

## Why You Want Home Theater

Ladies and Gentlemen! Step right in and sit right down. The show is about to begin, and it has been waiting for you. TV, movies, music, streaming anything and everything from the Internet -- it's all waiting for you.

This month, we'll take a look at some home theater options. Sure, everybody has a TV and a DVD/Blu-ray player of some sort, and some of you may even have a TiVo of some sort.

But without a computer in the middle of this, you are missing out on a lot. You need a Home Theater Personal Computer (HTPC) to expand and organize your media experience.

Gone are the days when you needed \$2,000 to put together an HTPC. You can put a fully capable HTPC together for less than \$200 that will fully integrate your media experience and give you a

stunning video and audio experience. Verne Perry and Jan Fagerholm will demonstrate how easy it is to get going with minimal hardware

and several choices of mature software that hide the computer part and let you just do the media part. A running demonstration of XBMCbuntu will show how simple it is.



No geeking required.

However, you may be presented with some penguin posturing in the form of Linux Mint 12 or the new Ubuntu 12.04. Or both. See how easy it is to install and use the safest, most reliable operating system at home and anywhere on the Internet. No geeking required.

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

### Raffle!

This month, a LITE-ON SATA 24x DVD Writer, Model iHAS424-98 with LightScribe support. Writes 4.7GB in 5.5 minutes to DVD+R/-R. Features a 2MB buffer, Smart-Burn buffer under-run protection and ABS system reducing vibration and noise that work together to ensure you get accurate, working copies. Playback is just as reliable with Smart-X technology for smooth, stable Audio and data extraction. Using dual-layer burning, you can store 8.5GB on one dual-layer disc. Create your personalized labels. 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.



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## About PC Community



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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.

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Adobe InDesign CS2 is used to publish  
 PCC News

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### Clubhouse Information

Please check page 3 for information regarding the Clubhouse. Communication with the Clubhouse should be directed to PC Community, P.O. Box 55513, Hayward, CA 94545-0512.

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 \$35.00 per year. \$20.00 for educational and seniors(65 and over), and \$45.00 for family per year. Call 510-213-8421 for more information, or write to PC Community at the address on this page.



**ICEMAN  
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Thanks to PCC Member *Chris Yager*,  
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 iceman@prado.com - (510) 317-5900



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

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# PCC Announcements

## O'Reilly - Books and Media

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**Review a Book:** Review an O'Reilly book and get published in the PCC Newsletter and on the PCC Web Site. Find a book that interests you at [www.oreilly.com](http://www.oreilly.com), e-mail me the name of the book and ISBN so I can order it for you. PCC requires a deposit from you



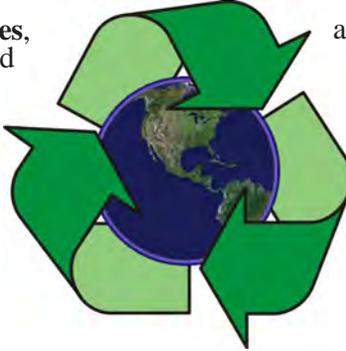
in the amount of the User Group price, a 35% discount. You have 60 days to complete the review, at which time the deposit is refunded and you keep the book.

Elsie Smith - PCC UG Representative to O'Reilly  
[lcms@pacbell.net](mailto:lcms@pacbell.net) or 510-545-2077

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## 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**  
[churchk@comcast.net](mailto:churchk@comcast.net)  
510-589-9677

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## 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.



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## PCC Clubhouse Seeking House!

PCC's Clubhouse is temporarily without a -- house. With extraordinary effort, Clubhouse VP **Sid Jordan** and clubhouse regulars **Tony Cozzette, Don Feist, Bruce Hevelin, Charles Landsmerer, Bob McGeary, Del Parton, Ted Rosaro, AC Robinson, and Michael Wong** cleared out years of accumulation and took it to the recycle center for cash. Their efforts added \$800 to PCC's finances.

That's the good news. The bad news is that the Clubhouse is temporarily homeless. We are working on a temporary

location from which the refurbishing activities can continue, but we are still seeking a larger facility from which the Clubhouse's full set of activities can continue. We are setting up a contact phone number where you can call and find out about Clubhouse progress.

If you know of a facility that can house our Clubhouse, (think of the old Clubhouse for size) contact anyone on the Executive Committee and let them know. Contact information for the E.C. is on page 2 of this Newsletter, or go to [www.pcc.org](http://www.pcc.org) and click on Contact Us.

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● Tablets are expected to become more popular in the near future.

**TABLET SALES TO RISE**

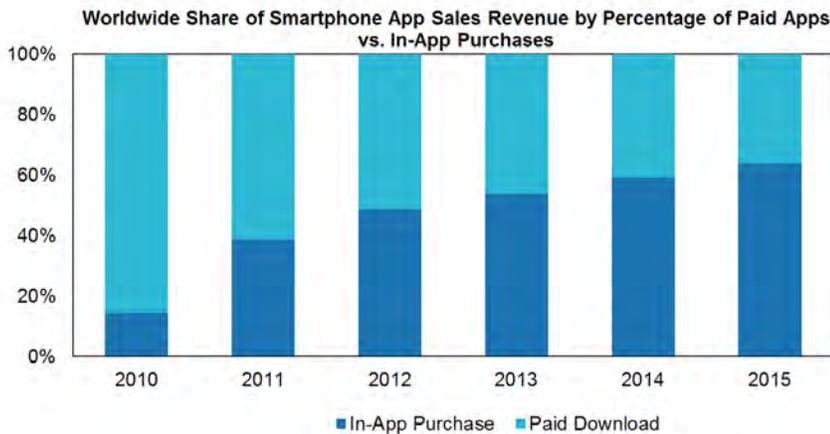
The NDP's DisplaySearch Tablet Quarterly report estimates that tablet sales will increase from 72.7 million units in 2011 to 383.3 million by 2017. Some of the key factors spurring growth include new opportunities in emerging markets, such as India and China, as well as improvements to the tablet platform, such as higher pixel densities and improved performance. NDP forecasts that emerging markets will account for 46% of worldwide shipments in 2017, which would be an increase from the 36% in 2011.

● **APPLE IS BACK**

*The introduction of the iPhone 4S helped put Apple back into the top spot for the fourth quarter of 2011.*

**APPLE RETAKES SMARTPHONE LEAD**

In the third quarter of 2011, Apple briefly lost its No. 1 rank in smartphone shipments to Samsung. The introduction of the iPhone 4S helped put Apple back into the top spot for the fourth quarter of 2011, according to a recent report from iSuppli. Apple experienced a 117% quarterly growth from the third quarter to the fourth quarter with a shipment of more than 37 million iPhones in Q4. In terms of overall smartphone shipments for 2011, Samsung (95 million shipments) topped Apple (93 million shipments).



● In terms of total revenue, in-app purchases are expected to overcome paid downloads by 2014.

Source: IHS Screen Digest January 2012

**IN-APP PURCHASES DOMINATE SMARTPHONE APP BUSINESS**

If you're looking for the easiest way to make money on a smartphone app, consider creating a free app and offering in-app purchases. The IHS Screen Digest Mobile Media Intelligence Service found that 39% (\$970 million) of the total market revenue from smartphone apps came from in-app purchases in 2011. The report also indicates that 96% of all smartphone apps that were downloaded in 2011 were free. By 2015, IHS estimates that 64% of the total market revenue for smartphones will come with in-app purchases, and it will account for \$5.6 billion.





Windows 8

# Windows 8 Pains 'n' Gains

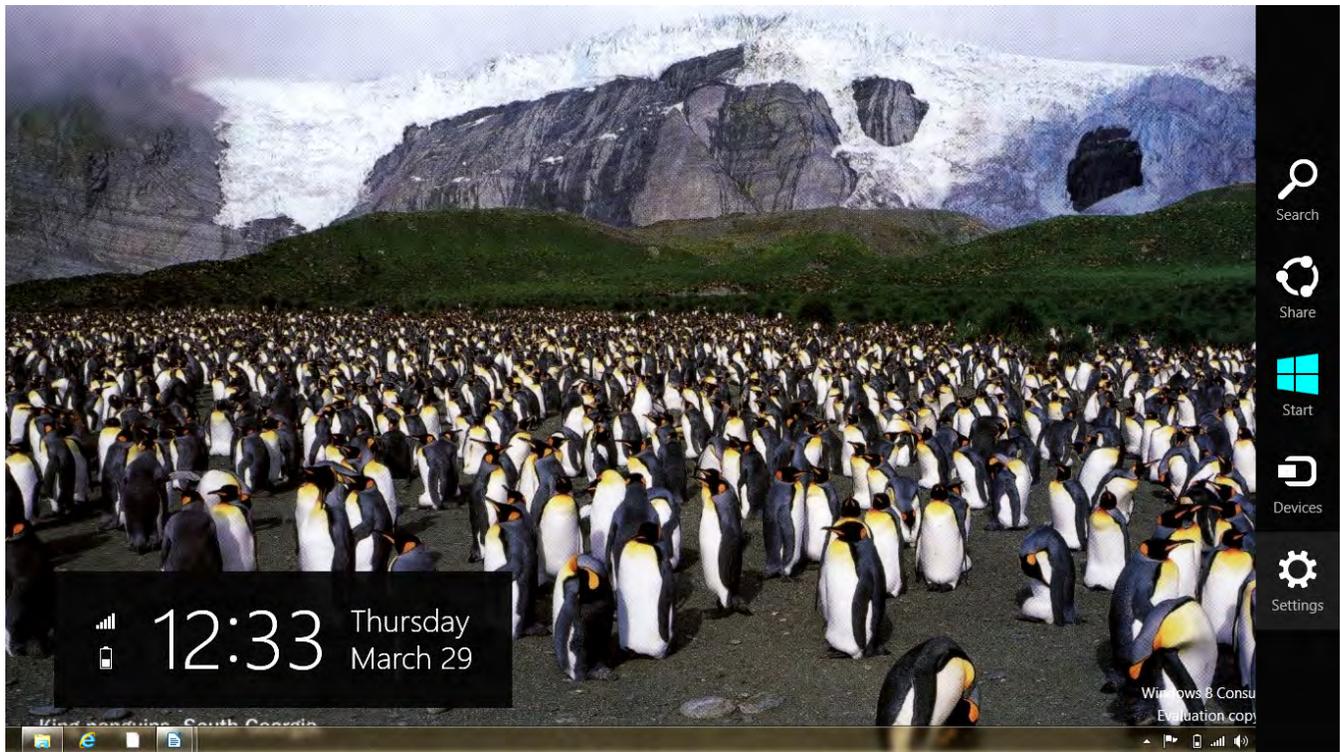
## Notes From The Bleeding Edge. . .

by Jan Fagerholm, Metro Masochist

If you haven't heard that Windows 8 is coming, you are in the minority. Microsoft is spending millions of dollars on media campaigns to make sure that you know it. Why do we care? Because it is the first big change to the Windows interface since Windows 95, and it is very ambitious in scope. Windows 8 is intended to run on ARM processors in addition to Intel/AMD x86 processors, which aims it squarely at the tablet/smartphone market in addition to the PC market. The raging question is, can Microsoft actually make an interface that works on everything from

designed to work on netbook/tablet/smartphone devices with touchscreens.

Microsoft just released the next beta of windows 8 which they are calling a "Consumer Preview". (Guess this is Microsoft language for "beta.") The big step up from the Developers Preview is the improvements to the Metro interface, as well as some enhancements to the conventional mouse and keyboard interface. It gives us a fuller picture of what the final product will be like.



*New old desktop*

smartphone screens to vast desktop monitors?

Microsoft's reason for doing this is apparent to any market watcher: All the personal device sales growth is in tablet computers and smartphones, where Microsoft is conspicuously absent. All of these devices use processor architecture where Intel is conspicuously absent. Intel's response to this is their Ultrabook technology, bringing Intel processors to the netbook/tablet/smartphone market; Microsoft's response is Windows 8, with interface changes

Installing Windows 8 Consumer Preview on a CTL 2goPad SL10 tablet computer is familiarly Windows 7-like – very few questions asked, then a 30 minute install and setup gets you to Metro, where Windows 8 starts. First noticeable difference from the Developer Preview version is Metro's background. Gone is the garish green of Developer Preview, replaced by a tranquilizing teal with a subtle bubble pattern in the background. Somewhere in the future must come the ability to select your own background, like on the traditional desktop, (and like on

*Hey! -- Where's the Start Button???*

*Continued on page 6*





# Windows 8 Pains 'n' Gains

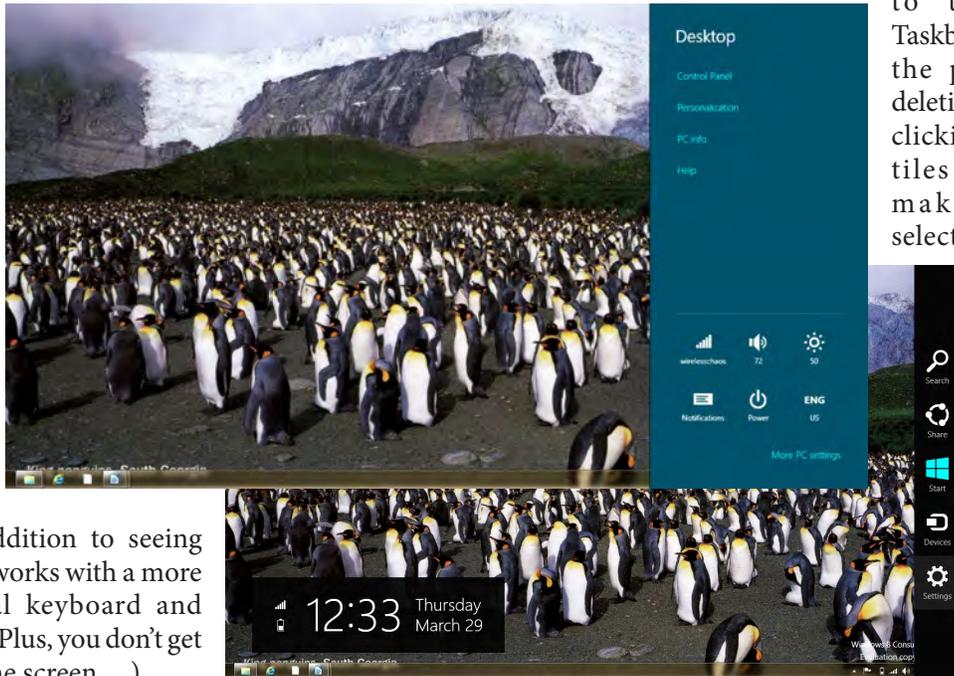
## Notes From The Bleeding Edge. . .

Windows 8

*Continued from page 5*

the iPad and Android) but so far -- get used to teal.

While the slant of this series is the tablet-centric Metro interface, certain features prompted me to put it on a conventional laptop as well. The victim - er, candidate is an overworked Dell Latitude E6510 with an Intel 2.8 GHz Core i5 CPU and 6 GB of DDR3 RAM. This machine is already crowded with Windows 7, Linux Mint 12 and Ubuntu 12.04 beta, but an additional partition accommodated Windows 8 Consumer Preview with little strain. Inspiration for testing on this platform comes from its multi-touch touchpad which lends itself to touch-centric interfacing in addition to seeing how Windows 8 works with a more PC conventional keyboard and pointing device. (Plus, you don't get fingerprints on the screen. . .)



*Right upper and lower corner hotspots bring up computer tasks*

There are many enhancements to Metro in Consumer Preview over Developer Preview. As the names imply, Consumer Preview is much more user friendly and has many more methods for accomplishing tasks. The login screen still front-ends with a wallpaper, but now you may either swipe (tablet-style), press any key (laptop style), or click-and-drag (desktop style) to open up the login screen dialog.

The biggest culture shock to the PC trained and PC brained is what happens next: you wind up in Metro rather than a traditional desktop, populated with several Tiles which you use to launch applications and tasks. There is a rather large Tile that goes to the desktop. Clicking on that takes you to the familiar Windows desktop, where the Taskbar presents the next big culture shock. There is no Start button, How do you start anything? Moving the cursor to the lower left corner of the screen where the Start button used to be raises a flyout miniature of Metro. Clicking

on that takes you back to Metro, where Microsoft clearly wants you to start things.

While in Metro, look around. A strong sense of exploration is useful here. Of course, left-clicking a Tile launches an application. Right-clicking a tile selects it and raises a context-sensitive taskbar at the bottom of the screen, allowing such things as pinning and unpinning the launcher

to the desktop Taskbar, uninstalling the program, and deleting the tile. Right clicking on several tiles sequentially makes multiple selections, allowing for multiple deletions -- useful for reducing clutter on the Metro desktop. Resizing Metro style tiles can enhance prominence of often used applications while

reducing the size of lesser used applications can also ease the screen clutter. (Note that this only works on Metro apps: Conventional Windows apps tiles cannot be resized.)

Moving the cursor to the lower left corner produces a miniature flyout of the desktop; clicking on that takes you back to the desktop.

Back in Metro, moving the cursor to the bottom of the screen fades in a horizontal scrollbar which lets you scroll through the Metro interface to find the tile you are seeking. Of course, using a touch screen or multi-touch touchpad, you may swipe your way from one end to the other. Unlike iPad and Android, Metro tiles are not grouped into individual desktops, but strung out sequentially in the order that applications are installed. Metro's desktop is contiguous and you scroll through it horizontally from one end to the other. It grows as you install applications and



## Door Prizes

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

### General Drawing:

Acronis True Image.....	Bud Gallagher
CES water bottle .....	Josie Solis
I Declare acrobat pen .....	Michael Wong
Meebox scarf.....	Bob Kiessling
Nvelo cap .....	Andrew Tews
PC FM radio.....	John Yamada
Solar Calculator .....	Stan Sorensen
Technocel Battery Pack with MicroSD.....	Chuck Horner
United Health Group holster.....	John Cordeniz
Voice on the Go tee shirt.....	Bob Sorensen

### Raffle Prize:

Maxell Wireless Mouse .....	Chuck Horner
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### Door Prize Donations

O'Reilly Media generously donates the books for our door prizes. Go to [www.oreilly.com](http://www.oreilly.com) and pick books you'd like to see on our door prize table. E-mail the names and ISBN of the books you want me to request.

Elsie Smith  
lcms@pacbell.net

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& co.

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Sat. 9 am-2 pm

Telephone: (510) 537-1788  
Fax: (510) 537-3103

[www.caringpethospital.net](http://www.caringpethospital.net)

### Membership Dues

Regular.....	\$35.00
Family (same household).....	\$45.00
Educational, Seniors.....	\$20.00
Corporate (maximum 5 memberships)...	\$100.00

Make a check payable to PC Community in the amount listed above to:  
PC Community  
P.O. Box 55513  
Hayward, CA 94545-0513

### Dues Expiring This Month!

The following members dues expire this month:

**Thomas J. Anderson**  
**Tony Cozzette**  
**Bayle Emlein**  
**Marlene Fears-Smith**  
**Bill George**  
**Stanford L. Sorensen**

# Special Interest Group Meetings



**Del Parton** - (510) 276-4292  
delpa@pacbell.net  
Saturday after Main Meeting: 8pm



**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>

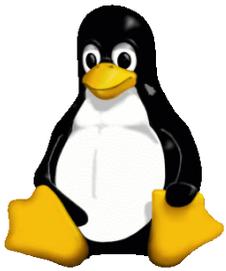


**Bud Gallagher** - (510) 269-3623  
budgall@comcast.net  
2nd Saturday of the month: 1pm

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

Ah, Spring! And a dedicated penguinista turns his thoughts to -- Ubuntu!

April is when Ubuntu springs. For those of you who aren't converted yet, Ubuntu releases their upgrades every six months, on an April - October schedule. Version numbers indicate the release dates thus: 11.10 is the October 2011 release, and 12.04 is the upcoming April 2012 release. So, until Spring is sprung, we get to play with the beta version of 12.04.

I've fallen into the pattern of installing the Beta versions of Ubuntu to play with while using the release version of Linux Mint to do work without getting crashed out. Thus, the Ubuntu 12.04 beta 2 just out is the entertainment of the month.

This is the third upgrade of Ubuntu's Unity since it was first released. Ubuntu is sticking with it despite the recently released GNOME 3. The new Unity is based on GNOME 3, but Ubuntu has kept their own interface, using GNOME

3 for the underpinnings. Unity's relative maturity shows up in the pre-release of Ubuntu 12.04 as more polished and sporting some new usability enhancements. They've worked on the eye candy too, and the look-and-feel of the whole thing seems more polished.

This is certainly the most stable Ubuntu beta I've experienced in the last two years, and it bodes well for the derivative versions of Linux based on Ubuntu. I anxiously await the next release of Linux Mint.

It seems that they have been working on polish harder than user access, though, I miss the customizability of

the old GNOME 2, which linux geeks understood well enough to create all sorts of customization tools. With all the changes in GNOME 3, it seems our gadget geeks are still wrapping their heads around them.

In the meantime, I'll just have to live with the lack of customization. I desperately want a theme for GNOME 3. I just may have to (shudder) program one. . .





# PCC Main and Executive Meeting Highlights

Secretary — Bayle Emlein  
pcc@ix.netcom.com

Treasurer — Tom Smith  
smith-tf@pacbell.net

## Main Meeting Highlights

### March 2, 2012

The meeting was called to order at 7:34 p.m. by President Chuck Horner. Harold Smith, at the Ticket Table, has 3" x 5" cards to write questions for discussion/answers at the end of the Meeting. New and renewing members see Jan. Check your e-mail address on the sign-in sheet to be sure it's up to date. Remember to get your door prize tickets and raffle tickets from Harold. The raffle prize this month is a Maxell Wireless Mouse.

There is no more room for more computers or peripherals at the temporary Clubhouse site. Extras can come to the church. Bring donations to the Main Meeting.

We are still looking for a permanent place for the Clubhouse refurbishing project.

The Club needs someone to coordinate presentations, not develop them necessarily. If you are willing to help, please let Chuck know. We also need folks to help with publicity—getting information out around town, putting Newsletters in businesses, libraries, etc.

### **SIG Announcements:**

The Mobile SIG will be looking at Android this month. Next month they'll be doing online. The following month they'll be looking at Windows 8.

The Windows 7 SIG will meet at Bud Gallagher's at 1:00 p.m. on the 10th, the customary second Saturday after the Main Meeting. The tentatively scheduled presentation might be Windows 8.

The Spectacular Linux SIG meets at 2:00 pm at the Smith's on the last Saturday of the month, March 31. Last month they looked at virtual machines. The end of the month is far away, so no decision has been made about what might be worth looking at by the end of the month. Jan is open to suggestions.

As usual, the Hardware SIG will meet the evening after the Main Meeting at 8:00 pm at the Smiths. Come to get help with your hardware or learn how to fix someone else's if your world is running smoothly. Be sure to bring all the documentation you can find. Even when it's a hardware problem, software is usually involved. Or come get help

setting up your new stuff, or just show it off. Call the Smith's if you need directions. Their phone number is in the Newsletter.

**Presentations:** Diane presented tips and useful information.

BeLarc Advisor (belarc.com) will scan your computer and generate a report about your computer—software keys, version numbers, hardware information, updates available. The new version includes a network map. Run this free utility to get a current profile of your system, print and save the information in case of emergency or before upgrading.

Diane offered some tips on Searching in Google.

» If you want to look up a phrase, put it in "quotes" to make the phrase searched as a whole. To eliminate a given word, put a space after your first phrase, then a minus sign before the term you do not want to get.

» To search a specific site for a term, enter (the word/phrase you are searching for)\_site:(SiteName). ~\_phrase will find sites with your phrase.

» "Search Term" \_filetype:(doc, pdf, etc.) will find you files of the type you want with the search term you need.

» Put an OR (in caps) between two or more terms to find sites that have one or the other term. Phonebook510-874-3700 will find all the sites that include the target phone number (Note: no space).

» In the search window, enter "James Buchanan" 1928..1940 will find the target search to the specified dates. Note the two dots.

» To look up a word, in the search window, type Define: Your term.

» In the Google Tool Bar, click on the camera and Google will match similar images to the one you upload.

» The News button lets you search for news and different kinds of newspapers and archives.

» The Books tool searches for books by a variety of criteria.

» The Translate tool has many language pairs, looks at alternate choices, and has a read-aloud option.

» People are familiar with Google Maps. The Street View lets you see distant places.

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## **Main Meeting Highlights**

*Continued from page 10*

» Check the More and Even More sections for an amazing array of things to check out.

Google+ is the Google social network. With Google Plus, you can control your circle(s) of contact and who gets what messages from you.

Google Hangout is a way to bring up to 10 people together for live chatting, using the camera and microphone in your computer. You can talk with and see people, and share the screen of a participant. Be aware that the person who initiated the Hangout doesn't retain control.

After the break, Chuck demoed "How To Remove Your Google Web History." The presentation will be on the PCC website.

While figuring out how to remove his web history, Chuck found [Google.com/dashboard](http://Google.com/dashboard) for managing one's online presence in Google apps.

The Experts were asked about browser screen overwriting (one line of print covering another). It might be due to too large a screen size or too large a system font size. Change Font Size in the System settings or check your drivers. Browser settings and System setting are independent of each other and both should be checked. Holding down the Control key and scrolling your scroll wheel will enlarge and reduce the screen in many applications.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bayle Emlein, Secretary

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## **Executive Committee Meeting Highlights**

### **March 17, 2012**

The meeting was called to order at 2:04 p.m. by President Chuck Horner.

Members present: Bayle Emlein, Jan Fagerholm, Sally Holt, Chuck Horner, Elsie Smith, Tom Smith. Absent: Diane George, Sid Jordan.

The minutes of the February 2012 meeting were approved.

**Old Business:** Diane is working a membership form as an interactive PDF. Chuck is looking at the tab-through sequence. Jan is looking at the ability to save and submit a completed form.

The Southwest Computer Conference will take place in San Diego in June. The photo contest deadline is May 11th.

**President's Report** - Chuck Horner: No report.

**Executive Vice President** – Sally Holt: Sally suggested surveying members at the next Main Meeting for program suggestions. Chuck suggested surveying the membership

via Survey Monkey or an e-mail survey. Elsie pointed out the difficulty of maintaining current e-mail addresses for the membership.

**Treasurer** - Tom Smith: As of March 17, 2012:

Checking Account	\$2,528.41
Total	\$2,528.41

Compared to last year, dues are down \$125 in the first quarter. We have not received any donations from the Clubhouse. Postage is down also. Tom projects that we will lose \$2,000 this year. The PCC domain name is a valuable asset.

**Secretary** - Bayle Emlein: Nothing special to report.

**VP Clubhouse** - Sid Jordan: No report. Tom reported on the Clubhouse interaction with Alameda County Recycling.

**VP Marketing** – Position open:

**VP Membership** - Jan Fagerholm: Member count as of March 17, 2012.

Type	Number	Percent
Regular	27	46.55
Senior	26	45.83
Student	2	3.45
Associate	3	5.17
Totals	58	

**VP Newsletter** - Elsie Smith: Submission deadline:

March 24, Saturday midnight, April Newsletter  
April 21, Saturday midnight, May Newsletter

Elsie has received 8 requests to opt out of the paper newsletter. Some of these e-mails are bouncing.

**VP Special Projects** - Bayle Emlein: No report.

**Webmaster** - Diane George: No report.

**Calendar:** See the Web site for the latest updates and changes in SIG meetings.

**Programs** -

April: Stay tuned. Possibly Linux applications.

Sally was told by APCUG that their Webinars can be recorded for time-delayed playback. The presentation will be available at the end of the month.

**Fund Raiser:**

April: LITE-ON SATA 24x DVD Writer, Model iHAS424-98 with LightScribe support.

**New Business:** None.

Date and Time of Next Meeting: Saturday, April 21, 2012 at 2:00 p.m., 28924 Ruus Road, Hayward.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bayle Emlein, Secretary

PC Community  
 P.O. Box 55513  
 Hayward, CA 94545-0513



# April 2012

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

The **May 2012 Main Meeting** will be at 28924 Ruus Road, Hayward CA, on **May 4, 2012** at 7:30 P.M.