THE WYSIWYG

TUESDAY MAY 5
Main

Jackie Goolsby of Microsoft will be presenting Picture It! and Greetings Workshop.

VISIT THE NEW SHCC WEB PAGE AT:
http://member.apcug.org/shcc/

From the President's "Square" Office
by Rick Schummer

The hype has been pounding for the last few months on the upcoming Windows 98 release from Microsoft. The release is scheduled for June 25, 1998. Microsoft will create the final copy to be burned into millions of CDs starting May 15th. Is the latest and greatest new Operating System (OS) worth it? As many people in the computer industry say, "It depends".

Beta Testing
First of all, Microsoft has redefined the concept of beta testing. For those unfamiliar with this concept, this is the secret process where a certain type of user will take a piece of software before it is ready for general consumption and use it. These users know that at any time the software may not work. It is their responsibility to find the problems so people who buy the product when it hits the stores don't run into these issues. Microsoft now calls this phase of software testing as "Pre-release". This phase of the testing has become a little more public in the last few years. It has been made part of the marketing process to hype a new product or big release. Microsoft is also charging people for this product. The Windows 98 Pre-release was available for a measly $35.00 (cost of materials according to Microsoft). Granted, you could only buy a late beta product that is close to the final

version and typically free of most disastrous bugs. It is also cheap by anyone's standard for a product as complicated as an OS. If you have ever beta tested, this process takes an enormous amount of time. The benefits are that you get a head start on the product, which can be a business advantage. Some of the best bug finders are rewarded with a copy of the final version of the product as well. This will vary by software company.

Windows 98 Minimum System Requirements:

- 486DX / 66 MHz or higher processor.
- 16 MB of memory; more memory improves performance.
- Typical installation requires approximately 195 MB of free hard disk space, but may range between 120 MB to 295 MB, depending on your system configuration and the options you choose to install.
- CD-ROM or DVD-ROM drive (3.5" high-density disks available for additional charge).
- VGA or higher-resolution monitor.

Guests and visitors are welcome. People may attend any of two consecutive months of club meetings before deciding to become a member or not. Membership includes admission to all SHCC functions and the newsletter. Membership is open to anyone. It is not limited to residents of Sterling Heights. Meetings are on the first Tuesday of the month, except for July and August. There is a monthly drawing for door prizes at the end of the meeting.

DUES: $25/YEAR

CLUB ADDRESS: PO Box 385, Sterling Heights, MI 48311-0385
CLUB E-MAIL ADDRESS: SHCC@aol.com
CLUB WEB PAGE: http://member.apcug.org/shcc/

Special Interest Groups:

MS-DOS (Main)	IBM compatibles
Net/Com	Computers communicating with other computers
Power user	Advance users discuss various topics
Novice	Those starting out
Business	Various topics related to business

Resource People:

DOS	Jerry Carson	248-548-0331
Excel	Mike Greenen	819-979-8717
Family Tree	Rick Schummer	810-997-1451
FoxPro	Rick Schummer	810-997-1451
Hardware	Jerry Carson	248-548-0331
Microsoft products	Mike Greenen	810-979-8717
MS Publisher	Rick Kucejko	248-879-6180
PCFile	Don VanSyckel	810-731-9232
Professional Write	Mike Greenen	810-979-8717
Spreadsheets	Rick Schummer	810-997-1451
Word for Windows	Rick Schummer	810-997-1451
WordPerfect	Jim McNeil	810-978-3953

SHCC Coordinators:

Ask the Expert	Jerry Carson	248-548-0331
BBS info	Jerry Carson	248-548-0331
Business SIG	Jennifer O'Brien	248-540-4552
Net/Comm. SIG	Betty MacKenzie	810-254-0677
Door prize	Paul Anderson	810-979-2280
Greeting table	Lindell Beck	810-939-4278
Newsletter publ.	Rick Kucejko ricktim@rust.net	248-879-6180
Novice SIG	Ellen Geering	810-468-3528
Power Users SIG	Ed LeBioda	810-264-1632
Resource person	Mike Greenen	810-979-8717
Vendor Press Rel.	Jim Waldrop	810-731-6481

SHCC Officers:

President	Rick Schummer rschummer@compu-serve.com	810-997-1451
Vice President	Rick Kucejko ricktim@rust.net	248-879-6180
Treasurer	Dick Morawski RMorawski@aol.com	810-573-9648
Secretary	Don VanSyckel vansckel@voyager.net	810-731-9232

Four Month Meeting Schedule:

MAY 1998
5 - SHCC - Greetings WorkShop & Picture it!, presented by Jackie Goolsby from Microsoft
10 - SEMCO meeting
11 - Net/Comm SIG
12 - SHCC officer's meeting
14 - MCUG meeting
19 - Novice SIG
26 - Power Users' SIG
28 - Business SIG

JUNE 1998
2 - SHCC - Mark Bray of iNetCity will talk about Business on the Internet
7 - SEMCO meeting
8 - Net/Comm SIG
9 - SHCC officer's meeting
16 - Novice SIG
18 - MCUG meeting
23 - Power Users' SIG
25 - Business SIG

JULY 1998

7 - SHCC - NO MEETING IN JULY
12 - SEMCO meeting
13 - Net/Comm SIG
14 - SHCC officer's meeting
16 - MCUG meeting
21 - Novice SIG
28 - Power Users' SIG

AUGUST 1998
4 - SHCC - NO MEETING IN AUGUST
9 - SEMCO meeting
10 - Net/Comm SIG
11 - SHCC officer's meeting
13 - MCUG meeting
18 - Novice SIG
25 - Power Users' SIG
27 - Business SIG

Other Computer Clubs:

As a member of SHCC, you can attend the meetings of other area clubs where we have reciprocating membership agreements, at no charge.

MI Computer Users Group
Time: 3rd Thursday, 7:00PM
Place: South Lake HS, 21900 E. 9 Mile Road, St. Clair Shores, 585-2050
Reciprocating: No

South Eastern Michigan Computer Organization (SEMCO)
Time: 2nd Sunday at 1:30PM
Place: Dodge Hall; Oakland University; 810/398-7560
Web page: HTTP:\\www.semco.org
Reciprocating: Yes

Newsletter submissions are due 10 days before the club meeting, but the earlier the better. They should be sent to :
    WYSIWYG Publisher
    5069 Fedora
    Troy, MI 48098
OR at the e-mail addresses: ricktim@rust.net

SIG Meetings

Novice SIG

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 19 1998, starting at 7:00PM, at the Macomb County Library.
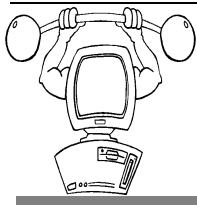
We still need volunteers for presenters for the Novice Sig. Can anyone help? If there are any club members who could help with this very important activity, please see Ellen Geering.

As a tentative program for the next SIG meeting, Mike Greenen said he would demonstrate taking his computer apart and re-building it. This is only a tentative program at this time.

For more information about the SIG, call Ellen Geering (number is on page 2), or e-mail her at elgeer@tir.com

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Power User SIG

The next meeting of the Power User SIG is Tuesday, May 26, 1998, starting at 7:00PM, at the Macomb County Library.

Each month the members of the Power User SIG help each other out with some tough questions and topics.

For more information about the SIG, call Ed LeBioda (number is on page 2).

Directions to the SIG location are available at the check-in table.

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Net/Com SIG

The next meeting of the Internet/Communications (Net/Comm.) SIG is Monday, May 11, 1998, starting at 7:00PM, at the Macomb County Library.

Each month the members of the Net/Comm SIG visit the Internet to help members of the SHCC learn more about this powerful communications media.
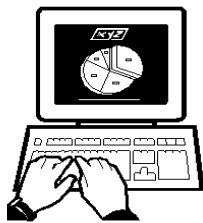
At the next SIG meeting, Tom Callow, longtime member of the SouthEastern Michigan Computer Organization, will discuss "troubleshooting your computer". Bring your questions and any problems you may be having with your computer...hardware, software, the Internet, modems. Tom will also answer questions about Windows 98, having installed a beta version on his own computer, in preparation for a presentation at SEMCO.

For more information about the SIG, call Betty MacKenzie (number is on page 2), or e-mail her at bmackenz@tir.com

Directions to the SIG location are available at the check-in table.

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Business SIG

The next meeting of the Business SIG is Thursday, May 28, 1998 at 7:00PM.

The SIG meetings are on the last Thursday of the month at the Knowledge Development Centers of Detroit at 2000 Town Center, Suite 200, in Southfield.

The Knowledge center is in the Southfield Town Center Complex, which is made up of 4 copper colored mirrored tower buildings.

Parking – Complimentary parking is available behind all buildings at Town Center. Enter the parking structure at the 2000/Restaurant entrance. The entrance to the 2000 building is on the third parking level.

Each month the members of the Business SIG discuss software and hardware issues related to the business environment.

For more information about the SIG, call Jennifer O'Brien (number is on page 2), or e-mail her at 72242,3713@Compuserve.com

Directions to the SIG location are available at the check-in table.

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Directions To Macomb Library

The Macomb County Library is located at 16480 Hall Road, in Clinton Township, between Hayes and Garfield, close to the light at Garfield, on the south side of Hall Road. A large blue sign says "Macomb County Library". The phone number is (810) 286-6660.

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Computer Wisdom:
Pentium wise; pen and paper foolish.

You can't teach a new mouse old clicks.

SHCC Business

Door Prizes

The SHCC offers door prizes at regularly scheduled club meetings. This month's door prizes were unknown at publication.

April's winners circle included:

A copy of VirusScan anti-virus software, **donated by Lyben , won by Fred Plamondon, Gerald Hallman, Paul Baecker, Ron McKay, Jerome Schmidt, Tony Fuoco, Bruce Honeck, Ellen Geering, George Buden, and Rick Kucejko**

A mug and saucer, **donated by Imation, won by Jack Cauley, Judith Klein, Dick Morawski, Gail Minnick, Adele Sapilewski, Betty MacKenzie, Dick Clarke, Jerry Carson, Sue Sullivan, Phil Gant, Jane Minnick, Eleanor Liebetrau, Donna Dembsey, George Goetz, Al Knoblock, Angela Dittmar, Ken Belbot, Joanne Placido, Diane Chojnowski, and Tom Wojcik**

A pen, **donated by Imation, won by Lee Leopold**

Phone discs, **donated by a member, won by Hans Liebetrau**

As you can see, there were a lot of door prizes at the last meeting.

In March, the winner's circle included:

Tools, won by **Ralph Osinski**

Disks, won by **Victor Rodriguez**

Media storage, won by **Robert Laurence**

Ameritech starter kit, won by **Bob Klimas**

CD - MS Network, won by **John Monge**

CD - MS Network, won by **Tony Fucco**

CD - games - won by **Bob Roth**

CD - AARP - won by **Judith Klein**

MS Net - won by **Mike Greenen**

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"Ask The Experts"

Please send questions to "Ask the Experts" at the club's PO address, or e-mail your question directly to Jerry Carson at: jcarson@ic.net

Q: Dear Expert,

Occasionally I'll get a .VCF file as an attachment to an email. Windows 95 doesn't seem to know what to do with it and neither do I. What is this?

Confused

A: Dear Confused,

VCF stands for Virtual Card Format. This is a virtual business card that many people attach to their email or news postings. Currently, this format is only supported by very recent versions of software. Microsoft Outlook 97 or better or Netscape Communicator 4 seem to handle it OK.

As to what's in there, it usually contains a name, address information, date and time, and optionally photographs, company logos, sound clips, and geo-positioning information.

Frankly, I don't think your missing much and would like to recommend that people do not include these VCF files with every email. It's a little like handing out a business card every time you speak with someone. Once is OK, but not every time.

Expert

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New SHCC Members
Please welcome the following new member:
Phil Reynaud

Ideas Needed

The officers are looking for any good tips/tricks/traps that you have come across for any of the popular Office/Suite packages. We are planning the November meeting where we will present these nuggets of help for other members. It should be noted that you will **not** have to present the tips you come up with, unless you want to! The tips will be compiled and presented to benefit all. Please send the tips either electronically to Rick Schummer's email, through snail mail to the PO Box, or drop them off at the regular

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SHCC Web Site

THE SHCC WEB PAGE IS UP! **Visit it at : http://member.apcug.org/ shcc/.**

Look for upcoming meeting and SIG information. Tell your family and friends where to find more information about the club by pointing them to our new URL.

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Member Classified Ads

None this month. Please send any classifieds to the WYSIWYG Publisher at the club's PO Box, or to his e-mail address posted on page 2 of the newsletter.

There is no charge for members classified ads for selling things to other members.

Ads are available to SHCC members and are limited to computer related

items for non-commercial purposes. Any ad shall be a maximum of twelve newsletter lines of text.

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Presenters Wanted

The officers are looking for a person to come forward and make a presentation.

If there is some software you have been using and think others may be interested as well, or there is a computer topic you would like to present to other members, please call or e-mail Rick Schummer. Making presentations is not that difficult. The hour goes by before you know it. There is always enough material to cover in a software package, so the hour is easy to fill.

As always, if there is a topic you are interested in or a package you would like demonstrated, please see any of the officers. They are always interested in what the members would like to see. And don't worry about being volunteered to make the presentation (Rick might try, but never forces anyone to make presentations, although he has been persuasive in the

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Never touch the screen while you're compressing a file.

SHCC Emergency Shutdown

The Sterling Heights Computer Club will utilize radio station WWJ - 950 on the AM dial to notify members that a meeting is canceled because of bad weather or for other reasons. The announcement will happen along with the school closings and other events. Please remember to listen to the radio when there is bad weather.

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Computer Wisdom: Don't byte off more than you can view.

From the President
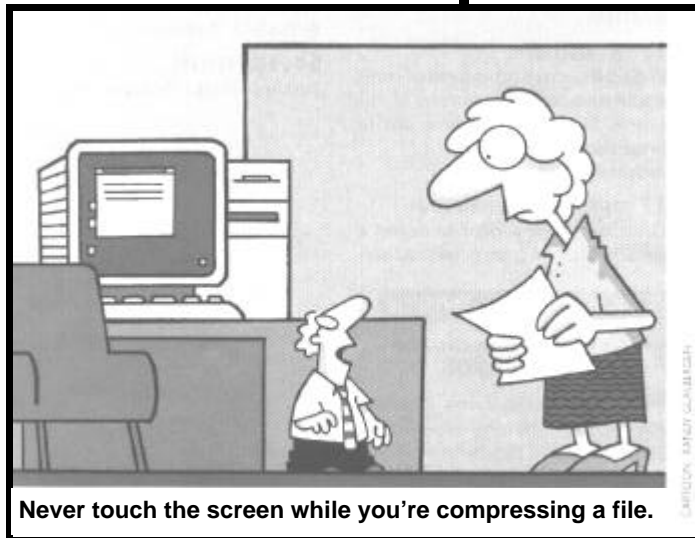
(Continued from page 1)

- Microsoft Mouse or compatible pointing device.

Please note that these are the minimum system requirements.

What is Included
Overall, there are a couple thousand improvements incorporated in Windows 98 from Windows 95. In general it was built to help your PC work better and play better. Some general topics from the Microsoft website:

- **Use the Internet more naturally**
- Plug in add-on equipment such as scanners, joysticks, or video cameras and have them work instantly. This is a new kind of connection technology called the Universal Serial Bus (USB)
- Play games

with gusto with new multimedia technologies

- Recapture a large chunk of space on your hard drive. A new file system, called FAT 32, stores files more efficiently to free up hard drive space. For many users, the result will be an average of 28% more space.
- The new Maintenance Wizard will keep your system running smoothly.
- With Windows 98 you'll be able to easily retrieve and install updated system files – such as the driver files used to run your video card and other hardware -- as well as other   such as updated Help files.
- Connect more than one monitor to your PC
- All new HTML-based help system

Who is Going to Buy It

Bill Gates and other Microsoft stockholders want Windows 98 on every machine running that meets the minimum requirements, unless it is already running Windows NT 4.0 or a Pre-release of Windows NT 5.0. The particular target audience is the Windows 3.x crowd with 486s and upgrades for the Pentium owners from Windows 95. There are several user types available.

There is the "gotta have it" crowd. These are the fearless, the software developers, the technical support people, the people who need bugs fixed to continue being productive, the geeks, the non-geeks who love a challenge, and the people who enjoy torture. Many of these people already tested the product during the pre-release. The rest did not have time, but will preorder a copy to be picked up at Midnight of June 25th. There are no restrictions to be a member of this crowd, just no base to gain help from if something goes wrong, other than Microsoft and the beta testers.

The wait and see crowd will be next in line. They may buy it in the afternoon of June 25th. These are people who will definitely see if the bugs are big. These people are usually cautious, but will definitely be loading it within 3 months of the release. They just want to make sure friends have tried it before they load it up. User group members can be sure that other user group members will be there to help within a short time.

Then there is always the "I don't need the new stuff" crowd. These are the same people who use 286s because they are afraid of the faster PCs <g>. These are the people who will use DOS until they cannot find a machine that will boot directly to DOS. Contrary to popular belief, there is nothing wrong with these individuals. They are comfortable and the technology suits their needs just fine.

The "clueless" crowd is a group out to create humor for the rest of us. This is a small percentage of the general population (hopefully). I heard a story that may be an urban legend, but is funny none the less. A New York TV station interviewed the very first person to walk out of a store with his copy of Windows 95. When asked why he bought Windows 95 from Microsoft, he responded, "I'm not sure, everyone is getting it so I thought I needed it. I don't have any idea what this actually is". I bet the ad agency loved this. Even if this story is not true, you know it could be.

Place me in the "gotta have it" crowd because this is the business that I'm in. I see some real benefits from this product. I just hope the beta, sorry, the pre-release testers, and the Microsoft developers did their job and that a solid product is released with the initial version of Windows 98. I'm sure a Service Pack will hit the streets within 6 to 12 months to fix a couple of major issues.

More Information

There will be plenty of information in PC based magazines and their online websites. I'm sure we will see news stories in the local papers and TV stations. There are excellent programs that were outlined in last month's newsletter that will carry information on Windows 98. Here is an all new website to see what Windows 98 is all about. Check out http://www. microsoft.com/windows/windows98/ default.asp

I get the feeling that the hype will not be as strong as with Windows 95 because of the Department of Justice (DOJ) hanging around. The interface is not radically changed like it was from Windows 3.x as well. Microsoft is definitely not shy about launching new products. My guess is that it will sell like hotcakes. I'm also guessing that it will benefit many PC owners with all new features and that it is going to move this industry to another level of ease of use.

Our New Web Page

So what do you think of our new web site? I wanted to publicly thank Rick Kucejko, and his son, Tim, for developing a useful and informative website. Please send the officers any feedback you have. Also send your friends, family, and co-workers there as well to get them interested in the group. We are already adding things to make it better like an "article of the month" from our newsletter. This will be published before the newsletter hits the snail mail. We took the officers pictures against our better judgement. We were thinking of placing our favorite good looking actors in place, but then people might expect these folks at the meeting. All the pictures were taken with a Sony Mativa digital camera and cropped with Microsoft's Picture It!, one of the products on tap for our meeting this month. Come see how this product might be used to spruce up the existing web site pictures

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Vendor Press Releases

by Jim Waldrop

This monthly column lists new vendor announcements and specials available to club members. If you are a club member, this feature alone can save you much more than the cost of your club dues.

NOTE: When contacting any of the companies listed in these press release summaries, always mention that you are a member of the Sterling Heights Computer Club and that the telephone number etc. was printed in our newsletter.

NOTE: See James Waldrop for the full

Claris Corp.
Phone: 1-800-544-8554 www.clarisk.
com

FileMaker Pro 4.0, easy information management from the desktop to the web. Includes relational database capabilities, instant web publishing, fast conversion of Microsoft Excel spreadsheets into FileMaker Pro databases, and graphical reports and forms.

ClarisWorks Office includes: ClarisWorks 5.0, the all-in-one program that integrates word processing, graphics, spreadsheets, and database into one program, and 175 ready-made, customizable documents to create address books, brochures, presentations, web pages, and more.

BusinessBasics (Claris Edition) contains more than 60 essential tools to help with sales and marketing, finance and accounting, and business management. Claris Home Page Lite is a web authoring tool that lets you

create professional web pages in minutes, with no HTML programming required. It has Internet connection software to get you on the Internet fast, with a choice of service providers.

Cybermedia
Phone: 1-310-664-5222
Fax: 1-310-581-4736
E-mail: binh@cybernedia.com
www.cybermedia.com

First Aid 98. If you have not pressed the "Update Now" button in First Aid for some time, you are probably running an outdated First Aid. Even if you just purchased First Aid, you should click the "Update Now' button, since there have been two new updates for First Aid 98 since October. It is free.

Guard Dog Deluxe is full anti-virus protection. It monitors programs and applets for suspicious behavior, stops unwanted "cookies" so your actions are not tracked, blocks hostile Java applets and ActiveX controls, cleans up trails you leave behind as you surf the Web, protects sensitive information (e-mail, passwords, personal files), and performs a complete security audit on your system.

Diehl Graphsoft, Inc
Phone: 1-888-MINICAD
e-mail: marketing@diehlgraphsoft.com
www.diehlgraphsoft.com/

MiniCad 7 is a full array of 2D drafting and 3D modeling tools. It has: powerful, built-in database/spreadsheet to help track costs and materials; macro programming language, so you can create customized macros to automate your complex and repetitive drafting tasks; Design and Drafting Toolkit, a library of industry-specific resources for architects, mechanical engineers, landscape architects, theater & lighting designers, builders, and

other design professionals; and high end presentation features. MiniCad can now open and save in native AutoCad DWG files, and has improved its DXF file support.

Symantec Corp.

Tell a friend program. Enroll online at www.symantec.com/friend/. You will earn 1 point just for enrolling.

You can earn one point each time you recommend Norton AntiVirus, Norton AntiVirus Deluxe, SAM, Norton CrashGuard Deluxe, or Norton Uninstall Deluxe to a friend. Your friend simply needs to buy the software. Then go to the Symantex Tell-A-Friend website, print the referral form, and send the completed form with proof of purchase. Also, they can call the Fax-On-Demand number at 1-800-554-4403 and key in 097 to have a form faxed directly to them.

Redeeming points is easy. Either do so online through the website or call 1-800-494-8825. Be sure to have your personal ID number to redeem points.

You can redeem your points for:
Gold Tech Support - 10 points
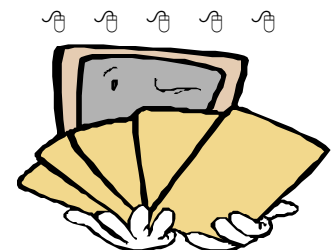WinFax Pro 8.0 - 6 points
Norton Utilities 2.0 - 5 points
Windbreaker - 5 points
Sunwashed T-shirt - 3 points
Propeller Cap - 3 points.
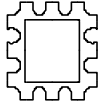
Visit the online catalog for the full

Get the latest and the best new Software specials for computer club members
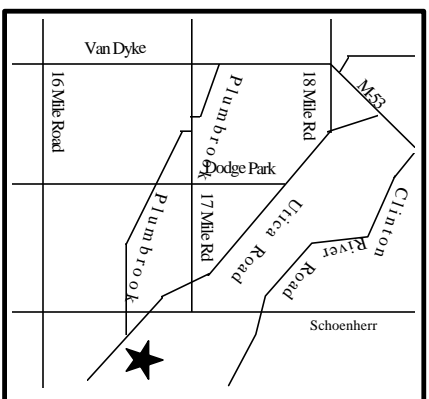
MAY AT SHCC:

TUESDAY MAY 5
Main Meeting.
7:30PM at
Carpathia Club.
38000 Utica

Jackie Goolsby of Microsoft will be presenting Picture It! and Greetings Workshop.

Road,
Sterling Heights

Van Dyke

16 Mile Road

Plumbrook

18 Mile Rd

M-53

Dodge Park

17 Mile Rd

Plumbrook

Plumbrook

Utica Road

Clinton River Road

Schoenherr

SIGs

MONDAY MAY 11
NetCom SIG.   7:00PM at the Macomb
County Library.

TUESDAY MAY 19
Novice SIG.   7:00PM at the
Macomb County Library

TUESDAY MAY 26
Power User SIG. 7:00PM at the Macomb

FUTURE MEETINGS:

JUNE
Mark Bray of iNetCity will talk
about Business on the
Internet

JULY & AUGUST
No main meetings in July & August.