

Laboure Center May 11, 2007 Through June 22, 2007.

Senior training at the Laboure Center started May 11, 2007 through June 22, 2007. There were six women and one man in the class. Two joined after the first class and two dropped out before the last class, which was good because we only had a maximum of six computers working at any one time a common problem.

They did not use nor understand the Internet Explorer and had problems with entering web address in particularly with the period (trying to find it on the key board), the convention of having no blanks in the name, and the various suffixes such as .org, .com and .net. When we switched to using search engines such yahoo or google to look up topics they would start following the convention used for entering web page addresses. We had one man, who did not last until end; he was just interested in digital photography to help him sell things on the web

One of the women was also interested in trying to sell things on eBay.

One woman had severe motor skills problem with the mouse and she was a former schoolteacher and would get frustrated that she could not master the mouse. She was also having trouble seeing the screen. She wanted to buy a computer to be able to e-mail her nephew who was away at college.

Only one person in the class an eighty-four woman owned a working computer, which was a laptop. She was using the laptop as a wireless connection to the Internet using Verizon DSL. She was having some problems getting consistent connection to Internet and receiving e-mail some e-mail addresses were blocked. Her daughter helped her with her problems.

Another woman wanted to buy a computer and asked my advice. She had an older computer that was given to her by her daughter, but wanted to upgrade her computer and take off the documents she had on the old computer.

Another woman had a computer boxed up for a few years and she never took the computer out of the carton to put it together and plug it in.

I scanned a picture for one of the women who wanted to e-mail it. She e-mailed it to a friend who has a computer and an e-mail address.

They had problems understanding the little carrot, which is used for drop down list.

Occasionally they would have problems with double-clicking even though we adjusted the mouse so I would just have them yet the enter key to avoid frustration.

They also had trouble understanding the document scroll bars to move down a page or across a page when using the Internet Explorer, Windows Explorer, or Word.

They also problems signing on to get their e-mail User Name and Password They did not understand why when they typed the password they could not see what was being typed it appeared as asterisks. Our choice of a common password of "password1" for the yahoo mail accounts we got them tended to confuse them.

Some of the students would make the wrong selection when trying to choose a selection from a drop down list or a menu. This might be a problem aggravated by bifocal glasses. There is still a problem with enough parking spots for the class and one student got a ticket because she was parked in the same spot on the street for more than two hours.