

SCUG



REPORT

Volume 25, Issue 2

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www.scug.ca

October 2007

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Executive Meeting

Next meeting is
Nov. 5. 7 pm.

Dorothy Alexander
President
president@scug.ca

Digital Photography

Next Meeting is
Nov.13. 7 pm.

Pierre Houle
Group Leader
digitalsig@scug.ca

Windows PC Computer

Next meeting is
Nov. 15. 7 pm.

Pierre Houle
Group Leader
windows@scug.ca

General Meeting

Next meeting is
Nov. 28. 7 pm.

Come out, learn
& have fun.
Guest free passes.

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president@scug.ca

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Bill Colotelo
vicepresident@scug.ca

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

President's Report	2
Editor's Korner	2
Secretary's Notes	3
Windows SIG Report	4
Digital SIG Report	4
Disc of the Month	4
Compuprize Winners	5
TID BITS	6
Review: CLIPMATE	8
Article: Computers on TV	9
Book Review: Office 2007	9
Join SCUG Email Help Group	10
SCUG Auction: Sound System	11
Financial Report	12
Advertising	13
Meeting Schedule	14

November is BRING A GUEST month.

HAPPENINGS

WRITERS WANTED: Email
editor@scug.ca for more info.

*

No volunteers to make coffee so unfortunately, there will be:

"NO COFFEE"

until further notice. Bottled water is available upon request.

*

Guests get free stuff page 7

Free tickets page 7

Huge thanks goes out page 7

Donate computers page 9

Membership statistics page 5

Reprint Policy

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**PRESIDENT'S
PERSPECTIVE**
by Dorothy Alexander



Here we are in October and experiencing August weather. Global warming?

This evening is likely the first time that our General Meeting date has been altered. Now you all will be able to enjoy all the ghosts and goblins that will arrive at your door on Halloween or even go candy collecting yourself!

It is unfortunate that the Genealogy SIG has disbanded. Val has made a vain attempt to keep it going but finally said "enough is enough" due to the lack of interest. We would all like to thank her for her efforts. Perhaps some time in the future there will be revival of this group.

This evening Iain Smy has offered to show us some new features of Google that many of us are likely not familiar with. Google seems to have endless areas to discover.

Next month we will have as our guest Anthony Chotos, a noted photographer from London, Ontario. He will cover extensive details about digital cameras. If you have a friend who would be interested please feel free to bring them along with you. We have invited the Sarnia Camera Club to join us as well. PLUS, we will have a very nice Compuprize at the November GM.

Happy Halloween!

Editor's Korner



Greg West

SCUG NEEDS YOU

SCUG Needs:

- Assistant Editor
- Program Reviewers
- Article Writers
- New Computer Columnists
- Meeting Volunteers
- Demonstrators for General Meetings

SCUG needs help. We need input from the membership. We need topic ideas for meetings. We need suggestions for demonstrations at the General Meeting. We need SIG ideas. Do we need more SIGs? Hey, drop us a line and let us know what you think? Your voice is important, as you/we are all that makes up SCUG. Roll the sleeves up today and help your club by volunteering in any of the above needs. Thank you.



Secretary's Notes

by Tom Deeprise

SCUG Executive Meeting
October 1, 2007
at St. James' Church

1. Approval of minutes of June 4th, 2007.
2. Membership Input: Jim reported that as of September 26 total membership stood at 108. New guests 4. New members 2. Renewals 8 Associates 2. Members 75 Associates 33 for a total of 108. Guests on record 8.
3. Vice President's Input: Bill purchased batteries at a special price to have on hand for back-up of the P.A. system.
4. Secretary: On vacation minutes recorded by Helen Ginn.
5. Treasurer's Report: Audit by Paul Witheridge read and accepted. Overhead for 2007/2008 Budget to be presented at the next meeting.
6. Software Librarian's Input: Old CD's were not being returned and it would be appreciated if members would bring them back to the meeting for additional software to be written. Pierre reported that more disks were purchased.
7. Newsletter Editor's Input: Quality of newsletter printing discussed.
8. Program Coordinator's Input: Pierre has Paint Shop Pro to be reviewed. Jim LaPoint to finish Corel Draw Graphics Suite X3. Greg to review Streets and Trips GPS Locator. ClipMate 7 by Dorothy finished and turned in to Norm. Office 2007 by Bill is due in November.
9. Public Relations Input: Val has a replacement to look after the October 50/50 draw. The November prize will be a laser printer. Advertising has been taken care of. Winners at the September meeting were Guest Tom Allingham (shredder), Dave Halliday (Vista Book) and Dick Carpani (calculator).
10. Web Master Input: Dick Carpani absent.

11. Iain Smy to do a presentation in October about Google options, blogging and other ways of finding information on the Internet. Pierre had approached Antony Chodas from London about a digital photography presentation. Four more presentations are required for the rest of the year.

12. Discussion regarding options for future meetings. The old sound system is taking up space and suggestion was made that it be offered to the highest bidder for purchase if anyone is interested. Hobbyfest was discussed and suggestion made that we ask for a better location in the main stream of traffic as we do not attract many visitors in the area off to the side. Not enough interest for a genealogy SIG so it has been dropped. Iain suggested a Mac group SIG be offered for anyone using Mac computers.

Next Executive Meeting Monday, November 5, 2007 - 7:00 PM



For those that use IrfanView it has been updated to Version 4.1

Version 4.1 includes new Paint plug-in, and adds support for embedded color profiles in JPG/TIF

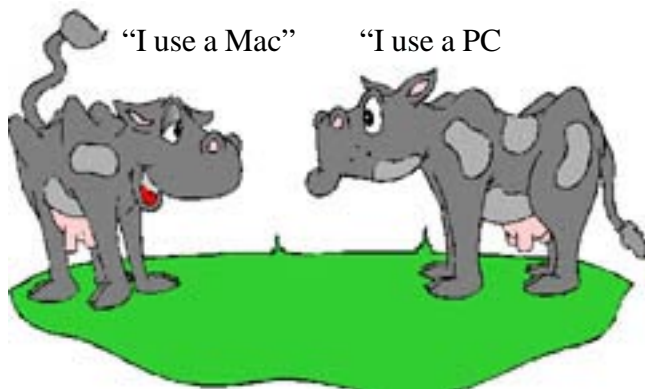
<http://www.irfanview.com/>

Thanks Val...

CNN Video Problem

Several people have experienced problems trying to watch a CNN news video lately. If are experiencing this make sure that your browser is the most current one available. That should solve your issue. Thanks Pat.

SCUG Has Mac & PC Users as Members





Pierre Houle
windows@scug.ca

Special Interest Groups

Windows SIG

Eighteen members and one guest attended the October meeting of the Windows SIG. Iain led the meeting with a talk on configuring a wireless router. The key points made were to change the default password, use a generic SSID and choose the best password and encryption method that the router is capable of. These steps will ensure a secure wireless connection.

Iain talked about a password generator/safe program he uses to generate secure passwords and to remember them. He suggested using a different password for each site and to change them on a regular basis. Iain's program is Mac specific but Pierre has found a free one for the PC which is included on the monthly disk.

Also there was an a short Q and A session, most of which involved Windows Updates: How to set it up and how to repair the botched stealth updates from Microsoft.

The meeting notes from Iain were e-mailed to the Windows SIG list. If you are not on the list see I Iain for the notes.

The next Windows SIG meeting will be Thursday November 15th, 7:00 P.M., Grace United Church, corner of Cathcart and Indian, room 10. The topic will be: setting up a home network, both wireless and wired including how to set up file and print sharing. There will also be a Q and A



Digital Photography SIG

Twenty members attended the October Digital Photography SIG. The members were divided into two dis-

Digital Photography SIG Cont...

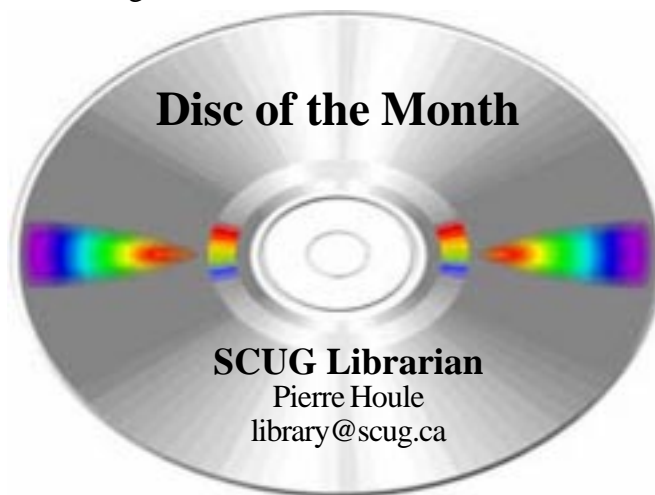


cussion groups: One for Canon camera owners (which Jim Lapointe took charge of) and one for everyone else (led my Pierre with help from Bill Coombes). In each group we discussed basic camera settings and any question which arose, using the camera manuals and general knowledge. I am sure we all learned something worthwhile.



A special thanks to Jim and Bill for your help!

The next meeting of the Digital Photography SIG will be held Tuesday, November 13th, St. James Church, 140 Lansdown North at Athlone. The topic will be announced at the general meeting, on the website (www.scug.ca) and also e-mailed to the membership a few days before the meeting.



This month's offering is a secure password generator/safe program called KeePass. This is a open source program. All you need to remember is one password which opens the database and reveals all passwords saved. KeePass has many advanced features: autotype, drag and drop, secure password generator, import and export. It can be used from a USB key. Use KeePass and keep your online activities secure!

Please remember to return your disk every month and pick up your updated disk. This keeps the librarian's work to a minimum.

If you have any ideas for the disk of the month please let me know

SCUG MEMBER STATISTICS

“Just as a matter of interest because someone said they thought our membership was declining I went back and looked some of the old records for the number of members from 1997 to 2007.” *(Norm Lamoureux)*

Here are the Stats.

1997 -	54
1998 -	62
1999 -	54
2000 -	72
2001 -	51
2002 -	72
2003 -	77
2004 -	88
2005 -	90
2006 -	95
2007 -	83

SCUG AUDIT: 2005 - 2006

The annual audit has been completed on SCUG books and everything is in order. Our thanks go to Paul Witheridge who performed a very detailed audit. Also, SCUG would like to thank Ed Ginn, SCUG Treasurer for keeping things in proper order each month.



PLEASE RETURN EACH MONTH FOR YOUR NEW ONE

PLEASE ADORN SCUG NAME TAGS

Don't forget to wear your **SCUG name tag** at all meetings. If you have lost it please contact an executive member for assistance.

**ALL GUESTS WELCOMED
GENERAL MEETING**

St. Bartholomew's Church
718 Cathcart Blvd.
Sarnia, Ont.

Last Wednesday of the month
7:00 p.m. social time
7:30 p.m. call to order

Meeting Schedule:
see the last page of this paper!




stop



Before you get this far in your analysis of your computer, why not come out to the next SCUG Windows Special Interest Group where you can solve ALL/Some of your computer frustrations with others just like you! Check out page 4 for more.

3 tickets for ONLY \$5

SCUG Compuprize Winners

Photos by Jim Lapointe


CONGRATULATIONS!!!

Tom Allingham (Guest) Shredder	Dick Carpani Calculator	Dave Halliday Vista Book
--------------------------------------	----------------------------	-----------------------------

5 Don't forget to get your ticket tonight.

TID BITS

Greg West
SCUG Editor
editor@scug.ca



SCUG Needs Volunteers



GREAT SCREEN CAPTURE

...and it is FREE & BETTER than youknowwhat!

Thanks goes out to member Rich who sent this in...

Check it out at: PC World's website:
<http://www.find.pcworld.com/57081>

Scott Dunn says it is "A powerful, free screen capture tool.

If you don't have Vista or don't like its Snipping Tool, you can always press to copy an image of your entire screen (or - for just the active window) to the Clipboard.

But it almost always leaves out the pointer or cursor, and you still have to paste the image into and save it from Paint or some other image editor.

For a fast, free, easy solution, try FastStone Capture. FastStone supports a variety of output formats, provides an editor for you to tweak your capture before saving, or lets you go directly to save (with auto file naming, if desired).

I especially like the Capture Object option, which lets me hit my (customizable) hotkey and then point to the object (Window, menu, toolbar, etc) that will be captured."

I personally check it out after requesting a better product on the SCUG email list group...It far surpasses any other screen capture program I have tried out and tested.

It works real fast, saves you time, and no fiddling with useless tools.

If you want a really good working screen capture that you can quickly send to off to friends, this is for you.

Let us know, here at SCUG, how you find this program if you give it a test drive. Maybe you could demo it at the next SCUG General Meeting?

- How about helping out make coffee at a meeting?
- How about helping set up chairs at the onset of meetings?
- How about helping run electrical cords and wires for the presenters?
- How about being a greeter at the front door for guests? **PLEASE CONTACT THE EXECUTIVE**



On your next holiday, don't forget to download Skype. You can make free phone calls directly from your laptop. Check out www.skype.com for more on this free service.

TIP



FREE PowerPoint Instructions from Microsoft

Yes, this is a rather large web address, or for you Geeks: URL. However, if you want free audio/visual instructions on PowerPoint from Microsoft, you will simply have to copy this into your Browser:

TIP

<http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/training/CR061832731033.aspx>

A SECRET PRIZE???

During the General Meetings coffee is provided at a minimal donation of 50 cents. This amount is to offset the costs. We will continue to provide this service at each General Meeting. If you wish to HELP... You and the rest of SCUG members will appreciate it. Thanks for your continued support.

Contact editor@scug.ca for more information on the secret prize?

SCUG VOLUNTEERS OF THE MONTH

DIG IN!



A special thanks goes out to **LeRoy MaKay** and **Gary Shrigley** who came in and proceeded to put all the chairs out at our last SCUG General Meeting. **Anyone** who had a seat can thank these two volunteers. Each month we need help with setting up chairs and making coffee and running extension chords etc.

Renewals for October 2007

The following SCUG Members will receive a free compuprize ticket for renewing on due date.

- Pat Carter
- Dolores Cooper
- Tom Flint
- Andre Langis
- Anne Miller
- Gunter Mueller
- Donald Urry
- Greg West



"Don't forget to give away your copy of SCUG Report, telling everyone how great we all are." :)

Tell a friend about SCUG today.

Please recycle this newsletter

Give away your copy of SCUG Report and spread the SCUG news.

Many reasons for you to become a SCUG Member

- * Special Interest Groups
- * S.C.U.G. REPORT
- * Free Want Ads
- * Paid Advertising
- * Disk of the Month
- * Utility Disks (Set of 2 Disks)
- * Members Only Web Pages
- * Meeting Cancellation Notification
- * Local Discounts
- * Earn 1 Month Free Membership
- * Join in on Software Reviews
- * Executive Postions
- * E-mail Reminders
- * Special E-Mails

3 FREE MONTHS of MEETINGS for GUESTS

Email us today: president@scug.ca or check us out online: www.scug.ca

Everyone is welcome to come to a meeting and receive a **Guest Pass** entitling you to sample our various meetings over a 3 month period. An annual family membership in S.C.U.G. is \$35. This allows you to attend all meetings, a free shareware program each month, and a copy of our monthly SCUG Report. Come out and meet people like yourselves who want to learn about computers and digital photography.

Please go to our website for all details: www.scug.ca

CLIPMATE 7

by Dorothy Alexander
President, SCUG

Software Created by:

Thornsoft Developments, Inc.
P.O. Box 164,
Spencerport, New York 14559
Phone: 585/352-4223
www.thornsoft.com/index.htm
support @ thornsoft.com

Price: \$34.95 single-user - electronic download or purchase a CD for \$9.95 including shipping \$19.95 upgrade from Version 6 - electronic download

Bonus Feature:

30 day evaluation period prior to purchase

System Requirements:

5.3 MB space Windows 95, 98, ME, NT4, 2000, XP Home, HP Pro & Vista It does NOT run on Linux, Mac, Palm or Pocket PC. At some time or another all of us have wanted to copy something to another location. You say "yes" we use MS Clipboard. BUT, did you not find that each time you copy something it re-writes over the last item and it is GONE. Or perhaps you shut down your computer before copying it into a word document for safe-keeping and it has also gone bye, bye. With ClipMate 7 you no longer have these concerns as it holds literally thousands of clips in the clipboard history.

You can copy Text Files, Bitmaps, HTML, Rich Text, Spreadsheet data or whatever, and use it a few minutes later, an hour later, or even days later. In fact clips can be stored indefinitely. You can store frequently used items, or ones that you absolutely do not want to misplace, in the "Safe" folder so that they cannot be deleted without confirmation.

Text that you copied can be edited in numerous ways using ClipMate 7, such as combining several clips together, doing a spell check (just right click on the word to check spelling) and even altering the text to suit your needs. If I were to go on line and look for URL's for a specific purpose, e.g. genealogy research, I could copy all of these URL's into ClipMate 7 and then print them, in the same order that I copied them, into a Word docu-

ment.

The clips that you save can be categorized into various topics such as pictures, genealogy, permanent clips, club information clips, etc. Clips can be moved from one category to another with no problem. This feature certainly is great when you are trying to find a specific clip amongst the hundreds that you will soon accumulate.

You can copy photos, displayed on eBay for example, to ClipMate 7 and then paste to a Word document without any problem. They can be exported as either a BMP or JPEG file for use in a graphics program. I had misplaced a photo illustrated in one of my eBay ads and was able to capture it and replace it into My Photo file. Worked perfect.

One of the new features in version 7 includes drag-and-drop support, support for dual-monitor screen grabs, and virtual collections. Let me explain in Clipmate language. Virtual collections are really pre-defined searches, and do not actually hold data of their own. For example, the "today" collection is a query that searches for clips captured today. The "Bitmaps" collection is a query that searches for all clips containing Bitmaps.

Another important feature, in version 7, is the fact that you can now take it with you on your portable USB "thumb" drive. That will be a great asset for instance when you are collecting information at the library. I had a little trouble with this since I only have one computer presently so

wrote for help. Once I downloaded the PortableApps directory on the thumb drive I then followed their instructions to download the portable installer. I brought it to the General Meeting of SCUG and tried it in the club computer and it works great. Nice feature.

Thornsoft offer excellent online help. A few titles within their support are: FAQ, Knowledge Base, Form (questions answered by an administrator) and Flash Tutorials. The later (Flash Tutorials) was very simple to follow and I found very helpful in setting things up.

There are many things to learn, but with the help of the visual aids you will find that you are learning in no time. It appears to do all the things they say it should do in the manner it should. I encourage you to at least give ClipMate 7 a 30 day trial. Once you use this program you will wonder why you never had it before as you will not be able to live without it!

“...many things to learn,
but with the help of the visual aids
you will find that you are learning in no time.”

COMPUTERS ON TV

by Norm Lamoureux
SCUG Program Coordinator

Back in 1988, a TV station from California was born. It was called TECH TV. In 2004, it merged with another company and is now called G4TECHTV. In 2001, the channel was brought to Canada through digital television media. It is on Express Vu ch. 515, Star Choice ch. 514 and Cogeco digital cable channel 140.

One of its well known celebrities from the channel is Leo Laporte, he has many podcast and shows going on. In the TECHTV days, he did SCREEN SAVERS, CALL FOR HELP and others. When TECHTV came to Canada in 2001, he was filming a new version of CALL FOR HELP in Toronto.

In 2007, Leo has now started another computer show called The lab with Leo which is filmed in Vancouver, which is closer to his house in California. The web site is at www.g4techtv.ca. His web site is at www.leoville.com

On the Canadian side, another computer show filmed in Vancouver is Dotto Tech, in which Steve Dotto talks about the latest in technology. You can visit his web site at www.dottotech.com. It can be seen on the A Channel (CFPL London).

Another Canadian who has been doing computer shows for awhile is Dave Chalk. He is doing a show called Connected, which is on TV and also playing in airplanes. His web site is at www.chalktv.com

A SCUG Book Review

by: Bill Colotelo
SCUG Vice President

OFFICE 2007

Title-Office 2007-The Missing Manual
Author-Chris Grover, Matthew MacDonald, and E.A. Vander Vee
Published by-Pogue Press, Oâ™REILLY
1005 Gravenstein Highway North, Sebastopol, CA 95472
Printed April 2007 First Edition

Cost \$45.99 cdn

The book OFFICE 2007 has 34 chapters, five Appendixes. It is divided into four parts;
Part One: Word 2007
Part Two: Excel 2007
Part THREE: Power Point 2007
Part Four: Access 2007

The five Appendices include A: Customizing the Quick Access Tool Bar, B: Getting Help: Index Word 2007: Index Excel 2007: Index PowerPoint 2007: and Index Access 2007. In total the book has 853 pages.

From the above you can see that Office 2007 The Missing Manual has a tremendous amount of information. If I was to go through this manual methodically to ensure that Vista will or can do all that the manual says that it should, before I was 50 per cent finished I would have forgotten most that I first read and no doubt be referring back many times to earlier pages.

My original approach was to carry out a significant sample to ascertain to my satisfaction that Vista will do as the manual states and report on how useful the manual can be.

When I got to page 200 I began to realize that the book was more than anything that I have experienced before. It is a text book which in detail takes the user through the many steps required to carry out the program such as Word. It in detail, outlines, for example, how to set tabs, margins, select fonts, etc. The use of bullets, hyphens are described. In Excel formatting cells is described, formulas are reviewed, and I could go on and on about the different items covered. What I am trying to say is that this is a text book and not a filler to just increase your knowledge on word, excel, and power point. It is a text you could teach from. It is four text books in one.

Access 2007 is all about how to create a Data Base. For the novice Data Base creator, Access 2007 takes you to the beginning and goes thru the steps required to create a simple Data Base, for example, your telephone numbers, or your addresses and how to update them as changes occur. From the simple Data Base, Access 2007 continues to describe more complicated Data Bases.

There are times when the book is not easy to follow. On a number of occasions I had to refer back or forward a few pages in order to accomplish the next step. In a number of places I encountered, for example, â•egoto page 509 for the full scoopâ• and I was on page 505, or I would be directed to another chapter in order to clarify a point. Maybe I was expecting too much and would like to â•cebabiedâ•.

I have heard someone comment that they did not care how Microsoft has laid out Word 2007. I am sure I would hear similar comments on Power Point, and even Excel. What this book is trying to do is â•ceteachâ• you on how to use the many items that Microsoft has included in their program which you did not have in Word 2000 or 2003.

I cannot comment on whether Word 2007, for example, is better or worse than Word 2000 or 2003, but in my opinion the book â•ceOffice 2007â• The Missing Manual, does an excellent job in making you familiar on how to use the four programs it covers. Even if you have never used the programs before.

I believe that this book, Word 2007, The Missing Manual, is a must for users such as me that use the four mentioned programs on occasion.

Are You Having Computer Problems? Want to Avoid Huge Computer Tech Bills?

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ASCAM YOU ASK? NO WAY...

Does the above ad sound too good to be true? Well it is n't. In fact many SCUG members solve their computer related problems on a regular basis...And it is FREE.

HOW CAN THIS BE TRUE?

How is this done, you ask? It is very simple. At SCUG we offer, to members ONLY, a free email list group whereby a member can post a computer question and a member or several members will offer assistance. Sometimes it takes a group of members to tackle an issue, but this is what makes SCUG the great group that it has been for over a quarter century. Members helping members get the most from their computers.

HOW DO I SIGN UP FOR THIS GREAT FEATURE TODAY?

The criteria on the group are:

- Only members can view group content
- Only members can view group members list
- People can request an invitation to join
- Members can create and edit pages
- Members can upload files
- Only members can post



“Look Dear at what is on the
SCUG Email List Group”

Any scug member can join, but as it is a “closed” group, you have to be invited to join. Once you have joined you will get all the emails that any other member sends to the group. You can even just sit back and watch.

HERE IS HOW TO JOIN - THE REAL EASY WAY...

To join you should send a request to our Webmaster, who is also the moderator of the group. Email to webmaster@scug.ca. Once you have signed up you can set your account to suite your own preferences.

When you are a member sending mail to: SarniaComputerUsersGroup@googlegroups.com will forward it to the other members.

The main use of the list is to ask for help with any problem you have, anyone able to help you responds. There are sometimes long discussions on a subject!

Please join this service that is yours as a member of SCUG. **Any problems Email Dick:** webmaster@scug.ca



SARNIA COMPUTER USERS' GROUP

AUCTION

The executive of SCUG has made the decision to dispose of the old sound system.

There are no speakers included, just the Realistic system itself.

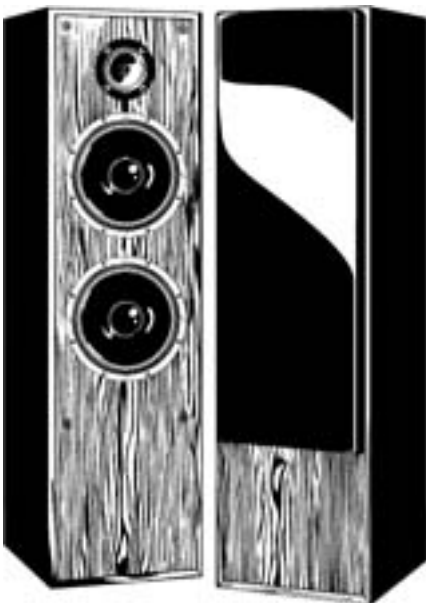
In working condition at last use.

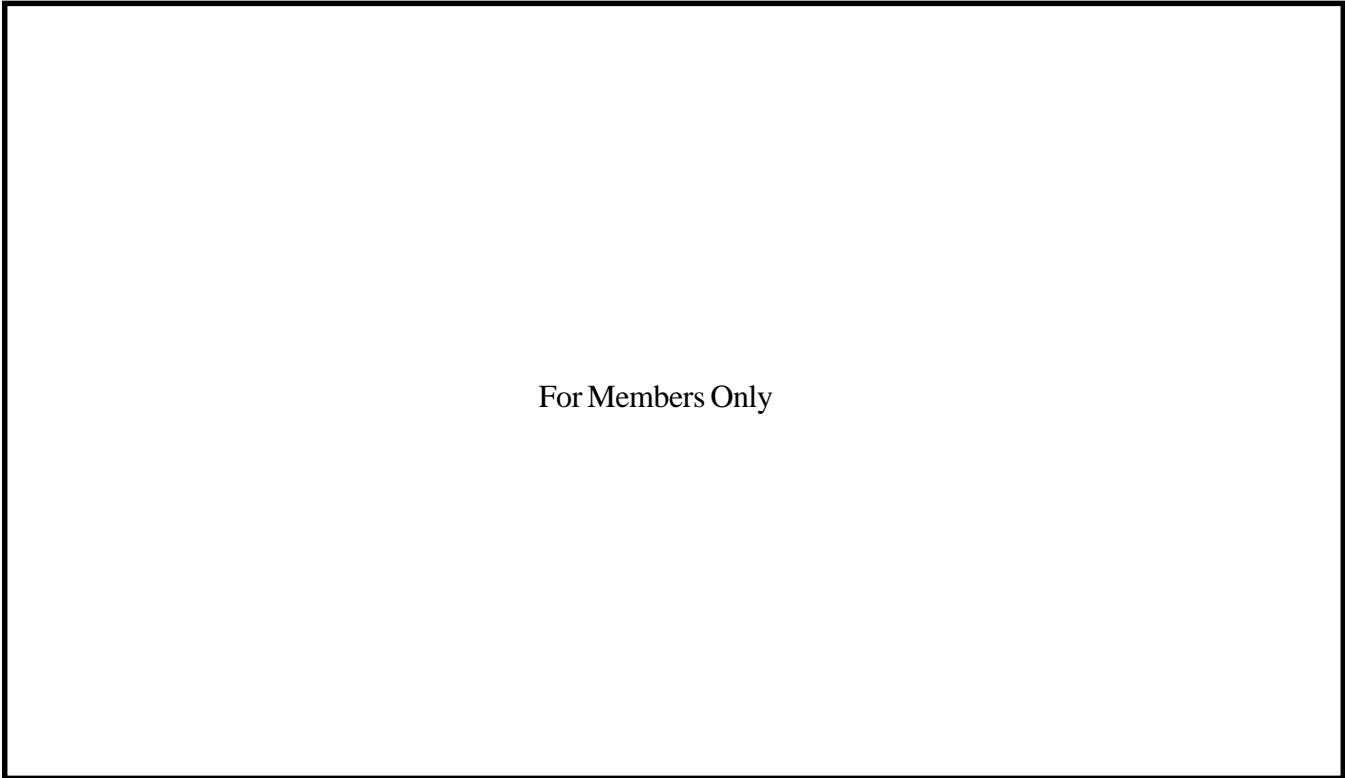
**Please submit your bid on this item to the
President at
bearhugs2@sympatico.ca
Prior to the GM meeting on November 28, 2007**

NO RESERVE BIDS

Winning bid will be chosen at the GM on November 28, 2007.

High bid will be the new owner.





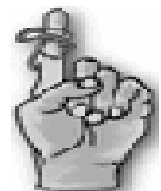
For Members Only

Need to get rid of your old computer? Want it to go to a good cause? Why not call Jim...he volunteers for the Adult Learning Centre and refurbishes and distributes used computers to the needy. Jim can be reached this way:



TIP

Jim McMurray
 726 Manor Park Crescen
 Sarnia, Ont.
 N7S 4W8
 Phone:519/542-0004
 Email: j-cmcm@ebtech.net



TIP

SCUG Computer Disc Prices

CD Only	Members	Non-Members
Monthly Disk	Free	\$2.00
Additional Disks	\$1.00	\$2.00

NOTE: Some of these programs are Shareware that come with a trial period, after which, they must be registered and paid for if you like them and decide to keep them on your machine.

SCUG Advertising Rates

Full Page	1x - \$30.00	3x - \$25.00	6x+ - \$20.00
Half Page	1x - \$20.00	3x - \$15.00	6x+ - \$10.00
Business card	\$10.00 per year		

*One year = 9 issues, September to June
 Full and half page rates are per insertion*



SCUG members can advertise here for free.

Email your ad to:
editor@scug.ca

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SCUG MEETINGS 2007-2008
 Guests are Welcome to Visit
www.scug.ca



www.apcug.org

MEETING LOCATIONS

- * **Executive and Digital** - St James Church-140 Lansdowne North
- * **Windows - PC** - Grace United Church, 990 Cathcart
- * **General Meeting** - St. Bartholomews Church, 718 Cathcart
- * **Genealogy Meeting** - See page 6

SCUG Meeting Schedule 2007-2008

Meeting	EXECUTIVE	DIGITAL CAMERA	WINDOWS	GENERAL
Day in Month	1st Mon. post GM*	2nd Tuesday	3rd Thursday	Last Wednesday
Location	St. James'	St. James'	Grace United	St. Bartholomew's.
NOVEMBER	5	13	15	28
DECEMBER	3	11	-	-
JANUARY	7	8	17	30
FEBRUARY	4	12	21	27
MARCH	3 & 31	11	20	26
APRIL	-	8	17	30
MAY	5	13	15	28
JUNE	2 & 30	10	19	25

*Unless blocked by Stat. Holiday

Note: For Genealogy Meetings Please See Page 6

November is “BRING A GUEST MONTH” SCUG meetings & SIGs