

PC Post



Official Newsletter of the
Modesto PC User Group.
Modesto, California

**Special
Issue**

26 YEARS OF USER HELPING USER

APRIL 2008 – VOLUME 26.04

WHITHER? MODESTO PC USER GROUP

With Bud Bondietti gone and MPCUG president Mike Kumler weighed down by the difficulties of his new job, now in Stockton, the group faces a decision on its future direction, which members will discuss when they meet Thursday, April 24.

Hopefully, as many members as possible will show up at 6:30 p.m. at Destiny Christian Center on south Carver Road for the discussion. Refreshments at 7:30 p.m. with further discussion afterward, as necessary.



BUD BONDIETTI 1950–2008

Bud in conversation with Vivian Neumann at the last MPCUG meeting March 27, 2008. Photo by Kirk Stockham.

**For directions to
Destiny Christian
Center
see page 8**

IMPORTANT MEETING DATES

General Meeting — April 24th — Destiny Christian Center
Photo SIG Meeting — on hold
Board Meeting — May 7 — Ridgeway's Restaurant
Beginner's SIG Meeting — on hold

BUDDY SILVRO BONDIETTI

AUG. 30, 1950 - APRIL 4, 2008

Buddy S. Bondietti passed away on April 4, 2008 at Emanuel Medical Center in Turlock, CA.

He was born in Santa Maria, CA. August 30, 1950 to Silvro and Bonnie Bondietti. He attended schools in Guadalupe, CA. graduating from high school in Santa Maria, CA. Buddy graduated from Modesto Junior College with an AS degree in Computer Science. He also graduated from Institute of Technology.

Upon finishing high school Buddy joined the Navy. While in the Navy his time was spent in Vietnam on an aircraft carrier. Upon returning he was stationed in Crowslanding, CA. later relocating to Turlock, CA where he met the love of his life Cynthia.

Bud and Cynthia were married on Oct. 26, 1980 in Turlock, CA. They spent their lives in Turlock spending time with family and friends and enjoying many trips through out the United States and abroad. Buddy worked for Abe's Plumbing then went to work for his father-in-law, Henry Rootlieb at Rootlieb Inc. were he was in charge of the shipping dept.

Buddy also worked for Henrich Packing. For the past 7 years Buddy owned and operated a computer repair and consulting business. Buddy was past president and on the board of the Modesto PC users group. He was also the leader of the Modesto computer beginners special interest group.

Buddy (known as Uncle Bud by most) had a big heart and he was always there to offer help expecting nothing in return. He is preceded in death by parents Silvro and Bonnie Bondietti. He is survived by his wife Cynthia Bondietti of Turlock, CA, sister Pam Harrell and husband Walt, niece Donnel and husband Ryan, and 1 great niece all of Tenn. Sister-in-law Laura Norbeck and husband George, of Escalon, CA. brother-in-law Tom Rootlieb and niece Hollianne of Turlock, CA. nephews, Jacob Doane and Matthew Doane of Denair, CA Paul Doane of Escalon, niece Michelle Santos and husband Bruce, 2 great nephews all of Chowchilla, CA.

Visitation will be held from noon to 7PM, Thursday, April 10, 2008 at Turlock Funeral Home, 425 N. Soderquist Rd. in Turlock. A funeral will be held 11:00 AM, Friday, April 11, 2008 also at Turlock Funeral Home. Burial will follow at Turlock Memorial Park. Memorial donations may be made to the Salvation Army, P.O. Box 3576, Turlock, CA 95381

www.modbee.com/obituaries

Bud's death

People who knew Bud want to know about his sudden death. We want to know how a loved friend died. It undoubtedly helps our grief. Member and friend, Jack Selover, and Bud were having lunch at a Turlock restaurant, something they both enjoyed frequently. Many of us shared those lunches or dinners with Bud many times, and often at his expense. A few days before at the MPCUG board meeting, he felt unwell. During lunch on that Friday, April 4th, as Jack explained, Bud went to the bathroom to vomit. Jack saw another man exit the restroom and thought Bud must be OK, but then after a few more minutes went by and Bud still hadn't come out, he went to check. He found Bud collapsed on the floor. Help arrived quickly and Bud was transported to Emanuel Hospital where he was pronounced dead after attempts to revive him. Jack kept hoping at the hospital that they would come out and tell him that they had revived him, but it was not to be.

PC Post editorship, recent history

In the beginning of the 2003 year, Gene Richards was editing the PC Post. By July of that year Claude Delphia was again the editor for three months. Bud took over editor ship from Claude starting with the October 2003 issue and continued until his death. He edited a total of 54 issues tying with Bill "Doc" Holloway back in the early days of MPCUG. Claude edited more than anyone has counted, but probably more than 80 issues.

Future of PC Post

On a personal note, I don't see how I can take on the editorship of the PC Post beyond a few issues as the MPCUG board regroups and makes decisions about the club's future. I've committed myself to too many other responsibilities in my retirement and my time is on loan to others over the near and long term. It would be wonderful if someone would step forward and continue the Post for our member's and Bud's sake. We will have to wait and see if that happens. If not, it could be the end of the PC Post as we know it, and that would be sad and not what Bud would want.

A past president shares his memories

By Bud Bondiotti, President Emeritus

By Bud Bondiotti, president emeritus, written in 2002 on the occasion of the club's 20th anniversary. Bud joined MPCUG on 9/23/1994.

I first got started in computers after leaving the Navy in 1974. I started attending college under the G.I. bill and on the recommendation of my advisor, I started taking computer classes. After two or three semesters, I realized that at the rate that they were cranking out graduates, the market would be flooded so I switched to business.

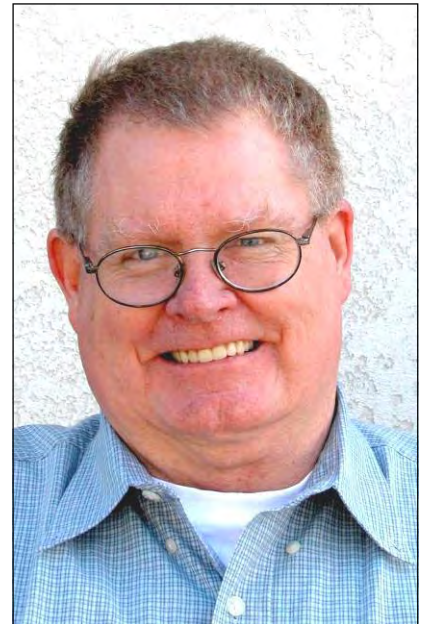
In 1982 or so, after the release of the personal computer I got caught up in the "Commodore Craze" and bought a 64. I was amazed by the graphics, sound and such but was on a very meager budget so I went in search of like-minded people and found the Valley Computer Club. There I found a new source of information, programs and such and as the Commodore advanced, so did I.

About this time I realized that now there was a need for computer users so I looked into training. I discovered that the local high school offered R.O.P. (Regional Opportunities Program) courses on computers and programs so I enrolled. There I met Ray Nichols and he taught me enough computer knowledge to reignite my interest so I enrolled at MJC and began taking classes in earnest. I had decided to take classes that would interest me but not cause a burn-out like I had experienced earlier on, so I progressed at a slower pace.

As my interest in the "PC" became intense and the Commodore less, I went searching for a club that would meet the needs of my interest. I had heard of the Modesto PC User Group through different software vendors in the area and decided to check them out. At the time they were meeting in an auditorium at Beyer High School, so I attended one of their meetings. One of the first persons I met was Liz Leedom who in turn introduced me to other members. I enjoyed my first visit but as I was attending classes in the evening, I soon found that I would not be able to attend any of the club meetings.

After graduation in 1993 with an A.S. degree in computer science, I went searching for an outlet to use this new found knowledge. As the selections of jobs in the central valley were scarce and I didn't want to commute to the bay area, I let my computer skills sit on hold. In the meantime, I once again heard of the Modesto PC User Group and attended another meeting. At that time they were meeting in the banquet room of Denny's on McHenry which was convenient providing that you got there early to find a seat. I found the presentations to be great so I joined on the spot and met some very knowledgeable persons. It wasn't too much longer after the election of John Oehrke that we moved from Denny's to the Board of Realtors on McHenry. After settling into our new digs, I approached John about starting a Special Interest Group for Beginners and after presenting the concept to the board, the SIG was formed. We also began starting the meetings with a general Question and Answer session for both beginners and advanced. It turned out to be an excellent resource for membership and has continued ever since.

Our meeting place eventually was eliminated when Ron Simi Floral bought the building after their shop burnt to the ground during the McHenry Village fire. We were forced to move again, this time to the gym at St Paul's where we have been ever since. We have had numerous members come and go and I had been elected for three terms as president. Our membership numbers have risen and declined over those years and we have finally leveled out to about 105 members. One thing has always been a continuing factor of our success and that is we still practice "User Helping User".



October 2002

For the latest information about the MPCUG — Check our website at

WWW.MPCUG.NET

TRIBUTES TO BUD

Dear Bud,

What have you gone and done?

I am sitting in the middle of the computer conundrum you left me with a couple of weeks ago.

You came to my house and installed my C drive on my newly purchased portable backup drive. You said you would come by the next time you were in Modesto to show me how to do backups on it myself.

Only last week, I asked you when you would next be in Modesto. I think you looked a little weary. You were not sure. You would let me know.

Now what? I've tried and tried to access that drive. But it's susceptible only to your magic. How many times have you rescued me? Mostly without pay of any kind. What am I going to do without you?

You just kept plowing ahead, no matter what. The club should not buy a new projector. Yours was always available. We needed another SIG? You would do it. Did we need someone to run the general meeting question-answer forum? You would do it.

Of course you had time. And energy.

You were always there.

Sometimes we worried that in the midst of dialysis, you were not up to carrying as much of the club as you did. Of course you were, you said, in a tone that brooked no defiance.

Where are you, Bud, when I need you? If I close my eyes, will you slip into my mind and deposit your magic on that hard drive process?

You were so much of all of us – for the last 16 years, was it? – what will we do without you? I hope you knew how much we valued you. I hope. Could you possibly? I hope, wherever you are, they give you the best seat in the house.

You deserve more thanks than any of us can really express. But please know we love you and wonder how we can possibly manage without you.

Liz

(Elizabeth Leedom, MPCUG vice president)

My friend..... Bud

Hard to list all the things I would like to say about Bud. Had I known at the board meeting Wednesday that you would be gone in two days I would have told you then how much I had valued our friendship over

the years. Never have I experienced a person so knowledgeable, so patient, so kind to everyone as you were. It was so much fun to reminisce about the early days of computers with you. It was wonderful to see you take a deep breath, and not lose your patience with some of the more recalcitrant members of the club. I am enriched by all the friends I have, but none more than I was with our friendship. I shall miss your expertise, your smile and your laugh. I shall miss you.

Barb Cameron, Treasurer.

One of the first things I said to his wife Cynthia was "Bud was a giver." He gave of his knowledge to all of us. I believe almost everybody who came to the meetings had a question on their mind the night they came and Bud loved to answer them. Bud never talked down to anyone. One day my daughter-in-law was at her wits end trying to get her printer working and she had orders stacking up. She'd been four hours trying to get it running and to no avail. I called Bud for help and he saved the day.....AGAIN.

For the last couple of years I watched Bud going downhill but when I'd ask him how he felt he was always upbeat. The day he passed away he'd been to the doctor for his diabetes and he seemed kind of quiet so I asked him how he felt and he informed me "I've felt better, but I've felt worse" and he assured me he'd feel better after lunch. He didn't make it.

Bud was one of the most unselfish people I have ever known and he will be missed.

Jack Selover:

I am absolutely devastated. Our last e-mails were recently about the SW conference and I told him that he will be missed this year. He led a couple of workshops for me over the years and, of course, did an outstanding job.

Judy Taylor of APCUG

Hi Bud,

Yes; I will miss you. Your wit and wisdom has been a major factor in my computer life. You have visited my house to hook up a new computer and also for a five-minute lesson on how to do a very menial

(Continued on page 5)