

Nexus, Nook, Galaxy And More!

This month, we're giving in to the Tablet invasion. Tablet computers have been around for awhile, and have achieved a high level of acceptance by you, the PC user.

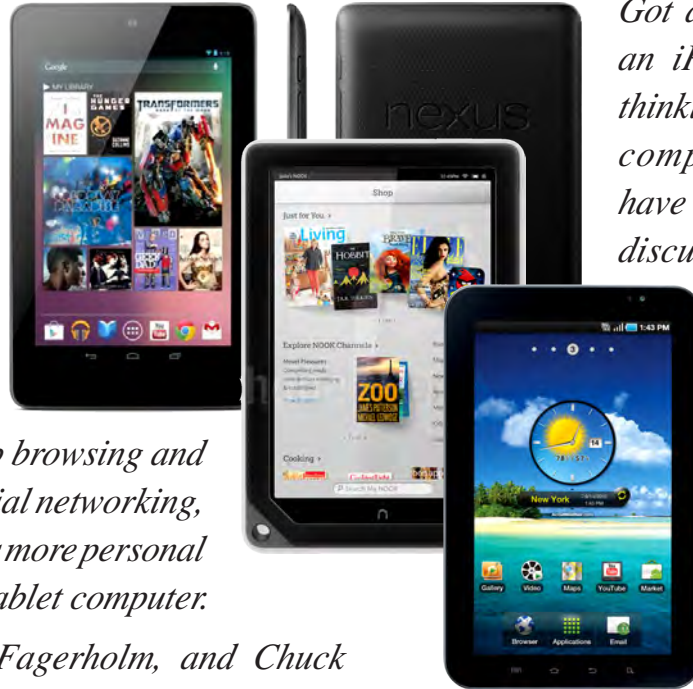
The reasons are many and manifold, but it's not too hard to figure out. Their portability, long battery life, and task oriented interface make them ideal for commuter tasks we do most: Web browsing and searching, e-mail, social networking, even video watching. is more personal and convenient on a tablet computer.

Diane George, Jan Fagerholm, and Chuck Horner will lead off with demonstrations of what they have, why they have them, and what they do that works better on a tablet computer. Represented up front will be the ASUS Google

Nexus 7, Barnes and Noble Nook HD, and Samsung Galaxy Tab. Feature comparison will be inevitable.

Got a tablet computer? Got an iPad? Whether you are thinking about getting a tablet computer, or you already have one, be a part of this discussion! Bring it to the meeting, show it off, and tell us a few words about it. You will be able to show us your screens on the club projector via web cam so you can show us its full swoopiness.

As always, there'll be good food, good fun and good friends all around. Bring your tablet and be there!



Raffle!

This month, ADATA 32GB Micro SDHC Flash Card with Adapter Model AUSDH32GCL10-RA1 - It brings you unrivaled data transfer, providing a total upgrade that is ideal for the latest generation of mobile phones. At only a quarter the size of a standard SD card, it boosts storage capacity and enhances transfer speeds to a minimum of 10 MB/s. This revolutionary little card allows you to take high-resolution photos or record full HD video with your mobile phone—anytime, anywhere. 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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Elsie Smith
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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.

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Adobe InDesign CS2 is used to publish
 PCC News

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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.

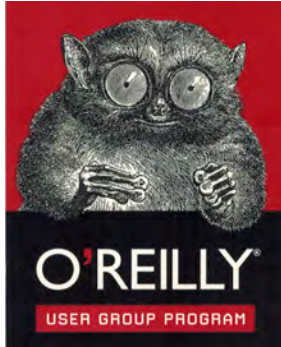
PC Community has a Web site at **http://www.pcc.org**.

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



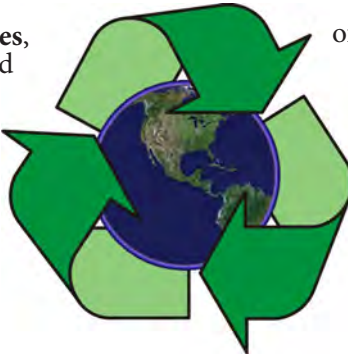
PCC is registered in the O'Reilly User Group Program, qualifying us to receive review copies of O'Reilly, Microsoft Press, Pragmatic, No Starch, Rocky Nook and SitePoint products. User group members also qualify for savings of 40% off print and 50% off ebooks. E-mail Elsie Smith, lcms@pacbell.net, for 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.

Southwest Technology & Computer Conference

Enhance Your Life with Technology

by Bayle Emlein, PCC Secretary

The 20th annual, to be exact. Times have changed, the venue has changed several times. But the format was still an optional field trip, followed by special group sessions starting Friday afternoon, a keynote and dinner in the evening; Saturday workshops and an evening vendor expo, Sunday morning workshops. Lots of give-aways and a raffle. I'm the happy owner of a new iPad Mini.

This year the playdate for user groupies moved from San Diego to Pomona. While a few folks from San Diego seemed to have decided that it's too far to drive and too short to fly, a number of people from Los Angeles, Riverside, and San Bernardino counties discovered a new gem had moved into their front yard.

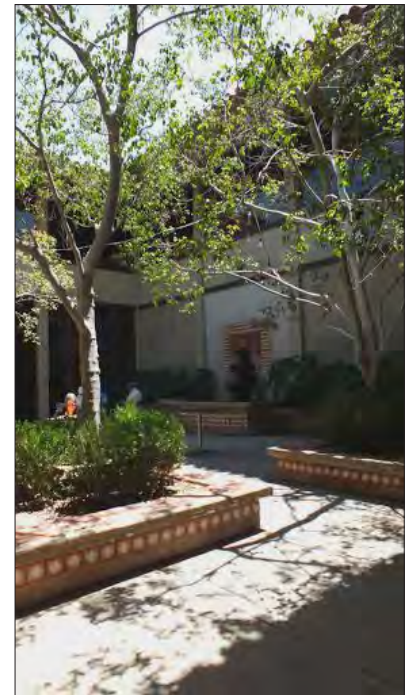
What are the facets of this gem? Keynotes by folks working in various aspects of tech. A presentation from a nearby (in Los Angeles terms, i.e., less than a day's drive) Microsoft store, mostly focusing on Windows 8. Since I was taking these notes on my new Win8 laptop,

every tidbit was music to my ears. Keynotes came from local folks actually still going into the shop and meeting daily with customers. For example, at first glance the presentation from Al & Ed's Autosounds does not look like it's appropriate for the mature, sophisticated audience that we are; representative John Haynes focused on what's new in safety innovations. In addition to keynotes, there were 25 workshops presented in 7 sessions. By some magic of scheduling, There was

one topic I really wanted to attend each session and only one session for which I was conflicted between two topics. You know the normal conference scheduling, in which all the topics you want are presented at the same time and then there are hours of nothing of special interest? I know it only too well. I particularly enjoyed Rosemary Lloyd's



New convention hall for SWCC



Peaceful setting



The ever popular dining center

Windows 8 presentation: she followed up the Microsoft Store keynote and went into operational detail. Also striking a note of personal interest for me was the discussion of smartphones, with real live put-your-hands-on-it phones, by Jim Glass and Cheryl Wester.

Southwest Technology & Computer Conference



Photo contest draws admirers



Gene and Linda Barlow make friends



Windows 8 requires lots of explanation

Another facet of the gem was the location itself. Since I fly to either San Diego or Ontario, the airport routine is pretty similar. However, the Kellogg West Conference Center and Hotel at Cal Poly Pomona has a free shuttle service that got arranged when I made my reservation. The Kellogg Center is the practicum for the Hospitality Management program. Except for the supervisor, everyone seemed to be a student competing to be helpful and pleasant. The one person I identified as a supervisor was doing his best to demonstrate good hotelier skills. The only complaint I had about the food at the new site was the constant temptation to overeat. Oh, well. It's only for a weekend and it's for a good cause.

I'm already looking forward to next year's Southwest Computer Conference. It has developed the tradition of meeting for Fun in the Sun and Computers Too toward the end of June. If you're tempted, keep an eye on theswcc.org. Wondering if you're enough of a computer user groupie to come? If you've read this far you definitely are.



PCC Personage wins iPad Mini!

ASUS® Google Nexus 7

Life Without Keyboard And Mouse

by Jan Fagerholm, Tablet Toter

The Bullet Points: The Google Nexus 7 is an Android tablet computer with a 7 inch 10-point multitouch screen. It is equipped by an nVidia Tegra 3 quad core CPU with 12 video processors, 1 GB of DDR3 RAM and comes with either 16 GB or 32 GB flash RAM storage. The Nexus 7 was developed by ASUS and Google collaboratively and runs Android version 4.2.2 (Jellybean). It is available with 802.11 /b/g/n wireless in the 16 GB version and 3G/4G mobile communication can be added to the 32 GB version. The 32 GB wireless only version is reviewed here.

What's In The Box?: Nexus 7 tablet computer, AC-to-USB power adapter, 36 inch USB A-to-microUSB cable, multi-language quick start booklet.

The Review:

One of the most amazing things about the computer world is the proliferation of form factors. Some of this is market desperation, an attempt to find something that will pique peoples' interest, but once in a while something truly innovative comes along. That seems to be the case with tablet computers.

Despite earlier attempts at “tablet” computers in the PC world, they were hampered by the fact that the operating systems of the day didn't lend themselves to pointerless navigation and keyboardless input. It took the development of decent touch screens and Apple to produce an interface that worked sensibly without a keyboard and a mouse. This opened the way for both smartphones and tablet computers.

Shortly after the iPad came out, Google saw an opportunity and the means to make their own touch interface based on open source software and the Linux kernel, which they were already using on their computers. Android is the result, and it has been highly successful on both smartphones and tablet computers, much to Apple's dismay. (Android

tablets account for about 45 percent of the market and iPads come in at about 35 percent.) Android has encouraged hardware makers to develop hardware that they could sell at a profit thanks to the free and open source Android. This has produced the same sort of monolithic market that the PC world has had and for the same reason. Android is to tablets what Microsoft has been to the PC world, though the licensing mechanism is vastly different.

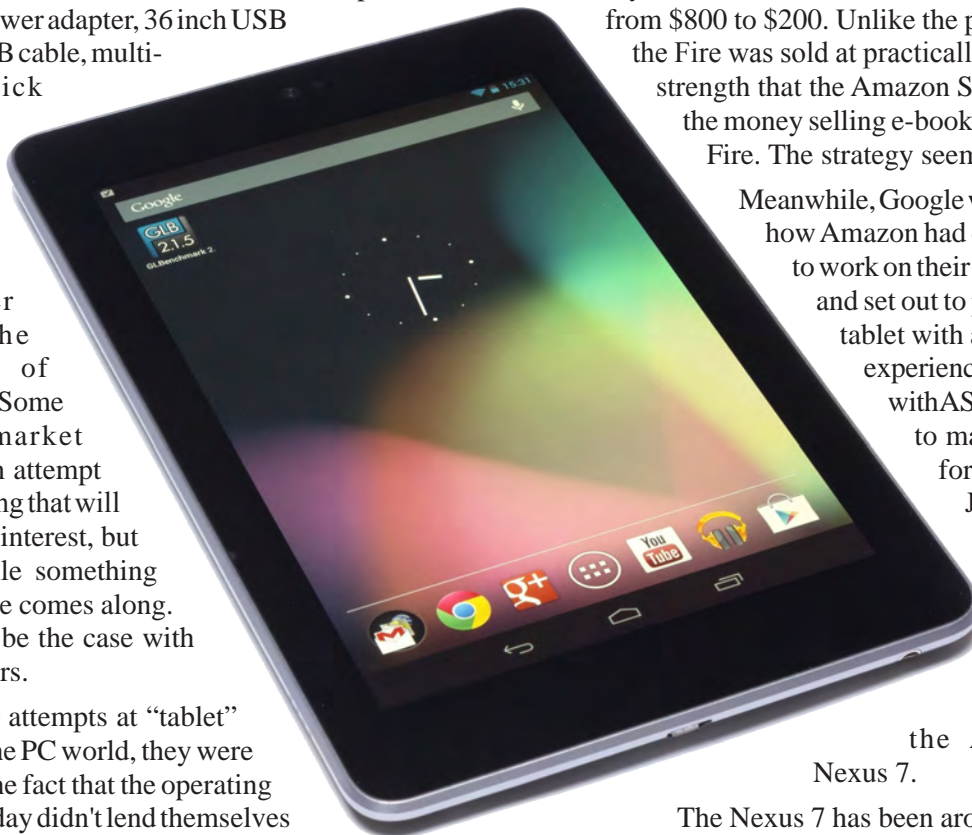
When Amazon produced the Kindle Fire to supplement their e-reader line, they came in at a price point that got everyone's attention. Android tablets suddenly went from \$800 to \$200. Unlike the previous Kindles, the Fire was sold at practically no profit on the strength that the Amazon Store would make the money selling e-books and apps for the Fire. The strategy seems to work.

Meanwhile, Google was unhappy with how Amazon had changed Android to work on their marketing model and set out to produce a similar tablet with a “pure” Android experience. They partnered with ASUSTeK in Taiwan to make the hardware for their upcoming Jellybean (version 4.1) Android at a price point to compete with the Kindle Fire.

The result was the ASUS Google Nexus 7.

The Nexus 7 has been around about a year now and underwent a “hardware refresh” this March. Concurrently, Google developers brought out Android 4.2 (codenamed “butter” during development, as the effort was to speed up and smooth out the operation of Android, rather than add new features.) The result is what reviewers have called serious competition to the iPad and not just to the Kindle Fire.

Having spent hands-on time with several of these devices recently, I decided to get the Nexus 7 based largely on its hand-fitting form factor and its usability compared to others. Then Nvidia Tegra 3 quad core CPU, the twelve (yes, twelve) GPU processors, the 1 GB of DDR3 RAM, and



the 1280 x 800 10-point multitouch screen adds up to a smoothness and accuracy that I have only experienced on the iPad. The Nexus 7's exterior is minimalist, with only a single micro USB port, a single front facing camera, a power switch, a built-in microphone, a rear facing speaker bar, and volume control rocker.

There is an advantage to the Nexus because it is partnered with Google. The Nexus always gets the latest updates to the system as soon as they are available. One of the things to keep in mind with Android tablets is that you are at the mercy of the hardware vendor to bring you the latest Android updates, so selection of the hardware vendor is important to insuring that the OS will be kept up to date. Also, not all vendors support Google Store and Google Play, so if your interest is in media, you are going to miss out on a lot of what is available in books, magazines, movies, and TV, and media is principally what tablet computers are all about.

Nits:

There is only one I/O port on the Nexus 7, a micro USB port for charging and data transfer. No micro SD card slot.

There is only a single front facing camera. This is not so important to me, but I mention it in case it is a factor for you.

The power switch is adjacent to the volume rocker switch on the upper right side of the device. This makes it too easy to accidentally press the power switch when you are going for the volume rocker.

Picks:

The 10-point touch screen is absolutely superb in sensitivity and accuracy and supports numerous multi finger gestures that enhance usability.

The 1280 x 800 216 ppi screen is the equal of the iPad in sharpness, color and contrast. I'm presently using both side by side for direct comparison.

The physical form factor was one of my reasons for choosing the Nexus 7. Its size and weight allow it to be held comfortably and securely in one hand, difficult with larger tablets.

The speech recognition feature is better than I expected, and performs for me slightly better than Dragon Natural Speaking on the PC.

One of the things that I wanted in a tablet computer was GPS. The Nexus 7 uses satellite GPS, rather than the GPS-A found in smartphones, so does not require a phone connection to operate. This can be a factor if you are using it in areas where mobile phone coverage is marginal or non existent. GPS is one of my favorite toys and there are several serviceable free mapping apps which I am presently playing with – er, “evaluating”. More on this in the future.



If you are accustomed to PC operations using a mouse and a keyboard, as I am, figuring out how to do some things on a touch screen can be, um, interesting. Web surfing is a bit different, and many Web sites have mobile versions of their pages which sometimes recognize the Nexus. Those that don't are easily handled with drag and pinch-zoom. One feature that touch screens haven't mastered is those Web pages that use “invisible” links that

only show up when you hover over them with a mouse cursor. There is no cursor and no way to hover with a touch screen.

I know I have only scratched the surface of this device so far. I expect to say more about it as I continue to learn and adjust to the mindset of touch screen tablets. But for now, I am very pleased with the Nexus 7.

Product Information

ASUS Google Nexus 7 32 GB

Web price \$249

ASUSTeK Computer, Inc.
800 Corporate Way,
Fremont, CA 94539
Tel: 510-739-3777
www.asus.com



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>



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



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

Door Prizes

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

General Drawing:

CaseCrown bag	Robert Rofen
Digital Media Academy tee shirt	Chuck Horner
How to Play the Harmonica.....	John Cordeniz
Kinect tee shirt.....	George Kornbluth
Med-El bag.....	Lola Hunter
Paragon Software bag	Andrew Tews
Screen Future by Brian David Johnson	Joy Somerville

Raffle Prize:

32 GB Lexar Jumpdrive.....	Chuck Horner
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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

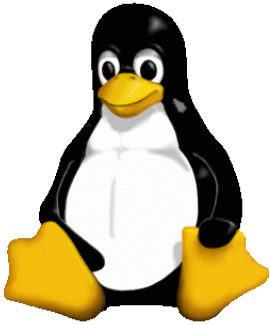
Make a check payable to PC Community in the amount listed above to:

PC Community
 26799 Contessa Street
 Hayward, CA 94545-3149

Dues Expiring This Month!

The following members dues expire this month:

David Graham
Lola Hunter
Judith Rogers
Andrew Tews
Don Trimble



The Penguin Partition

Linux for Human Beings

by Jan Fagerholm, PCC Penguinista

Yknow, for a geek I can get pretty luddite. While I have played with tablet computers and transformable netbooks right along, I have not acquired one of my own. That just changed.

Much of my work (and play) on computers is with desktop publishing, graphics, and video. Tablet computers do not lend themselves to these kinds of activities because of their limited hardware resources and small screens, so I have tended to dismiss them as tech toys.

This prejudice has kept me from seriously considering a tablet computer, despite the fact that I have frequently researched them for my clients. Since the first iPad came out three years ago, they have been too pricey for a toy in my estimation.

Smaller and lighter is the progress of PCs. Even my desktop computer has largely given way to my laptop since prices on desktop replacement class laptops have tumbled in price. Tablet computers have undergone a similar progression since the first Android tablets came out two years ago.

There are many computer activities that I engage in that don't require quad core CPUs and double digit doses of gigabyte RAM. Tablets have been on a technological upsurge anyway, and many have quad core CPUs and multiple GPUs to increase their capabilities and smooth out the interface. And, tablet computers still hold a novelty appeal for me. After all, I'm still a geek interested in tech toys.

In the tablet world, there are basically two players; Apple and everybody else, "everybody else" being Android on a dizzying array of hardware platforms. Apple develops their hardware and software together which makes a unified package out of every product they make. Android, on the other hand, is software created by Google and put out there for hardware vendors to adopt in their own way. This has had just about the same effect as Microsoft and hardware vendors on the PC side.

About two years ago, Google got serious about Android as a competitor to the iPhone and the iPad, and went into development with Motorola to make their first serious iPad competitor, the Motorola Xoom. While it was serious competition to the iPad, Motorola's sputtering effort at marketing the device left the way for Samsung to take the new Android and make a more capable product out of it. Meanwhile, Amazon took the new Android and added the Kindle Fire to their Kindle e-reader line at a price point that really opened up the tablet market.

Google did not like what Amazon did to Android, so set out to make a Kindle Fire competitor. Partnering with ASUSTeK (us geeks know them as the motherboard people) they came out with the Nexus a year ago, at the new improved price point around \$200. Companion to this, they graduated the Chrome Store to Google Play, offering a full set of media selections similar to the wildly successful Apple Store.

Of course I've been watching this with some personal interest, and have spent time looking at the recent proliferation of Android tablets that range from \$69 on up and run anything from Gingerbread (2.3) through Ice Cream Sandwich (4.0) and Jellybean (4.1 and 4.2). I finally decided to

take the plunge.

After looking at all these, I decided on the ASUS Google Nexus 7, partly because Google was involved, partly because the Nexus 7 underwent a hardware refresh in March to speed it up, and partly because of the 7" form factor which I like. I went for the 32GB version because I have encountered many people who have wished they got a tablet with more storage.

Tablet interfaces are vastly different than PC interfaces, and I am undergoing a rising learning curve. There is much to like, but I am still trying to figure out where this thing puts stuff. More on this later.





PCC Main and Executive Meeting Highlights

Secretary — Bayle Emlein
pcc@ix.netcom.com

Treasurer — Tom Smith
smith-tf@pacbell.net

Main Meeting Highlights

June 7, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 7:41 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 32 GB Lexar retractable jumpdrive. Also, check your name and email on the list at Lola's table.

Sally Holt said that the volume dial fell off her fancy schmancy phone. After trying a number of places, she got the phone fixed at ABC Advanced Computer, 28855 Mack Street in Hayward, near the Hayward airport. She's very pleased with this find.

Yorkman Lowe pointed out that Walgreens in some cities will recycle household batteries. Other members noted that some cities will pick up batteries with the recycling. Lola said that at the end of their day, the Winton Ave recycle center in Hayward will give out reusable materials that they have collected.

PCC needs 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.

Dan Dolgin sends word that the Mobile SIG is on vacation until the Fall.

Presentation: Chuck and Sally presented the basics of Twitter.

To replay the presentation, go to YouTube and watch:

How to sign up for Twitter: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YJS0EbNxYKE>

The Basics: How to Tweet, Reply and Follow: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CkdXJOpqXOw>

How to Engage: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h1EufuDrvyw>

Chuck went online and checked the company on Lola Hunter's shirt. Lark.com is a lifestyle coach with nutrition and other lifestyle advice.

An HP 4M printer came to Yorkman some time ago. There is a phrase on the box that implies it's for Macintosh only. No one present had an answer. Sally suggested checking with the Apple Store.

Chuck asked if anyone present has used Access Hayward. Sally reported sending a query and getting a prompt response. The Nixle site will send emergency information.

Thank you to George Kornbluth for taking care of refreshments.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Bayle Emlein, Secretary

Executive Committee Meeting Highlights

June 15, 2013

The Meeting was called to order at 2:22 p.m.

The May minutes were approved as distributed.

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

Old Business: The Southwest Computer Conference will take place the weekend of June 21-23 at Cal Poly Pomona.

The EC will be on vacation in August. Pressing business will be handled via email.

Diane reports that the plan to publish online newsletter availability to members seems to be working in a timely and efficient manner.

We will work on a YouTube video for publicity. Chuck volunteered his son Aaron to develop and produce it. Sally will be the liaison to the EC. Sally wondered if we should develop a business card to pass out. Chuck will find and edit his previous effort.

President's Report - Chuck Horner: Chuck thinks that Web version of the newsletter is working well.

Executive Vice President - Sally Holt: No report.

Executive Committee Meeting Highlights

Treasurer - Tom Smith: As of June 15, 2013:

Checking Account \$833.11

Secretary - Bayle Emlein: Nothing special to report.

VP Clubhouse - Sid Jordan: No report.

VP Marketing - Vacant:

VP Membership - Jan Fagerholm: As of June 15, 2013:

We have a total of 40 members

VP Newsletter - Elsie Smith: Article Submissions:

July 20, 2013, Saturday midnight, August Newsletter submission deadline.

August 25, 2013, Saturday midnight, September Newsletter submission deadline.

Special Projects - Bayle Emlein: Nothing special to report.

Webmaster - Diane George: Dan Dolgin e-mails that the Mobile SIG is on vacation until September, when it will resume at his home.

Chuck will check with members to verify that they are receiving the e-mail newsletter notification.

Calendar: Check the Web site for the latest updates. The Linux SIG will meet the last Saturday of the month.

Programs:

July: Tablets: Jan Fagerholm will show the Nexus 7 tablet; Diane George will show the Nook HD Plus tablet. Both are Android tablets. Chuck Horner has a Samsung Galaxy SII to show.

August: Twitter tutorial, part 2?

Twitter Tutorial – The Basics of Discovering People to Follow

Twitter Tutorial – Sharing Content

September: PCC 25th anniversary celebration.

Raffle Prize:

July: 32GB micro SDHC card with adapter Class 10 from ADATA

August: Gift card from Fry's, \$20 card with tax = 21.80 value.

September: Phillips Universal remote.

New Business: None.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:32 p.m.

Date and Time of Next Meeting: Saturday, July 20, 2013 at 2 pm; 28924 Ruus Road, Hayward California.

Respectfully submitted,

Bayle Emlein, Secretary



PC Community
 26799 Contessa Street
 Hayward, CA 94545-3419



Happy Birthday
America!

July 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	 Happy 4th of July	5 7:30 pm Main Meeting	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13 Windows 7 SIG on Sabbatical
14	15 Mobile Computing SIG on Vacation	16	17	18	19	20 2 pm-Exec. Committee Mtg.
21	22	23	24	25	26	27 2 pm-Linux SIG
28	29	30	31	Check the calendar at www.pcc.org for up-to-date information!		See Page 6 for SIG Meeting information.