2006**

Presented by Jim Amore Written by Shirley Palmer

Gail Emelko from the Computer Service Groups was scheduled to give her presentation "Getting Your Inbox to Zero" at the December meeting. Unfortunately Gail was unable to attend due to illness. Because we received word of this illness only after the meeting had started, there was no alternative presentation planned. Jim Amore filled in by demonstrating how members of the Computer Society could access the Web Board.



To access the Web Board follow these steps:

lcssohio.org

LINKS (at bottom of page)

LCCS Web Board Forum

Register (in line directly under mountain scene)

Jim will have to process your registration before you can access the material on the Web Board. You will receive a confirmation message from him which includes a link that must be followed to make your account active.

Material on the Web Board conveys much useful information, including the meeting minutes, membership list, new topics, annual conferences, information from members, etc. Additional information is available to Jim and members of the executive committee, such as lists of discounts available to the Society.

A MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR- - continued from p 1

In the past, when software manufacturers sent software for evaluation, there were software reviews in the newsletter. In 2007 it would be nice to again have software reviews. There is so much free software available that I would like to have members select their favorite(s) and write a review. We all have something we have downloaded for free and "can't live without it". Please share your favorites, along with the "pros and cons." with other LCCS members.

It will take some work but we can all share in making Random Bits, your newsletter, a great newsletter in 2007.

Thank You,

Gina Buckey Random Bits Editor g13b@roadrunner.com

LCCS Minutes for Executive Committee Meeting,**November 21, 2006**

Submitted by Kemp O'Dell, Secretary

Attendance: Jim Amore, Jaki Amore, Vicky Atkins, John Dovjak, Kemp O'Dell, Judy Fulton, Jon Luzio, Phyllis Hartroft, Wyn Davies, Dave Bibler, John Theos, and Don Furnish.

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm by President Jim Amore.

Secretary's Report – Executive Meeting Minutes of October 17, 2006 were read by Jim Amore. Motion to accept was made by Jon Luzio, seconded by John Dovjak, and passed.

Treasurer's Report was read by Jim Amore. Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was made by Don Furnish, seconded by Wyn Davies, and passed.

Random Bits – Phyllis Hartroft reported Gina Buckey had computer problems that caused a delay in production.

Teaching committee – Dave Bibler reported that class sign ups have been slow. Jim Amore has had further discussion with C-Tec on students helping out as class aides. Surge protectors were purchased for the classroom computers.

Membership – Renewals have been down, but several have renewed for the annual dinner. Approximately 118 single/family members in good standing.

Works SIG – Mary Frances Rauch will not be able to lead the December meeting. Will bring up for discussion during the General Meeting.

Recycling/Refurbishing Report – John Dovjak reported that Rich Niccum from Kraner Nature Center of Licking Parks District picked up their computer and SCORE has requested a computer.

Nominating Committee – Phyllis Hartroft reported on the Report for the Nominating Committee. Motion to accept was made by Wyndham Davies, seconded by Vicky Atkins. Motion passed.

Per Phyllis Hartroft, Mary Frances Rauch has agreed to accept the appointment of Program Director for 2007. A motion was made to accept this appointment by Phyllis Hartroft and seconded by John Dovjak.

New business – Jim Amore is trying to replace the security light on the A-Frame.

Motion made to adjourn at 5:40 pm by Wyn Davies and seconded by Don Furnish. Motion carried.

Friendship Dinner (for 52 prepaid reservations) followed the Executive Meeting.

SIG REPORTS

Word/Works SIG

Word /Works SIG Leader Mary Frances Rauch

Written by Mary Frances Rauch

There was no December, 2006 Word/Works SIG.

Oct. 18, 2006, Word/Works SIG, Zerger Hall, 9:30 AM

No questions were submitted, so I demonstrated how to "write a few words" on a photo (or picture), and then how to insert that same picture into a WORD document...and send the word document as an attachment in an email. We used the PAINT program in our XP OS. This sparked associated questions which were answered individually in the SIG meeting.

Nov. 15, 2006, Word/Works SIG, Zerger Hall, 9:30 AM

No questions were submitted. As a group we decided to learn how to use WORD or WORKS and create a personal calendar for 2007. We learned how to make a 12-page 2007 calendar, with pictures on EACH page, and personalized with special dates and comments, and a one-page 12-month calendar with a one-picture header.

The calendar template on [Microsoft Picture It!](#) (currently loaded on the student computers) did a fairly good job, although it was tedious and time-consuming. I know we don't all have the same software at home, but if I helped them understand these templates/programs, they can learn at home (just as I am learning it now).

Before I wrote this, I investigated HP site, www.hp.com and was VERY disappointed with some of its flaws and "clumsiness" as you progress through its wizard. I hesitate to use the word "wizard" in this case. The editing tools were a nightmare...and if by some chance you hit the BACK button, it ERASED all your work to that point! It does warn you of this in the "fine print".

I also went to www.microsoft.com and searched through 59 calendar templates looking for a 12-page personalized 2007 calendar that used Word 2000-forward, and had a Sun.-Sat. layout. (Notice that many calendars have Mon.-Sunday layouts.) I found none with 12 pictures, except one that will be usable when Office 2007/Word 2007 markets in early 2007.

My suggestion was, before starting a calendar project, have your pictures cropped, tweaked and downsized to under 1 MB each. Before I made my personal calendar, I made a New Folder on my Desktop and named it *Working Pics*. I resized copies of my originals (12 separate pictures) from 20"x22" down to at least 8"x10". This saved lots of time adjusting while in the Wizard. We suggested that members bring a CD or flash drive with some photos on it or a media card from their digital camera.

Word/Works SIG- - - *continued*

If one of you reading this is willing to be SIG Leader for Word/Works, I am way past ready to step down. Come out of the woodwork and let your light shine!

Digital Imaging SIG

David Clement SIG Leader Written by Ron Sherwood

The December Digital Imaging SIG focused on the use of batch processing to apply common settings to multiple images. Batch processing streamlines the process of applying the same changes to many images by running a "script" of commands saving the user from opening each image individually and applying the commands one at a time.

Using Paint Shop Pro XI, Ron Sherwood demonstrated how to develop a script by applying adjustments to an image and saving the adjustments to a file. The script file is then saved and used to provide the needed instructions for the batch process. Users create scripts by recording edits through the built-in script recorder or from scratch in the Python programming language. For nonprogrammers, the record function provides the easiest method. The user simply starts the script recording, makes changes to an image, and saves the changes to a file. No programming knowledge is needed.

In PSP XI, the batch process command resides on the File menu. Once Batch Process is chosen, the user selects the files to be included, the script to be applied, and where to save modified images. The changed images may be renamed during this process if desired. Then, it's just a matter of starting the processing and waiting for the final results.

Many photo imaging programs allow batch processing. While the details vary with the specific application, the concept is the same: a series of actions stored in a file are applied to multiple images without the need to modify images individually.

NOVICE SIG, REPAIR SIG AND LINUX SIG No Reports

WEB SIG No Meetings November and December

SIG REPORTS - *continued from p 3*

Windows SIG

Phyllis Hartroft and Jon Luzio, SIG Leaders

Written by Phyllis Hartroft

December 2, 2006. This was the first meeting since last June — and you might know, there was a conflict at the last minute. While Jon Luzio and I were setting



up equipment in preparation for the meeting, we turned on the last quarter of the (USC vs UCL)football game on the display monitor. As members began to arrive, they, too, began watching and soon all nine of us were watching the game — see photos. The score was too close to turn off the TV. Most of us were rooting for USC which would mean they would play OSU in the championship game. If UCLA won, Michigan still had a chance to replay OSU. At least one of us wanted the latter.



It was a late start for the meeting but there was no time limit so nothing had to be left out.

Miscellaneous

IE 7 download. This is a free download from Microsoft. It is recommended because of security considerations. It also installs Microsoft Malicious Software Removal Tool.

<http://www.microsoft.com/windows/ie/default.aspx>

Windows Media Player 10. This download from Microsoft is also recommended.

The highlight of the evening was Jon's description of Windows Vista, the new Microsoft operating system. He was using the computer on which Jim Amore had

Windows SIG- - - *continued*

installed a pre-release version of Vista. Jon's demonstration covered the following new or improved features.

1. The "Program Compatibility" Wizard that assists older programs to work in Vista.
2. The "Vista System Health Report" application that analyzes and generates a detailed report on system hardware and the Vista Operating System functionality.
3. The Vista "Data Execution Prevention" that prohibits malicious software from initiating changes in system software.
4. The improved Vista Search application.
5. A brief discussion of "Vista Widgets."
6. And we looked at the new appearance and functionality of Vista folders.

In Memoriam:

Bonnie Pargeon

May 24, 1921-December 5, 2006

We were saddened to read Bonnie's obituary last month in



the Newark Advocate but remembered her with fondness. She was a long-time, dedicated member of our society when it was called Newark Area Computer Club. Sometime in the early to mid

80's, she was elected treasurer and served in that office until 1995, when Ruth Glasmeier took over. As Dave Lantz described her, Bonnie was faithful, rarely missing a meeting. She also had a great sense of humor, a joy to work with.

In recent years, Bonnie was unable to attend many LCCS meetings but, until 2002, she never missed our auctions held in November of each year. There she stocked up on Christmas presents. I wish we had a photo of her with boxes and gadgets piled on the table in front of her.

LCCS MEMBERS SPEAK

2006 NEW FLORIDIANS



August 8, 2006: Brenda Leong and Ron Vagnier are now members of Tampa Bay Computer Society. Here is a picture as they volunteered for the local PBS station WEDU to answer phones. It got the computer user group name announced on the air several times and was a good source of advertising for the TBCS. This is the second time Ron and Brenda have represented TBCS on local television

They took in \$10,155. for the gentleman in the middle of the picture (in the suit). His name is Jonathan Pond. He has tips to help you manage money. The other man in a suit and woman in middle of them were the TV personalities who hosted the show.

All is wonderful here in Florida.
Miss you!! Ron and Brenda

RESCHEDULED

Speaker: Gail R. Emelko Franklin Computer Services Group 4770 Indianola Avenue, Suite 110 Columbus, Ohio 43214.
Topic: Getting Your Inbox to Zero! Well, ok, near zero. Sound impossible? Are you one of the many who have hundreds or even thousands of emails in your inbox? No doubt you've opened an e-mail and thought, "Hmmm, not sure what to do with this. I'll deal with it later!" and promptly closed the message. Developing a new approach to processing your Inbox will help you to gain more control, improve your response time, and keep up with critical actions and due dates. While the demo will revolve around Outlook 2003, the principles apply to all email products. You'll take home more than one tip from this meeting. PLUS, see a sneak preview of Vista and Office 2007, and learn a little about Sharepoint and Groove!

TIP OR TREAT

For Anyone Who likes Music..

Submitted by Mary Frances Rauch

SFSKids site is an enjoyable, entertaining, and educational site found at <http://www.sfskids.org>

This educational site produced for the San Francisco Symphony has activity dates and schedules along with entertaining pages for kids and families who enjoy music.

From **HOME** page, you could click on **SITE MAP** which is good to familiarize newer computer users with the advantages of using a "SITE MAP".

HELP guides you through easy [use of this site](#).

You could click on **RADIO button** which takes you to selections featuring woodwinds, strings, brass and percussion by Britten, Bach, Tchaikovsky, Mahler and Bartok.

THE MUSIC LAB: Easily the most fun parts are the **PERFORMALATOR** and the **COMPOSERIZER**.

Click on **PERFORMALATOR**, turn on your speakers and be sure the NUM Lock key is ON. Click on **START** and "play" the keyboard using numbers pad on computer. Click on "Choose Another Song", and keep going.

Click on **COMPOSERIZER** and write your own short pieces of music by using pre-selected measures from famous composers such as Wolfgang Mozart who long ago created "composing games" such as this for his friends.

Clicking on the **TEMPO tab** is hilarious fun as you increase the Tempo making the drummer go faster and faster.

You don't want to miss clicking on the **RHYTHM tab**, especially #5 and #8.

ATTENTION SKYPE USERS

Submitted by John Kennedy

If any of you downloaded and tried out Skype (voice communicating anywhere in the world from PC to PC, or PC to someones cell or house phone; we saw a demo at a past General Meeting), you need to remember that the **FREE** calls to house/cell phones ended December 31st. PC to PC anywhere in the world is still free, but there's a per minute charge on calls made from your PC to a house phone. The charge is about \$.02 per minute, but there's still time to cash in on the "unlimited PC to land-line calls" for 50% off. The normal price for unlimited calls (PC to land-lines) is \$30 per year. **BUT until January 31st, you can get a whole year of unlimited phone calls for \$14.95.** Visit their web page: <http://www.skype.com/helloagain.html> for more information.

LCCS MEMBERS SPEAK - - - continued from pg 4

A SENIOR CITIZEN ENTERS THE 21st CENTURY

Written by Hedda W. von Goeben

In the Fall of 2005 I purchased a laptop computer, for a person my age a verified admission into the 21st Century. Up until that momentous day I had been an adept freeloader using the computers available in libraries, Internet cafes, hotels and motels with free use Business Centers. I even owned my own disc, albeit an old fashioned tiny black one with its own little paperboard case to slide it into and note what was stored on it. I checked my email in each state I visited, including 2 trips to Alaska, plus Iceland, Australia, and Canada. I didn't have time in Europe, England, South America, or at sea. The latter cost money.



Once I found myself the proud owner of the laptop (selected for my use by an expert in the field) I no longer had to stand in line to use the freebees unless I wanted to. However mysterious events followed my purchase. The little machine s-l-o-w-e-d and s-l-o-w-e-d until I sat at it wondering what I had pushed or clicked on to create such a dramatic change of pace.

And that's where the LCCS came into my life! At a LCCS member's suggestion I joined. On repair night at the A Frame real live computer doctors, with degrees far more valuable than a PhD, stepped up, carried my laptop's ailing body to a table, plugged it in, took its vital signs and started asking questions. In two and a half hours they diagnosed 5 viruses, which were instantly vaulted. (Having had as many viruses myself my heart went out to my little laptop and the agony it had suffered due to my ignorance). I now understood its lack of agility. Its get up and go had got up and went! These wonderful men installed a pace maker (two kinds of AVGs), did prophylactics (scanned the system) rid it of viruses and declared it fit and ready to return to my desk. Which it did.

My advice to ALL — join the LCCS. That small membership fee is an investment into receiving help from knowledgeable people that is unattainable anywhere else. They assist with repairs, list available classes, make the intricacies of computers far less confusing, frustrating and overwhelming. And they are a great group of people! I thank them all!

FROM COMPUTER REFURBISHING TO THE FOOTBALL FIELD

Written by John Dovjak

On the day after Thanksgiving at the Rubber Bowl in Akron, Ohio, Akron University was playing football against Western Michigan I was working for ESPN on the parabolic microphone. The microphone is aimed at the main activity on each play usually starting with the quarterback). I covered the 10 to forty yard line on one end of the field and a second parabolic microphone operator covered the ten to forty yard line on the other end of the field. The microphones pick up the noises Grunts, groans, and signal calling) for each play, the sound is sent to the control booth, and transmitted with the picture (via satellite).



My daughter was the remote operation manager for the telecast. She was having a hard time finding people to work on the day after Thanksgiving and asked me if I would like to do it.

The ESPN channel is not available on cable in Newark but is available via satellite.

FUTURE DIGITAL IMAGING SIGs

Submitted by Dave Clement

For the February meeting I would like everyone to bring in their digital cameras. Also bring photos that you would like to either display or discuss problems with these photos. Then in the month of March I will demonstrate how to transfer your old 35mm slides into digital format! If you are like me, you have hundreds of 35mm slides that you would like to get into some other format.

If you have anything that you would like to show the group or would like to learn some other techniques, please contact me! dvcllementuse@yahoo.com Your input is very important, and it gives us all a chance to learn something new.

Like I always say we will learn together so I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at the Digital Imaging SIG.!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

From October through December 2006

Don E. Grube
Everett McKee
Forest Williams

Sally Lytle
Russell & Charlotte Macy

Phyllis L. McCauley
Chester Reed
Marlene Wolfe

THANK YOU RENEWING MEMBERS

From October through December 2006

Jamison Ables

Bill Anderson

Vicky Atkins

Ken Baker

William Bishop

Carolyn Clark

Dillon Lee Dunlap

Mildred Evans

Norma Franklin

Ted E. Hazelett

George Hreha

John Kennedy

Jon Luzio

Greg Moore

James O'Flaherty

Shirley Palmer

Paul Rauch

Nancy Rowe

Ed Schilling

Ronald Sherwood

Gene Stevenson

John Theos

George Willey

Charles Wilson

Joe and Mary Ann Higginbotham

Jim and Connie Wright

LCCS APPLICATION FORM

Check one: New Membership

Renewal

Please fill out all applicable sections and submit this page to the address shown below.

DATE: _____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____

STATE & ZIP : _____

PHONE NO.: _____

E-MAIL: _____

SINGLE \$24

STUDENT (full-time) \$12

FAMILY \$36

SUSTAINING (life)..... \$250

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Please send your check with this page to:

**Licking County Computer Society
John Kennedy Treasurer
78-B South Westmoor Ave.
Newark, Ohio 43055**

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

- Updated database
- Sent membership card and bylaws
- Sent new member name to RB



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