

pc news

a publication of the 1960 pc users group



October 2008

October Newsletter

"Take a Hike, Ike" had been our motto on September 13th, but no such luck for over 2 million of us in southeast Texas and surrounding coastal areas. I sincerely hope no one has suffered injury, everyone has safe shelter, power restored by now, and all are coping with this interruption of daily routines. Many of us have resumed some semblance of normalcy, while others will need months and years to recover. From the bad comes the good. This has been an opportunity to make new friends, get to know our neighbors better, observe and appreciate nature, soak up the brilliant night sky without light pollution, share and care with those less fortunate, step back and put our lives in perspective, and in most cases, realize how much technology has become a part of our lives. The system is delicate and dependent upon power. Many of you were innovative, clever and ingenious using geek skills to solve tech problems in times of need. This will be an opportunity to share these ideas and stories at SIGs during October.



Paul Severson Photo



Craig Loomis

Each month member photos from "Share and Learn" will be featured throughout the newsletter. The theme for Oct. is Scary, November theme is Rain, and the December theme will be Steps. "Share and Learn" is a feature of our Digital Photography SIG and General Meeting each month. Please take note that the October Digital Photography SIG and General Meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 7th at 6:30 p.m. in the central meeting room of Cypress Creek Christian Community Church, 6823 Cypresswood Dr. in Spring.

Our membership needs strengthening, so please bring a friend to any of the seven Special Interest Group meetings held each month from 7-9 p.m. We are fortunate to have so many leaders who are knowledgeable, experienced, and willing to help all members with technology-related problems.

1940 Air Terminal Field Trip

Fasten your seat belts for the November 15, 2008 Field Trip to the 1940 Air Terminal Museum's Wings & Wheels event. Your \$10 ticket includes admission, **Lunch**, static aircraft tours, special programs in the Starliner Theater, and a guided tour of the facility.

All members, photographers, non-photographers, history and museum buffs should take advantage of this opportunity to discover one of Houston's historical gems. The art deco building is the original Houston International Air Terminal located near Hobby Airport. Parts of the terminal are still in the process of restoration, plus there are many areas completely restored that many old timers may remember.

The bus will leave from the Cypress Creek Community Christian Church parking lot at 9:30 a.m. and return at approximately 4 p.m. We are limited to 25 members 50 yrs. and older on the bus and have some space still available. You can sign up with Jean Olson in person at any of the SIGs or email her your intentions at jolson8215@sbcglobal.net.

Digital Photography SIG and General Meeting

Tuesday, October 7, 2008, 7-9 PM (Change of Regular Meeting Night)

Bill Franklin, SIG Leader

David Dodd presented a great program on China for our September meeting. If you were not there, you missed some great and inspiring images of some of the remote areas of China. David is a very talented photographer even though he is still using film in some cases.

Our speaker for October is our own *Jim Kelly*. Jim will be doing another program on nature and birds. Many of you know Jim is a very accomplished bird photographer and if you haven't seen some of his work, you will be amazed at some of his birds. Jim spends much of his free time traveling around the state chasing hard to find birds. He will be showing some of these at the October meeting.

Come at 6:30 for refreshments and meeting with members and guests.

Here is a heads up for our November. Our speaker for November is Jerry Ward who is the Canon representative for Texas. He was in China for the Olympics and will be showing his images from the Olympics. Jerry is also going to have some of the new Canon equipment to demonstrate, so if you have any thoughts of buying something new, you will want to attend this meeting. Also, I had to promise Jerry we would have a good crowd for this meeting, so we will need as many people as possible for his presentation. Try to make plans to attend.

The following SIGs are held in Room 30 of the Annex Building at Cypress Creek Community Christian Church from 7 – 9 PM.

Internet SIG

Thursday, October 9, 2008

James Hug will moderate a discussion on VoIP. The "Internet SIG's" objective is to expand our members knowledge of what is probably the most significant communications system since Alexander Graham Bell's invention of the telephone. At the same time we will continue to look at the new uses of the Internet as they arise.

September's Internet SIG is going to look at VoIP, sometimes called Internet Telephony.

If you have any experiences, either good or bad, bring them to the meeting. Others that are considering going to VoIP will be glad to know of your experience.

As always, we are a forum in which you can get any of your Internet questions answered. You can always notify him of your questions and/or suggestions by e-mail before the meeting.

Software SIG

Tuesday, October 14, 2008, 7-9 PM

Don Marvin leads the group discussion and problem solving of software issues. If you have some tricks that you have found that helped improve your system's performance be sure and share them with the group. In addition bring your questions someone may have just the solution that you were looking for.

Graphics SIG

Thursday, October 16, 2008, 7-9 PM

While Alex takes a leave of absence from the 1960 PCUG Graphics SIG, *Marj Krisman* has volunteer to help fill in. There are other SIG members with their own special talents that will participate. *Barb Wallace* has also volunteered to help with the September meeting. Marj will be using PSP and Barb will be using Adobe Elements. Please join us and bring all your questions.

Hardware SIG

Tuesday, October 21, 2008, 7-9 PM

Bill Wright is the Hardware SIG leader.

Every month we try to present something of interest for our technically challenged members. Our subjects are generally requested by our attendees. Our main purpose is to enlighten them as to what is inside their computer and how it works, so that they can maintain, upgrade or even build their own computer. We also cover subjects such as its proper operation, networking of computers, as well as the latest hardware developments.

Genealogy SIG

Thursday, October 23, 2008, 7-9 PM

Betty Hesketh, Genealogy SIG leader.

At the October Genealogy SIG we will hold a discussion of all things genealogy-related. If you have questions concerning your software or how to break down those genealogy brick walls or anything else related to your research, this is the meeting to ask the group for help. Experienced and beginning researchers are welcome.

Don't forget to contact Marj Krisman to sign up for our bus trip to Clayton Library on Monday, October 20, 2008.

Be sure to check out our genealogy web pages for research help and the latest SIG happenings. www.1960pcug.org/gensig

Windows SIG

Tuesday, October 28, 2008, 7-9 PM

SIG Leader, *Sam Sanderson*, discusses Windows features aimed at beginning and intermediate level users. The primary subject matter may be driven by specific questions from attendees. Email Sam in advance so he can find answers to your problem or question at Sam_Sanderson@Administaff.com.

APCUG Membership

The 1960 PCUG is a Region 8 member of APCUG, an international group of user groups. Through their web site, semiannual meetings and newsletters, they provide many services to member organizations including User Group Discounts. You can go to their website: <http://www.apcug.net/> to locate articles pertaining to computer-related articles. The link is also on the club website.

Below is a message from the Region 8 Advisor, David Stewart:

To all Region 8 Officers:

Although I do not have any specific APCUG news to report this month, I just wanted to reach out and extend my deepest hopes that all of you fared well thru Hurricane Ike. I do know that some of you suffered damage, and others are still probably suffering from the lack of power and other basic necessities, and hopefully, you'll get this message when the power comes back on. In any case, my prayers are with you and if there is anything I can do to help, please let me know. As some of you know, I am an engineer and damage assessment leader for a local company in San Antonio, Texas, that repair all types of utility equipment. As you may guess, we have been busy trying to help the South Texas utilities restore power to millions of people. I travelled to Galveston, Texas to help out, and got a first hand look at the damage this hurricane caused, and was amazed that we did not have more deaths than we did. Although this was not remotely close to the first hurricane that I have had to work, I do believe that it could very well be the worst in a long time. Luckily it was moving fast and did not have time to dump enormous amounts of rain and flooding was kept to a minimum.

Just know that my prayers and hopes are with each of you, and hang in there.

David Stewart
Region 8 Advisor
APCUG

This message of caring and hope by others is reassurance that the Houston area has many friends who have us in our thoughts and concerns.

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Signing off for now and hope to see you at one of our seven (7) SIGs in October.

BeaAnn Kelly,
Communications Officer