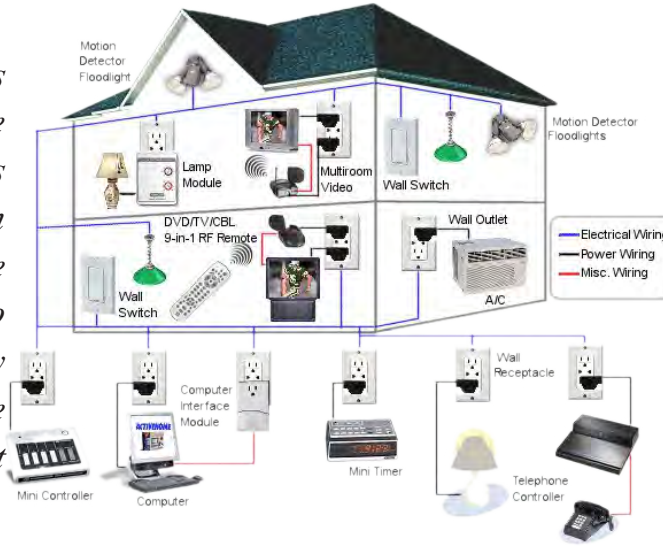


Home Security For The Computerist

This month, a topic that touches us all.

Home security is something that everyone needs, and many of us have. But there have been many changes in home security systems due to advancing technology and enhanced by the ability for Internet monitoring.

PCC member Don Odle specializes in security issues, computer and otherwise. Don will be here to give a brief presentation on the home system he recently put in himself and how he made the choices he did for his own system. There are many choices out there and Don will help us sift through them.



This is going to be an interactive discussion. Do you have a home monitoring system? Tell us what you have. How did you make your choices? Did you install it yourself? How difficult was it to set up? How easy is it to use? Can you access your system from a remote computer or smartphone? What kind of alerting system do you have? The information you have may help someone else with their decision.

As always, there'll be good food, good fun and good friends all around. Be there and be secure!



Raffle!

This month, a Vivitar DVR508N-RED Digital Video Recorder Camcorder - 5 MegaPixels, 1.8" LCD, 4x Digital Zoom, 8MB Internal Memory, 2GB NAND Flash, SD Card Slot, USB. Create movies with amazing clarity in high definition. The 1.8" LCD display makes framing and reviewing captured images a breeze. Image Resolution of 1280 x 720dpi gets high definition images. AND, it's YOURS for the price of a ticket.



Tickets are **\$5** each, available where you sign in. Need not be present to win.

What's Inside:

Newsletter Information..... 2	Map & Directions to Main Meeting..... 3	Penquin Partition..... 7
PC Community Officers..... 2	Dell Latitude XT2 Transformer..... 4	Main & Exec. Meeting Minutes..... 8
About PC Community..... 2	Dell Latitude XT2 Transformer (cont'd) 5	PCC Events Calendar..... 9
PCC Announcements..... 3	SIG Meetings-Information..... 6	

About PC Community



EDITOR
Elsie Smith
 lcms@pacbell.net

Associate Editor: Jan Fagerholm

Online Editor: Diane George

Contributors: Bayle Emlein, Jan Fagerholm, Diane George, Chuck Horner and Elsie Smith.

Deadline: Copy must be submitted no later than the second Saturday prior to the Main Meeting. Check the Newsletter calendar for the date. Submissions should be made by e-mail to the Editor, **lcms@pacbell.net**. Advertising rates are available from the Editor.

Contents © 2013 PC Community, except as noted. Permission for reproduction in whole or in part is granted to other computer user groups for internal, non-profit use, provided credit is given to PC Community and to the authors of the material.



Adobe InDesign CS2 is used to publish
 PCC News

PCC Officers and Staff

- President — Chuck Horner**
churck@comcast.net (510) 589-9677
- Executive Vice President — Sally Holt**
nole62@pacbell.net (510) 785-3593
- Treasurer — Tom Smith**
smith-tf@pacbell.net (510) 545-2077
- Secretary — Bayle Emlein**
pcc@ix.netcom.com (510) 652-1726
- VP Clubhouse — Sidney Jordan**
sjordan321@aol.com (510) 886-8188
- VP Marketing — New VP Needed**
you@righthere.com (510) 123-4567
- VP Membership — Jan Fagerholm**
pcc4me@gmail.com (510) 213-8421
- VP Newsletter — Elsie Smith**
lcms@pacbell.net (510) 545-2077
- VP Programs — New VP Needed**
you@righthere.com (510) 123-4567
- VP Special Projects — Bayle Emlein**
pcc@ix.netcom.com (510) 652-1726
- Webmaster — Diane George**
digeorge38@hotmail.com (510) 538-2449
- APCUG Representative — Diane George**
digeorge38@hotmail.com (510) 538-2449
- Projector Coordinator — Jan Fagerholm**
pcc4me@gmail.com (510) 213-8421

Board of Directors

- Bayle Emlein**
pcc@ix.netcom.com (510) 652-1726
- Jan Fagerholm**
pcc4me@gmail.com (510) 213-8421
- Sally Holt**
nole62@pacbell.net (510) 785-3593
- Chuck Horner**
churck@comcast.net (510) 589-9677
- Elsie Smith**
lcms@pacbell.net (510) 545-2077

Clubhouse Information

PC Clubhouse has been closed indefinitely. Refurbished computers are still available on request. Please contact PC Community, 26799 Contessa Street, Hayward, CA 94545.

PC Community is a computer users group for people who wish to expand their knowledge and experience of personal computers and software. This is accomplished through monthly general meetings of the full membership where major industry vendors present information, and through smaller focus groups (Special Interest Groups, or SIGs) where members meet to share common computer interests. The group's monthly Main Meeting takes place at Calvary Baptist Church, 28924 Ruus Road, Hayward, at 7:30 P.M. on the first Friday of each month.

PC Community is dedicated to community service, providing enabling technology to people with special needs, working in the community to obtain computer equipment, and working with other computer groups to help people extend their lives through computer technology.

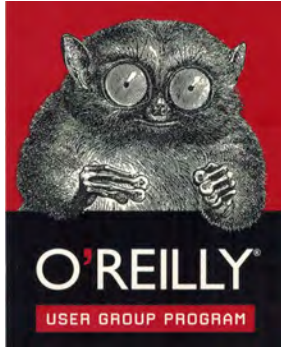
PC Community has a Web site at **<http://www.pcc.org>**.

Membership dues are \$40.00 per year. Dues for educational and seniors (65 and over) are \$25.00 per year. Call 510-213-8421 for more information, or write to PC Community at the address on this page.



PCC is a member of the Association
 of Personal Computer User Groups
 (APCUG)

PCC Announcements



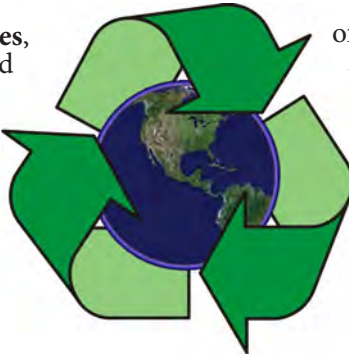
PCC is registered in the O'Reilly User Group Program, qualifying us to receive review copies of O'Reilly, Microsoft Press, Pragmatic, No Starch, Rocky Nook and SitePoint products. User group members also qualify for savings of 40% off print and 50% off ebooks. E-mail Elsie Smith, lcms@pacbell.net, for discount code. All orders over \$29.95 qualify for free shipping. Purchase at www.oreilly.com/store. O'Reilly also donates books and other promotional items to PCC.

What books would you like to see on our door prize table? Go to www.oreilly.com and pick the book that interests you. Then e-mail Elsie Smith, lcms@pacbell.net, with the entire title so I can request it from O'Reilly.

O'Reilly Media, Inc. - <http://www.oreilly.com> - (800) 889-8969

PCC Recycle Program is Back, Bigger and Better!

Your used **toner cartridges**, old **cell phones**, used **inkjet cartridges**, old **PDA**s and defunct **iPods** are valuable. Don't toss them in your trash to be used as landfill. They are worth something to PCC and other groups, either in the form of exchange or as discount on products at some local retailers. This not only helps PCC, but also helps our community. You can drop any



of these items off at a Main Meeting or an EC Meeting. Do your part for PCC and your community! Keep the environment clean by taking a few extra moments to recycle these items with PCC.

contact:
Chuck Horner
churck@comcast.net
510-589-9677

Directions to the PCC Main Meeting

From All Directions: take 880 to the Tennyson Road exit in Hayward. Take the exit toward the hills. Proceed northeast on Tennyson Rd. about 0.7 mile to the 5th stoplight. This will be Ruus Road.

Turn right on Ruus Road and proceed southeast for about 0.4 mile. Look for Calvary Baptist Church on your left.

Turn left into the driveway into the parking lot. Parking is available anywhere from the driveway to the back of the lot.

Look for the PCC signs.



PCC News Goes All Digital!

Notice! The last printed Newsletter was mailed in December, 2012. At the November, 2012 Main Meeting, the cost of printing the Newsletter was discussed and the Executive Committee decided to discontinue the printed version in order to remove that expense. Members now receive an e-mail the week before the Main Meeting with a PDF version of the Newsletter as an attachment, and a Web link with a link to the Newsletter on the PCC Web site (<http://www.pcc.org/index.php/newsletters>) for those who have problems with e-mail attachments. To continue receiving PCC News, be sure that we have your preferred and current e-mail address. You can do this by using the e-mail link on the PCC Web site (<http://www.pcc.org/index.php/contact-pcc>) that sends an e-mail to the Executive Committee. Make sure it includes the e-mail address where you would prefer receiving the Newsletter.



Latitude XT2 Transformer

It's a Lablet – it's a Tabtop – it's. . .

by Jan Fagerholm, Screen Folder

The Bullet Points: Dell's Latitude XT2 is a laptop with a 12.1" LCD 1280x800 pixel multi-touch screen that rotates and folds over the keyboard to become a tablet computer. It has an Intel Core 2 Duo CPU, 2 GB of PC3 1066 MHz RAM, a 64 GB SSD hard drive, 802.11n wireless, gigabit wired networking, bluetooth, 3 USB 2.0 ports, 1 combination eSATA/USB port, 1 Firewire port, SDHC memory card slot, 1 PC card slot, a fingerprint reader, and an external DVD Multi recordable optical drive. Windows 7 Professional 32-bit with touch screen enhancements is pre-installed.

What's In The Box?: Dell Latitude XT2 computer with 42Wh battery, external optical drive with eSATA cable, capacitive touch screen stylus with spare nibs, 45W power adapter.

The Review: The Dell Latitude XT2 is a laptop for the indecisive among us. Slightly thicker and heavier than an Ultrabook, it compensates by sporting more I/O ports. The LCD screen folds over the keyboard to become a tablet computer when the need or the mood strikes you. Though Windows 7 is installed, it is feature-enhanced to support multi-touch features, including a resizable on-screen keyboard and a handwriting utility, so it may be used just like a tablet computer.

The XT2 has an Intel Core 2 Duo CPU clocked at 1.6 GHz. The modest CPU speed is compensated for by the SSD hard drive, which makes the whole system very responsive in use. Windows 7 start time is 10 seconds to desktop and only 3 seconds to shutdown. 64 GB might not seem like much (larger sizes are available), but here you must think tablet computer, where 32-64 GB storage is the norm. If you want something

to store all your movies on, you won't be looking at a computer like this anyway.

The 4 point multi-touch LCD has a leg up over most tablet computers; the larger 12.5" screen helps precision on many touch operations. The downside is that Windows 7 was never designed with touch screens in mind. The

Start menu is difficult to navigate accurately with fingertips. One workaround is to create shortcuts on the desktops for the stuff that you commonly use. This does not help, though, with applications menus; menu items are small, and difficult to select by touch with any accuracy. This is clearly what the stylus is for. Applications that use the recent Ribbon toolbar standard such as Microsoft Office fair better as the icons are large enough to be touched accurately.

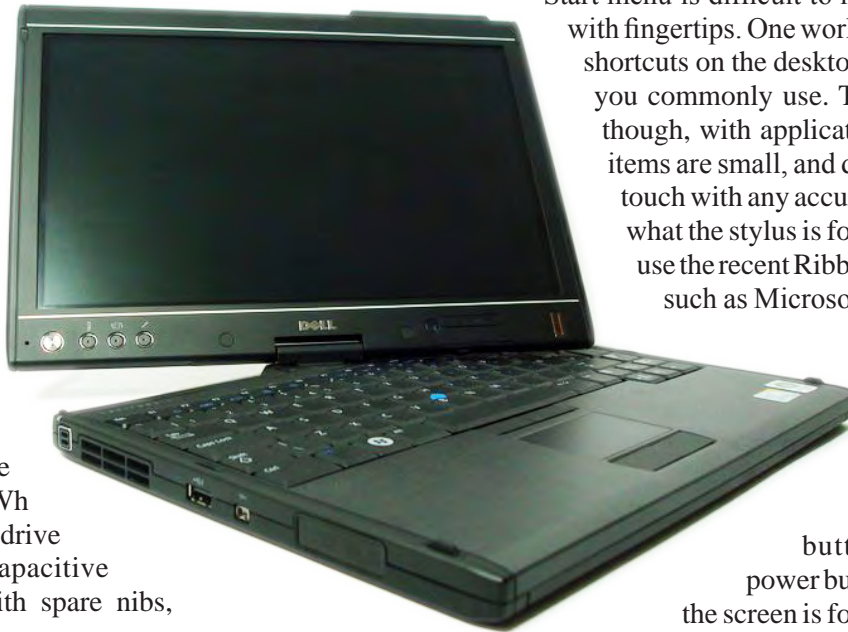
The screen bezel has three buttons next to the power button that help when the screen is folded in tablet mode.

One invokes Ctrl-Alt-Del, one brings up a Dell-authored utility to control common settings, and one manually rotates the screen. Folding the screen into tablet mode automatically rotates the screen to portrait mode with the bezel buttons on the lower right.

(If you don't like this behavior, you can change it.) The rotate button can be used to rotate the screen 90 degrees at a time through 180 degrees, placing the buttons on the left if desired.

The on-screen keyboard can be invoked with a vertical swipe and a tap along the left side of the screen. It can be resized by touching and dragging a corner

of it to the size you desire. (Pinch-zoom does not work with the on-screen keyboard – boo!) When the screen is in landscape mode, resizing the keyboard to the width of the screen makes the keytops the same size as a standard sized keyboard, which may aid in typing.



The included stylus is worth a mention. The computer was clearly designed with the stylus in mind as it has a convenient place to stow it inside the case below the top left corner of the keyboard. A press of the fingertip extends it and an amber LED adjacent flashes briefly to let you know it is active. Releasing the stylus also changes the swipe-for-keyboard to the swipe-for-handwriting tool. In use, bringing the stylus tip close to the screen brings up a tiny dot on the screen to show you exactly where it thinks you are going to touch. There are three types of nibs included which change the size of the touch area on screen, which can tailor usability according to your handling.

The handwriting recognition utility is the standard Windows 7 accessory. Its best use is with the stylus in tablet mode, and will insert your writing into an open application. Think handwriting recognition in the old Palm Pilot days, only better. It can be set to work in freehand (script) mode or in character (block letters) mode, and I find its recognition rate rather good even with my sloppy script.



Components are easy to reach

Nits: * The touch pad is not multi-touch, as it is on some other Dell laptops. It would be a nice enhancement on the XT2.

* External display is VGA only. No HDMI or DisplayPort.

* I wish the optical drive was internal. External drives of any kind always seem clumsy.

* Windows 7 is the only OS choice. I suppose that's because it's a Latitude, which is Dell's business line.

Picks: * 4 point multi-touch screen works well for my touch. Pinch-zoom works in all my favorite applications. The screen is bright enough to be used outdoors.

* The stylus is a useful and usable enhancement, thoughtfully incorporated into the XT2 overall.



Stylus holder

* The XT2 supports WWAN cards, allowing you to use wireless phone service for Internet access, same as smartphones and tablets.

* Battery life is an above average 5 hours.

This computer screams for Windows 8, but it is not available preinstalled, even on the XT3. I suppose that is a Dell decision because the Latitude line is business computers. Homebrew computer users such as myself can put Windows 8 on themselves. (Yes, I did. All of my commentary here, though, is on the included Windows 7.)

The Dell Latitude XT2 is not the newest kid on the block. There is an updated XT3 model which offers Intel i3, i5 and i7 processor choices. The XT3 is pricey, starting at \$1965 and getting worse from there. New XT2s can be found for about \$500 on the Internet, and reburbished ones can be found for as little as \$250 with a full warranty. If you have been considering a tablet computer, this price puts the XT2 into serious consideration. Some reviewers don't like transformers like the XT2 because it is heavier than a tablet and has a smaller screen than a laptop. Personally, I like it precisely because it is nearly as small as a tablet, has a full size real keyboard, has full touch screen capability, and unlike the Ultrabooks with touch screens, can be folded into a tablet format for the most convenient touch screen use. Being a Latitude, the XT2's design leans toward durability, as exemplified by the magnesium case. The XT2 makes a competent effort to be both tablet and laptop.

Do you find yourself carrying both your laptop and your tablet computer during the course of a normal day? Dump them – get an XT2 instead and cut your tote bag clutter in half.

Product Information

Dell Latitude XT2

Web price \$500 as equipped
Dell Inc.

Round Rock, TX
(512) 728-4100

<http://www.dell.com>



Bezel buttons

Door Prizes

Congratulations to all the members who won door prizes at the Main Meeting!

General Drawing:

Fairchild bag with calendar.....	Bob Kiessling
Fairchild car usb connector.....	Bill George
Panasas tablet and pen	Bayle Emlein
Kroll OnTrack pen	Chuck Horner
PrintArtist.....	Joy Somerville
Pinnacle MovieMaking Magic.....	John Cordeniz
RCA dog.....	Andrew Tews
Pinnacle MovieMaking Magic.....	Ron Seipel
Lesley University bag	Yorkman Lowe
Lumilite flashlight.....	Diane George
Cloudspeed tee shirt.....	Michael Wong
Fairchild pen	Sally Holt

Raffle Prize:

Philips Prestigo universal remote.....	Diane George
--	--------------

Membership Dues

As of January 1, 2013, our Membership Dues have changed. There is an increase in dues as follows:

Regular.....	\$40.00
Seniors/Students.....	\$25.00

Make a check payable to PC Community in the amount listed above to:
 PC Community
 26799 Contessa Street
 Hayward, CA 94545-3149

Dues Expiring This Month!

The following members dues expire this month:

**Bayle Emlein
 Stanford L. Sorensen**

Special Interest Group Meetings



Del Parton - retired the Hardware SIG. Del's Hardware SIG, now 27 years old, is the oldest SIG and has been held continually since the inception of PCC. Del thanked the Smiths at the September Main Meeting for hosting the SIG in their house for the past 13 years.



Dan Dolgin - (510) 895-8845
 dandolgin7@comcast.net
 3rd Monday of the month: 7:30pm
<http://www.pcc.org/mobile>



David Graham - (925) 997-9646
 dmgraham98@yahoo.com
 3rd Monday of the month: 7:30pm
<http://www.pcc.org/mobile>

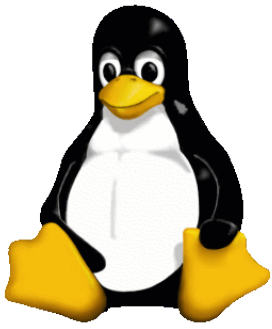


Bud Gallagher - (510) 269-3623
 budgall@comcast.net
 2nd Saturday of the month: 1pm

**Room for more
 SIGs here-
 start one!**



Jan Fagerholm - (510) 213-8421
 pcc4me@gmail.com
 Last Saturday of the Month: 2pm



The Penguin Partition

Linux for Human Beings

by Jan Fagerholm, PCC Penguinista

Recently, I ranted on this page about how desktop Linux is weak on support of some of the latest technology, specifically touch screens and a touch screen interface. The reason is simple; Linux already has a touch-based version. It's called Android.

My problem with Android is that it only runs on tablet and smartphone hardware, none of which run on x86 processors.

With the advent of touch screen laptops, can an Android-based laptop be very far behind?

This would be really cool, as on a touch-screen laptop, it would give essentially the same capabilities as an Android tablet, saving the cost and bother of adding another device to your gadget bag.

Somebody besides me thinks this is a good idea. They are actually doing something about it.

Among others, there is a project called android-x86.org (which happens to be their URL as well). Its purpose is to port the latest version of Android (presently 4.2) to x86 platforms.

How successful is this? I don't have the answer for you yet, as I am presently downloading the ISO image that will let me install it on a PC.

A parallel project for me is installing an Android emulator.

This is companion to an IDE (geek-speak for Integrated

Development Environment), which purpose is to allow a developer to test and debug Android apps in an environment (that is, PC) that has the resources to run and debug apps under development. On a touch screen laptop, it should behave similar to a true Android device. That's the idea anyway.

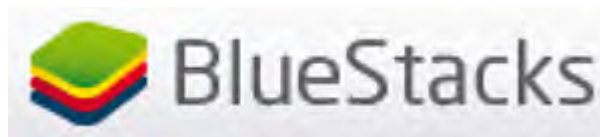
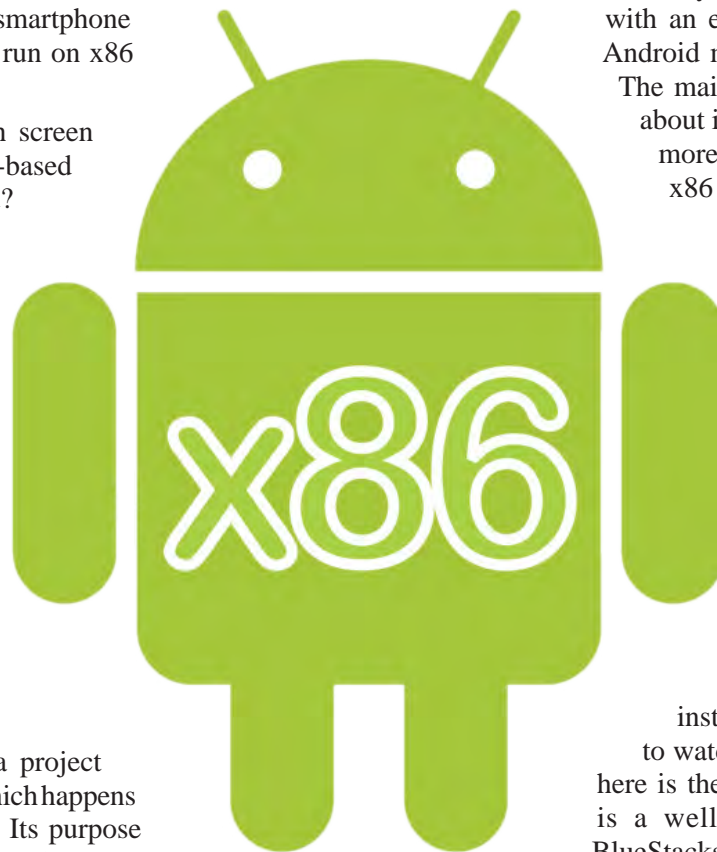
It's been a long time since I actually have done any programming, but working with an emulator or a working x86 Android may just pique my interest.

The main reason I am spouting off about it here is that I expect to say more about it in the future. An x86 Android running natively on x86 hardware would be the most useful tool for this.

What about VM? Turns out there are several projects that run in virtual machines of some flavor. This will be explored also.

In a way, installing Android on anything just for the sake of Android is a bit like installing Windows alone just to watch it run. What we are after here is the ability to run apps. There is a well regarded project called BlueStacks that runs Android apps on Mac and Windoze. Windoze flavors include Windoze XP through 8, and on all flavors BlueStack claims to run all 750,000 Android apps. The Mac version is highly regarded. I'll let you know.

All of these possibilities promise to provide a lot of material for this column and for upcoming SIG meetings. Stay tuned.





PCC Main and Executive Meeting Highlights



Secretary — Bayle Emlein
pcc@ix.netcom.com

Treasurer — Tom Smith
smith-tf@pacbell.net

Main Meeting Highlights

March 1, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by President Chuck Horner. See Lola Hunter at the ticket table, for raffle tickets, door prize tickets, and 3" x 5" cards to write questions for discussion/answers at the end of the Meeting. Tonight's door prize is a Philips Prestigo universal remote control.

There are no SIG announcements.

We need volunteers to help coordinate programs and also to help organize publicity. Please let a member of the Executive Committee know if you're interested or just want more information.

Presentation:

Diane George presented OneNote. OneNote is a digital notebook. You can establish notebooks to organize in anyway you choose. You can put a OneNote notebook on SkyDrive so that you have access from anywhere. Diane likes OneNote because it is easy; it automatically adds links for material copied from a Web page; it structures the storage of random bits of stuff for later use; it can open an email in Outlook; it is included with all versions of MS Office; it will import a picture and if that picture includes text, the text can be made searchable—though it is not converted to true OCR; it can grab and incorporate dates from your calendar; a translator and thesaurus are available. Files are interchangeable with Word and Excel.

Windows Life includes SkyDrive.

Diane also introduced the Snipping Tool in Windows 7. It lets you capture any part of the screen and paste into an application. There are a few editing tools. Don Odle suggested the free program Gadwin.

After a side trip to the Alvarado historical site and records created by Tony Gualco, Yorkman Lowe asked about brand names of USB drives.

Drawings took place after the break. Congratulations to our winners.

Bill George asked a question about the speed of USB 3.

Sally Holt said that it doesn't make much difference for her thumb drive but that it speeds up back-ups with her external drive to just an hour rather than 12 hours.

Thank you to George Kornbluth for taking care of refreshments.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Bayle Emlein, Secretary

Executive Committee Meeting Highlights

March 16, 2013

There was no Executive Committee Meeting in March.

President's Report - Chuck Horner: No report.

Executive Vice President - Sally Holt: No report.

Treasurer - Tom Smith: As of March 16, 2013:

Checking Account: \$702.17

Secretary - Bayle Emlein: No report.

VP Clubhouse - Sid Jordan: No report.

VP Membership - Jan Fagerholm: Member count as of March 16, 2013:

Regular	13	38.24%
Senior	18	52.94%
Associate	3	8.82%
Total	34	

VP Newsletter - Elsie Smith: Submission deadline:

March 23, 2013, Saturday, April Newsletter

April 20, 2013, Saturday, May Newsletter

VP Special Projects - Bayle Emlain: No report.

Webmaster - Diane George : No Report

Fund Raiser:

April: Vivitar DVR508N-RED Digital Video Recorder Camcorder.

Date and Time of Next Meeting: Saturday, April 20, 2013 at 2:00 p.m., 28924 Ruus Road, Hayward



April 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5 7:30 pm Main Meeting	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13 Windows 7 SIG on Sabbatical
14	15 7:30 pm- Mobile Computing SIG	16	17	18	19	20 2 pm-Exec. Committee Mtg.
21	22	23	24	25	26	27 2 pm-Linux SIG
28	29	30	Check the calendar at www.pcc.org for up- to-date information!		See Page 6 for SIG Meeting information.	