The Bytes of Las Vegas

November, 2009

The Presidents Message:

Another year is almost over and officers of LVPCUG are working hard to bring you a quality organization. Each month we strive to get an interesting program for our general meeting. The SIG leaders continue to bring you topics of interest each month. These are all for your benefit. Please continue to support LVPCUG by attending meetings and getting involved. Also, please bring a guest to the general meeting. The more attendees we have at these meetings will help us attract good presenters. Remember, this organization is for you.

On January 23, we will be starting having a general meeting during the day at the Paseo Verde Library in Henderson. This will help those of you who cannot attend an evening meeting and/or prefer to drive during daylight hours. The Paseo Verde Library is looking forward to having us there and will help us with our meeting. The starting time of the meeting has not yet been determined. More details will be forthcoming next month.

Please remember to check the calendar on the website for all meetings, especially during December. Many of the SIGs go dark for December.

Wendy Jaroslawski
President

Las Vegas PC Users Group   www.lvpcug.org   702-339-3812

**Next Meeting December 2, 2009 at 6:15 p.m.
At West Charleston Library located at 6301 W. Charleston Blvd, Las Vegas NV
Please contact www.lvpcug.org for the latest info**

Announcements

The Special Interest Groups (SIG) will be meeting at their regular times. Be sure to check the calendar on the website. We are looking for a new place for our General meetings and SIGs. If you have any suggestions, please email us at info@LVPCUG.org

Check the website at www.LVPCUG.org for the calendar dates and times.

Would you like to share a computer talent you have or would be interested in learning about a certain topic. We would appreciate your ideas!

RECYCLING BRINGS REWARDS

The LVPCUG is receiving rebates for recycling ink cartridges and cell phones. The Recycling Committee urges members to set aside those used ink cartridges and cell phones and bring them to the general meeting. You might also spread the word to family members and friends to save them for you too. Their is no cost to the club, only your time in gathering the material and the committee members' time to package it.

If you have any questions, please see Charles Finnila at the General Meeting on Dec 2 at the West Charleston Library.

Officers and Volunteers   Contact by sending an email to info@lvpcug.org

Board of Directors

Wendy Jaroslawski.....President
Harold Rozinski..........Vice President
Joyce Shore..................Treasurer
Robert Lynch...............Secretary
Judy Ruf......................Exective Director
Larry Burgher.............Technical Director &
                       Webmaster

Don Sabatine.............. Product Review &
                       SIG Coordinator
Howard Mark............ Down the Road Editor
Leland Beel................ Bytes of Las Vegas Editor
                       & Little Bytes Editor
Charles Finnila...........Recycling Chairman

Membership Questions
If you have any questions about your membership
Please send email: Membership@lvpcug.org

Website: www.lvpcug.org

Membership
Dues are $30 per year. Dues are collected Annually from your membership date. If you would like to join,
a membership form is located at the end of the newsletter.Please complete and forward to our mailing address.
Mailing Address
Las Vegas PC Users Group, Inc.
1350 E. Flamingo Rd. #188
Las Vegas, NV 89119

Newsletter
The Bytes of Las Vegas is published on a monthly basis.
A PDF version is available to members online at the website.
Information in this newsletter was obtained from sources considered to be reliable.
Accuracy and completeness are not guaranteed.
Deadline for article submission:
15 th of each month to editor@lvpcug.org

FAMILY TREE MAKER
"Genealogists using Family Tree Maker 2010 should be looking out for an update. Ancestry has announced that one will be coming soon which will include changes to the relationship calculator, data and formatting in a number of the reports and other small changes throughout the program which will help it to run more smoothly."
Thanks to Judy Ruf for this information

Google's Free Airport Wi-Fi:Five ways to Protect Yourself

Free Wi-Fi while wating for your flight sounds like a nice holiday gift, but public hotspots can be insecure.
Follow these security tips to keep away hackers and humbugs
http://lm.pcworld.com/t/752891/555281/28788/0
Thanks to Harold Rozinski for this tip

If you are searching for some other software this is the place to look
Check out http://AlternativeTo.net. This site will help you find some free or less costly software.
The softwares are listed by their popularity and a link to the downlod site.

Thanks to Joyce Shore for this tip

HERE IS A LINK TO A WINDOWS 7 ARTICLE YOU MAY LIKE TO READ

http://windowssecrets.com/links/tnv5qubb8w6md/dc80b6h/
Copyright © 2009 WindowsSecrets.com

Here is another link by the same place that talks about how malware can get on your computer.
http://windowssecrets.com/2009/10/08/01-Sponsored-search-results-lead-to-malware
Copyright © 2009 WindowsSecrets.com

This company has some special software that can be found no where else that I know of.

The name of the company is called Blue Squirrel located in the town of Sandy UT. To find out what they have, here is the link to get a free subscriprion to the Blue Squirrel News, please go to http://www.bluesquirrel.com/news

I know the name is unusual but check it out and see what they have that you can use in your computing tasks.

USING A PASSWORD MANAGER

"It seems that for many of the websites we visit, they want our e-mail address and to set up a password to look at the information. Passwords are part of our daily web experience just like email, browsers and websites; however, people are usually terrible about keeping track of their passwords. Keeping track of the various passwords becomes a real nightmare. Sometimes people use a notebook and try to remember to write down the website and password. They may pick one easy password and then if they have to use a different one , the password is forgotten. Also, if someone discovers your password then they may have access to more of your information. Remembering if you signed up for an account and have already put in a password is also hard.

Security starts with you. Keeping written lists of passwords on scraps of paper, or in a text document on your desktop is unsafe and is easily viewed by prying eyes (both cyber-based and human). Using the same password over and over again across a wide spectrum of systems and web sites creates the nightmare scenario where once someone has figured out one password, they have figured out all your passwords and now have access to every part of your life (system, e-mail, retail, financial, work).

You can use a Password Manager to help you be more organized and secure. There are many password managers that are free or can be purchased for a nominal amount. Not only will your password managers keep track of passwords through encryption it may also keep track of bank account numbers, credit cards, and social security numbers.

A Password Manager allows you to manage your old passwords and to easily and quickly generate, store, organize, retrieve, and use complex new passwords, using password policies that you control. Once stored, your user names and passwords are just a few clicks away.
Here are a few programs to check and see if they can help you:

1. Password Safe. It can be downloaded at http://passwordsafe.sourceforge.net/. This program is an 'open source' program. With Password Safe all you have to do is create and remember a single "Master Password" of your choice in order to unlock and access your entire user name/password list. .

Using Password Safe you can organize your passwords using your own customizable references—for example, by user ID, category, web site, or location. You can choose to store all your passwords in a single encrypted master password list (an encrypted password database), or use multiple databases to further organize your passwords (work and home, for example).

2. KeePass . It can be downloaded at http://keepass.info/. KeePass is also an Open Source program and available for free. It has all of the standard protections and organizational abilities as most of the other password management programs.

3. Roboform. It can be downloaded at http://www.Roboform.com. Roboform has been voted as the Number 1 Password Management Program by PC World Magazine. It has a free version to let you try it and see if you like it. The pro versions will also let you fill in forms automatically, and has an on-line program so that you can access you programs anywhere in the world on any computer."

"Here is some of the added ideas for these programs.

1. The Password Management programs can synchronize with your smart phone. You can then have a copy of your passwords that are still protected and encrypted with you when you are away from your computer.
2. Your can save a copy of the program to a flash drive and use the program on any computer without downloading a program into the computer you are using.
3. You can set the program up with Drop Box (http://getdropbox.com) which is a extremely simple file storage program which can automatically synchronize with your files and be accessible throughout the world also.
4. Several of the programs have video tutorials to show how they work. Roboform can be found at (http//roboform.com/video). Password Safe has a video program at their site and can be found at (http//passwordsafe.sourceforge.net/quickstart.shtml. There are also videos at YouTube and other places on the web if you want to see how to use these programs.

We all want to be safe while using the internet and we want to be able to access information when we want it. Because there is so much information available to us, we have to find ways to say organized and have access to our favoraite places. Using a Password Manager is one step to help us sort through all of the information we receive daily."

Thanks to Linda Schubarth for this interesting article.

December 2, 2009 meeting Information

The main program for the December meeting will be a presentation about the Lapworks Inc. presented by Don Sabatine.

The presentation will cover these 5 topics on notebook computers.
1. What you should know about notebook overheating problems.
2. What you should know about desks and stands.
3. What you should know about Ergonomics.
4. What you should know about Lapworks desks and stands.
5 . Q & A on how to select the best notebook desk or stand for your needs.

As notebooks become more ubiquitous, it becomes more important to learn the ins and outs of working with a notebook computer. They get hot and can potentially burn your lap; when used improperly they can cause injury and if you don't provide enough ventilation they can burn out before their time. The presentation will answer all these questions and much, much more.

This is called Presentation in a Box (PIAB).
The reason for this method is that companys will not send out a representative to present their products.
By making a DVD to explain their products they can get more information out to the users at a much lower cost.

BRING A GUEST TO DECEMBER MEETING

If you bring a guest to the meeting and if the guest signs up for membership you will have 3 months added to your membership and help to build a stronger club. More information is available at the checkin desk at the meeting on December 2, At the West Charleston Library starting at 6:15 pm.

We are Looking for a space to conduct an information demo about LVPCUG If you know of any place that is available to conduct an information demo about the club Please contact Judy Ruf or send email to info@lvpcug.org. Needed are a table space some chairs and an electrical outlet to plug in a laptop computer.

Interested in Windows 7

The LVPCUG has a link to a video called "Windows 7 for Consumers, video is by Jay Ferron. Jay Ferron is the President of the APCUG. The link is found at http://www.lvpcug.org/ComputerNewsAndInfo/index.html. More information also appears on the LVPVUG.org website. Check it out and see what is in store for Windows 7 the new O S that is here.

ITEMS TO SHARE

If your have any web sites or other items you would like to share with the LVPVUG members, send them to the Editor@LVPCUG.org and I will try to include them in a future issue of the Bytes. Thank you, Editor

APCUG EVENTS

Phoenix Regional and APCUG Annual meeting will be Feburary 21-23, 2010 with the keynote speaker who will be Jay Ferron, who is an acknowledged expert on security, mobility devices and operating systems. For more information check out the APCUG website.

If you are a member of LVPCUG that means you are a member of APCUG and you have a great opportunity to use the resources that they provide. Such as the calendar that members may log in and view a meeting of a different club or SIG and see what they are doing.Please go to www.apcug.org and create a users account in the APCUG SharePoint Site so that you can enjoy some of the benefits of membership in the LVPCUG and its shared portals.

SIG CALENDAR

SIG Name	Meeting Date	Place	Time of meeting	SIG Leader
HelpingHands	1st Saturday	Wengert Room	10 AM to 4 PM	Linda DiGiovanni 395-6676
Windows Developers	2nd Thursday	Sahara West Library	6:30 PM to 8:30 PM	Richard Rosenheim 897-1117
Genealogy Starting up again	2nd Saturday January 2010	Family History Center	10:15 AM to 11:15 AM	Sam Giordano 452-4037
Office Applications	2nd Saturday	Wengert Room	1 PM to 3 PM	Wendy Jaroslawski 339-3812
Software and Product Review	2nd Saturday	Wengert Room	3:30 PM to 5:30 PM	Linda DiGiovanni 395-6676
Digital Imaging Techniques	2nd Sunday	Wengert Room	12 PM to 2 PM	Howard Mark 262-3662
Linux/Open Source Applications	3rd Sunday	Wengert Room	1 PM to 3 PM	Don Sabatine 451-6805
Novice(new users) and Internet)	3rd Sunday	Wengert Room	4 PM to 6 PM	Chuck Frederick 452-9440
How-To-Workshop	4th Saturday	Paseo Verde Library	9:15 AM to 2:30 PM	Dennis Kemper

Places are:
Wengert Room is located in the Back of the NV Energy building just west of Jones on W. Sahara
Family History Center is located at 509 S. 9th Street in Las Vegas.
Paseo Verde Library is located in Henderson at 280 S. Green Valley Parkway.
Sahara West Library is located just west of Fort Apache on Sahara Av West.

All meetings are subject to cancellation by the SIG Leader or the Property Owner. The Calendar
Page of the LVPCUG website is keep as current as possible.

"The earth is given as a common stock for man to labor and live on."
Thomas Jefferson, Letter to James Madison, 1785.

Bylaws of the Las Vegas PC Users Group

Revised October 4, 2000

I. The Las Vegas PC Users Group is a nonprofit, public benefit corporation organized to accomplish the following objectives:

A. To provide a forum in the greater Las Vegas community for the exchange of ideas and information on personal computers.

B. To provide assistance in solving hardware and software problems encountered during the use of these computers.

C. To provide access to software in the public domain.

D. To further the common good by fostering the development of computer related skills.

E. To encourage the formation, development and support of special interest groups (SIGs) and chapters within the parent organization.

F. To provide a medium for communication with other users groups.

G. To help facilitate the development of a formal problem solving liaison with computer product manufacturers.

These objectives can best be realized by encouraging an active membership, publishing a widely-disseminated newsletter, maintaining a public-domain and shareware software library, maintaining an active Bulletin Board System, and regular general meetings that appeal to a wide spectrum of those persons who own, use, or are interested ln personal computers.

Il. The Las Vegas PC Users Group shall be structured as follows:

A. The elected officers will also function as the Board of Trustees of the corporation and their duties shall be:

1. PRESIDENT: The president is the chief executive officer of the corporation; the president prepares agendas, presides over the membership and Board of Directors meetings, and serves as Chairman of the Board of Directors.

2. VICE PRESIDENT: Presides over meetings in the absence of the President; performs administrative duties as assigned by the President.

3. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR; Presides over meetings in the absence of the President and Vice President; performs administrative duties as assigned by the President.

4. TREASURER: Administers the corporate accounts, books, and financial records and is responsible for all the transactions related thereto; makes the financial records available for an independent annual audit.

5. SECRETARY: Administers the corporate records, including the proceedings of all meetings, which will be published in the newsletter.

B. The elected officers of the corporation shall be members in good standing and shall be elected for a one year term, commencing May first, by a plurality of the voting members in attendance at the March general meeting or by a mail-in ballot to be received at the LVPCUG mailing address at least one week prior to the meeting. An election committee of at least three members will be selected from among the membership at the November general meeting. The election committee will solicit and accept nominations for elected office from among the general membership and will provide the nominations to the Newsletter chair in time for a ballot to be published in the February newsletter. Mail-in ballots must be sealed in an unmarked inner envelope. The mailing envelop which must include return name, address and membership number will be opened by a board member and the inner envelope given to the nominating committee to be opened and the ballot counted with the ballots submitted at the March general meeting.

C. The elected officers shall appoint a minimum of five additional members as are necessary to accomplish the objectives of the corporation. The elected officers and the appointed members shall together comprise the Board of Directors of the corporation.

Continued from page 8

 The elected officers and the appointed members shall together comprise the Board of Directors of the corporation. The appointed members shall serve a term coincident with the terms of the elected officers, and may be removed by a vote of two-thirds of the board. All board members must be members in good standing. The Board of Directors shall manage the general business of the corporation, and shall control its current affairs.

D. Fifty percent of the Board of Directors, including three elected officers, constitutes a quorum of the Board of Directors; a quorum is required to conduct the business of the corporation. Decisions of the Board of Directors shall be by simple majority vote of members present and are binding on the elected officers.

E. In the event of a dispute concerning the Administration of the corporation, the presiding officer may invoke the procedures contained in Roberts Rules of Order.

F. Vacancies in offices other than the Presidency shall be filled by appointment by the Executive Board. In the event of a vacancy in the Presidency, the Vice President shall become the President. Should the Vice President be unwilling or unable to assume the Presidency, the Executive Directory shall become the President. Should the Executive Director be unwilling or unable to assume the Presidency, the Executive Board shall elect an Acting President, who shall serve as President for the remaining term. Three consecutive unexcused absences by a member of the Board of Directors, or four in a six-month period, may be cause for dismissal.

III. Membership in the Las Vegas PC Users Group shall be open to anyone regardless of race, creed, sex, marital status, sexual orientation or national origin.

IV. A member in good standing shall be defined as one whose dues are current. Only members in good standing are eligible to vote; one vote per paid membership.

V. Amendments to these Bylaws may be proposed by any member in good standing, in writing, to the Board of Directors. Such proposed amendments should be considered at the next meeting of the Board of Directors. If the Board of Directors concurs, such proposed amendment shall be published in the next regular edition of the Las Vegas PC Users Group newsletter; it may then be adopted by a simple majority of the voting membership present at the next general meeting, following the publication of the newsletter containing the proposed amendment.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned being the current Board of Trustees of the Las Vegas PC Users Group Inc, have adopted these revised bylaws on this 4th day of October 2000.

VOLUNTEERES NEEDED FOR ELECTION COMMITTEE
At least 3 members are needed by the December meeting to serve on the committee to help get ready for the election results at the March 2010 meeting. For info contact info@lvpcug.org or any of the board members.

Cutting you did with a pocket knife,
Pasting, you did with glue,
The Web was where a spider lived
And a virus was the flu!

thanks to Robert Lynch

Las Vegas PC Users Group, Inc.

Membership Application

New Members or Renewal with Information Changes

To join the Las Vegas PC User Group, please complete the information below. The form can be mailed with a check or brought to the General Meeting. Dues are $30 per year per family. More information about the Club can be obtained from www.LVPCUG.org

Date_____   **New** _____   **Renewal** _____

(Please Print)

Name(1): _____   **Name(2):** _____

Email (1) _____   **Email (2)** _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Phone: _____ **Cell Phone:** _____ **Fax:** _____

It is LVPCUG policy to keep your information confidential.

Supplemental Information (optional, but helpful):
How did you hear about the LVPCUG? _____
_____

Areas of Interest: _____

Send check for $30 to:

Las Vegas PC Users Group, Inc.
Membership Director
1350 E. Flamingo Rd #188
Las Vegas, NV 89119-5270

Club Use only: Memb, No. _____   **Rec'd** _____

Amount_____   **Method** _____