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North Texas PC News

North Texas PC Users Group
King of Glory Lutheran Church
6411 Lyndon B. Johnson
Freeway Dallas, Texas

November 2014

VOLUM 34 • NUMBER 11

Inside this issue:

Prez Sez

Bill Drissel

A couple of years ago, I wrote you about free academic tutorials on the net and the pioneering part **Salman Khan** and his Khan Academy played. Well, this start has blossomed into a movement.

Shortly after the Khan Academy, a professor at Stanford, **Sebastian Thrun**, taught a course in Artificial Intelligence. He allowed people on the internet to audit his course. He had 160,000 people sign up. As a consequence, he co-founded [Udacity](http://Udacity.com).

Other MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses) are provided by:

- [edX](http://edX.org), which was developed through a collaboration between Harvard and the MIT
- [Coursera](http://Coursera.com), which was co-founded by two of Thrun's colleagues at Stanford
- [iversity](http://iversity.com)
- [FutureLearn](http://FutureLearn.com)

The number of available classes has been growing at an impressive pace. This month, there are four hundred and ninety-five MOOCs listed as in-progress on the MOOC aggregator, [Class Central](http://ClassCentral.com), five times as many as there were a year ago.

I urge you to click the link to Class Central and spend a couple of minutes surveying the width and depth of subjects covered.

The Elections Are Coming ... The Elections Are Coming !!

Any NTPCUG member in good standing who wishes to run for office should contact Chrystin Pleasants at chrystinp@yahoo.com, or any current board member.

Any NTPCUG member in good standing who wishes to serve on the Elections Committee should contact Chrystin Pleasants at chrystinp@yahoo.com, or any current board member.

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Special Thanks to those that help put this newsletter together and edit the content:

- **David Franke**
- **Joli Ballew**

North Texas PC Users Group



2014 Computer Raffle

\$3 per ticket ✨ **4 tickets for \$10**

Tickets sold at October 18 & November 15 Meetings

Dell Alienware Aurora

Dual Boot! Windows 7 & 8

Acronis True Image 2014!

Intel i7 920 Quad Core
2.67 Ghz 8Mb Cache
12 Gb DDR3 (6x2, 6x4 max)
1 TB SATA HDD Drive (4 max)
nVidia GTX260 2GB Ram
Video
Memorex CDRW /
DVD R+-RW
Broadcom Onboard
Gigabit Network
Realtek Onboard Audio



Dual Boot!
Windows 7 Pro 64
and Windows 8.1 Pro 64
Java, Acrobat Reader 11,
Cute PDF, 7-Zip, TreeSize
Free, My Defrag
Adobe Flash/Shockwave,
iTunes, QuickTime,
VLC Media Player
Microsoft Security Essentials,
MalwareBytes, cCleaner,
SyncToy
Windows Essentials 2012



Book "Step by Step:
Windows 8.1" Included!

*All professionally installed,
updated and tuned ... of course!*

**Purchase Tickets
by the Sign-in Desk
8:00 am 'til 12:00 noon**

Acronis
True Image 2014



Special Interest Groups (SIGs) ...

Sessions with presentations, discussion, and exchanges of information

All SIG meetings at King of Glory Lutheran Church, 6411 LBJ Fwy in Dallas
(between Preston & Hillcrest, north side of LBJ), normally the third Saturday of each month.

HTPC/Home Automation SIG – 8:00 am

Home Automation won't be meeting in November, but join us again in December.



Home Theater (or Media) PCs and Home Automation come in an endless range of capability, complexity and price. It may just be setting the home thermostat remotely, routing audio and/or video to different rooms, or performing other, similar tasks.

Making Money on the Internet — 9:00 am

Alan Lummus
Alan@bkmts.com



This month's "Making Money on the Internet" SIG will be a free for all on the topics of building websites and making money on the Internet. Bring your experience, questions and observations as we roam these two broad topics. We'll also address the agendas for future SIG meetings, so put some thought into what you'd like to see covered in depth in upcoming months.

Internet — 11:00 am

Glynn Brooks
glynn.brooks@ntpcug.org



What Websites Know About You and How to Protect Yourself

In this session we'll look at how much information your web browser sends to web servers and how you can limit what they see.

Digital Photography — 10:00 am

Spike Smith, NCE
spike@spike-info.com



Get Ready for Holiday Gift Season

- Do we get a break on the number of available selections for digital photography?
 - ◊ Heavens no!
- Are cameras getting smaller?
 - ◊ Yes
- Are cameras getting larger?
 - ◊ Yes!
- Are DSLR cameras going away.
 - ◊ No!
- Are digital cameras getting cheaper?
 - ◊ No!
- But are they becoming more of a bargain?
 - ◊ Yes!

Those great engineering staffs at camera suppliers are as busy as ever coming up with refinements. It seems that the science geeks within these groups do not take no for an answer. When barriers state that the systems cannot be faster – they find a way; they make the distinct product areas better.

Alright then, are our systems just getting better like in all ways? Nope! The laws of economics say that we must sacrifice a few features to reduce overall costs. Darn, some of these deletions may have been our favorite tools.

Come on in and let's discuss those new improvements/deletions that we should consider.

Are you ready? Are you curious about medium-priced systems? How about those big guys (they too get improved) like the Mamiya Digital 645 at \$31,000.00? We won't dally here too long, unless by chance, we get a few people in our group ready to buy. Most activities for the upcoming season will be: smaller dSLR, mirrorless cameras, bargains at \$250.00 thru \$500.00.

Come on in and relax, enjoy, learn what we need to know. Do you have a new camera to bring in and brag about? Do it. Do you have a beginner's point-and-shoot? Having a problem? Check us out for solutions.

Digital Photo Editing Software — 11:00 am

Spike Smith, NCE
harold.smith@ntpcug.org



It may seem that I am in a rut when I do not recommend buying a new editing product every month or even every year. I am in a rut when I discuss reasons for more selective buying and changing editors.

When it comes to exactly which editor to buy, we conclude that if you are hired by a photograph processing company, you use the product that they use. When you are a part-time user, you do not need to spend nearly full time learning new extensive products and find that you have no hours left in your schedule for creating your art.

Regardless which size and brand editor you end up with, the keys to pleasure and productivity rest with learning the basics (not learning which of dozens buttons to push).

There are several unique choices for low-cost to free editors our members can relate to.

Come on in and enjoy; "Share what you know, Learn what you don't".

NET Developers/HTML SIG - 10 am - 12 pm



Tuc Goodwin
tgoodwin@ntpcug.org

Chris Morgan
chris.morgan@ntpcug.org



For our November meeting, **Tom Perkins** will continue with his hands-on tutorial series on Microsoft Azure, Entity Framework, and ASP.NET MVC.

Microsoft Access SIG —11:00 am



Jim Wehe
jimwehe@gmail.com



Larry Linson
larry.linson2@ntpcug.org

At the October Access meeting, we learned that only two members used Access version 2013.

Sue Williams has a 2013 database and is wanting to learn how to create reports.

Kathy Lee Brown uses Access 2013 and agreed to demonstrate report creation.

Our meeting will start on time.



Microsoft Application Development Study Group SIG - 1:30 pm

Tom Perkins
tomperki@gmail.com

We are meeting with **.Net Developers** at 10 am for the foreseeable future.

Questions or comments?
Contact Tom Perkins (tomperki@gmail.com) or
Chris Morgan (chris.morgan@ntpcug.org)

CodeKitchen offers fully fletched MS Access databases, no locked code, all available to use by developers for their own purpose and as templates for new database development projects. Each database only costs a charitable \$25!

Check it out at www.codekitchen.com.au

Salesforce.com – 11:00 am; 12:30 pm

Salesforce.com offers two major certifications for Force.com Developers: The Developer Certification (DEV401) and the Advanced Developer Certification, (DEV501).

Dallas Salesforce Developers Group is pleased to offer FREE classes each year to candidates.

All, remember, this is the study group for 401 and 501 (aka the study group). Not to be confused with our 4th Wednesday meeting held at the Improving Enterprise (which is more mischief, no studying). The objective is for each of us to take the respective exams at the end of the sessions, so we will keep up the pace. Ask questions. These are not easy exams, but I am convinced that we can get everyone past the finish line.

Powershell – 8:00 am - 10:00 am



Larry Weiss
lfw@airmail.net

Josh Miller
jmiller76@gmail.com

In November, **Josh Miller** will present "Regex Refresher and Some Regex Tricks - A high level overview of .NET regular expressions in PowerShell". His presentation will occur at 9:00, preceded by our informal hour from 8:00-9:00.

Windows Tips & Tricks — 9:00 - 10:00 am



Chuck Stark
chuck.stark@ntpcug.org



Gil Brand
gbrand@ntpcug.org

Open Q&A

If you have a 'troubled' system, contact Chuck or Gil for a possible 'live, no net' troubleshooting session.

Microsoft Excel – 8:00 am

Frank Tubbs, SIG leader
ftubbs@sbcglobal.net

TBD

Windows Inside Out — 12:30 pm

Glynn Brooks
glynn.brooks@ntpcug.org



Using Miracast with Windows, Android, and iPhone

In this session we'll look at how Miracast works to project the screen on your Windows computer, your Android device, and your iPhone.

Wireless Communications — 12:30 pm

Birl Smith
birl.smith@ntpcug.org



TBD

Word — 10:00 am

Sharon Dorsey
Sharon.Dorsey@ntpcug.org



Word 2010 Session Demo – Party Invitations

At our October meeting, we started a discussion about creating invitations. With the holiday season approaching, I think this is a good time to create a party invitation so you can show off your personal creativity for a special Veterans Day, Thanksgiving, Advent, Hanukkah or Christmas party.

Our November meeting will be a continuation of the topic. This time we will create an invitation from scratch from beginning to end . . . based on **YOUR** input. You will go home with concrete ideas of how to accomplish a specific function or two.

This is a group participation project so come with questions and suggestions.

Investors - 1:30 pm

Gil Brand
gbrand@ntpcug.org



We will have our usual Q&A session. Bring your questions and experiences in investing and share with the group.

Access News from the Northwest

By Teresa Hennig

News from the Northwest

By Teresa Hennig

Microsoft MVP for Access (2005-2014), President of the Seattle Access Group and Pacific Northwest Access Developers, INETA Community Champion (2008 and 2011), and member of the North Texas PC User Group since 2008

Tips and Discussions

Access Web and Desktop Advice at vb123.com by Garry Robinson

Garry hosts one of the best and biggest collections of articles, tips and demos for Microsoft Access. He recently moved his site to an Office 365 SharePoint site — remapping and moving 600 pages, 150 pdf and 100% of pictures. So things aren't going to perfect for awhile. In addition to his collection, Garry has the EXCLUSIVE rights to distribute the content from Smart Access —"THE" Access magazine from 1996—2006.

<http://www.vb123.com>

Digital Copyright Template by Tech Pro Research (March 2014)

We are awash with digital programs and content to support always-on connectivity, the blending of consumer/business devices and increased local/remote storage capacities. The Tech Pro Research digital copyright policy will help organizations seeking to set guidelines for digital programs and content.

<http://www.techproresearch.com/downloads/digital-copyright-policy/>

Right Click Context Menus - Creating Custom Command Bars (Sept 2013)

- **Add-in Express** provides a free tool that allows you to view available commands and place them on custom command bars (aka popups, toolbars ...) <http://www.add-in-express.com/products/commandbars-controls-ids.php>

You will likely find Microsoft's help file to be an invaluable resource.

Office Fluent User Interface Control Identifiers

<http://www.microsoft.com/en-us/download/details.aspx?id=6627>

Access MVPs – Sharing code and resources

Several Access MVP are sharing resources and links through the website hosted by Arvin Meyer. You will find the tools offered during Crystal's presentation on her page. www.AccessMVP.com

Doug Steele, Access MVP and author of "Access Solutions" shares tips and links to other resources. <http://www.accessmvp.com/djsteele/AccessIndex.html>

Access Blog – by the Access Team --- one of the top blogs on MSDN!!!

Stay tuned to the community ... The team shares insights into their schedule, their favorite features, new features and how to use them. This is also an ideal avenue for the team to talk about issues that are of interest to the Access community. You'll learn about the people and some of the factors that are helping to shape the future of Access. Whether you're a seasoned developer or just learning about Access, you'll find invaluable information and techniques. From creating a database template to getting help when you need it, The Access Blog covers the gamut. <http://blogs.office.com/b/microsoft-access>

A couple of good sites to search for information and programming assistance

www.mvps.org and [Office Developer Center on MSDN](http://www.office-developer-center.com). And, we've been mentioning the news-

groups. You can search and drill through thousands of threads. Visit <http://search.microsoft.com/en-us/CommunityResults.aspx?q=office%20community> to search through Microsoft community and support options.

Utter Access Discussion Forum

Touted as the number one Access community forum! This may be a great place to get answers to your questions. And, you'll see several familiar names as some of our members are prolific posters. Hey, there are even photos from the MVP Summit, so check it out!

www.utteraccess.com/forums/index.php

A compilation of links to Access Resources

This site provides an impressive array of links to a variety of resources for Access developers and users. www.cbel.com/ms_access/

Access Developer Portal MSDN

Database samples and tutorials provided by Access MVP and other experts.

<http://msdn2.microsoft.com/en-us/office/aa905400.aspx>

Database Issue Checker

Access MVP, Allen Browne offer tips and utilities for casual users through expert developers. The Issue Checker can be used during development or to trouble shoot legacy files. Allen's site provides a host of other tips and resources, including a compilation of reserved words. <http://allenbrowne.com/> or <http://allenbrowne.com/ApplyIssueChecker.html>

NTPCUG Member Websites

Are you an NTPCUG member? Do you have a website that you would like to share with other members? Here is your opportunity to publicize your hobby, personal interests or a business.

NTPCUG now permits each member to post their name along with one website at www.NTPCUG.org and in our newsletter. Member links to be posted are subject to Board approval, and cannot contain inappropriate content or promote illegal activities – all the usual conditions that responsible persons expect. Send us your links now!

If you wish to post as shown above, just e-mail webmaster@ntpcug.org with your name, member number and the URL of your desired website. We'll post your name and URL on our website and in the newsletter for as long as your membership remains current.

Here are our current member sites:

| <i>Member & Website</i> | <i>Member & Website</i> |
|---|--|
| Howard Lee Harkness http://amazopia.com | Bob Hawkins www.fairviewmicrowave.com |
| Bill Parker www.Partec.net | Doug Gorrie www.JanetGorrieInteriors.com |
| Larry Weiss https://sites.google.com/site/powershellsig | Fred Williams www.JFHequipment.com |
| Peter Bendel www.codekitchen.com.au | Sharon Dorsey www.organizingelements.com |

Let's Get Psyched for Social Media !!

By Lisa Katzenstein

You already know that the North Texas PC Users Group has an Internet presence with its Web page and its Sharepoint site. But recently, our existing Facebook page has been updated, as well as our group in LinkedIn. Just login to your LinkedIn or Facebook accounts and type in "North Texas PC Users Group" in the search box. Or you can access them directly with the below links:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/NTPCUG>

LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/groups?mostRecent=&gid=4427406&trk=my_groups-tile-flipgrp

Facebook is the more "social" of these two social media sites, so we encourage our UG members to post items of club interest on this site. In contrast, LinkedIn is more suited to professionals wanting to network for jobs or professional advancement, and to keep others apprised of their professional accomplishments. So both can help you connect to other NTPCUG members and to access their professional profiles.

In addition, there is Meetup.com, a database of different clubs and groups having special interests. Recently, I established a Meetup page for NTPCUG, which you can find by going to www.meetup.com, limiting your search to a 10 mile radius around Dallas, and typing in "North Texas PC Users Group". Or you can access it directly by going to the following link:

<http://www.meetup.com/North-Texas-PC-Users-Group-Meetup-in-Dallas-Texas/>

Joining this Meetup group can have the additional advantage of reminding members of our monthly User Group meetings. The site asks for RSVPs for meeting attendance, but you are not required to respond.

All three social media sites, Facebook, LinkedIn and Meetup not only facilitate club member communication, but serve the greater purpose of attracting new members. Meetup may be the most successful method of the three in reaching new members since it advertises our User Group to members of other technology sites, and is easily searchable by potential members.

If you remember anything from this article, I urge you to please SIGN UP FOR MEETUP TODAY, if you haven't already! Your presence as a Meetup member will boost the statistics of membership on our Meetup page and thus encourage new members to sign up and attend. Thanks to your recent help, if a potential member were to search today, they would find at least 32 of our members on our Meetup page.

NTPCUG's Board of Directors has paid for a six-month subscription to Meetup, so let's all join to show a robust presence when a potential member finds our site.

Finally, many thanks to **Mark Phelps**, founder and co-administrator of the Facebook page, and **Stuart Yarus**, who founded the LinkedIn Group. Going forward, I will be working with all three social media sites (Mark as well for Facebook) and we look forward to your comments and questions. You can reach me at lbkatzenstein@gmail.com. Mark is very savvy about Facebook and can also be reached at mark.phelps@ntpcug.org.

Monthly NTPCUG Meeting Flyer – Can You Help Distribute?

Each month, we send members a flyer listing the upcoming second and third Saturday SIG meeting information. We work to fit it all on one page so it can be easily printed and posted in offices and public areas. It can also be sent by email to family members, friends, colleagues, etc.

With your help we hope to generate increased interest in User Group activities, thereby helping us grow. We rely on members, SIG leaders, Board members and volunteers to share this information with others. We also need you to consider new options beyond the obvious – bulletin boards, etc.

We ask you, our members, to think of places where you can post the monthly flyer and to e-mail it to anyone you know who may be interested.

We try mightily to get this out before the weekend preceding the second Saturday of each month so you have time to “do your thing”.

With your help we can grow our Group and reach others who can **“Share what you know, learn what you don’t.”**

Where have you sent the November flyer?

Volunteering

Every board member, officer, chairman, and SIG leader is a volunteer. No one in this organization receives any payment for their work. Without our volunteers, NTPCUG would not exist.

Please consider volunteering for one of these important jobs:

Information Desk — Charles Rem

crem@ntpcug.org

Assist with check-in process at 3rd Saturday. One or more hours, even periodically, will make a difference.

This is an ongoing need. YOU can help, and it’s not difficult. Training provided, so you really have no excuse not to assist - right?

Mentoring — Tom Sweet

tom.sweet@ntpcug.org

Communicate with new members to ensure they are aware of the benefits, SIG opportunities and help them in numerous ways to feel welcome and to know that we care about them.

Newsletter — Doug Gorrie, David Franke

doug.gorrie@ntpcug.org

davef81@gmail.com

We need someone to step forward to help request and collect articles from SIG Leaders for the monthly flyer and the newsletter. No experience required -- training provided.

Renew Your NTPCUG Membership For “FREE”?

The Board has established a new NTPCUG benefit that permits renewing of memberships without the usual membership fee.

Simply put, any member that writes three articles for our newsletter, subject to the following criteria, can renew without cost. In this manner, we are encouraging our membership to share their expertise with other members, as well as providing an opportunity for members to re-search issues and share the results with others.

The current requirements for the program are as follows:

1. You must be a current member.
2. Requires at least three articles/year, submitted during the member's current membership year.
3. Articles must be at least a couple pages long in the newsletter, excluding any pictures, diagrams, etc. NOTE that the length is determined after editing, if needed.
4. Longer articles may be broken up across two months, and consideration will be given to counting it as TWO articles. However, length by itself may not count as more than one – it's meaningful content we're after.
5. Articles must be submitted at least two weeks prior to publication to allow time to review/edit. However, if the content is clean and readily understood, and requires only minimal review, and we have time to go over it, we might take it with less notice.
6. No plagiarizing, except for "small" amounts where credit is given to the actual author or source.
7. Articles must be relative to the goals and topics of our User Group. If in doubt, check with the Editor before writing it up.
8. At time of membership expiration, it is the member's responsibility to contact the Editor to request that their membership be extended, and list the months in which their articles appeared. We will confirm the details and have the Membership chairman extend you another year.

Please give this new program some thought, and come up with some good material we can use. Share your knowledge, in line with our motto –

“Share what you know, learn what you don’t.”

NTPCUG NEWSLETTER AD RATES AND DESCRIPTION

Paid advertising is available within the North Texas PC News at reasonable rates. The online Newsletter is published monthly and is distributed in PDF format to approximately 200 registered members.

| SIZE | Price / One Issue | Price Each - Six Issues |
|------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|
| Full Page | \$120 | \$ 85 |
| Half Page (vertical) | \$ 75 | \$ 65 |
| Half Page (horizontal) | \$ 75 | \$ 65 |
| Quarter Page | \$ 50 | \$ 40 |
| Business Card | \$ 35 | \$ 25 |
| NTPCUG Members | Half Price | |



Policies & Mechanicals

- Commercial ads –
 - o repro form, final size, ready for printing
 - o JPEG or approved format
 - o 300 DPI minimum
- Text ads should follow most commonly used font styles
- No ads on front page
- Related only; suitable at discretion of NTPCUG
- Payment in advance
- Send requests for information, contacts, or orders to: Advertising@ntpcug.org

NTPCUG 2014 Elected Officials

*Bill Drissel
President*



*Jesse Hastcoat
President-Elect*



Directors



Tuc Goodwin



*Chuck Stark
Treasurer*



Spike (Harold) Smith



Stuart Yarus



Sharon Dorsey

Emeritus Members

John Pribyl (1924 – 1993)
Reagan Andrews (- 2006)
Connie Andrews (- 2008)
Phil Chamberlain
Jim Hoisington
Guy Andrews
Stuart Yarus
Timothy Carmichael
Mark Gruner
David McGehee
Tom Prickett
Kathryn Loafman
Fred Williams
Andy Oliver
Alex Lilly
Doug Gorrie
Claude McClure
Robert McNeil
Gil Brand
Bill Parker
Diane Bentley

Thank you!

from your 2014

Board of Directors and Officers

President: Bill Drissel
bill@drissel.us

President-elect: Jesse Hastcoat
jesse.hastcoat@ntpcug.org

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Sharon Dorsey
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Secretary: Kathy Lee Brown
KathyLeeBrown@live.com

Treasurer: Chuck Stark
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Program Director: Howard Lee Harkness
Programs@ntpcug.org

Calendar

November 2014

Nov 15 8:00 am—2:30 pm

December 2014

Dec 20 8:00 am—2:30 pm

January 2015

Jan 17 8:00 am—2:30 pm

***North Texas PC Users Group, Inc.
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