THE WYSIWYG

TUESDAY DEC 1
Main Meeting.
7:30PM

"What's Hot for the Holidays" from a local computer store. (Gateway 2000)

Bring some cookies to share at the December meeting. See page 4 for details

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

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

The Epilogue

Epilogue: Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary's definition is:

1: a concluding section that rounds out the design of a literary work.
2a: a speech often in verse addressed to the audience by an actor at the end of a play.
2b: the actor speaking such an epilogue.
2c: the final scene of a play that comments on or summarizes the main action
3: the concluding section of a musical composition

This is my 70th and last column as president, the epilogue so to speak. I'm not exactly concluding a literary work, but this is concluding my time as the president of the SHCC and my time as privileged host of this column. This is not to be viewed as the end of an era, but as the start of a new one.

Just in case you missed the November meeting, Dick Morawski is the only officer who is returning to the same position. You might be wondering, what happened?

Don VanSyckel is returning to his original role as president. Don is quite qualified to lead the SHCC and is the only other person who has been

president of the group beside myself. He was the original president for the first 3 years of our existence. Don is more than qualified and has always contributed his fullest possible energies to make the SHCC a great place to learn about computers. Over the last 10 years that I have known Don we have become friends and he is someone I know I can trust to lead this organization. I applaud his understanding for this change and willingness to take over this important job. There are not many people who would take this job so I am real glad Don is the man. I cannot thank him enough for stepping up. We are a lucky organization.

Mike Greenen was one of many people nominated to become the new vice president last month and the only person willing to accept the challenge. Mike has been a considerable contributor to the group via his legendary presentations to the Novice SIG and handling the Resource Coordinator job. He is stepping into the shoes formerly filled by Rick Kucejko who is doing more than his fair share as WYSIWYG editor and as SHCC webmaster. I am grateful for all the contributions Rick K has made as the VP and have been assured that he is going to participate in the leadership of this organization in the future.

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
Professional Write	Mike Greenen	810-979-8717
Spreadsheets	Rick Schummer	810-997-1451
Word	Rick Schummer	810-997-1451
WordPerfect	Jim McNeil	810-978-3953

SHCC Coordinators:

Ask the Expert	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 pub.	Rick Kucejko ricktim@tir.com	248-879-6180
Novice SIG	Ellen Geering	810-468-3528
Power Users SIG	Ed LeBioda	810-264-1632
Resource People	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@tir.com	248-879-6180
Treasurer	Dick Morawski RMorawski@aol.com	810-573-9648
Secretary	Don VanSyckel vansyckel@voyager.net	810-731-9232

Four Month Meeting Schedule:

DECEMBER 1998
1 - SHCC - "What's Hot for the Holidays" - Gateway 2000
8 - SHCC officer's meeting
13 - SEMCO meeting
14 - Net/Comm SIG
15 - Novice SIG
17 - MCUG meeting
Power Users' SIG - none

JANUARY 1999
5 - SHCC - A "how to" clinic with basic database usage
10 - SEMCO meeting
12 - SHCC officer's meeting
13 - Power Users' SIG
14 - Net/Comm SIG
19 - Novice SIG
21 - MCUG meeting

FEBRUARY 1999
2 - SHCC - To be Determined
9 - SHCC officer's meeting
9 - Novice SIG
10 - Power Users' SIG
11 - Net/Comm SIG
14 - SEMCO meeting
18 - MCUG meeting

MARCH 1999
2 - SHCC - To be Determined
9 - SHCC officer's meeting
14 - SEMCO meeting
18 - MCUG meeting
Novice SIG - none
Power Users' SIG - none
Net/Comm SIG - none

Other Computer Clubs:

As a member of SHCC, you can attend meetings of other 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; 248/398-7560
Web page: http:\\www.semco.org
Reciprocating: Yes

The OPC (Old Persons Center) Computer Club
Time: Every Tuesday at 10:00 - 12:00
Place: OPC in Rochester 248-656-1403.
Web page: http://www.geocities.com/

The WYSIWYG was printed by STERLING PRINTING AND GRAPHICS, located at 37880 Van Dyke, Sterling Heights, MI

SIG Meetings

Novice SIG
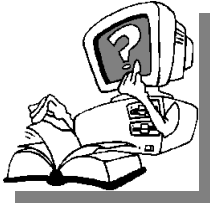
The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 15, 1998, starting at 7:00PM, at the Macomb County Library.

We still need volunteers for presenters for the Novice SIG. Can anyone help? If there are any club members who could help with his very important activity, please see Ellen Geering.

Handouts copied from SHCC web site were passed out, and the group started going through the Tips and Tricks.

For the December meeting the group will continue with the Tips and Tricks. Mike Greenan has a book with Tips and Tricks that he will discuss. Also, we will show the "Windows 95 Video Guide" (Easy instruction to the Top 25 features with Jennifer Aniston & Mathew Perry). This should be particularly interesting for computer novices.

There will be questions and answers about anything that people present want to discuss. This is a good place to come to get information to help solve your computer problems.

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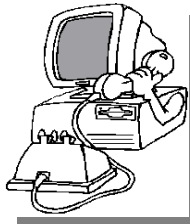
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Attend A SIG

If you do not attend the SIG meetings, you are missing out on important club benefits available to you. These small groups get into more detail and question and answer sessions than is possible at the main

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Net/Com SIG

The next meeting of the Internet/Communications (Net/Comm.) SIG is Monday, December 14, 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 communications media.

For more information about the SIG, call Betty MacKenzie (number is on page 2), or e-mail her at bmackenz@tir.com
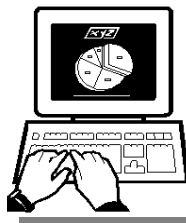
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Power User SIG
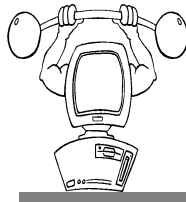
There is no December meeting of the SIG because of the Christmas holidays.

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

For more information about the SIG,

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Business SIG

The status of Business SIG meeting is not known. Check for information at the main meeting.

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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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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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Help with Flyers

The officers are looking for several individuals who might be willing to hand out flyers on a Saturday for a couple of hours. We are looking to man a booth at a store in the near future to promote the SHCC. Please see any of the officers if you are willing to participate.

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1999 SHCC Officers

President: Don VanSyckel
V. President: Mike Greenen
Secretary: Rick Schummer
Treasurer: Dick Morawski

SHCC Business

Holiday Cookies

The officers are hoping members can bring in a half a dozen of cookies to share at the December meeting to start the Holiday cheer. If you can, please bring 6 to 12 holiday cookies with you to share with other members. Hopefully this will be the start of another SHCC tradition and will kick off the holiday season with some tasty delights.

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Meeting Noise Levels

The officers have been approached again with a complaint that too many people are speaking above a whisper during meeting presentations. This is distracting for those who are listening to the presentation and are trying to grasp the topic. Please show a little courtesy to your fellow members and keep the discussions to a super quiet whisper or move to the back of the room near the wall if the conversation is necessary. I would also suggest those who find issue with the noise that there are plenty of good seats up front. As a bonus, past meeting statistics have also shown that people closer to the front win more door prizes on average.

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Presenters Wanted

The officers are looking for people to volunteer to 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 in a software package to fill the hour.

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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SIG Membership Chairs

The officers are looking for people who go to the different SIGs to take attendance, hand out flyers to new people, and have new people fill out information sheets to get them on our mailing list. If you are interested in this job, please see any of the officers.

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Help with Hotlinks

The officers are looking for one or more individuals who can check into other website's hotlinking their web sites to the SHCC's home page on the Internet. Please see any of the officers if you are willing to help out.

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Copiers Needed

Special thanks to all our members who are helping with the duplication needs of the club!

If you have access to a copy machine and can volunteer to duplicate some *WYSIWYG Gazette Special Editions*, please contact Rick Schummer. We are looking for several members to ease the burden of one individual who has been duplicating our source of printed advertisement. The more copiers, the merrier. We are looking for

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New SHCC Members
Please welcome the following new members:
Heinz Chinnow
Robert Gagnon
Patrich Little
Nora Resk

"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: jerrycarson@ameritech.net

Q: Dear Ask The Expert,

What's the deal with this Y2K bug?

Confused

A: Dear Confused,

First let's start with what the Y2K problem really is. When people write out dates, they usually use only the last two digits and the 1900 is assumed. When people started writing computer programs they were written the same way. This made perfect sense at the time, but probably wasn't such a great move looking back. When the year 2000 comes, people will have to start assuming 2000 for all future and current date, but probably still assume 1900 for things like birth dates or recent historical dates. People can do this fairly easily, computers can't.

The computer programs need to be changed to make the correct assumptions for the date (or better yet, to include the centuries and not make any assumptions at all). This means re-writing a LOT of programs. It's unlikely we'll be able to re-write all of them in time and even the ones that are corrected may not be adequately changed. This means that come 1/1/2000 there are going to be some computers making silly mistakes. For example, if your birth date is 5/5/60 the computer may assume that to be 5/5/2060 instead of 5/5/1960. Which means you aren't even born yet. Mainly what people want to know is: "How will this impact the average person?" Unfortunately, no one knows. If we knew what things would break we could just fix them. We'll just have to wait and see what happens, then try and fix things as quickly as possible. Most companies have some sort of back-up plan in case the computers start really misbehaving. It's unlikely that your power will be turned off, or that you'll lose all you money, but these things could happen. If they do happen, they'll happen to a large number of people and the more serious bugs should get straightened out fairly quickly.

The biggest problem may not be with computers at all. It may be that the publics impression of the Y2K problem (built up by the media) will cause people to panic and start pulling money out of the stock market and local banks. This sort of behavior on a national (world?) scale can cause a great deal of damage.

On the brighter side, many companies (banks, credit card, etc) have been dealing with this for quite some time and should have a good handle on it. Any way you look at it, it should be interesting.
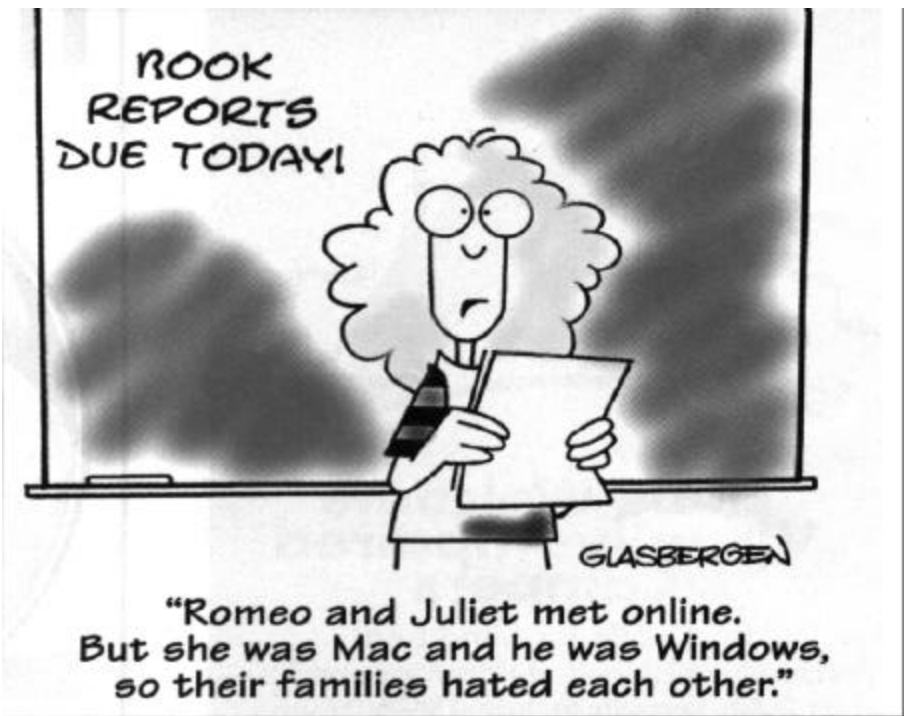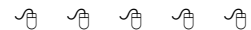
The Expert

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Door Prizes

The SHCC offers door prizes at regularly scheduled club meetings. The door prizes for the November meeting were not known at the time of publication

In November, the prize winners were:

Michael Francis won the Age of Empires game

John Beauchamp won a tower stand

Dick Morawski won a tower stand

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"Romeo and Juliet met online. But she was Mac and he was Windows, so their families hated each other."

Jingle Gates
by Chet Raymo

'Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house
Not a creature was stirring, except Papa's mouse.
The computer was humming, the icons were hopping,
As Papa did last-minute Internet shopping.

The stockings were hung by the modem with care
In hope that St. Nicholas would bring new software.
The children were nestled all snug in their beds,
While visions of computer games danced in their heads.

Dark Forces for Billy, and Doom II for Dan,
And Carmen Santiago for Pamela Ann.
The letters to Santa had been sent out by Mom,
To santaclaus@toyshop.northpole.com -

Which has now been rerouted to Washington State
Because Santa's workshop has been bought by Bill Gates.
All the elves and reindeer have had to skedaddle
To flashy new quarters in suburban Seattle.

After centuries of a life that was simple and spare,
St. Nicholas is suddenly a new billionaire,
With a shiny red Porsche in the place of his sleigh,
And a house on Lake Washington that's just down the way
From where Bill has his mansion. The old fellow preens
In black Gucci boots and red Calvin Klein jeans.
The elves have stock options and desks with a view,
Where they write computer code for Johnny and Sue.

No more dolls or toy soldiers or little toy drums
(ahem - pardon me)
No more dolls or tin soldiers or little toy drums

Will be under the tree, only compact disk ROMs
With the Microsoft label. So spin up your drive,
From now on Christmas runs only on Windows 95.

More rapid than eagles the competitors came,
And Bill whistled, and shouted, and called them by name.
"Now, ADOBE! now, CLARIS! now, INTUIT! too,
Now, APPLE! and NETSCAPE! you are all of you through,

It is Microsoft's SANTA that the kids can't resist,
It's the ultimate software with a traditional twist -
Recommended by no less than the jolly old elf,
And on the package, a picture of Santa himself.

Get 'em young, keep 'em long, is Microsoft's scheme,
And a merger with Santa is a marketer's dream.
To the top of the NASDAQ! to the top of the Dow!
Now dash away! dash away! dash away - wow!"

And Mama in her 'kerchief and I in my cap,
Had just settled down for a long winter's nap,
When out on the lawn there arose such a clatter,
The whir and the hum of our satellite platter,
As it turned toward that new Christmas star in the sky,
The SANTALITE owned by the Microsoft guy.
As I sprang from my bed and was turning around,
My computer turned on with a Jingle-Bells sound.

And there on the screen was a smiling Bill Gates
Next to jolly old Santa, two arm-in-arm mates.
And I heard them exclaim in voice so bright,
Have a MICROSOFT CHRISTMAS,
and TO ALL A GOOD NIGHT.

Vendor Press Releases
by Jim Waldrop

This monthly column lists new vendor announcements and *s p e c i a l s* 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.

None this month

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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 ads for selling things to other members.

Ads are available to SHCC members and are limited to computer related items for non-commercial purposes.

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From the President

(Continued from page 1)
Fortunately, he will continue putting together this fine publication and maintaining our website as well.

As you know from a few paragraphs above, Dick Morawski is sticking with the bean counting. Dick has much experience as treasurer and does a great job managing the funds, collecting the receipts, and making sure the membership counts are kept in balance <g>. Dick has been doing this longer than any treasurer in club history. We are in good hands.

The biggest surprise of the night was that I was elected secretary. I think many were surprised when I was nominated for the job and accepted since I announced that I was not going to run, as president. I was hoping that I could step out completely, but Don's willingness to take the presidency left this job vacant. As the saying goes, "somebody had to do it" <g>. This was the job I held when Don asked me to take over from him as president 7 years ago. Fortunately, Don has refined the job and made it easier for me to take it over again <g>.

I want to thank everyone who had kind words about my tenure as the president of this organization. It is nice to know my work was appreciated and that I have had a positive impact on the group.

So I guess for the next year I'm not going away. Well, I never felt I was going away, just accepting a less demanding role. In fact I plan on accepting an even less demanding role in the future. So if you thought the search for a new president was intense, wait to you see the sell job as I try to find a new secretary in a year or two <g>.

This will not be the last of my writing in the WYSIWYG; look for occasional "From the Secretary's Notebook" in future WYSIWYGs. I actually liked having the privilege as president to put my thoughts into print. Some months were easier to write than others were, but I enjoy writing. I'm just hoping to concentrate more on my professional writings for the two major FoxPro magazines, and have other literary pursuits in mind that I hope to get to in the next couple of years. I also write a monthly column for the Detroit Area Fox User Group newsletter and help out that organization as the secretary. Thank goodness I enjoy my hobbies and that my family supports my efforts in these activities.

Hopefully I have given some food for thought over the last few years of writing this column and have done a fair job as president. The president cannot be successful without a supporting cast and I have had more support than a guy can ask for. I just want to thank Rick K, Don and Dick for all the fun officer meetings. Sometimes we talk more about the state of the computing and business world than club business. That has been a big part of the fun of being an officer. This is a great bunch of guys. They helped me though some tough times in my life personally and it means a lot to know you can count on the people around you. To all the coordinators (past and present) who give of themselves each month, I salute you as well. You folks are the backbone of the organization. All members recognize your tireless efforts.

Lastly I want to thank my family. I can start with my parents who are members of this club and are personally taking to the computer revolution quicker than I thought was possible. They raised this geek well and taught me lessons that I use in everyday life. One of the important ones that they showed me by example is that you volunteer your time and effort to make the world a better place. To all three of my children here on Earth (and the one who is in God's hands) who sometimes wonder why I spend so much time on my computer. Yet they recognize that volunteering your time to help others is a worthwhile effort and one that is needed to make the world go around. Several issues of the newsletter you read were assembled with their tireless hands and countless hugs given when I thought I was out of energy to keep going. They are wiser than their years and I need to focus even more time volunteering to things they are involved in. Lastly and not least, my wife Therese (who could easily be our 5th officer). She supports these efforts more than anyone does. She does everything a husband can hope for. Without her love and support I could not do this work. She is my first editor, she handles the calls during the day when people are looking for information on the SHCC, she makes sure the ice is made and the pop is cold and the house is reasonably clean for the officers meeting. She picks up 100% of the parenting responsibility when I am at meetings or doing work for the club. She gets the mail out and picks up the slack for whatever needs to be done whenever I cannot. She is fantastic and I love her more than anything on this planet. I am a very, very lucky man.

Well it is time to go. We start the Sterling Heights Computer Club's second decade this month. I anticipate that this second decade will be better than the first. There is so much ahead of us with computers that we may never finish learning. I see this as the best news yet!
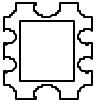
Godspeed!
..RUN AGAIN
SHCC Emergency

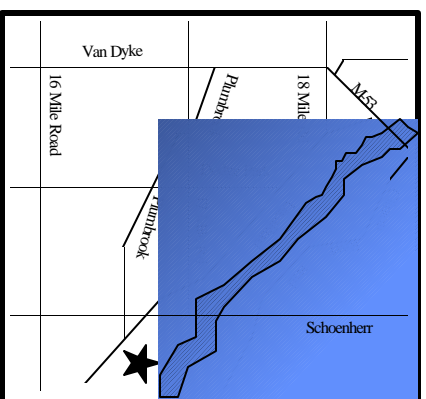# DECEMBER AT SHCC:

TUESDAY DEC 1
Main Meeting.
7:30PM at
Carpathia Club.
38000 Utica Road,
Sterling Heights

"What's Hot for the Holidays" from a local computer store. (Gateway 2000)

Van Dyke
16 Mile Road
Plumbrook
18 Mile
M53
Plumbrook
Schoenherr

SIGs

MONDAY   DEC 14
Net/Com SIG.   7:00PM at the Macomb County Library.

TUESDAY   DEC 15
Novice SIG.   7:00PM at the Macomb County Library

Power User SIG. No meeting this month because of the Christmas Hollidays

FUTURE MEETINGS:

JANUARY
A "how-to" clinic on basic database usage.