



March 17th

**Volume 16 Issue 3**

## Glendora Seniors Computer Club

*A Friendly Seniors Group Serving All Computer Skill Levels*

General Meetings: 2nd & 4th Wednesdays of the month at 1:00 p.m.

Board Meetings 2nd Wednesday of the month at 3:00 p.m.



Hello GSCC Members and Friends !

Spring is here, and before we know it, it will be Easter.

We are busy at the Club with presentations and classes. And – I have a correction to make on my February Newsletter

Message: My apologies to Jeannine Foote. She presented a wonderful and informative program on “YouTube” to the Club. I had much positive feedback. The audience really enjoyed her and the way she presented everything so clearly. Thank you again, Jeannine. But, in my last newsletter, I said that she would give a presentation on “Skype”. Sorry, I get confused when I type at midnight! The program on Skype will be given by me on March 23.

We also have some changes in our leadership: Frances Madrigal has health problems, and it is hard for her to attend the meetings and Board Meetings. Frances was our Publicity Chair and wanted someone to replace her. We have a new volunteer for the job: It is Leroy Overstreet. Thank you Leroy ! I am sure he will do a great job.

**PROGRAMS BY: Program Chair:  
Jim Glass**

(All programs subject to change)

March 9th

**Time Management**

**By Bruce Aaranson**

March 23rd

**Skype—Annemarie Hunt**

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Which reminds me: time to thank our new Secretary, Ruthanne Mayrose. She took over from Jean Goff and is filling her big shoes very nicely.

I am glad to see such a good attendance at the meetings. We have had great programs. But, I am always sad when I see how many people leave after the break.

Personally, I find that the “Questions and Answer” sessions and the topics in the latter half of the meeting are also interesting, and you can always learn something from that.

The refreshments have been great: cookies, brownies, homemade goodies. Wonderful.

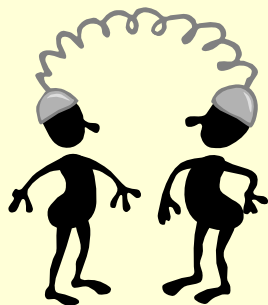
Thank you to all who volunteered to bring goodies, and those who have not yet, raised your hand, maybe next time... lol

We wish Ernie Gagne a speedy recovery. He is in the hospital with an infection and complications from diabetes.

Let us know if you have any concerns or suggestions. You can always talk to us on the Board.

See you again soon

Annemarie



**The Computer Guys**, *Bill Belcher & Ell Fullmer*, will be meeting  
on the

*SECOND Thursday* of the month:

Mar 10, April 14

9:00 a.m. to 12 noon — Second Floor — La Fetra Center

**GSCC Meeting Minutes**  
**February 9, 2011**

**President Annemarie Hunt** opened the meeting at 1:05PM

**President Hunt made the following announcements:**

- Our speaker today was to be Bill Vlahos from InfoWallet.com, however; he was a no-show and consequently our techies, Ell Fulmer and Bill Belcher will take over and “wing it”
- President Hunt read some tips from Smart Computing Magazine on cleaning Keyboards
- She announced that Jeannine Foote is planning a presentation on YouTube
- She thanked Jean Goff for filling in for Secretary, Ruthann Mayrose
- President Hunt then turned the meeting over to Ell Fulmer and Bill Belcher

**President Hunt welcomed new members and visitors;** there was one new member, two visitors and 58 members at the meeting today.

**President Hunt** thanked Joanne Wilner & Rita Norkin for all the delicious goodies they brought. Frances Obler and Phyllis Sain will bring treats to our next meeting.

**Program:** Jim Glass, Program Director, <http://gscclub.org/> Click on NEWSLETTER

Ell Fulmer and Bill Belcher did a fantastic job talking on various subjects including:

- Ell gave an excellent talk about his iPad and explained how it is basically a “Consumption Tool”
- Mr. B talked to the members about speedtest.net and Malwarebytes.org and suggested you not download but run only when you think you need it.
- They both talked about various subjects and gave a superb presentation that was enjoyed by all the members as it was both informative as well as enjoyable.

**Q and A:** Bill Belcher and Ell Fullmer answered questions concerning various subjects including:

What is Java; Java is a programming language and computing platform. There are lots of applications and websites that won't work unless you have Java installed and, yes, you should always update Java.

- Mr. B also showed the members how to open files in various programs, among other subjects.

**Education:** Bill Belcher <http://gscclub.org/> Click on CLASSES

- Mr. B is currently conducting a Class on Photoshop
- Email and the Internet on Thursdays, March 10 through April 28 – 1:PM to 3:PM
- The Digital Darkroom Tuesdays, March 8 through April 26 – 1:PM to 3:PM
- Basic Computer Skills Thursdays, June 9 through July 28 – 1:PM to 3:PM
- Classes are on Tuesdays - Workshops on Saturdays and Beginners Classes conducted by Connie Lang, on Thursdays; *check your Newsletter for detailed information.*

**Other** - The 50/50 was won by Glen Moore

**Adjournment:** President Hunt adjourned the meeting at 3:00PM

**Submitted by:**

Acting Secretary Jean Goff

**Approved By:**

President Annemarie Hunt

### GSCC Meeting Minutes February 23, 2011

**President Annemarie Hunt** opened the meeting at 1:pm

**President Hunt made the following announcements:**

- We are in need of a Publicity Chairperson as Frances Madrigal would like to resign because of health reasons.
- Our meeting today will feature our own members Jeannine Foote and Bill Belcher discussing YouTube.
- Glenn Moore will preside over an auction of some items (CD ROM driver, 2 microphones, DVD writer, a Scanner, Optical Mouse, CD player and software.
- The Club has 135 Members/107 paid, and deadline for 2011 dues is March 1.

**President Hunt welcomed new members and visitors;** there were 55 at the meeting today.

**Program: President Hunt** than turned the meeting over to **Jeannine Foote and Bill Belcher** for their **YouTube** presentation. Jeannine gave an interesting and detailed presentation of the many tools available for working with YouTube including how to Download,

Convert to other Formats, String 2 or more videos, burn to DVD or BlueRay and Upload videos and slide shows for publication. Bill answered technical questions, and Jeannine will post her presentation to the GSCC web page. YouTube is free and available to everyone; you do need a Google Account to Upload to YouTube.

**President Hunt** thanked Jeanine and Bill for the very informative presentation.

**President Hunt** thanked Frances Obler and Phyllis Sain for all the cookies they brought. Wayne Gue and Barbara Denny will bring treats to our next meeting.

**President Hunt** announced that **Leroy Overstreet** would fill the **Publicity Chair**; thank you Leroy. Member Ernie Gagne is at Foothill Press Hospital. March 9<sup>th</sup> Program will be *Time Management* and **Vice President Connie Lang** will preside in President Hunt's absence. March 23<sup>rd</sup> will be a presentation on *Skype* by President Hunt.

**Education:** Bill Belcher gave a brief presentation on Picasa—a Google Photo & Slideshow program he is using and is covering in a current class. There is a need for another class on File Management perhaps in April.

**Asset Management: Glen Moore** conducted the Auction 1) HPDVD writer w/cables \$5 to Jim Glass; 2) Optical Mouse \$2 to Alfred Gonzalez; 3) Microphones 2 @ \$3 to Anne Stutsman and Walt Sain.

**Other** - The 50/50 was won by Lettie Smith \$17.00.

**Adjournment:** President Hunt adjourned the meeting at 3:00 pm

**Submitted by:**

Secretary Ruthann Mayrose

**Approved By:**

President Annemarie Hunt

Thanks for bringing cookies to the Feb 9th Meeting:

Joanne Wilner

Rita Norkin



Thanks for bringing cookies to the Feb 23 Meeting:

Frances Obler

Phyllis Sain

# Computer Classes for 2011

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**Note: All classes are held in the Elm Room of the LaFetra Center**

**Minimum enrollment required – 5 students for each class offering**

## **March and April – Email and the Internet**

Do you want to surf the internet safely? Find what you are searching for quickly and efficiently? Want to print just part of a web page? Do some shopping? Get free stuff? Ever wonder why everyone is fussing about YouTube and Facebook? Find old friends? Make new ones? Make your email behave the way you think it should? Reduce the amount of spam in your inbox? Send and receive attachments without a hassle? Send email to a group of people all at once? Then this is the 8 week class for you.

When: Thursdays, March 10 through April 28 – 1:00 to 3:00 PM

Class fee: \$40.00 paid at least one week prior to start of class.

Limited to 12 students

## **March and April – The Digital Darkroom**

This eight week class is designed to help you get more out of your photo editing projects. Use the powerful editing capabilities in Adobe Photoshop Elements. Use layers and masking techniques to not just edit your pictures, but create digital masterpieces. Create digital collages, montages, and even scrapbooks.

When: Tuesdays, March 8 through April 26 – 1:00 to 3:00 PM

Class fee: \$40.00 paid at least one week prior to start of class.

Limited to 12 students

The student must have a Windows computer, a scanner and printer, and Adobe Photoshop Elements 6 or later software. The student should be familiar with basic photo editing techniques such as cropping, and color and lighting correction.

## June and July – Basic Computer Skills

If you are new to PCs or have been using a PC for a while but want to use it more effectively, then this 8 week course is for you. We will cover the fundamentals starting with how to turn the PC on and off, keyboard and mouse usage, installing and uninstalling applications, beginning word processing, as well as proper file management and maintenance. We will demystify some of those confusing boxes that pop up unexpectedly and throughout the course, we will use the language of computers so that you can understand and even speak a little geek.

When: Thursdays, June 9 through July 28 – 1:00 to 3:00 PM

Class fee: \$40.00 paid at least one week prior to start of class.

Limited to 12 students

The student must have access to his/her own computer and be prepared to practice the techniques learned in this class for at least two hours each week.

## June and July – Advanced Photoshop Elements

Taking the digital darkroom one step farther, this 8 week class will explore advanced layering techniques, brushes, filters, and automation techniques.

When: Tuesdays, June 7 through July 26 – 1:00 to 3:00 PM

Class fee: \$40.00 paid at least one week prior to start of class.

Limited to 12 students

The student must have a Windows computer, a scanner and printer, and Adobe Photoshop Elements 6 or later software. The student should be familiar with the techniques taught in the digital darkroom class

### CERTIFICATION FOR THIS LATEST CPR TECHNIQUE IS NOT REQUIRED.

If you haven't seen this, you should. If you *have* seen it, it won't hurt to see it again. This is a *new CPR technique* which is much simpler.

This is a very important video regarding the latest CPR procedure.

Please watch and forward to your friends and family if you haven't already done so.

You never know, a life may be saved using this new procedure.

<http://tinyurl.com/2fx8r59>

Jim

(Contributed by club member Jim Glass)

## Tips & Tricks

### Smart Computing Tips & Fun Facts

[www.SmartComputing.com/Groups](http://www.SmartComputing.com/Groups)

"Reprinted with permission from *Smart Computing*. Visit

to learn what *Smart Computing* can do for you and your user group!"

### Clean Your Notebook Keys

Debris on and under a notebook keyboard can cause the keys to become unresponsive. Use a can of compressed air to blow any loose dirt out of the keyboard. If you've determined that a key is stuck, clean under the key. First, unplug the laptop and remove the battery. Use a flathead screwdriver to pry the key from the key-

### Clear Recent Documents

If those recent documents that are listed in your Start menu are driving you nuts, you can clear them out. Right-click Start and select Properties. Click the Start Menu tab, and select Customize. Click the Advanced tab under the Customize Start Menu window. Now you can either click the Clear List option, which will just clear out all the recent documents, or you can uncheck the List My Most Recently Opened Documents

### Keep It Cool

Computers generate quite a bit of internal heat, especially if they are running video or audio applications or multiple programs simultaneously. Excess heat over prolonged periods of time can damage components and connections, not to mention affect performance. All computers are equipped with fans that dissipate the heat, but sometimes they can't heat up, especially if the vents are blocked or occluded by dirt and dust. In addition to keeping the vents clear, you can keep your computer cool and healthy by keeping the room temperature lower and making sure air can circulate around your computer.

### Online Radio

If you're tired of listening to your MP3 player or the set of CDs you have lying around your desk, try an online radio station. There's a variety of free Internet radio stations, so you can select a format that's both entertaining and helps you focus on work. One of our favorites is [Pandora](http://Pandora), which suggests songs you might like based on the songs

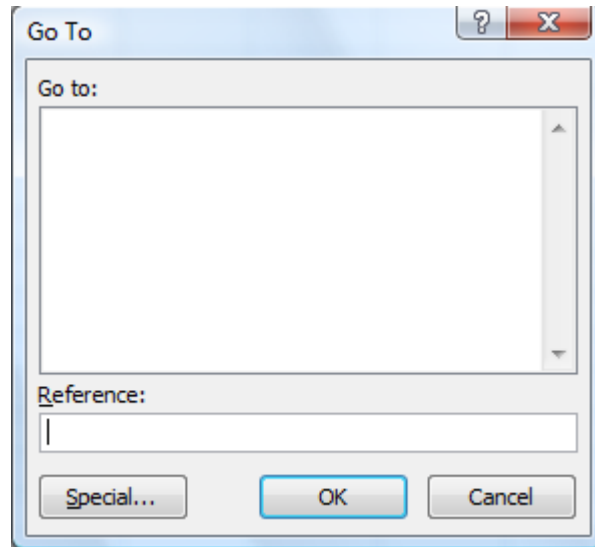
# Word Tips (Excel)

## Displaying a Hidden First Column

Excel makes it easy to hide and unhide columns. What isn't so easy is displaying a hidden column if that column is the left-most column in the worksheet. For instance, if you hide column A, Excel will dutifully follow out your instructions. If you later want to unhide column A, the solution isn't so obvious.

To unhide the left-most columns of a worksheet when they are hidden, follow these steps:

1. Press **F5**. Excel displays the Go To dialog box.



*The Go To dialog box.*

2. In the Reference field at the bottom of the dialog box, enter A1.
3. Click on OK. Cell A1 is now selected, even though you cannot see it on the screen.
4. Unhide the column. (In Excel 2007 or Excel 2010, display the Home tab of the ribbon and click Format | Hide & Unhide | Unhide Columns. In older versions of Excel choose Format | Column | Unhide.)

Another way to display the first column is to click on the header for column B, and then drag the mouse to the left. If you release the mouse button when the pointer is over the gray block that marks the intersection of the row and column headers (the blank gray block just above the row headers), then column B and everything to its left, including the hidden column A, are selected. You can then unhide the column.

A third method is even niftier, provided you have a good eye and a steady mouse pointer. If you move your mouse pointer into the column header area, and then slowly move it to the left, you notice that it turns into a double-headed arrow with a blank spot in the middle as you position the pointer over the small area immediately to the left of the column B header. This double-headed arrow is a bit difficult to describe; it looks most closely like the double-headed arrow that appears when you position the pointer over the dividing line between column headers. It is different, however, because instead of a black line dividing the double arrows, there are two black lines with a gap between them.

When your mouse pointer changes to this special double-headed arrow, all you have to do is right-click and choose Unhide. Your previously missing column A magically reappears.

Copyright © 2011 by Sharon Parq Associates, Inc. Reprinted by permission. Thousands of free Microsoft Excel tips can be found online at <http://excel.tips.net>.

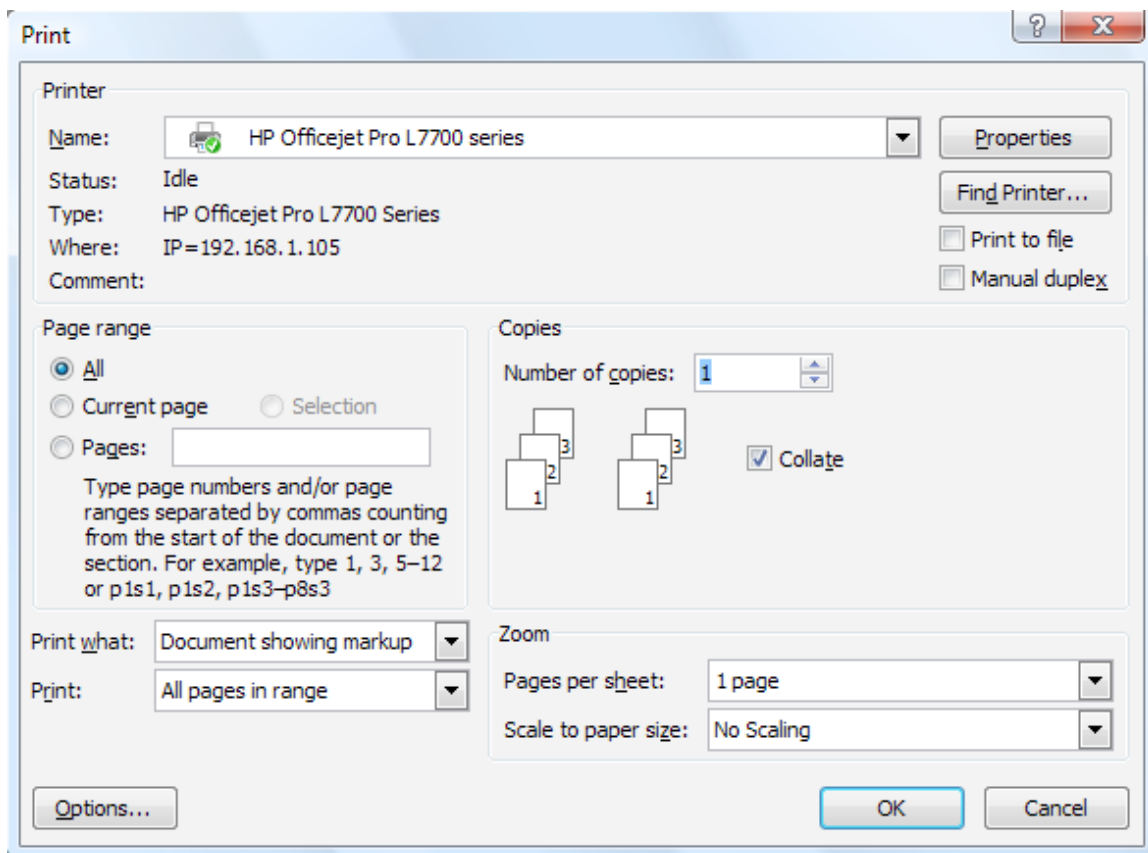
# Word Tips

## Word 2007

### Printing Odd or Even Pages

There may be many times that you need to print either odd or even pages in a print job. For instance, you may want to put your pages through the printer twice so you can print on both sides. This is easy to do in Word by following these steps:

1. Press **CTRL+P**. Word displays the Print dialog box.



*The Print dialog box.*

2. Adjust the printing settings as desired.
3. Using the Print drop-down list at the bottom of the dialog box, choose either Odd Pages or Even Pages, as desired. (Make sure you use the Print drop-down list, not the Print What drop-down list.)
4. Click on OK. Your document is printed.

The above steps work great in any version of Word up through Word 2007. If you are using Word 2010, then the Print dialog box was done away with. You should follow these steps, instead:

1. Press **CTRL+P**. Word displays the File tab of the ribbon, with printing options visible in the tab.
2. Adjust the printing settings as desired.
3. Using the first drop-down list under the Settings heading, choose Only Print Odd Pages or Only Print Even Pages, as desired.
4. Click on Print. Your document is printed.

## Buying and Selling on eBay (Part 3 of 5)

Submitted by Gini Pedersen, Instructor, FREE Internet and Computer Classes, San Diego Continuing Education; Honorary Lifetime Member, Seniors Computer Group, for her outstanding work in the community

<http://www.iteachyou.com>

gpederse (at) sdccd.edu

### Paying for Your eBay Item

When the bidding period closes, the highest bidder is the "winner." eBay automatically emails both the buyer and the seller notifying them of the successful end of the auction and setting the process in motion for payment, delivery, and feedback to occur.

The seller chooses what payment option(s) they offer. Payment options include one or more of the following:

- PayPal (<http://www.paypal.com>)
- ProPay (<http://www.propay.com>)
- Moneybookers (<http://www.moneybookers.com>)
- Paymate (<http://www.paymate.com>)
- Direct credit card

(Note: This option is generally used only by sellers that already have an established credit card processing account.)

Sellers may offer the following payment options for only a few types of items (vehicles, local pickup, real estate, and a few more):

- Bank-to-Bank Transfers
- Cashier's Check
- Money Order
- Check or cash

## Registering at PayPal

One popular e-payment option is PayPal at <http://www.paypal.com>. If you plan to bid on eBay (or many other auction sites), I recommend you open a PayPal account which allows you to easily pay for your purchase with your regular VISA, MasterCard, etc. -- or by direct payment from your checking account. You will need to register at PayPal which I have been using for several years -- with no problems to date. This way, the individual seller never sees your credit card information.

Following are guidelines for setting up an account at PayPal:

1. Go to <http://www.paypal.com>
2. Click Sign Up Now link.
3. Complete all registration fields.

Choices of accounts:

1. Personal  
Mostly for buying
2. Premier  
Buying and selling using your personal name. I recommend you set up either a Premier or a Business Account.
3. Business  
Buying and Selling using your business name. \*\*\*

I was walking down the street, and I found a man's hand in my pocket. I asked, "What do you want?" "A match" "Why didn't you ask me?" "I don't talk to strangers."

## **Buying and Selling on eBay (Part 4 of 5)**

Submitted by Gini Pedersen, Instructor, FREE Internet and Computer Classes, San Diego Continuing Education; Honorary Lifetime Member, Seniors Computer Group, for her outstanding work in the community

<http://www.iteachyou.com>

gpederse (at) sdccd.edu

### **Selling an Item on eBay**

Every successful seller first becomes a buyer so they can better understand the importance of pictures, descriptions, feedback, shipping and handling policies, payment options, and more.

Following are guidelines for listing an item to sell on eBay:

1. Set up an eBay account. See Registering at eBay on prior handout. You can use the same account to buy and sell on eBay.
2. Go to <http://www.ebay.com> and log on to your eBay account.
3. Click Sell tab near top of eBay window.
4. Follow directions on the screen.

Note: You will be asked for credit or debit card information plus checking account information. This is the method eBay uses to charge you the appropriate fees for what you are selling.

### **Important Note:**

Ebay charges 2 different fees...

1. Insertion Fee (IF) -- based on your starting price

Note: Your IF is only 50 cents for all Fixed Price starting starting over 90 cents.

## 2. Final Value Fee (FVF) -- based on your selling price

Note: Your FVF is between 8% and 12% for all Fixed Price sales starting over 90 cents.

Fees listed in this chart apply to most merchandise but not to cars, houses, industrial equipment, and a few other categories.

<b>Standard Fees—Auction-style Listings</b>	
<b>Starting Price</b>	<b>Insertion Fees</b>
\$0.01–\$0.99	FREE!*
\$1.00–\$9.99	\$0.25
\$10.00–\$24.99	\$0.50
\$25.00–\$49.99	\$0.75
\$50.00–\$199.99	\$1.00
\$200+	\$2.00
<b>Selling Price</b>	<b>Final Value Fee</b>
Item not sold	No Fee
\$0.01 and above	9% (\$50 cap)

\*Up to 100 each month

Above fees apply to Auction-Style listings – not to Fixed Price Listings.

Check eBay's Help for details about fees in all categories. To see a current listing of all fees, go to <http://pages.ebay.com/help/sell/fees.html>

PayPal Fees (paid only by the seller)

## Notes About PayPal:

- You pay nothing to set up a PayPal account
- Buyers pay nothing when they use PayPal to pay for an eBay purchase.
- Sellers do pay a fee to PayPal when a buyer uses PayPal to pay for an eBay purchase.

The standard rate for receiving payments for goods and services is 2.9%.

If you receive more than \$3,000.00 USD per month, you're eligible to apply for [PayPal's Merchant Rate](#) - which lowers your fees as your sales volume increases. Your fees can be as low as 1.9%, based on your previous month's sales volume.

Purchase payments received (monthly)	Fee per transaction
\$0.00 USD - \$3,000.00 USD	2.9% + \$0.30 USD
\$3,000.01 USD - \$10,000.00 USD	2.5% + \$0.30 USD
\$10,000.01 USD - \$100,000.00 USD	2.2% + \$0.30 USD
> \$100,000.00 USD	1.9% + \$0.30 USD†

## An App – What it is and What it does

By Sandy Berger, Compu-KISS

www.compukiss.com

Sandy (at) compukiss.com

An app can be found on the iPhone and the iPad as well as many other smart phones and tablet PCs. In fact, Apple's introduction of the idea of apps in 2008 is what made smart phones and tablet PCs so popular. Up until that time, we were all used to full-blown programs like those that run on a computer. Most of these programs contain millions of lines of code, have numerous functions, and have menus that open up to reveal a multitude of choices.

In contrast, an app is a little mini program that has one basic function. It is an expression in simplicity. A good app does only one thing and it does it very quickly and easily. There are no nested menus and there are very few choices to make. One similarity between a full-blown program and an app is that both can be started by an icon that you choose by using a mouse or by pressing your finger on the screen.

One of the best things about apps are that they are easy to use. The true beauty of the apps, however lies in their variety. There are hundreds of thousands of apps, but

you don't have to use them all. You can choose only the ones you want. A computer program may be able to handle 100 different functions. Even if you only want to use one of those functions, you still have to install the entire program. Apps are different. You only install the ones you need.

However, like computer programs, apps are specific to an operating system. For example, a program that is created for the Mac will not run on a PC. An app that was created for the iPhone will not work on an Android phone. Each operating system has their own App Store or Marketplace where you can download apps. Many apps are free. Many are under \$2.

Right now there is a large selection of apps for the Apple iPhone and iPad at the iTunes App Store. BlackBerry, Google (Android), Microsoft, Nokia, and Samsung all offer apps through their own app storefronts.

If you have never used a smart phone or a tablet PC that uses apps, you will be amazed by the sheer number and variety of apps. Apple has over 300,000 apps in their App Store. Google has more than 200,000 in their marketplace.

Because of the wide variety of apps, it is difficult to talk about them all, but let me give you a quick idea of what an app can do. Using an app, you can express your artist abilities, play the piano, or visit with your Facebook friends. You can turn your phone into a level to get that picture straight, or turn it into a light saber and become a savior of the universe. There are apps to let you play games, find recipes, read news, get stock quotes, follow sports, shop, and compare prices. There are apps that help you relax, time the steeping of your tea, identify any song, tune your guitar, and even match the color of any object to a paint color.

Yes, there is an app that will help you do almost anything. And people are using these apps in numbers that seem almost unimaginable. The Apple app store opened on July 10, 2008 and they have already had over 10,000,000,000 downloads. The wild popularity of apps will entrench that word in the technical dictionaries for many years to come. \*\*\*\*

## Drop it in the Box: Dropbox, what it is, how it works

By Jo Grazide, Leader, Word Processing Workshop, Brookdale Computer Users Group, New Jersey

February 2011 Issue, Bug Bytes

<http://bcug.com>

gio520 (at) gmail.com

### What is Dropbox?

Suppose you were able to save work without using a flash drive, a disk (CD or DVD-R or RW), or an external drive, or even email, and move files between your laptop and desktop? For many years, I, like so many of us, had developed methods and procedures to upload, download, and save documents, music and pictures to a storage device, only to have to rely on memory to locate it afterwards. Another irritating problem for me, especially when I was working, was to identify the “latest” version, so that an older file would not overwrite my work during a “Save As.”

Enter Dropbox, a useful application that eliminates lots of work and uncertainty.

Dropbox is a free download that offers protection and convenience and is easy to use. There is basically no learning involved. You should, however, be familiar with Drag & Drop and Move vs. Copy. Why not give Dropbox a try and see whether this is for you.

I first heard of Dropbox during a meeting of my camera club. Some members seemed happy with it; there were no negative comments, leading me to investigate. Having a way to store photography files without worrying about loss or corruption seemed an ideal solution to the problem of travel pictures. I got to test this, when I maxed out the Dropbox folder at around 2 GB during a vacation in Boston. There are two ways to increase your storage capacity – you can purchase the program on a monthly or yearly basis, or you can have friends join the service and be rewarded a few more MB's up to a whopping 8 GB.

## Get the App

To acquire Dropbox, you need to go to the website at [www.dropbox.com](http://www.dropbox.com). The download

is quick and easy. Just run it, and follow the instructions. There are six initial steps:

1. Take the tour
2. Install Dropbox
3. Put files in your Dropbox folder
4. Install Dropbox on other computers
5. Share a folder with friends or colleagues
6. Invite friends to join

It is necessary to install the program on all computers that you will be using. The setup is done on the website, and the instructions are easy.

In my case, this is my laptop and my desktop. As I move around with the laptop, to meetings or anywhere I use it, I'm able to save files as they are created, directly into the Dropbox folder, which sits in the system tray area. By clicking on its icon, Dropbox will provide easy and helpful commands.

In addition, I know that once I reach home, altered files will be available and updated on my desktop machine. They can be dragged into their proper locations on the storage drives. This has been extremely useful. Instead of dealing with two documents, a newer version and an older version, there is only one synchronized version.

Another nice aspect is that I don't have to worry about misplacing storage disks or flash drives, which does happen. I also would think that it lessens stress, as there is nothing to lose!

## On the Website

There is plenty of information on the Dropbox website. There are videos and explanations of the synching process. Basically, anything that is put into the local folder is also recorded on the Internet. You can also access your files and upload them directly onto the Dropbox server.

It can be compared to using GoogleDocs or Windows Live Mesh. Collaboration, by the way, is possible. I haven't delved into this, because I simply need a way to move data between computers. If you want to learn more, you need to visit the Dropbox website and study this feature.

The Dropbox website has five tabs:

- “Get Started” walks you through several chores before you can earn some extra space. This is simple and easy to understand.
- “Files” is the online list of your current Dropbox inhabitants, their sizes and the dates they were modified. You can sort each column by clicking on its heading. There are buttons here that let you do even more. A basic knowledge of file management is all you need to comprehend this part of the application.
- “Events” is a listing of various edits, deletions, and other information about your files.
- “Sharing” allows you to create a new folder to share, or share an existing folder.

By following the prompts, you can identify who you want to share the folder with. In my case, I began typing my husband's email address, and it was prefilled for me. This would make it easier for multiple shares in a business or committee setting. Perhaps our next Board meeting minutes will appear in a Dropbox folder! I also found that once the shared folder appeared in my local Dropbox folder, I could rename it and manage it locally. A refresh caused the change to appear on the website immediately. I like this type of efficiency. There is no lag time, and information can be relayed quickly between computers.

➤ Finally, “Help” is all the rest. It seems that the Dropbox website is complete; you can spend much time learning about it. I would suggest that you jump in and try out the program; you can learn by doing as well.

There are a couple of things I would warn you about as a new user. If you simply drag and drop the file back and forth, it copies the file. You may want to right-drag and choose move to ensure you have the latest version of your work or photograph. Also, having a comfort level with storage online to some extent, and not adding things like your Social Security number or banking information, goes without saying. Aside from that, there are no problems

### One Last Thing

I do have one favor to ask you if you do join Dropbox; please use the link! It will enable both of us to get some extra space. The link to join on my behalf is <http://db.tt/sHvgWQp>. I promise I will not waste that space!!!!!!

### System Requirements

Hardware: At least 512MB of RAM; free space on your computer equal to your Dropbox storage quota.

#### Software:

Windows: Windows 2003, Windows XP, Windows Vista, and Windows 7 (32 and 64-bit).

Mac OS X: Tiger (10.4) or later.

Linux: Ubuntu 7.10+ and Fedora Core 9+.

Also iPhone iOS 3.1, Android 1.5 and Blackberry 4.5.

Pricing: Up to 2 gigabytes of free storage space; DropBox 50, up to 50GB storage for \$9.99/month or \$99/year; Dropbox 100, up to 100GB storage for 19.95/month or \$199/year.



**Ask Mr. Modem! – March 2011**

**www.MrModem.com**

### **Use Caution Renaming Files**

**Q. I have about 60 installation files that I have saved from programs downloaded over time. Many of these files do not reveal what program they're associated with so I'm not sure what file to select if I need to reinstall something. For example, the install file for Avast Antivirus is setupeng.exe. If I change the name of the file to setupeng\_avast.exe, will it still function properly?**

**A.** For any UFOs (Unidentified File Objects), first try right-clicking a file, select Properties and see if there is any information that identifies the program. There often is.

If you're feeling frisky, you might want to double-click an install (.exe) file to start its installation. When you get to a point where the program is identified, cancel the installation.

Beyond that, it is fine to rename a file in the manner you describe. as long as you retain the same file extension. In other words, if the file is named setupeng.exe, you can change it to aardvark.exe or cherriesjubilee.exe and it will function as intended. Aardvarks and flaming desserts notwithstanding, I'd suggest renaming it with something more descriptive, such as avast\_install.exe or avast\_version 4.8.exe or avast\_MAR2011.exe, to include the date.

**Q. I have a Gmail address, but I also have Outlook Express on my computer and I'm just not sure which is which or what I should be using for what. I'm sorry if this is too basic, but I just can't figure it out, so any help would be appreciated, Mr. M.**

**A.** I'll be happy to help you sort this out. Gmail is Web-based mail, so you don't need an

email program to send and receive Gmail. Instead, you use your Web browser (such as Internet Explorer or Firefox). Using your browser, you would go to the Gmail Web site at [www.gmail.com](http://www.gmail.com), log in, then send and receive messages from that location.

Outlook, Outlook Express, Eudora, and Thunderbird are all email programs (called client software) that are primarily used with what is called POP email. Mail you receive from others is sent to your Internet Service Provider's mail server. Your client software, which resides on your computer, is then used to connect to the server and retrieve your mail. When you send mail using any of these programs, it routes from your email program to your ISP's SMTP (outgoing mail) server. Incoming mail uses a POP mail server.

For the sake of completeness, and because I'm sure you're just dying to know, SMTP stands for Simple Mail Transfer Protocol; POP stands for Post Office Protocol; TMIYGMAH stands for Too Much Information; You're Giving Me a Headache.

**Q. I received a message from Yahoo! Mail telling me that I'm running out of storage space and that I need to provide my username and password so they can increase my capacity. You've warned us about anybody that asks for our passwords, so I'm suspicious. Is this for real or what? Thanks for your help, Mr. M.**

A. Your suspicion is warranted. Good job! Never provide your password or any other personal or account information when requested to do so by email in that manner. No legitimate organization or service will EVER ask you for that information. Just delete the message you received and don't give it a second thought.

### **Mr. Modem's DME (Don't Miss 'Em) Sites of the Month**

#### **Airport Sleeping**

Seasoned travelers know all too well that long security lines, flight cancellations and delays are common these days. If you find yourself stranded at an airport, visit this site which lists the best and worst airports, and their respective facilities for snoozers. The site also has tips for sleeping safely and comfortably when you're grounded at the terminal.

[www.sleepinginairports.net](http://www.sleepinginairports.net)

### Eat Your Veggies!

There is never a shortage of nutritional schemes, fad weight-loss diets, and health crazes (and crazies) out there, many of which contradict one another. The one thing that virtually every dietary diva and gourmet guru agrees on is that vegetables are good for you. This site is a fat-free, high-cyber bonanza for anyone trying to switch from brownies to broccoli, with a host of useful tips on how to select, prepare, cook and store fresh produce.

[www.fruitsandveggiesmorematters.org](http://www.fruitsandveggiesmorematters.org)

### Timeless Short Stories

Our increasingly fast-paced society has lured many people away from the joy of traditional reading. Short Stories, one of the classic genres of fiction, is a format that allows readers with limited time to delve into the incomparable power of classic literature. This site is a free short-story repository that offers a wonderful selection of brief fiction and light prose. Scroll the site to find literary gems from icons such as Edith Wharton, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Dylan Thomas, Rudyard Kipling, Edgar Allen Poe, Twain, Mr. Modem, Jack London, Guy de Maupassant, and other legendary authors.

[www.classicsshorts.com](http://www.classicsshorts.com)

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## Local News

**Glendora, California (CNN)** -- It's the kind of Southern California town made for daydreaming: Quiet streets and sunny skies, a place where tranquility seems rarely to be disturbed.

But according to police, as well as classified U.S. diplomatic cables published by WikiLeaks, the Los Angeles suburb of **Glendora was the scene of an international assassination plot**. The scheme involved would-be killers hiding out in a low-budget motel and an elaborate plan that, at first, involved shooting the victim, but later centered on running him over with a van, police documents disclose.

"I've been a police officer here for more than 20 years, and I've never investigated anything like this," said Glendora police Lt. Tim Staab.

It all unraveled on a late summer day in 2009, when a would-be hit man hired by an Iranian national named Reza Sadeghnia got cold feet and called police from a local gas station.

"This person went on to tell us that for the past four days, they together had been scheming how to assassinate, how to kill another Glendora resident," Staab said.

Police said the target in Glendora was Jamshid Sharmahd, an Iranian-American dissident who is the radio voice of a small group called Tondar, devoted to the overthrow of the Iranian government. The Iranian government calls Tondar a terrorist group, but the U.S. State Department says it is only a propaganda outlet.

According to police reports, the informant offered proof: the purchase of a cheap van from a used-car dealer that would be used to run down and kill the target. He told detectives he had been paid \$5,000 to kill Sharmahd, with another \$27,000 delivered to his mother back in Iran.

The plotters decided to use a van after deciding that buying a gun would be too risky, the reports state.

The informant told police that Sadeghnia, the mastermind, had fled Glendora and was about to leave Los Angeles on a plane. Staab said Glendora detectives found him in an airport hotel under his own name and arrested him in his room.

Along with his laptop computer, police seized \$2,100 in cash.

"They were crisp \$100 bills. There was a stack of them. And around it was a bank wrapping, and they were all written in Farsi," he said.

According to those leaked American diplomatic cables, this wasn't the first time Sadeghnia had been implicated in an assassination attempt.

A prominent Iranian dissident in London, Ali Reza Nourizadeh, "had been targeted by Iranian intelligence," according to one cable. Nourizadeh is a prominent Voice of America commentator based in London, and Sadeghnia had contacted him several months before his California arrest, claiming to be a "big fan," the January 2010 account states.

But Nourizadeh became suspicious of Sadeghnia after he took large numbers of pictures -- photos that later turned up in the office of a deputy intelligence minister in Tehran, the cable states. He stopped taking Sadeghnia's calls "and heard nothing more about the matter until he was visited by UK anti-terror police January 14," according to the cable.

According to the cable, Sadeghnia had tracked the London dissident at the same time he was making plans to assassinate the California dissident. The arrest by Glendora police brought a halt to both plans.

"Nourizadeh is a well-known figure both inside and outside Iran, and is an outspoken critic of the Iranian regime, so it is unsurprising that the regime would want to keep a close eye on him," the document states. "If, however, the regime has targeted Nourizadeh for assassination, as it appears

to have done with Sharmahd, it marks a clear escalation in the regime's attempts to intimidate critics outside its borders, and could have a chilling effect on journalists, academics and others in the West who until recently felt little physical threat from the regime."

Sharmahd said there was "no doubt" that the plot against him involved the Iranian government. He said the motive was not only to kill him, but also to replace both Tondar's website and its radio broadcasts with fakes in an attempt to hijack the movement.

Sadeghnia ultimately pleaded guilty to a charge of solicitation of murder and was jailed for eight months. But the story doesn't end there.

After he was released from prison in 2010, Sadeghnia applied for permission to leave the United States while he was on five years' probation and visit Iran for one month "to visit his dying father," according to probation reports. His first application was denied, but a second request was granted a few weeks later on the condition that he return no later than October 27.

He has not been seen in the United States since. Probation officials would not comment on the decision.

Meanwhile, another Iranian-American -- a 71-year-old California businessman named Reza Taghavi -- was being held in an Iranian prison. He had been jailed for more than two years after Iranian authorities said he had given \$200 to an Iranian dissident group: Tondar, the same group based in Glendora.

Taghavi denied any association with Tondar. The money, he said, was to be given to a friend of a friend.

Within weeks of Sadeghnia's arrival in Iran, Taghavi walked out of Evin Prison.

Taghavi said he believes there was "no connection" between his release and Sadeghnia's arrival. His attorney, a former Bush administration ambassador, Pierre Prosper, said he doesn't think there's a link, either.

"But it's an interesting coincidence, isn't it?" Prosper said in a telephone interview.

The State Department told CNN that there was no link between Sadeghnia's return to Iran and Taghavi's release. But back in Glendora, Sharmahd said there's no doubt in his mind that there was a swap in which the United States traded the man who orchestrated his attempted murder to Iran in exchange for the jailed businessman.

*(Contributed by club member Gene Goff)*

"You give my man back. I give you your man back," he said

A man went to the doctor

The doctor examined him and said, "I'm sorry to have to tell you this, but you only have three minutes left to live."

The man said, "Oh my God! Are you sure there is nothing you can do for me?"

The doctor thought for a moment and then replied, "I could boil you an egg!"

DO YOU HAVE A QUESTION FOR OUR TECH GUYS, *BILL BELCHER & ELL FULMER?*

Fill Out the Form Below & Bring it to the Meeting

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Cptr Operating System    Windows 98    \_\_\_    Windows XP    \_\_\_    Windows Vista    \_\_\_    Windows 7    \_\_\_    Mac    \_\_\_    Other    \_\_\_

Question: \_\_\_\_\_

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### Elected Officers

President	Annemarie Hunt	ajhunt1447(at)aol.com
Vice President	Connie Lang	connielang(at)verizon.net
Secretary	Ruthann Mayrose	Ruthannmeister(at)gmail.com
Treasurer	Rose Marie Diem	catscobwebs(a)charter.net
Tech Advisor	Ell Fullmer	pakratt(at)gmail.com
Past President—	Annemarie Hunt	Ajhunt1447(at)aol.com

**Have a New**

**Email Address?**

**Please Notify Membership  
Chair: Jeannine Foote**

**jeanninefoote(at)  
yahoo.com**

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Program Director	Jim Glass	jglass1001(at)aol.com
Asset Management	Glen Moore	mooretours(at)earthlink.net
Membership Chair	Jeannine Foote	jeanninefoote(at)yahoo.com
Public Relations	Leroy Overstreet	lpoover(at)hotmail.com
Nominations		
Programs Chair	Jim Glass	jglass1001(at)aol.com
Webmaster	Ell Fullmer	pakratt(at)gmail.com
Education	Bill Belcher	billbelcher(at)gmail.com
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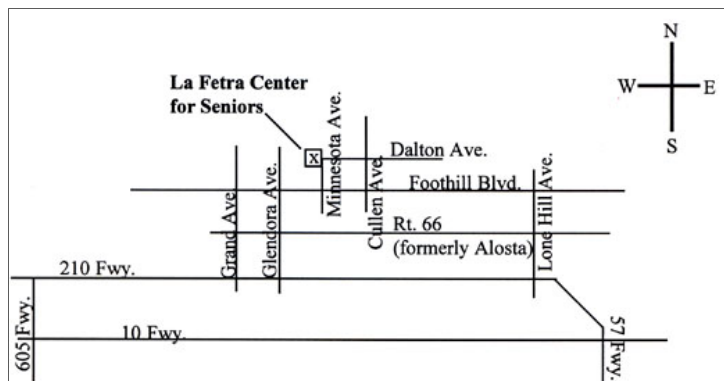
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ranchitoave(at)yahoo.com**

Thank you to the following mem-  
bers for help in this  
month's Newsletter:

Jim Glass  
Jean Goff



333 East Foothill Blvd.  
Glendora, CA 91741  
Telephone: (626) 914-8235



### **We're On The Web**

Webmaster:

Ell Fullmer

[www.gsclub.org](http://www.gsclub.org)

Email:

[gsccl\(at\)gsclub.org](mailto:gsccl(at)gsclub.org)

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