

***THE
GIGABYTE
GAZETTE***

**The Monthly Newsletter
of the
*Sun City Summerlin
Computer Club***

May, 2017

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President's Message

by Howard Verne

Dear Computer Club and friends

May is the time that we should all be planning for a terrific Sun City summer. This year, June, July and August are dark months for the club. This means that there will not be any monthly general meetings. Be aware, however, that the hardware repair SIG and many of our SIGs and classes will remain available for our members.

Remember to check our club site (<http://www.scsccl.com>), read the Gigabyte Gazette newsletter for schedules and club news. With all these things going on it appears that our club is not really dark - except for the monthly meetings.

Technical note: Some members say they do not virus scan because it takes too long. We have seen folks who have over 1000 saved e-mails, over 1000 temp files, 1000 plus cookies,. These files will always increase virus scan time. Come to classes, Kaffee Klatches, and Tuesday repair SIG for discussions on how to fix these problems.

Windows 10: You probably have (or soon will) be updated to the new version of windows 10, called the Creators Update. Don't panic! There is very little difference in the user interface. In addition, don't forget that Bill Wilkinson conducts Win 10 tutorial sessions the first and third Saturday at 10:30 AM. See the club site, <http://www.scsccl.com> for more information.

I will be out of town for the May general meeting. The club will be in the very capable hands of your VICE PRESIDENT TOM BURT while I am away.

Howard Verne, President
(702) 527-4056 pres.scsccl@gmail.com

Issue Contributors

Tom Burt	Kathy Kirby
David Kretchmar	Pat Lemay
Howard Verne	

Submissions Welcome

We are always looking for new information to share with our club members. If you have computer or technical information you would like to share with members of the club, send your articles to Tom Burt at tomburt89134@cox.net. Thank you to everyone for your contributions.

SCSCC Board of Directors Actions

The Computer Club Board of Directors took the following actions on

April 12, 2017

Chuck Wolff made a motion that the minutes of the March 8, 2017 Board Meeting be approved as submitted. The motion was seconded by Jeff Wilkinson and unanimously approved by the Board.

Jeff Wilkinson made a motion that the meeting adjourn at 9:50. The motion was seconded by David Kretchmar and unanimously approved by the Board.

General Membership Meeting

The May General Meeting will be held on Thursday, May 4th, 7PM at Desert Vista. Our guest speaker will be **Barry Mattison**, President of the Las Vegas Soaring Club. Barry flies a remote-controlled helicopter with a rotor span of over 6'! He will give us an overview of the Soaring Club and what happens at their air field out by Red Rock.

Come join us for an informational presentation, refreshments and fellowship.

For Club information go to www.scsccl.com, contact Howard Verne, President at 702-527-4056 or email him at pres.scsccl@gmail.com.

Welcome New Members

The following new members joined the Computer Club between February 25th and March 25th.

**Gene Ahearn
W. Lee Birch
Betty Krassner
Kenneth Levine**

**Carolyn Marshall
Elizabeth McCauley
Anne Moiseyev
James Muir**

May 2017 Calendars

To view this month's classroom and lab calendars, click the following hyperlink:

http://www.scsccl.com/Calendars/scsccl_calendar_2017-05May.pdf

Special Interest Groups

Special Interest Groups (SIGs) provide a forum for general discussion on a specific computer related subject. Admission to all SIGs is on a first-come, first-seated basis and is subject to the maximum allowed by fire code regulations. All of the following meetings are held in the Classroom. <W> or <M> or <H> indicate whether a SIG would be of interest to a Windows, Macintosh or Hand-held Device (i-thing or Android) user.

Genealogy <W>

2nd Thursday, 10:00 a.m. Sep., 2016 to May 2017
Karen Ristic (702-749-6489)

Genealogy is one of America's most popular and rewarding hobbies. With billions of records now available online, researching your family tree has never been easier—if you know where to look and which key words you'll need to use to create an accurate family tree from start to finish. Check out Karen's new series of workshops in the lab on the **second Tuesday of the month**.

GMail <W/M>

1st Thursday, 10:00 a.m.
Pat Lemay (702-254-1499)

This SIG covers Gmail as well as other Google applications. All members are welcome. This is your place to learn about all things Google.

Hardware / Software Repair Lab <W >

Every Tuesday, 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Chuck Wolff (702-233-6634) and
Chuck Hagen (702-418-2614)

The Repair Lab provides **CLUB MEMBERS ONLY** with no cost assistance for those having upgrades and / or hardware and software problems with their computers. Bring in only your PC tower and your problems. Our TECH team will give you our best effort. **Be sure to mark your cables so you can re-connect when you get home.**

Internet Investing <W/M>

3rd Thursday, 9:00 a.m. in even months
Next meeting: June 15.

Tom Burt (702-341-7095)

The Internet Investing SIG provides a forum for members interested in using Internet resources for researching and managing investments to meet, discuss, and learn more about the topic. The SIG's target audience is members with intermediate computer skills and investment experience, but all members are welcome.

iPad <iPod, iPhone, iPad>

4th Wednesday, 9 a.m.
Zane Clark (702-562-3684)

This SIG will be your forum for learning about and discussing the Apple iPhone, iPod and iPad tablet devices. It's for Apple hand-held device owners of all experience levels.

Macintosh Users' Group

2nd and 4th Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.
Kathy Yeko (818-414-6110)

This SIG is for Macintosh users of all experience levels. We will have Q&A, so bring your questions and/or problems.

Photoshop Elements<W>

4th Mondays, 1:00 p.m.

Mary Miles

This SIG covers many of the basic and advanced elements found in Adobe Photoshop Elements, especially layers. If you wish to make the most of your photographs, this SIG will be very helpful. This SIG's target audience is intermediate digital imaging users, but all members are welcome.

Beginner's Digital Photography <W>

3rd Mondays, 1:00 p.m.

Stu Gershon (702-255-3309)

Picasa is still a viable, reliable photo editor for beginners, but this year we will also take a look at Google Photos and other FREE editing programs. You're invited to bring your equipment (Laptops or Cameras) so that you can have that "hands on" experience!

This SIG's target audience is beginner to intermediate digital photography users, but all members are welcome.

Windows 10<W>

First and Third Saturdays at 10:30 am

Bill Wilkinson (702-233-4977)

Each session will be devoted to assisting new Windows 10 owners in becoming familiar and comfortable with Microsoft's newest operating system for desktop and laptop computers. Assistance will be given individually or in small groups as circumstances warrant. Bill's notes are available by clicking [HERE](#).

Kaffee Klatches

Kaffee Klatches provide a forum for general discussion on all computer-related subjects. Admission to all Kaffee Klatches is on a first-come, first-seated basis and is subject to the maximum allowed by fire code regulations. All of the following meetings are held in the Classroom. **<W> or <M> or <H> indicate whether a SIG would be of interest to a Windows, Macintosh or Hand-held Device (i-thing or Android) user.**

Windows 10 Kaffee Klatch <W>

First and Third Saturdays, 9:00 a.m.

Bill Wilkinson (702-233-4977)

If you are a novice or near-beginner computer user, or if you just want some refresher information together with a refreshing cup of coffee, then jump-start or recharge your computing knowledge by attending these Win 10 KK sessions. At each session, attendees will explore from one to four topics of particular interest to beginners and near-beginners. The topics are always announced a couple of days in advance via e-mail to SCSCC members who have subscribed to the club's message board. Each topic is presented in a step-by-step manner and is supported by "how to" notes that can be easily and conveniently downloaded from the SCSCCBKK.org web page. Following each "up front" presentation of one or more topics (approximately 60 minutes in duration), an informal open-ended Question and Answer period takes place for those who wish to participate, listen, reflect, or inquire.

Kaffee Klatch <W/M/H>

Every Tuesday, 8:30 a.m.

Sandy Mintz (702-838-2525)

This KK is for all users, from beginning to advanced. The KK discussions are not restricted to any one subject, computer platform or computer-knowledge level but should be computer or technology related. We will try to answer your questions, help you keep your systems updated and provide some useful "tips and tricks." If you have a tip or information you would like to share, we encourage you to bring it in and share since the SCSCC is built on "neighbor helping neighbor." The fellowship is great, the coffee is good, and the education received from the KK attendees is priceless. Stop by on Tuesday morning and have a cup of coffee with us.

May 2017 Classes

Because there are a limited number of computer stations available for hands-on participation, pre-registration is necessary for all classes. See individual class descriptions for details on how to register.



Windows 10 Conquering the Basics and Beyond

Making the Easy Transition From Earlier
Editions of Windows
A Nine-Hour Hands-On Course
Limited to 12 Participants

Next Class Dates: May 1, 2 & 4 - 9 AM to noon

Lead Instructor: Bill Wilkinson

Prerequisites: Club Membership for 2017 (\$10); Comfortable with using a mouse; some basic knowledge of an earlier edition of MS Windows (XP, Vista, 7 or 8/8.1).

Place Your Name on the Pre-Registration List for an upcoming three-Session Class

If you are interested in placing your name on a high-priority reservation list for the next available class, simply send an email message to: WILKINLV5@COX.NET and include the following information:

- Include “**Windows 10 Class**” in the Subject Title
- Your first and last name
- Your 8-digit Sun City Summerlin Association number
- Your telephone number
- Your email address

Your message will be promptly acknowledged by return email. No telephone inquiries please.

Please note: All hands-on classes are limited to 12 participants. This class fills very quickly.



BOOT CAMP CLASS

for Windows Win7, Win8.1 and Win10 Users

No classes in May
Each Session Meets from 9 am - noon.
Lead instructor: Bill Wilkinson

Place Your Name on the Registration List
for the Next Three-Session Class
(Dates to be Determined as Interest Dictates)

Course Description:

Boot Camp is an introductory course designed for residents who are novice users of the Microsoft Windows operating system. **It also serves as an excellent review for intermediate users who want to fill some gaps in their computer knowledge.**

This hands-on class has a **limited enrollment of 12** with each participant working at an individual computer station in the Computer Lab. A team of lead instructor and four coaches will provide step-by-step instruction that will include demonstrations, guided practice and individual coaching assistance.

These strategies will be covered:

- Secrets for using the mouse and the keyboard effectively
- Basic vocabulary needed for an understanding of Windows (Vista, Win 7, and Win 8.1)
- Managing and organizing your personal data files (documents, pictures, videos, and music)
- Protecting your computer from viruses and other malware
- Safely downloading and installing applications from the Internet
- Efficient and safe use of an Internet browser and search engine.

Course Fee: \$10 for current club members; \$20 for non-members

Materials include: a step-by-step user's manual and a flash drive

Registration Details:

If you are interested in placing your name on a reservation list for the next available class, simply send an email message to: WILKINLV5@COX.NET and include the following information:

- Include **"Boot Camp Class"** in the Subject Title
- Your first and last name
- Your 8-digit Sun City Summerlin Association number
- Your telephone number
- Your email address



The Genealogy Computer Lab Workshop

Presenter: Karen Ristic

Location: SCSCC Lab

Dark in May

In this workshop, using the lab student computers, we will explore some of the many genealogy web sites, such as *FamilySearch.org*, *One-step Webpages*, *Ellis Island*, and more.

May 2017 Seminars, Q&As and Workshops

For Computer Club seminars, there is no requirement for advanced registration unless explicitly stated. Seating is first-come, first-seated.



“Smartphone Workshop”

Monday, May 1st at 1 PM

Presenter: Stu Gershon

Location: SCSCC Classroom

Stu will discuss and demonstrate taking better Smartphone photos, using Google Calendar, other important apps.



Android Cell Phone Q&A

Thursday, May 4th at 1 PM

Presenter: Susan Heifetz

Location: SCSCC Classroom

Susan will answer your questions about how to use an Android smart phone.



iPad / iPhone Basics

Wednesday, May 10th at 1 pm

Presenter: Zane Clark

Location: SCSCC Classroom

Zane will present a comprehensive “beginners’ overview” tutorial on how to use iPad tablets and iPhones.



Google Chrome Browser

Thursday, May 18th at 1 pm

Presenter: Pat Lemay

Location: SCSCC Classroom

Google Chrome is a fast, free web browser that works on your computer, phone and tablet. As of December 2016 Google Chrome has 65% worldwide usage share of web browsers as a desktop browser. It also has 50% market share across all platforms combined because it's also the most popular browser for smartphones. The browser is streamlined, clean and simple and designed to keep you safer and more secure on the web with built-in malware and phishing protection. Automatic updates make sure the browser is up-to-date with the latest security updates. Chrome uses technologies such as Safe Browsing and sandboxing. Chrome has many useful features built in, including extensions, translation in the browser, themes, applications and more. **This class will be taught on the desktop Windows version of Chrome.**



Facebook Q&A Lab

Wednesday, May 24th at 1 PM

Presenter: Kaynella Williams

Location: SCSCC Classroom

Facebook has more than one billion members online. Chances are your family and friends are already using Facebook – which means it's time for you to join in, too!

This session is planned as a hands-on question and answer event. It will be held in the **classroom**.

A few experienced Facebook users and I will offer help on your specific Facebook questions such as setting up a new account, how to do something on Facebook, and privacy concerns. We encourage you to bring your own laptop or tablet.



Office 365 Overview

Thursday, May 25th at 9:30 AM

Presenter: Tom Burt

Location: SCSCC Classroom

Microsoft Office 2016 / 365 is the latest release of the venerable office software suite. It is the successor to Office 2010.

In this 2-hour seminar we'll first look at various ways to acquire Office 2013. We'll then move to an overview of the features of Word 2013. We'll cover all the basic word-processing actions: highlighting, justifying, setting margins, using styles, headers / footers, inserting images and other objects, saving in different formats and printing. Almost all of the material will also apply to Word 2010.

This seminar is aimed at users who are comfortable with using a PC, have some word processing experience and who want to improve their skills with this new version of MS Word. However, ALL Club members are welcome.

Presentation notes can be found at: http://www.scs-cc.com/smnr/MS_Word_2013_Introduction.pdf .



“Ask Chuck” Q & A

Thursday, May 25th at 1 PM

Presenter: Chuck Strickland

Location: Classroom

Chuck will hold forth in the classroom, answering your technical questions.

If you wish, you can e-mail your questions ahead of the session to: chuckstr89134@gmail.com.



Tom's Tech-Notes

Internet Services Update

Tom Burt, SCSCC Vice-President

This month I'm updating material from a seminar I presented last September about available Internet and TV services in Las Vegas. If interested, you can find those seminar notes at: http://www.scscclub.com/smnr/TV_and_Internet_Services_2016.pdf. In this article, I'll limit the discussion to just Internet service.

To connect to the Internet, there are four major service options to choose from:

- **Cox Cable - Digital TV**
- **CenturyLink DSL – DSL from home to a fiber backbone**
- **Mobile Hot Spots - Cellular data**
- **Hughes Net (subsidiary of Echostar) – Sattelite**

CenturyLink and HughesNet have both changed since last September. In the following, we'll discuss each in more detail.

Cox High Speed Internet www.cox.com

Cox offers four service tiers for high speed Internet access:

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| • Cox Internet Essential (15 Mbits down, 2 Mb up) | \$39.99 / month (12 mos) |
| • Cox Internet Preferred (50 Mbits down, 5 Mb up) | \$59.99 / month (12 mos) |
| • Cox Internet Premier (150 Mbits down, 10 Mb up) | \$69.99 / month (12 mos) |
| • Cox Internet Ultimate (300 Mbits down, 30 Mb up) | \$89.99 / month (12 mos) |

Plans except Essential feature "Powerboost", which automatically increases download speed when doing large downloads. Preferred, Premier & Ultimate plans require a DOCSIS 3 cable modem.

You can get just Internet service without TV. There are discounts for bundling Cox digital TV and / or phone service with Internet service. You can buy your own cable modem or lease one from Cox.

After 12 months, higher prices kick in, but you can generally call and haggle to get the discounts extended.

The Essential service is quite adequate for normal surfing, e-mail and streaming. The Preferred service is more than adequate for even heavy users. Real world download speeds on Preferred are closer to 60 Mb down and 8 Mb up. The higher tiers would only make sense for heavy Internet gamers or users doing heavy downloading of large videos.

CenturyLink DSL <http://www.centurylink.com>

In the Sun City area, CenturyLink now offers 2 speed tiers for their DSL Internet access, both priced the same:

- 10 Mbits \$40 / month
- 20 Mbits \$40 / month

CenturyLink's website now says this is a "no contract, no hidden fees, price for life" charge.

You can lease a DSL modem / wireless router combo from CenturyLink or buy your own & save \$7 / month. There are discounts for bundling with phone service and/or TV service.

The 20 Mbits service is quite adequate for normal surfing, e-mail and streaming and competes with Cox Essentials.

Hughes Net Satellite Internet <http://www.hughesnet.com/>

HughesNet is a subsidiary of Echostar. With the recent launch of a new satellite, they have come out with some fairly aggressive pricing and service options.

There are four tiers of service, with pricing based on monthly download volume. All plans feature speeds of 25 Mbits down and 3 Mbits up. All plans include a combo satellite modem and wireless router and all plans include free 50 Gbytes of off-hours (2 am to 8 am) download per month. Currently, installation of the dish, cabling and modem/router is also free.

The four plans and 12-month promotional pricing (to June 30, 2017) are:

- 10 GB / month \$49.95
- 20 GB / month \$49.95
- 30 GB / month \$69.95
- 50 GB / month \$99.95

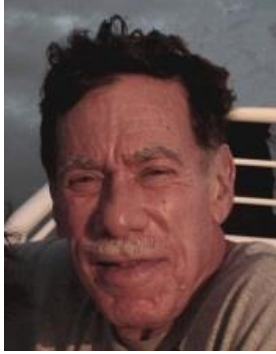
Performance is affected by satellite transmission times of .12 seconds per hop. A single Internet page request will require 4 satellite hops (2 up, 2 down), so there is about ½ second of delay due to the satellite link. This may be noticeable on pages with many separate elements.

Watch out for high activation fees.

Mobile Hot Spots (available from many vendors)

A mobile hot spot uses a 3g or 4g cellular data connection to connect an 802.11 wireless hot spot to the Internet. You must have a cellular data plan in place with one of the cellular carriers. For examples, see: <http://www.bestbuy.com/site/mobile-phone-accessories/mobile-hotspots/pcmcat184700050008.c?id=pcmcat184700050008>

Performance and capacity will depend on the device and the cellular data plan you set up. If your Internet needs aren't too demanding, this can be a workable option. Because the device is mobile, you can take it with you anywhere.



Kretchmar's Korner

By David Kretchmar, Computer Hardware Technician

Apples and Oranges

Contrary to popular belief, Windows and Apple (OS X) are not competitors. The underlying design and architecture are completely different, the reasons behind the design choices are completely different, and the end user experience can be entirely different.

Apple has created an entire ecosystem; you use Apple software on Apple furnished hardware to achieve the Apple experience. Apple has full control of both hardware and software (peripherals excluded), and thus they can optimize both to play well together.

Microsoft is a software provider - I'm not counting the Surface, which some pundits say proves beyond any doubt that Microsoft is a SOFTWARE company. Microsoft gets most of its revenue from the sale of the Windows 10 operating system and Microsoft Office productivity software.



In Apple OS X, the user experience is completely designed. If you want to use or if you are advanced enough even create an application that does a certain thing, there's just one way to do that. If you do it some other way you wind up with a different result. So every application whether it is a default installed application like Calendar or Photos, or something acquired from a third party for use on an Apple product, uses the same operational paradigm to perform common actions. There's no re-invention of the wheel, no cognitive dissonance as you move from one application to another.

To achieve that wonderful seamlessness, the Apple ecosystem is tightly controlled. Programmers use Apple's development environment, Apple's libraries, and Apple's developer program in which they agree to operate. For developers of applications it's Apple's way, or the highway. This has helped keep Apple products more secure than Windows, but obviously limits the software available to run on Apple systems.

Apple has responded to complaints about lack of software recently by allowing more third party applications on their smaller mobile devices. Millions of iPhone and iPad users were affected by a major App Store hack that was uncovered. No doubt Apple will respond by tightening the approval process, which will in turn decrease the number of apps available.

Oranges anyone?

Windows, on the other hand, is more like the Wild West. You can pretty much do pretty anything you want to do, pretty much any way you want to do it. Sure there are preferred ways, the Microsoft supported ways, but those are just lines. You can color outside them if that's what you want to do.



The remarkable thing is that not only does Windows support you in doing most anything you want to do, they'll support you in doing that on virtually any hardware configuration. And if they don't, it's usually fairly easy to get new drivers for the new thing that you want to add to your system.

So, on the one hand, you have ultimate power and flexibility, Microsoft lets you hand-craft your perfect look and functionality but also lets you self-destruct by accident. With Apple you have a limited, controlled environment

where everything is perfect and seamless.

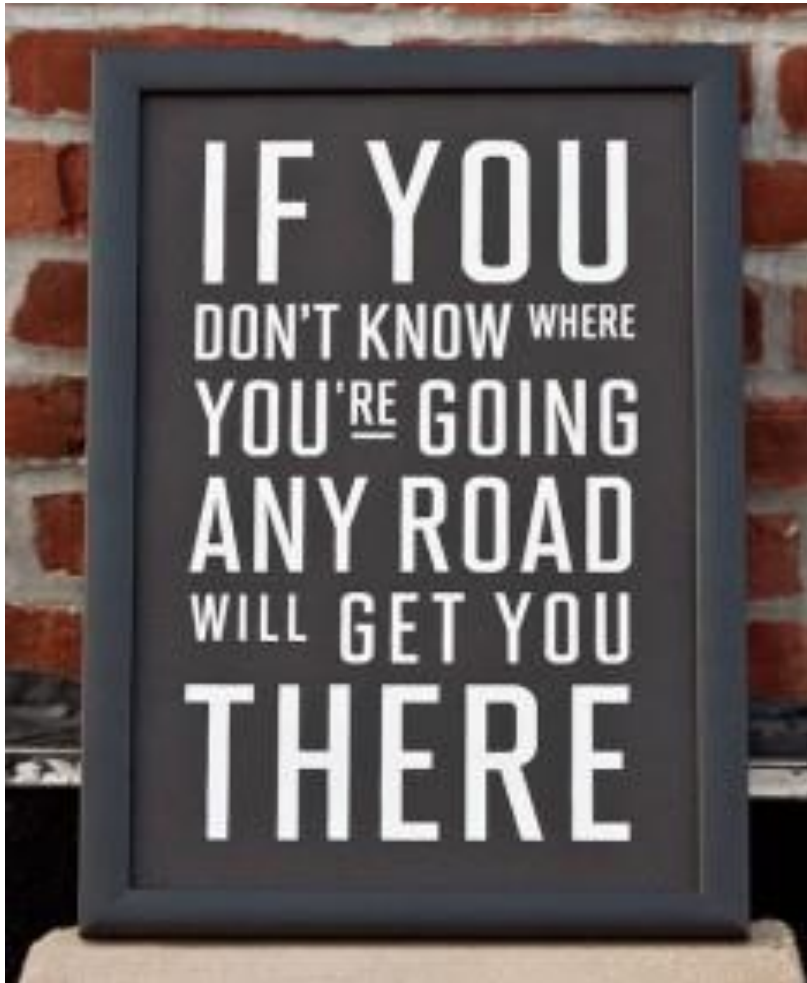
Think of it this way: If both companies were building roads, Microsoft would have to build every road and street in town, allowing everyone to go everywhere. Apple is building a few expressways. Apple's expressways get lots of people where they're going, quickly, with a smooth ride, but Apple has some "you can't get there from here" issues. Microsoft's roads go everywhere you want to go, but getting there isn't always a straight line path because there are so many other roads along the way (whether you use them or not, someone needs them) and because they have so many more roads to maintain, the maintenance isn't as good and you might see potholes more often.

The same is true when it comes to hardware. Apple products are middle of the bell curve products that satisfy the needs of lots of people, i.e. in Macs the minimum CPU is the Intel i5. There are also a lot of markets that Apple has no product in.

They aren't individually large markets, but there's a lot of money in markets where Apple produces no hardware solutions. Again, the difference is about variety. If Apple's hardware works for you, you will likely be satisfied in the Apple Express Lane.

If Apple's hardware doesn't satisfy your needs then you take surface streets. The Apple OS X will not run on a Windows computer without considerable modification. Windows runs great on an Apple computer

(Apple users are saying: why in the world would you do that?)



Is the Apple OS better than Windows? For many people, it is. For me it's a slick looking product that's incapable of supporting my needs. It's like looking at a six lane expressway from Las Angeles to Vegas - but I need to go to Laughlin. Beautiful expressway and all but not very useful to me.

Apple demands premium price, but many obviously think it is worth it. Software (apps) for the Mac usually are much cheaper than programs for Windows systems, although the most popular and ubiquitous productivity software, Microsoft Office, is optimized for PCs. For the past couple of years Apple has not charged for its OS X operating system.

May Lab Monitor Schedule

Open Lab sessions are held twice per week: 9 am to noon on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

Monitors	Date
Jeff Southwell	WEDNESDAY
Linda McMullin	May 3, 2017
Marcy Ishum	SATURDAY
Donna Bailey	May 6, 2017
Jan Edwards	WEDNESDAY
Marilyn Gramms	May 10, 2017
Fred Cohen	SATURDAY
Ann Warhaftig	May 13, 2017
Carol Przybycien	WEDNESDAY
Blanche York	May 17, 2017
Mary Hedin	SATURDAY
John Zuzich	May 20, 2017
Joyce Davidson	WEDNESDAY
Susie Scott	May 24, 2017
Mary Hedin	SATURDAY
Susie Scott	May 27, 2017
Blanche York	WEDNESDAY
Donna Bailey	May 31, 2017