JANUARY TECH NIGHT

Building a KyTrade Home Computer

On Monday, January 9, 2017, long-time friend and supporter of the Central Kentucky Computer Society, Freddy Peralta, will be this month's featured speaker on Tech Night.
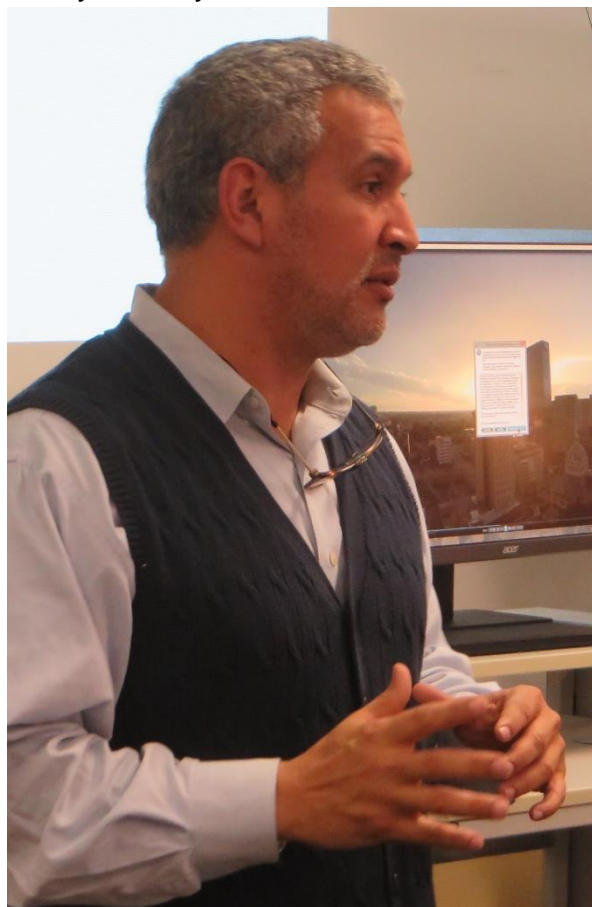
He will build a computer in front of the audience while explaining the current PC technology and the various components including the CPU, memory, case, storage, video card and display. It will be a visual experience, where you will see what goes into a new computer and what the different parts do.

He will also go through his "Top Tips to Improving Your Computer Performance and Security". This includes what you should do when Microsoft calls you about a problem. You will learn what SSD is, how to avoid misleading websites, privacy issues with Windows 10, and programs like Acronis and Malwarebytes software.

In the usual "Freddy style" he will have KyTrade door prizes. Each time he visits CKCS he increases the goodies. This time he will be giving away the following **door prizes**:
- one 240GB SSD
- one 120GB SSD
- one copy of Acronis Backup Software
- one copy of Malwarebytes anti-malware software
- five 8GB or 16GB flash memory
- five $25.00 KyTrade Service Discount Cards

Join us for a fun and informative night. You might win one of the prizes. Invite a friend as guests are always welcome at CKCS.   CKCS

Click on your topic of interest

Contents

President's Comments

By Brooke Thomas
president@ckcs.org

Starting a New Year fresh

It's another year behind us and a great year ahead of us. January is the perfect time to start fresh. Be sure to check out all the great classes and special interest groups that are starting in January. There are ten classes beginning this month and over 10 Special Interest Groups will be held. The office will be open to take class registrations on January 3 starting at 10 a.m. You can call in and reserve your spot by paying with a credit card or by stopping by and paying with cash, check or charge card.

Central Kentucky Computer Society Winter Classes

PaintShop Pro Beginning Digital Imaging

Exploring the World of Photography
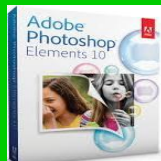
Introduction to Adobe Photoshop Elements

Beginning iPad

PaintShop Pro Advanced Digital Imaging/ Independent Work

Pages for iPad

Computer Basics

Windows 10

Word Processing

Beginning iPhone

Easy Way to Access Streaming

Don't forget that many of the SIG's are streamed live. It's easy to tune in. Just go to the front of the CKCS website, www.ckcs.org,and click on the "Streaming Live" link at the top of the page. It will take you directly to the website to watch the live streaming. You will not see anything until the leader has turned on the camera, so be patient. To see which groups are streamed live, refer to the meetings calendar on the web page.

CKCS on WTVQ

When you go to www.CKCS.org you will find a link to the latest WTVQ Tech Tip video. There will be a written outline of the steps shown in the video as well. December's *WTVQ Midday Kentucky*

featured Joe Dietz demonstrating how to take a screen shot of a video to make a still shot that then can be printed or sent in an email.
CKCS

Tech Chat and Problem Solving

A discussion group that covers technology and how to live with it.

Meets the first Thursday of each month at 1:30.
Do you ever feel like technology is running faster than you can keep up?
This group is for you!

Digital Photography Special Interest Group
January 24, 2017

John Snell Returns!

Joe Dietz
Digital Photography
SIG Leader

John will present a retrospective of his work from 2016, including images from the Blue Ridge Parkway, Red River Gorge, Cumberland Falls, Pine Mountain State Resort Park and Keeneland. He'll also share a bit from his experiences of photographing the Breeders' Cup races at Keeneland in 2015. Throughout his talk, he will offer information about some of the photographic challenges he faced and how he dealt with them.

Here are a couple of his recent shots.

This month's photo contest will be about "PORCHES". Check out your porch to see if it will make a great shot, or get out and find the best shot. Submit your photo to joedietz@aol.com not later than January 23.

Hope to see you there!

Check out the photo contest topics suggested by our members for 2017.
January - Porches
February – Eyes
March - Bottles/Broken Glass
April - Disappearing Professions
May – Hats
June - Close up
July - **Annual Photo Contest: (3)**
        (1) People at Work, (2) Church Windows, (3) Back Alleys;
August - Arches
September - Machine Parts
October - Curves
November - Autumn
December - No meeting – have a great holiday season!   CKCS

Members partied and learned about E-Library

CKCS members enjoyed the homemade treats at this year's Holiday Party and socializing held on December 12.

Taura Lutske, computer trainer with the **Lexington Public Library,** walked through step-by-step for how to access the library's e-books using OverDrive. She showed how to download magazines using Flipster and how to get audio books using OneClick at December's Tech Night. Additionally, she showed how to use Lynda.com. Lynda.com is an online educational company and has more than 4,000 courses in business, technology and creative skills taught by industry experts. This includes more than 1,700 photography courses and more than 100 web development courses.

Several in the audience were aware of Lynda.com and have subscriptions. What they didn't know was that it is free to Lexington Public Library card holders because the library has a subscription. Mango Language was another learning resource. It has 64 foreign language courses, including "Pirate" that people can access from their home computers. Many of the surrounding county libraries have agreements with the Lexington library and people who live in those counties can get a Lexington library card that will give them access to various educational sites.

Happy Holidays
Central Kentucky Computer Society

Group photo by Becky Brothers and Kathy Davis. Embellishment courtesy of Carolyn Nichols.

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CKCS 2017 Winter Class Schedule

Pages for iPad*
Monday Morning (10 a.m. to noon)
Jan. 23, 30, Feb. 6, 13, 20, 27

Windows 10
Monday & Thursday Afternoon (1 p.m. to 3 p.m.)
Jan. 5, 9, 12, 16, 19, 23

Exploring the World of Photography*
Monday Afternoon (1 p.m. to 3 p.m.)
Jan. 23, 30, Feb. 6, 13, 20, 27

PaintShop Pro Beginning Digital Imaging
Tuesday Morning (10 a.m. to noon)
Jan. 24, 31, Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28

Introduction to Adobe Photoshop Elements
Tuesday Afternoon (1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.)
Jan. 24, 31, Feb. 7, 14, 21, 2

Beginning iPhone*
Tuesday Afternoon (1 p.m. to 3 p.m.)
Jan. 24, 31, Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28

PaintShop Pro Advanced Digital Imaging/ Independent Work
Wednesday Morning (10a.m. to noon)
Jan. 25, Feb. 1, 8, 15, 22, Mar. 1

Beginning iPad*
Wednesday Afternoon (1p.m. to 3p.m.)
Jan. 25, Feb. 1, 8, 15, 22, Mar. 1

Computer Basics
Thursday Afternoon (1p.m. to 3p.m.)
Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23, Mar. 2, 9

Word Processing
Friday Morning (10 a.m. to noon)
Jan. 27, Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24, Mar. 3

Course Descriptions

Pages for iPad*...Pages is Apple's word processing/desktop publishing app that runs on the iPad, iPhone, iPod touch and Mac computers. In the class, students will learn about Pages basics as well as intermediate steps on how to create, format, and print professional word processing documents. They'll also learn how to save Pages documents in Word and PDF formats. More people are discovering Pages because of its power. In many cases it can replace Word on their mobile devices and Macs. If you're not familiar with Pages, we will get you up to speed quickly to create eye–catching documents.

Windows 10... Learn how to navigate in Microsoft's new operating system, add new apps as well as use them. Anyone taking this class should have a prior working knowledge of a Windows operating system.

Exploring the World of Photography*... This course will cover one topic each week: 1. How to change the camera settings while in Program mode; 2. Picture Composition; 3. Depth of Field; 4. Choosing the correct lens for your camera; 5. Flash Photography; and 6. Critiquing your own photos. The instructors will be working with every student to help them implement the topics covered in class.

PaintShop Pro Beginning Digital Imaging ... Students learn how to fix up their pictures using Corel's Paint Shop Pro. You will learn the tools used to crop, lighten/darken a picture, fix red eye, clone part of a picture out, add text and tips on how to scan old pictures and slides and lots more.

Introduction to Adobe Photoshop Elements... In this course you will learn how to use some of the tools in Elements 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 creating a slide show.

Beginning iPhone*... Learn how to use the Apple iPhone. Beginning with basic features: receiving and making calls, adding entries to your contacts list, receiving and sending text messages, reading your email, taking photos, and more. Then, learn how to use the preinstalled applications that come with your phone.

PaintShop Pro Advanced Digital Imaging/ Independent Work... Students will build on tools they learned in the beginning class. They will also learn how to use layers, create collages, restore old photos, straighten images, perspective correction. Students can bring projects that they want to work on with guidance and assistance from the instructors. Students may be working on their pictures, restoring old photographs, working with templates, making brochures and business cards or other projects.

Beginning iPad*... This course will introduce you to the layout of this wonderful iOS device, teach you how to navigate around the tablet, and familiarize you with each of the preinstalled applications.

Computer Basics... Learn the fundamentals of using a Windows 10 computer. Learn to use various aspects of the Microsoft Word Processing program, including manipulating text and inserting graphics into a document. Basic filing and basic file management are introduced. The final class of this course deals with the basics of email and use of the Internet.

Word Processing... Learn the basics of Microsoft's Word with hands-on, step by step, exercises. Topics include: ribbon toolbars; page setup; selecting, editing & moving within a document; office clipboard; cut, copy & paste; spelling & grammar checking; character & paragraph formatting; tab stops & tables; manual page breaks, page numbers;

numbered & bulleted lists; multiple columns; headers & footers; insert, resize & move pictures; find & replace; printing.

* These classes or workshops meet in the main room and their class size is determined by the instructor.   All other classes meet in the computer classroom and are limited to eight students.

Students may use their own portable computers if they have the appropriate software installed (This is at the discretion of the instructor.). CKCS cannot provide copies of the proprietary software.

COSTS: All classes have a fee payable to CKCS of $60.00 and Workshops have a fee of $30.00, unless stated otherwise (see above).

CKCS members get a 20% discount on all class, seminar, and workshop fees.

TO ENROLL	**BY PHONE**	**(859) 373-1000**
		Office hours: Monday thru Friday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
	IN PERSON	**160 Moore Dr. Suite 7**

We accept cash, check, or credit card.

CKCS

TECH TALK

by Joe Isaac
joeisaac@twc.com

System Restore

SYSTEM RESTORE is saving more and more classmates from having supreme headaches. Please save these instructions.

**Go to Control Panel. Click on Recovery, Open System Restore. Go back a few days when your computer was working OK and restore to that date.
This does not affect your data such as documents or email, etc.**

Restore points are automatically created every time you download Windows updates.
==================================

When you first go to Control Panel it may look like this:

Adjust your computer's settings

View by: Category ▾

System and Security
Review your computer's status
Save backup copies of your files with File History
Find and fix problems

Network and Internet
View network status and tasks
Choose homegroup and sharing options

Hardware and Sound
View devices and printers
Add a device

Programs
Uninstall a program

User Accounts and Family Safety
Change account type
Set up Family Safety for any user

Appearance and Personalization
Change the theme
Change desktop background
Adjust screen resolution

Clock, Language, and Region
Add a language
Change input methods
Change date, time, or number formats

Ease of Access
Let Windows suggest settings
Optimize visual display

At the upper right, click on Category and then click on Small icons and get this:

Action Center	Add features to Windows 8.1	Administrative Tools	AutoPlay	Color Management
Credential Manager	Date and Time	Default Programs	Device Manager	Devices and Printers
Display	Ease of Access Center	Family Safety	File History	Flash Player (32-bit)
Folder Options	Fonts	HomeGroup	Indexing Options	Intel® HD Graphics
Intel® Rapid Storage Technology	Internet Options	Keyboard	Language	Location Settings
Mouse	Network and Sharing Center	Notification Area Icons	Personalization	Phone and Modem
Power Options	Programs and Features	Realtek HD Audio Manager	Recovery	Region
RemoteApp and Desktop Connections	Sound	Speech Recognition	Storage Spaces	Sync Center
System	Taskbar and Navigation	Troubleshooting	User Accounts	Windows Defender
Windows Firewall	Windows Update	Work Folders		

From this view you click on RECOVERY and then OPEN SYSTEM RESTORE.
Go back a few days when your computer was working OK and restore to that date.
This does not affect your data you have created such as documents, emails, etc.

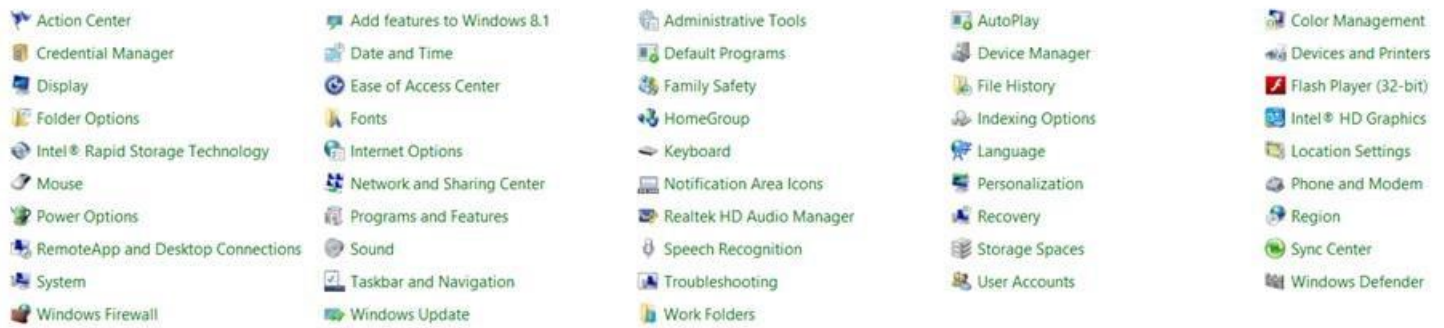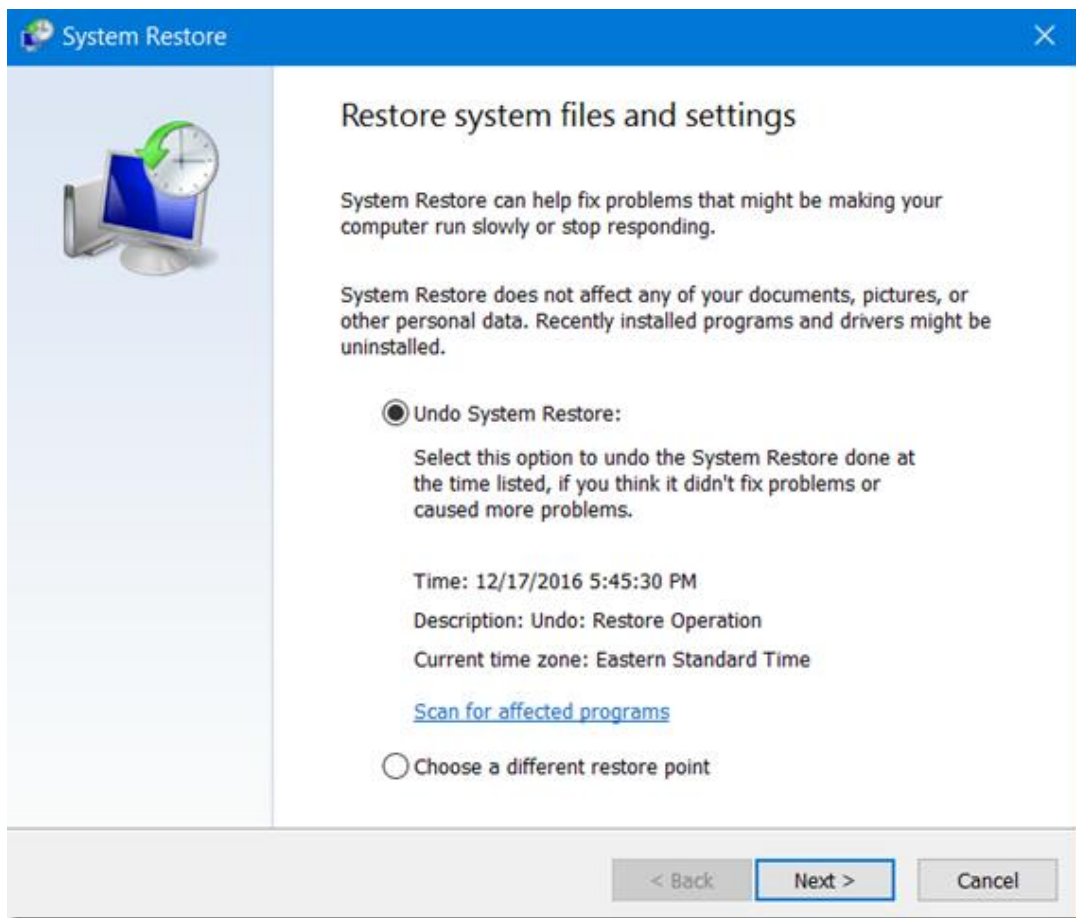Restore points are automatically created every time Windows sends an update.

System Restore

Restore system files and settings

System Restore can help fix problems that might be making your computer run slowly or stop responding.

System Restore does not affect any of your documents, pictures, or other personal data. Recently installed programs and drivers might be uninstalled.

⦿ Undo System Restore:

Select this option to undo the System Restore done at the time listed, if you think it didn't fix problems or caused more problems.

Time: 12/17/2016 5:45:30 PM

Description: Undo: Restore Operation

Current time zone: Eastern Standard Time

Scan for affected programs

◯ Choose a different restore point

< Back   Next >   Cancel

Keep SYSTEM RESTORE in mind when your computer goes haywire.   CKCS

Computer tips In about 150 words

Members are invited to share things they do that enhance their work with computers, tablets and phones. It might be something common that you use but perhaps dozens out there don't know that trick, or maybe have just forgotten it. In this space each month, I hope readers will offer several tips to share with fellow members.

Let's make these tips brief – about 100 to 150 words plus or minus. We want the tips (suggestions) to be short and simple, but clear. Send your tip to Newsletter@ckcs.org – please include your name and phone number. A few tips below are examples to show what we have in mind.

COMPUTER TIP: Be aware of copycat websites

Careless typing can take you to a copycat website created by scammers. According to an *AARP* article, many typists leave off the "c" in .com. as hackers have jumped on that, creating more than 300 common domain names they purchased for this new malware-spreading scheme according to *Endgame.* Here's the complete list, which involves banks, pharmacies, retailers, and even porn sites. When typing your search in your browser, one needs to proofread for typos before pressing ENTER.

Scammers MO has been known to lead consumers to copycat websites that sell counterfeit goods, aim to steal credit card info that people provide for supposed purchases, or promise a prize to those who complete a survey that actually mines for sensitive personal information.

Remember, when searching for a specific company, you get a list of possible websites. The official site you are looking for often is not at the top, as ads go first. Study the list carefully before you select.

Tip by Jerry Heaton

COMPUTER TIP: Recommend you obtain and use CCleaner

CCleaner is a tool that can be used to clean the temporary files from your Windows system. The tool gives you the options of which components will be cleaned and how much space will be saved. The tool also enables you to clean your registry of stuff that is no longer useful. Other tools include removing programs from startup, disable browser startups, etc. Each of these tools will help speed up your computer during startup and when windows is running. There is a free version and a pro version. The free version must be run manually while the pro version will run in the background to clean your temp files automatically. To get this product go to https://www.piriform.com/ccleaner/download and select the version you want. If you choose the free version, you should **not** opt-in for a trial of the pro version. This product has been around for a very long time and is extremely reliable.

Tip by Ken Goodman

COMPUTER TIP: How to find the version of Windows installed on your computer

If you want to know the version of Windows that is currently installed on your computer, click on the search window and type in "winver" without the quotation marks. Now hit the Enter key on your keyboard. A window with the title "About Windows" will appear. It will have the version of Windows and the build number listed in it.

This is what appeared on my computer, which is up to date as of this writing. **CKCS**

Tip by Mike Seiler

You should be using a password manager
Make a New Year's Resolution to start using one

**By Kurt Jefferson,
SIG Leader and Instructor for Mac & iPad topics**

"…Let us start by saying: Installing a password manager is one of the most important things you can do to keep your data safe and secure. It's not just for security experts and the paranoid: it's for everyone." — Jason Fitzpatrick in his *How–to–Geek* article, **Password Managers compared: LastPass vs KeePass vs Dashlane vs 1Password**

"Easy remembered, broadly repeated passwords are for suckers."
— *iMore* article, **Best password manager apps for Mac**, Oct. 18

"A password like "123456" or "monkey" is easy to remember, but it's also easy to crack. With the help of a password manager, you can have a unique and strong password for every secure website. We evaluated two dozen to help you choose."— Neil J. Rubenking in **The Best Password Managers of 2016**, from the **PCMag.com** web site.

"Dashlane is LastPass's most serious rival, and like LastPass it's absolutely superb with strong password security, exceptional ease of use and ability to store notes for future reference."
— Gary Marshall in *TechRadar:* **The best password manager 2016**, Aug. 8

"For your own sanity and security, install a password manager and change all of your passwords so every single one is different, and every single one is long and hard to crack," writes Neil J. Rubenking in his PCMag article where he picks his ten most preferred password managers after evaluating two dozen.
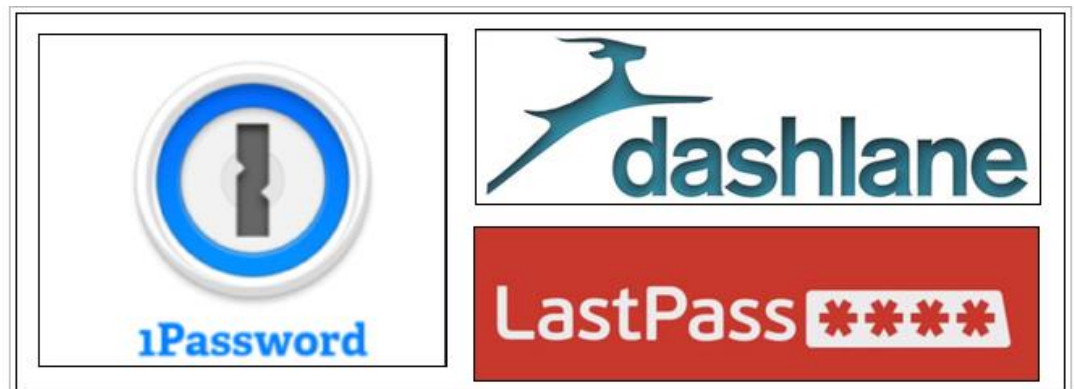
These are three of the most popular password managers used on iPads, iPhones, the iPod touch and Mac computers. There are plenty of other password managers from which to choose – experts say if you don't use one of these, you should be using a method that doesn't include Post–It® Notes or scribbling passwords on pieces of small paper. (People actually do this.)

If you prefer the Cliff Notes versions, here are what he calls his "very best":

• Dashlane 4 *(a PCMag Editor's Choice)* – **Supports iOS & Mac**
• LastPass 4.0 Premium *(a PCMag Editor's Choice)* **– Supports iOS & Mac**
• Zoho Vault – **Supports any platform**, browser extensions for Firefox and Chrome

- <u>Sticky Password Premium</u> *(a PCMag Editor's Choice)* – **Supports iOS & Mac**
- <u>RoboForm Everywhere 7</u> – **Supports iOS & Mac**

Long–time writer about all things Apple, Joe Kissell, recently <u>wrote a piece</u> for TheWirecutter, where he chose his favorite password manager: LastPass.

Kissell writes, "There are dozens of password managers you can use and narrowing down the list is challenging…LastPass, Dashlane and 1Password are significantly better than the rest of the field. They were all so impressive, and so evenly matched in most respects, that at various points I had each of them in the top spot. I suspect most people would be equally happy with any of them."

If you keep up with technology, you might remember that LastPass encountered a security breach in 2015.

A password manager stores all of your account information for website logins including your username and password. This keeps you from having to write them down and risking someone seeing them and hacking into your account. All you have to do is remember one strong password to keep your password vault safe and secure. Once you login to your vault, you have access to all of your logins. — *A Secure Life*, Dec. 9

Kissell notes that "hackers obtained email addresses, password reminders, server per user salts, and authentication hashes."

He also mentions that the breach did not include master passwords or encrypted data. Kissell adds, "Although the company took prompt measures to mitigate the damage and strengthen its infrastructure, the fact that LastPass is inherently cloud-based poses a risk some people will want to avoid. Any solely cloud-based service runs this risk, however, and LastPass's system is set up such that even with the successful hack, no one's passwords or data were stolen."

If you use a Mac or Apple device (iPad, iPhone or iPad touch), Kissell writes that you might want to consider 1Password: "1Password is well worth a look. 1Password has a more polished and convenient user interface than either LastPass or Dashlane. It's also a little faster at most tasks; it has a local storage option if you don't trust your passwords to the cloud; it gives you more options than LastPass for working with attached files; and it can auto-generate one-time tokens for many sites that use two-step verification—LastPass requires a separate app for this."

<u>A Secure Life Web site</u> rates Dashlane as providing the best experience, LastPass as the best value, and 1Password as the runner–up. The site ranks both Dashlane and LastPass as best password manager. "Dashlane stood out from other password managers to me. Everything was simple about using it. It was easy to adjust to, easy to import passwords, easy to save passwords, and more. It sounds cheesy, but I found myself wishing I had tried it sooner. It has a cool feature that allows you to set an emergency contact for your important accounts in case of an urgent and critical matter," writes Kimberly Alt.

- **TO CONTINUE WITH THIS ARTICLE CLICK HERE:**
  - → **Mac and iPad pages continued**

News to use

Photo Coffee to Meet for New Year's Breakfast

The Photo Coffee SIG, which meets at CKCS every Thursday morning, has a tradition started two years ago to begin each New Year's first meeting with breakfast at a local restaurant. The tradition continues, so the first meeting of 2017 for the group will be January 5, at 9 a.m. at Panera in Zandale Shopping Center on Nicholasville Road. Everyone goes "dutch", so you are on your own when it comes to paying your bill. Regular and new members are welcome. Please join them to start the New Year off right.

This group meets weekly to chat about photo and camera topics. So starting January 12, the group will resume its normal meeting schedule – every Thursday at 9 a.m. at CKCS on 160 Moore Drive.

Inclement Weather Policy

When CKCS has classes, seminars, workshops, or SIGs scheduled and there is bad weather, such as snow, ice, high winds etc., our policy about canceling the class or SIG is left to the discretion of the class teacher or SIG leader. For office workers, if Fayette County Public Schools are called off because of inclement weather, it is up to the individual office worker to decide whether they will be at CKCS or not.

Please understand, when there is bad weather where roads in the city have become reasonably clear and an instructor decides to continue with a class, it will be the members/students decision as to whether the roads you travel are safe enough for you to use and to determine if you should attend.
CKCS

New Members and Renewals

During the period from 11/25/2016 to 12/25/2016

We welcome the following new members who joined CKCS during this reporting period:

Susan Abaecherli
Sally J. Collier
Roena M. Deehan
William V. Hubbard
John D. Utterback

We thank and welcome back the following members who renewed their memberships during this reporting period:

Gary & Rebecca Brothers
Tommye Davidson
Robert M. Fain
Gayle Greer
Deborah B Gresham
Charles W. Meade
J.B. & Mary Murphy
Beverly Norris
Jack D. Powers
Ruth Straus
Patricia Witt
Robin Young

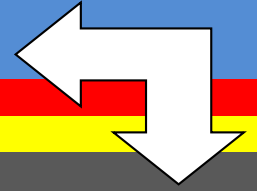*Information furnished by CKCS Board of Directors member Ben Rice*   CKCS

Not a member ?
We invite you to join CKCS

Here is how: It is simple and quick

Call (859) 373-1000 and a friendly office supervisor will be glad to help you.
or

Stop by the CKCS Resource Center at 160 Moore Drive, Lexington 40503.

Office hours Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

We need you and will welcome you as a full-fledged member.
Members are eligible to attend all Special Interest Group sessions.

Members receive a discount on all classes, workshops and seminars

January 2017 CKCS SIG Schedule

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

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
02 Jan	**03 Jan**	**04 Jan**	**05 Jan**	**06 Jan**	**07 Jan**
	1:30 PM **Word Processing** LARRY TRIVETTE **No Meeting this month**		9:00 AM **Photo Coffee** **Panera Bread – Zandale Shopping Ctr.** 1:30 PM **Tech Chat** BOB BROWN 7:00 PM **Board Meeting**		10:00 AM – NOON **Dr. Fixit** Bring in your problem PC and we'll try to help **iHelp** Bring in your iPhone, iPad, or Mac device and get one-on-one assistance
09 Jan	**10 Jan**	**11 Jan**	**12 Jan**	**13 Jan**	**14 Jan**
7:00 PM **Tech Night** Building a Home Computer – Freddy Peralta, Ky Trade	7:00 PM **Windows 10** JOE ISAAC		9:00 AM **Photo Coffee** 7:00 PM **Mac & iPad** KURT JEFFERSON		
16 Jan	**17 Jan**	**18 Jan**	**19 Jan**	**20 Jan**	**21 Jan**
	7:00 PM **Android Devices** Tubaugh, Baldwin, Brown		9:00 AM **Photo Coffee** 7:00 PM **Access Database** STUART ZAHALKA		
23 Jan	**24 Jan**	**25 Jan**	**26 Jan**	**27 Jan**	**28 Jan**
7:00 PM **FoxPro Database** GARLAND SMITH	7:00 PM **Digital Photography** JOE DIETZ		9:00 AM **Photo Coffee** 7:00 PM **Unix/Linux** LEWIS GARDNER		
30 Jan	**31 Jan**	**01 Feb**	**02 Feb**	**03 Feb**	**04 Feb**
			9:00 AM **Photo Coffee** 1:30 PM **Tech Chat** 7:00 PM **Board Meeting**		10:00 AM – NOON **Dr. Fixit** **iHelp**

This Month's Best Videos / Shows

An Easter Island surprise

http://www.coolestone.com/media/14672/He-Blew-Her-Mind-With-This-Easter-Island-Surprise!/#.WGHQgIWcHDK

Furnished by D. Stans

A solution if the weather turns really bad

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XwpKjEa4LYY

Furnished by Carl Peter

Sinkholes use to be rare, now they occur daily somewhere

https://www.youtube.com/embed/TLUgEXI9RYI?rel=0

Furnished by Carl Peter

Living off the grid

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z9WWzbzevTA

Furnished by D. Sans

Why people travel south

https://www.youtube.com/embed/xKy2lLNQYrI?rel=0&iv_load_policy=3&showinfo=0

Furnished by Carl Peter

How they made the music for "The Good, the Bad and the Ugly

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pLgJ7pk0X-s

Furnished by Harvey Shackelford

Fifty parental sayings in 50 seconds

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KMRj9mvBdzw

Furnished by Jerry Heaton

Jump from 25,000 feet with no parachute (no kidding) guy in green suit (simply crazy)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PK0HI0kWELE

Furnished by Carl Peter

Late show – shadow dancjoee

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mIWJdzu2d6U

Furnished by Carl Peter

Bill Gates houses

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CCAJJ5ATjdY#t=16.462103

Furnished by Jerry Heaton

Voice recognition elevator may have trouble with an accent

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5FFRoYhTJQQ

Furnished by D. Stans

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100 building implosions

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ErWitThIOdw

Furnished by Jerry Heaton

CKCS

A Few Funny Pages / Useful Information

That moment a jerk with an iPhone jumps in front of the shot you spent the day setting up (VIDEO)

By Dan Havlik • Posted: Dec 12, 2016

Well now if this isn't incredibly frustrating! Susan L. Angstadt, a staff photographer at the Reading Eagle in Pennsylvania spent all day Friday preparing to capture the spectacular demolition of some local smokestacks for the newspaper only to get "photobombed" at the last second by a guy with an iPhone who leapt in front of her.

"I sat there from 9:45 until 3pm, waiting for the stacks to be demolished," she told PetaPixel. "I told the crowd of people (politely) that I was shooting for the newspaper and to not bump into or stand in front of the camera I had set up on a tripod."

But, as you'll see in the agonizing short clip below, all that preparation is ruined by someone who clearly didn't listen.

"In the measly 7 seconds I had to shoot a video and take some stills I had no time to adjust for a man running diagonally down a hill in front of me shooting a running iPhone video. I was furious at first, but now when I watch the video I nearly shriek with laughter!" she said.

At least she had a sense humor about it. We're not sure how we would've reacted. How do you think you would have handled this photographic intrusion?

To see this video Click here: *Via Peta Pixel*

furnished by Bruce Klobeke

My new primary care physician
Love this Doctor!

Q: Doctor, I've heard that cardiovascular exercise can prolong life. Is this true?
A: Heart only good for so many beats, and that it... Don't waste on exercise. Everything wear out eventually. Speeding up heart not make you live longer; it like saying you extend life of car by driving faster. Want to live longer? Take nap.

Q: Should I reduce my alcohol intake?
A: Oh no. Wine made from fruit. Brandy distilled wine, that mean they take water out of fruity bit so you get even more of goodness that way. Beer also made of grain. Bottom up!

Q: How can I calculate my body/fat ratio?
A: Well, if you have body and you have fat, your ratio one to one. If you have two body, your ratio two to one.

Q: What are some of the advantages of participating in a regular exercise program?
A: Can't think of single one, sorry. My philosophy: No pain...good!

Q: Aren't fried foods bad for you?
A: YOU NOT LISTENING! Food fried in vegetable oil. How getting more vegetable be bad?

Q : **Will sit-ups help prevent me from getting a little soft around the middle?**
A: Oh no! When you exercise muscle, it get bigger. You should only be doing sit-up if you want bigger stomach.

Q: Is chocolate bad for me?
A: You crazy?!? HEL-LO-O!! Cocoa bean! Another vegetable! It best feel-good food around!

Q: Is swimming good for your figure?
A: If swimming good for figure, explain whale to me.

Q: Is getting in shape important for my lifestyle?
A: Hey! 'Round' is shape!

Well... I hope this has cleared up any misconceptions you may have had about food and diets.

And remember:
Life should NOT be a journey to the grave with the intention of arriving safely in an attractive and well-preserved body, but rather to skid in sideways - Chardonnay in one hand - chocolate in the other - body thoroughly used up, totally worn out and screaming "WOO-HOO, what a ride!!"

AND.....

For those of you who watch what you eat, here's the final word on nutrition and health. It's a relief to know the truth after all those conflicting nutritional studies.

1. The Japanese eat very little fat and suffer fewer heart attacks than Americans.

2. The Mexicans eat a lot of fat and suffer fewer heart attacks than Americans.

3. The Chinese drink very little red wine and suffer fewer heart attacks than Americans.

4. The Italians drink a lot of red wine and suffer fewer heart attacks than Americans...

5. The Germans drink a lot of beer and eat lots of sausages and fats and suffer fewer heart attacks than Americans.

CONCLUSION: **Eat and drink what you like. Speaking English is apparently what kills you.**

Furnished by Jan Landers-Lyman

Lost Words from our childhood:

Words gone as fast as the buggy whip! Sad really! The other day a not so elderly (65) lady said something to her son about driving a jalopy and he looked at her quizzically and said what the heck is a jalopy? OMG (new) phrase! He never heard of the word jalopy!! She knew she was old but not that old.

Well, I hope you are Hunky Dory after you read this and chuckle.

About a month ago, I illuminated some old expressions that have become obsolete because of the inexorable march of technology. These phrases included "Don't touch that dial," "Carbon copy," "You sound like a broken record" and "Hung out to dry."

Back in the olden days we had a lot of moxie. We'd put on our best bib and tucker to straighten up and fly right.

Heavens to Betsy! Gee whillikers! Jumping Jehoshaphat! Holy moley!

We were in like Flynn and living the life of Riley, and even a regular guy couldn't accuse us of being a knucklehead, a nincompoop or a pill. Not for all the tea in China!

Back in the olden days, life used to be swell, but when's the last time anything was swell?

Swell has gone the way of beehives, pageboys and the D.A.; of spats, knickers, fedoras, poodle skirts, saddle shoes and pedal pushers.

Oh, my aching back. Kilroy was here, but he isn't anymore.

We wake up from what surely has been just a short nap, and before we can say, well I'll be a monkey's uncle! or This is a fine kettle of fish! we discover that the words we grew up with, the words that seemed as omnipresent as oxygen, have vanished with scarcely a notice from our tongues and our pens and our keyboards.

Poof, go the words of our youth, the words we've left behind. We blink, and they're gone. Where have all those phrases gone?

Long gone: Pshaw, The milkman did it. Hey! It's your nickel.

Don't forget to pull the chain. Knee high to a grasshopper.

Well, Fiddlesticks! Going like sixty. I'll see you in the funny papers.
Don't take any wooden nickels

It turns out there are more of these lost words and expressions than Carter has liver pills.

This can be disturbing stuff !

We of a certain age have been blessed to live in changeful times. For a child each new word is like a shiny toy, a toy that has no age. We at the other end of the chronological arc have the advantage of remembering there are words that once did not exist and there were words that once strutted their hour upon the earthly stage and now are heard no more, except in our collective memory. It's one of the greatest advantages of aging.

See ya later, alligator!

Christmas decoration

A homeowner's summary

"Good news is that I truly out did myself this year with my Christmas decorations.
The bad news is that I had to take the dummy down after 2 days.

I had more people come screaming up to my house than ever; but two things made me take it down.

First, the cops advised me that it would cause traffic accidents as they almost wrecked when they drove by.

Second, a 55-year-old lady grabbed the 75 pound ladder almost killed herself putting it against my house and didn't realize it was fake person until she climbed to the top (she was not happy).

By the way, she was one of many people who attempted to do that. My yard couldn't take it either. I have more than a few tire tracks where people literally drove up my yard."

Christmas Scottish Divorce

A man in Scotland calls his son in Edinburgh the day before Christmas Eve and says, "I hate to ruin your day, but I have to tell you that your mother and I are divorcing; thirty years of misery is enough."

"Dad, what are you talking about?" the son screams.

"We can't stand the sight of each other any longer," the father says. "We're sick of each other, and

I'm sick of talking about this, so you can call your sister in Aberdeen and tell her "

Frantic, the son calls his sister, who explodes on the phone. "Like hell they're getting divorced," she shouts. "I'll take care of this."

She calls home immediately, and screams at her father, "You are NOT getting divorced. Don't do a single thing until I get there. I'm calling my brother back, and we'll both be there tomorrow. Until then, don't do a thing, DO YOU HEAR ME?" and hangs up.

The old man hangs up his phone and turns to his wife. "Okay," he says, "they're coming for Christmas - and they're paying their own way."   CKCS

Furnished by Carl Peter

FREDDY's TOP TIPS TO IMPROVE YOUR COMPUTER PERFORMANCE AND SECURITY:

» **Upgrade your hard drive to a SSD** (Solid State Drive): now 120GB and 250GB SSD drives cost under $100.00; the SSD positive impact on the performance of a computer is simply unbelievable.

» **Do Image Backups of your computer:** of the whole computer (OS, programs, settings, everything) and **no only your documents and personal files**; use Acronis Backup Software to do monthly (and weekly) completely unattended image backups of your computer to a second hard drive (a USB connected one but preferable an internal one).

» **Use MalwareBytes software to protect against malware:** and better yet use the Premium version (only $15 per computer per year);

» **Windows 10 is GOOD and free** (for existing Windows 7 and Windows 8 computers)! Welcome back to the Windows 7 like interface that most everybody feel at home with. Please be also aware that Windows 10 expand the amount of information obtained by Microsoft from your computer usage (more on it can be read at many places online including http://www.polygon.com/2015/7/31/9075531/windows-10-privacy-how-to).

» **Make sure that you are visiting the website that you really want to visit**; there are many misleading sites that try to trick you into believing that they are the intended legit site … but they are not! Be careful with the spelling of the name of a site; be careful with the first "findings" of the search engines; most times they are no findings but (many times deceptive) advertising.

» If somebody call you about the "problems of your computer" **simply hang off**; they are not legitimate people so do not even waste your time even threatening them.

Aug.'15

CKCS List of Special Interest Groups

Each month the Central Kentucky Computer Society offers nine Special Interest Groups (SIGs) which may be attended by members and their guests. Visitors are cordially invited to become active CKCS members. Starting times of SIGS are as indicated in the listing. **Always check the "Monthly Schedule" and the "Newsletter" link on the CKCS home page for any schedule change** **www.ckcs.org**

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DATABASE SIG

Meets monthly on the fourth Monday at 7 p.m. – Leader Garland Smith

DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY SIG

Meets monthly on the fourth Tuesday at 7 p.m. – Leader Joe Dietz

The Digital Photography Special Interest Group is a forum to provide and share information about digital imaging. The SIG frequently has guest speakers to cover a wide range of topics that are related to digital imaging. Some of our past topics have been on digital archiving (AKA Backup), getting the best out of your point and shoot camera, effective lighting when taking pictures, restoring old photos and many others. The goal of this SIG is to help attendees to better understand digital imaging, learning how to get the best out of their cameras and how to improve their images with digital imaging software such as Corel's Paint Shop Pro, Photoshop CS/Elements, Gimp or other program. Each meeting starts with a photo contest with a variety of different categories.

DR. FIXIT SIG & iHELP SIG

Meets monthly on the first Saturday at 10 a.m. – Dr Fixit leaders: Bob Brown, Ben Rice, James Osborne, and Mike Seiler. iHelp leaders Jeannine Essig, Lilly Crawley, Janet Cartmell, Kurt Jefferson, Joe Settles, Brooke Thomas and Joe Dietz

CKCS members are eligible to bring in sick computers for evaluation. Our 'experts' will diagnose the problem and if possible make simple repairs. All you need to bring is the CPU. Our leaders will use a mouse and monitor on hand. This is a free service for members only. One may join in membership to avail themselves of this special service.

MAC AND iPAD SIG

Meets monthly on the second Thursday at 7 p.m. – Leader Kurt Jefferson

The Mac and iPad SIG tackles issues to help make both Apple's Mac computers and its iPad tablet easier to use and more enjoyable. We deal with a variety of topics ranging from Mac OS X (pronounced "10") to iOS, the operating system running Apple's iPad. We share tips at every meeting and provide insights to empower users to get more out of their Macs and their iPads. Users are encouraged to bring their Mac laptops and iPad tablets to experience firsthand the tips provided at each meeting. Whether you're a beginner to the Mac or iPad, of you've been using both devices for several years, you'll walk away with plenty of tips, tricks, and advice to make your computing experience more enjoyable.

MICROSOFT ACCESS SIG

Meets monthly on the third Thursday at 7 p.m. – Leader Stuart Zahalka

TECH CHAT SIG

Meets monthly on the first Thursday at 1:30 p.m. Leader Bob Brown

Keeping up with personal and home technology is getting harder. New products and new Internet services are coming rapid fire. The purpose of the Tech Chat Group is to talk about technology as it happens. We are trying to stay aware of new ideas and understand what impact they will have on us.

WINDOWS SIG

Meets monthly on the second Tuesday at 7 p.m. – Leader Joe Isaac

The Windows SIG or Workshop for Windows 10 meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. Topics covered may be: Windows10, Cortana, EDGE, Alarms & Clock, PHOTOS, Google Maps, Spotify, Settings, Mail, Control Panel, System Restore, Disk Cleanup, Desktop, Taskbar. To see which topic will be covered next go to **http://joescomputertips.blogspot.com/**
To see a year's worth of email Tips and Reviews go to: **http://www.ckcs.org/joetips.pdf**

WORD PROCESSING SIG

Meets monthly on the first Tuesday at 1:30 p.m. Leader Larry Trivette

The Word Processing SIG starts with questions from classmates where the SIG leader and all attending help provide solutions and answers. In fact, many of the topics presented during each session come from questions received by email during the month. Topics are presented so that new as well as advanced computer users will benefit by attending. This workshop uses several Microsoft Word versions during the SIG.

UNIX / LINUX SIG

Meets monthly on the fourth Thursday at 7 p.m. – Leader Lewis Gardner

The Linux SIG handles a wide range of technical topics. Linux is based on Unix which is the granddaddy of modern networking. We spend a considerable amount of time on servers, networks, routers, access points and general network configuration. These operating systems are at the heart of many devices in our increasingly connected world. Come out and we will try to get your questions answered, your problems troubleshot or devices configured. **CKCS**

Mac and iPad pages continued

Regarding LastPass, Alt writes: "…LastPass has been easy to use, secure, and very dependable. When the Heartbleed Bug hit, LastPass notified users of the hack, it allowed users to run a security check against their accounts to see if there were any breaches. It also made recommendations on the website it felt may have been compromised and it was easy to update passwords as needed. One of my favorite features is the password generator.

What about 1Password – a perennial favorite?

"The most frustrating thing with 1Password for me was that it wouldn't keep me logged in. So I had to constantly login with my master password throughout the day," writes Alt.

"Because of this annoyance, we didn't feel it fit in our top three," she adds.

Alt mentions that 1Password recently changed its pricing – and began offering a family plan along with a one time purchase for a license that works on both Mac and Windows machines. Before the change, users were required to buy a license for Mac and another for Windows.

Kimberly Alt reviews a variety of other password managers including KeePass, Keeper Password, Roboform, Sticky Password, and True Key.

Here's my take on the issue. I have used all three of the top–rated password managers – Dashlane, LastPass, and 1Password. Not one of these products is perfect. All have their strengths and weaknesses. In many ways, it's a matter of preference. Does the low cost of using LastPass, for example, make it a better choice for you than Dashlane or 1Password? Or would another password manager work better for you?

I stopped using LastPass after a company called LogMeIn purchased the service in the fall of 2015. LogMeIn is a service that allows customers to work with PCs remotely by allowing subscribers to log into Windows machines from an iOS or Android phone or tablet.

I had read several articles about LogMeIn's practices and I didn't want to deal with that company. For example, in January 2014, PCWorld reported that "LogMeIn shocked customers today with a notice announcing the end of LogMeIn Free. According to the notice posted to the LogMeIn blog, users will have seven days to upgrade to a premium access account…Users who do not subscribe to a premium account service within the seven–day window will lose access to the LogMeIn service."

Sorry. I cannot support a company that treats its customers that way. SEVEN DAYS to upgrade or you lose access to your LogMeIn service? Amazing. Goodbye, would be my reaction. So I exported my passwords out of LastPass (after using the service for a number of years), and promptly bought 1Password on both the Mac App Store and iOS App Store.

1Password is an excellent password manager created by a Canadian company. It worked well for the most part – but sometimes would inexplicably fail to automatically log me into web sites asking for my user name and password. I would visit 1Password's tech support page, get the app working again, and then it would later stop logging me in automatically.

My biggest 1Password problem was its high price. Back in 2014, the Mac version cost $45. The iOS version cost $18. A quick check of the 1Password web site reveals that the company has reduced its price – $35.88 ($2.99 billed monthly) is the cost for unlimited installations on "as many computers and devices as you own, whether at home or at work," reads the 1Password web site. There's also an option for an entire family – $59.88 ($4.99 billed monthly) for everyone in a family to install 1Password on all of their computers, phones, tablets, etc.

My favorite out of the bunch would be Dashlane and I use it daily on my Macs, my iPad, and iPod touch. It has worked the best for me –

Security alert for yahoo.com

A security alert has been reported on yahoo.com. Your password and the data it protects may be compromised. You should change it immediately.

Close   See related passwords

Even before I read about the latest Yahoo! security breach, Dashlane notified me that a breach had occurred and I needed to take action to secure my email password. I did immediately change my Yahoo! password, but after many years of use I finally terminated the Yahoo! account.

consistently logs me into web sites automatically such as Amazon, my bank, two libraries, Kroger and Meijer, and Acorn (a streaming service providing British, Australian, Canadian and TV shows from other countries too), allows me to keep secure notes, alerts me when there's been a security breach (can you say Yahoo! Mail), and it works consistently.
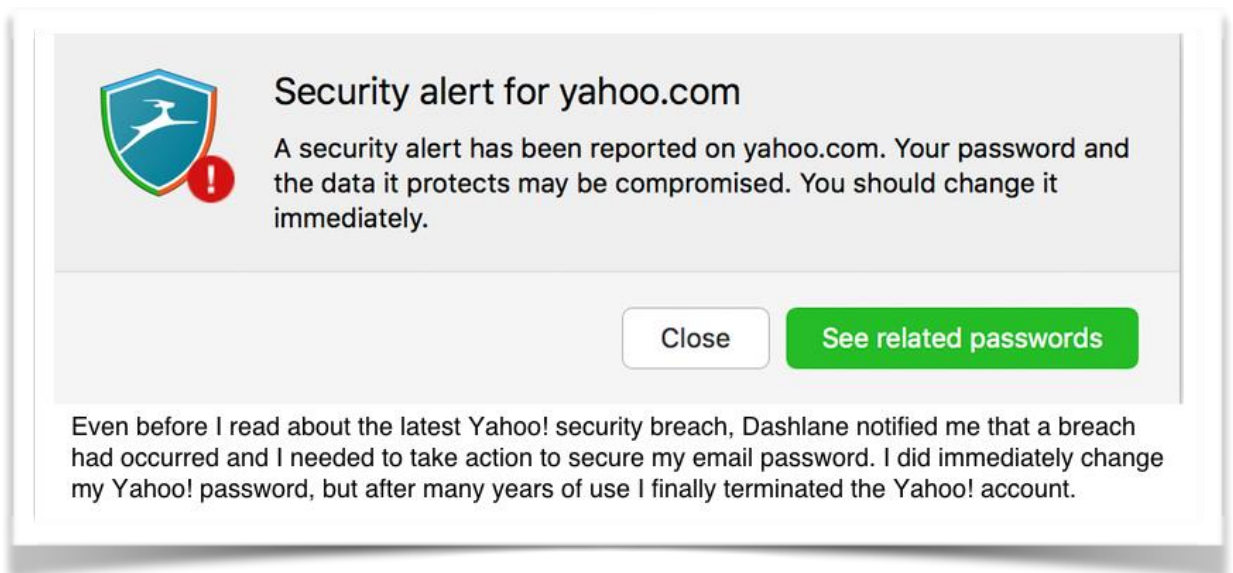
Kissell did not choose Dashlane as the top choice because of price. "…I'm hard pressed to come up with anything genuinely negative to say about Dashlane, although I should note that, like LastPass (but unlike 1Password), it offers no mechanism to sync passwords across your devices without using the cloud. The main reason Dashlane isn't our top pick is the $40-per-year price, considering that it offers very little in functionality over even the free version of LastPass, let alone the $12 Premium version. Compared to 1Password, Dashlane does offer one-step password changing for some sites, a spiffy receipt-saving feature, and the (potentially risky) option to log you in without so much as a keystroke, but it also lacks enough of 1Password's other useful features that it's difficult to make a compelling case for Mac and iOS users to prefer Dashlane, either."

The bottom line – you shouldn't be saving your passwords on Sticky Notes or only in a Notes file on your iPad. Do a little research and discover which password manager suits you. It will be well worth the time and effort.

Another day, another security breach at Yahoo! Really.

Wow. Another one? I mean, really? Another security breach at Yahoo!?

Yahoo was feeling the heat yet again in mid–December after headlines screamed:

- The Latest Yahoo Security Breach Is The Worst One Yet… (Tech Times)

- Yahoo security breach an 'asleep at the wheel' situation, experts say (Winnipeg Free Press)

- Some Yahoo users close accounts amid fears breach could have ripple effects (Yahoo! Tech News)

- Another hack? Here's how to delete your Yahoo Account (c|net)

In case you haven't been following, here is some background.

Aug. 2013 breach: Data stolen from more than one billion Yahoo! user accounts, including unencrypted security questions and answers. Yahoo! reports the breach on Dec. 14, 2016. *This breach is now considered to be the largest known breach of its kind on the Internet.* (Sources: *The New York Times* and CNBC cable channel)

Late 2014 breach: Yahoo! says hackers stole data from more than 50,000 user accounts, including account email addresses, phone numbers, dates of birth, hashed passwords, and in some instances unencrypted security questions and answers. (Sources: Bloomberg News and Wired)

July 2016: Account names and passwords for some 200 million Yahoo! accounts go up for sale on an Internet site called Darknet by a seller known as "Peace." (Sources: Wired and Vice)

Call me cynical, but when Yahoo! responds to an earlier July 2012 security breach of 400,000 user names and passwords stolen from its servers by issuing this statement, you've really got to wonder:

"At Yahoo! we take security very seriously and invest heavily in protective measures to ensure the security of our users and their data across all our products…We apologize to affected users. We encourage users to change their passwords on a regular basis and also familiarize themselves with our online safety tips at security.yahoo.com*."*

Really? Is this just really bad luck on the part of Yahoo! or something else?

A report in the *Winnipeg Free Press* (out of Canada) says:
"Yahoo says a foreign nation may have played a role in its gargantuan and humiliating data breach but some experts suggest Yahoo's staff and leadership were simply negligent at detecting intrusions.

These experts say the breach, affecting an estimated one billion accounts, was not technically sophisticated and possibly the work of a cyber-crime gang operating in eastern Europe.

"I just think the capabilities weren't there, and now they are scrambling to provide some sort of explanation other than, 'We were asleep at the wheel,'" said Christopher Pogue, chief information security officer at Nuix, an Australian security and intelligence company."

The report adds: ""This is not a complex attack," Pogue said.

"It really has more to do with the session management of the website than it does a super-skilled attacker... These are not ninjas. These are not... deeply technical people."

Cybersecurity experts accustomed to the growing frequency and magnitude of hacks appeared startled at the size of the newest Yahoo penetration.

"I've heard of millions. But a billion?" said Michael Patterson, chief executive of Plixer, a cybersecurity company in Kennebunk, Maine.

"It's crazy."

I have one Yahoo! email account that I have used for many years to receive emails that I don't want cluttering up my other email accounts. It's primarily used to receive bill notices from utilities and similar items. I am in the process of closing out that account.

This Macworld article tells you how to replace 5 major Yahoo! services and delete your Yahoo! account. I only use Yahoo's! email service. The article provides this advice for closing your Yahoo! email account and switching to an alternative:

"The options for switching away from Yahoo are limitless. The more recognizable names include Gmail, Outlook.com, AOL Mail, GMX, and Proton Mail. Really it all comes down to

which interface you prefer and whether you're more tied to a specific online ecosystem like Google's or Microsoft's.

Check out our earlier tutorials on how to make the switch to a new email account if you want to make the transition as seamless as possible."

Alternativeto.net also offers a number of email options if you want to switch from Yahoo! Mail.

Citibank kills its iPad app; Bank urges customers to use Citi Mobile

One of the biggest banks in the U.S. is killing its iPad app – which allowed customers to pay their credit card bills and complete other transactions using Apple's popular tablet.

You can still access your account on an iPad by downloading the Citi Mobile app from the App Store. Citibank provided no details as to why it was terminating the iPad app.

Citi Mobile appears to be written for the iPhone – so it doesn't look quite the same on the iPad – but it appears to work. Still, it's not designed for the iPad.

In addition, some bank customers don't own a smartphone, such as Apple's iPhone. So Citibank needs to make it clear that even though Citi Mobile appears to be an iPhone app, it works on the iPad.

Readers will find the irony in this remark posted in a Citibank news release in February 2014. (Can you say "sweet?"):

"Since its launch in 2011, the Citibank for iPad app, which is now rolling out globally, has been continuously recognized as the industry leader by research consultancies and

> ## App for iPad Alert
>
> Please be informed that after January 10, 2017, the Citi app for iPad® will no longer be available. You can continue to access and view your account details through the app until then. You'll still be able to manage your account from virtually anywhere with the Citi Mobile® app on your smartphone. Download it today
>
> OK

Citibank customers who use the bank's app for the iPad will be greeted by this message that Citibank is terminating the app in early 2017.

industry observers. In 2012, Javelin Strategy & Research's Tablet and Banking Report identified Citi as a tablet banking market leader, pointing to its progressive apps for tablets. And in 2012, the app won a Meffy Award in the Innovation for App category and Gold in the "Best Use of Digital in the Financial Services Sector" category at the Digital Impact Awards."

Whatever. That would be my reaction. Other banks still support their apps created for the iPad.

I preferred using Citibank's iPad app because it was solid, it worked, it looked good on the iPad, and it let me quickly complete my transactions.

I started using the iPad app to complete my Citibank transactions since the New York–based bank redesigned its web page late last summer. Months later, that bank's web site fails to work properly while using Safari or Firefox web browsers on my Macs. In addition, the Google Chrome browser only works part of the time.

Repeated contact to Citibank tech support via phone calls (*your call is important to us* while we put you on hold), live chats, (I'm thinking about using carrier pigeons) and via special links on the bank's web sites has produced no positive results. Nada. No Mac browser consistently works properly when trying to pay a Citibank credit card bill. Safari and Firefox won't work at all. Google Chrome works – only part of the time.

I've spoken or communicated via live chat with more than a dozen people at that bank.

The browsers still don't work properly when trying to pay off a credit card. So, I started using the app designed for the iPad and it worked well.

It isn't clear why Citibank decide to ax the app – cost cutting, staff cuts, or a decision to streamline its app offerings might all have played a role in the decision–making.

My hunch is that tablets – and especially Apple's iPad line – are a major part of the future as we watch desktop computer sales decline even more. If more and more people are banking online with their tablets, wouldn't it just make sense for a major bank to *support an app designed for the best–selling computer tablet*? Hmmm?

Apple's Tim Cook: "We Have Great Desktops in Our Roadmap"

Is Apple killing its desktop Macs? That's the question that some Mac users were asking after Apple introduced a series of new laptops at an October event but failed to announce a single new desktop model.

Apple's desktop lineup is aging – some models such as the Mac mini and Mac Pro desktop haven't been updated in years, leading some to predict that Apple will end their production.

Some long–time Mac users predicted the October announcement was a sign that Apple was terminating its desktops, since laptops have long surpassed sales of Apple's desktop computers.

Now, Apple CEO Tim Cook says – not so fast. The tech web site, TechCrunch, obtained comments to an Apple employee message board revealing Cook's comments.

Apple's Tim Cook assures employees that it is committed to the Mac and that 'great desktops' are coming reads the headline on the TechCrunch article. TechCrunch's Matthew Panzarino writes: *"The consensus was that Apple is no longer interested in keeping up its desktop business because the portable market was eating it alive.*

In a posting to an employee message board, CEO Tim Cook seems intent on putting that particular branch of discussion to bed.

"Some folks in the media have raised the question about whether we're committed to desktops," Cook wrote. *"If there's any doubt about that with our teams, let me be very clear: we have great desktops in our roadmap. Nobody should worry about that."*

Cook cites the far better performance of desktop computers, including screen sizes, memory, storage and more variety in
I/O (ha) as a reason that they are *"really important, and in some cases critical, to people."*

A TechCrunch article posting comments from Apple's CEO about the future of Mac desktops.

So no matter how you feel about the state of the Mac at the moment, you have new machines to look forward to. No mention of whether that meant iMac or Mac Pro or both, but at the very least it's encouraging to those of us who couldn't live without a desktop computer."

While sales of desktop computers throughout the industry have been falling for years (Macs have bucked this trend until very recently), it's clear that many folks need a good desktop machine to get the job done.

Despite the fact that I use my 3 1/2 year old iPad Air daily, I also use my desktop Mac every day. I am bucking a trend because I no longer own a laptop – and haven't for years. The iPad Air takes up that duty while the desktop Mac is tasked with more heavy duty work.

So it would appear that 2017 will be quite interesting as Apple says it will produce new desktops in the new year. Stay tuned.

Gizmodo: Apple is having a Mac Crisis

Despite the positive comments from Apple CEO, Tim Cook, in the item above, tech site Gizmodo says Apple, indeed, is having a Mac crisis.

"A lot of people, including some of the world's best known commentators on Apple, are saying that the company is facing serious challenges in its Mac business—unsurprisingly, Apple is clapping back at those reports and says everything is just fine," writes Christina Warren.

She adds, "It's no secret that inside of Apple, the iPhone is the favored child. Almost ten years into its existence, the iPhone accounts for 63 percent of Apple's total revenues across its products and services. The Mac, in contrast, accounts for just eleven percent of revenue. As a result, it's not a surprise that internally, Apple has dedicated far more resources to the iPhone than it does the Mac."

The article quotes Bloomberg's Mark Gurman "How Apple Alienated Mac Loyalists" as saying that Apple's Mac team is far down the totem pole of priorities at Apple than in the past.

Also, long–time Apple engineer Sal Soghoian, who served as product manager for automation technologies on the Mac for 20 years, left Apple after his position was terminated "for business reasons."

In addition, there have been more than a dozen departures from the Mac team.

Warren adds: "While it is very much true that people within Apple are very much committed to the Mac and truly love the Mac, it is also true that the focal point for the company is the iPhone."

Long–time Mac blogger, follower, and user, Adam Engst, provides one of the best solutions for all of this: "I see no inherent reason why Apple couldn't spin the Mac out just far enough that it could focus on the needs of Mac users, rather than merely trying to be supportive of iOS. That would apply to both Mac hardware and macOS, and yes, it would require significant coordination to ensure that Apple's famed integration didn't suffer in the process."

In other words, why not spin off the Mac as a separate, wholly–owned subsidiary, as Apple did with FileMaker Inc,, which emerged from Claris? FileMaker is a popular database application that has been around for many years. FileMaker originally evolved from a DOS program, but then was developed mainly for the Mac and was first released in spring 1985.

Engst concludes: "Hard though it might be, letting the Mac team pursue its own goals could result in a Mac that would once again indisputably be the computer of choice for creative professionals." **CKCS**