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# *The Computer Club At Willow Valley*

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## **The President's Pen by Sid Paskowitz**

**Membership** Your Computer Club has 514 members at this writing, including 160 lifetime members.

**Computer Room Monitors** I am pleased to report that for the first time in recent memory, Computer Room Monitors have volunteered to keep the Computer Rooms open for almost all the days in February. Thank you!! We can always use more Monitors so no Monitor will need to sign up for more than one day each month. 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 Bob McRobbie at 464-6846 for the North Computer Room or Gene Simasek at 464-4605 for the Lakes Computer Room (E-108). Let Bob or Gene know if you would like training to help you feel more comfortable as a Monitor.

**Expertise Inventory** Speaking of Monitors, several years ago the Computer Club put together a list of computer and Internet topics that Monitors and other Club members were asked to review and indicate their level of expertise in each of the topics listed. The purposes of the listing were to help Residents find friends and neighbors who could help them with problems so all calls were not made to the same handful of helpful Residents; Residents could see which Computer Room Monitors were knowledgeable in the area of their questions or problems and could visit those Monitors when they were on duty in a Computer Room; and Computer Room Monitors could have a list of Residents who might be called for assistance if they were faced with an issue they could not

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## **Mac Special Interest Group by Joanne Phillips**

The MAC SIG (special interest group) is changing its format slightly. This group meets at 2 PM in the Johnson Auditorium on the second Thursday each month. The first 10 or 15 minutes will be devoted to tips and tricks for iPhones, iPods, and iPads as well as for Macs. The presenta-

tion next month will cover Dropbox and 62 things you can do with it. This application works on these hand-held devices as well as on a Mac and can make files available even when off line. It is also a dandy way to share files with others. •

## Coming Programs

### March, 2012

Al Williams, Resident  
Care and Feeding of Your PC

### April, 2012

Dave March, Resident  
Bridge Teacher Program

### May, 2012

Charles Trumbo, Resident  
Function & Use of Cloud

*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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handle while a Monitor. That Expertise Inventory is available at <http://eventregistration.willowvalley.org/kiosk/cclub/expertise.aspx>. Links to the Computer Room Monitor schedules for both Computer Rooms can also be found on that page.

Recently a comment was made that the Expertise Inventory listing was out of date. A survey form that can be used to update the listing is now in Information Central in the same area as the Expertise Inventory at <http://eventregistration.willowvalley.org/kiosk/cclub/p/expertisesurvey.pdf> and includes instructions on using the form. That survey form can be copied, pasted into an email, filled in with response information, and sent to [wvrccc@yahoo.com](mailto:wvrccc@yahoo.com). That response information will be used to update the Expertise Inventory. Computer Room Monitors and others willing to share their expertise are requested to complete and email that information.

**Handheld Devices** In addition to the Expertise Inventory to help Residents with computer and Internet issues, we have added a new page in Information Central to help with hand-held electronic devices, <http://eventregistration.willowvalley.org/kiosk/cclub/p/hhed.pdf>. The Windows 8 operating system that is scheduled for release in 2012 is reported to be closely aligned with hand-help electronic devices; therefore, it is appropriate we also address hand-help electronic devices in Information Central. If you believe you can help other Resi-

dents with their hand-help electronic devices, have questions or would like to make suggestions, please visit that Web page.

**Have Program Ideas?** Dick Klahn, our Vice President and Program Committee chairperson is looking for suggestions for programs to be given at next year's Computer Club meetings. Please let Dick know your suggestions at [rklahn7304@aol.com](mailto:rklahn7304@aol.com).

**Senior TV** Information Central at <http://eventregistration.willowvalley.org/kiosk/cclub/index.asp> is updated weekly and contains helpful information on topics that are important to our quality of life at Willow Valley. If you have Senior TV, you may benefit from the entire section of Information Central that is devoted to Senior TV and Senior TV Internet. Bookmark the link to Information Central or save it as a desktop icon. A link to a searchable list of topics covered in Information Central is contained under the big numeral 2 on the first display of Information Central.

**2012 Elections** 2012 is election year for Computer Club officers, who serve for two years. Larry Gallagher is chairperson of the Nominating Committee. Bob Handler and Ron Dillon are also on the committee. If you would like to participate in the Computer Club as an officer or suggest the name(s) of others, please let Larry, Bob or Ron know.

**Computer Recycling Program** Our computer recycling program has processed more than 260 systems that have been given to Computer Club members and community organizations such as the Lam-

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## President

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peter-Strasburg School District for families whose students would benefit from a computer at home. I want to thank Ed Dahrsnin and his team for their continuing efforts in making those computers available to those who will most benefit from them.

**Membership Renewal** Reminder letters have been sent to Resident members who need to renew their membership in 2012. If you are a Resident member of the Club and don't get a letter, either your membership is current or we don't have your current address.

**North Computer Room** The Manor North Computer Room is undergoing some significant changes, key of which is that the Resident and Monitor account name on all the PCs will be User rather than User1, User2, etc. Also, no password will be required. When a PC is restarted, new security software wipes the hard drive of any changes made in the User account.

**Educational Videos** Senior TV channel 4 and Comcast channel 822 on weekdays at 12:30 p.m. are showing educational videos that may be of interest to all Residents. Check the Weekly Insider front page to see what's playing.

**Thank You** My thanks to all of you who volunteer your time and knowledge to help other Residents.

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## The Cloud by Al Williams

"The Cloud" is becoming a popular storage site for information, especially for those who have hand-held electronic devices. Although many "Cloud" facilities have advanced encryption techniques, be careful about placing sensitive information in "The Cloud." When you do, you are relying on the provider's successful rejection of all hacking attempts. But, providers may also make security mistakes, enabling hackers to penetrate, thereby revealing your sensitive or private information. •

Like to write an article for the club's newsletter? Articles are welcomed.

Please contact:

Al Williams at [atwilliams136@gmail.net](mailto:atwilliams136@gmail.net)

## The Equipment Corner by Ed Dahrsnin

**Refurbished Systems** The following refurbished systems are available:

#259: Compaq SR1220NX

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](mailto:wvrccc@Yahoo.com)

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## 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: Dick Klahn

Training: Bob McRobbie

Equipment: Ed Dahrsnin

Technical Support: Tony Poulos

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

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## 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 [atwilliams136@gmail.net](mailto:atwilliams136@gmail.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 Newsletters: <http://eventregistration.willowvalley.org/kiosk/cclub/p/Newsletter.pdf>

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