



HSPLS

www.librarieshawaii.org

HSPLS? If you were at the 11/5 meeting you know those initials stand for the Hawaii State Public Library System. If you weren't at the meeting, you do now.

Miriam Sato and **Colette Young** from the Main Branch of the HSPLS gave our group an excellent overview of the system and a detailed description of its many features.

The Dewey Decimal System has been digitalized. Visiting the website will open a literary journey that lets you experience the classics, newspapers, reference materials, download e-books and Audiobooks, checkout printed materials, cassettes and CD's.

Reserve a book that is currently checked out and receive email notification when it is returned.

All you need to do to accomplish any of the above is, first have internet access and have a valid Library Card. Login and use their various databases.

The card is free for Hawai'i residents and all military and their dependents stationed here.

Non-residents can get a card valid for 5-years for \$25 or pay \$10 for a 3-month card.

Getting a card is very simple. Go to any library, fill out an application



Some of the attentive attendees.

and get your card.

Using one of our members valid library card, Colette logged into the Library system and could see what materials had been checked out. What materials, if any, that were on the reserve list and had full access to the entire library system.

In the sub-menu clicking on Catalog leads you to the various categories available, such as CDs & DVDs, Electronic databases, Hawaii newspaper index, and more.

There are categories for K dramas, childrens titles, and others.

The Hot Picks list is a list of titles that are so popular readers are limited to a 7-day checkout instead of the normal 21 days. The list is compiled by Library System Hot Picks Committee staff.

E-books are available for the Sony Reader and the Kindle.

Audiobooks are in the WAV and MP3 formats. They can be enjoyed with your iPhone, iPod, Android, Blackberry and other listening devices.

The e-downloads are provided by third party software company, Overdrive.com. Once you obtain a library card, you can use this service.

At the HSPLS click on the link to <http://hawaii.lib.overdrive.com> download their software, activate the software, check out of their site and start downloading. It's that easy.

Click on the *Explore your options* link at Overdrive.com for easy to follow instructions on downloading their free management software for

digital and audio materials.

Other services provided include programs and events at a library branch or on-site (such as schools). There are 51 branches throughout the islands, 24 on Oahu.

Books donated to the library system have to be screened by "Selectors" who determine if the book(s) can be accepted for display and checkout.

Selectors are assigned subjects, i.e. History themes go to one Selector, while military strategy would go to another.

HSPLS works with Friends of the Library to encourage reading.

If you're not reading, you should be. Exercise that grey matter and set an example for your offspring.

Support your local library branch so they don't suffer the same fate as the Post Office branches that will be closing—forever.

Remember—"Ut lego a libri."

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all.

Jim



Colette Young & Miriam Sato

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As promised, here are the last six days for your shopping fun. If you are reading this on December 1 you have 23 days to be the world's best Santa...if not, well, I can't help you there.

On the seventh day of Christmas, my true geek gave to me... The Only 3D Video Camcorder by Hammacher Schlemmer.



This is the only shirt pocket camcorder that records video in three dimensions to provide a true stereoscopic viewing experience.

The camcorder's two lenses work in unison with its 3 MP image sensor to record slightly differing images which are interlaced to create a video anaglyph--a 3D video. Videos are recorded in 640 x 480 pixel resolution as AVI files. A 4 GB SD card stores up to four hours of video or 2,000 3D still images (JPEG). The camcorder's 3 1/4" TFT display shows content in 3D (no glasses required), and movies can be viewed on the included media player's 7" screen because it is overlaid with a parallax barrier that displays video in 3D without the need for 3D glasses (content is transferred to the media player with an SD card). Media player includes speakers and a headphone jack. The camcorder can also shoot standard (2D) movies and pictures for display on the media player in 2D. Includes USB cable for copying content onto a computer. Its rechargeable battery provides two hours of operation from a six-hour charge; the media player uses an included AC adapter.

On the eighth day of Christmas my true geek gave to me...The Video Recording Sunglasses. These are the glasses with a built-

in video camera that allow you to discreetly record all that you see. The 0.3 megapixel pinhole camera is located in the bridge, providing 320 x 240 high-quality resolution for AVI videos. Up to 2 1/2 hours of videos can be recorded directly onto the built-in 2 GB memory. The left temple's frame houses a slot that accommodates a microSD card for additional memory storage. Videos can be copied to a computer using the built-in USB port and included cable. You can also download MP3s to the glasses and listen to them using the included earbuds. The built-in rechargeable battery provides up to two hours of recording from a two-hour charge using the included AC adapter. The plastic lenses use UV-400 coatings. (12 oz.)



On the ninth day of Christmas, my true geek gave to me...The Photo Vault

Ingenious, pocket size image archive manager finds, copies and stores the precious photographic memories you keep on your computer. The Photo Vault plugs into your PC or Mac with its USB interface and starts to work as soon as you click, "start backup." It searches your computer drives, identifies JPEG, TIFF, RAW, MOV and other image files, copies them and stores them in its memory. Compact unit has 8G of memory that holds about 8,000 photos. Makes a reliable and more affordable alternative to other off-computer and remote storage options.

On the tenth day of Christmas, my true geek gave to me...A Run-

away Alarm Clock
Bad news for "another ten minutes..."



snoozers

Now here's an alarm clock that goes away beyond just waking you up — its wild antics will get you out of bed. When wake up time rolls around so does this alarm clock with MP3 player. It actually jumps off your night stand, plays your favorite song and rolls around on the floor until you catch it and turn it off. If that's not enough, you can record a customized alarm message with its built-in microphone.

On the eleventh day of Christmas, my true geek gave to me...Air Swimmers

They swim through the air with incredibly smooth and life-like swimming motion. These amazing fish provide hours of remote control indoor fun in even the smallest of rooms (not for outdoor use). They require only four AAA batteries

(one in the body, three in the controller) and have complete up, down and 360 degree



turning control. The Shark is remote infra-red controlled and will respond to your inputs moving up and down most importantly left to right with fish like tail movement. Remote control has never come to life so magically! The helium filled fish body is made from durable nylon and with appropriate use will stay inflated for weeks depending on altitude. The William Mark Corporation has been dedicated to developing unique, high-quality products for extraordinary flight performance. The company was formed when Mark Forti, then a junior at Baylor University in Waco, Texas, invented the X-zylo™ for a marketing project. The product's performance amazed everyone who saw it. After stumping his

(Continued from page 2)

physics professor as to why the object flew, Mark took it to his father, William, who worked in the aerospace industry. When William's aerodynamicist friends could not explain how it flew so far, William and Mark filed for patents and formed the William Mark Corporation.

And finally, on the twelfth day of Christmas, my true geek gave to me...A CAT & DOG PET'S EYE VIEW CAMERA

Ohhh hi! I missed you so much today! Did you miss me? I missed you! Give me kisses! What did you do today? Did you see squirrels outside?



Have you ever wondered what your pet sees and does when you're not home? Is your pet an all-day napper or do they get into all sorts of mischief?

Just clip this lightweight, compact digital camera to your pets collar and explore your pets secret life! Auto interval settings (1, 5, and 15 minutes).

Internal memory stores up to 40 photos.

640 x 480 resolution for 4 x 6 prints.

Includes USB cable for uploading photos.

PC and Mac Compatible.

Includes rechargeable Lithium-ion 100 mAh battery.

Collar, cat and dog not included

I hope you have as much fun with the twelve days as I did. For the complete version go to <http://tinyurl.com/363qew> after Dec 1...now, dust off your credit cards and go to it...but as always, be careful out there on the www.

Aloha and Mele Kalikimaka

Lou



Prez Lou

A Christmas gift for you

Over the years at WINSIG I have tried to demonstrate software applications that would be of interest to the attendees. More times than not, I was successful in getting the software to behave, many times I was not. The problem was I usually waited until just a few days before the sessions to download, install and test the applications.

And, of course, if there was a tutorial or manual with it, I didn't bother to read it. But I found a number of applications that I still use today. Most are shareware and I have donated something to the author(s).

You all know what shareware is so I won't go into a detailed description other than to say, if you like it, you give the guy some dinero and you can use the software forever.

Here are some that I like and recommend.

Filenote—I use this when downloading files. Usually the file has a name that can be confusing. Filenote lets me type a short text file that describes the software. It automatically takes the same name as the application but with a .txt extension. Get Filenote at

<http://www.moonsoftware.com/shelltools.asp>

Gadwin PrintScreen—is an easy to use utility that allows you to capture any portion of the screen, save it to a file, copy it to Windows clipboard, print it or e-mail it.

<http://www.gadwin.com/download/>

CCleaner—a utility that cleans the

Registry to improve computer performance.

<http://www.piriform.com/ccleaner>

Outlook Attachment Remover—Free Outlook add-in for saving and extracting attachments, decreasing the size of your Outlook files. Easy-to-use. Plenty of features.

<http://www.kopf.com.br/outlook/>

Paint.NET—is a free image and photo editing software application for computers that run Windows.

Easy to use and performs as well as the expensive imaging packages.

<http://www.getpaint.net/>
Secunia (PSI) Personal Software Inspector—is a security scanner which identifies programs that are insecure and need updates. It even automates the updating of many of these programs, making it a lot easier to maintain a secure PC.

http://secunia.com/vulnerability_scanning/personal/

And, to put a smile on your face, visit this site

<http://cuteoverload.com/>

Photos and videos of cute animals. There seems to be multiple new postings on a daily basis. One video had a cockatoo taking pasta out of a pot on the stove, (the heat was turned off) and feeding it to an Akita dog.

This link takes you to the site and is a photo filled with emotion. A small kitten.

<http://cuteoverload.com/2011/11/11/dont-you-forget-about-me/>

Posters sometimes add humorous captions and 'stories' to accompany the images.

I guarantee this will make you feel better no matter how bad your day has been.

All of us at The TUG wish you and yours the best in the coming year.

Aloha,

Jim

Read all of Lou's previous columns, @ Oceanic Around Town. Visit <http://tinyurl.com/363qew>



Sooner or later all things come to an end. And so it is with the Windows Special Interest Group (WINSIG) that we've been running for many, many years. Since Windows v3.0 was the big kid on the block, matter of fact.

It seems that nowadays the answers to questions are more easily found on the internet, with the abundance of search engines a few words typed in the query line return thousands of results.

Consequently, attendance at the WINSIG has declined to an average of 10 people per session over the past three years (2009-2011).

While the sessions made for good fun and camaraderie it became a burden for some. Setting aside over 2 hours for a meeting once a month may not seem like a chore but, even in retirement, a number of us have other things to take care of.

Members were often travelling and some moved to the mainland and a few have passed on.

I like to think that the reduced attendance was due more to attrition than to my attempt at humor, which could be considered acerbic by some. I meant no harm. I hope that you recognized my gentle barbs were a sign of affection and not in any way meant to be malicious.

As the "proctor" for these sessions I would like to extend a big **Mahalo** to all the loyal attendees who made the trek into town over the years.

I especially want to thank Rose, Phil, Gail, and Sandy for being instrumental in reserving the meeting space for us at 999

Wilder Ave.

And, of course, Rose and Sandy for being the distributors of The TUG. I'd deliver the copies and she would see to it that the copies were folded, stuffed and mailed the same day. Mahalo, Rose.

Over the years the WINSIG was held at various locations starting with the Elk's Club; in Foster Village, next to the swimming pool, where the OVC now stands, and eventually at 999 Wilder.

We (read me) used to have to lug around a very heavy 20" CRT monitor and a tower computer with the accompanying peripherals. Keeping up with the times, as it were, we winnowed this down to a notebook and small projector.

It's been fun and I'm sad to see it end, but there will still be an opportunity for WINSIG related questions and answers at the regular TUG meetings.

The Board has decided, based on a recommendation from Rose, that we set aside a portion of the main meeting for this, when time allows, to give presenters the time to finish their programs.

So, like a bad penny, we'll keep showing up.

The WINSIG files will still be on the website for an indefinite period of time. There won't be any additions to the page, for now.

Windows 8 is on the horizon so we'll have something to talk about for the next couple of years as the new version hits the street and computer manufacturers pre-install it.

Aloha,
Jim



Pres—Lou Torraca

VP—Jack DeTour

Sec/Treas—Polly Leigh

Assistant—Sandy Wells

—Program Directors—

Herman Jordan and Bear Maher

Newsletter—Jim Fromm

Distribution—Rose Miller and friends

Contact info is on our web site

www.the-tug.org

So as not to insult anyone, and to cover all the bases, let me say,

To you and your families.

Merry Christmas

Happy Hanukkah

Happy Holidays

Seasons Greetings

Have a safe and

Happy New Year, too.

Agenda for December

At the December 3rd TUG meeting will be discussing QR codes. You've seen them but do you know what they are and what they can do for you? Bear will explain in detail.

Also, time permitting, Herman will revisit some end-of-year house (computer) file cleaning methods to keep your computer running smoothly well into the New Year.

Come and be counted in the last meeting of 2011. And, for the door prizes. I have some new ones.

