

Lake County Area Computer Enthusiasts NEWS JOURNAL

VOLUME 33-03

June 2017

LCACE.ORG

Good Computer House Cleaning

By Len Nasman, Editor / Webmaster, Bristol Village Computer Club, OH
March 2017 issue, BVCC newsletter
www.bvres.org
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As you use your computer, some things get a little messy. For example, each time you uninstall or update an application an area of memory called the registry is changed. When you install some programs, they might add a feature that keeps part of them running in the background. An example might be when you install software for a printer, a background program might be installed that keeps checking printer use and pops up a reminder to order supplies. If you get too many unnecessary things like this running in the background, it will slow down your computer.

Also, whenever you visit websites, they make copies of things and store them in so-called temporary files. The files are called temporary, but they remain there until you remove them.

For example; Internet Explorer saves things in a number of categories. BTW, if you have more than one user that can login to your computer, these files are saved separately for each different user. Each web browser program (Internet Explorer, Chrome, Firefox) maintains a similar list of files.

In any case, it is a good idea from time to time to clean up the registry, stop unnecessary background programs, and remove temporary files. A useful free program to keep your

computer tidy is CCleaner. This program has options for taking care of the issues mentioned earlier.

If you have already installed CCleaner, jump to the update section.
Installing CCleaner

When you go to the CCleaner download web page you will see three different versions offered.



<https://www.piriform.com/CCleaner/download>

After you select the Download option, a dialog box will pop up that lets you save the install file.



(Continued on page 7)

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Logo designed on an Atari Stacy Laptop in 1989 by Dwight Johnson Jr.

Lake County Area Computer Enthusiasts

**LCACE
c/o Group Ambassador**

["J.J." Johnson](#)

Membership

LCACE membership is open to all individuals and families interested in personal computing. Annual dues are \$20.00 per individual/family. Applications for membership may be obtained at the monthly meeting, by request on the club hotline, and are now available on our web site at <http://www.lcace.org>.

Meetings

LCACE meetings are usually held on Saturdays at the Grayslake Area Public Library, 100 Library Lane, Grayslake, Illinois. The meeting room opens at noon and the formal meeting begins at 12:30 p.m. All meetings are open to the public. Bring a friend!

Newsletter Submissions

Club members are welcome to submit classified ads, reviews, tips and other articles for publication, to our newsletter editor in Microsoft Word format (.doc). **Publication deadline is the 20th of the month for all ads and articles.** Please do not use tabs or special formatting.

Newsletter Advertising

Ad rates per issue: Full page - \$25, Half page - \$15, Quarter page - \$10, Business Card - \$5. Discounts are available on advance purchase of multiple issues. Please send camera-ready copy and payment to the club address by the 15th of the month preceding publication. For more information on ad pricing, please call our Hotline. Ads are **FREE** to all paid members.

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Phil's Ramblings

Last month I wrote about the increasing competition among digital assistant providers. Building on the success of the Amazon Echo, Google, Apple and Lenovo have all announced their versions. A start-up company is working hard to bring a similar device to market, Elli-Q, designed specifically for seniors.

In addition to the products mentioned above, recent news includes the introduction of the Amazon Look, a device somewhat similar to their Echo designed to offer suggestions for choosing clothing. Before the dust had settled, Amazon quickly followed up with another new digital assistant, called the Amazon Show. This is the first digital assistant that includes a camera and screen, thus adding a video chat capability to the underlying Alexa engine. While the functionality is somewhat similar to Skype, each participant in an Amazon Show video conversation must have their own Amazon Show device. (With Skype any computer or smartphone with a webcam and display will suffice.) Amazon Show shipments are scheduled to begin late this month.

As I write this, I have just finished reading about yet another competitor in this arena – Essential Home. Developed by Andy Rubin, the creator of Android, this device takes a different approach. While it is intended to provide much the same functionality as the Echo and Google Home, it goes about it in a new way. The other devices are basically two-way communication tools. The user asks a question or gives a command; the device forwards them to an Amazon or Google server which contains the AI engine that serves as the brain for their operation. This provides the opportunity for Amazon and Google to accumulate a lot of information about your likes, dislikes, interests, etc. The Essential Home is being designed to do much of the processing right on your device, minimizing personal information being passed up the line to the supporting servers. Given privacy concerns, this new device may prove very attractive to those who are trying to keep “Big

Brother” in the dark as much as possible. The Essential Home is still in development, with an expectation that it will be available later this summer. It will be interesting to see just how successful it can be in limiting data transmission outside users’ homes, while still providing all the functionality of its established competitors.

On a different front, Microsoft has just announced Windows 10 S, a “lightweight” version of Windows 10 Home designed for the education marketplace. Apple gained an early lead in school technology, while Microsoft went after the business market. Google’s Chromebooks have been making inroads in both markets, however, because of their simplicity, security and low cost. Their approach differs from the two competitors because their operating system is actually on Google servers; the Chromebooks themselves are similar to the terminals that used to be on employee desks at companies which operated a mainframe computer to do all the heavy lifting. As a result, hardware requirements for Chromebooks are lesser than for their Apple and Microsoft competitors, but they are just as fast (or faster) in operation.

About three years ago Microsoft worked with their manufacturing partners to develop “netbooks” like the HP Stream, designed to match Chromebooks in cost and performance, while still offering a full Windows 8 (and now 10) operating system to handle many of the common application software offerings traditional Windows customers were used to on their larger and more expensive devices. (More than one tech writer back then referred to the HP Stream as a “Chromebook Killer”.) As I understand it, Windows 10 S represents another step by Microsoft in the same direction – to provide a low cost, simple-to-use computer for schools, with minimal IT support demands.

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

The main differentiator between Windows 10 Home and Windows 10 S is the restriction on which software you can install. All application software you install on your Windows 10 S computer must come from the Windows Store. Legacy software you already own will not run, nor will any new application software not from the Windows Store. As reported, Microsoft's reason for this design is to improve security and performance. Since all of their Store apps are required to meet certain standards they can be screened more effectively, thereby minimizing malware risks.

Computers loaded with Windows 10 S will automatically restrict default browser choice to Microsoft Edge. While the Microsoft Store may offer other browsers that you can download and use on your computer, any time you click on a link on Windows 10 S, Edge will open to take you to the targeted address. To streamline browsing, add-ons and extensions cannot be installed on the Edge browser in Windows 10 S. Bing will be the default search engine, and users will not be able to switch to a different search engine.

Because of the various design features and restrictions mentioned above, computers running Windows 10 S should boot and run faster than comparable devices running Windows 10 Home or Pro. If that sounds intriguing to you and you are wondering about upgrading to this new OS, too bad. Windows 10 S will only be available pre-installed on new computers, not as a free-standing OS purchase.

I'm not clear about the fate of Windows Home in this new Microsoft world; it was not mentioned in the article I read. However, if you do purchase a computer preloaded with Windows 10 S and find the associated restrictions burdensome, you will apparently be able to upgrade to Windows 10 Pro for a \$49 fee.

Stay tuned; more to follow.....
Enjoy the summer!

Online Safety

February Meeting Recap

By John Weigle, Editor, Channel Islands PCUG, CA

March 2017 issue, The TOE

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Online safety was the primary topic of the February program, with member Michael Shalkey discussing the amount of personal information that's on the internet and many of the dangers that creates. He used chayn.co/safety, which was designed for women but has tips for everyone in its online security guide as a general guide to dangers and solutions, and familytreenow.com, a genealogy site, to demonstrate the amount of information that's easy to find.

The chain.co/safety site offers a starter pack and an advanced guide about possible scams, dangers and solutions. Both are free and part of the website. Its introduction includes this statement: "Modern technology such as the internet/mobile phones etc., has made it increasingly easy for abusive partners to stalk, intimidate and threaten their targets both online and offline. The good news: you can take measures to protect yourself! Assess your risk and take back control with this guide of best practices."

The site emphasizes that everyone posts all kinds of information on social media, opens accounts of many kinds, logs in to sites, and have apps on our computers or smart phones that have information we seldom think about, such as Wi-Fi signals and GPS locations, websites we've visited and pictures we post. It also suggests considering how your children's posts might affect your privacy. Are they posting their addresses, schools, activities, and places they like to visit? General recommendations:

- Use a strong password — at least 15 characters, upper and lower case letters, and numbers and symbols.
- Don't use the same password on many sites.
- Don't let your browser save your passwords.
- Think passphrase instead of password.
- Use a password manager and change your passwords periodically.
- Use two-factor authentication.

(Continued on page 10)

May 2017 Winners



And the
winners are...



Trivia Winner
Linda Bush



50/50 Winner
David Carlson



Door Prizes Winner
Bobby Jacobs

Jere's Tech Tips



WHATEVER YOU DO, DON'T DOWNLOAD THESE APPS – THEY'RE HIDING MALWARE!

Do you play games? How about your grandkids? Usually, Google's official Play Store is the safest source for Android apps but as evidenced by the recent massive Judy malware campaign, unscrupulous developers some-

times find ways to smuggle malware through official apps and circumvent Google's screening process.

Two Google Play apps that appear to be innocent games were discovered to be hiding pesky malware and you should delete them immediately. Read more about these apps in the 5/31/17 Kim Komando article (link below). Don't forget to click on the massive Judy malware campaign link in the article to see more games with malware. (I think I'm going to change my first name Judy Taylour

<http://bit.ly/2rlzzYY>

CUT HERE



Question Of the month

Which doctor served as a sniper in the Israeli Defense Force?

- Dr. Oz
- Dr. Ruth
- Dr. Phil
- Dr. Dre

Be the first to submit the correct answer at the January meeting and win a prize.

Name: _____

Answer: _____

Membership



05/20/17 Meeting
by Les Larkin
LesLarkin@AIM.com

May 20, 2017

Membership Chairperson

Members: 62

Meeting Attendee: 18

Meeting Attendee: 31%

Our May meeting was conducted by Phil Bock.

The door prize was won by Bobby Jacobs. She selected the Stylus & LASER pointer.

David Carlson won the 50/50 raffle, the club and David each receiving \$10.00. Congratulations to all winners!

Thanks to Linda Busch for making the coffee, and to Linda and Liz Barnett who provideid munchables for us.

This month's program was "Home Automation with Internet of Things" by Mike Andrews. This is rally cool stuff, especially if you are away from home, and you forgot to do something, like close some windows.

Another great meeting, and I hope to see you at our June 10 meeting.

THANKS FOR JOINING

None

THANKS FOR RENEWING

Garald Straw

David & Diane Carlson

Gary Quarnstrom

Michael Andrews

THANKS FOR VISITING

None

Winners:

Trivia: Linda Busch

50/50: David Carlson

Door Prize: Bobby Jacobs



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**Coming
In
July**

Mobile Photography Updates for Photographers

by Jerry Hug Member of DesPlaines CC

Mobile Photography in the hands of a professional or highly skilled amateur photographer is now raking in accolades around the globe.

Dr Russell Brown from Adobe recently used only an iPhone on a trip to the Antarctica. His images were published and exhibited by a major photographic supplier of printers and supplies. Fine Art Photographer Tony Sweet sells his iPhone images at the same price as



those taken with his big boy Nikons. The list goes on.

What is Mobile Photography? The use of iPhones and other Smart cell phones, electronic pads like the iPad where you can: 1. Take the photo, 2. edit the images, 3. save the stored image and 4. immediately share with the world via the internet.

How to get started? 1. Learn how to use both the given automatic and all of the manual controls of the camera on the mobile devices. (Just like any other camera.) There are technical skills and creativity needed as in any photographic venture. 2. Find out what are the best photo applications (apps) to use for shooting and editing the images. 3. Use the cell phone camera by always having it with you and ready to use. More great images were lost except for that image in our mind because we never had a camera ready to shoot. Use our editing skills in Photoshop and other editing software and use the same techniques with apps in the mobile devices.

Taking photos: Hold the Phone/Camera still for good sharp photos. 2. Quick Access Using the Left Swipe. 3. Manual focus by touching the screen on the most important spot to focus in the image. 4. AE/AF Lock. 5. Use the HOR feature in high contrast situations. (iPhone users - I recommend VividHDR app as a better solution than the built in HOR. 6. Shoot Using Burst Mode to catch moving subjects. 7. Use the Volume Buttons and your Apple Headphones for another shutter button. Follow the light for the best images and less editing. (Professional Photographers can now shoot RAW files on the iPhone and edit the RAW images in Lightroom Mobile and then send these images to their computer via Adobe's service.)

Taking a photo of a small child or pet that keep moving? No problem! Shoot a 10 second video of the moving (child or pet) for iPhones or iPads use the Vphoto app and harvest of the best single image(s) that you want. The example of the petdog was only edited by cropping.

Editing images in your mobile devices has been made simple, fast and with quality tools like Photoshop and Lightroom by using the free app "Snapseed". If you have a workflow that works on your computer, do not change your procedure for Snapseed. If you are new to photo editing, try the very basic editing tools already in Photos on your devices.

Snapseed will give you more powerful tools with no cost and large learning curve associated with Photos hop and Lightroom. Getting started with Snapseed - there are built in tutorials in the app. You need WiFi for the tutorials. There also are many free tutorial in YouTube. (I have extensive notes and suggestions on my Speaker Notes 2017. Email me for a free copy at jerryhug@comcast.net)

Masking in Snapseed? Yes, checkout the YouTube Snapseed masking demo by Rad Drew.

Jerry Hug, APSA



MARGARET WALLIN

DEBORAH SIRLLA

BOB BERRY

PHIL BOCK

DOREEN LAGONI

(Continued from page 4)

Browser recommendations

Use the Electronic Frontier Foundation's Panopticlick at <https://panopticlick.eff.org>. (The writer tested the site and it recommended installing Privacy Badger, which it says blocks tracking ads, and invisible trackers, unblocks third parties that promise to honor do not track and determines if the browser protects you from fingerprinting (it lists the information that's shared).

The site has instructions on privacy settings for Chrome, Firefox, Safari, Explorer, and others, and discusses private browsing techniques within browsers and with add-ons. Facebook and Twitter settings are explained as are location apps in smart phones. Message apps WhatsApp and Signal are also discussed. The Advanced Guide discusses how to identify your security risks and what to do about the ones you find, starting with documenting any abusers who are bothering you. Sections include securing mobile phones, laptops, computers, and apps; browsing the web, social engineering and phishing, IP addresses and Wi-Fi, among others. Other topics include anti-virus and firewall software, encryption and deleting information, remembering that deleting computer files does not remove files. It just changes the file name, which tells the computer other files can write over the "deleted" one.

FamilyTreeNow.com - As noted above, this is a genealogy site, but it could be used by stalkers and others who want to learn more about an individual. "This is a scary, scary thing," Shalkey said. The opening page asks for the first and last name of the person you want information about and a state or all states.

Shalkey used himself and the result was ultimately a long list of associated names, possible relatives, possible associates, current and past addresses and phone numbers. Most of the entries were valid and names that he recognized. (The writer visited the site and the first result was a list of nine people with the name John Weigle. I selected myself and got a much shorter list than the one Shalkey found. My name and my deceased father's name were correct. I did not recognize the sole possible

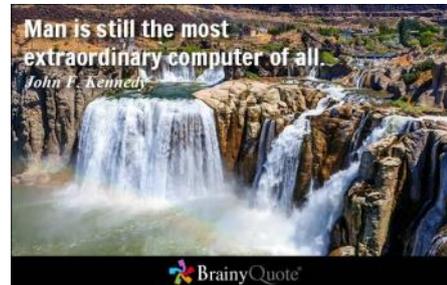
associate. Of the eight current and past addresses, four were correct home or mailing addresses, one was a business site my brother and I co-owned, and three were wrong. Three phone numbers were correct.)

A member of the audience noted that the ease of finding former addresses is a good reason not to use them as part of a password. Clicking on an address brings up a picture of the location. "When you think 'nobody knows anything about me' — not necessarily true," Shalkey said. The site has an opt-out page.

Questions and answers Q: Are maiden names on the site? A: Yes.

Q: Is there a fee? A: I'm sure there is somewhere, but so far what I've shown you is free.

Q: Is the site tracking you? A: I'm not sure. I could have used incognito browsing, which is not tracked.



2017 Meeting Dates

- ◆ July 15, 2017 Picnic
- ◆ August 12, 2017 TBA
- ◆ December 9, 2017 Holiday Party

Note: January and April are not on the second Saturday.



APCUG itself is not a user group; only user groups themselves are members. APCUG's product and service are offered to group leaders, who can then share them with their members.



Lake County Area Computer Enthusiasts

Do you have computer questions
or need help with your computer?



Visit Lake County Area Computer Enthusiasts'
help desk for one on one help

Open to all

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