

LAGUNA WOODS VILLAGE PC CLUB NEWSLETTER

www.thepcclub.org

Summer, 2013

Board of Directors:

Bob Sellards, President

John Huber, Vice President
and Workshop Coordinator

Barbara Harris, Treasurer

Lynn Brown, Secretary

Robin Nahas, Membership

Nancy Kring,
Education Chairperson

Don Beckhart, Programs
Chairman

John Griffin,
Systems Administrator

Jerry Moore,
Systems Administrator

Leah Rae, Member
Communications

Michael Taylor, Publicity
Chairperson

Anne Clark, Webmaster

Vacant
Newsletter Editor

MONTHLY MEETING

Tuesday, September 10, 2013
7:00 PM

Clubhouse 7 Main Lounge

Passwords-The Good, Bad, & Ugly



How to Protect Yourself from the Baddies

All Laguna Woods residents are welcome!
Prize Drawing (only members are eligible) and Refreshments
If you don't drive at night, Night Bus Service
is available - call 597-4659

Next Meetings: Oct. 8 & Nov. 11

From Our President: Bob Sellards

Let's call this a potpourri of items from and about your Club. . . something for everyone.

-First, **A Big Welcome to all of our new Members**- And thank you for supporting our club.

-You may not be aware that our long-time friend, Workshop Supervisor and **NEWSLETTER EDITOR**, Shirley Szalkowski has recently left the community for "greener pastures". She exceeded everyone's expectations for many years in her various roles and is nearly irreplaceable. However, we must try. For now, a new staff member, Ron Spencer, has been recruited for her Wednesday PM shift @ the WS, and John Huber has agreed to do *this* Newsletter. Can you help?? If you have a working knowledge of MS Publisher, Word or any other software program suitable for creating our newsletter, please contact myself, or John. (see our general email address at end of this article)

-You may be the proud owner of a Kindle Reader (any model) but haven't quite mastered the many features and characteristics. Not to worry, Nancy Kring, our **Education Chairperson** has restarted the Kindle Help Group meetings. There is NO registration or prerequisite – just show up. The first meeting was Tuesday July 16th @ 10AM in the Learning Center. It was very successful with about 60 attendees. The next roundtable is scheduled for Aug. 20 in the Learning Center. While the Kindle is far and away the most popular make in the reader category*, you don't actually need a "reader" to enjoy e-books. You can obtain the Kindle App for your Android tablet (from Amazon's web site – free) and you'll be in business just download your books to the tablet. Likewise, you may want to have the Nook App which is available through Google Play. FYI – we'll be scheduling more Kindle & Android Roundtable meetings in the near future. Watch your email, the web site and/or the Globe for information and details.

**Amazon reported that over 5 million Fire units alone were sold during the 2012 Christmas season!*

-We of course receive phone calls at the Workshop on a daily basis from residents needing help with their PC. These range from simple to complex; some are often quite difficult to resolve over the phone. Please remember that if you're able to bring your PC to the Workshop (certainly easy enough for laptop owners) a Supervisor can assist you with a diagnosis and possible "fix". There is no charge for this assistance. However, for many years we've also had member volunteers that constitute our own "geek squad"; a brochure is available @ the Workshop with their names, contact information and description of services. Stop in and get a copy, or call and ask our Greeter for at least 2-3 of these individuals' names. There is a nominal charge for the House Call and services of these professionals. If you have a serious problem and want to engage in a bit of exploration and possible self-help, *get on the web and check out some of our suggested resources*. (see sidebar with this info. elsewhere in this issue)

-Our Fall season will arrive before you know it and with it our final three General Meetings for the year. . . please note dates on this Newsletter's cover page.

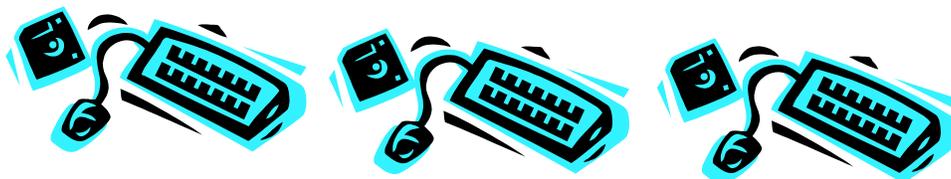
-Our Annual PC Club Dinner is fast approaching. The date is Wednesday October 23 in Clubhouse 5. The time, fees & menus will be announced in the future. This dinner is for all members, and our volunteers are complimentary. There will be great entertainment, and we promise no long speeches. Look for more information in your email, and on the website.

Save this date!! Saturday, Nov. 16th, 9AM to 12N, CH 5 for our **2nd Annual Tech Expo**. This event is presented jointly by the Village's 5 Technology Clubs - Amateur Radio, Camera, Mac, PC and Video. These Clubs will each have a table and provide staff to discuss their expertise, resources and answer your questions. A plethora of technology (and other) vendors and sponsors is being invited to take part in the event. There is no admission charge; door prizes will be awarded at the conclusion of the event – you do not have to be present to claim your prize, but you must attend and get a ticket from a Club representative to be entered in the drawing.

-Please support your PC Club: 1) attend our General Meetings, SIGs, special events, i.e.- Kindle or Android meetings, etc., 2) utilize the many resources in the Workshop, 3) **volunteer** your time and know-how in any capacity, if you can. We'd be happy to have you and show you the fun of helping others while keeping current, brushing up on computing and learning new things. Remember that we have a great web site; be sure to make regular visits www.thepcclub.org

-Finally, we've had numerous inquiries as to whether you can still buy a new PC, or upgrade an old one, and opt for **Windows 7**, not 8. The answer is Yes and No: if you're purchasing from a local retail store – or online retailers – you're going to get a Windows 8 unit. However, a check of several web sites (on July 25) indicates that you can still buy Windows 7 software (any flavor) and install that on your new Windows 8 PC, or use it to upgrade an older model. See Amazon, Micro Center, Fry's, or the web site of the usual local retailers – Staples, Best Buy, etc. *Note - Microsoft has stated that they will continue to fully support Windows 7 through January, 2015. Limited ("basic") support will be available until 04/15/20. "Mainstream Support" (MS's terms) for XP and Vista has been discontinued.*

Questions? Suggestions? Problems? We're offering our insight and expertise, 24/7 – all you have to do is send a message to our gmail address: lwvpcclub@gmail.com A Club representative will respond and provide help if possible – or suggestions – if it's something we can't address or resolve. Try it out!



PC Workshop News:

We have a unique state of the art facility on the 3rd floor of the Community Building on El Toro Rd. We have 33 computers, using Windows XP, Windows 7, and Windows 8. They all have Microsoft Office on them, are connected to the Internet, and are available Monday thru Friday, 10 AM to 4PM, and on Saturday, 10 AM to 1 PM. We have 3 computers connected to scanners for creating digital images of your photos, slides, & negatives. They can also copy documents to a file so that you'll have an archival copy. One of our scanners has an automatic feeder that allows you to scan 20 pages, both sides, at a time. Bring in your pictures or documents anytime we're open and a supervisor will show you how to use the scanners. Be sure to bring a flash drive with you to save your copies.

We also have a book lending library available for the club members to use. We are always adding new titles, which include Windows 8. So check with the Greeters to see what's available and to check one out. We also have back copies of some computer magazines with great learning articles.

A reminder to all of our members. The PC Workshop is entirely managed by volunteers. They're a great group, and are available to assist you during your visit. There are no PCM employees here, and the supplies are provided by the club. So if you have a good experience being helped during your visit, a simple thank you is greatly appreciated. If you have some spare time, and enjoy helping others, we're always looking for new Supervisors and Greeters. We can use help either on a regular shift, AM or PM, or as a substitute. We'll train you, and you'll never have to work alone. If you don't know the answer, there's always someone else to turn to. You'll be working with a great group of your fellow residents.

John Huber
949-382-1831
jchuber@ix.netcom.com



Education News-NancyKring

Registration for Fall Classes will take place on Friday, August 23, from 10 AM to 1 PM and on Saturday, August 24, from 10 AM to 12 PM. There will be a full range of classes including some new offerings. Classes will start on September 9. Class descriptions and schedules will be available in mid August in the PC Workshop and on the PC Club website, www.thepcclub.org. If you have any questions, please email us at lwvpclub@gmail.com.

If you would like to teach a class please let us know at the email address above. We have all of the materials to go with a class, and we have people to help you. After all, you'll be teaching some of your neighbors, who will be very patient with you. And it's a lot of fun. We also need helpers for the classes to answer any individual questions and to help keep the students on track. If you would like to volunteer or have any questions, please email the above address.

We are planning an Android Tablet discussion group on Thursday August 15 at 10 AM in the PC Learning Center. This will include all tablets such as the Samsung, Nexus, Toshiba, etc. It will be a roundtable where everyone can share and ask questions. It is not a teaching class. Please look for flyers, emails and the club website for more information.

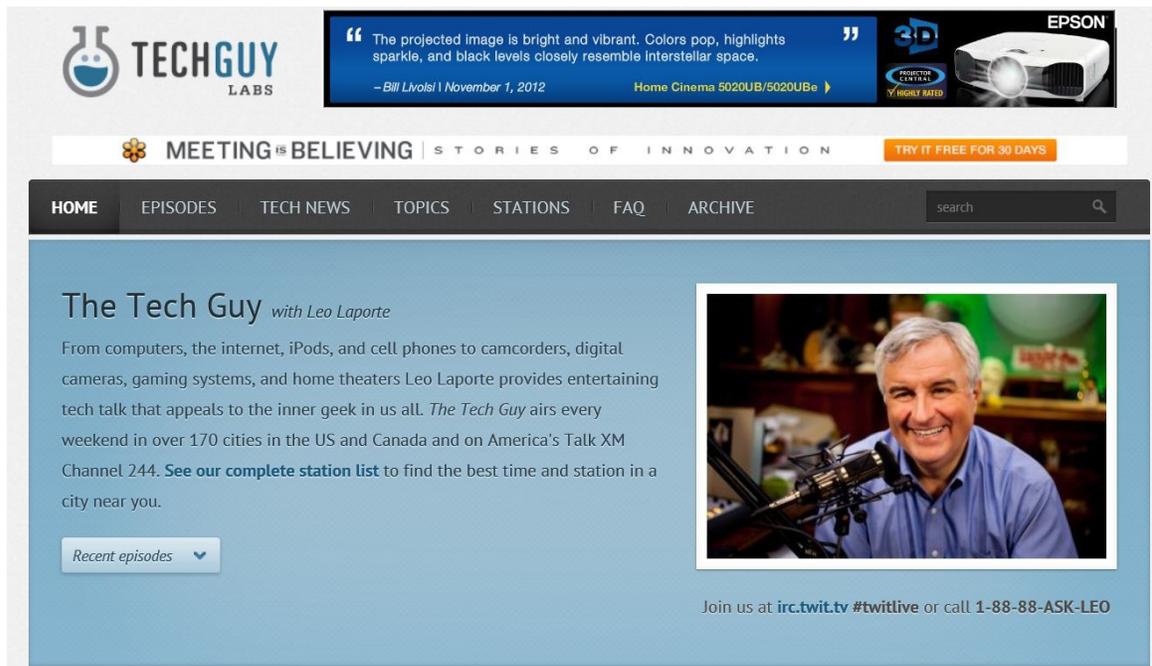
If you have any suggestions or comments on the club's education plans, please email us. We're always looking for suggestions, and ways to improve our offerings.

Photos from Last Years Dinner-We Hope to See You There this Year!



Some Interesting Websites to Check Out

-The first site is probably familiar to some of our members. It's <http://techguylabs.com/>, the home of Leo Laporte. Leo is a nationwide radio personality and an expert on all things tech. His show airs locally on KFI-AM 640 every Saturday & Sunday from 11 AM to 2 PM. The website has audio & video of his past shows available to view anytime, and there's almost 1000 shows available. One feature is the ability to search on a specific topic. You can then view or listen to that particular question and Leo's answer. It also has an area where you can access the links that are suggested for that topic. I have found this very useful as I usually listen to the show in the car, and I can't write down the website reference. I go to the website and I can find all of the links. It helps me avoid having an accident!



The screenshot shows the homepage of the Tech Guy website. At the top left is the Tech Guy Labs logo. A blue banner features a quote from Bill Livolsi dated November 1, 2012, praising the Epson Home Cinema 5020UB/5020UBe projector. Below the banner is a navigation bar with the slogan "MEETING IS BELIEVING | STORIES OF INNOVATION" and a "TRY IT FREE FOR 30 DAYS" button. The main navigation menu includes links for HOME, EPISODES, TECH NEWS, TOPICS, STATIONS, FAQ, and ARCHIVE, along with a search box. The main content area features the title "The Tech Guy with Leo Laporte" and a description of the show. A photo of Leo Laporte is shown on the right. At the bottom, there is a "Recent episodes" dropdown menu and social media links for IRC and Twitter.

Another Leo, though without a radio show, is Ask Leo at <http://askleo.com/>. Leo answers common questions in plain language that is easy to understand. He publishes a free weekly newsletter that you can receive by email that always provides the most popular questions with Leo's answers.



The Ask Leo logo features a small photo of Leo Notenboom next to the text "ASK LEO!" in large blue letters, with "by Leo Notenboom" in smaller text below. Below the logo is a blue banner with the tagline "Helping people with technology... one answer at a time."

If you have discovered a great website, please email it to the club at lwvpcclub@gmail.com. Perhaps you see it mentioned in a future newsletter!

Most Popular and Important Answers: Backing Up Email

- How do I backup my computer?
- What backup program should I use?
- Backup and Restore with Macrium Reflect 5.0
- What's the difference between an image backup and a files and folder backup?
- Email Hacked? 7 Things You Need to do NOW
- Someone's sending from my email address! How do I stop them?!
- How do I change my email address?
- Where is my Outlook "PST" file located?

The Best of the Joy of Computing



by Norm Salzberg

Joy of Computing

A new class of malicious software (malware) now making the rounds is **Ransomware**. It may be installed when an attachment or link is opened in an email or social networking website or by visiting an infected website. Once installed, Ransomware locks up your computer by encrypting files on the hard drive or by changing settings in the Registry. All you'll see is a pop-up window demanding a ransom payment to the hacker who planted this infection. If the extortion is paid, the hacker may send a key code that unlocks your computer. Do not support this criminal activity. Depending on the severity of the infection, you may be able to scan your computer to remove the malware by using your antivirus program, Malwarebytes or Microsoft's Safety Scanner. Of course, reformatting the hard drive and then restoring everything will cure the problem, but at a great cost in time and money. This is another reason to back up important files to an external memory.

Prevention is the best defense against infections: first, by **not opening suspicious links, attachments and pop-ups**; and second, by using (and keeping up to date) a **good security program** to detect and remove infections. Free security programs that provide antivirus, antispyware and other anti-malware detection and removal features are available for non-business users. However, do not install more than one anti-virus program.

BENEFITS OF PC CLUB MEMBERSHIP*

- Informative [free] monthly meetings. . . eligibility for door prizes!
- Newsletters geared to Senior PC users [free and first via email]
- Discount on PC classes
- Representation at the national Senior's Computer User Groups Association
- Access to Club's Lending Library of Computer Books, Manuals, and PC Magazines
- Periodic special classes just for Members
- First to receive any new, useful information [emailed periodically]
- First to know of events involving other Village Technology Clubs: Camera, Video, and Macintosh
- Free [bring-it-in] technical support for your PC or printer
- Members' dues allow us to maintain a state-of-the-art workshop and learning center!

*Best \$10.00 you'll spend for any Village Club Membership . . . for what you get!

LWVPC Club (Laguna Woods Village PC Club) \$10 (expires December 31, 2013)

MEMBERSHIP FORM (Please Print *Clearly*)

Must be a resident of Laguna Woods Village

Date _____ Cash ___ Check No. _____ Check one: New Member ___ Renewal ___

Last Name _____ First Name _____ Phone _____

Address (LWV Address) _____ Unit _____

Mailing Address (if different) _____

Email Address (please print clearly) _____

Please make \$10 check payable to PC Club

Place check in Membership Mailbox in Workshop (3rd floor Admin. Bldg.)

Or mail to LWVPC Club, Attn: Robin, Membership, P.O. Box 3063, Laguna HILLS, CA 92654

Non-Profit

Laguna Woods Village PC Club

Your PC Club is a non-profit organization, dedicated to helping residents improve their computer skills, and get more enjoyment from their computers.

Section 501(c) (3), Tax ID 42-1645625