

# The Computer Club At Willow Valley

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Notice: New format for Newsletter content.

Background: We have received requests from Club members asking that we send out multiple Newsletters, each of which would contain information appropriate to a different level of computer and technology understanding. We agonized over those requests and concluded that we would have no good way of knowing which Newsletter should go to which members. So we decided to take a different approach. In this Newsletter, as a test, we will be displaying the least technical information, such as this paragraph throughout this newsletter.

Separate sections for Warnings, Actions and Technical will contain material applicable to those categories. Other categories and associated sections may be added in the future as deemed appropriate.

We need a new editor for this newsletter. Al Williams, our outstanding editor for many years, is retiring. Anyone with interest in taking over this vital Computer Club function is asked to send an email to [wvcomputerclub@gmail.com](mailto:wvcomputerclub@gmail.com).

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## Coming Programs

July and August  
No Computer Club Meetings

*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.*

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### The President's Pen by Sid Paskowitz

**Membership** As of this writing, your Computer Club has 588 paid members including 380 who have signed up as Lifetime members. Please keep your email address current on Club records so we can send you important emails. **Those emails only go to Computer Club members for whom we have a good email address.** Let our Treasurer, Charlie Trumbo ([chtrumbo@gmail.com](mailto:chtrumbo@gmail.com)), know if your email address has changed. When I recently sent out an email advising Computer Club members about the closing of the Kendig Square Radio Shack and the significant price reductions that were available, 10 of those emails were returned as undeliverable due to invalid email addresses. However, I did receive several responses from those who did get the email and they told me how much they saved on the items there were looking to buy.

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## President's Pen

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**Information Central Presentation** I repeated the Information Central presentation Thursday, June 8th at 10 a.m. in the Spring Run Auditorium. Everyone was welcome to attend. If you want the presentation to be given in other Community auditoriums, tell your Community Resident Life Manager and ask her to contact me.

**Renaissance Classes** We are trying something new for the Summer Renaissance classes. Instead of the presenter developing a presentation of material based on what the presenter thinks might be of interest to the attendees, we are contacting the class registrants and asking them to submit questions that they would like to have answered during the class. We will then set up a panel of presenters who are best able to answer those questions. We are also sending emails to registrants to tell them what will be covered in the class based on the questions we receive. If this approach is successful, we will continue this type of class in future Renaissance publications.

**Mac SIG** Steve Lynn, head of the Mac SIG group, is looking for suggestions as to how the Computer Club can better support Mac users. If you have ideas that can help Steve formulate a plan for supporting Mac users, please send them to him at [slynn15@icloud.com](mailto:slynn15@icloud.com). Information Central has been modified based on Steve's recommendations. In the center column of Information Central is a feature called *For Mac Users*. It contains information applicable to Apple computers. Let Steve know if you have suggestions for other beneficial information links that might be added to the area *For Mac Users*. Watch the *Weekly Insider* for meetings of the Mac SIG Group.

**Recycling** Ed Dahrnsin and his team are accepting working computers and components for recycling, but no CRT monitors. Let Ed know if you would like to help recycle computers. Ed and his team meet on Monday afternoons at Manor North. Working in the recycling effort may also help you when you have problems. Thanks to Ed and his team, the Computer Club has given **166** computer systems to the Lampeter-Strasburg School District for families that cannot afford a computer for their students and two laptops to the Hand Middle School in Lancaster for their Science classroom.

**Help with PCs** Cathy Thorn has volunteered to help with PC problems. Cathy's phone number is at the top of the page in Information Central. Also, please let Cathy know if you think you can help others with computer problems so she could contact you instead of her needing to go to the far reaches of Willow Valley to help others.

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## President's Pen

*(Continued from page 2)*

**Thank You** Al Williams will no longer be the **outstanding** editor of our Computer Club Newsletter. Al, thank you for all you have done to improve the Newsletter and to provide a valuable service to Willow Valley Residents. I am looking for names of people who can help with this vital function.

**Please Use Recommended Software** PC owners are reminded that they can receive the best help if they use software that is familiar to other Residents who volunteer to provide technical assistance. Recommended applications are CCleaner, Malwarebytes, Defraggler and Windows Defender (or Windows Security Essentials). We recognize there are alternatives; however, problems are more quickly diagnosed and repaired when the applications running on the PC are familiar to the helper.

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

We need more volunteers! •

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**We need help! Our Computer Club Newsletter Editor and Training Committee Chairman are retiring and need to be replaced. If you would like to manage this newsletter or Computer Club sponsored classes, please contact Sid Paskowitz at [wvcomputerclub@gmail.com](mailto:wvcomputerclub@gmail.com).**

**Manor Library** The contents of the Manor Library have been updated in Information Central. In addition to searches on title and author, searches can now be conducted on words about the subjects covered in the various media forms. Check out the Manor Library link toward the top of the right column in Information Central.



## 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 Computer Club, contact Sid Paskowitz at 464-2127 or via email at [wvcomputer-club@gmail.com](mailto:wvcomputer-club@gmail.com) •

## The Leadership

### Officers

President: Sid Paskowitz

Vice President: Peter Scott

Secretary: Marge Schmieder

Treasurer: Charlie Trumbo

### Past Presidents

Larry Gallagher

### Committee Chairpersons

Program: Peter Scott

Training: (Vacant)

Equipment: Ed Dahrsnin

Technical Support: Tony Poulos

Website: Sid Paskowitz

Publicity: Wally Gordon

Newsletter: (Vacant)

Mac Interest Group: Steve Lynn

Computer Room Coordinators:  
Gene Simasek Lee Wermuth

Microsoft Liaison: Ed Dahrsnin

### Community Representatives

Manor: Larry Gallagher

Manor North: Lee Wermuth

Lakes: Gene Simasek

Providence Park: Peter Scott

Willow Gables: Cathy Thorn

Garden Apartments: Al Williams

**Ink Cartridges** The US Supreme Court has ruled that printer companies cannot use their patent protection on cartridges to keep those cartridges from being refilled by other companies who can then sell them at a lower price. This may cause printer prices to increase to cover true manufacturing costs rather than companies making their profits from selling patented ink cartridges.

**We need help! Our Computer Club Newsletter Editor and Training Committee Chairman are retiring and need to be replaced. If you would like to manage this newsletter or Computer Club sponsored classes, please contact Sid Paskowitz at [wvcomputerclub@gmail.com](mailto:wvcomputerclub@gmail.com).**

### **Reviewer Acknowledgment**

The following individuals kindly reviewed this issue:

Tony Poulos   Al Williams   Wally Gordon

Thank you,  
Sid Paskowitz

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## Actions

**Classes** We know we need more classes on computer-related topics and we are looking for instructors who can teach those classes. If you can help other Residents with topics such as Word, Wordpad, Notepad, browsers, email, etc., please send me an email at [wvcomputerclub@gmail.com](mailto:wvcomputerclub@gmail.com). We need your help.

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**Update Your Online Directory** Something some Residents may not know: you can update or correct your own information in the Willow Valley on-line phone directory. Left-click on the **Resident Directory** tile on the Kiosk Home Page; then left click in the Phone Search box; then put your last name in the empty box to the left of the *Search* button; review the information displayed about you; and if you note something such as your email address that needs to be changed, left-click on the link *Click here to make a correction*. Fill in the information on the next screen and say in the Comments box what you want to be done. When you are satisfied you have clearly stated what you want done, left-click on the *Submit* button. In a day or so, check your information in the on-line directory to verify the desired change was made. When your email address is correct in the on-line phone directory, it can save you and other Residents a phone call when they want to send you an email. Please note that if you change your email address in the on-line directory, that does not update your email address in Computer Club records as discussed earlier. Many Residents have multiple email addresses and use them for different purposes, so if you want your email address changed in Computer Club records, you will need to notify Charlie Trumbo.

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### Verizon Email Accounts

Residents with Verizon email accounts should have received notification that Verizon is getting out of the email business. We understand that Verizon.net email addresses will still work, but the service will be provided by AOL. If you have more than one Verizon email account, you will need to treat each on separately. The Verizon FAQ page indicates there will be a deadline for making a decision on what to do with your Verizon account after which the Verizon email account may cease to exist.

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## Warnings

**Scams, scams, scams...** **No one** who calls you, emails you or displays a message or your computer or device, can tell you your computer or device is infected or running poorly. They have to have been given access. If you haven't provided them with access, you are being scammed. Don't give them access. Hang up. Disconnect. Shut down. Also do not respond to emails that say your account is missing information or they were not able to deliver a package with something you did not order. Be skeptical. ***Protect yourself.***

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Some new, but not surprising, information about malicious software: Google found Android spyware in its app (application) store. **That spyware had been there for three years without being noticed.** Millions were potentially affected. This brings up an interesting point I would like to emphasize. The Computer Club tries to be selective in the PC software we recommend and those recommendations change over the years when we find software we like better. For example, a number of years ago we recommended Zone Alarm as the preferred firewall and AVG as the preferred anti-virus software. Today we recommend the Windows firewall and Windows Defender or Windows Security Essentials, and Malwarebytes as the anti-virus software. There are other programs that perform similar functions but we have experienced good results with the programs we recommend. **We suggest caution in loading programs that may pop up on your computer screen or might be listed when you do an Internet search for software that might address a problem you are having.** The experience with the Google store demonstrates that being skeptical can have its virtues.

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### **Even Linux can be infected with malware**

Linux.MulDrop.14 is a brand new malware program that can infect Linux devices. No operating system is immune from malware.

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**Technical**

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**The Equipment Corner by Ed Dahrsnin****Refurbished Systems (always subject to change)**

The following systems are available for club members:

519 HP Pavilion AV976VA, Windows 8.1 (x64), Tower

520 Dell Inspiron 530s-21QTZD1, Windows 7 Pro, Tower

522 C<sub>2</sub>I MS-7210, Windows 10 Pro (x64), Tower

523 HP nx9420, Windows 7 Home (x64), Laptop

524 Dell Inspiron 530s, Windows 10 Pro, Tower

**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 continue to accept printer cartridges and laptop computers *with* power adapters. We accept *only* working printers *with* drivers and documentation. Also, we accept *only* working monitors. Cathode Ray Tube monitors are **not** acceptable. Stand-alone scanners are **not** acceptable. Bring the items to Manor North's recycle closet on the fifth floor of 'J' building on Monday only, from 1pm to 1:30pm. Working Apple computers are now being accepted•

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**Offensive Ads on Facebook** A recent experience of one of our Residents who is a Facebook fan caused us to believe it is important to share the following information on how to report and hide an offensive ad on Facebook.

You can't block Facebook ads entirely. Ads help keep Facebook free, and Facebook states that they strive to only show ads that are relevant and interesting to you. For more information about the ads you see, check out this section of the Facebook Help Center: <https://www.facebook.com/help/499864970040521?ref=u2u>

You can also report the ad here:

<https://www.facebook.com/help/www/162606073801742?%2F%3Fref=u2u>

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**RAM on new PCs** Experience we are having helping others with older PCs indicates slow PCs are caused by insufficient RAM (random access memory) that may have met minimum requirements when the PC was bought, but software updates and newer software running in the background use more RAM than is available. Based on that experience we recommend new PCs have at least 12 GB of RAM for future needs.

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**Windows 10 Plans** Microsoft is still working hard to hit the one billion mark for Windows 10 users and two recent reports have indicated their moves in that direction. First, Microsoft plans to have two major upgrades to Windows 10 and Office annually, probably in March and September. Second, reports have been received that some Windows 7 and Windows 8.1 computers have been successfully activated with Windows 10 using old license keys. We are not recommending non-techies try to do this. We just want readers to be aware this may be possible if you want to upgrade to Windows 10 without needing to buy a new computer.

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**Microsoft has issued unusual security patches for Windows XP and Windows 7:**

Windows XP security update

<https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/download/details.aspx?id=55245>

Windows 7 security updates

<http://www.catalog.update.microsoft.com/search.aspx?q=4012212>

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