

# Computer News

## Scheduled Events

*November - December 2014*

Board of Directors Meeting February 6, 2015 10:AM - 12:00 Noon

House @ Napa Senior Center

Investor SIG Meeting November 10, 2014 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM  
December 8, 2014 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM  
23 Skipping Rock Way, Napa

Mac SIG Meeting November 13, 2014 6:30 P.M. - 8:30 PM  
December 11, 2014 6:30 P.M. - 8:30 PM  
Napa Senior Center / 1500 Jefferson St., Napa

Annul Members potluck & Holiday Party  
December 17, 2014 6:30 PM - 8:30PM  
Peterson's Winery Christmas Tree Farm 1120 Darms Lane, Napa

**Holiday Party replaces General Meeting**

**From the President  
by  
Ron Dack**

November 13, 2014

### General Meeting

November 19, 2014

7PM - 9PM

### Using Linux

With

### Scot Cleveland

IT Consultant

[www.scotcleveland.com](http://www.scotcleveland.com)

[scot@scotcleveland.com](mailto:scot@scotcleveland.com)

694-0458

Scot will be discussing and demonstrating the use of **Linux** for your every day computing.

**Lawrence Koga** showed you the **Linux** Kernel, O/S, and how to install it on your computer. Now let Scot show you what to use it for.

Scot may start at 7PM so I would suggest you get there in time to get a parking space. Bring your neighbor or friend they might like to know about this system.

My fellow **Napa Valley Personal Computer Users Group** members, I have some important information to share with you.

As you know, for the last few years I have been asking for volunteers to help our (**NVPCUG**) group to continue functioning.

Yes I am aware I now use this to quiet down the room during meetings. Asking for volunteers seems to work better than asking for quiet.

At the November 7, 2014 Board of Directors meeting the board discussed this issue.

President continued from Page 1:  
 Many times in the last few years we have asked the membership as well as individuals for assistance in doing some of the necessary jobs to keep the group going. We have so far not found a single person willing to volunteer. Because of this, we are seriously considering disbanding/dissolving the group at the end of this year.

Unless, someone steps up and volunteers to participate by doing some of the little jobs we need done to continue operating the group. **NVPCUG** will cease to exist as of the February Board of Directors meeting.

If you volunteer you are certainly welcome to be a Board of Directors member but you do not have to serve on the Board of Directors to handle many of these jobs including the current openings. Volunteering for and doing one of these jobs makes you eligible for annual dues exemption.

We urgently need a Membership Chair Person. This job involves tracking membership, maintaining current information on members, reminding members to renew their membership when due to expire, making and maintaining name tags, and reporting membership changes to the board.

When we call this job a chairperson it means you can split these duties however you choose. Currently, **Bob Simmerman** and **Dianne Prior** are sharing membership. Hopefully you can find some other member(s) to help by doing a tiny portion of the job. No individual should feel over stressed.

You can use whatever software or tracking method you are comfortable with including database, spreadsheet, and/or document, etc.

After many years as Membership Chair Bob feels he needs a break. He has resigned this position effective February 6, 2015. He as well as Dianne are willing to assist anyone volunteering to do this job.

Not critical but important another job opening is Publicity. This job entails maintaining a list server on Yahoo Groups; this server has e-mail for area press. Contacting area media, sending press releases, obtaining new and current contact information for members of the press, and doing other necessary things to maintain good relations with the press. Once again you do not have to serve on the Board of Directors and this job makes you dues free for the duration.

It would also be nice to have a Programs Chair Person.

Contacting people/businesses that have computer related information to share and arranging a group presentation Mac and/or PC, notify Newsletter Editor, Webmaster, and Publicity of schedule and information about the presenter and the subject of the presentation. Once again you don't have to serve on the Board of Directors and you are dues exempt.

**Most importantly** let me know if you are willing to be Membership Chair. Without this position filled we will be terminating the whole group.

Ron Dack, President  
[President@nvpcug.org](mailto:President@nvpcug.org)  
 252-0928  
 738-1737 Cell

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### Review of October Presentation

The October presentation by **Lawrence Koga** was a continuation of our **Linux** O/S Series. Beginning with August: Lawrence covered how to install **Linux** on a computer with another O/S like **MS Windows**.

September: Lawrence gave the group copies of **Mint 17 Linux** for whoever wanted to run it on CD just to get used to **Linux**.

October: Lawrence returned and actually helped two of our

members install **Mint 17 Linux** both as a single O/S on **Dianne Prior's** computer and a dual boot O/S on **Ami Bedi's** computer. All said and done it was a great learning experience. I enjoyed the hands on demonstration and will be installing **Linux** on one of my computers in the near future.

Want to know more about **Linux Mint:**  
<http://www.linuxmint.com/>  
 click this link.

We also were treated to a secret code on **Windows 8** that sleeps in the BIOS and prevents you from installing any other O/S on the computer it is called the **Unified Extensible Firmware Interface(UEFI)**

**Wikipedia:**  
 In [computing](#), the **Unified Extensible Firmware Interface (UEFI)** (pronounced as an initialism U-E-F-I or like "unify" without the *n*)[\[a\]](#) is a [specification](#) that defines a software [interface](#) between an [operating system](#) and platform [firmware](#). UEFI is meant to replace the Basic Input/Output System ([BIOS](#)) firmware interface, originally present in all [IBM PC-compatible personal computers](#).[\[2\]\[3\]](#) In practice, most UEFI firmware images provide legacy support for BIOS services. UEFI can support remote diagnostics and repair of computers, even without another operating system.[\[4\]](#)

[Intel](#) developed the original **EFI (Extensible Firmware Interface)** specification. Some of the EFI's practices and data formats mirror those from [Microsoft Windows](#).[\[5\]\[6\]](#) In 2005, UEFI deprecated EFI 1.10 (the final release of EFI). The [Unified EFI Forum](#) manages the UEFI specification.

There is a lot more about the UEFI at:  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Unified\\_Extensible\\_Firmware\\_Interface](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Unified_Extensible_Firmware_Interface)

So if you are interested click the link above.

**NVPCUG  
 Annual Holiday Party &  
 Potluck Dinner  
 Wednesday  
 December 17, 2014  
 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM  
 Peterson's Winery &  
 Christmas Tree Farm  
 1120 Darms Lane, Napa**

That's right our annual Holiday Party is not that far away. Graciously **Dick & Sandy Peterson** are allowing us to hold the event in their Christmas House. Sandy does such a beautiful job decorating for the holidays. Probably it will be decorated with Christmas time colors and decorations. If you are planning to attend you should and must notify

**Dianne Prior, Events Coordinator.**

You should be able to tell her you are attending and how many are in your party? Whether you are bringing guests? (lets keep it reasonable) What food you are bringing to share?

You only have until about December 12 to contact her. Dianne can be reached at:  
[prior\\_di@hotmail.com](mailto:prior_di@hotmail.com)

252-1506  
**NVPCUG** will provide soft drinks, plasticware, cups, plates, and a bucket of KFC. If you want alcoholic beverages you will need to bring and share them.

This party is one of the best things about **NVPCUG**. It and the summer picnic are fun social events. You can get to know other members, participate in games, win prizes, and generally just have a good time.

The food is great too. Every year I get to sample the home cooking of other families. I have also been known to trade recipes. In fact I finally put Dawna's cherry pineapple cake recipe on the web site.

If you want more info about this party or anything we do just check the websites:

<http://www.nvpcug.org>  
<http://www.nvmug.org>