

SCA Computer Club notes

Classes for the Month of Oct



To enroll, log into the website at <https://computer.scaclub.org/>. Go to Calendars and select Classes/Events. Click on the class you want to take and under "Action", click on "**Enroll**". (Be sure to check the date as there may be multiple offerings of the class). If you need to cancel your enrollment, please log back in, select the class again and click on "**Drop**". All classes are FREE to Computer Club members in good standing and are geared for **beginners** unless otherwise indicated. A member can take any class as many times as desired.

IMPORTANT: You must have your **SCA Resident ID** with you to check-in at the Monitor desk **AND AGAIN** in the front of the Classroom to ensure you are enrolled on the day of the class. Check-in will begin 20 minutes before the scheduled class time. If you are late, you may be bumped from the class by someone on the waiting list.

If you've recently joined our Club we encourage you to attend the **New Member Orientation** class to familiarize yourself with our Club's activities. Learn how to sign up for classes, schedule a house call, volunteer to be a monitor and more. **Current members not familiar with all of the benefits offered by our Computer Club are also encouraged to take this Orientation as a refresher.**

Buying a Computer: Are you considering buying a new computer for yourself or as a gift? Should you buy a desktop, a laptop or a tablet? What are the differences between them? Should you buy a Mac or a PC? Will it be used for email, to watch movies, organize your photos, write a book, etc.? Have your questions answered before you buy.

Apple Mobile Safari Browser: Using the Safari browser iPad, iPhone, and iPod Touch including using multiple tabs, creating, organizing and using bookmarks, downloading, and setting preferences. **Prerequisites:** *Introduction to iPad or familiarity with IOS operating system.*

Apple Mobile Contacts App: Account configuration, using groups to organize contacts, integration with the Mail app, the phone, the Message app and Facetime. **Prerequisites:** *Introduction to iPad or familiarity with IOS operating system.*

Apple Mobile Mail App: How to use the Mail app to send and receive mail from multiple email accounts on iPhones, iPads and iPod touch. Topics will include basic account setup, creating and using mailboxes, attachments, and signatures. We will also cover sending attachments including pictures by email. Avoiding Spam and phishing schemes will be explained. **Prerequisites:** *Introduction to iPad or familiarity with IOS operating system.*

Apple Mobile Calendar App: Account configuration, making and using multiple calendars, creating events including repeating events and the use of alerts. Sharing Calendars and subscribing to public calendars will be covered. **Prerequisites:** *Introduction to iPad or familiarity IOS operating system.*

Introduction to iPhone/iPad: If you are new to the iPhone/iPad or planning on getting one, this class will show you how to setup your device including the critical iCloud settings. You will learn how to set preferences and navigate the system. Arranging and grouping your apps will be covered and how to find and install apps from the Apple App Store.

Photoshop Elements: Do you have a digital camera? Learn how to organize and edit your pictures. This hands-on class for both Mac and Windows users gives a basic introduction to Adobe Photoshop

Classes for October (continued)

Elements. After taking this introductory class to this powerful photo-editing program, we recommend continuing with the **Photoshop Elements SIG**, where different tools, projects, and techniques are discussed.

Premiere Elements Parts 1, 2, 3: In **Part 1**, we will introduce Adobe Premiere Elements (a video editing program) by doing several projects involving animated slideshows, making use of the slideshow templates in Photoshop Elements. The remaining slideshows will be done using Premiere Elements and some of its features. **Prerequisites:** *Must be comfortable using either Windows or Mac OS and have a basic understanding of Photoshop Elements.*

Part 2 will give a good hands-on introduction to Premiere Elements. The interface and a number of the program's features will be investigated in detail. We will also create and edit a couple videos.

Prerequisites: *Enrollees should have taken Premiere Elements Part 1. Some experience with photo editing and with shooting videos is also helpful.*

Part 3 gives further hands-on instruction in using Premiere Elements to further enhance your skills in creating digital videos. The topics covered build upon the skills learned in the basic Premiere Elements Part 1 and Premiere Elements Part 2 classes. The topics vary but may include further video making/editing, creating titles and credits, using themes, and working in conjunction with Photoshop Elements.

Prerequisites: *Enrollees should have taken both the **Premier Elements Part 1** and **Premiere Elements Part 2** classes. Some experience with photo editing and with shooting videos is also helpful.*

Plustek Slide Scanner: This is a demonstration class on using the Club's Plustek scanner with the SilverFast software to make high quality scans of 35 mm slides and negatives. SilverFast enables one to make a number of image enhancements during the actual scanning process. Techniques for successful scanning, editing and organization of image files will also be covered. **Prerequisites:** *Some experience using a photo editing program such as Photoshop Elements.*

Special Interest and User Groups

A SIG is a “**special interest group**” that meets on a weekly or monthly basis. “**User Groups**” also meet on a monthly basis. We invite ANY Computer Club member who is interested in learning more about a specific product/application or a specific topic to join in the discussions. All groups meet in the computer classroom. Participants ask questions and discuss various topics at each session.

The **Photography User Group** will meet on **Monday, Oct 14 from 1-3 PM**. Do you take pictures with your phone? Do you use a camera? If you have an interest in photography, join this group and learn more about techniques to enhance your picture taking, photo composition, photo equipment and more. All experience levels, from beginners to experts, are welcome.

If you are an Apple user, the **Apple User Group** will meet monthly to investigate Apple products. Did you recently buy a Mac, an iPad or MacBook Air? Do you have questions regarding specific Apple products or applications? Sit in on this month's meeting on **Saturday, Oct 12 from 10 AM- noon** and see if this is the group you have been looking to join.

The **Photoshop Elements SIG** will meet on **Fri, Oct 25 from 9:30- 11:30 AM**. We cover topics that build upon skills learned in the basic Photoshop Elements class and participants can get help with Photoshop Elements related problems.

Computer Talk meets **weekly from 9 –10 AM every Thursday** and is designed as a “question and answer” session. Can't figure out how to do something? Anyone can ask anything computer related. Do you have a question regarding a specific product or application? Bring your questions and join the discussion each Thursday. New members are always welcome.

Apple Watch – Best Friend in an Emergency!

By Brian Corr

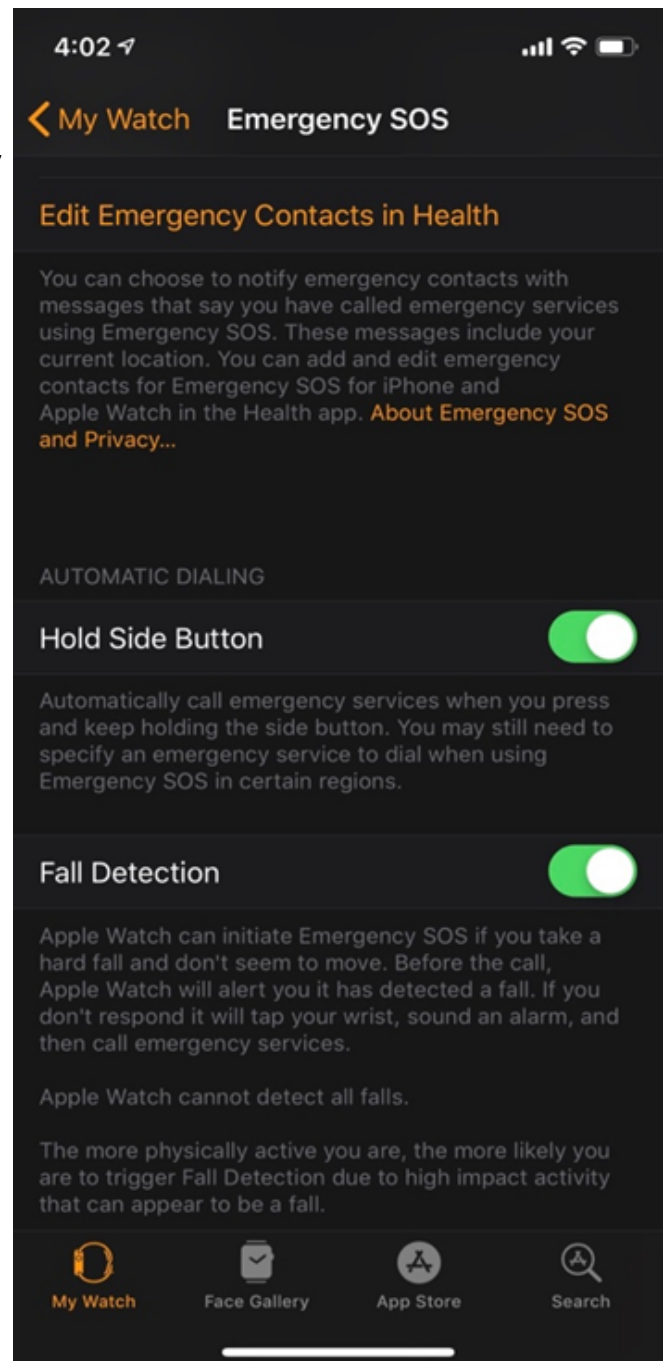
As the Apple Watch has matured over the last 5 years, Apple has attempted to add more and more capability to monitor, encourage and warn you about health issues. From the earliest versions which tracked your heart rate, stand time and exercise, to the latest version which includes warnings about unusual heart rates, atrial fibrillation and even falls, Apple has pressed the frontier of medical benefits. I'm going to list some of the built-in and add-on capabilities and how to use them.

The first one I'd like to talk about is the **Emergency SOS** capability built in to the Apple Watch version 4 and above. To set and understand the Emergency SOS capabilities you need to open the Watch app on your connected iPhone and select **"Emergency SOS"**. The first statement you will see is *"If you use Emergency SOS, your device calls emergency services and sends your emergency contacts a message that includes your location"*.

Below this message is a list of your emergency contacts. If you have not yet added emergency contacts, the link to **"Edit Emergency Contacts in Health"** opens the Health app where you can set not only your emergency contacts, but include some additional health information that will be useful to emergency responders trying to treat you.

In the Health app you can set the emergency contacts and also your medical conditions, allergies and medications. This is also where you can set your organ donor preference. This information is available to emergency responders even if your iPhone is locked.

Below the emergency contacts area there is a section called **"Automatic Dialing"** where you have the option to set two (2) conditions under which emergency responders and your emergency contacts will be notified. The first one is an on/off option to allow you to simply press and hold the side button on the watch (not the crown) and select SOS to call emergency responders and notify your emergency contacts. The second option is **"Fall Detection"** and turning that on will allow your watch (based on a complicated set of motions it detects) to determine you may have fallen. If you don't move for a period of time it will presume you have fallen and are either unconscious or unable to move and will notify emergency responders and your emergency contacts. In both of these cases you have the ability to cancel within a short period of time. Active people may trigger false detection of falls, so while doing something physical that keeps triggering a false fall alert, you may want to turn off this capability.



Apple Watch – Best Friend in an Emergency!

(continued)

The second capability I would like to talk about is heart monitoring. From simple pulse rate to the ability to record ECGs that may indicate the occurrence of atrial fibrillation, Apple has been on the forefront of advanced health monitoring. Again, open the Watch app on your iPhone and then select “**Heart**”. The “**Heart Health**” includes the following statement *“Apple Watch can help you look after your heart. You can record an ECG to look for atrial fibrillation. You can also get a notification if Apple Watch identifies irregular heart rhythms that look like atrial fibrillation or if your heart rate is high or low.”*

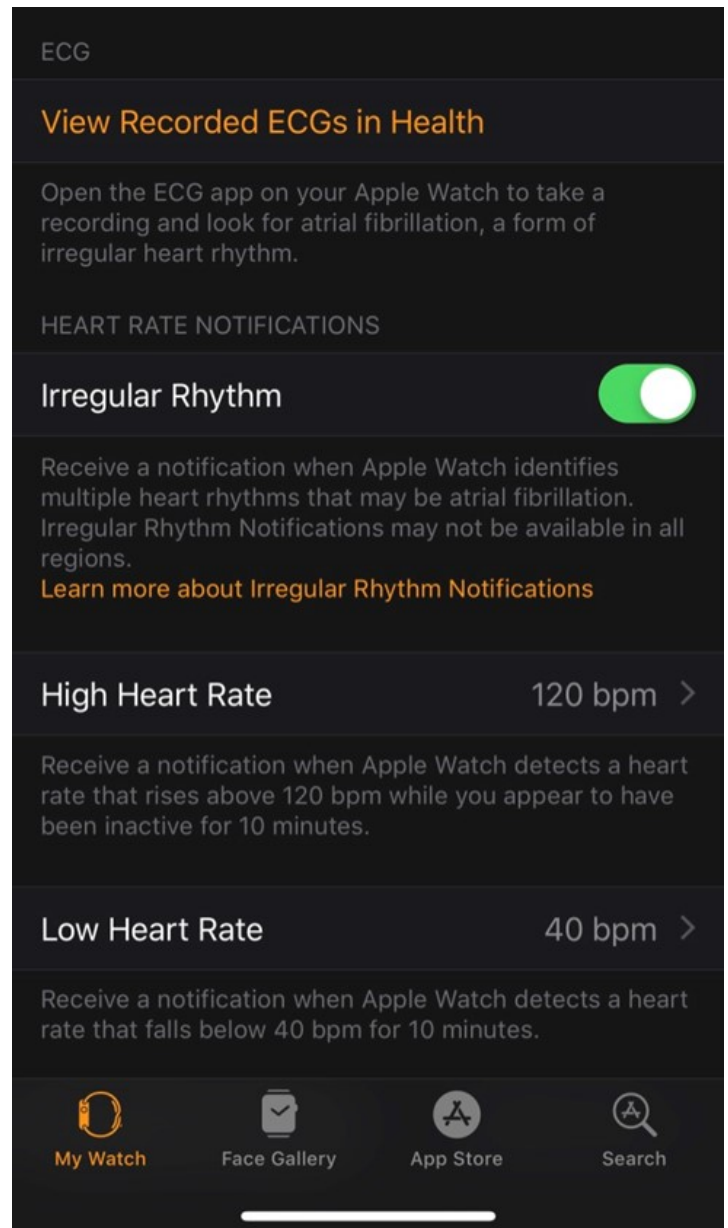
Below this statement is a link to view previously recorded ECGs in the Health app. To record an ECG with your Apple Watch (only available on version 4 or newer) you will need to start the app which looks like an ECG segment and then while sitting quietly hold your finger on the crown of the watch.

It will start a 30 second countdown as soon as it detects a heart rhythm and when it finishes the 30 second countdown it will indicate either Sinus rhythm, Possible Atrial Fibrillation, or Undetermined which is usually the indication of incomplete circuit from your finger through your body and down the other arm to your wrist where the second sensor is located. The resultant ECG is stored on your iPhone and can be shared as a PDF to your doctor, if he or she wants to see it, and accepts the data as valid.

Below this area is a slide switch to turn on Irregular Rhythm, which will provide notification to you if, in its occasional monitoring of your heartbeat, it detects an irregularity which might be indicative of atrial fibrillation.

Below this area is an area for setting high and low heart rates (which if detected in a resting state) may indicate a heart problem. The big disclaimer from Apple is that your Apple Watch can **NOT** detect a heart attack!

In future articles I will touch on the many more health related capabilities of the Apple Watch. Can't wait to see what Apple adds in the next generation of Apple Watch.



Some of the **Photography User Group** members enjoyed a photo trip to the Nelson Ghost Town on Wednesday, September 25th. We had a small group on this trip, but we had plenty of fun! Leaving the Anthem parking lot at 9am, we arrived at Nelson about 9:45am (we carpool to our destinations). The opportunity for photographing at Nelson is amazing, and we managed to get a nice variety of shots!

Afterwards, we had lunch at The Coffee Cup in Boulder City, and arrived back at Anthem around 3pm. All Anthem residents are welcome to join us on our trips—group members, non-members, friends, family, those who take pictures, and those who don't.

The Photography User Group meets on the second Monday of every month from 1pm – 3pm in the Computer Club classroom. Our photo group consists of a range of photographers from beginners (using cameras on their phones) to experienced photographers. Our mission is to learn and share our photography skills, to help each other, to make new friends, and to enjoy our monthly photo trips to various venues near (and hopefully) some more distant places in the future. Here are a few photos from our trip to Nelson:



Any Computer club member in good standing can join our Photography User Group. Please email Pat Yeamen at scaphotogroup@gmail.com or come to our next meeting on Monday, Oct 14 at 1:00 PM in the Computer Classroom. Hope to see you there!



<https://computer.scaclub.org/>

In case you haven't noticed, our Computer Club website has been revamped and easier to read and navigate. If you have it in your bookmarks, please be sure to edit/update its URL. The old URL was myscacc.com and its current one is: <https://computer.scaclub.org>

If you missed last month's **General Membership meeting**, our guest speakers provided a fairly detailed presentation on the dangers of cyber crime, how to spot it, how to avoid it, and how to deal with it should it happen to you. The website that our guest speakers continually referenced was the **Internet Crime Complaint Center (ic3.gov)** where one can report a cybercrime; whether a threat or an instance that actually resulted in a loss of data, money, etc.

The Internet Crime Complaint Center constantly monitors active threats and looks for trends that they can use to proactively stop cyber criminals in their endeavors. Our guest speakers strongly encouraged members to use that website to report any would-be criminals and to include all of the details upon making such a report, such as the exact link(s) offered, the email address(es) reportedly involved, the details of exactly what occurred and when, and to do so immediately after the actual or even attempted intrusion occurs.

The phrase "when in doubt, please send it to the IC3" arose numerous times. During the past 5 years, the IC3 has had approximately 1.5 million complaints, and have received a cumulative total report of approximately \$7.45 billion dollars in losses. Our guest speakers encouraged members to make use of the following websites to aid in learning more about how to protect oneself: www.staysafeonline.org, www.stopthinkconnect.org, and <https://phishingquiz.withgoogle.com>.

For Whom the (School) Bell Tolls

The SCA Computer Club has a state-of-the-art computer classroom. Our ability to deliver comprehensive computer instruction is critical to our purpose. We rely on our membership to help us by volunteering their services such as monitoring, instructing classes and helping fellow members via our "House Call Program".

If you would like to find out more about these opportunities, we welcome your inquisitiveness.

To find out more about what a monitor does, please contact Jerry Peterson @ tmguru@hqotmail.com.

To find out more about what an Instructor does, please contact Philip Livingston @ livipl10@gmail.com.

To find out more about what House Call Volunteers do, please contact Brian Corr @ brianvegas@mac.com

Now is the time to get more involved in your Club because The Bell Tolls for thee.

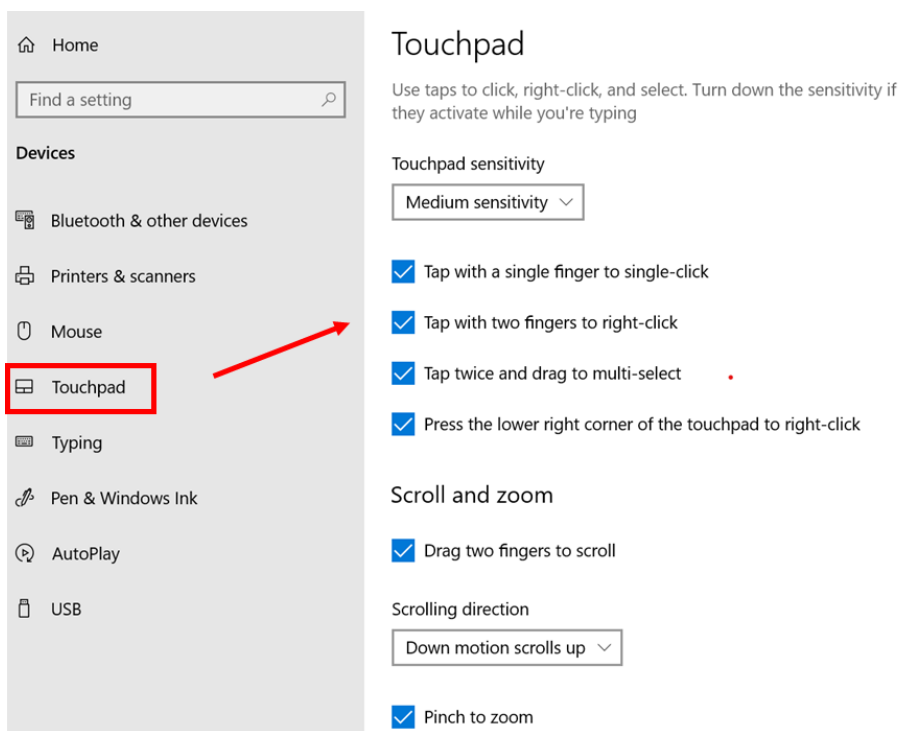
Windows 10 - 10 and listening in...



Do you have a laptop with a touchpad? If so, then you may not be using a mouse at all, right? The touchpad takes the place of a mouse. Do you normally “click” (or press down) on either the left side of the touchpad to select something, or click/press down on the right side to see more options? Of course you do because your touchpad functions just like a mouse (where you click the left and right keys to select or to see more context). What if you could just “tap” on the touchpad to do the same thing?

Generally, one can “tap” with one finger to left-click/select or “tap” with two fingers to right-click or get more context. The settings for one’s touchpad hardware may be in different places depending on one’s laptop manufacturer. Today, many laptops have *Precision Touchpads* which allow one to configure them through the Windows 10 settings.

To see if these features are available on your laptop, go to **Settings> Devices> Touchpad**. Under **Taps**, one can enable or disable the “Tap with a single finger to single-click”, “Tap with two fingers to right-click”, and “Tap twice and drag to multi-select” options. The options may differ depending upon your laptop (and if you don’t see them, then you most likely do not have a *precision touchpad*).



If there are checkmarks in the boxes (like this example shows) then you have them enabled. If you want to disable and not use “tap”, simply uncheck the boxes.

Notice that you can also set the sensitivity for the touchpad. The options range from low sensitivity to Most sensitive. Click the down arrowhead to see all options and select the one you desire.

Other options may be available, if you scroll down the page. The illustration above only shows part of the options available. Again, depending on one’s laptop manufacturer, they may appear differently.

So if you want to just “tap” instead of press down on your touchpad, try going to your Settings and enable the ability to do so.

Useful things you may want to know, or Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

that we made up ourselves

Q. As I get older, I notice that things get smaller to read on my computer. I know that I can zoom in to see certain text, but is there a way to change my mouse pointer or enlarge the text (and keep it set that way) so I do not have to zoom in each and every time?

A. Yes. To make the cursor or pointer easier to see, one can change its size and color, too. Go to **"Settings> Ease of Access> Cursor & pointer"**. Here you will see several options to enlarge the pointer, change its color and to change the thickness of the cursor (to make it easier to see). If you select **"Display"** (just above the Cursor & pointer) you will be able to drag the slider to enlarge text. Once you decide how large you want the text to be, be sure to click the **"Apply"** button to save it. Under **"Make everything bigger"** you can change the size of apps and text. The options are available by clicking on the down-arrowhead. Scroll down the page and you will find options for changing the brightness of your display. We hope this helps you.

Q. I have created icons on my desk top and I have a lot of them. I also organized them into groups that I like. How do I "lock" them in place?

A. Unfortunately, in Windows, one cannot "lock" the position of the icons on the Windows desktop. Even if you put them there and they appear to stay put, Windows may periodically resort them, particularly after an update or if your system crashes. Sometimes they become reshuffled after one installs new software. While these icon shortcuts may make it seems easier to find things, filling up one's desktop with icons may not be a good idea. Essentially, they are simply pointers to whatever the icon represents, e.g. and application, a document, a photo, etc. It may be better to simply organize your apps on your Start screen or in File Explorer instead. If you have several documents on your desktop, you can organize them into a folder(s) in File Explorer or do the same with photos. Leaving them on your desktop may seem easier to get to, but at some point they will be resorted and then you will see they are not in the same place you thought they would be.

Q. Can I customize what appears on my taskbar and can I move the taskbar to the right side of my screen (instead of having it at the bottom of my screen)?

A. Yes, you can do both. Typically the taskbar appears at the bottom of the screen, but you can move it to the top, or either the right or left side of your screen if you desire. To do so go to **"Settings> Personalization> Taskbar"**. Or you can just right-click on any empty space on your taskbar and click on **"Taskbar Settings"**. Here you will find multiple options. To change the location of your taskbar, select your preference from the **Taskbar Location** (Left, Top, Right, Bottom). You can also simply drag the taskbar into place (as some folks have discovered accidentally). If this has happened before and you want to prevent it from happening again, be sure to enable the **"Lock the Taskbar"** setting. To customize what icons appear on your taskbar simply click on **"How do I customize taskbars"** while in Settings. It will take you to an article that will fully explain how to use the taskbar in Windows. If you are simply trying to pin an app from your Start Menu to the taskbar, all you need to do is to right-click on the app from your Start menu and choose **"Pin to Start"**. To remove it from your Taskbar, right-click on the app from the Start menu, then choose **"Unpin from Start"**. Let us know if this helps you.

IF YOU QUESTIONS, SUBMIT THEM TO US ...PLEASE... VIA THE WEBSITE. On the top menu bar, click on **"Contact Us"**. Select **"Newsletter"** and fill out the form. You may see your question here next time.