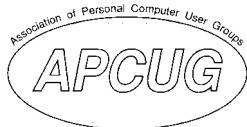




THE WYSIWYG



\$3.00

October 2005

Volume 17, Issue 8

STERLING HEIGHTS COMPUTER CLUB

PO Box 385

Sterling Heights, MI 48311-0385

TUESDAY Oct 4

Main Meeting

7:30 PM

"Picks & Clicks - PDAs and Digital Cameras" presented by Club Member Jan Gaulin

Officer Nominations will be open in October and November. Election of officers will be held at the November meeting.

The President's Pen

by Don VanSyckel



Last month was our first meeting at our new meeting place, Macomb Community College South Campus. This went pretty well. Of course there had to be a couple of small bumps in the road. We had scheduled both a microphone and a projector and neither were there. Fortunately MCC has staff in the building when it's open and they rounded up a projector and we got under way just a few minutes late. Several folks had a problem with the walk in from the parking lot. The officers would like to have some ideas suggested, and if anyone can volunteer to help with a solution please let me know. We've also requested contact information to deal with cars parked in the handicapped spots which are not registered as handicapped. Having said the down sides first, everyone I talked with liked the new room. The seating, the size, the network, everything was good. Also none got lost and most made it to the meeting on time.

I know several of you have been chomping at the bit to give a presentation about some topic but couldn't because you need the Internet for it. OK, now that we have an Internet connection we're ready for you! Just talk with Jerry Hess or Don Hjelle at a meeting or send one of them an email. If you're worried about getting up in front of a few people, I'll make a deal

with you. If anyone picks on you for your presentation skills, we'll make them give a presentation the next month. We'll either have nice respectful audiences or we won't have to look for any presenters for a long time. All kidding aside, SHCC is a good audience and if it's a topic you know, you can't go wrong. Think about doing a presentation.

Just a note about dues. When we changed the dues structure in June to electronic or paper newsletter, everyone started out being entitled to the paper newsletter. When we send an invoice for dues it will bill for your current type which is paper. If you want the electronic newsletter simply pay the lower amount for electronic. In the future you will receive an invoice for your then current type of membership. If you want the other type, pay the amount for the other service.

Consider this..

I've loaded OpenOffice.Org (pronounced Open Office dot Org) on both my laptop and desktop. What's that? OpenOffice.Org is an open source software package that's available for free from www.OpenOffice.org. Open source software is written by volunteers, many with a passion to

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Guests and visitors are welcome. People can attend any SHCC meetings during two consecutive months before deciding to become a member or not. Meetings include the main meeting and SIGs. July and August don't count since there is no main meeting. Membership includes admission to all SHCC functions and the newsletter. Membership is open to anyone. It is not limited to the residents of Sterling Heights.

DUES: \$25/YEAR

CLUB ADDRESS: PO Box 385, Sterling Heights, MI 48311-0385
CLUB E-MAIL ADDRESS: Info@SterlingHeightsComputerClub.org
CLUB WEB PAGE: http://www.SterlingHeightsComputerClub.org

Resource People:

Family Tree	Rick Schummer
Firefox	Don VanSyckel
FoxPro	Rick Schummer
Internet Explorer	-
MS Publisher	Rick Kucejko
MS Word	Rick Schummer
	Jim McNeil
Spreadsheets	Rick Schummer

SHCC Coordinators:

Associate Editor	Rick Schummer
Net/Comm. SIG	Betty MacKenzie
Door prizes	Open
Greeter	Lindell Beck
Newsletter publisher	Rick Kucejko
Novice SIG	Don VanSyckel
PC SIG	Jack Vander-Schrier
Program Coordinator	open
Publicity	Patrick Little
Resource People	open
Vendor Press Rel.	Jim Waldrop
Web Page	Don VanSyckel
WordPerfect	James McNeil

2005 SHCC Officers

President: Don VanSyckel
 V. President: Jerry Hess
 Secretary: Pat Little
 Treasurer: Ed Trombley

Special Interest Groups:

MS-DOS (Main)	IBM compatibles
Net/Com	Computers communicating with other computers
PC	Intermediate users discuss various topics
Novice	Those starting out

Contact Information:

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Jack Vander-Schrier	586-739-7720	jvanders@myself.com
Jim Waldrop	586-731-6481	jwaldrop@tir.com

Four Month Meeting Schedule:

OCTOBER 2005	DECEMBER 2005
4 - SHCC- "Picks & Clicks - PDAs and Digital Cameras" by Member Jan Gaulin	6 - SHCC- "What's Hot for the Holidays" by John Jordan from CompUSA
5 - COMP meeting	7 - COMP meeting
9 - SEMCO meeting	11 - SEMCO meeting
10 - Net/Comm SIG	12 - Net/Comm SIG
17 - Novice SIG	20 - Novice SIG (Tues)
26 - PC SIG	28 - PC SIG
NOVEMBER 2005	JANUARY 2006
1 - SHCC- "Home Networking" by Member Don VanSyckel	3 - SHCC- "The Blogging Craze" by Member Rick Schummer
2 - COMP meeting	4 - COMP meeting
13 - SEMCO meeting	8 - SEMCO meeting
14 - Net/Comm SIG	9 - Net/Comm SIG
21 - Novice SIG	16 - Novice SIG
23 - PC SIG	25 - PC SIG

Other Computer Clubs:

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

Computer Club of Marysville and Port Huron (COMP)
 Time: 1st Wednesday, 7:00PM
 Place: Mackenzie Bldg, Room 201, St Clair Community College, Clara E McKenzie Library-Science Building, 323 Erie St.
 Port Huron, (810) 982-1187
 Web Page: http://www.bwcomp.org
 Reciprocating: Yes

South Eastern Michigan Computer Organization (SEMCO)
 Time: 2nd Sunday at 1:30PM
 Place: Science & Engineering Building; Oakland University; 248-398-7560
 Web page: http://www.semco.org
 Reciprocating: Yes

The OPC (Older Persons Commission) Computer Club
 Time: Every Tuesday at 10:00
 Place: OPC in Rochester 248-656-1403.
 Web page: http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/Village/1904/
 No cost for residents to join or attend meetings. \$150 fee for non-residents
 Reciprocating: No

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: newsletter@SterlingHeightsComputerClub.org

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SIG Meetings

Net/Comm SIG



The next meeting of the Internet/Communications (Net/Comm.) SIG will be Monday, October 10, 2005, starting at 7:00PM at the Macomb County Library. The SIG meeting days are generally the second Monday of the month.

Each month the members of the Net/Comm SIG discusses the Internet to help members of the SHCC learn more about the Internet. At the next Internet meeting we're going to discuss and demonstrate 'Instant Messaging' programs.....Yahoo, MSN, AOL, ICQ, Trillian.....something for everyone.

For more information about the SIG, call or e-mail Betty MacKenzie (numbers are on page 2), or check the club web site.



Novice SIG



The next meeting of the Novice SIG will be Monday, October 17 2005, starting at 7:00 PM at the Macomb County

Library.

We will be using WinXP as the version of Windows to focus on. Since we will be dealing with novice topics, virtually all of the information will be directly usable by those using other versions

of Windows, Win98, WinME, and Win2000.

For more information about the SIG, call or e-mail Don VanSyckel (numbers are on page 2), or check the club web site.



PC SIG



The next meeting of the PC SIG is Wednesday, October 26, 2005, starting at 7:00PM at the Macomb County

Library.

The SIG meeting is generally the fourth Wednesday of the month..

Intermediate level topics are discussed, aimed at users with some knowledge of computers. During this meeting, questions and answers regarding your computer will be discussed. At the next meeting we will be talking about editing pictures created from your digital camera, or downloaded off of the net.

For more information about the SIG, call or e-mail Jack Vander-Shrier (numbers are on page 2), or check the club web site.



Attend A SIG

If you do not attend 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 meeting.



Club Record Changes

To update your e-mail address, phone number, etc., please e-mail the club secretary at: Secretary@SterlingHeightsCom-puterClub.org. Using this address will provide the smoothest and quickest venue for any changes.



Advertising Space in the WYSIWYG

Pages, or fractions of pages are available for commercial advertisement for a reasonable advertising fee. If interested in details, contact the WYSIWYG publisher at the address shown on page 2.



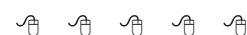
Directions To The Macomb Library

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 red sign says "Macomb County Library". The phone number is (586) 286-6660.



SHCC Emergency Shutdown

If a club meeting is canceled an email will be sent to members by an officer or the coordinator if a SIG meeting at least an hour before the scheduled start of the meeting. If you have an issue with your email call one of the officers of the coordinator of the SIG. Don't call too early, the decision might not be finalized yet. All members are encouraged to keep the club up to date with their email address.



SHCC Business

“Ask The Experts”

by Jack Vander-Schrier



Please send questions to “Ask the Experts” at the club’s PO address, or e-mail your question directly to the Expert at the club e-mail address: AskTheExpert@SterlingHeightsComputerClub.org.

Q: Dear Expert:
Why do so many of my messages have an attachment icon when they don’t have any attachments inside.?

Confused.

A: Dear Confused:
That usually means that Outlook Express is configured to read all messages as plain text, and you are viewing a message that was sent in HTML format. The attachment in this case is not really an attachment at all, but merely a visual indication that there is more to the message than you are currently seeing, in particular all the HTML that provides the formatting of the message.

You can open this virtual attachment in your browser to read the message in its original format, or you can just press ALT+SHIFT+H (equivalent to clicking MESSAGE AS HTML on the VIEW menu) to view the message in HTML format in the Outlook Express window. If you prefer to read messages as they were sent instead of as plain text, click OPTIONS on the TOOLS menu, click the READ tab, and then clear the READ AS MESSAGES in plain text check box.

Ask The Expert.

Q: Dear Expert
I have burned two CD’s but when I go to the CD to delete anything it says read only. I cannot delete it. How come?

Wanna Delete

A: Dear Wanna
When you burn a CD and it is a CD-R , it means that your CD is a Read Only. This means that you can put information on it, but once it is there you cannot delete it again. Its kind of like writing it in stone. If you want to be able to delete the files in the future, make sure that you save your files to a CD-RW. This will allow you to Write to the CD, and Read it from the CD and Delete it from the CD.

Ask The Expert



Member Ads

Ads are available free 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.



Dues Structure

The constitutional amendment voted on at the June meeting was passed. The dues are still \$25 for those receiving the digital version of the newsletter. The dues for those desiring the paper version of the newsletter to be mailed to them will now pay \$35 a year. The change will take effect when a member joins or rejoins the club. No changes in the member dues will occur until their dues are up and they rejoin.



Last Club Meeting Highlights

Member Jack Vander-Shrier talked about finding things on the Internet. Many sites, covering a multitude of topics and interests, were accessed during this presentation in our new meeting location, made possible by the high speed Internet access available in the new meeting room.



VISIT THE SHCC WEB PAGE:
<http://www.SterlingHeightsComputerClub.org>



The President's Pen

(Continued from page 1)

make it happen. The source code of open source software is available for free if you want it. Most open source projects make a runnable version available so we all don't have to learn how to make a runnable program from source code; this runnable version is also free. As you might guess OpenOffice.Org offers office applications for word processing (MS Word), spreadsheet (MS Excel), and presentations (MS PowerPoint). These packages do not 'clone' the MS packages in all ways. What they do offer is most of the functionality of the MS packages, and all of the commonly used functionality. The OpenOffice.Org software will choose to read and write their own formats but can read and write MS Word, MS Excel, MS PowerPoint, WordPerfect file types, and others.

Why should you be interested in OpenOffice.Org?

- 1) The price is right! Free!! All you have to do is download it. If you own MS software you no longer have to buy upgrades. If your MS software is less than legal, you can now have a clear conscience.
- 2) In some ways this software can be simpler to use than the MS software because there isn't as many options to trip over.
- 3) There are Linux versions available. This means if you choose to switch to Linux in the future, not only can you take all your data files with you without any conversion, you will have the same program with the same look and feel available to you. Or if any of your friends or family use Linux, this will make it possible to easily exchange data with them and still maintain compatibility with Windows programs.
- 4) If you are in another club, church, or organization and need to exchange

data files, those people without the MS programs will not be faced with a buy it or steal it decision; neither of which is a good option to an honest person on a budget. Everyone in the group needing to exchange data can simply load OpenOffice.Org and do work in it. Everyone can afford the price and be honest.

Loading OpenOffice.Org couldn't be simpler. 1) Download it. 2) Double click on the downloaded file. 3) Answer a couple of question like you do in every install. 4) Done, start using it.

Now back to club business...

The presentation for October should be of interest to most people. Club member Jan Gaulin will present "Picks & Clicks - PDAs and Digital Cameras". Jan will have a lot of helpful information and hints for those using Personal Digital Assistants (PDAs) and digital cameras. Bring your questions, heck brink your PDAs and your cameras.

See you Tuesday night.



SHCC MEETING LOCATION

Macomb Community College South Campus
John Lewis Community Center (Building K)
14500 E 12 Mile Road, Warren, MI
(enter from Hayes Road)

Directions to our main meeting location are provided below, for various possible routes:

- * Highway: Take I-75 to I-696 east or I-94 to I-696 west. Exit at Groesbeck Highway. Go north. Follow the Groesbeck northeast bound directions below.
 - * Surface streets: from just about anywhere get to Groesbeck Highway, 12 Mile Road, or Hayes Road (north of 12 Mile) and follow the directions below.
 - * Groesbeck southwest bound: take Groesbeck southwest to 12 Mile Road and turn right. Go west about 1/2 mile to Hayes Road and turn left. Go to the first drive on the right and turn right. Park in lot.
 - * Groesbeck northeast bound: take Groesbeck northeast to about 1/2 mile north of I-696 to Martin Road and turn left. Go west about 1/4 mile to Hayes Road and turn right. Go north about 1/4 mile to driveway closest 12 Mile Road and turn left. Park in lot.
 - * Hayes south bound: take Hayes Road south and pass 12 Mile Road. Go to the first drive on the right and turn right. Park in lot.
 - * 12 Mile east bound: take 12 Mile Road east to Hayes Road and turn right. Go to the first drive on the right and turn right. Park in lot.
 - * 12 Mile west bound: take 12 Mile Road west to Hayes Road and turn left. Go to the first drive on the right and turn right. Park in lot.
- * Once parked, walk to and enter the building at the end of the driveway you just came in on. Upon entering the building you can take the elevator or the stairs to the second floor. The elevator is a right just inside the door. The stairs are in the center of the building just a little left and straight ahead. On the second floor turn left and enter the hallway in the corner. The meeting room is at the end of the short hallway.

* Handicap parking: There are a number of handicap parking spaces right at the door. Please be advised this area is patrolled and legally binding tickets are written for those abusing the rules.



Election Announcement

It is time to re-elect our officers. Here is the process, the jobs, and responsibilities:

The nomination process is simple. You can nominate yourself or have another person nominate you for one or more of the offices. All the offices (president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer) are elected for a one year term starting in January and completing in December. Nominations are taken in October and just before the elections in November. You must be a member to be nominated or to nominate someone.

The elections are held at the regular meeting closest to November 1st. The easy way to remember this is that we hold our elections on the same night as the local and national elections are held, in years when there is a national election.

Only members of the SHCC can vote. Ballots will be handed out at the sign-in door. The elections are held during the business portion of the meeting. The person with the majority of the vote for the office is the winner, for each office.

The jobs of each office are flexible. Some are defined, some change from office to office depending on the officers' capabilities and availability.

In reality the president makes sure the meeting topics are set, the speakers are prepared, writes thank you notes to presenters and door prize contributors, runs the regular club and officer meetings, publishes the minutes to the officer meetings, takes phone calls from potential members and sends information to them, audits the monthly treasurer report and membership databases, tracks door prizes, and handles most of the publicity issues for the club. The WYSIWYG column is optional, but a

great forum to pass along information to the members. The president also makes sure that the different coordinators are appointed and do their jobs. The president enforces the constitution and Club's policies. The president does whatever things cannot be done by anyone else. The key to this job is delegation. The more the president delegates the less there is to do.

The Vice President has the catch all job. So far to date the vice-president has not had to step in for the president, and there have not been any state funerals that they have had to attend. This is an important job. The person must be flexible and be prepared to run the regular and officer meetings if the president cannot attend. This officer usually picks up a project or two during the year to lift the burden from other officers.

The secretary maintains the membership database which is tracked in an Access database. They also put together "New Member Packets" and give them to newly joined members, and members who renew. These packets are already printed, some assembly required! The secretary audits the treasurer report to make sure that the membership money collected matches the membership counts in the database, print the mailing labels for

WYSIWYG mailing, and maintains several reports such as a membership list and attendance sheet. The secretary makes sure that sign-in table materials needed at each regular meeting are there before the meeting, and before people start showing up.

The treasurer maintains records for all the money taken in and paid out from the Club's checking account. The SHCC currently uses Quicken to track the funds and generate reports for the officers. The treasurer also audits the membership counts. The treasurer makes reports to the officers at the officers meeting and four times a year to the Club's membership. All the receipts are collected and maintained by the treasurer.

All the officers attend the officer meeting that takes place during the week after the club meeting. It starts at 7:30PM; time and date are flexible to the liking of all officers.

I hope everyone considers this invitation, this call to service. It is some work, and it is a lot of fun. Normally it takes 3 to 5 hours a month (give or take a few hours) outside of the meetings. The president's job might take a little more, but remember that delegation can lower the burden. If you have any questions concerning the duties, feel free to give any of the officers a call.

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Freecycle Network Offers A Never-Ending Garage Sale (And It's All Free!)

by Gabe Goldberg, APCUG Advisor and Columnist, AARP Computers and Technology Website

It's not easy being green, sang Kermit the green Muppet frog. But it's getting easier, as people, corporations, non-profit organizations, and government agencies recognize benefits of conserving and recycling resources of all sorts.

There have always been opportunities such as garage sales, flea markets, and thrift shops for casual/local exchanges of goods. Most of us have likely both bought and sold: giving new life to things we've enjoyed but no longer need, cashing in gifts we can't quite

imagine using, and finding economical goods courtesy of neighbors and charitable organizations.

Before we recently move, my wife and I took the opportunity to get rid of anything we thought was surplus. Fortunately, we beat the year-end crush at places like Salvation Army. But in December I did see 18-wheelers being loaded with goods from people who suddenly remembered the tax deduction for making such donations to charitable organizations. And I wondered how much of the tonnage being hauled would actually be sold and reused.

As in many other areas, the Internet lends new sparkle and efficiency to an old idea: using things until they're completely worn out. It's really true that one person's junk can be another person's treasure. In fact, the worldwide Freecycle(tm) Network [www.freecycle.org] offers goods at the Internet's favorite price (at least for buyers): free! Perhaps best of all, the Network offers in-person one-to-one transfers, making it likely that goodies will go places where they're cherished.

The Web site notes:

The worldwide Freecycle Network is made up of many individual groups across the globe. It's a grassroots movement of people who are giving (and getting) stuff for free in their own towns. Each local group is run by a local volunteer moderator (good people). Membership is free.

The Freecycle Network was started in May 2003 to promote waste reduction in Tucson's downtown and help save desert landscape from being taken over by landfills. The Network provides individuals and non-profits an electronic forum to "recycle" unwanted items.

Freecycling is interesting because, while it could only be done on the

Internet, it has a very local focus. That is, while Web sites and discussion mailing lists draw worldwide clientele, physical transfer of free goods is constrained to relatively small areas.

So Freecycle operates as locally oriented mailing lists. For example, in the Washington, DC region, there's a huge list for the central city (one of the top ten lists with more than 6,000 people), and many suburbs have their own lists with dozens or hundreds of subscribers.

The main Freecycle Web site lists rules and etiquette, which are echoed by welcome messages to new subscribers.

It's all simple and reasonable:

Goods offered must be available for pickup in the local area; stick to recycling, avoid politics, spam, and off-topic messages; begin all e-mail subject lines with one of the words OFFER/TAKEN/WANTED/RECEIVED

Rules such as "Keep it free, keep it legal, keep it safe for all ages" prohibit offering or requesting items such as guns, prescription drugs, "adult" material, alcohol, and cigarettes. Pets are OK, though. Only free and physical stuff is allowed; barter/exchanges/sales are barred, as are services offered or wanted.

I'm told that the list is best read in individual messages rather than digests (which collect dozens of messages into one e-mail) since offered items are often snatched up in just a few minutes. A reply in five minutes might be too late!

Messages are transmitted by the Yahoo! Groups Web site [groups.yahoo.com] so list archives can be searched. This allows making sure that no TAKEN or RECEIVED has been sent for the OFFER or WANTED you're about to answer.

Donors can decide which request gets the goods. First-reply-wins is a fine approach, but some decide based on why a person needs something. Businesses can use Freecycle to dispose of goods - for example computing equipment that's usable but not marketable. A company with 25 monitors might offer them to a Freecycle list - perhaps specifying minimum pickup of five. So smaller companies, recycling organizations, or community-minded individuals could collect and redistribute them where they're needed.

A very unscientific analysis of about 40 postings divided into 16 OFFERs, 12 TAKENs, 10 WANTEDs, and two RECEIVEDs - a very respectable success rate for OFFERs and WANTEDs!

As of when I'm writing this, more than 2,000 large and small communities have Freecycle groups with more than 700,000 members. And the Web site gives step-by-step instructions for starting one where there is none. Go forth and Freecycle!

This article appeared originally on AARP's Computers and Technology Web site, [www.aarp.org/computers]. (c) AARP 2004/2005. Permission is granted for reprinting and distribution by non-profit organizations with text reproduced unchanged and this paragraph included. Please e-mail the author, Gabe Goldberg, at [gabe@gabegold.com] when you print or post it.

The Editorial Committee of the Association of Personal Computer User Groups (APCUG), an international organization of which this group is a member, brings this article to you.



Reading Product Manuals Online

by Gabe Goldberg, APCUG Advisor; Columnist, AARP Computers & Technology Website

I'm reasonably well-organized. My wife thinks I'm a packrat (she keeps trying to sneak my '70s shirts to the thrift shop). You'd think this would mean that I can find product manuals for every appliance, gadget, PC component and software, etc., I've ever bought. That's mostly true.

But sometimes my filing system fails me, or I've forgotten to whom I loaned something. Or someone else in the house has moved it. What then?

Fortunately, manufacturers are increasingly making product literature and documentation available online. While this isn't entirely out of generosity ~ it reduces their customer-support workload ~ it's great for consumers who can find and read the material.

A good starting place is the manufacturer's Web site. For example, I'm writing this article using a Samsung SyncMaster 912n LCD video monitor. Suppose I need to know what its control buttons do but can't find its manual. Samsung's home page [www.samsung.com] offers a button, "Download Center: Download Drivers, Manuals, Software, and Firmware". I can either enter a product model number or name, or search via product group (audio/video, computers, etc.), then product type, then product subtype, and model name.

Computers are very precise; searching took three tries, since it wanted only "912n", not "SyncMaster 912n". The manual was then available in any of 28 languages, including Bulgarian and Chinese. There was a PDF file (see below for explanation), just under three megabytes, dated about a month ago, complete, 83 pages including clickable Table of Contents. So a minute after deciding to look for it, I'm looking *at* it.

Another way to search is via Google [www.google.com]. Enter terms like 912n manual site:samsung.com which only searches the samsung.com Web site. This took me to the right neighborhood on the Web site but left me needing a few more clicks to hit the manual. Sometimes search engine results are better than navigating within a site, so consider both techniques.

Manufacturers often update online material as mistakes or shortcomings are found in printed versions, so for important products it's worth checking Web sites occasionally. Sadly, they also sometimes package only abbreviated versions with products, suggesting or expecting consumers to download full versions.

Either way, online manuals are also useful when considering purchases or comparing choices, since they give ~ or should give ~ more complete and useful information than is printed on the box. If you're evaluating something to purchase, evaluate the manual's organization and quality ~ Will you be able to find information you need? Will you understand it? If you're buying something used, online availability of a missing manual can make the acquisition much more pleasant.

Online manuals can be in many formats ~ HTML (normal Web pages), Microsoft Word documents, PDF (Portable Document Format), and others. Each format has advantages and disadvantages. HTML is nearly universal; if you can view Web pages you can read HTML documentation. But it may be harder to download and save/organize all pieces of a large document. You'll need Microsoft Word software (or free reader) to read MS Word files. Flexible PDF is becoming the most popular online document format, but

it too requires software, Adobe's Acrobat Reader, for viewing. Fortunately, this is free and easy to download/install; visit Adobe [http://www.adobe.com/] and click Get Adobe Reader.

Some manufacturers take a different approach, offering search tools and links within their Web sites for different material, such as overviews, tutorials, problem solving tips, even video clips illustrating usage.

Finally, LiveManuals [www.livemanuals.com] takes an interesting interactive approach, providing interactive product demonstrations. Though it doesn't include every product ~ office equipment and appliances aren't presently well-represented ~ the Wish List page accepts nominations for items to add.

This article originated on AARP's Computers and Technology Web site, www.aarp.org/computers, and is copyrighted by AARP. All rights are reserved; it may be reproduced, downloaded, disseminated, or transferred, for single use, or by nonprofit organizations for educational purposes, with attribution to AARP. It should be unchanged and this paragraph included. Please e-mail Gabe Goldberg at gabe@gabegold.com when you use it, or for permission to excerpt or condense.

The Editorial Committee of the Association of Personal Computer User Groups (APCUG), an international organization of which this group is a member, brings this article to you.

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If your e-mail or mail address changes, please e-mail: secretary@SterlingHeightsComputerClub.org

WYSIWYG WEB WATCH (www)

By Paul Baecker

webwatch@sterlingheightscomputer club.org



This column attempts to locate sites containing valuable, amusing and free content, with no overbearing pressure to purchase any-

thing. Send your favorite entertaining, helpful or just plain useless sites (a description is optional) to the e-address noted above, for inclusion in a future WYSIWYG issue. Also check the SHCC web site ("Web Page Reviews") for previous gems.

It's late at night. Do you know what your icons are doing?

<http://www.xs4all.nl/~jvdkuyp/flash/see.htm>

Museum of 2300 calculating devices.
<http://www.calculators.de>

Free online directory of age-related discounts for people over 50 years of age.
<http://seniordiscounts.com>

Vast collection of entertaining videos, sounds, pictures, text, and interactive content.
<http://boreme.com>

The BSOD (Blue Screen of Death) is everywhere!
<http://daimyo.org/bsod/>

99rooms is a unique internet art project that interweaves wall painting, photography, animation and sound in a unique manner.
<http://99rooms.com>

Sears catalog from 1971.
<http://www.aperfectworld.org/sears.htm>

Stories behind the graphics on the sides of U-Haul trucks.

<http://www.uhaul.com/supergraphics/>

Who'd have thought there was so much technical knowledge and creativity tied up in shoelaces?

<http://www.fieggen.com/shoelace/>

Metric calculators and conversion tables.

<http://www.metric-conversions.org>

How NOT to install computer hardware.

<http://www.hardwareanalysis.com/content/reviews/article/1672/>

Plan your trip to any National Park; search by name, geography, or category.

<http://www.nps.gov/parks.html>

Historic events and birthdays for any day.

<http://www.scopesys.com/anyday/>

Camcorder reviews and articles on video production and camcorder use.

<http://www.camcorderinfo.com>

News, reviews, ratings, and buying tips for digital cameras.

<http://digitalcamerainfo.com>

Place you visit when your PC drives you insane with hardware / software problems, glitches, etc.

<http://www.pchell.com>

Site provides a unique collection of small, useful freeware utilities - security, network/system monitoring, password recovery; freeware links.

<http://www.nirsoft.net>

Gallery of obscure patents ~ owners, descriptions, diagrams, animations.

<http://www.delphion.com/gallery>
Lists of heads of state and heads of government of all countries and territories, many dating back to 1700's.
<http://www.rulers.org>

Gallery of historic patents ~ owners, descriptions, diagrams, animations.
<http://www.delphion.com/historic>

Should you be concerned about security aspects of public wi-fi hotspots? One opinion.

<http://www.securitypipeline.com/howto/57702370>

Photographic archive of the archaeological and architectural remains of ancient Athens.

<http://www.stoa.org/athens/>

Article describes how to use MS Driver Verifier to isolate and troubleshoot a driver in a Win2K, WinXP or Win2K3 Server system.

<http://support.microsoft.com/default.aspx?scid=kb;en-us;244617>

Exhibit of fifteen causes of color derived from a variety of physical and chemical mechanisms.

<http://webexhibits.org/causesofcolor/>

Graphical tutorial to using Ad-Aware SE anti-spyware.

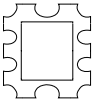
http://www.bleepingcomputer.com/forums/Using_Ad_Aware_SE_to_remove_Spyware_and_Hijacker%20s_from_Your_Computer-tut48.html

Local web site(s) of the month; sites of interest in and near SE Michigan. Look here each month for another interesting site from our area.

Online resource to living, working and playing in Michigan.

<http://www.michigan.org>





**STERLING HEIGHTS
COMPUTER CLUB**
PO Box 385
Sterling Heights, MI 48311-0385

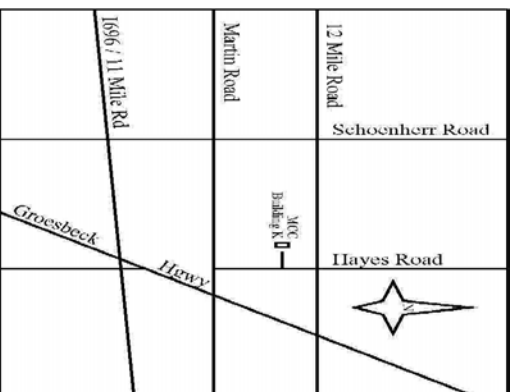


OCTOBER AT SHCC:

TUESDAY OCT 4
Main Meeting. 7:30PM

Macomb Community College
South Campus
14500 E 12 Mile Road, Warren
John Lewis Community Center
(Building K)
(Enter from Hayes Road)

**"Picks & Clicks - PDAs
and Digital Cameras"**
presented by Club
Member Jan Gaulin



SIGS

MONDAY October 10
Net/Com SIG 7:00PM at the Macomb County Library.

MONDAY October 17
NOVICE SIG 7:00PM at the Macomb County Library.

WEDNESDAY October 26
PC SIG 7:00PM at the Macomb County Library.

**NOVEMBER: "Home Networking, Wireless Access Points,
And All That Stuff"** presented by Member Don Vansyckel

DECEMBER: "What's Hot for the Holidays" presented by
John Jordan from CompUSA