

The Computer Club At Willow Valley

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The President's Pen by Sid Paskowitz

Membership Your Computer Club has 512 members at this writing, including 222 lifetime members.

Proposed Name Change In light of Willow Valley Retirement Communities changing its name to Willow Valley Communities, the Computer Club Executive Committee has voted to change the Club's official name from Willow Valley Retirement Communities Computer Club to Willow Valley Computer Club. Before that change can be effective, the Computer Club's bylaws must be revised and approved by Club members at a Club meeting. The current bylaws state: *Revision of Bylaws ...A motion to accept the proposed revisions shall be*

read by the Secretary. After seconding, the motion shall be tabled until the next Monthly meeting when an affirmative vote by a majority of the voting Club members present will constitute acceptance and the revisions will become effective immediately. A copy of the proposed revised Computer Club Bylaws can be reviewed at <http://resident.willowvalley.org/kiosk/cclub/p/draftbylaws.pdf> or by clicking on the Draft Revised Computer Club Bylaws link in Information Central. Also, a copy of the draft accompanies this email. Please take a few minutes to review the draft bylaws

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More about the Snowden Revelations by Al Williams

We know now that virtually all of what we say or do, and our relationships with others, is captured and stored for potential review or analysis. Developing the capability to do this has not been trivial and not just because of the cost of hardware, software, and labor.

Remember how criminals have taken advantage of the "holes" in software? Phishing scams, identity theft, and bank robberies are some of the problems that the holes have

caused. The holes are fixed by a combination of finding and patching problems in software and by using encryption to protect data.

There are several types of encryption. They've all been reviewed and approved by numerous security experts. They review the proposed algorithms to be determine if they may be trusted. As a result, as is being said in the press, "trust the math."

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Coming Programs

November 7, 2013

Jim Cluck, WV VP of Property
WV Senior TV and WiFi / Ed Room

Dec 5, 2013

Les Stoltzfus
IT in L-S Schools / Ed Room

Jan 9, 2014

Sid Paskowitz
Email Programs

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

President

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so you will be prepared to vote on the change.

Changing the Club's name will necessitate changing a number of documents, forms and email addresses; however we will keep our current external Web site at www.wvrcc.com because we have a three year contract for that domain name. The site has video tutorials on *Maintaining a Website*, *Mozilla Firefox*, *PC Tuneup* in mp4 and wmv formats, *Photo Story 3* in mp4 and wmv formats, and *USB Tuner*. It also contains a *Sudoku Puzzle Solver*. We plan to add other tutorial videos that may be beneficial to Computer Club members.

Need Help? HELP! HELP! HELP! Who needs help? The Computer Club offers multiple ways to help Willow Valley Residents with computer issues. Computer Room Monitors can help you in Computer Rooms on Mondays at 1:00 p.m. The Renaissance publication contains information about classes and one-on-one help. Information Central at <https://resident.willowvalley.org/kiosk/cclub/index.aspx> has links to Technical Support Resources and Computer Expertise Resources. Information at those links can be extremely beneficial in your getting help. Check them out!

The following are repeats for new Club members and those who missed it in the past Newsletters:

Due to significantly reduced Resident utilization and limited numbers of Resident volunteers to be Monitors in the Computer Labs in Lakes Manor (E-108) and Manor North (First Floor M Building), the

Computer Club has focused on assuring Monitor availability on Mondays at 1:00 p.m. when trips and events open for electronic registration. If no one visits the Lab by 1:30 p.m., the Monitor may close the Lab. Monitors may sign up for other days at their option. A Monthly Monitor schedule and lists of volunteer Monitors are posted on the Computer Lab doors and Residents may call one of those individuals and arrange for a mutually convenient time to meet in the Lab if no Monitor has signed up. Gene Simasek is our Lakes Computer Room and Monitor Coordinator and JoAnne Phillips is our Manor North Computer Room and Monitor Coordinator. Please let Gene or JoAnne know if you are willing to be a Monitor in a Computer Room. You don't need to be a computer expert to be a monitor - you just need to want to help other Residents.

Mac SIG We still need a leader for the MAC Special Interest Group (SIG).

Recycling Ed Dahrsnin and his team have worked on more than 329 computer systems. Four systems are available to give to Club members or they will be donated to the Lampeter-Strasburg School District to give to families who cannot afford a computer for their students. The number of available systems changes frequently, so check with Ed if you are interested in receiving a recycled system. Ed's team is accepting working towers, monitors and printers from Computer Club members for recycling. Included software driver CD's and other CD's are appreciated. Also, they continue to accept

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President

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working laptop computers with power adapters, and printer cartridges. Leave the items in Manor North's computer room on the first floor of 'M' building Mondays from 1 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Kiosk Problems If you are having Kiosk problems or problems accessing the Willow Valley website, check with your Campus Manager

Information Central For those of you who are not familiar with Information Central and the Computer Club Newsletter archive, you can access recent Newsletters and an index to topics in those Newsletters at <http://resident.willowvalley.org/kiosk/cclub/p/>

Newsletter.pdf . The Newsletter index page is also available by left-clicking on Newsletter in the left column in Information Central.

Our November Meeting Don't miss our next Computer Club meeting. Jim Cluck, the Willow Valley Vice President of Property Management and Services, will give his annual update on the status of Information Technology and a range of topics that are important to our lives at Willow Valley. Mark your calendar for 2:00 p.m. on November 7th so you can get answers to your questions from the man who knows.

Thank You My thanks to all of you who volunteer your time and knowledge to help other Residents. We need more volunteers! •

More about the Snowden Revelations

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Turning the mathematical algorithms into software code is complex and exacting but it can be done and it is possible to trust such encryption software. And such software is very difficult to defeat.

The revealed documents include statements that some of the encryption standards were diluted and employees of companies making secure software were enlisted to comprise the implementation of their company's secure software. Such software is not nearly as difficult to defeat.

The people involved knew what was happening. But, as someone recently said to me, "tell a person a secret; soon everyone knows."

There are many capable cryptographers in the world. Some are academics, some work for various governments, and some work for private enterpris-

es. It doesn't take much of a clue for these people to understand how to take advantage of compromised encryption. They just need to hear an apparently reliable rumor.

We therefore do not know who else is listening to or capturing information, or is using the weakened encryption software for identity theft, robberies, stealing corporate secrets, etc.

Efforts are underway to review the implementations of various security software packages to find and fix problems. But this is tedious and will take time. •

The Equipment Corner by Ed Dahrsnin

Refurbished Systems The following refurbished systems are available:

326: Dell Dimension XPST800

327: Dell Dimension 4700

328: HP a230n

329: Dell 2400

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. No Macs or Mac parts, see JoAnne Phillips 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@gmail.com

The Leadership

Officers

President: Sid Paskowitz

Vice President: Ralph Beedle

Secretary: Marge Schmieder

Treasurer: Dick Dressel

Community Representatives

Manor: Larry Gallagher

Manor North: Lee Wermuth

Lakes: Gene Simasek

Committee Chairpersons

Program: Ralph Beedle

Training: Wayne Barner

Equipment: Ed Dahrsnin

Technical Support: Tony Poulos

Website: Sid Paskowitz

Publicity: Wally Gordon

Newsletter: Al Williams

Mac Interest Group:

Computer Room Coordinators:
Gene Simasek JoAnne Phillips

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 atwilliams136@gmail.com
