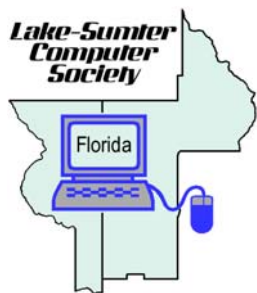


The Lake-Sumter Computer Society

A Quick Overview



Introduction: The LSCS is a volunteer, not for profit User Group established in the fall of 1989 in concert with the Lake-Sumter Community

College's Leesburg Campus. It has continually met at the College since then.

We have over 200 members with widely varying levels of expertise from beginner to fairly proficient. A fundamental focus of our being is to provide service to primarily senior citizens of our counties through a program of Member-helping-Member.

Since our inception our dues have contributed over \$14,000 in scholarships to Lake Sumter Community College students!

This document is intended to make you aware of our programs and activities.

Membership: Membership is on a calendar year basis. We have Individual, Family and Corporate Memberships. Our calendar year Individual membership dues are recommended by the Executive Committee and voted by the membership. Family or household memberships are one and a half times the individual membership. Full-time LSCC students, faculty and staff pay no dues.

Current Individual dues are \$12. (Note, however, that 2008 Individual dues have been established by the members at \$24.)

Corporate membership is on an annual basis from the month of becoming a Corporate Member. There are three levels of Corporate Membership: Bronze at \$50, Gold at \$100, and Platinum at \$200.

Regular Weekly Meeting Programs: We normally meet every Thursday in the Lecture Hall of the Leesburg Campus of the Lake-Sumter Community College, 9501 U.S. Highway 441. Free parking is provided with

a required college decal, which may be obtained at the receptionist's office in the Student Services Center.

Our regular meetings begin at 2:30 p.m. and usually last until about 4:30 p.m. Our program subject matter varies with the desires of the members and the availability of presenters; meeting schedules are available at the Programs Button on our web site, www.lscs.us. Computer Basics and Questions and Answers is usually scheduled on the Third Thursday of the month.

Special Interest Groups: SIGs are a subset of our members who have a special interest in applying computers to a unique area of interest. They are open to members and visitors as well, and there are no fees.

Because members recently expressed a desire to expand our normal presentation to 90-minutes, we are precluded from having both regular and SIG meetings on the same day. SIG topics are, therefore, being melded into the regular program schedule as appropriate.

However, in view of the availability of LH-1 on Tuesdays, some SIGs, especially those desiring to meet more frequently than once per quarter, have decided to move to Tuesdays in the same room and at the same time.

Computer-Genealogy SIG – One of these is the GEN SIG. As the name implies this SIG group focuses on the use of computers in the field of Genealogy. In addition to being sponsored by the LSCS, the Genealogy SIG also sponsored by the *Kinseekers Genealogy Society of Leesburg*. If you are into genealogy then you will find both of these Societies of great interest and utility. The Genealogy SIG meets at 2:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of the month.

Computer Repair Clinic: – on the second Tuesday of the month, LSCS is, on a test basis, offering a Computer Repair Clinic. This clinic also is being held in LH-1 at 2:30 p.m., and is

intended to be a place where you may bring your ailing computer to be examined and repaired by our volunteer members. We also expect to offer advice to our members on what they can do themselves at home to solve their computer problems.

Computer Explorers SIG – On the third Tuesday of the month, our Explorers SIG will convene at 2:30 p.m., in LH-1. We have a presentation followed by demonstration and discussion – applications are to be selected from a variety of topics, including basic files and folders, MS Office, pdf files, graphics and picture files, CD/DVD burning, Google searching and downloading, and others. Our thesis is to enable members at the beginning and higher levels of computer proficiency to understand how to manage the information in files and folders on their computers and to accomplish computer projects that include multiple file types and applications.

Newsletters:

- *Newsbytes* – members receive a color pdf copy of the monthly *Newsbytes*, the official Society newsletter, by email.
- Richards E-mail newsletter – members may sign up to receive a copy Glenn Richards' email newsletter, containing many useful tips and meeting reports.

LSCS Library:

We maintain two library functions:

- a wide assortment of CD-ROM-based training discs that are loaned to members who then take them home to become more proficient on operating systems and computer applications, and
- a family of freeware and shareware CDs and DVDs that are offered to members for a contribution to the Society's general fund.

Our Web Site: www.lscs.us – has become our primary source of information and the primary host of Society management data. This includes membership information, future program schedules, handouts for future and past presentations, newsletters, a list of members willing to assist other members on various software pro-

grams ("Colleagues List") and other materials. However, it is only available to members in good standing. Members should go there often and be certain to periodically verify their membership information.

New Member Orientation: A brief session for new members is held after the program on the fourth Thursday of the month.

Teaching Computer Classes: Because of our unique arrangement with the Community College we do not teach computer classes but rather mainly assist each other through seminar types of presentations.

Membership in State and International User Group Associations: Members of the LSCS are also automatically members of the Assoc. of PC User Groups (APCUG) and the Florida Assoc. Computer User Groups (FACUG). This entitles you to several benefits including: discounts on software, the ability to attract better speakers, the opportunity to review and present software and others. Their web sites are: <http://www.facug.org/> and <http://www.apcug.net/>

Your Place in LSCS: What do you hope to accomplish through membership in LSCS? Most likely you want to learn more about your computer and how to use it more productively.

Well, LSCS IS the right place to come. What you get from any organization is a function of what you put into it. If you just go to the meetings and little else you will learn something.

But if you really want to learn to use your computer, then volunteer for one of the many program and leadership openings in the Society. Make a presentation. Review a software program. Or perhaps edit the newsletter.

Then you will really learn to use your computer and we will all gain in the process.

And a high degree of computer proficiency is not a prerequisite!

Please accept this as my personal invitation for you to really learn how to use your computer. Join the LSCS! Tom J. Thiel, President.