

# RED RIVER MONITOR



Volume 25 No. 04

NWLAPCUG, Inc. Newsletter

April 2011

## Review of the March 2011 Membership Meeting by Bob Pierce

We were very fortunate to have as our guest speaker at the March membership meeting Caddo Parish Deputy Sheriff Bobby Herring. Deputy Herring elected to talk to us about security, not only in our use of computers, but also in some of our daily activities that we tend to take for granted. Identity theft is running rampant in our area right now, and Deputy Herring is a member of a computer forensics team with the mission to help get this under control. His talk centered on what some of the actions are that we can take to protect our identity. First and foremost is to protect your Social Security number. Do not carry your Social Security card around with you unless you will really need it, likely maybe for a Medicare problem. No one should be asking for your Social Security number in an email. If they are, it is probably part of a phishing scheme, and you should not participate.

Several points were brought up regarding the use and misuse of credit cards. When you use your credit card, do not let it out of your sight. If a waiter wants to take it to the back of the restaurant, go with them to safeguard your identity. The best prevention is to not carry your credit cards around. It is much preferred to carry cash. Also, consider using an RF SCAN-PROOF wallet to carry your cards in. These are the same size as regular wallets, but are lined with special metallic sheets that prevent your cards from being scanned by devices used by crooks to steal your information. If you do mail order business with your credit cards, contact your credit card company and see if they can issue "pseudo" credit card numbers. This is much preferred to sending your real credit card numbers through the mail. One thing going on around this area now is thieves going around and looking in street-side mail boxes for letters or packages. Letters may contain checks, cash or money orders that thieves can alter and convert to their use. Take your outgoing mail to the post office

and shred your incoming mail in a cross-cut shredder. There are lot of insurance applications, credit card applications, etc., that have been partially filled in and can be used by thieves.

Deputy Herring also told us that home burglars are now looking for Social Security and credit cards instead of guns, jewelry, etc., so you should be mindful of where you keep your cards. They can get a tremendous amount of valuable goods in a very short period of time. If you don't report the loss of cards in a timely manner, you might be held liable for the full amount of the charges. If you report the loss promptly, the credit card company can only charge you a minimal amount. It is therefore very important that you keep up with your credit card charges. You should also get a credit report annually to insure that fraudulent credit cards have not been issued in your name. These reports are free from places like annualcreditreport.com. Since there are three credit reporting agencies, get one from TransUnion in January, Experian in April, and Equifax in July. They are all free and you can check the information on file with these agencies.

In the area of computer security, remember to keep your Operating System up-to-date along with all of your software. Most of the updates that are issued are to close security gaps. Use a good anti-virus program, a good firewall program, and a good malware program. Keep all of these up-to-date to protect your computer and your identity. Do not respond to phishing schemes. Make sure your passwords are secure and change them regularly. Download only from trusted sites. Do on-line business only with trusted sites. Be very careful on on-line social sites (like Facebook, Twitter, etc.) as you have no way to tell how your data is being used.

The fifty dollar door prize was won by Clyde Santifer. Next month the prize goes back down to ten dollars, and we start the cycle again.



Users Helping Users

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**Member of APCUG**



**Newsletter Articles Welcomed**

Please submit articles for newsletter, in RTF file format, by the first day of the month to  
 Phillip Sanders- phillip479@aol.com  
 And to Ben Fusco-benfusco@bellsouth.net

**Officers & Board of Directors**

President	Pat Joyner	798-2766
Vice Pres.	Dr. John Hardin	861-3408
Secretary	Jack Barnett	968-2372
Treasurer	Robert Saucier	861-2235
Bob Pierce		686-0203
Bob Franklin		933-1235
Lee sepulvado		687-2088

**Membership Dues**

Full: \$15.00 a year  
 Spouse: \$6.00 a year  
 Student: \$10.00 a year

Visit Our Web Site  
<http://www.nwlapcug.com>

**Photos taken at the March 2011  
 Membership Meeting  
 By Glenda Conradi**



**Detective Bobby Herring**



**Clyde Santifer, Robert Saucier, Lee Sepulvado**



**Our members Learning about safety**

## April 21st Membership Meeting

Have you ever noticed how expensive greeting cards are when you go to purchase them? Well come April 21<sup>st</sup> we're in for a real treat, when our very own **Carole White** comes back to our podium to help relieve some of that expense when she'll show us just how she produces those beautiful cards she develops through her personal computer.

Carole graduated from John Hopkins "too many years ago to tell" (says Carole) and has worked since then as a Radiological Technologist..

She is retired, but has been working part time for the Healthplex Family Doctors as a Registered X-Ray Tech. I.

Carole will be working with Print Shop 23 and will show her pictures as edited in Corel Paint Shop X3. She does all this while working with Window 7.

Says Carole...."my hobbies are fishing, computers and photography is my passion....my camera goes fishing with me and if the fish don't bite the camera is on.

So come, hear Carole explain just how easy it is to develop those cards and see what a really great job you can do with your very own knowledge and the PC. Remember, it's this Thursday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, 7:00 PM (with refreshments at 6 PM...before the Meeting)....Bronson Hall, LSU-S, room 310.

See you there...come on down

## Door Prize...at our Meetings

### WE HAVE A WINNER



Yep...told you...got to be present to win. And, that's what happened at our last Membership Meeting when the winning name was selected as

**Clyde Santifer** who walked away with \$50.00 bucks. The whole membership had to accompany him home with that much loot...I think they were really waiting for Clyde to split the proceeds.

Congrats Clyde

## Corel Graphics/Photo SIG, March, 2011 by Glenda Conradi



In March our program covered ways to edit and handle the photos you have taken. If, after you have viewed your photos on your computer's monitor you may see some things you feel you need to "fix" or just touch up a little before you share them with family and friends or post them to Face Book, or your Web page. We looked at some common problems and how to take care of them. Before you start keep in mind that when you save your edited photo you will need to give it a slightly different name than the original. You may want to add the date it was taken, and possibly a description of the photo, to the original file name. Always keep the original file! If your photo opens sideways because you turned the camera to take it use a photo editing program with a rotation tool to straighten it. If the photo is just a little crooked you will need to straighten it in degrees or your program may let you draw a line along the edge of something in the photo you want straight, and it will automatically straighten the picture. This may also crop it some, so you will lose a little of the picture.

If you want to keep a specific area of a photo, say one person's face, with the cropping tool you can remove unwanted areas.

A picture may look pretty good, except for the fact that is darker than it needs to be. Most editing programs have a gamma correction tool or the tone curve tool and some programs have a tool that increases, or decreases, the flash effect. If red eye is a problem a lot of programs have a red eye correction tool that will get rid of red eye with a couple of clicks on the eye.

Your photo editing program probably has a text tool that will let you put text on your photo. You can write a caption right on the photo or put the copyright symbol and your name somewhere on the photo so there will not be a question about who took the picture.

If you want to email your photos to family and friends you will probably need to reduce the file size, since most digital cameras produce very large files and would take a long time to send and download in an email. They would also be so large the recipient would have to scroll around their screen to see all of the picture. Some Internet providers will not let you send large files. Many of the photo editing programs provide a way to reduce the file size of the photos; be sure and save it with a new name.

We hope you will be able to make the next Corel Graphics/Photo SIG on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM. at Podnuh's Bar-B-Q, located at 1146 Shreveport-Barksdale Hwy. The room in the back is reserved starting at 6:00 p.m. for those of us who would like to eat and want to do it before the meeting starts. Of course it is fine to eat during the meeting, too. Everyone welcome, bring a friend. Please let me know if you have questions, or suggestions, that can be used in our SIG meetings for part of the program. If there is something you would like to see covered at one of our meetings you can email me at [glenda@conradi.com](mailto:glenda@conradi.com).



***HAPPY  
EASTER***



## Windows SIG March 2011

by Bernie Conradi



There was very good attendance at this meeting, this month, as 23 people attended the meeting.

With this many attending the meeting we had a lot of interaction among the attendees and this is how we learn and grow in our knowledge of how to use our computer operating

systems.

This month in addition to the usual reminder to update your anti-virus programs, we had a number of other program updates to talk about. The first being, that Service Pack 1 to Windows 7 has been released and should be obtained from Windows Update. Also, there have been some other Windows updates that you need to check to see if your Windows operating system is up to date.

Also, Internet Explorer 9 has been released and must be downloaded from the Microsoft web site.

It is not available through Windows Update as yet. IE9 is not made for Windows XP. There is also a new version of Firefox. It is Version 4 which is available by checking for updates in Firefox 3. You can get help with selecting your preferences if you are considering buying a new desktop PC or Laptop. <http://www.microsoft.com/windows/pc-scout/>. Joe Blasé gave us an experience he had just recently, where he installed a demo program he received from Best Buy and this program caused considerable problems

with his computer. He spent two hours getting his computer back to the way it was before he tried installing the demo. This month we covered three topics. First, was a review from the Internet about Internet Explorer 9, listing some of the new features and functions that are in the new version of this browser. Then we reviewed an article about how long a thumb drive will last. It was concluded that the normal life span was 10,000 to 100,000 flashes before they wear out. Our power point presentation this month was titled, "Windows 7 Libraries" by Fred Langa. The web site for this information is <http://windowssecrets.com/2011/03/10/01-Make-the-most-of-Windows-7s-Libraries/#story1>. He gave us a very good explanation of the Windows 7 Libraries, including how they work and how to start a new folder in your library. This has been the best explanation I have seen about this function in Windows 7. In closing we gave a number of tips to use and try to help you the user with good files management.

Please join us at 7:00 PM on March 24, 2011, at Podnuh's Bar-B-Q on Shreveport-Barksdale Highway. Everyone is invited to attend. I am looking forward to suggestions for upcoming programs, as I want to present subjects of interest for all in the group. Let me hear from you. You can email me at [bernie@conradi.com](mailto:bernie@conradi.com).

Bernie Conradi, Windows SIG Leader

# Have a HAPPY EASTER EGG HUNT



## NWLAPCUG's **S**pecial **I**nterest **G**roup Leaders







Our SIG leaders are in the heart of NWLAPCUG's monthly activities. See the chart on the last page of this newsletter for the monthly schedule of their meetings. Every member is welcome to attend any or all of their meetings and for as many times as they wish. All of this with *no extra fees* involved.

SIG leaders are dedicated to sharing their expertise in their particular programs. Their meetings include presentations, demonstrations and

cover questions and answers. In some cases, handouts may be furnished.

Following the SIG meeting, a number of the SIG leaders will submit an article, reporting on the activities of their meeting, for publication in the next month's newsletter.

Members are encouraged to take a tour of these SIGs and determine which one or more appeals to their liking.

 <p><b>J.C. Barnett</b> Word SIG</p>	 <p><b>Pat Joyner</b> Saturday SIG</p>	 <p><b>Bernie Conradi</b> Windows SIG</p>	 <p><b>Glenda Conradi</b> Corel Graphics/Photo SIG</p>
 <p><b>Bill &amp; Cisly Morgan</b> Digital Photography SIG</p>	 <p><b>Bob Pierce</b> Beginner's SIG</p>		

### Members Furnishing Newsletter Articles

Computer related newsletter articles are welcomed from our members who are other than SIG leaders. We appreciate as few as one article a year. Or as many (not to exceed one per month) as you would like to generate. The range of topics is virtually

unlimited. To name a few, your experience/opinion with certain software programs, the entertainment and educational value in computer use, How To's, Tips, etc. etc. Your participation may surface one of your great hidden talents.

 <p><b>Bob Franklin</b></p>	 <p><b>Carolyn Franklin</b></p>	 <p><b>Phil Sanders</b></p>	 <p><b>Bob Pierce</b></p>	 <p><b>Ben Fusco</b></p>
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## MONTHLY CLUB ACTIVITIES

**PLEASE NOTE THAT SIG TIMES, DATES AND LOCATIONS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. FOR THE LATEST INFORMATION CONTACT , VIA E-MAIL, THE RESPECTIVE SIG LEADER AS LISTED BELOW.**

Corel Graphics/Photo SIG	First Tuesday Podnuh's Bar-B-Q	7:00 P.M.	Glenda Conradi	glenda@conradi.com
Digital Photography SIG	First Thursday Room 310, Bronson Hall	7:00 P.M.	Bill and Cisly Morgan	cisly@shreve.net
MS Word SIG	Second Thursday 2:00 P.M. Broadmoor Library		J C Barnett	jc Barnett875@suddenlink.net
Board of Directors Meeting	6:30 PM Before the Membership Meeting		Pat Joyner	patbj@bellsouth.net
General Meeting	Third Thursday Bronson Hall, Room 310	7:00 P.M.	Pat Joyner	patbj@bellsouth.net
Windows SIG	Fourth Thursday Podnuh's Bar-B-Q	7:00 P.M.	Bernie Conradi	bernie@conradi.com
Saturday SIG	Fourth Saturday Broadmoor Library	2:00 P.M.	Pat Joyner	patbj@bellsouth.net
Getting Started SIG	Third Monday Hamilton/South Caddo Library	9:30 A.M.	Bob Pierce	bobpierce1942@bellsouth.net

IF YOU NEED INFORMATION ABOUT THE SIG'S SUBJECT, MEETING PLACE OR TIME, PLEASE CONTACT THE PERSONS LISTED ABOVE

### Meeting Places

Podnuh's Bar-B-Q - 1146 Shreveport-Barksdale Hwy (Corel Graphics/Photo SIG; Windows SIG)  
 Room 310, Bronson Hall LSUS-Northside of campus (General Meeting, Digital Photography SIG)  
 Broadmoor Library- 1212 Captain Shreve Drive - (MS Word SIG; Saturday SIG)  
 Getting Started SIG Hamilton/South Caddo Library, 2111 Bert Kouns

## Meet Our NWLAPCUG Officers



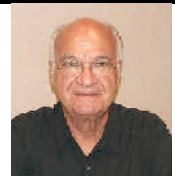
Pat Joyner  
Director



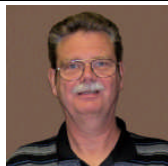
Dr. John Hardin  
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Jack Barnett  
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Robert Saucier  
Treasurer & Director



Bob Franklin  
Director



Bob Pierce  
Director



Lee Sepulvado  
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