• Central Kentucky Computer Society •

CKCS

FEBRUARY

February 2020

• Since 1984, Empowering CKCS Members With Tech Skills •

Email & Phone Scams

HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF

CKCS
JOIN TODAY!

CAMPAIGN KICKS OFF TO GROW MEMBERSHIP

86–INCH TV REPLACES AGING PROJECTOR IN CKCS SIG ROOM

DESKTOP HISTORY: THE IMAC G3

CKCS GOAL: GROW MEMBERSHIP

COMPUTER SOCIETY CAMPAIGN UNDERWAY

A woman carrying an iPad shakes her head as she carries her tablet on a chilly Saturday morning. A man with hard drive issues on a Windows 10 notebook opens the door and hurries inside where it's warm. Weeks before, a man with a Mac laptop has been wrestling with photos on his machine. Then there's the woman with Gmail issues on her iPhone.

At first glance, it appears these folks have nothing in common. But dig deeper and you quickly realize they all belong to CKCS. *They're members.* And they're getting free help with tech issues. This is just one benefit of CKCS membership.

It's one of the best kept secrets in central Kentucky. On the first Saturday of the month, a small group of volunteers do their best to troubleshoot tech problems at CKCS. Members bring their tech questions and phones, computers and tablets as they seek solutions to tech questions. Two groups of volunteers come to their aid.

Dr. Fixit tackles issues primarily dealing with Windows software and hardware.

iHelp tackles tech issues with iPhones, iPads, Macs, and the iPod touch (which is basically an iPhone without the phone.)

As one of the men profiled above gets to his feet after a 20–minute session with a CKCS volunteer, he smiles and remarks, "You solved my problem."

What: Dr. Fixit and iHelp Tech Sessions

When: 10 A.M. – Noon; first Sat. of the month

Who: For CKCS members

Why become a member?

By Kurt Jefferson

The CKCS goal is to educate, demystify technology, and empower folks to get more out of all kinds of gadgets including smartphones, iPads, PCs and Macs.

Back in 1984 when CKCS began, average folks were struggling with DOS prompts, word processors and spreadsheets. Today, 81% of Americans, according to Pew Research, own a smartphone. nearly three–quarters own a desktop or laptop computer, and roughly one–half own tablets like the iPad.

Don't forget the slew of smart speakers (can you say "Alexa") that are popping up in homes across the Commonwealth.

One–quarter of U.S. adults now say they have a smart speaker in the home according to Pew Research. Amazon, Google, Apple, Sonos, and other tech firms all have their own versions of smart speakers. This is one of the fastest growing tech products.

CKCS has held either a Tech Night, a workshop, a class, or even an iHelp or Dr. Fixit session on every one of these devices.

How are you supposed to get up to speed on these gizmos? One good source: CKCS.

If you're not a member, please join today.

Now back to our regular programming…

Turn off the TV and read a book

I know a woman who turns the TV on the minute she gets up in the morning. Once her TV is switched on, it rarely goes off until late in the evening. I often wonder how better off she'd be if she put down the remote and picked up a book.

There are a multitude of book formats today: on your phone, on your iPad or Android tablet, or the Kindle Fire or other Kindle product.

You might be asking – How can I read a book when I have a life? Check out Jennifer Locke's comments on the Medium website. She has a life and she's still able to read 100 books in a year.

Locke uses "pockets of time" to read during the day and, yes, audiobooks also count.

I wish the TV woman would leave behind cable news and discover a juicy book to read!

President's Comments

CKCS _welcomes_ new members

Brooke Thomas

president@ckcs.org

PLEASE JOIN CKCS.

We are kicking off the New Year with one message: _Grow Our Membership._

Our Membership Campaign is **"Why Join CKCS?"**

Every member has a different story, but a frequent answer is that he or she has retired and lost their IT person.

Who knew that we would be so dependent for technical information in retirement? We were so used to being able to call IT and getting any technical problem fixed. Who knew that in our everyday life we would still be dealing with so much technology or how quickly it changes.

Taking CKCS classes and attending the SIGs gives members a lot of the knowledge they need to function.

Also it gives them access to other members and instructors along with Dr. Fixits that can help with the issues.

Many people have younger relatives who might understand technology, but they are not usually patient enough to show them what they need to know. They just want to fix the problem and go on. "Aw, Dad, I showed you that last week!" Thankfully, you won't hear that at CKCS.

So if you aren't a member yet, please join! If you are a member talk with your friends, family members and neighbors. Please encourage them to join CKCS.

The memberships help keep CKCS going and improving every year.

When you are in the office you will notice a new bulletin board showcasing Why Join CKCS? (See photo on pg. 8).

What you may not know is that the artist behind this work is Myra Engle.

Myra Engle

Many of you who have taken her classes know her as a long time instructor at CKCS. She has been teaching at CKCS since 2004.

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Goodbye old projector; Hello new TV

By Brooke Thomas

Looks what's new at CKCS!

We have just installed an LG 86" 4K UHD LED TV in the workshop/SIG room.

Taking advantage of a President's Day sale, a committee of Board Members went to Pieratt's to look at our options for a television for the classes/workshops and SIGs that are held in that room.

Our original plan was to have a way to show the vivid colors and details of photographs and videos for our photography classes and Special Interest Groups. The projector was failing to show the true image of the photographs.

Then we realized that the printed materials and websites we show on the projector did not compare to the sharpness of the television. That is when we went big and, subsequently, made the decision to replace the projector with this very large LED TV.

We had a large committee that made the shopping trip: Joe Dietz, Mike Seiler, Bob Brown, Eugene Potter, Boone Baldwin and Brooke Thomas.

Michael Cox, Marketing Director at Pieratt's, and an occasional speaker at Tech Night, helped show us the products and answered all our questions.

After a thorough examination of the TVs, walking back 20 feet and looking at photographs from the CKCS photo contest and various text on the screen, we were sold. The recommendation from this committee to the entire board was unanimous. When it was presented to the Board. the purchase was

Mike Seiler, CKCS board member and Windows 10 SIG leader, dons a breathing mask, head lamp, and protective gloves as he climbs a ladder to install cables for the new TV in the workshop/SIG room. Good job, Mike!

approved. Then the work began. The projector screen came down and then we began painting the wall.

Wires were threaded through the ceiling and walls and the TV was installed in time for Spring classes!

Michael Cox will be our presenter at February's Tech Night.

Got No Strings to Hold Me Down is the name of his presentation. Do you recognize the title from Pinocchio?

The lyrics of the song are appropriate, too. He will be showing how to set up a wireless home entertainment experience.

We hope that you will enjoy the new TV and his presentation!

She has taught computer basics for at least 12 years, sometimes three times a year.

She has taught organizing personal computer files and Making Note Cards for the past five years and usually three times a year.

On a professional level, she has 31 years of experience teaching in the public schools. She is certified K -12 for the classroom.

She has a master's in special education with concentrations in the fields of learning disabilities and behavioral disorders. But that's not all by a long shot.

 She paints, draws, makes personal note cards, knits, crochets, and picks up any new creative craft that appears on the horizon and appeals to her. She plays tennis three times weekly and played competitively for over 40 years.

And, thankfully, she fits in the times to keep us entertained and informed with the Bulletin Board. Hope you enjoy it!

Jan. Tech Night

Large Interest in Streaming Draws Crowd

People streamed in for the *Streaming in the New Year* Tech Night. We had a good crowd to hear about three popular streaming services.

Lynda Price, from Louisville, shared her experiences with what is called Live TV streaming. She has a subscription for YouTube TV. She showed the array of channels that you can receive. There are 70+ channels. YouTube TV has unlimited DVR space and she showed how she recorded shows to view later.
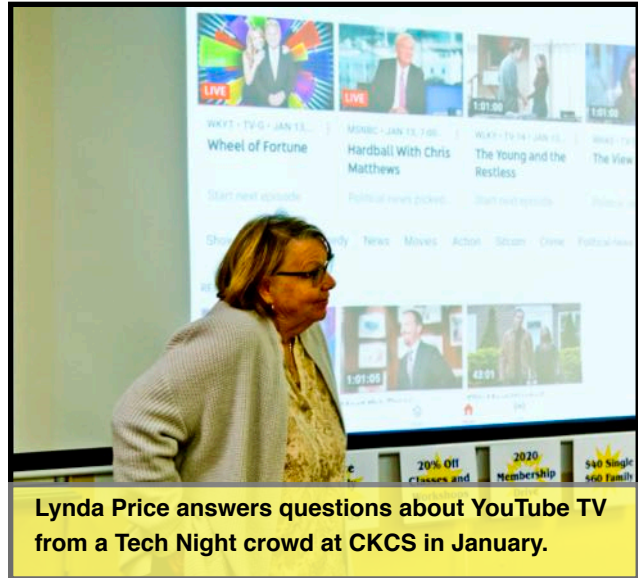

Lynda Price answers questions about YouTube TV from a Tech Night crowd at CKCS in January.

 Another reason she chose YouTube TV was because it also includes TV stations for local news and programming.

(Some) Streaming Options for Cord–cutters		
Service	**PCMag Rating**	**Best For?**
YouTube TV	**4.5 out of 5**	**General Audiences**
Netflix	**4.5**	**Original Programming**
Amazon Prime Video	**4.0**	**Original Programming**
hulu	**4.0**	**TV fans**
fubo	**4.0**	**Sports Fanatics**
Disney+	**4.0**	**Families**
sling	**3.5**	**Cord–cutters**
HBO Now	**3.5**	**HBO series**
philo	**3.5**	**Entertainment**
CBS All Access	**3.5**	**CBS–TV shows**

The tech website PCMag shows what it calls "The Best Video Streaming Services for 2020." The list of its Top 10 is above.

CKCS

More on page 7
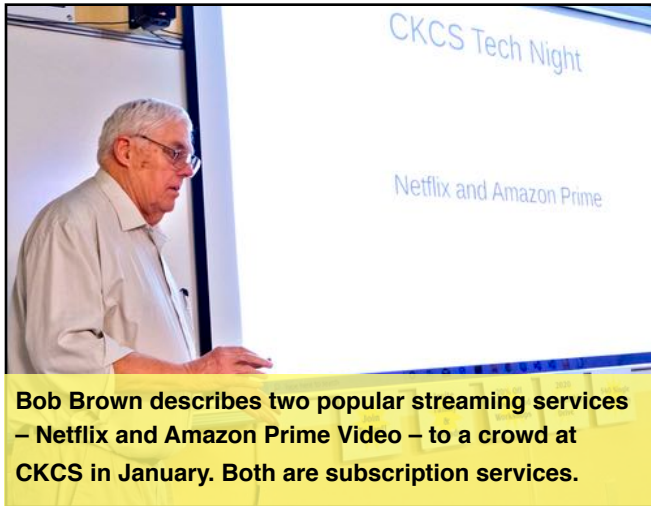
Bob Brown describes two popular streaming services – Netflix and Amazon Prime Video – to a crowd at CKCS in January. Both are subscription services.

Bob Brown presented a different type of streaming. Amazon Prime Video and Netflix are more On-demand TV shows and movies versus Live TV programming..

There are subscription costs for both services, but for those who use Amazon Prime, the Video Prime is included.

He explained how these companies get their movies and shows and why the different programs seem to come and go.

He also explained that the series they produce and develop are filmed a season at a time and all the episodes for the season are added to the service at the same time.

This allows for "binge watching". You can sit and watch as many of the episodes as you want in one sitting!

With Metronet coming to town, people in Lexington, in particular, are exploring their options with streaming.

Many of the participants shared that they are already using some of the streaming services.

The night's presentations were meant to give everyone a little more insight into the streaming services that are available, what they look like, and how they work.

Streaming TV Bits You May Not Know

• Netflix now has more U.S. subscribers than cable TV. (Netflix is growing while cable TV companies have been losing customers for years.) Netflix is the largest streaming company in the world.

Source: Fortune

Source: Comparitech

• Every Amazon Prime member gets Prime Video included with his subscription. Visit smile.amazon.com, and you should see the account holder's name on the top right corner of the website. Under that name, click on the triangle next to "Accounts & Lists" and then click on "Prime Video" in the drop–down list under "Your Account." Look hard because there are more than 25 links under "Your Account." If you prefer, download the Prime Video app from the App Store or Google Play Store to view videos on an iPad, iPhone, iPod touch or an Android tablet or Android smartphone.

Feb. Tech Night

Feb. 10 at 7 P.M.

At February's CKCS Tech Night, "I am going to demonstrate how today's smart TVs can connect wirelessly to sound bars, utilize the internet for streaming of all your shows and movies in one place and without wires, and - most importantly - operate on a single remote control!", says Michael Cox, the marketing director for Pieratt's. He says "smart TVs" are now here, easy to use, and fast. "Got no strings to hold me down" is the topic. We hope to see you at CKCS on the second Monday in February at 7 P.M. Mark your calendar. We hope to see you there.

Michael Cox

New large screen TV installed at CKCS Resource Center.

An installation crew from Pieratt's installs a new LG 86–inch UHD flat screen TV in the CKCS SIG (special interest group) / classroom area of the Resource Center. For years, CKCS teachers and SIG leaders have relied on a projector to display images on the wall. But over time, projector issues became problematic and the CKCS board decided it was time to replace it. The board opted to buy a large screen so everyone in the audience could view the images.

One Billboard, One Theme: Join CKCS

This colorful billboard designed by Myra Engle, is on the wall at CKCS. It urges people who pass by to join the non–profit computer society. Many folks don't realize that CKCS relies on membership dues, income from purchases you make at Amazon and Kroger. You have to visit smile.amazon.com and choose CKCS among the non–profits listed for CKCS to receive any benefit. *(CKCS gets nothing if you shop at amazon.com, it has to be smile.amazon.com.)* Please choose CKCS from the Kroger website so the computer society benefits when you shop for groceries. Thank you!

Please Join CKCS Today!

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Don't become next victim of Internet scam

By Kurt Jefferson

Circus showman P.T. Barnum may never have quipped that a 'sucker is born every minute,' but the remark is true when it comes to online fraud.

The web, e–mail, social media apps, and even the telephone are primary ways that fraudsters find suckers who will freely give up their money or personal information. It's also true these online tools are incredibly valuable in the modern era.

The point is to protect yourself against online fraud as you read email, use the web or check your Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and other social media accounts.

Tricking people out of their money began long before any of us were born.

I remember watching the popular western "Gunsmoke" back in the early 1970's. The series portrayed life in Dodge City, Kansas in the 1800's when the West really was wild.

All of a sudden out of the blue, a snake oil salesman rolls into town in his covered wagon, filled with tonics and other useless potions.

Yes, this is the one guy in the entire state of Kansas who can make it rain after many weeks without a drop of water from the sky. Not. This is the only guy who can cure that skin rash or cough. Not. He has no cures. He is seeking hard, cold cash.

Snake oil peddlers are just as active today as they were in 1800's but they use different schemes and techniques.

Don't fall for them. But that's easier said than done. You might be surprised by the highly educated folks who have fallen for these schemes. Crooks have perfected their traps to make them sound legitimate so you'll fall for their ruse. Don't fall for them.

Here are just a few of the traps you might encounter:

Scam: Apple Support Calls You Alerting you that your Apple ID or iCloud Account Is Breached and You Need To Take Action Now!

An alarm should go off in your brain the minute you get this phone call. Apple will never call you with this news. Hang up on these jerks. Repeat. Hang up. Note: If you've called Apple Support and you hear the option for them to call you back so you don't have to sit there with the phone against your ear, this is legitimate. Otherwise, it's a trick to get your money and/or personal information. <u>Learn more about this trap</u> and how to <u>avoid becoming a victim</u>. Update: <u>Scammers are using robocalls where they use a legitimate Apple phone number to call you</u>. Remember: Apple WILL NOT call you.

Scam: **A pop–up on your Windows computer urges you to call a toll–free number now. Don't wait. It's urgent. Warning! Warning!**

Microsoft Windows error and warning messages never contain phone numbers. As the Washington state software giant puts it, "Tech support scams are an industry-wide issue where scammers use scare tactics to trick you into paying for unnecessary technical support services that supposedly fix contrived device, platform, or software problems." Hear what Microsoft has to say about this scam and what to do if a thief has your information.

Scam: **Email messages that appear to be from Apple telling you that you have 24 hours to confirm your account information. "Your account has been suspended because we are unable to validate your account information… Thanks, Apple Customer Support"**

Oh no! Danger! Danger!

There is a green or blue "Verify Now" button in the middle of the email message. When you click on that it opens your web browser to send your Apple ID password, your phone number, possibly even your Social Security number to thieves. *You're not sending anything to Apple.* You're sending your personal details to creeps who will steal your identity, try to empty your bank account, and prey on you. Apple will not email you this message. The official–looking email ends with a nice touch, "If you have questions, please visit support@apple.com."

What a load of donkey dung. Forward the email to:
reportphishing@apple.com
Then DELETE IT.

Apple's support websites have more on how to avoid these scams. Here's another Apple website on how to identify legitimate emails.

It might surprise you to learn there are dozens of these bogus emails (these are called "phishing" scams) currently in circulation that appear to be from Apple. Not one of them is from Apple.

But wait – it gets better.

Tech security writer Brian Krebs, in January 2019, wrote about about the head of a security consulting firm in Washington D.C., Jody Westby, who got an automated call on her iPhone warning that numerous computers containing customer Apple user IDs had been breached. She immediately requested a call back from Apple support.

"…thieves instill a sense of urgency similar to someone telling you that a loved one has been involved in a car crash, or your house is on fire, or there's been an explosion in your neighborhood and residents are being evacuated immediately."

Apple support called her back.

As Krebs writes, "*Westby said the Apple agent told her that Apple had not contacted her, that the call was almost certainly a scam, and that Apple would never do that — all of which she already knew. But when Westby looked at her iPhone's recent calls list, she saw the legitimate call from Apple had been lumped together with the scam call that spoofed Apple…*"

Krebs adds, *"KrebsOnSecurity called the number that the scam message asked Westby to contact. An automated system answered and said I'd reached Apple Support, and that my expected wait time was about one minute and thirty seconds. About a minute later, a man with an Indian accent answered and inquired as to the reason for my call.*

Playing the part of someone who had received the scam call, I told him I'd been alerted about a breach at Apple and that I needed to call this number. After asking me to hold for a brief moment, our call was disconnected.

No doubt this is just another scheme to separate the unwary from their personal and financial details, and to extract some kind of payment (for supposed tech support services or some such). But it is remarkable that Apple's own devices (or AT&T, which sold her the phone) can't tell the difference between a call from Apple and someone trying to spoof Apple."

These scams work because they look (or sound) very legitimate.

In addition, thieves instill a sense of urgency similar to someone telling you that a loved one has been involved in a car crash, or your house is on fire, or there's been an explosion in your neighborhood and residents are being evacuated immediately.

Krebs notes that voice scams are getting more clever.

In addition, he writes, *"These days, scam calls happen on my mobile so often that I almost never answer my phone unless it appears to come from someone in my contacts list. But as this scam shows, even that's not always a great strategy.*

It's a good idea to advise your friends and loved ones to ignore calls unless they appear to come from a friend or family member, and most importantly to just hang up the moment the caller starts asking for personal information."

> **"Scam calls happen on my mobile so often that I almost never answer my phone unless it appears to come from someone in my contacts list."**

Scam: Update your PC now to keep it protected. The update is free. Just run our Windows 10 Update Assistant to get your PC to the latest version.

This message to update your Windows PC appears in quite a few bogus emails.

As usual, the creeps who send this message make it seem quite urgent: "If you do not update your PC to the latest version of Windows 10 by (date), you will no longer receive security updates after that final update — putting your device and personal files and information at risk."

Yes, and I own several bridges in Paducah and Peoria that I'd like to sell you.

And there's the blue button in the email that says, "Update Now." If you click on the button you're not connecting with Microsoft. You're opening a web page where the thieves may steal your personal data or potentially take over control of your PC.

A Windows 10 upgrade will not come in the form of an email attachment. You can buy a legitimate upgrade at the Microsoft Store.

Here's what Microsoft says: "If you have received an email with an attachment that claims to be the Windows 10 upgrade, or have received a call offering to help walk you through the Windows 10 upgrade, please do not open the attachment or follow their instructions."
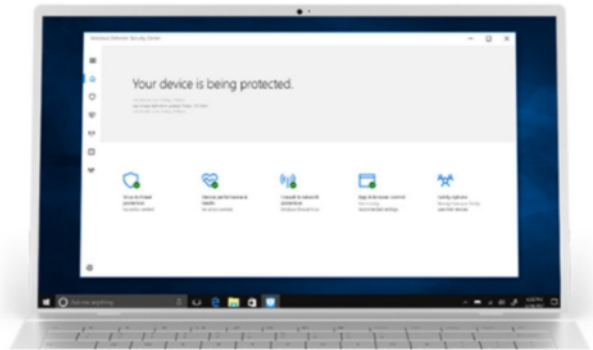
In other words, DELETE THE EMAIL.

If you've been a victim of this scam, Microsoft responds and tells how you can report the bogus email.
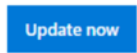
A bogus email urging the recipient to download the Windows 10 upgrade now or he'd be locked out of future upgrades. If you receive this email or similar ones, report it to Microsoft and hit delete. Do not click on "Update Now" because you might expose your personal information to thieves or even allow them to take control of your Windows PC.

Scam: Safari Browser Pop–up Warns You That Your Browser Has Been Locked Because of Suspicious Activity or a Virus.

Danger! Danger!

Safari is by far the most–used web browser on Macs, iPads, iPhones and the iPod touch. So criminals target Safari users. If you're visiting a website while using Safari and you get an urgent message that your computer or Apple device has been locked, you're urged to call a 1–800 number for help. DON'T CALL.
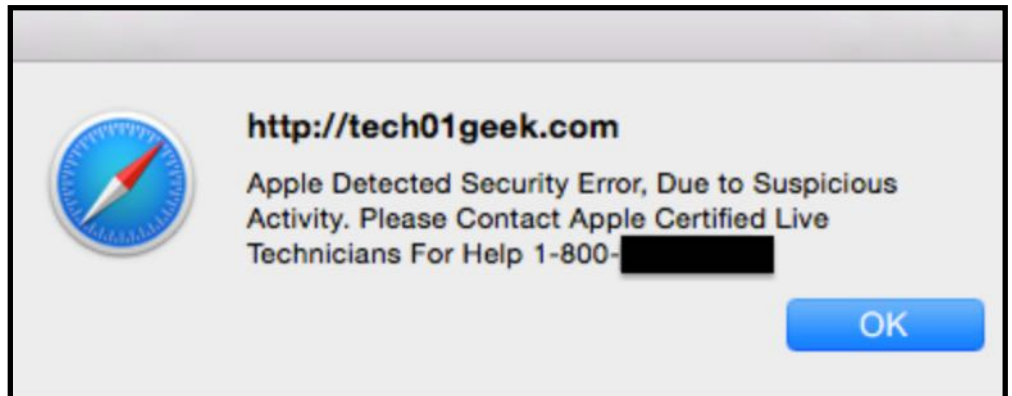
iPhone, iPad & iPod touch solution:

This website tells how to unlock a frozen Safari browser on Apple's iPhone, iPad and iPod touch mobile devices.
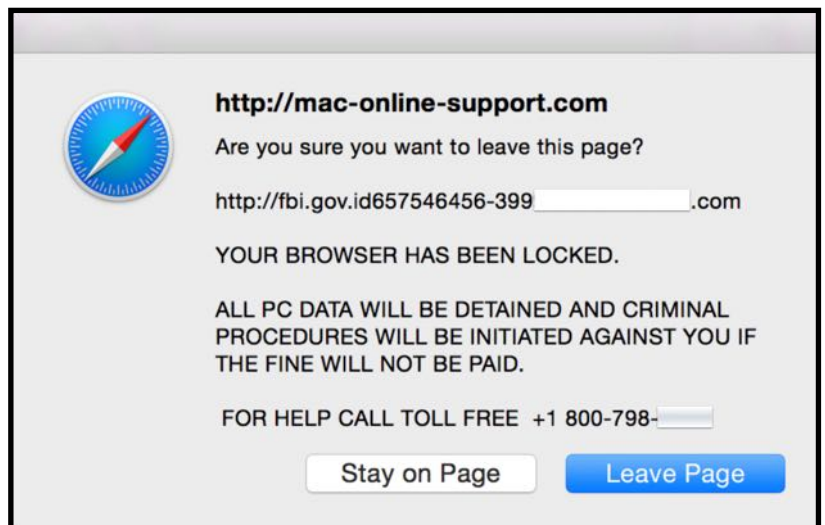
In addition, it must be said that there's a 99% chance on a Mac or one of Apple's devices that a virus is not causing Safari to freeze.

There are very few Mac viruses or viruses impacting Apple's mobile devices. To repeat, it's a thief who initiated the pop–up and wants you to pay him to solve the problem.

Some of the pop–ups even claim "criminal procedures will be initiated against you if the fine will not be paid." (Notice the poor English here.) Do not call the 1–800 phone number. You're the victim of a thief who wants you to pay him to get out of this mess.

http://tech01geek.com

Apple Detected Security Error, Due to Suspicious Activity. Please Contact Apple Certified Live Technicians For Help 1-800-███

OK

Mac solution: Apple Communities site (websites where Apple users provide troubleshooting support) tells how to get Safari up and running on a Mac after a pop–up freezes the browser. (By the way, this browser freeze has sporadically been reported with Firefox, Opera, and Google Chrome.)

http://mac-online-support.com

Are you sure you want to leave this page?

http://fbi.gov.id657546456-399_____.com

YOUR BROWSER HAS BEEN LOCKED.

ALL PC DATA WILL BE DETAINED AND CRIMINAL PROCEDURES WILL BE INITIATED AGAINST YOU IF THE FINE WILL NOT BE PAID.

FOR HELP CALL TOLL FREE +1 800-798-____

Stay on Page   Leave Page

Two Safari browser pop–ups designed to cause the user anxiety and phone a 1–800 number to make him believe he's speaking to a real Apple certified support agent. Instead, the user is connecting with thieves trying to empty his wallet.

14

Phone Scams Trick Thousands

As of October 2019, CNN reports, 26,379 Americans were victimized by phone scams alone. Altogether, they reported almost $50 million in losses.

As Brian Krebs reports, phone call scams are growing in number and complexity:

"Pieter Gunst, 34, received what he thought was a credible phone call from his bank. But in a matter of minutes, Gunst realized the call was anything but after he had nearly handed over the keys to his account. The woman was a scammer, and Gunst was just the latest target in a growing trend that's left thousands of Americans frustrated, broke, and without a clue how to get their money back," reports CNN.

Phone Spoofing Is the newest scam

Ever gotten a phone call from a scam artist who falsifies the number appearing on caller ID? This technique has grown in popularity in recent months and is called "phone spoofing."

Scammers have even spoofed the phone number they've called so the person answering the call sees his own number on caller ID. To stop thieves from using your personal phone number, you can:

Change your Number

This is a pain, but it works. It's tough to get rid of a phone number you've had for decades, but it stops the spoofing.

Leave a Voicemail or answering machine message announcing you've been spoofed

To warn others that your number is being used by scam artists, leave a message that your number has been stolen and is being used by scammers.

This should prevent those who've received bogus phone calls – supposedly from your number – from leaving voice mail and bothering you – possibly yelling at you to stop calling them.

Report to the FCC

You can leave a complaint with the Federal Communications Commission which has been cracking down on spoofing and robocalls.

Type to enter text

Robocalls are such a pain that in 2018, the Federal Trade Commission received over 375,000 complaints every month about them.

Nomorobo

A dad got sick and tired of annoying telemarketers and scam artists calling his home during supper.

So he created Nomorobo, a system that claims to have stopped billions of robocalls (automated phone messages that you really don't want.)

The service is free for landlines and costs $1.99 per mobile device, per month.

Robocalls are such a pain that The Verge reported The Federal Trade Commission received over *375,000 complaints* about them *every month* in 2018.

Nomorobo, and similar services, RoboKiller and Hiya, works because it constantly updates its huge database of phone numbers used by scammers.

"At their core, these services rely on a constantly updating list of robocallers, spammers, and fraudsters and use that database to stop nuisance calls. A call comes in, and the service runs it against that huge list of scam numbers. If it finds a match, the incoming call gets shut down before it reaches you," reports The Verge.

The Verge offers other options to block these slimy scam phone calls including buying a phone from Samsung or Google that automatically identifies spam callers and using "do not disturb" so you allow calls only from folks shown in your contacts.

You're Being Tracked By Google Chrome and You Probably Don't Know It

The most–used browser in the world is Google's Chrome. And the *Washington Post* recently published an article comparing Chrome to surveillance software.

Geoffrey Fowler wrote, "It turns out, having the world's biggest advertising company make the most popular Web browser was about as smart as letting kids run the candy shop."

He adds, "It made me decide to ditch Chrome for a new version of nonprofit Mozilla Firefox, which has default privacy protections. Switching involved less inconvenience than you might imagine."

In one week on the Web, Fowler noted that Google Chrome used on his desktop computer requested an "absurd" 11, 189 requests for tracker "cookies." He says Firefox automatically blocked those trackers. Cookies are used to build profiles of your interests, your income, and even your personality.
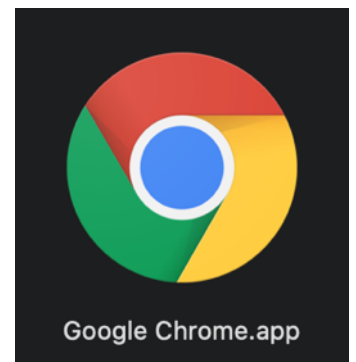
Google's Chrome browser on a Mac

Cookies originally were designed to track advertising. You've seen that ad on this web site for the newest Volkswagen? Okay, serve up another ad for a different car model. Today, cookies track a lot more than ad viewership.
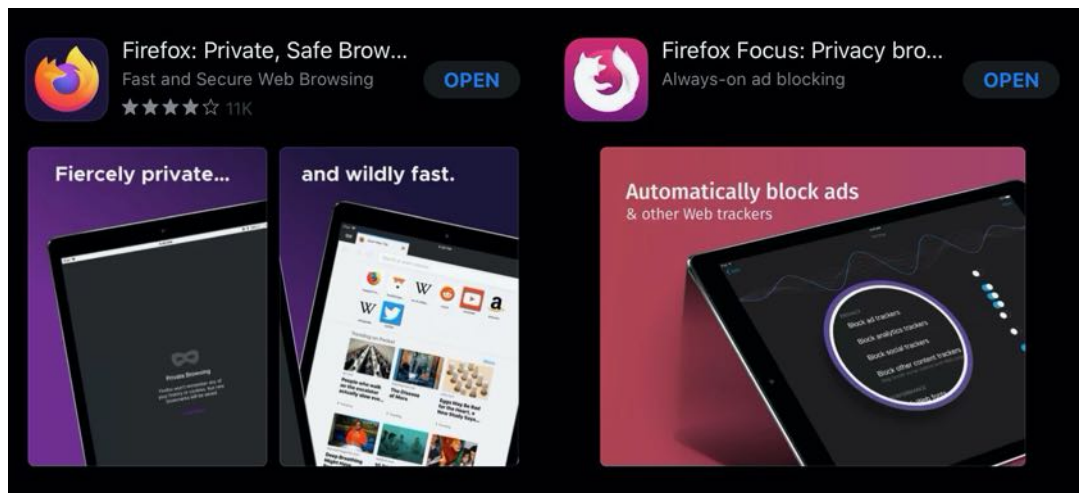
Firefox offers two browsers for the iPad, iPhone and Android devices — Firefox, similar to the desktop (Windows and Mac) version – and Firefox Focus, which lets you stay anonymous and reportedly does a great job thwarting trackers. Both are available free from the App Store & Google Play.

Last month, Firefox began "parsing cookies to decide which ones to keep for critical site functions and which ones to block for spying." Mozilla had been testing and tweaking Firefox to do just that since 2015.

Apple's Safari browser, used extensively on iPhones, iPads, Macs, and the iPod touch, uses an algorithm to determine which cookies are "good" and which are "bad."

Safari began using what Apple calls "intelligent tracking protection" back in 2017. Fowler reports that Chrome, so far, "remains open to all cookies by default."

In December, the company announced a new effort to force third–party cookies to alert they're tracking you. But Fowler says he isn't holding his breath. He says cookies make so much money for Google that "it's hard to imagine Chrome ever cutting off Google's moneymaker."

Firefox is the second most–used browser on desktops (Chrome is #1 on Windows machines while Safari is #1 on Macs).

If you use Microsoft's Windows Edge browser, you can enable "Do Not Track" to stop the Web browser from tracking your browsing behavior. The Laptop Mag website provides a step–by–step list on how to turn on "Do Not Track."

Another popular option is the Brave Browser, available for Windows, Mac, Ubuntu, Debian, openSUSE, and Fedora distributions of Linux, iOS and Android mobile devices.

Folks behind the new Brave browser say the web browser blocks ads and trackers that slow you down and invade your privacy.

Cloudwards Web Browser Reviews

With plenty of browser choices out there, and privacy issues with Google Chrome, which should you use? cloudwards.net is a review website that tests technology. Here is its bottom line about popular browsers you might want to begin using on your laptop, desktop or mobile devices.

Brave

Last summer, Cloudwards reviewed Brave and rated it "Excellent," giving it a five–star rating. "It's secure, fast and even has a novel way of rewarding you for using it. There are some downsides, but nothing major…" It adds, "There's a lot of great security features packed into the browser."

Google Chrome

It gives Google Chrome four stars and rates it "good." It says "there are some serious privacy issues with it and it eats RAM for breakfast." It adds, "If you're willing to overlook its problems with privacy and RAM usage, Google Chrome is a fantastic browser." That said, in the privacy category it ranks Chrome "terrible."

Safari

Apple's Safari browser is *not* highly rated. Cloudwards gives it only two–and–a–half stars and says "The basics are there, of course, but that's about it. The interface is also clunky, making the browser a bit of a pain to use. That said, its performance is excellent, and Apple has a surprisingly clean track record on privacy, compared to other tech giants." Cloudwards suggests you use Safari to download another browser.

Firefox

A four–and–a–half star rating goes to Firefox. Cloudward's review says, "Firefox is one of the fastest browsers around, while also offering great security and privacy. Though the interface isn't everybody's cup of tea, it's still a great option for most people and worth trying out."

Microsoft Edge

Rated fair, Edge gets three stars. "Microsoft Edge is the standard browser for Windows machines these days, and this comfortable position has made it far less competitive than others. While its security is good, it's slow and has bad privacy." It adds, "Edge falls well short of other browsers in terms of features and speed."

Opera

Rated "decent," Cloudwards writes, "Opera has been around a long time and has built a small, but loyal, fan base over the years. A few years ago it made headlines for being the first browser to have built–in VPN (virtual private network), but a recent change in ownership has cast its security and privacy in a new light." It gives Opera three–and–a–half stars.

Be smarter than scammers with your bank accounts, credit cards

Submitted by Jan Lyman,   Info. from Fifth/Third Bank   (Thanks, Jan)

Scammers are smart these days, so when fraudsters engineer new ways to commit their crimes, education is an important tool in curbing their efforts.

While banks deploy many tools and services to spot and reduce fraud, it's still necessary for customers to keep a watchful eye.

Unfortunately, financial technology—while excellent at helping people move money quickly and effortlessly—has provided opportunities for thieves to obtain your information for their own personal gain.

Since instances of bank fraud are on the rise, it's important to understand how most types of bank fraud occur, so that you can better avoid it happening to you in the future.

Protect Yourself

Take steps now to help prevent fraud if you are ever targeted. Some helpful tips:

- **Never give out personal information to an incoming caller, even if they appear to be from your bank.** A representative from your bank will never call you and ask for a one-time password (OTP) or your login credentials. A representative will only ever ask a customer to verify an OTP code if that customer has called into the bank him or herself.

- **Feel free to hang up and call back on your own terms.** If someone does call you stating that they are a representative from your bank concerning potential fraud on your account, get the name of the person calling, and then hang up and call back on the customer service number on the back of your banking card. This is an easy way to determine whether or not something is actually happening with your account.

- **Update and verify your current contact information.** Whether online or through the bank's official app, double check to make sure all your personal information is accurate and up to date. Review any verification settings as well, and consider opting into paperless billing.

- **Use digital best practices.** Make sure your phone apps, your computer browser, and any other software you use is up to date. There will often be security patches released in order to update the software and help protect you. Also be sure you use a strong, unique password.

Six Scams that target your bank account

More on credit card fraud from AARP.

fraud.org: Your data breach headquarters

CKCS

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Understanding How Bank Fraud Scams Work

Protecting yourself from a scam includes understanding the basics of how bank fraud works.

Many cases of bank fraud begin with thieves calling you on the phone and claiming to be representatives from your bank. Here's how they typically work:

- **Fraudsters start** by spoofing a number to look like it's coming from an actual banking institution.

- **With their potential victim on the phone**—and often with your bank account credentials already obtained through other means—they will say that they're calling because of suspicious activity on your account. Scammers may even be using scripts actual bankers are trained to use.

- **Under the premise of verifying your identity,** they will then ask you to verify the one-time password (OTP) that gets texted to your phone as part of a two-factor authentication anti-fraud system.

Once a customer has verified that number verbally, the thief then has all the information necessary to fraudulently transfer money directly out of your account and into another account for his or her own use.

CoolClips.com

Despite our best efforts, fraud still happens.

If fraud does occur to your account, your bank will work with you to recoup any monetary loss, *but the better option to save both time and money is to stop any theft before it actually occurs.*

• Buying a new house, town home or condo? You may need to wire money •

For many years, it's been common practice to bring a cashier's check to the closing of a real estate deal.

But several land title companies in central Kentucky are no longer accepting cashier's checks after incidents of fraud.

So the individual who's buying the property is required to have the money wired rather than rely on a check as has been the norm for many years.

25 Android apps caught 'fleecing' millions of users

Smartphone and tablet users were still charged even after uninstalling apps

More than 600–million users of Android smartphones and tablets have downloaded apps that illegally charged them after a trial period ended.

The security firm, Sophos, confirms the incident. The 25 apps are branded "fleeceware."

ZDNet reports the term refers to "apps that abuse the ability for Android apps to run trial periods before a payment is charged to the user's account. By default, all users who sign up for an Android app trial period, have to cancel the trial period manually to avoid being charged. However, most users just uninstall an app when they don't like it."

The report says the great majority of Android software developers interpret the uninstallation of an app as a cancellation of a trial period and don't charge the user.

The apps involved are a variety of programs ranging from a photo editor to screen recorder app to keyboard apps.

Regarding that last item, ZDNet writes, "One of the apps -- the GO Keyboard Lite keyboard app – has a history of shady behavior. Back in

2017, this app was caught sending back the text users were typing on their devices to servers in China." Not good.

Sophos initially discovered the first "fleeceware" incident last fall.

In early 2020, Sophos wrote, "While the company did take down all the apps we had previously reported to them, fleeceware remains a big problem on Google Play."

A screen grab from the ZDNet website describes the incident and lists the apps that charged Android users despite the fact that the users had deleted the apps from their phones or tablets.

Check out the ZDNet article to see which apps are charging users despite the fact the apps are uninstalled.

iPhone News

Blocking scam phone calls on your iPhone

By Kurt Jefferson

Years from now when humans reflect on the early 21st century, I believe they'll think of this as the golden era of phone and email scams. What I consider to be bottom–feeding creeps are feeding on innocent individuals as the bad guys try and get into their wallets to steal their money and personal identities.

The iPhone is an especially attractive target because it's the best–selling smartphone in North America. Instead of just sitting quietly and accepting these scam phone calls – you can block them.

Long–time Apple writer, Adam Engst, wrote about this back in the spring of 2018: "The best defense against this sort of intrusion is carrier–level call blocking, since then the spam calls never even make it to your iPhone. AT&T offers the AT&T Call Protect app and service, which is based on the Hiya crowd–sourced database of known bad numbers, and T–Mobile offers Scam Block. Both are reportedly quite good, and you must sign up for them manually.

What if you use Verizon, Sprint or another carrier?

"There are a variety of call-blocking apps that integrate with the call-blocking capabilities of iOS 10 and up. These can identify calls as coming from spammers or even block them right off, based on information from crowd-sourced databases. This approach works better than blocking the numbers manually yourself, since spammers are unlikely to use the same number twice when calling you, but they do reuse numbers across multiple people. So if five or ten people report a particular number as bad and then it's used to call you, these apps can know to identify or block the call," writes Engst.

I personally use Nomorobo on my landline phone at home. Nomorobo offers service for both smartphones and landlines. Pay $1.99/month per devices and you get Nomorobo for both iPhones and Android phones. Nomorobo is free for landline phones.

My three word review: *It works well.* I hate to think about the amount of "crud" that Nomorobo is blocking so that I never have to hear from scam artists.

Need more details? iMore provides an excellent overview of how to block scam calls on your iPhone. Now start blocking!

Apple Watch News

Upgrading to an Apple Watch Series 5

Adam Engst recently wrote about upgrading from an Apple Watch Series 2 (introduced in 2016) to a Series 5 watch (introduced in 2019).

Who's Adam Engst you ask? He's the guy behind the oldest Internet–based email newsletter in the world, *TidBits*. He started publishing in 1992.

So when Adam Engst speaks, people listen. Here's what he says about the Apple Watch Series 5:

Always–on Retina display: Not a big deal. Engst writes, "It's a fine screen, and nice to look at, but the always–on aspect of it, if not worthless, certainly not worth much."

Bigger Screen: "Until the last month, I was struggling with a slightly out-of-date contact lens prescription that didn't work well at wrist distance, meaning I could barely read the watch without reading glasses. The larger screen was noticeably easier to read."

Faster Performance: "The main non-Apple app I wanted to use was Strava, and it was dog slow on the Series 2…It felt like the entire interface was submerged in molasses —I'd tap a button and wait so many seconds for it to depress that I never quite knew if I'd actually tapped it or not. In contrast, the Apple Watch Series 5 has been a joy to use. It's not the most responsive user interface ever, but it's fine for what I do."

Read the entire review.

Nine Great Apps for your new Android device

If you've got a new Android phone or tablet, check out these apps reviewed by *The Verge*:

Dark Sky: "Dark Sky still feels a little bit like magic every time it works…"

1Password & LastPass: "You really should be using a password manager."

Files by Google: "This should just be the file browsing app that comes built into Android."

<u>View mini–reviews</u> of six other Android apps at *<u>The Verge</u>*.

PLEASE JOIN CKCS.

Smartphone News

Now that we've had a good taste of sub–freezing temperatures in Lexington and the surrounding area, you might have noticed that your smartphone battery hates cold weather (just as you might).

Cold weather really takes its toll on the battery of your iPhone, Android phone, or smartphone from another company.

How do you keep your battery from draining in frigid temperatures?

Here are some tips from <u>WikiHow</u>, <u>TIME</u>, and other sources:

• **Turn off your phone.** If you can leave your smartphone off for several hours while you're outside in the cold, this will really save battery power. WikiHow notes that turning your phone on and off uses a whole lot of power.

• **Unplug your phone from the wall when you're not using it.** Leaving your phone plugged in even when it's charged will make the battery life very short and greatly reduce the overall life of your phone. So, once it's fully charged, UNPLUG IT.

• **Turn down your screen brightness and decrease the time that your screen stays lit.** You can reduce brightness by opening the Control Center (iPhone) or swiping down from the top of the home screen (Android) to move the slider.

• **Turn off Wi–Fi, GPS and Bluetooth.** These use plenty of juice, so turn them off.

More on page 24

- **Activate Power Saving Mode or Ultra Power Saving Mode (Android) or Low Power Mode (iPhone)** if you are running low on battery power. On an Android phone, follow these steps to activate Power Saving Mode or Ultra Power Saving Mode. Here are instructions for enabling Low Power Mode on your iPhone. These are special settings on these phones that, as WikiHow puts it, can buy you some extra time.

- **Turn off vibrate.** When your phone vibrates, signaling that you've got an incoming call, it actually uses more juice than when the ringer sounds.

- **Don't use the camera,** if possible. Snapping photos and using the flash on your smartphone can wear out the battery quickly in cold weather.

- **Limit your talking.** Keeping your phone calls short will help make the battery life longer in cold weather.

- **Buy a hi–tech thermal case for your phone.** These cases are designed to keep the temperature of your phone steady. Although these cases aren't cheap, the experts say they're well worth it if you spend a lot of time outside with your phone in the cold winter or hot summer. Phoozy, 5Oaks, and Lei Li are three well known companies that produce these cases. You can find them on Amazon.

- **Use an Apple Watch as an alternative.** Believe it or not, an Apple Watch worn on your wrist will suffer less damage due to bitter cold than an exposed iPhone or Android phone. The screen of an Apple Watch is actually thicker and that is one feature that helps protect it outside. Of course, it's not suggested that you walk out in the cold (or hot) with your Apple Watch completed exposed, but experts say it potentially can handle the elements better than your phone.
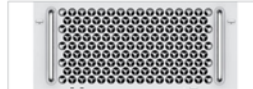
macOS

A screen grab of the appleinsider website describing the 'Relocated Items' folder, what it does, and what to do about it (if anything.)

After upgrading to the latest Mac operating system (called Catalina), you might notice a folder labeled 'Relocated Items' on your desktop.

It turns out this folder is an alias (like a shortcut leading to the real folder) containing items Macs running older operating systems needed to boot up properly. As AppleInsider writes, "Macs used to have a startup volume which contained various files the system needed. Now macOS Catalina has one volume for your data, and a read–only one for the system."

Since this folder is an alias, the real one is buried deep within your hard drive or solid state drive.

As AppleInsider notes, "The bad news is that it is taking up space to achieve nothing at all. On a 128GB Mac mini we tested, the Relocated Items was taking up 1.07GB by themselves.

That's like having one of the closets in your home crammed with the shoes of Imelda Marcos.

She gained notoriety for "living a lavish lifestyle during a period of economic crisis and civil unrest in the country" (the Phillipines), reported Fortune in 2014. The point is Ms. Marcos had a collection of more than 3,000 pairs of luxury shoes. You can't wear them. They're not your style. And yet they could be taking up vast amounts of space in your home closet. But don't go ahead and delete the files in the 'Relocated Items' folder just yet.

As AppleInsider puts it, "So don't delete them the minute you update to macOS Catalina. Leave it a few months until you are certain that you have used all the apps you're going to use —and that none of them have complained about missing files. Even if some obscure app you use once in a blue moon does need these files, though, what's most likely to happen is that it will make a new copy. Still, even if you're tight for space and that 1GB looks mighty tempting, back up your whole system first."

macOS

Microsoft's Edge browser now available for Mac

It's built on the Google Chrome browser engine, includes an "anti–tracking" setting switched on by default, and offers other anti–malware and anti–phishing features.

Any downsides? This is the first edition of Edge for the Mac so keep that in mind because first editions of software undoubtedly contain rough edges. Also, history and extension sync won't come until later this year. The new browser is available for anyone to download, but businesses using Macs (a substantially growing market) are the real targets.

Mac Introduced 36 years ago

"It started with the most famous Super Bowl ad of all time, and changed the way we interact with technology forever," writes Inc.

"The Macintosh included a graphical user interface (GUI), a mouse for navigation, and built–in display, all of which were revolutionary at the time," writes Jason Aten for Inc.

Hard to believe, but it was on Jan. 24, 1984 that Steve Jobs first introduced the Macintosh to the world. The Macs introduced folks to the "mouse" since it was

inc.com

Today the Mac Turns 36 Years Old. Here's Why It Still Matters Today

By Jason AtenTech columnist@jasonaten

3-4 minutes

It started with the most famous Super Bowl ad of all time, and changed the way we interact with technology forever.

For most people, the story of the Macintosh begins with the famous Super Bowl ad directed by Ridley Scott. In reality, the story started long before that (5 years before, to be exact), but it wasn't until a few days later that the world would meet the first mass-

A screen grab from the Inc. website displays one of the first Macintosh computers that began selling in 1984.

one of the very first mainstream computers to include the device. Macworld goes back in time and recalls the Mac, the Apple III, the Lisa computer and more in an article that originally appeared in Computerworld.

When the Inc. website looks back on the Mac, it reminds us that "It's hard to imagine today how monumental the Macintosh was at the time…"

Windows 10

Microsoft ends support for Windows 7

But tech writer notes free Windows 10 update was still available as of January

C|net asks the question, "Can I still download Windows 10 for free?" The tech web site answers, "Yes, and here's how" in a recent article.

In January, Microsoft ended support for Windows 7, which it introduced in October 2009. So the tech giant is pushing Windows 7 users to upgrade to Windows 10.

C|net notes, "Windows 7 users who don't upgrade to the new version will no longer be able to get Microsoft's security updates or fixes, or technical support for any issues, leaving your computer at greater risk for viruses and malware. While Windows 10 users have experienced a number of bugs over the years, upgrading remains the best option for keeping your computer safe, analysts say."

You can buy the Windows 10 Home operating system from Microsoft's website for $139. But C|net reports you don't necessarily need to pay that money.

Tech writer, Ed Bott, reported in January that Microsoft's servers delivering the free upgrade were still up and running. He writes, "Which means today, more than three years after the free upgrade offer supposedly ended, you can still upgrade to Windows 10 from Windows 7 or Windows 8.1 and claim a free digital entitlement, without being forced to jump through any hoops.

He goes on, telling how he upgraded an old PC to Windows 10.

It should be emphasized that you can only update to a Windows 10 license if you have a Windows 7 or 8 license. If you have Windows 7 or 8 Pro, you can only update to Windows 10 Pro.

A graphing calculator; moving to Windows 10

You may not be aware of it, but Microsoft is building a graphing calculator directly into the Windows 10 operating system.

Lifehacker outlines the steps to unlock the free calculator in a recent article.

David Murphy writes, "If you thought "Scientific" mode was fun, you haven't seen anything yet —coming soon, to Windows 10, is a full-fledged graphing calculator."

For now, you have to sign up for the Windows Insider Program to activate the graphing calculator and install a beta build of Windows 10. (Beta versions are usually not quite ready for prime time.)

Moving from Windows 7 to 10

Microsoft really, really wants home PC users to switch to Windows 10.

It's even devoted a website to the process.

PC World describes different options for Windows 7 users, including ignoring the lack of support and risking your entire PC, buying a new Windows license or upgrading Windows for free.

Another option is to buy a new PC. In case you haven't been keeping track, Microsoft officially stopped providing support for Windows 7 on January 14.

"The bottom line?" asks *PC World*. "When Windows 7 officially exits support on Jan. 14, 2020, that PC will be at risk of attacks from malware that Microsoft simply won't patch."

CKCS Memberships:
New Members and Renewing Members

Submitted by CKCS Board Member Ben Rice (ben.rice@ckcs.org)

This update is from Dec. 21, 2019 – Jan. 21, 2020.

New Members

- **Darlene Leet**
- **Gail Waller**

Renewing Members

- **Boone Baldwin**
- **Susan S. Beard**
- **Nancy Bowling**
- **David Dickson & Laura Cole**
- **Sterling Duvall**
- **Myra Engle**
- **Robert M. Fain**
- **Deborah B. Gresham**
- **Bruce Klobeke**
- **Bill Martin**
- **Larry Neuzel**
- **James L. Pepperl**
- **Ward R. Ransdell**
- **Phyllis Spiker**
- **Ruth Straus**
- **Larry K. Trivette**
- **Susan Umberger**
- **Robin Young**
- **Stuart Zahalka**

You are the reason CKCS can exist. Without your memberships, purchases through smile.amazon.com and Kroger, we wouldn't be here. Thank you.

Member of
APCUG

Central Kentucky Computer Society
Incorporated

CKCS Resource Center
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Lexington, Kentucky 40513
(859) 373–1000
www.ckcs.org

• OFFICERS •
Tenure ends June 30, 2020
President: Brooke Thomas
Vice–President: Joe Dietz
Secretary: Larry Trivette
Treasurer: Jim McCormick

• DIRECTORS •
Tenure ends June 30, 2020
Boone Baldwin
Toni Greider
Jan Landers–Lyman
Ben Rice
Mike Seiler
Tenure ends June 30, 2021
Bob Brown
Janet Cartmell
Larry Mitchum
Eugene Potter
Pennie Redmond

Webmasters	Bob Brown, Wendell Curtis
Class Coordinator	Janet Cartmell
Office Coordinator	Jan Landers–Lyman

Office Supervisors
Bob Brown, Wendell Curtis, Tracy Elton, Nancy Kolacz, Jan Landers–Lyman, Mike Seiler, Lydia Short, Julia Steanson, Larry Trivette, Cookie Dungan

Alternate Supervisors
Jenny Brown, Nancy Bowling, Kathy Davis, Gale Greer, Marie Han, Nita Martin, Toni Greider, John Plumlee, Sandra O' Neal, Helen Pope, Dottie VanWinkle

CKCS Calendar	Wendell Curtis
Mail Chimp Manager	Larry Mitchum
Newsletter Editor	Kurt Jefferson

Newsletter Proofreaders
Ben Rice, Brooke Thomas, Bob Flynn, Toni Greider, Kurt Jefferson

Refreshment Center	Jim Hughes

Windows Special Interest Group

Tuesday, February 11, 2020

7:00 pm

Mike Seiler
Windows SIG Leader

Topics that will be covered at the February Windows 10 SIG:

1. How many accounts do you have that you no longer use?   There is a web site that can help you delete these accounts called "justdelete.me".

2. Add some pizazz to your folder icons. A program called "Folder Painter" allows you to color the folder icons as well as change their appearance.

3. How do you set up the device tracking feature in Windows 10?

Please send any questions and/or topics you want me to talk about in the Windows 10 SIG to w10sig.ckcs@gmail.com

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Countries with the fastest Internet service

1. Taiwan
2. Singapore
3. Jersey
4. Sweden
5. Denmark
6. Japan
7. Luxembourg
8. Netherlands
9. Switzerland
10. Norway

Source:
GKseek.com

**10 African countries
with fastest Internet**

1. Kenya
2. Rwanda
3. South Africa
4. Mauritius
5. Morocco
6. Lesotho
7. Tunisia
8. Nigeria
9. Cape Verde
10. Angola

Source:
victormatara

Useful Gadgets That Might Save Your Day

CKCS Board Member Larry Mitchum submitted these gadgets for your investigation. CKCS does not endorse any products shown here.

ALL GADGETS ARE PRESENTED WITH INFORMATION SUPPLIED BY THE MANUFACTURER. PLEASE RESEARCH ALL PRODUCTS FOR YOURSELF BEFORE PAYING OUT YOUR HARD-EARNED CASH.
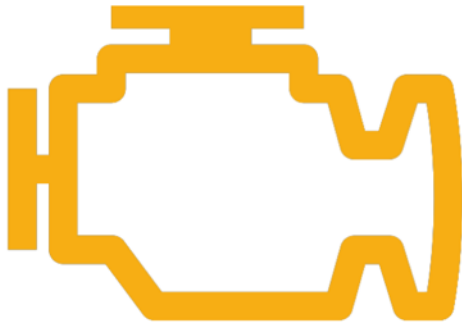
This is one light that can be confusing and terrifying at the same time when it magically appears lit on your automobile dashboard. In the past, it has meant that you must go to your local garage and have your car hooked to the mechanics computer $$$ and analyzed $$$. You are then presented with the scenario of costly repairs. Some garages offer the analysis free and then expect that you will authorize the repairs with their shop.

It doesn't have to be that way anymore. Enter the several diagnostic tools available. One of which is the pocket sized **FIXD** device. Plug this gadget into your cars computer port and the diagnosis is instantly relayed to your phone screen in plain English. Available from Amazon and Walmart for $59.99

Okay, you get a week to head to the beach. Lucky you until you hide your wallet or car keys in your shoes or the beach towel. It doesn't take much for a thief to make off with your possessions. The answer might just be this invention by FLEXSAFE.

Did you buy a new computer because the old one was too slow? What are you going to do with the old computer? Recycle? Hang onto it in case you can repurpose it later?

Stop right there! This just might be the answer you were looking for. The Xtra-PC is a new device that can speed up your old computer and make it useful again and comes in three speed boosting sizes.

Xtra-PC Pro

was
$159.99

$79.88

Save
50%

MOST POPULAR   64GB

I have to admit that I have been a victim of computer crashes and lost photo files. I have also stored photos online and on what is now considered antiquated devices ie. CDs and DVDs. Thumb drives offer another means of preservation but are somewhat difficult to manage. What if there were a device that could plug into my computer and do all the download automatically and store my photos? There is…

The Photo Stick is here!

Choose the one that's perfect for you!

8 GB   64 GB   128 GB

Here is a TSA pre-approved lock that lets you know when it is unlocked and for how long it was open. It is controlled from your phone with Bluetooth technology and a 128bit security encryption in every lock. You can control multiple AirBolt locks from the phone app. See the **AirBolt** here and purchase from the manufacturer for $59.98 +SH

You can support CKCS – Are you helping out?

By Larry Mitchum, CKCS board member

Not many of our members know that your CKCS Board of Directors is constantly looking for ways to increase our funding without significantly impacting member dues. One way has been to partner with large corporations with programs to give back to their communities.

Kroger Company's "Kroger Plus" card is a way of tracking your purchases and returning some of the company profits to Not-For-Profits that have been identified in your community.

So if you list CKCS as your favorite non-profit organization, CKCS will receive a quarterly check from Kroger. Log in to your Kroger Plus account and List: **NH569** as your community rewards recipient.

Amazon.com is another of our corporate partners. So, if you list CKCS as the organization that you wish to support, Amazon will share part of their profits with us.

The only impact on our members is they continue to spend money on groceries and products from our corporate partners and we are able to keep dues to a minimum.

Supporting: Central Kentucky Computer Society Inc ▼

Visit http://smile.amazon.com and the pull-down menu at the top that says Supporting: and list **Central Kentucky Computer Society.**

Many corporations provide matching employee donations. Is your employer involved in a philanthropic gift program?

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CKCS SIGs
(Special Interest Groups)

CKCS SIG Meetings		
SIG	**Monthly Meeting**	**Leader(s)**
Database	4th Monday at 7 P.M.	Garland Smith
Digital Photography	4th Tuesday at 7 P.M.	Joe Dietz
Dr. Fixit	1st Saturday at 10 A.M.	Bob Brown Ben Rice James Osborne Mike Seiler
iHelp	1st Saturday at 10 A.M.	Jeannine Essig Janet Cartmell Brooke Thomas Joe Dietz Kurt Jefferson
MS Access	3rd Thursday at 7 P.M.	Stuart Zahalka
Windows	2nd Tuesday at 7 P.M.	Mike Seiler
Mac & iPad	2nd Thursday at 7 P.M.	Kurt Jefferson
UNIX / LINUX	4th Thursday at 7 P.M.	Lewis Gardner

Every month, Central Kentucky Computer Society offers SIG meetings open to members and guests. Starting times are shown below.

You may want to check the 'Monthly Schedule' and 'Newsletter' link on the CKCS home page for any schedule changes.

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February 2020 CKCS SIG Schedule

Larry Trivette prepared the SIG calendar. Print this page for your refrigerator or bulletin board.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 Jan	28 Jan	29 Jan	30 Jan	31 Jan	1 Feb
					10 a.m. **Dr. Fixit, iHelp & Android Help** Bring in your problem PC, Mac, iPhone, iPad, or Android device and we'll try to help
3 Feb	4 Feb	5 Feb	6 Feb	7 Feb	8 Feb
			9 a.m. **Photography Chat** 7 p.m. **Board of Directors Meeting**		
10 Feb	11 Feb	12 Feb	13 Feb	14 Feb	15 Feb
7 p.m. **Tech Night** **Michael Cox, Pieratt's – Wireless Home Entertainment**	7 p.m. **Windows 10** MIKE SEILER		9 a.m. **Photography Chat** 7 p.m. **Mac & iPad** KURT JEFFERSON		
17 Feb	18 Feb	19 Feb	20 Feb	21 Feb	22 Feb
			9 a.m. **Photography Chat** 7 p.m. **Access Database** STUART ZAHALKA		
24 Feb	25 Feb	26 Feb	27 Feb	28 Feb	29 Mar
7 p.m. **FoxPro Database** GARLAND SMITH	7 p.m. **Digital Photography** JOE DIETZ		9 a.m. **Photography Chat** 7 p.m. **Unix/Linux** LEWIS GARDNER		

13 Feb
9 a.m. **Photography Chat** 7 p.m. **Access Database** STUART ZAHALKA
20 Feb
9 a.m. **Photography Chat** 7 p.m. **Unix/Linux**

CKCS 2020 Spring Classes

Course Name	Dates	Time
Advanced & Independent Digital Imaging Using Corel PaintShop Pro for Windows PC	Jan. 22, 29 and Feb. 5, 12, 19, 26	10 A.M. to Noon
Close–Up and Micro Photography	Feb. 3, 10	1 to 3 P.M.
Computer Basics for Windows 10	Feb. 20, 27 and Mar 5, 12, 19, 26	10 A.M. to Noon
Digital Imaging Using Corel PaintShop Pro, Windows PC	Feb. 18, 25 and Mar 3, 10, 17, 24	10 A.M. to Noon
Get More Out of Your Mac	Feb. 24, and Mar 2, 9, 16, 23, 30	10 A.M. to Noon
Getting the Most Out of Your iPad	Feb. 5, 12, 19, 26 and Mar 4, 11	1 to 3 P.M.
Getting the Most Out of Your iPhone	Feb. 6, 13, 20, 27 and Mar 5,12	1 to 3 P.M.
How to Take Sharp Photographs	Mar 16, 23	10 A.M. to Noon
Intro To Infrared Photography	April 6, 13	10 A.M. to Noon
Intro To Photoshop Elements for Windows PC	Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24 and Mar 2, 9	1 to 3 P.M.
Learning to See Creatively in Photography	April 27 and May 4, 11, 18, 25	1 to 3 P.M.
Making a Photo Book Using Shutterfly	Mar 10, 17	1 to 4 P.M.
Organizing Your Personal Computer Files in Windows	April 9, 16, 23	10 A.M. to Noon
Photo Stacking & Photo Stitching	Feb. 17, 24	1 to 3 P.M.

• This is just a summary of spring classes. •
See the complete list of spring classes *and workshops,* including course descriptions, starting on page 40.

CKCS Classes & Workshops

Pick a Date That Fits Your Schedule & Desire to Learn

How much do they cost?
• Most classes cost $60, paid to CKCS
• Most workshops cost $30, paid to CKCS
(Unless stated otherwise.) **See list of classes and workshops below.**

CKCS members receive a 20% discount on all class and workshop fees.

Okay. This looks good. How do I register?

Phone: (859) 373–1000 and tell the person answering the phone which class or workshop you want.

OR

In–Person: Drop by the CKCS Resource Center at 160 Moore Drive, Suite 7 in Lexington

Pay by Cash, Check or Credit Card

CKCS Resource Center Office

Open:
Mon – Thur
10 A.M.
to 4 P.M.

Friday
10 A.M.
to 1 P.M.

* An asterisk denotes that classes or workshops meet in the main room and their class size is determined by the instructor. Windows classes meet in the computer classroom and are limited to eight students. Mac classes meet in the computer classroom — there are five Mac minis for students to use.

Students may use their own laptops, tablets or phones if they have the appropriate software installed. (This is at the discretion of the instructor.)

Inclement Weather Policy

When CKCS classes, seminars, workshops, or SIGs are scheduled and there is bad weather, such as snow, ice, high winds etc., our policy about canceling the class or SIG (special interest group) is left to the discretion of the class teacher or SIG leader. When there is bad weather, many times the roads in the city become reasonably clear by mid morning or afternoon and an instructor will decide to continue with a class. It is the member's/student's decision as to whether the roads you travel are safe enough for you to use and to determine if you should attend or miss a class or event. Check your email in the event of a cancellation if you have provided one. Call the office to hear if there is a recorded message for SIG's.

To register for a class or workshop:

Phone: (859) 373–1000 and tell the CKCS volunteer which class or workshop you want.

OR

In–Person: Drop by the CKCS Resource Center at 160 Moore Drive, Suite 7 in Lexington

Pay by Cash, Check or Credit Card

CKCS classes are typically six weeks long but may vary according to the topic and teacher.

CKCS workshops are typically held on one day.

PLEASE JOIN CKCS. PLEASE JOIN CKCS. PLEASE JOIN CKCS. PLEASE JOIN CKCS. PLEASE JOIN CKCS. PLEASE JOIN CKCS. PLEASE JOIN CKCS. PLEASE JOIN CKCS.

They say repetition works. We hope so.

Get the message?

Thank you for joining CKCS during our push to grow memberships.

CKCS 2020 Spring Classes

Course Name	Dates	Time	Description
Advanced & Independent Digital Imaging Using Corel PaintShop Pro for Windows PC	Jan. 22, 29 and Feb. 5, 12, 19, 26	10 A.M. to Noon	**Students will bring their own projects to work on with guidance and assistance from the instructors and other students.** These projects may be techniques such as restoring old photos; preparing pictures to insert into online books; organizing photos; and preparing contact sheets, collages, and slide shows. They may learn how to properly use a scanner to scan their old slides and photos before fixing them. Short instructional sessions will touch on cropping, cloning, making selections, enhancing selections and numerous other digital imaging projects. Students may work on making brochures, business cards, greeting cards, etc. **This class is geared to those who have had some experience with digital imaging programs.**
Close–Up and Micro Photography	Feb. 3, 10	1 to 3 P.M.	**Learn how to photograph an object using close-up and micro techniques using your camera.** There will be an emphasis on Focus, Composition, and Depth of Field. Bring an object to use as the subject for this workshop, your camera with a fully charged battery, the camera and lens manuals, a tripod, a thumb drive and note pad.
Computer Basics for Windows 10	Feb. 20, 27 and Mar 5, 12, 19, 26	10 A.M. to Noon	**Learn the fundamentals of using a Microsoft Windows 10 personal computer.** Learn to use various aspects of the Microsoft Word Processing program, Word 365, including manipulating text and inserting graphics into a document. Basic filing and basic file management are introduced. The final class includes a thorough review and tips on using the Internet.
Digital Imaging Using Corel PaintShop Pro, Windows PC	Feb. 18, 25 and Mar 3, 10, 17, 24	10 A.M. to Noon	**Students will learn how to enhance their pictures using a digital imaging program.** They will learn how to crop, brighten, lighten, and generally clean up their pictures for better presentation. Students will also learn how to properly scan old photographs and slides so they can be enhanced. Students will learn how to use text with their images, working with layers, straightening pictures, and using scripts to create a variety of different presentations such as color or charcoal sketch of pictures. We will also work on restoring pictures and learn how to take someone out of a picture and put them on another one. We will continue learning techniques to restore old photographs and learn how to create a collage with several pictures.
Get More Out of Your Mac	Feb. 24, and Mar 2, 9, 16, 23, 30	10 A.M. to Noon	**You probably use your Mac every day but you're probably not getting the most out of your computer.** This course will teach you techniques you can use to be more effective. Topics range from organizing files in a folder to suit you better to keyboard shortcuts to customizing your Dock. **Tips provided in this course will save you time and make your computer use more enjoyable.**
Getting the Most Out of Your iPad	Feb. 5, 12, 19, 26 and Mar 4, 11	1 to 3 P.M.	**Learn how to use the built-in Apple apps on your iPad.** Personalize and organize your apps, take better photos and organize them. Acquire information about settings, learn the secrets of the keyboard, emailing, and texting with animation. Get tips on using the Calendar, Notes, Reminders, and Books. Facetime will be included if time permits. **Participants should bring their iPad updated with the latest operating system and know (or bring) their Apple ID and password.**
Getting the Most Out of Your iPhone	Feb. 6, 13, 20, 27 and Mar 5,12	1 to 3 P.M.	**Learn important (and hidden) functions of your iPhone.** Learn how to download apps, move them, nest them and delete them. Learn how to get better photos with your phone, organize your pictures, and send them in text and emails. Texting messages and using Siri will also be covered. **Participants should bring their iPhone and know (or bring) their passcode, Apple ID and password.**

These are classes CKCS is scheduled to offer during the spring session. Sign up today!

CKCS 2020 Spring Classes

Course Name	Dates	Time	Description
How to Take Sharp Photographs	**Mar 16, 23**	**10 A.M. to Noon**	**Learn how to take photographs that are in focus and well exposed.** The instructors will demonstrate the correct way to focus, stand and breathe when taking a photograph. Because many cameras do not have the settings selected for optimum performance, the instructors will help students make the correct settings for their cameras. **Bring your camera with a fully charged battery, the camera manual and a notepad to class.**
Intro to Infrared Photography	**April 6, 13**	**10 A.M. to Noon**	**Learn how to adapt your camera to take infrared photographs.** Students will also learn which infrared filter to purchase and what camera settings to use to achieve the best photographs. Infrared photography offers photographers of all abilities and budgets the opportunity to explore the world of the unseen. **Bring your camera with a fully charged battery, the camera manual and a notepad to class.**
Intro to Photoshop Elements for Windows PC	**Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24, and Mar 2, 9**	**1 to 3 P.M.**	**In this introductory course to Adobe's Photoshop Elements program we will learn to use the tools of this program to do basic photo enhancements including quick fixes, cropping, cloning, spot healing, red-eye removal, levels, and adding borders.** We will also discuss photo considerations prior to printing, introduction to layers, converting images to black and white, enhancing and restoring old photos, adding text, using brushes, graphics, adjustment layers, templates, special features, filters, and many creative techniques.
Learning to See Creatively in Photography	**April 27 and May 4, 11, 18, 25**	**1 to 3 P.M.**	**Learn the ingredients for a good photo.** We will study the elements of design, perspective, composition, lighting and color of light; and will learn to choose a lens for various photographic techniques. Learn how the camera "sees" what is being photographed. The class will include two outings to practice the skills learned in class. **Bring your camera with a fully charged battery, the camera manual, a memory card, a thumb/flash drive and a notepad.**
Make a Photo Book Using Shutterfly	**Mar 10, 17**	**1 to 4 P.M.**	**You'll learn how to prepare pictures for a photo book, how to transfer pictures to the Shutterfly workspace, and then organize the pictures from the front to the last page of the book.** Finally, we will go through the steps of ordering the book and applying coupons to reduce the price. For session #1 attendees will use pictures supplied by the instructor. For session #2 students will be using their own pictures to create a photo book. **We will be using a program called Shutterfly.**
Organizing Your Personal Computer Files in Windows	**April 9, 16, 23**	**10 A.M. to Noon**	**Learn the correct way to file items on your personal computer.** Learn nifty tricks for moving files and folders and organizing these files and folders so they can easily be found on your personal computers or external storage devices. Students will use the computer classroom computers for the first lesson. **After the first class, students may bring their own laptops, or a thumb drive loaded with personal files they want to organize.**
Photo Stacking & Photo Stitching	**Feb. 17, 24**	**1 to 3 P.M.**	**Learn the photo stacking technique which takes multiple images and processes them into one photograph that is in focus front to back.** This can be done in close-up and micro as well as large landscape scenes. Students will also learn the photo stitching technique which overlaps 2, 3, 4 or more images to create one panoramic print. **Bring your camera with a fully charged battery, the camera manual, a tripod and notepad.**

These are classes CKCS is scheduled to offer during the spring session. Sign up today!

CKCS 2020 Spring Workshops

| Workshop Name	Dates	Time	Description
iPhone Apps to Simplify Your Life	Mar 31	1 to 3 P.M.	**Bring your iPhone and learn about some useful and fun apps.** Among the apps covered will include apps used for directions, organizing reward cards, paying for parking, using various weather apps, making your pets talk, making Holiday videos, using Apple Pay, Finding my Phone, and plant identification. **The apps will be demonstrated, and you will be able to practice using them.**
Is Windows 10 Driving You Crazy?	Mar 16	1 to 4 P.M.	**Students will learn how they can set up the Windows 10 Start Menu, Desktop, Taskbar, and File Explorer, making them easier to use and understand.** Also, a free program will be demonstrated that changes the Start Window making it look like the Windows 7 or XP Start Window. The instructor will primarily use lecture to demonstrate the steps in changing a Windows 10 computer. Students who have a laptop that is running Windows 10 are welcome to bring them to the workshop. **If you bring one, make sure its battery is fully charged.**
Let Your Fingers Do the Walking: (Using the Electronic Library)	Mar 10	1 to 4 P.M.	**This workshop will focus on free online services offered by public libraries focusing on Lexington Public Library.** Services include remote use of the library services, accessing ebooks, and popular magazines (including informational services as *Consumer Reports*). Other free information services will be included as time permits. **Students are required to bring their own laptops or tablets. We will not be working on phones.**
Making Personal Note Cards using Microsoft Word	May 7	10 A.M. to Noon	**Note and greeting cards can be expensive.** Learn to make your own personalized note and greeting cards from your own personal photos or resources from the Internet.
Understanding Facebook for Windows PC	Mar 26	1 to 4 P.M.	**Learn how to maintain a Facebook page on the Windows PC.** The Profile page and Home page will be explained. How to find friends, make a post, edit and respond to posts, prioritizing news feeds, checking privacy settings, unfriending and blocking friends, and deleting and deactivating your Facebook account are some of the features covered.
Using Your iPhone Camera to the Max	April 1	1 to 4 P.M.	**Using apps already on the iPhone, students will learn techniques to take better pictures, fix them up by cropping, lightening or darkening, or adding filters.** Those attending will learn how to take videos, time-lapse and panoramas. They will also learn how to create albums and learn several ways to share their photos with others.

These are workshops CKCS is scheduled to offer during the spring session. Sign up today!
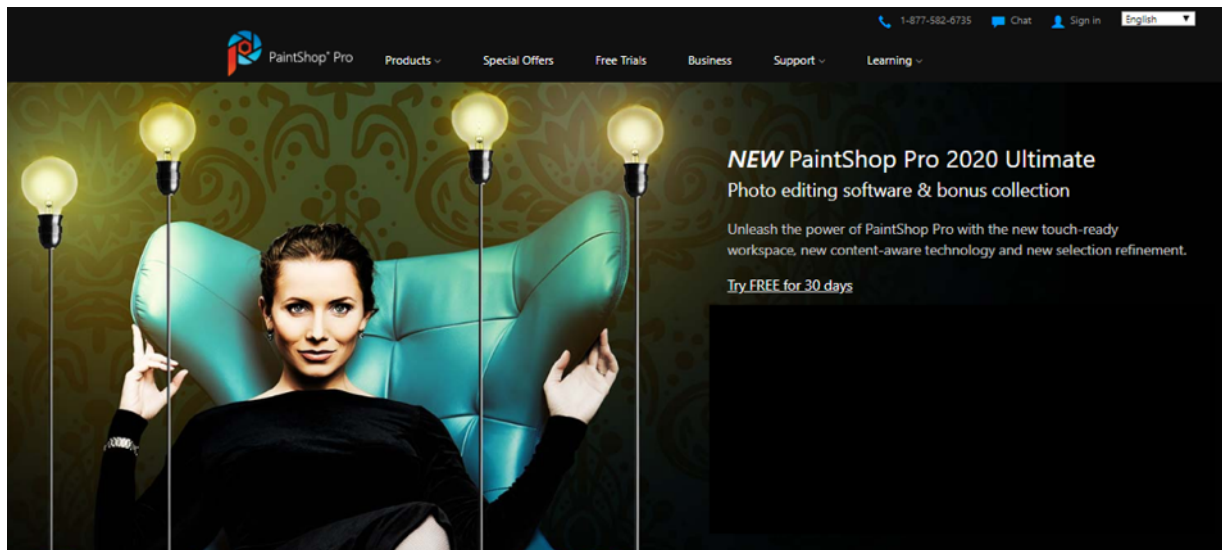
Digital Photography SIG

Digital Photography Special Interest Group

7 PM, Tuesday, February 25, 2020
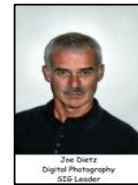
Corel PaintShop Pro 2020

Defy ordinary. Resist boring. Capture life and ignite your imagination with PaintShop® Pro 2020 Ultimate, the smarter, faster, more intuitive photo editor with bonus pack of premium software.

A few months ago Corel released their new version of PaintShop Pro. This new version – 2020 - has new cloning tools, brushes, templates along with a new photography workspace and lots more. This version of PaintShop does all the normal fix up your picture stuff and also has tools for RAW editing, HDR tools and 360° camera support.

Join us on February 25 as we take a tour of the tools and methods to enhance your photos.

• The **Photo Contest** topics for the rest of the year are as follows: •

February: Storm Clouds
March: Crafters at Work
April: Lexington Architecture
May: Automobiles
June: State Parks

July: (3 Hard copy entries) – Black and White, Fishing, Flower Macros
August: Moods
September: Beach Themed Pictures
October: Fences

Joe

Digital Photography SIG
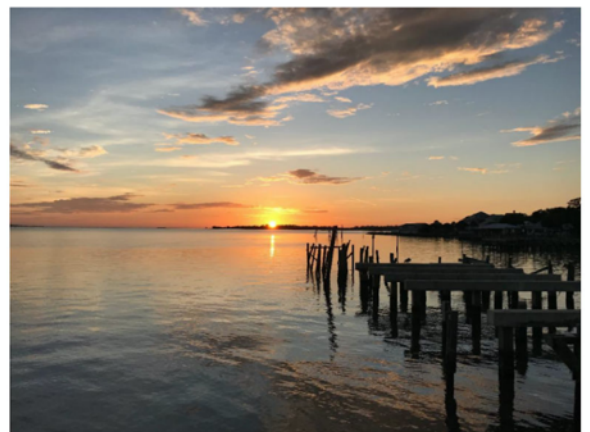
Waterfront View Photo Contest

1st Place - Anne Campbell

2nd Place Sterling Duvall

Tie for 3rd Place

Kevin MacNaughton

Ward Ransdell

44

Desktop History: 'Dramatically Different' iMac G3 brought major success to Apple

The most colorful way to the Internet.

Think different.

Introduced in 1998, the dramatic sales success of the all–in–one iMac G3 computer is cited as one of the major reasons Apple is still around today.

As The Apple Wiki website says, "Aesthetically, the iMac was dramatically different from any other mainstream computer ever released. It was made of translucent "Bondi Blue"– colored plastic, and was egg–shaped around a 15–inch CRT. There was a handle and the computer interfaces were hidden behind a door that opened on the right–hand side of the machine."

The iMac turned around the company financially and introduced many newcomers to the Apple brand. The popular desktop was the first consumer product introduced after Steve Jobs came back to head the company.

Quite a few features set the iMac apart from other computers in the late 1990's including:

- A brightly colored egg–shaped case (first colored 'Bondi Blue,' later, more colors)

- Lack of a floppy disk drive (the first mainstream computer to abandon the ubiquitous floppy drive). Instead, it featured a built–in CD/DVD player/burner tray

- Acceptance of the newly emerging USB ports and discarding the ADB (Apple Desktop Bus) connector

More on page 45

Remember: CKCS members receive a 20% discount on all classes and workshops. Most classes cost $60 — most workshops cost $30 (paid to CKCS).

Desktop History

- A round mouse that resembled a hockey puck (many folks bought a third–party plastic snap–on device that made the mouse more closely resemble traditional mice from makers such as Logitech, Microsoft and Kensington)

- A major emphasis on connecting to the Internet. (The "i" in iMac stands for the Internet.) The iMac contained an internal modem for a dial–up Internet account, while many other computers used external modems at extra cost.
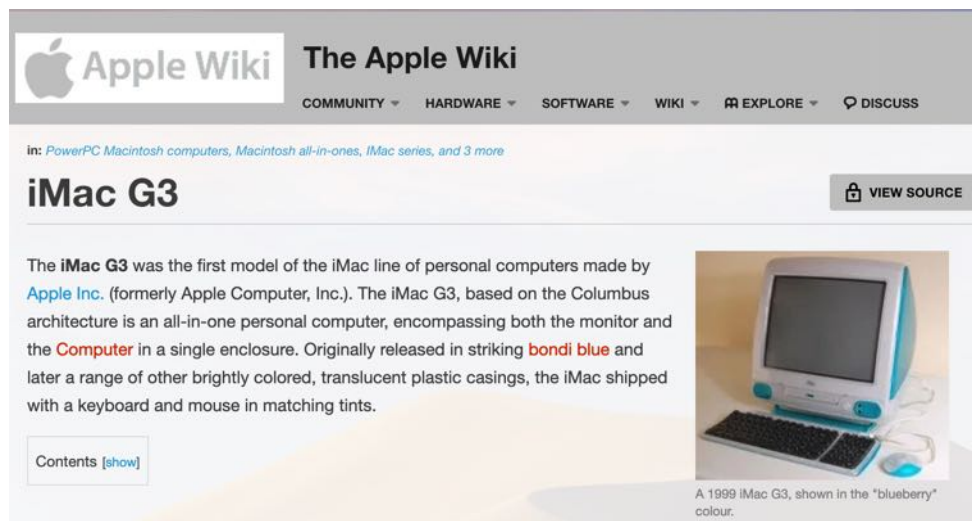
A screen grab of the Apple Wiki website showing the iMac G3 introduced in August 1998. Apple continued updating the original iMac until it discontinued the iMac G3 in 2003. Apple still produces the iMac and it's one of the top–selling desktop machines made in 2020.

The original iMac ran Mac OS 8 and weighed 40 pounds. Apple received 150,000 pre–orders for the iMac prior to its launch. Then Apple's stock price shot above $40 a share – the highest in three years. The radically designed computer became an enormous success for Apple. Remember that virtually every other mainstream computer maker was turning out beige boxes at the time. The new iMac was a real head–turner. As the 512pixels website writes, "It's hard to overstate the importance of the iMac G3. The iMac G3 ushered Apple into the future and on its translucent back, Steve Jobs rebuilt the company."

Mobile Gizmos and Broadband Internet

How times have changed in a few short years when it comes to mobile phones, iPads, and other devices and high–speed Internet services.

Pew Research has been keeping tabs on this and reported just last year that 37% of Americans now go online mainly using their smartphone. That number has doubled since 2013.

Smartphones are cited as the main reason these households have no broadband Internet service at home.

Younger people, especially, reach for their phones when they want to go online. Pew polling reveals that 58% of 18 to 29–year–olds say they mainly access the Internet through a smartphone.

Even the share of adults 30 to 49 who mostly use a smartphone to go online has nearly doubled – from 24% just seven years ago – to 47% in 2019.

Pew says this shift is changing everything – from the way people get their news to how they apply for jobs.

27% of all American adults (about one–in–four) don't have broadband Internet at home and say they have no plan to get it.

Folks who don't have broadband Internet at home say, "their smartphone lets them do everything they need to do online," reports Pew.

Apple sees record holiday sales

Apple recorded the best holiday sales in its history – beating estimates and even its own forecasts. The October–to–December quarter showed an 8% climb in iPhone sales over a year ago. In addition, iPad and Mac sales were quite strong.

Sales climbed in every region except Japan.

Apple's reported revenue of $91.8 billion, up 9% from a year earlier. Per share earnings were $4.99, while analysts predicted $4.54. Experts who track tech stocks say this shows the resiliency of Apple's business.

Product breakout

iPhone sales: $55.957 billion

Mac sales: $7.16 billion

iPad sales: $5.97 billion

Wearables (Apple Watch, etc.): $10.01 billion

Services (iCloud backup, etc.): $12.71 billion

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Last month, we asked you to name all of the CKCS board members. In addition, we asked if you could match office holders with their photos. Check your sheet. How did you do?

CKCS   CKCS   CKCS

What to read and watch
and other fun stuff in 2020
• Websites •

Best books for book clubs in 2020

The Ten most anticipated nonfiction books of 2020

Ten Books Teens Want You To Read Right Now

The Best Books of 2020 (so far)

33 Best Hunting Books Every Hunter Should Read in 2020

25 Romance Novels that are actually worth reading

The 16 best French books to read in 2020

The Ten Best Police Procedurals to buy in 2020

Amazon Best Sellers: Top 100 Police Procedurals

The 15 best cookbooks of 2020

Eight best cookbooks for kids in 2020

• You tube Videos •

A Test for Teens
Two teens attempt to use a rotary phone (thanks to Jerry Heaton)

Paul Harvey on 'Our Founding Fathers' (thanks to Jerry Heaton)

Time Lapse: 28 inches of snow in four hours (West Seneca, N.Y.)

Top Ten Weather Events of 2019

Jimmy Fallon funniest moments, 2019

Jonathan Winters & Robin Williams on Tonight Show