

SPAUG

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PrintScreen

Newsletter of the Stanford/Palo Alto Users Group for PC
A Non-Profit / Educational Organization • <http://www.pa-spaug.org>
Post Office Box 20161, Stanford, CA 94309-0161

JIM DINKEY'S RESIGNATION AS PRESIDENT OF SPAUG. SPAUG PRESIDENT MAY 1998 – MAY 2013

My resignation is the necessary result of some personal problems impacting on my effectiveness to serve SPAUG. I just won't go into great details, but my effectiveness is somewhat diminished by the passing of Ro, my wife of 32 years. That void has not been replaced by the activities of SPAUG.

SPAUG is filled with fine people who can carry on the traditions of support that marks it.

I shall continue as a member and support SPAUG from the back row of the audience, effective with the publication of this notice in the SPAUG newsletter.

—Jim Dinkey, May 2013

Thank You, Jim, for your many years of generosity and devotion to SPAUG. You've set a good example that I hope we build on and grow.

—John Buck, for SPAUG

**General Meeting @ Elks Lodge—Wed. June 12 @ 7:15 PM
4249 El Camino Real - Palo Alto (directions on page 3)**

**Optional Dinner at Elks Lodge Bistro
Elks Lodge, Ground Floor, 5:45 pm (see page 3)**

A Brief Look Back to Spring 1998

by John Buck

Robert Mitchell's History of SPAUG informed me that Jim Dinkey became SPAUG President in May, 1998, so I asked John Sleeman to send me copies of related newsletters from that period. They look a lot like Print Screens of today.

From the April 1998 Print Screen:

- The outgoing President was Bob Mitchell, not to be confused with Robert Mitchell. Even then, the President's message was "Notes from the Prez".
- John Sleeman was the new editor and publisher of Print Screen, succeeding Brian Christopher. A lot of other officers from that era are still members, and some still officers.
- Before becoming President, Jim Dinkey had been Publicity Chair.

From the May 1998 Print Screen:

- In addition to Jim Dinkey's Prez message, John Sleeman's "thanks for choosing me as editor" message, and boilerplate pages of club business, the main item in the newsletter was an article about RTF (Rich Text Format), taken from TipWorld, "a Web resource on all kinds of information."

Continuing

by John Buck

I think it is premature to share with you before our June 12, 2013, General Meeting the things the SPAUG board has been discussing about how to manage the club now that Jim Dinkey's resignation from our presidency is official. When you consider

all that Jim personally did for SPAUG, you will realize it's not likely a single person will be sufficient to replace him. We need many people to work for SPAUG to keep it going.

That said, I want you to know that after Jim talked about his resignation and left, there were only three people in the Board/Planning Meeting. I personally believe that that represents a dire situation for SPAUG. I think we should have a Board/Planning Committee of about ten members, some of whom are officers, others of whom contribute in other ways, including backup. In fact, you do not have to be elected to the Planning Committee, all you have to do is show up, and consistency is appreciated greatly.

All of your officers have served you for many years. The time is past for being nice, so this is a twist of your arm. **TAKE AN ONGOING ACTIVE PART IN THE WORK THAT'S NEEDED TO KEEP SPAUG GOING.** Those of us currently on the Board cannot continue without help.

May 8, 2013 General Meeting

by John Buck

Our usual note-takers (Stan Hutchings and John Sleeman) were away for this meeting, so this will be relatively short.

The meeting topic was Linux. We had five presenters. The program was well-planned, well-executed, and information-rich, beyond what notes could convey. I highly recommend you get a DVD of the May 8, 2013, meeting from Robert Mitchell.

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Meeting Day: Wednesday, June 12

General Meeting

**Palo Alto Elks Lodge,
4249 El Camino Real, Palo Alto**

Meeting time is 7:15 pm

Protecting Yourself, Your Computer, and Your Identity

Featuring

**Bob Gostischa, Security Expert,
Avast Promoter**

The Elks Lodge is a light-colored two-story building on the North (bay) side of El Camino Real (ECR), just east (toward Los Altos) from the Charleston-Arastradero-ECR intersection. It's diagonally across ECR from the Crowne Plaza Cabaña hotel.

Park in the lot that wraps around the lodge, and proceed to the front door (on the West side of the bldg.). This is a keycarded door. If you cannot get in the front door because you are late, press the intercom button on the post to the left of the main entrance, identify why you're there (try "computer club"), and you should hear the door unlock. Pull the handle and enter

Proceed to the Lodge Room—upstairs. An elevator is available behind the stairway.

Typical Meeting Agenda

- 7:15 "Boot up"
- 7:30 Announcements.
- 7:35 Guests introduction.
- 7:40 Random Access (Crosstalk)
- 7:50 Break
- 8:00 SPEAKER
- 9:15 SIG Reports
- 9:20 Raffle
- 9:30 Adjourn

Optional pre-meeting dinner

Join us for dinner before our General Meeting at —

The Bistro—at the Elks Lodge

There's no dining place closer to our meeting place than this. It's on the ground floor toward the back of the building,

Directions: It's on the ground floor toward the back of the lodge building.

Menu: <http://www.paloaltoelks.org/bistro-menu>

Review: <http://www.yelp.com/biz/palo-alto-elks-lodge-no-1471-palo-alto>

Note the **time** for
this month's
dinner.

Dinner time is 5:45 pm

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May 15, 2013 Planning Meeting Notes

by John Sleeman
(edited for use here)

Held at Bev Altman's home

Present: Jim Dinkey,
Bev Altman,
John Buck,
John Sleeman.

- Jim Dinkey reaffirmed his intention to step down from the presidency, and there was discussion of possible successors. At this point, Jim left the meeting. Jim expects to announce his retirement at our June 12 general meeting and pass the meeting over to the next president there and then.
- The three remaining meeting participants noted that Jim's tenure was unusually long (15 years) and that his efforts kept the club going. However, future presidents are likely to hold office for much shorter times, and it was suggested that during the transition different people might run just one meeting.
- John Buck volunteered to preside at the next general and planning meetings.
- Bev told us that membership is down to 110.
- John Buck pointed out that all the functional offices need understudies, in case the officer is unavailable.
- John Buck also reminded us of the continuing need for a Program Chair. He suggested that this person does not need to do everything alone, but rather ensure that someone is doing each task. This would include organizing the logistics of the meetings - setting up equipment, etc. As well as getting speakers or ensuring that someone has done so for each meeting.
- John Buck suggested that sometimes we might have speakers by webinar, in addition to Gene Barlow. That way we increase our "catchment".
- It was suggested that we have standby speakers always available, with some topic in their pocket.
- John Buck will continue emailing the newsletter (pdf) to members.
- After some discussion, and a later exchange of emails, we have decided to try having our Planning Meetings on the fourth Wednesdays of the month—dates are: June 26, July 24, Aug 28, Sept 25, Oct 30, and Dec 4 (to avoid Thanksgiving).

SPAUG Geography— Where We're Coming From by John Buck

After years of trying, I was finally able to wrest a copy of our membership list from Bev Altman—as an Excel file, even!

Excel, as you probably know, allows sorting, so I sorted by City to see where we live. The results are presented in a table below. In summary—

- 25% of us live in PA-Stanford
- 25% of us live north of PA
- 50% of us live south of PA
- None of us lives in East Palo Alto
- None of us lives in Santa Clara.

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Where We're Coming From

	A	B	C	D
1			North	South
2	TOTALS	112	25	62
3	Atherton	1	1	
4	Belmont	2	2	
5	Campbell	1		1
6	Cupertino	5		5
7	Davis	1	1	
8	Foster City	2	2	
9	Fremont	1	1	
10	Los Altos	18		18
11	LAH	3		3
12	Los Gatos	1		1
13	Menlo Park	8	8	
14	Milpitas	1		1
15	Mountain View	5		5
16	Palo Alto	24		
17	Portola Valley	2	2	
18	RC	3	3	
19	San Carlos	1	1	
20	San Jose	12		12
21	Saratoga	3		3
22	Stanford	1		
23	Sunnyvale	13		13
24	Union City	1	1	
25	Woodside	3	3	

Secret, Private And Under Ground—NOT

by John Buck

Have you posted your SPAUG flyer in some public place? If not, why not? If yes, where?

SPAUG does not stand for Secret, Private And Under Ground. As much as we need good speakers to attract people to our meetings, we need consistently good attendance at our meetings in order to be able to attract

good speakers. We need to attract other people to SPAUG and retain them as members.

Word of mouth is probably the most attractive way to hear about SPAUG; it got me here. But we can talk to only so many people before everyone we know has heard our news. Our flyers give us a chance to reach people we might not otherwise reach, at a reasonable cost.

Newspaper advertising is not cheap. A single business-card-size display ad insertion in a paper covering about one-third of our “territory” would probably cost more than two memberships—more than four, when the cost of mailing *Print Screen* is figured in. Classified ads could be cheaper, depending on how much information we put in. I find it hard to believe that we could run a single ad that would attract five new members, unless we were giving away computers or some such thing.

We send information to newspaper calendar editors, but the decision about what goes in is theirs, based on many factors.

Filler

by John Buck

CPU MAGAZINE

For many months (years?) Jim Dinkey has brought copies of *CPU (Computer Power User)* magazine—<http://tinyurl.com/k9njrs2>—for us to pick up for free.



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Although I am by no means a power user, I have found some articles of what I consider to be “general interest” in *CPU*’s pages—among them one about USB cables in their April 2013 issue.

CPU is one of several magazines published by Sandhill Publishing—<http://www.sandhills.com/>.

I had subscribed to the sibling *Smart Computing* magazine for many years, but in the last few of them the focus of the mag had change so much that I looked forward to the expiry of my subscription.

The current *CPU* issue can be downloaded from the *CPU* website. The 88-page pdf version is just over 26 MB. *CPU* seems to be free; I found no specific subscription price, but they ask for registration. I didn’t register, but maybe I’m grandfathered in because of my earlier *Smart Computing* subscription.

As usual, I find the hardcopy version easier to read than the online version.

You can get back issues via the *CPU* website’s “Archive” tab/button.

USB CABLES

An excellent (IMO) article about USB cables begins on page 48 of the pdf version of the April 2013 issue of *CPU* magazine, available via <http://tinyurl.com/lcuejam>.

LINUX-WINDOWS-COMPATIBLE PROGRAMS

It makes sense to me that one way to start moving into a Linux-based environment is to find apps that have both Windows and Linux versions and start learning on the Windows version.

To that end, I searched for a list of Linux-and-Windows programs. I found nothing that simple during the time I wanted to devote to the search, but I did find some places from which to resume:

- [linux windows compatible programs]—<http://tinyurl.com/kq8cdkt>
- [linux equivalents of windows programs]—<http://tinyurl.com/km99onl>
- [linux alternatives to windows programs]—<http://tinyurl.com/kd6zbgc>

Recognize that many sites will show up in more than one search.

Here are searches for some programs you may want to consider:

- File Manager
—<http://tinyurl.com/mphsqjy>
- Browser
—<http://tinyurl.com/l6ndapu>
- Email
—<http://tinyurl.com/ka8mgwk>
- Office
—<http://tinyurl.com/my87rp6>
- Graphics
—<http://tinyurl.com/mqnlmug>
And there’s GIMP
—<http://tinyurl.com/md6cxcv>
- Audio and Video Players
—<http://tinyurl.com/pfc3quh>

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- Backup
—<http://tinyurl.com/mxbsd2zu>
- Malware Scanner, Antivirus
—<http://tinyurl.com/m8mcg5b>
- Utilities
—<http://tinyurl.com/no5ff4a>

I invite our Linux experts to provide corrections (gently), additional information, demonstrations, etc.

GRAB AND DRAG YOUR BROWSER PAGE

If you like the way your pdf reader lets you grab a page and move it around without having to use the scroll bars, the same functionality is available in FF and Opera.

- In FF, download and install “**Grab and Drag**”
- In Opera, download and install “**Touch Scroll**”.

ADJUST PAGE AND TEXT ZOOM INDEPENDENTLY IN FIREFOX (FF)

The **NoSquint** Addon lets you adjust page zoom and text zoom independently on a per-site basis. Your settings are retained and used when you revisit the site.

QUPZILLA BROWSER

Via the Portable Freeware website—<http://www.portablefreeware.com/>, I learned of Qupzilla, a simple cross-platform browser. Not as fancy as Opera or Palemoon (FF), one feature I like is that it shows Google’s “Cached” and “Similar” links in plain view, like they were traditionally.

Below are examples of the “Cached” and “Similar” presentations in Qupzilla and in Palemoon. In Palemoon, FF, IE, etc., click on the small triangle at the end of the url to see the links.

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Qupzilla—See “Cached” and “Similar” as text



Pale Moon (FF)—Click the little triangle to see “Cached” and “Similar”



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PAGE PREVIEWS IN SEARCHES

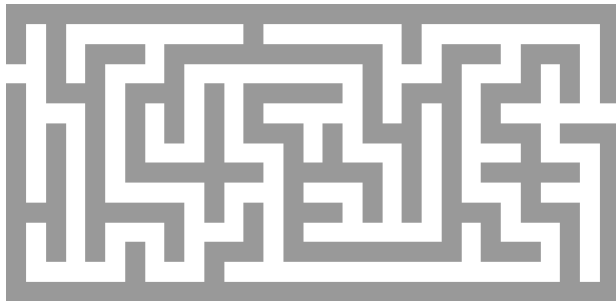
Page previews in searches are, for me, a nice addition to help me decide whether I want to visit a page or not. An example of a page preview is the SPAUG-page thumbnail image in the Pale Moon graphic above.

- Page Preview is available in FF via the **SearchPreview** addon
- Page Preview is available in Opera via the **SearchenginePreview** Extension.

SIMPLE, ADDICTIVE, GAMES

Simon Tatham's Portable Puzzle Collection is a collection of small computer programs which implement one-player puzzle games. Simon “wrote this collection because I thought there should be more small desktop toys available: little games you can pop up in a window and play for two or three minutes while you take a break from whatever else you were doing. “ My current favorite is “Inertia”.

—<http://tinyurl.com/dd5ro>



HOW TO DISABLE JAVASCRIPT IN POPULAR FREE PDF READERS

PDF files with malicious JavaScript embedded in them are a common way to spread malware. One way to defend against such malware is to disable JavaScript in the reader you use unless you need it for a trusted PDF. Here is how to disable JavaScript in the most commonly used free PDF readers. If JavaScript is ever needed, re-enabling it is straightforward in all cases.

—gizmo

—<http://tinyurl.com/q7s7kog>

EIGHT PDF FILES YOU DON'T WANT TO OPEN

“One of the largest sources of malware infections is PDF files with [JavaScripts] buried in them. . . . The Microsoft MSDN blog—<http://tinyurl.com/nvuzggq>—has just given a list of common infected PDF files that have been detected. . . . If you see any of the eight files below, do not open them but delete them permanently.

- pdf_new[1].pdf, • auhtjseubpazbo5[1].pdf, • avjudtcobzimxnj2[1].pdf, • pricelist[1].pdf, • couple_saying_lucky[1].pdf, • 5661f[1].pdf 7927, • 9fbe0[1].pdf 7065, • pdf_old[1].pdf.”

—gizmo

<http://tinyurl.com/nwwz52g>





SPAUG
PO BOX 20161
STANFORD, CA 94309-0161

A bit of personal attention
from USPS—it truly seems to
have been hand-cancelled.



June 2013 SPAUG News

SPAUG CALENDAR						
Always subject to change; verify event with host or Jim Dinkey						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	27  Memorial Day NO SIG Tonight					1—Clinic, by appointment only
16  Fathers Day	3 7–9 pm BIYSIGv Central Computer		5			8—Clinic, by appointment only
	10 7–9 pm WinSIG Central Computers		12 5:45 pm Dinner (Optional), Elks Lodge—Bistro 7:15 pm General Meeting Elks Lodge, 4249 El Camino, PA Speaker: Bob Gostischa			15—Clinic, by appointment only
	17 7–9 pm DISIG Central Computers		19 Planning Meeting Moved To June 26			22—Clinic, by appointment only
	24 7–9 pm WebSIG Central Computer		26 7:15 pm Planning Meeting, Bev Altman's			29—Clinic, by appointment only

Saturday Clinic

Clinics usually are held when needed. **Call Jim Dinkey** to make a reservation. The clinics are to help you unscrew your Windows XP and Windows 7.

Email: jimdinkey at jimdinkey.com or call 650-493-9307 for an appointment.

Planning Meeting

NOTE: The Planning Meeting Schedule is changing. Planning meetings are usually each month at Beverly Altman's home at 7:15 pm. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend. **Please contact John Buck or Bev Altman to confirm venue.**

Next meeting: Wednesday, June 26, 2013 at 7:15 pm, at Bev Altman's home.

SIGS

NOTE: SPAUG-member participation in any of these SIGS requires membership in SVCS, currently \$12/yr. SVCS is not a part of SPAUG.

- **Build It Yourself SIG**—1st Monday each month
- **WinSIG**—2nd Monday of the month
- **DISIG**—3rd Monday of the month
- **WebSIG**—4th Monday of the month

For more info about these SIGs, go to svuga.org

ALL SIG Meetings Are Held At
Central Computers
3777 Stevens Creek Boulevard
Santa Clara
—<http://tinyurl.com/bu5mlcl>

Listserver spaug-list at svpal.org

Any member on the spaug-list can send messages to all other members on the list automatically by sending e-mail to this address. This list is intended for announcements of interest to all SPAUG members. Please avoid excessive or trivial announcements, since some members are paying for connect time. Additions or corrections can be sent to:

info at pa-spaug.org

The SPAUG Web Page is available at

<http://www.pa-spaug.org>

hosted by
www.svpal.org/



Door Prize Tickets

Free

You get one ticket for free when you sign in at a general meeting.

Buy a Ticket

\$1 each

Buy More Tickets

Quantity discount: Six tickets for \$5

Must be present to win



Without-Whoms

SPAUG is an all-volunteer operation. Listed below is contact information for those who work to keep it happening.

You are invited to help.

President: Jim Dinkey

jimdinkey at jimdinkey.com
(650) 493-9307

Vice President: John Sleeman

sleemanjc at copperhouse.net
(650) 326-5603

Recording Secretary: Stan Hutchings

stan.hutchings at gmail.com
(650) 325-1359

Treasurer: Nat Landes

natlandes at gmail.com
(650) 851-2292

Membership: Beverly Altman

bev at altman.com
(650) 329-8252

WebMasters:

- Stan Hutchings (see above)
- John Sleeman (see above)

Newsletter Editor: John Buck

jbuck1467 at mindspring.com
(650) 961-8859

Newsletter Production:

- John Sleeman (see above)
- Robert Mitchell
rfmitch66 at gmail.com
(650) 867-2852

Computer Clinic: Jim Dinkey (see above)

►►► Positions Open:

- Program Chair
- Publicity