
The Computer Club At Willow Valley

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The President's Pen by Sid Paskowitz

Membership Your Computer Club has 500 members at this writing, including 147 lifetime members.

Thank You! First, I want to thank Dan Drummond for his outstanding work as Vice President of the Computer Club and I want to welcome Dick Klahn, our new Club Vice President. I also want to welcome JoAnne Phillips to the Computer Club Executive Committee. JoAnne is assuming the responsibilities as Manor North Computer Room Monitor Coordinator from Dick Dressel who has done a superb job and will continue as Club Treasurer.

Monitors Monitors, we need monitors—both kinds! We have computer towers that Ed Dahrsnin and his re-

cycling team cannot use in assembling computer systems for Club members or donation to Lampeter-Strasburg School District because we don't have computer monitors to go with them. If you have a working monitor that is sitting in a closet or cage, please drop it off in the Manor North Computer Room Monday-Friday at 1:00 p.m. so Ed and his team can put it to good use.

We are experiencing too many days when the Computer Rooms are not open because no monitor signed up for those days. As our neighbors change their email accounts because of the new Senior TV service,

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Need Help From A Computer Expert? by Al Williams

Did you know that quite a few Willow Valley residents that are experts in various areas of computer hardware and software have volunteered to help others if needed? To find them, log into the Willow Valley web site at <http://resident.willowvalley.org> using your Willow Valley username and password. If you don't know your username or password, see a computer room monitor for help.

Once logged in, click on Resident Kiosk. Then click on Computer Club

(Information Central). Look for Computer Club Information (you will need to scroll down). Find Computer Rooms/Labs and then click on Computer Resources Expertise. Look for the hardware or software with which you need help, then for an expert listed under that category, and then contact them. Please remember that they all are volunteers! •

Coming Programs

September, 2011

Gene Simesak, Resident
Wireless at Lakes

October, 2011

Kristin Hambleton, Mgr. Sales
Facebook at Willow Valley

November, 2011

Martin Klaver, Resident
Keeping Connected

*All programs are held
in the Education Room
at the Cultural Center
on the 1st Thursday of
the month at 2:00 p.m.
unless otherwise noted.*

President

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more help will be needed in the Computer Rooms. Any Computer Club member with basic computer skills who is willing to spend a couple of hours each month as a Computer Room Monitor is requested to contact JoAnne Phillips at 464-6502 for the North Computer Room (M-107) or Gene Simesak at 464-4605 for the new Lakes Computer Room (E-108). Let JoAnne or Gene know if you would like training to help you feel more comfortable as a Computer Room Monitor.

Lakes Computer Room The Lakes Computer Room is being moved from E-308 to E-108. During the move, the Lakes Computer Room will be closed and will re-open on August 1st in E-108. Willow Valley Management is looking for a permanent location for the Lakes Computer Room so the next move will be the last we need to make.

Senior TV The new Senior TV service will provide us with additional opportunities to expand the use of the in-house Entertainment Channel to include more educational content. On Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 12:30 p.m. a tutorial video on the WVRC Electronic Registration System is being shown on Comcast Channel 822 and on Senior TV Channel 4. We hope to extend what we have learned in preparing that video by adding a wide range of other topics that can be integrated with Computer Club training classes. We are also testing the use of the Computers in the Lakes Computer Room so Computer Room visitors and monitors can select which video they want to watch on those computers.

Information Central Information Central has a growing list of links to information about the new Senior TV system which is being installed in all the Communities. We also have a link to the new Lancaster County emergency alert system. That system is being set up to include addresses and telephone numbers shown in local telephone directories; however, if you have a cell phone or you volunteer at a location away from your listed address, and you want to be notified by cell phone or if your other location is affected by an emergency situation, you will need to register on that website and provide that additional information.

Yahoo As indicated in an email I sent to Computer Club members, the new Yahoo! email program is problematic and will not work with older versions of Internet Explorer. The older Kiosk units at Willow Valley do not have the capacity to be upgraded to versions of Internet Explorer that will work with the new Yahoo! email program. The Beta version of the new Yahoo! email program allowed return to Yahoo! Mail Classic which does work with older versions of Internet Explorer; however, we have not found a way to return to Yahoo! Mail Classic once the switch is made to the new mail program. Willow Valley IT is working on a solution that will minimize the impact on Willow Valley Residents who use the Kiosks to check their email. The Lakes Manor Kiosk desktops have been modified to include an icon for the Mozilla Firefox browser which will work with the new version of Yahoo! mail. Further changes can be expected. We will keep you informed. •

Computer Security: Basic to Advanced by Al Williams

You've read the newspapers. You know that hackers are attacking banks, companies of all sizes, our government, and our military. You've seen the Computer Club newsletter articles about computer security. You want to use your computer safely but you know only so much about computers. How do you get started?

Here are actions that you can take to protect your computer and your data. They start at the Basic level of understanding and continue to Advanced. If you have difficulties doing these actions, please contact one of the Experts listed on Information Central (see the *Need Help From A Computer Expert* article in this issue to find the Experts).

Basic

- If you receive an e-mail that makes you suspicious, don't open it on your computer. Instead, open it using a Resident Kiosk.
- Do not click on links in an e-mail.
- If an unexpected pop-up appears, use Alt+F4 to remove it.
- Use anti-virus software.
- Leave the firewall provided by Microsoft, Apple, or your Unix derivative operating system turned-on.
- Keep all software on your computer up to date.
- Use a different, and strong, password for every web site.
- Do not reveal anything about yourself to a website unless you are certain that you trust the website and you can't get what you want without revealing personal information.
- Be very careful about what you post on Facebook or Twitter. Whatever you say will be recorded and stored for a very long time.

Intermediate

- Use the free Malwarebytes anti-malware software weekly.
- Use a router with WPA2 encryption and a very strong passphrase.

Advanced

- Use Sandboxie with your email client and your browser.
- Use the Firefox browser and the Better Privacy, Certificate Patrol, NoScript, SSLPersonas, and Web of Trust extensions.
- Use LastPass to store your passwords for each web site and to generate unique passwords.
- Use TrueCrypt to encrypt sensitive documents on your computer or on the cloud.
- Use encrypted e-mails for unbreakable privacy. This requires the free Thunderbird e-mail client with the GnuPG/Enigmail extensions or the for-fee PGP software.
- Use Microsoft's System Sweeper, which finds hard-to-detect malware including rootkits, detector weekly.

Except for the last four items, all have been described in detail in previous issues of the Computer Club newsletter. Those issues may be found on Information Central. The link to those issues is also on the last page of this newsletter.

Following the framework in this article should help you to get started and to advance in protecting your computer. •

The Equipment Corner by Ed Dahrsnin

Refurbished Systems The following refurbished systems are available:

#231: Compaq PD1010, desktop, Windows 98SE, 350 MHz Intel Pentium II, 6.09 GB Free Space, 64 MB RAM, No printer

#239: Compaq Presario 7940, tower, Windows XP Home SP3, 600 MHz AMD Athlon, 25.21 GB Free Space, 192 MB RAM, Dell 926AIO Printer

#240: Dell GX200, tower, Windows XP Home SP3, 733 MHz Intel Pentium III, 6.89 GB Free Space, 256 MB RAM, Epson Stylus 740 printer

WEB TV System, with two keyboards and remote control. Use your TV set as a monitor.

The systems are free to any club member. You must pick them up. Contact Ed at 464 6591.

Miscellaneous We have 3 volt CR2023 batteries (suitable for motherboards to keep the system clock running) and a variety of CD-ROM's, floppy disk drives, keyboards, 2-button mice, various power supplies, and assorted cables. Please contact Ed Dahrsnin at 464-6591.

Donations We accept used, *working*, tower and laptop computers (with power units and batteries) from club members along with all software CDs. Used printer cartridges also accepted. You may deliver them to the North's Computer Resource room on the first floor of M building after 1 pm on Monday through Friday. No Macs or Mac parts, see Lee Wermuth or Bob Handler for additional information. •

The Mission

The Mission of the Willow Valley Computer Club is to:

- Provide the means to educate beginners or interested non-users on how to use a computer.
- Arrange for speakers to talk to the Club about subjects that would be of interest to those with some background and experience in computer use.
- Provide a forum for interchange of computer information among members.

For more information about the Club, contact Sid Paskowitz at 464-2127 or wvrccc@Yahoo.com

The Leadership

Officers

President: Sid Paskowitz

Vice President: Dick Klahn

Secretary: Joan Burks

Treasurer: Dick Dressel

Community Representatives

Manor: Larry Gallagher

Lakes: Gene Simasek

Committee Chairpersons

Program: Dan Drummond

Training: Bob McRobbie

Equipment: Ed Dahrsnin

Technical Support: Larry Gallagher

Website: Sid Paskowitz

Publicity: Wally Gordon

Newsletter: Al Williams

Mac Interest Group: Lee Wermuth

Computer Room Coordinators:
JoAnne Phillips, Gene Simasek

Microsoft Liaison: Ed Dahrsnin

Past Presidents

Larry Gallagher

Reviewer Acknowledgment

The following individual kindly reviewed this issue:

Sid Paskowitz

Thank you,

Al Williams

Interested in reviewing the Computer Club newsletter before it goes to press, or providing advice about the content? Please contact:

Al Williams at atwms@comcast.net

Key Willow Valley Web Sites

These are URL links to key Willow Valley web sites. Please copy the URL to your browser's URL space, open the site, and then add them to Favorites/Bookmarks or create desktop icons.

Information Central: <http://eventregistration.willowvalley.org/kiosk/cclub/index.aspx>

Kiosk Home Page: <http://eventregistration.willowvalley.org/kiosk/default.aspx>

Resident Phone Directory: <http://eventregistration.willowvalley.org/kiosk/cris%20files/phonesearch.aspx>

Service Request: <http://eventregistration.willowvalley.org/kiosk/ServiceRequest.aspx>

Computer Club Newsletter: <http://eventregistration.willowvalley.org/kiosk/cclub/p/Newsletter.pdf>
