

ECCS MAINFRAME

25 April 2005

EMERALD COAST COMPUTER SOCIETY APRIL MEETING NOTIFICATION

Ft. Walton Beach City Library
Thursday April 7, 2005
6:30 PM Social and Snack Time

7:00 PM

Mini Presentation—"How To Clean Your Computer"

Business Meeting

Mini-Presentation-"How to Use the Forum on our New Website."

A Special Question and Answer Session

Log on to our new website: www.eccsfwb.org

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FROM THE PREZ

Dear ECCS Members,

Spring is sprung and I can hardly wait for it to really be here! This past month has been especially busy for me. I'm glad we have an extra week before our meeting. I am going to insert some topic headings in this letter and send it to you in two parts via the e-mail to make it easier for you to read since it is longer than normal. You can view in its entirety on our website. www.eccsfwb.org.

FACUG CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

Every since I returned from an absolutely great weekend at the Spring Conference of the Florida Association of Computer Users Groups (FACUG) in Kissimmee I have been all excited about the possibilities of implementing some of the things I learned there. It was a real treat to be able to attend and I want to thank the ECCS members for paying my registration fee. Early Friday morning March 4th I drove to Defuniak Springs to meet and travel with JB Hillard, President of the Chautequa Cyber Club of DeFuniak Springs, Gay Russ, their CCC Treasurer, and Carl Loftstrom, President of the South Walton County Computer Club. We talked and shared with one another all the way down, at the conference and all the way home. It was a wonderful trip! The conference was packed full of very informative and outstanding presentations by the various vendors who sponsored the meals. It was very difficult to choose which panel/roundtable groups to attend throughout the day because there was such a variety and they all sounded interesting.

JB and Gay both were very fortunate to win some really neat and expensive software from the numerous drawings that were held throughout the conference. Carl and I each won one since everyone won something on the last day but we were toward the end of the drawings. But it was fun and we were excited for JB and Gay.

One of the highlights of the conference was the dimension of world-wide exposure through a streaming internet broadcast that began at the Conference. Through the wizardry of electronics it was transmitted by a radio station in Las Vegas on the John Iasiulo "Computer Outlook" talk show. John was at the conference and the broadcast was "live." He is on the air Monday – Friday at 7PM Central Time and it can be heard through the Internet. (Thanks JB for this paragraph describing this part of the conference.)

NEW FORMAT FOR OUR MEETINGS!

I have signed up our ECCS user group with some companies that can give our users some real benefits and you will be made aware of them. I have many things to share with the ECCS members over the next few months so get ready to learn and try some new things. The purpose of our club is to promote computer literacy in the local area and to endeavor to accomplish this by providing instruction and education to members. Technology has grown so fast and computer usage is increasing by leaps and bounds. We can still play a very relevant part in educating people in the use of their computers. We will be focusing more of our meeting time on education and information. We are going to have two mini-sessions at each meeting. These will be short "How to" demonstrations, one relating to hardware and one to software. Our meeting programs will focus on education and how to. It is our goal that each person, whether a novice or advanced user, can go home saying they learned something. Of course, we may be calling on the advanced user to share his expertise by doing a presentation.

CLASSES AT LIBRARY AND WESTWOOD

I met this month with Scott Anthony, our Educational Officer. He is waiting for the word, "go" from Tricia at the library in order to start the classes there. It has taken longer than we thought, but you must remember that Tricia has to go through the city, county, and network technicians to get things going. The library computer will provide the networked computer that will allow access to the Internet but it does not have certain applications available that the home user needs to learn. We will need to provide another computer that does have them but it will not be allowed access to the Internet. The board has decided that we will need to purchase a desktop computer for use at the library. It is less expensive than a laptop and will serve the purpose. We will be able to use both computers for classes at the library and for meeting presentations. We are shopping for a bargain computer to use for that purpose.

Classes at Westwood are being scheduled for Saturdays in the month of April. Look over this schedule, which will be made available at our April meeting, select and sign up for classes. Support these classes and instructors with your attendance.

EMPTY INKJET CARTRIDGE COLLECTION

In April we will be introducing a new project for our club. Realizing that we all go through many inkjet cartridges every month or so, we will be collecting the empty cartridges and sending them in for \$\$\$\$\$. Collect empty cartridges from your friends and neighbors. There are some cartridges that they do not accept because they cannot be recycled. A complete list of those that are acceptable is on their website or you can ask us if you know your inkjet style number. Check out the website, www.empties4cash.com Just bring your empty cartridges with you to the meeting and we will sort them.

“BUILD YOUR OWN COMPUTER”

Would anyone like to “Build Your Own Computer?” Intel has put together a special program to teach and help a person to build their own computer. It will be two-part presentation developed by Intel for user groups. Part 1 is a 45-minute BYO seminar which consists of a Power Point slide show addressing “Why build Your Own Computer?”, “Where to Buy Parts?” and various considerations involved with technologies and components. At the end of the BYO Seminar, audience members will be introduced to the state-of-the-art, high performance, high value configuration specially designed for the workshop. Attendees will be given the opportunity to purchase all the parts necessary to participate in the BYO Workshop, which will be held at a later time designated by the group.

Part 2, (the BYO workshop) will provide participants the opportunity to build their own computer from the parts they’ve ordered under the direction of a workshop leader. There is also a script and Power Point slide show that simplifies the task for the leader and participants alike by taking them through the process of building a computer step by step with tested, on-screen, projected instructions and pictures of exact parts and system they’re building.

I am going to build my own computer and I think my husband George wants to go with me. The Chateauqua Cyber Club will be holding Part 1 of the “Build Your Own Computer” on April 16, 10 AM room 154 in the Okaloosa-Walton College in DeFuniak Springs. I will be there, as will ECCS members JH and June Anne Brorsen. Is anyone else interested? Let me know if you would be interested by e-mailing me at lcvosmera@earthlink.net. If we have enough people who might be interested we will do one here in Ft. Walton, otherwise, anyone interested can go with us on the 16th.

This article has been very long and I thank you for reading it. I hope it encourages all of you to become Really Active Members in the Emerald Coast Computer Society. We need each and every one of you and look forward to some new experiences and fun with our computing as we all share with one another. Have a flourishing and blooming great time this spring!

The Prez
Lois Vosmera,
ECCS President

EMERALD COAST COMPUTER SOCIETY MINUTES March 3, 2005

The Emerald Coast Computer Society was called to order by President Lois Vosmera at approximately

7:00 PM on Thursday, March 3, 2005, in the Ft Walton Beach Library, following 30 minutes of social time and refreshments. President Vosmera welcomed all present and thanked those who may have brought guests. No guests were present. There were 22 members present.

Minutes of the February 3rd meeting were approved as printed in the Mainframe and on the web site.

(My apology to the President and members that I did not amiably volunteer to read the minutes, since they had not been long available via the electronic Mainframe.)

Treasurer, Wayne Pullen, was not present; therefore the Treasurer's Report will be emailed to members and will not be included in the Mainframe.

Webmaster, Hugh Gautier, reported that all pages of the web site are up except for the Forum. He added that the Member Roster would not appear on the web site.

Educational Chairman, Scott Anthony, reported on the status of plans for classes. He, Alex Ginzburg, and the other instructors would meet at the library on Saturday, March 5th to get organized, set up a schedule, check out the equipment, and become familiarized with the Library. Lendy Edwards said that he was willing to conduct a scheduled class, if at least one person was able to make it.

Hugh Gautier announced that there is an organization that refurbishes older computers and loans them to underprivileged students to help them with their studies during the school year.

President Lois presented a certificate for the membership drive RAM promotion to Jack Culwell for his participation.

The Board Meeting would be on Monday, March 14th at Westwood, because President Lois will be driving back from Kissimmee on March 7th.

The Pot-o-Gold was won by Frank Szemere at \$23. Door-prize winners were:

Jack Culwell, Gerald Moore, Virgil Talbott, and George Vosmera.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

For the evening program, Lois introduced Nicole Wagner, the Web Master for the Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office. Ms. Wagner gave a very comprehensive, very interesting presentation of the SO's web site.

President Lois presented a gift certificate to Ms. Wagner.

Respectfully submitted,
Bernice Cramer