User Friendly

July 2015



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Member of



An International Association of Technology & Computer User Groups

JULY GENERAL MEETING

DEFENDING THE NETWORK BY RATE LIMITING Cyber Security: Fast Response Techniques for Attacks

Speaker: **David Andrews**, Ph.D. In computer networks, groups of two or more systems linked together, **rate limiting** is used to control the rate of traffic sent or received by a **Content Delivery Network**. A CDN is a system of distributed servers (networks) that deliver web pages and other web content to a user



based on the geographic locations of the user, the origin of the webpage and a content delivery server (a computer or device on a network that manages network resources.)

The goal of an attacker is to take a website offline in a Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS) to overwhelm systems, often websites, by sending more requests than the system can handle.

Fast response to attack traffic on the Internet is critical to protecting customer websites on CDNs. This comprehensive talk will discuss the design and challenges of rate limiting of server demands in the wild.

David Andrews received his PhD, focusing on computer security, from a small university in Australia in 2006. Since then he has worked for startups in the L. A. area building security products in the virtualization and CDN fields. He now heads the Security Core (Sec.C.) team at Verizon Digital Media Services. Its responsibilities include protecting infrastructure that delivers 6% of all Internet traffic, as well as customers' websites.

Tuesday, July 14, 2015, 7 - 9 PM

Fellowship Hall, 8065 Emerson Ave. Westchester 90045

An informal Computer Forum meets from 6:00 to 6:50 P.M. to answer individual questions. All are welcome.

After the meeting some members may meet at Dinah's Family Restaurant at Sepulveda and Centinela.

More info at http://mww.lacspc.org or at 310-398-0366

JUNE 9, 2015 GENERAL MEETING REPORT

By Leah Clark, LACS Editor

Stephanie Nordlinger spoke on the proposal to change the name of LACS to include technologies other than just computers. The attempt to use Yahoo Groups polls has been confusing to some members. One must be on the LACSPC mail list and have a Yahoo ID. A member not on the list may miss important notices like the cancellation of a meeting, etc.. This issue will be discussed at the board meeting, and members's suggestions are welcome. Maurice Stephenson reminded us about the SW Computer Conference in Pomona.

Earthquake Threat in Southern California

Speaker: Margaret Vinci

Maurice then introduced our speaker, Margaret Vinci, the manager of the Office of Earthquake Programs at Caltech. She spoke on what earthquakes are, why we have them, and how to prepare for them.

The Richter scale is a mathematical equation. The **magnitude** is the energy released times the distance travelled. Data is obtained from ground sensors. Earthquake **intensity** is different. It is variable over the area affected, depending on depth, distance, etc..

An earthquake is the sudden movement of rocks (tectonic plates) caused by stress. A plate boundary is where plates come together. It is not inside the earth; the heat rises to the surface. This heat moves the plates, and stress is built up. When enough stress is built up, the rocks slip suddenly. The directionality of the energy, the type of soil and the depth influence how and where shaking will be felt. There are vertical and horizontal movements. The "P" or primary waves are the first to arrive at a seismic station. The "S" or surface waves are what we feel and what do the damage. The short time between the "S" and "P" waves can provide an opportunity for an early warning system. "P" waves travel faster, and can trip sensors to send out alert signals. The strength of the "S" waves is reduced in deeper earthquakes. Energy goes quickly thru bed rock. There is not as much shaking in soft soil. Sound

comes from hearing the ground moving. Some animals can hear the "P" waves before the "S" waves are felt, and they may feel small foreshocks that we don't feel. The **hypocenter** is where the earthquake starts deep in the ground. The **epicenter** is where the waves propagate to the surface. This is not an exact point.

There is no pattern to earthquakes; no "earthquake weather." Small quakes do not release stress, only those over 6.0 do. Forecasting is taking what we know from the past to see what might happen in the future to determine probability. The exact time and place of an earthquake cannot be predicted. Technology Is used to see what could happen, not what will happen.

California is a multi-hazard state. There will be secondary effects after an earthquake. Other hazards include fires, winds, storms, floods, liquefaction, landslides, tsunamis, and broken wires. We must be prepared and be vigilant.

Margaret presented much information on what to do during and after an earthquake. Earthquakes do not kill anyone - it is falling objects that injure and kill. When you feel a quake, drop to the ground, go under a table, and hold on to the table's legs. Or put a pillow over your head to protect your head and neck. **DROP, COVER, HOLD**. Do not get in a doorway! Doors can slam left and right and injure you. If there is nothing to get under, try to get next to a interior wall. **DO NOT RUN!** Practice dropping to the ground so your body knows what to do.

After a quake, evacuate if necessary, help the injured, be prepared for aftershocks, shut off water to the house (to keep water in your pipes from getting contaminated), and turn off gas if you smell gas. We must be able to take care of ourselves and our families. We have to know how to get home if our regular route is closed. We should have needed supplies in a backpack that can be easily grabbed.

Margaret gave us a long list of what to do to prepare for an earthquake and supplies needed. Water is most important - one gallon per person per day for seven to ten days. Be sure your house is retrofitted and bolted to the foundation. Secure the refrigerator and heavy furniture. Be sure to have means for communication, and an evacuation and meeting plan. Ham radio is the

IMPORTANT NOTICES

SOCIAL MEDIA SIG

To learn more about Twitter, Facebook, and other social networks, bring your mobile device and join us on June 29, July 20 and August 17. We will meet at the Santa Monica College Bundy Campus. (See page 9.)

LACS IS ON TWITTER

By Stanley Johnson, LACS

Follow us at:

LA Computer Society (@LA CompSoc) | Twitter

Twitter is a social networking service that allows you to communicate by messages called "tweets". If you don't already use Twitter here are a few reasons why you should:



- Choice: You have the ability to "follow" or receive message updates from individuals/organizations that spark your interest. This can include your friends, political and sports figures, and celebrities. You can learn more about topics that interest you by using hashtags (like #Nascar). You also have the opportunity to network with leading voices in your industry.
- Limit of 140 characters: You have to get to the point when sending out a tweet. A new feature allows you to send direct messages without this limit.
- Breaking news source: This is a great way to stay informed. You can receive local and global news, weather, and traffic.

LACS IS ON FACEBOOK By Leah Clark, LACS

Facebook is a social networking site that allows registered users



to create profiles, upload photos and video, send messages, and to find and keep in touch with friends. They must use their true identities. There is no limit to the length of messages.

To see the LACS Facebook page, simply log onto your Facebook account. In the search box on top, start to type in "Los Angeles Computer Society." It will probably come up after just the first few letters.

YOUTUBE SPACE L.A. HAPPY HOUR

July 15,2015 - 6 PM to 8PM 12422 W Bluff Creek Dr Los Angeles, 90094

On May 28, 2015 several LACS members attended the Happy Hour Event at YouTube Space. They had great food provided by Whole Foods Market. It is located at the old Howard Hughes facility in Playa Vista.

We are invited to attend. It's free, but you must register ahead at:

https:/www.youtube.com/yt/space/events-la.html

2015 APCUG International Computer & Digital Technology Conference

September 25-27, 2015 Palace Station Hotel & Casino Las Vegas, Nevada

Whether you are a computer or mobile device user, you will find sessions that will be beneficial to you. It doesn't matter whether you are using a Windows-based, a Linux, and/or a Mac computer or an Android or Apple mobile device. Many programs and applications have cross-platform functionality: there will be something that piques your interest. LACS will have an opportunity to win a KINDLE for the group.

For more information about the conference, costs and registration go to:

http:--apcug2.org-node-1867

Conference reservations will be handled through Eventbrite at:

www.apcugvegas2015.eventbrite.com

Hotel reservations can be made at:

http:--tinyurl.com-2015APCUG-Hotel



(June 9 General Meeting Report)

(Continued from page 2)

best! Have emergency kits at home, at work, and in the car. Have fire extinguishers at home and on the front porch. Oher items are medications, food, toiletries, eye glasses, head lamp, flashlight, mask, gloves, sturdy shoes, hard hat, copies of important documents, phone numbers, rope and duct tape, trash bags (can be used for many things), cash, extra set of keys, and more.

I am not able to list everything here. Listen to the podcast of this presentation for much more information, and a complete list of supplies needed at

http://www.lacspc.org/category/audio-files/.

Other resources

The Great California Shakeout: http://www.shakeout.org/california

California Geological Survey:

http://www.consrv.ca.gov/cgs/earthquakes/Pages/Index.aspx

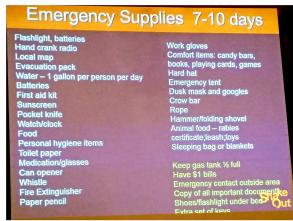
FEMA: http://www.fema.gov

California Earthquake Authority:

http://www.earthquakeauthority.com

My Hazards:

http://www. Myhazards.calema.ca.gov •





LACS's Future

By Stephanie Nordlinger, LACS

ur discussion about whether to change LACS's name continues. Many long-time members are satisfied with our current name and activities. Some feel that we could maintain our membership by doing some things better. Our publicity to non-members using press releases and monthly flyers can be improved.

Other members feel that long term demographic trends are against us. Most Americans under 50 have learned to use personal computers and other computerized devices in school or college. People of all ages get a lot of technical help from their employers. As our members grow older and as time passes, the potential market for our PC-related services will decline.

Having a good name or motto is not the whole story. We need a comprehensive plan to:

- (1) Meet the needs of current members
- (2) Be interesting to new younger members

A committee will be organized to make recommendations for the scope of our activities, publicity and membership development. We would need volunteers who are willing to work on such a committee. If you are interested, contact our President, Maurice Stephenson soon.

The free **Google Forms** app will let us survey members without them having to deal with Yahoo or get a Yahoo I.D. The committee might design polls to ask which group name would be preferred: association, group, society, user group, enthusiasts, etc. Numerous name suggestions have been made and could be compared. Unlike a YahooGroups poll, a member cannot change his or her vote in a Google Forms survey. The Google Forms app puts the results in a spreadsheet that can be shared. The committee can tabulate the preliminary results, and then submit the highest ranking votes to the members for a final vote.

If the board decides to recommend that LACS change its name and broaden its purpose, those proposals to amend our Articles and By-laws would be voted on by all the members.

LACS's 24th birthday is July 17, 2015. If we make the right decisions soon and have enough volunteers to implement them, some version of LACS should survive and prosper. ◆

IN MEMORIAM

Todd Martin

February 11, 1927 to June 2, 2015 By **Leah Clark**, LACS

Todd was president of LACS when I first joined in 1998. He had been active in the UCLA PC User's Group, our predecessor. Todd was a columnist and proof-reader for User Friendly, Hospitality Chair, and Product Review Chair. He had held several board positions. I remember his many emails and articles updating us about the latest viruses, and other helpful hints. I just discovered that I had kept some of his writings and referrals in a folder in my email. One was "Understanding Your Registry" in 2005: another, "File Associations" in 2004.

Several years ago he was no longer able to attend meetings. In 2011 the board voted to give Todd an honorary membership.

Here are memories of Todd from our members:

Ros Cirlin: Years ago, Todd Martin told me he had an acting career and I looked it up then. Today, I accessed the Internet Movie Database (IMDb) and found: "He is an actor, known for Bad Company (1972), Magnet of Doom (1963) and Jaguar (1963)." I was able to view one of the films where his image was on and then off. Maybe he said a few words, but it went by fast.

Mark Presky: Many years ago, I was watching a rerun of Ironside, the TV police series, starring Raymond Burr. In a scene, was a much younger Todd Martin. I spoke to Todd about it and learned that he was an actor in his younger days. He had a careful speaking manner in which words were carefully chosen. Todd was really helpful and friendly when I first joined. I won't forget him.

Bobbi Gold: I remember Todd as such a nice guy. In fact, on my desk is a list of websites of owner's manuals that he compiled in 2008.

Karl Springer: One memory of Todd I have is his always speaking in a well-timed way without any pauses for "a"s or "you know"s. I heard that he had done voice overs professionally.

Stephanie Nordlinger: Todd was a professional actor - mostly character and bit parts. He was on the Academy committee that rated foreign films for the Academy awards for some years.◆

INTERESTING INTERNET FINDS

By Steve Costello

Boca Raton Computer Society Editor(at)brcs.org

http://ctublog.sefcug.com/

The following are some items I found interesting during the month of March 2015.

Ninite is a Safe Place to Get Windows Software

http://www.ghacks.net/2015/03/30/ninite-is-a-safe-place-to-get-windows-software/

For those not familiar with Ninite, check out this post for more information.

How to Stop Netflix from Auto-playing the Next Episode

http://www.howtogeek.com/210324/how-to-stop-netflix-from-autoplaying-the-next-episode/

Do you get annoyed by Netflix auto playing the next episode of a series? This post from HowToGeek, tells you how to turn the feature off, and turn it back on later if you want it.

How I Tackled My Chrome Extensions clutter Without Losing My Mind

http://www.guidingtech.com/39501/manage-chrome-extensions/

If you use Google Chrome a lot, you probably have a lot of extensions. You also probably have a lot of them you don't need anymore, or that you don't need to have the buttons showing for all the time. This post from Guiding Tech shows you how to get things under control.

Many Online Articles Written by Bots not Humans

http://www.theinternetpatrol.com/many-online-articles-written-by-bots-not-humans/
After reading this post you will double-think taking something posted online is coming from a human mind. Most times I can spot articles written by bots, but even if I can't, I don't just accept what is written without further research.

How To Disable The New Auto-play Feature On YouTube

http://www.addictivetips.com/web/how-to-disable-the-new-autoplay-feature-on-youtube/
This is another auto-play feature that annoys me. I can figure out what I want to see next on

DAYTIME SIG REPORT

By Robert Mercer, LACS

he session on May 19 started with Jim lacktriangle McKnight discussing the new versions (8 and 10) of Windows. (As one who is finally comfortable with Windows 7, I don't want to hear about new versions.) But, Jim introduced 'Classic Shell' which can make Windows 10 look like Windows 7 or even XP. Microsoft removed a lot of the good stuff to provide the basic functionality of Win-7 for underpowered small machines. One can still get a Win-7 machine at Costco or the DVD at Fry's. Win-7 will still be around for years to come. You may automatically get upgraded from Win-7 if you don't pay attention. You should go to Windows Update on the Control Panel to check for updates where you will be asked for permission to upgrade.

The next topic was the use of **Sandboxie** for safely browsing the Internet. See Jim's website at http://www.jimopi.net/indexsupport.html

and scroll to **Malware Topics**. You want to save any files needed, then empty the sandbox every time you use it. Be sure to read the section near the end for clicking a link in your email. Your browser must be open in Sandboxie before you click on that email link.

Something that I did brought me a nagging popup for **PCSpeedUp**. It claims that I have 284 problems with the Registry, and 24 other serious problems. Jim suggested that I probably failed to uncheck something in a download. He invoked Web of Trust (WOT) on his computer, and showed a red circle – meaning beware! – for PCSpeedUp.com. (I had forgotten about WOT when I got a new laptop. It must be installed separately for each browser. Find it at www.mywot.com. Jim warned that I may have trouble deleting the offending program but SuperAntiSpyware will remove the program. Search for 'Remove Junkware' on his website. Java suggests (but Jim doesn't!) getting the 'Ask' toolbar; if you accept, and then try to get rid of it, it will remain. You should generally do a 'custom' install, as the 'express' version is a source of unwanted programs.

I had the same question about **RegCurePro**. Try Google; it's legal but a scam, as they want money to "fix" your system.

Jim suggested **Ninite** at www.ninite.com as a secure source for downloads. With just one screen you can select and download or update many programs at once. Just in the security block, one can select Microsoft Security Essentials, MalwareBytes, and SuperAntiSpyware. When completed, you are presented with a report of errors encountered (none in my attempt), and the status ('OK' or 'Up to Date') of each download.

Jim praised **Microsoft Security Essentials** but added that none of the programs of the sort are perfect, and do not replace the use of Sandboxie for real protection from viruses. (MSE comes with Windows 8 but is called Windows Defender.) When a virus strikes, it may first disable the anti-virus programs, leaving your machine crippled.

Jim suggests **Foxit Reader** as a better alternate to Adobe Reader. Try it at www.foxitsoftware.com.

Adblock Plus will (for most browsers) allow you to surf the web without annoying ads. But unobtrusive ads are not blocked to support websites. How do they do that? Of course, it's free, and earns the green WOT designation. Search for 'AdBlock Plus' with Google or find it on Jim's website. It's on page 4 of his Firefox tips. Jim recommends Firefox as the best browser, and provides a long section on its installation.

Most computers that Jim works on are run as Administrator, requiring no password. Better (for security) to have an administrator plus separate users. See Jim's section on a Stress-Free PC.

Bring your friends (who don't have to be members), as well as interesting information, problems, and questions to the next Daytime SIG meeting at Felicia Mahood Senior Center for help from our guru and the education of the rest of us. Usually it is on the fourth Tuesday of each month, but Jim's schedule varies, so

please
check the
User Friendly calendar
and your
email for
details. •



2015 Southwest Technology and Computer Conference

By Leah Clark, LACS

Pour LACS members attended the Conference at Cal Poly, Pomona. The setting was beautiful, the food delicious, the weather perfect, and much learning took place. I enjoyed talking with members I hadn't seen since last year. Participants came from California, Arizona, Utah, and even Ohio. 18 workshops were available, but one could only attend five. There were also five general assembly presentations that everyone could attend.

The attendees received a "goody" bag with gifts from TechSmith, The UPS Store, AVG Antivirus, the Boise Idaho Convention and Visitors Bureau, the Hollywood Crisis Center, ViewSonic and AARP. We also received certificates from Applian Technologies, WinPatrol, iolo Technologies' System Mechanic, O'Reilly Books, MacBooster, IObit, Sticky Password, Fixico and Webucator for various software downloads, books and products. We are grateful for their support.

On Friday morning we could tour Cal Poly's new **Innovation Brew Works**. It's a learn-by-doing

brewery laboratory for students. They study the chemistry, microbiology, production, marketing, and agricul-



ture related to brewing. They produce more than a dozen beers, and several wines. I had lunch at their café.



The conference opened on Friday with a talk by **Abby Stokes**, author of *Is This Thing On*. Her topic was **What the Heck Is Facebook? Twitter? Instagram?** She said, "On the Internet you can be anything you want. It's strange so many people choose to be stupid."

On **Facebook** you can share whatever you want with "friends", organizations or anyone you choose. You have to be who you say you are, and your privacy settings are in your hands. Abby recommended the "Front Door Test", that is, don't post anything you wouldn't pin on your front door, like when you are away from home.

On **Twitter** you can use any name or alias. You can have followers or you can follow. You can choose who or what to follow. You are limited to 140 characters per "Tweet." When a user name is preceded by the @ sign, you can click on the name to visit that person's profile. The hashtag symbol (#) is used before keywords so they show up easily in a Twitter search.

Instagram is where people can share photos and videos, usually on smartphones. Location services may be turned off, making it safer for kids.

After a break, **Erin Burkett** from the U.S. Geological Survey spoke on *Understanding Earthquakes: Science, Technology, and Impacts*. She is a colleague of Margaret Vinci, who spoke to us in June. Since she covered much of the same material, I won't go into detail here. She recommended the Science Application for Risk Reduction (SAFRR) website at http://www.usgs.gov/natural_hazards/safrr/. Also see the Shake Alert Fact Sheet at http://www.pubs.usgs.gov/fs/2014/3083/pdf/fs2014-3083.pdf for more information on early warning systems. Earthquakes are a part of nature - we need to be prepared for them.

After dinner, **Judith Delgado**, the Executive Director of the Discovery Eye Foundation discussed *Macular Degeneration*. Often the first signs of age-related macular degeneration (AMD) are straight lines appearing wavy and blurred or darkened center vision. She passed out cards with the Amsler Grid for us to check ourselves. The Dry form of AMD, the most common type, results when deposits of drusen (tiny yellow or white deposits of a protein) in a layer of the retina, causing atrophy and scarring. The Wet form results from the growth of blood vessels in the eye, which leak and bleed. Vision loss can be rapid, but there are success-

Vision loss can be rapid, but there are successful treatments. Go to http://www.amd.org for more information.

WELCOME ALL

Gene Jacobs

Data Base Manager, LACS

New Members (2)

Bruce Jacobs Kathy Jacobs



Renewals (10)

Janet Chesne *

Hedy Downing

Joe Falcon *

William Gaber *

Wade Huie

Irene Hymanson

Heshmat Laaly *

Lee Polak

Ida Riordan **

Ronald Wisansky

- * Contributor
- ** Supporter

NOTICE

The columns, reviews and other expressions of opinion in *User Friendly* are the opinions of the writers and not necessarily those of the Los Angeles Computer Society. LACS became a California non-profit corporation on July 17, 1991. It's predecessor was the UCLA PC Users Group.

The Editor of *User Friendly* will accept contributions of any suitable length from members.

Articles should be sent to Editor@lacspc.org as **plain text** in the body of an email message or as a Word document. The deadline for submitting articles is the **18th of the month.**

USER FRIENDLY ADVERTISING RATES

Business Card, Member \$10
Business card \$15
Half Page \$35
Third Page \$25
Full Page \$50
Two page spread \$100

For further information on our advertising policy, please email: editor(at)lacspc.org

FIX YOUR PC FOR FREE?

Jim McKnight has an open offer to all LACS members to diagnose, repair, disinfect, or upgrade members' PC's for free.



There are certain limitations to Jim's offer, so see the details by clicking the "Fix my PC for Free?" link at www.jimopi.net.

Non-members can wisely invest in a oneyear LACS membership (\$40.00), and Jim will fix your PC problem, too.

GENERAL MEETING PRESENTATIONS

July 14 - Cyber-security: Fast Response

Techniques for Attacks

August 11- Windows 10 and Internet

Programs

September - Social Media

October - Net Neutrality

November - Common Core Standards

This schedule is subject to change. Check your email for updates.

GENERAL MEETING SNACK SCHEDULE

By Sylvia Q. Davis

July H through K
August L through P
Septeber Q through S
October T through Z
November A through C
December Holiday Party

Please bring finger-food treats such as fresh fruit, veggies, nuts, cookies, brownies, cold drinks and the like. See email for more suggestions. Remember to pick up your remainders and serving pieces at the end of the meeting.

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JULY 2015

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|--------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------|-------------------------------|
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 5 | Board Meeting 7:00 PM | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 12 | Basics & Beyond SIG 7:00 PM | 14 General Meeting 7:00 PM | 15 YouTube Happy Hour | 16 | 17 LACS's 24th Birthday |
| 19 | Social Media SIG 7:00 PM | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 26 | 27 Digital Photo SIG 7:00 PM | Daytime SIG 1:00 PM | 29 | 30 | 31 |

This Calendar may change.

Check your email or with the SIG leader before attending a meeting.

The SIGs meet at the Santa Monica College Bundy Campus unless otherwise noted. We are scheduled to be in Room 235 through December 28, 2015.

The Board may meet at Maurice's home or at the college. The Board meeting has been changed to the first Monday. Members in good standing are welcome to attend.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS (SIGs)

SIG meetings are lead by and for LACS members. Visitors are welcome to attend. To inquire about a SIG, check your email or call the contact person in advance.

| Basics & Beyond SIG | Kim Stocksdale | 310-720-0603 | 2nd Mon. 7 PM SMC, Bundy Campus |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|--------------|-------------------------------------|
| Daytime Sig | Jim McKnight | 310-823-7829 | 4th Tues. 1 PM, Felicia Mahood Ctr. |
| Digital Photo SIG | Nancy Cattell | 310-452-2130 | |
| " | Elliot Silverstein | 310-670-1544 | 4th Mon. 7 PM, SMC, Bundy Campus |
| Social Media SIG | Stanley Johnson | 909-782-0103 | 3rd Mon. 7 PM, SMC, Bundy Campus |

ADDRESSES

Dinah's Family Restaurant, 6521 Sepulveda Blvd., LA 90045 (on Sepulveda, just S. of Centinela) Felicia Mahood Senior Center, 11338 Santa Monica Blvd., West LA 90025 (at Corinth)

Fellowship Hall, 8065 Emerson Ave., Westchester 90045

Santa Monica College Bundy Campus, 3171 S. Bundy Drive, LA 90066 (½ block south of Airport Avenue) Our room number may change each semester. Look for it on a sign opposite the elevator on the first floor. We have room 235 through December 28, 2015.

MEMBERS HELPING MEMBERS

LACS members volunteer to help other members solve hardware and software problems by telephone during the hours listed below. Select the topic from the list and then call a person whose number is listed next to it. Or you may use a Helper's email address, found in your LACS Roster. We hope that you find this free service useful. If you are experienced in a particular program or topic, please volunteer to be a consultant. To volunteer for this list or to make corrections, please email editor@lacspc.org or call Leah Clark at 310-677-2792. More Quick Consultants are always needed. You may decline or postpone a call if it comes at an inconvenient time.

| America Online - 5 | Linux - 11 | Picasa - 14 |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Android Smartphones - 5 | Lotus Word Pro, Approach - 12 | Quicken - 3, 5, 9 |
| Apple Devices - 15 | Mozilla Firefox, Thunderbird - 12 | QuickBooks - 9 |
| Anti Malware - 12 | MS Excel - 3, 15 | Thunderbird - 12 |
| Digital Imaging, Editing - 8, 14 | MS Word - 3, 4, 10 | Visual Basic - 13 |
| Digital Photography - 8, 14 | MS Outlook - 15, 5 | Websites - 13 |
| Dragon Naturally Speaking - 4 | MS Outlook Express - 15 | Win XP-Vista - 12, 16 |
| Genealogy - 5, 7 | MS PowerPoint - 15 | Windows 7 - 5, 12 |
| Hardware - 12 | MS Publisher - 2, 7, 9 | WordPerfect - 5 |
| iPhone, iPad, iPod - 15 | Open Office - 16 | Yahoo - 9 |
| LA FreeNet - 6 | _ | |

| No. | Name | Preferred Phone for Calls | From | То |
|-----|-----------------------|---------------------------|----------|----------|
| 2 | Mercer, Bob | 310-837-5648 | 9:00 AM | 10:00 PM |
| 3 | Wilder, Joan | 310-472-8445 | 9:00 AM | 9:00 PM |
| 4 | Hershman, Irv | 310-397-9453 | 11:00 AM | 11:00 PM |
| 5 | Nordlinger, Stephanie | 323-299-3244 | 5:00 PM | 10:00 PM |
| 6 | Springer, Karl | 424-646-3410 | 10:00 AM | 10:00 PM |
| 7 | Clark, Leah | 310-677-2792 | 9:00 AM | 5:00 PM |
| 8 | Silverstein, Elliott | 310-670-1544 | 10:00 AM | 10:00 PM |
| 9 | Kamerman, Cora | 424-442-9592 | Noon | 8:00 PM |
| 10 | Beckman, Loling | 310-471-7893 | 10:00 AM | 6:00 PM |
| 11 | Hughes, Bill | 424-259-1818 | Any | Any |
| 12 | McKnight, Jim | 310-823-7829 | MA 00:8 | 7:00 PM |
| 13 | Ialongo, Gilbert | 310-641-7906 | 9:00 AM | 5:00 PM |
| 14 | Schneir, Jerry | 310-451-4140 | 9:00 AM | 10:00 PM |
| 15 | Van Berkom, Paula | 310-398-6734 | 9:00 AM | 5:00 PM |
| 16 | Johnson, Carol | 310-372-8535 | 10:00 AM | 9:00 PM |

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| | , DIRECTORS IIII | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|------|--------------|
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| Past President | Stephanie Nordlinger | 2015 | 323-299-3244 |
| Vice President | Vacant | | |
| Secretary | Lee Freehling | 2015 | 310-837-4022 |
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| Director | Leah Clark | 2016 | 310-677-2792 |
| Director | Lance Hegamin | 2015 | 310-202-8926 |
| Director | Heshmat Laaly | 2015 | 310-838-7140 |
| Director | Jim Louie | 2015 | 310-473-4247 |
| Director | Jim McKnight | 2016 | 310-823-7829 |
| Director | Paula Van Berkom | 2015 | 310-389-6734 |
| Director | Stanley Johnson | 2016 | 909-782-0103 |
| APCUG Rep. | Cora Kamerman | | 424-442-9592 |
| Car Pools | Lance Hegamin | | 310-202-8926 |
| Changes | Karl Springer | | 424-646-3410 |
| " | Gene Jacobs | | 310-397-8457 |
| Corporate Counsel | Stephanie Nordlinger | | 323-299-3244 |
| CCSC Computer Lab | Rosalie Kirsch | | 310-559-2244 |
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| Quick Consultants | Leah Clark | | 310-677-2792 |
| SIG Coordinator | Heshmat Laaly | | 310-838-7140 |
| Web Master | Gilbert Ialongo | | 310-641-7906 |
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Los Angeles Computer Society

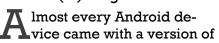
Contact Information

| Website | www.lacspc.org | Newsletter Editor | Leahjc (at) sbcglobal.net |
|------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| Voice Mail | 1-310-398-0366 | Webmaster | sitemaster (at) lacspc.org |
| email | ContactUs (at) lacspc.org | Change of Address | changes (at) lacspc.org |

The **ContactUs** (at) lacspc.org address goes to our **president** and **immediate past president**. If the message is for another board member, they will forward it to the correct person. Or to contact other officers, directors, leaders or members directly, you may use our roster for phone numbers and email addresses.

THINGS THAT YOU MAY NOT HAVE KNOWN ABOUT GOOGLE MAPS MOBILE

by **Ira Wilsker**Golden Triangle PC Club,
www.gtpcc.org
Iwilsker(at)sbcglobal.net



Google Maps installed. One of the most popular apps in the world, Google Maps has between 1 and 5 billion copies downloaded from the Google Play Store, with millions of other copies downloaded from the Apple iTunes Store.

Most people know that the mobile version of Google Maps can recommend driving routes between points, but it can really do a great deal more, now becoming so powerful and feature-rich that it could conceivably threaten the market for the dedicated dashboard GPS devices.

The latest version available for free download from the Google Play Store (as I type this) is dated May 4, 2015, and continues the tradition for adding new features and improving previous features with each major build.

For the past few years, the mobile version of Google maps has had basic, real-time traffic information which labeled most major roads and highways with an easy to understand color code: green roads indicated the traffic was flowing smoothly near the speed limits; yellow indicated that traffic was heavy and congested, but still moving, albeit often moving at speeds significantly below the posted speed limits; and red indicates that traffic is very heavy, and moving very slowly or traffic is at a standstill. In the recent updates and upgrades to Google Maps, Google has started to incorporate the live traffic reporting provided by another Google app, the very popular Waze road routing app (www.waze.com), which Google purchased a few years ago from the Israeli developers of Waze.

Users who have the Waze app loaded and running are transparently transmitting location and speed data to the Waze servers, which are now located at Google and interacting with it, providing current data to Google Maps as well

as to other Waze users. Waze users can also manually report accidents, road construction, road hazards, speed traps, and other real-time road information which has always been instantly posted on the Waze app when reported, but much of this information is now also instantly incorporated and displayed on Google Maps as well. Many of the road hazards, traffic accidents, and other road conditions now posted on Google Maps shows as "Reported via Waze App." While Waze is generally more "social" in context, displaying other "Wazers" in the field of view of the displayed map, and offering messaging between "Wazers" and other social services, it would not surprise me if in the future, Goggle actually merges the best features of Waze into Google Maps, combining them into a single outstanding app.

I have seen several others using their Google Maps app, but not utilizing all of its power and capabilities. The other users that I have observed generally only have the most basic street view displayed, without any of the other valuable information displayed. Users may wish to experiment with the mobile version of Google apps by tapping on the menu icon, which is the three parallel lines on the top left corner of the display. The menu offers the user the ability to control what is displayed. The "Your Places" choice on the menu allows the user to easily create and maintain an address book of locations, display previously saved Google Maps which may have also been created on the web based version of Google Maps, and the ability to save portions of Google Maps for offline display which can be utilized if the network is slow or unavailable.

One of the menu choices that I use, sometimes several times a day, is the "Traffic" selection. Activating "Traffic" almost instantly shows the color coded (green, yellow, red) speed and traffic congestion conditions, as well as other information including road construction, road hazards, and traffic accidents. I have become somewhat addicted to this feature, in that I check it every morning just moments before I leave home, checking the traffic conditions on my preferred and alternate routes to get to work; several times in recent weeks, based on the real-time traffic report, I decided to take an alternative route to work, bypassing the "red"

(Things That You May Not Have Known About Google Maps Mobile)

(Continued from page 12)

Eastex Freeway and I-10. Likewise, before leaving my office for the drive home, I also check the Google Maps traffic display, helping me again to decide on the best route home. This information is not just helpful in dealing with and avoiding routine traffic congestion and accidents, but is also invaluable when trying to negotiate the roads and highways during major storms, flooding, and other weather related conditions.

While it takes slightly more data and processing power to display, I almost always select the "Satellite" display from the menu. The high resolution satellite maps, the same as utilized by Google Earth, are especially useful when travelling in unfamiliar territory, as individual buildings and geographic features are clearly displayed, along with the identification of popular landmarks, such as major retail stores, banks, office buildings, hotels, and other points of interest. As with most other graphical displays on smart devices, the display on Google Maps can be zoomed in and out with the common "pinch", and can be "moved" with a swipe of a finger. If Google Maps has been used to determine a road route, this satellite display, especially when zoomed in ("pinch - open"), clearly shows individual homes, businesses, parking lots, churches, factories, lakes, schools, and other landmarks making it that much easier to get to the correct destination.

While not as visually feature-rich as the satellite view, the "Terrain" selection from the menu shows the coloration of the earth along with geographical and topographic characteristics, along with roads and other information.

What a lot of people are apparently unaware of, is that the recent versions of Google Maps may be an effective, even superior, replacement for a dash top dedicated GPS unit. With an abundance of reasonably priced dashboard and other mounts that can hold almost any size smart phone, the smart phone can easily replace the existing GPS device, while offering substantially more functionality then most of the newer dedicated GPS devices currently on the market.

Most contemporary smart phones have a larger,

brighter, and higher resolution display (screen), and with more control over the display than offered by most GPS units.

Google Maps (and its sister app Waze) now offers Bluetooth connectivity directly from the phone to the Bluetooth speaker or other Bluetooth receivers already available in most newer vehicles. All the user needs to do is turn on the phone's Bluetooth, which may likely already be configured to connect to the car's Bluetooth system. Just like the traditional GPS, Google Maps (and Waze) give clearly spoken driving instructions in a user selectable choice of voices and languages, but heard through the better auto sound system (or other Bluetooth speaker). Bluetooth volume is adjustable using the existing volume buttons on the smart phone. Being connected via the "cloud" to Google servers, and having native intelligence, Google Maps (similar to some GPS devices with traffic reporting) will recommend alternative routes to the selected destination in the event of significant traffic delays. In my experience, the traffic congestion display on Google Maps (and Waze) is among the best available, and is often more up to date and comprehensive than that shown on a typical GPS.

Another beneficial feature of Google Maps is the integrated capability to utilize the Google search function to locate Points of Interest, including hotels, restaurants, and other destinations. In many cases, reservations can be made directly from the Google Maps app; obviously, for safety reasons, the driver of the vehicle should never search, type, or engage in any other distraction while operating the vehicle, and should delegate that task to a passenger or wait until the vehicle is stopped and off the road. In terms of points of interest, many of the GPS makers brag on the number of "POI" that their respective devices offer; these numbers pale in comparison to the number of "POI" and related information (such as restaurant and hotel reviews) that can be gathered by implementing a traditional Google search from within Google Maps. As with the GPS devices, Google Maps can route directly to any selected POI. Google Maps and routes can also be created on a desktop or tablet web based device, and saved to the user's

(Things That You May Not Have Known About Google Maps Mobile)

(Continued from page 12)

Google account, which will automatically make the saved routes available to the mobile device.

About the only weakness that I have encountered while using Google Maps (and Waze) concurrently with a recently purchased and updated dedicated GPS device, is the greatly reduced functionality when there is no data service available to feed the smart device with current data including highly detailed maps.

Since the dedicated GPS device predominately uses its internal data storage, maps, and the satellite GPS signal to maintain its display, they are only minimally impacted when there is a lack of data signal available. About the only functionality lost by a GPS when there is no data signal may be a loss of current traffic information, just as would happen with a smart phone, but the GPS will continue to display its maps and related route information. While not a problem for smart phones when in urban areas and on most major highways, I have frequently lost a usable cellular data signal in rural areas and other lesser travelled areas with a dearth of cell phone service.

The competitive free app from www.Here.com, and a few others, store detailed maps in the

storage of the smart phone, minimizing the need for a data connection, making them very similar to a dedicated GPS, but with the added advantages of a smart phone based app.

Google Maps, its sister app Waze, and strong competitors such as Here, Navigator, and Maps.Me can all effectively replace or supplement that conventional automotive GPS device. I suggest that users experiment with the functionality of the phone-based road routing apps, and decide for themselves. I also recommend Google Maps, with the "Traffic" selection turned on, to check current traffic conditions before leaving home or work.

WEBSITES:

https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.google.android.apps.maps

http://itunes.apple.com/en/app/google-maps/id585027354

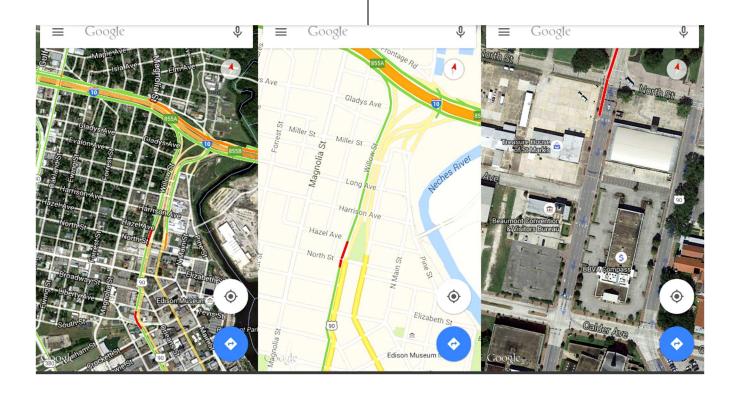
http://www.google.com/maps/about/

https://support.google.com/gmm/answer/614 5865

https://support.google.com/gmm/answer/283 9911

https://support.google.com/gmm/android/#topic=3495970

https://www.waze.com



GET AROUND QUICKLY IN WORD DOCUMENTS

By **Nancy DeMarte**, 1st Vice President, Sarasota Technology User Group, FL Sarasota Technology Monitor, March, 2015

www.thestuq.org

ndemarte (at) Verizon.net

Do you write multipage documents or ones based on an outline? Do you save them from other sources? If so, you should get familiar with a helpful feature that was introduced with Office 2010 and refined in Office 2013 - the Navigation Pane. This tool helps you move quickly from one part of a document to another, reorganize sections without cutting and pasting, and find nearly anything in the document.



This sort of navigation is not new. Windows Vista, 7, and 8 users are familiar with the Navigation pane that sits on the left edge of the Explorer window (Figure 1), giving easy access to anywhere on the computer with one click – Favorites, Desktop, Libraries, etc. This concept is now part of many Office applications. In Word 2013, it offers all kinds of assistance with multipage documents.

Figure 1 Navigation Pane in Windows 7

To view this feature in Word 2010, either click the View tab on the ribbon and check Navigation Pane or press Ctrl + F on the keyboard. In Word 2013, you can also click the page count on the left end of the status bar along the bottom of the window. The Navigation Pane appears in the area left of the document window, displaying a Search box above three tabs. (Figure 2)

Let's explore the tabs:

The **Headings** tab lets you move around quickly in a document which contains headings. To use the time-saving Headings feature, you must have applied one of the Word Heading styles to the headings in the document. The Styles Gallery is found on Word's Home tab. To apply a style, an easy way is to use Format Painter (Home tab – Clipboard group). Select the first heading in the document and click the Heading 1 style. Then select that heading again, double click Format Painter, and click each succeeding heading. They will become the Heading 1 style.



Figure 2 Navigation Pane in Word 2013



Figure 4 Styles Gallery in Word

If you wish, you can also create a new style for headings and save it to the gallery. To do so, click the down arrow with a line over it (Figure 3) in the bottom right

corner of the Styles gallery and choose "Create a Style." (Figure 4) In the dialog box, name your style and choose a font, size, color, or other options. Click Save and your new heading style will appear in the Styles gallery.



Figure 3

(Get Around Quickly in Word Documents)

(Continued from page 15)

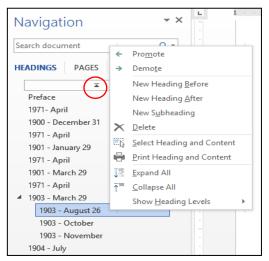


Figure 5 Headings tab and menu

Clicking the **Headings** tab displays a list of only the document's headings, as in Figure 5, giving you an outline of the document's structure. Clicking a heading opens that section in the document window. You can reorganize sections by dragging a heading to a new spot; all its related text moves with it. Other actions become available if you right click a heading, as shown. You can add a section in the middle of the document, for example, by choosing "New Heading Before (or After)" or turn a heading into a sub-heading by clicking "Demote." "Promote" reverses the move. The "Collapse all" command is used to hide sub-headings so you can work only with the main headings in the document. "Expand all" returns them to the list. Clicking the small up arrow in the center above the first heading (shown) jumps you back to the beginning of the document. Think how useful this could be for editing a 50+ page document.

The **Pages** tab (Figure 6) displays numbered thumbnails of all the pages in the document, a handy way to move around a document or check page layout in a document with graphics. Selecting one of the thumbnails opens it in the document window. Scrolling through the thumbnails to find a page near the end of a long document is much quicker than scrolling through each page. But if you do scroll through the document, the Pages tab will highlight the thumbnail of the page you are viewing.

This aspect of the Navigation Pane has been part of the PowerPoint program through several versions. In Office 2013, it is found not only in Word and PowerPoint, but also in Publisher and Outlook.

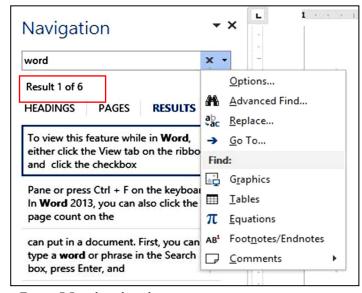


Figure 7 Results tab and menu

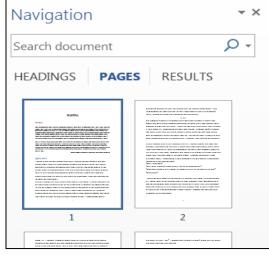


Figure 6 Pages tab

The **Results** tab serves several important functions. The Search box at the top lets you find almost anything you can put in a document. When you type a word or phrase in the Search box, all instances of the word will be listed with their surrounding text, as shown

in Figure 7, and also will be highlighted in the document.

To search for photos drawings, tables, objects, equations,

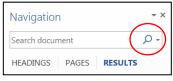


Figure 8 Search tool for objects

and footnotes, click the magnifying glass inside the Search box (Figure 8) and

(Get Around Quickly in Word Documents) (Continued from page 16)

make your choice. To move through the search results, use the up and down arrows to the right of the Results number (hidden behind the menu in Figure 7).

The Find and Replace feature, found on the Home tab in many versions of Word, has also been conveniently included among the Navigation Pane options. To use it, click the small down arrow next to the magnifying glass in the Search box (Figure 8). Click Options to refine your word search; click Advanced Find to open the Find and Replace dialog box.

As you use the Word Navigation pane, you will find it houses a wealth of helpful tools. ♦

(2015 Southwest Technology and Computer Conference)

(Continued from page 7)

After sunset, there was a treat for us in the parking lot! **Jeff Schroeder**, the Outreach coordinator of the Pomona Valley Amateur Astronomers, hosted a "**Star Party**." He brought his large telescope that he had mounted on the top of his truck, and another free-standing telescope. I'm sorry that I did not take notes and don't remember the specs of the scopes. We all got to look at Venus, Saturn with its rings, and more. He had a wealth of knowledge that was (literally) over my head! It is so amazing how much there is out there.



Saturday morning started with a full buffet breakfast. This was followed with a presentation by **John Hayes**, Product Manager/Chief Bottle Washer at Al & Ed's Corporation. He spoke on the latest **Vehicle Technologies** included in new automobiles, that enhance driving, entertainment and safety. He showed pictures depict-

ing how dashboards have changed over the years. Cars are now much more computerized, and they have touch and LCD screens.

Most accidents are due to driver distraction because people want to stay connected. There are now ways to stay connected without being distracted.

Apple CarPlay is a safe, easy way to use your iPhone in the car. You can get directions, make hands-free calls, send and receive messages, and listen to music through Siri, all in a way that allows you to stay focused on the road.

Waze, with live, interactive mapping, is the number one navigation app for the iPhone.

(Waze works on other smartphones, too.)

AndroidAuto, designed with safety in mind, is Google-based. It gives you access to Google Maps, texting, and cell phone. It has a simple interface, integrated steering wheel controls, and voice action to minimize distraction so you can stay focused on the road.

These innovations are now available on new, high-end vehicles, but will soon be common-place.

I will continue this report next month with reviews of the Saturday and Sunday sessions I attended. I'm sorry more of our members couldn't attend. Those who didn't go missed out on a great weekend.

(Interesting Internet Finds)

(Continued from page 5)

YouTube myself, and quite frankly, the YouTube selections are not all that helpful. Follow the steps in this post to turn it off.

How to Identify and Avoid the Most Common Telephone Scams

http://lifehacker.com/how-to-identify-and-avoid-the-most-common-telephone-sca-1692068970

Telephone scams are quite prevalent. Check out this post from Lifehacker to refresh yourself on how to identify and avoid them in the first place.

Computers, Technology, and User Groups Blog:

http://ctublog.sefcug.com/tag/interesting-internet-finds/

The posts are under Creative Commons licensing. ◆



LAUGHING OUT LOUD

SENIOR COMPUTER SKILLS

Submitted by Helen Karagozian, LACS

Tech support: What kind of computer do you

have?

Customer: A white one...

Tech support: Click on the 'my computer' icon

on the left of the screen.

Customer: Your left or my left?

Customer: Hi, good afternoon, this is Mary, I can't print. Every time I try, it says "can't find printer." I've even lifted the printer and placed it in front of the monitor, but the computer still says he can't find it.

Customer: My keyboard is not working. **Tech support:** Are you sure it's plugged into

the computer?

Customer: I can't get behind the computer. **Tech support:** Pick up your keyboard and walk

10 paces back. **Customer:** OK

Tech support: Did the keyboard come with

170112

Customer: Yes

Tech support: That means the keyboard is not

plugged in.

Customer: I can't get on the Internet.

Tech support: Are you sure you used the right

password?

Customer: I'm sure. I saw my colleague do it. **Tech support:** Can you tell me what the pass-

word was?

Customer: Five dots.

Tech support: What anti-virus program do you

use?

Customer: Netscape.

Tech support: That's not an anti-virus program.

Customer: Oh, sorry... Internet Explorer.

Customer: I have a huge problem. A friend has placed a screen saver on my computer, but every time I move the mouse, it disappears.

Tech support: How may I help you? **Customer:** I'm writing my first email.

Tech support: OK, and what seems to be the

problem?

Customer: Well, I have the letter 'a' in the address, but how do I get the little circle around it?

A woman customer called the Canon help desk with a problem with her printer.

Tech support: Are you running it under windows? **Customer:** 'No, my desk is next to the door, but that is a good point. The man sitting in the cubicle next to me is under a window, and his printer is working fine.

And last but not least!

Tech support: Okay Bob, let's press the control and escape keys at the same time. That brings up a task list in the middle of the screen. Now type the letter 'P' to bring up the Program Manager.

Customer: I don't have a P.

Tech support: On your keyboard, Bob.

Customer: What do you mean?

Tech support: 'P'.....on your keyboard, Bob. **Customer:** I'M NOT GOING TO DO THAT!



MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Annual membership Dues:

| Regular | \$ 40 |
|---------------------|-------|
| Family-Associate | 12 |
| Students | 18 |
| Contributing | 50 |
| Supporter | 75 |
| Benefactor | 100 |
| Renewal, Electronic | |
| Newsletter | 30 |
| | |

A subscription to *User Friendly* is included with membership.

Associate members are people who live in the same household or work for the same company as a regular member; they do not receive their own subscriptions to *User Friendly*, but may read it on the LACS website.

Who invited you to join LACS?

Students must prove full-time status. In addition to monthly general meetings, members enjoy these special benefits:

- Monthly printed Newsletter User Friendly. We publish your article submissions or free classified ads to buy or sell your computer items.
- Get help by phone from Members who are Quick Consultants listed in User Friendly.
- Get help by email by using our LACSLIST Yahoo Group Mail List. Simply address your email questions to lacslist (at) yahoogroups.com
- Receive important news and announcements via LACS's Yahoo Group email lists.

- Special Interest Groups (SIGs) to help solve your problems regarding selected topics.
- Eligibility to win door prizes in the General Meeting's "Lucky Draw."
- Information on training, swap meets and trade shows.
- Occasional product discounts, special offers, etc.
- Free software and computer books (if you review them for User Friendly.)
- Rewards for Recruiting Members: LACS will extend your membership for three months for each new Regular member you recruit.

-----%----

LACS

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Please bring your dues and this form to a meeting or mail them to:

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DIRECTIONS TO GENERAL MEETING

From the North:

Take Sepulveda Blvd. SOUTH to W. 80th St. Turn WEST-right and go about one mile to Emerson Ave. Turn SOUTH-left and go one long block to W. 80th Place. Fellowship Hall is on the Northwest corner of Emerson and W. 80th Place.

From the South, East or West: Take Manchester Ave. to Emerson Ave. Turn North and go about eight blocks to W. 80th Place. Fellowship Hall is on the Northwest corner of Emerson and W. 80th Place. There is plenty of street parking and a small parking lot West of the church.

