



NEWSLETTER

*The Best Accessory
for your PC!*

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The Arizona Alliance of Computer Clubs

MAIN MEETINGS - maps on Page 18

West Side.....**Tue, Nov 18, 2014**

College America, 9801 North Metro Pkwy E, Phoenix

East Side.....**Wed, Nov 19, 2014**

University of Advancing Technology, 2625 W Baseline Road, Tempe (one block west of Fry's Electronics)

Fountain Hills.....**Thur, Nov 20, 2014**

Fountain Hills Library, 12901 N La Montana Drive, Fountain Hills

Presentation this month:

Nomination of Officers, Elections in Dec.

Current computer topics

For date and time changes, check our website: www.phoenixpcug.org

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Steering Committee:

Officers and Members who are present
at the 6:00 P.M. West Side meeting

FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Happy Thanksgiving soon! Gobble, gobble.

Well we are almost through this year. Nominations are due for the west side meeting at College America. Does anyone want to run for any office or position? Please let me know.

***Newsletter Editor - September was Michael's last column as editor. Any new editors? Let me know!!**

At the meetings, we'll have a free flowing discussion showing various web sites, do Q&A and give the best advice we can.

I will demonstrate Microsoft Windows Speech Recognition. Bring your laptop and a microphone if you would like to try it yourself. It works very well.

Want lots of tech news? Then go to news.google.com - then choose technology:

<http://news.google.com/news/section?pz=1&cf=all&ned=us&topic=tc&siidp=7a5fd3f7e052a17fab07304e6f58cd83381b&ict=ln>

Kim Komando & tips this month:

https://www.google.com/?gws_rd=ssl#q=kim+komando

Ken Coburn, Data Doctors Tech Tips

<http://www.datadoctors.com/media/tips/>

Leo Laporte <http://www.techguylabs.com/>
<http://leoville.com/> <http://twit.tv/people/leo-laporte>

June 2014, I tried out **Norton Safe Web**

<http://safeweb.norton.com> & [Online Link Scan](http://www.onlinelinkscan.com) - www.onlinelinkscan.com Both are excellent. One member emailed me about protecting his PC, both excellent ways to avoid malware, ransom ware, etc.

If any email looks suspicious - DON'T OPEN IT!
Just email the sender if you know their email address.

How "avoid ransom ware"? - Google this!!

[The Kim Komando Show - all stations and times - TuneIn](#), just Google "komando tunein all stations" The Kim Komando Show can be found on these stations and times. Listen live over the internet or other times convenient to you on weekends.

<http://www.komando.com/downloads/2321/6-essential-types-of-security-software-you-must-have/all>

[Bitdefender SafeGo](#) is an add-on program for Facebook. It uses anti-malware and anti-phishing engines to scan the links on your friends' pages.

Using a smartphone? Here's some good info:

Warning: New virus targets smartphones
http://www.komando.com/happening-now/276431/?utm_medium=nl&utm_source=nodt&utm_content=2014-10-10-article_2-title/all

<http://www.komando.com/tips/275213/essential-security-software-for-your-tablet-and-phone/all>

<http://www.komando.com/happening-now/261364/hackers-can-steal-personal-info-from-your-old-phone-even-if-its-been-wiped/all>

7 essential steps to secure your smartphone or tablet <http://www.komando.com/tips/12475/7-essential-steps-to-secure-your-smartphone-or-tablet/all>

<http://www.komando.com/tips/249153/3-reasons-the-killswitch-anti-theft-app-will-leave-your-smartphone-at-risk/all>

cnet Surprise! Microsoft jumps to Windows 10 -
<http://www.cnet.com/news/is-this-why-microsoft-named-it-windows-10/>

Windows 10: Nine things you need to know
www.cnet.com/how-to/windows-10-what-you-need-to-know

BRING A FRIEND!! WE STILL NEED NEW MEMBERS!!

David -

2014 MEETINGS CALENDAR

For date and time changes, check our website: www.phoenixpcug.org

PRESENTATION THIS MONTH

Nomination of Officers and Elections in December

Current computer topics in the news

GENERAL MEETINGS

WEST SIDE: CollegeAmerica (see map page 13)

- Tuesday, November 18, 2014 Tue
- 6:00 PM - Steering Committee and (Election of Officers - Nov & Dec)
- 6:30 PM - Q and A

EAST SIDE: University of Advancing Technology (see map pg 13)

- Wednesday, November 19, 2014
- 6:30 PM - Q and A

FOUNTAIN HILLS: Fountain Hills Library (see map page 13)

- Thursday, November 20, 2014
- 6:30 PM - Q and A

Meetings this year 2014: Reserve UAT for Nov-Dec

Nov 18, 19, 20 Dec 16, 17, 18

**REMEMBER: PAY YOUR DUES!
Thanks. \$36 / year or \$3 / month.**

Fun and Knowledge with YouTube

By Jim Cerny, 2nd Vice President, Sarasota PCUG, Florida

February 2014 issue, PC Monitor, www.spcug.org, jimcerny123 (at) gmail.com

Whether you have a tablet, smart phone, or any kind of computer, YouTube is one application that can, all by itself, really justify the purchase of your device. YouTube can be found on the internet at youtube.com (that's easy to remember, right?) or you can download the free YouTube application for any device. Since Google has acquired YouTube, it can also be found on the Google web site (it used to be Google videos).

YouTube is your access to millions of videos made by almost anyone who wants to make them available to you for free. Many of the videos are fantastic and some are just a waste of time. But YOU decide. You search for the videos you want to see simply by entering your search criteria (regular English words) in the search box. Do you have a favorite entertainer? Just enter their name and you will have access to hundreds of their videos. How about a home improvement project? Just enter what it is you want to do and see a video of how to do it. Almost anything you can think of, there is probably a video on that subject on YouTube.

Here are just a few examples of fun things to see and explore on YouTube: Famous people, science experiments, college lectures, cartoons, news, products, companies, cooking, travel, painting, and, well just about everything.

The only thing it seems that YouTube does not give you is fairly recent free movies and TV shows. If you searched for a movie or TV show by its title, YouTube will probably only show you the "trailers" for free. However, YouTube does offer some movies and TV shows for a price. But the real fun for me is seeing all that is available to you at no cost whatsoever – and you do not have to join anything.

You could think of YouTube as the ultimate "window to the world" and all that is in it by just using your computer or device. Why read a printed article or view pictures? YouTube can SHOW you what other sources only TELL you. Click on the right-pointing arrow to play the video. You can click on any point on the progress bar to go to that point in the video. And you can click on pause (usually the double vertical line symbol), just like you used to do with the old video VHS tape players. After clicking on "pause" you can go back to the list of videos just like you do with Google. Some videos may have a short advertisement the plays before the real video starts.

There is really no limit to what YouTube has to offer. I have yet to search for something that did not have some kind of video to watch on that subject. So do not limit your imagination either. Here are just a few things I have found – each of which can provide hours and hours of videos:

- Enter your favorite game and learn how to play the game or sport better.
- Enter "How to..." and learn a new skill or improve the skills you have.
- Tour your favorite city, park, or attraction.
- Ride all the roller coasters you want, at any park, and never have to wait in line or get dizzy.
- Attend a class lecture at a famous university.
- View long-forgotten videos of famous people and entertainers.
- View videos of how to use your digital camera or tablet or any device or contraption.
- See dangerous stunts, magic tricks, and stupid jokes.
- Discover new things about your favorite hobby.

So don't hold back – be adventurous and explore the world! Your brain will thank you for it.

10 Tips for Online Shopping Safety

By Sandy Berger, CompuKISS

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Amazingly, in today's topsy-turvy world, because of vulnerabilities in the processing of credit and debit cards used at retail stores and the hackers who are focusing on those vulnerabilities, right now shopping online can actually be safer than swiping your card at a local store. For safety sake, however, there are a few online shopping rules that you should follow.

1. The first of these is to always have a good antivirus program installed on your computer and to update your antivirus program and other software like the operating system whenever an update is available. When in doubt, don't click on links. This is especially true of email where phishing schemes are prevalent, but you should also be careful when you are surfing the Web or visiting social media websites.
2. Shop at trusted, established websites. Don't use any sites that you've never heard of. If you want to try a new website, check to see if any friends or acquaintances have used it successfully.
3. Pay only through secure sites. Typically the address in your browser will change from "http:" to "https:" during a secure connection.
4. Never email your credit card number, social security number, or personal information to anyone. No reputable seller will request it by email since email is not secure.
5. Do your banking and shopping from home where you are on your own secure network. Wi-Fi hotspots at local coffee shops and other establishments usually do not offer enough protection unless the user takes some added precautions, which can be cumbersome for the average user.
6. Create strong passwords consisting of numbers, letters, and symbols. Do not use words or names. Make the password for each banking and shopping site unique. Keep your passwords private.
7. Credit cards are generally the safest option for shopping online. When using a credit card, you have limited liability and the ability to have the credit card company intervene if something goes awry. Debit cards can also be a good choice as long as you have investigated their liability limits, which may be higher than those of credit cards.
8. Keep a paper trail. Let's face it, none of us have perfect memories. Print and save records of your online transactions, including the name of the seller, product description, price, and date of purchase. Most reputable merchants allow you to print a receipt after the transaction is complete. You can use these printed receipts to compare to your bank and credit card statements.
9. Monitor your bank accounts and credit card purchases regularly. Report any discrepancies or unusual charges to your financial institution immediately.
10. Your social security number is the key to your identity. Be miserly about sharing it with anyone, especially online. No reputable merchant will ever ask for your social security number to make a purchase.

Credit card theft is pretty easy to get through. Usually you notify your financial institution and they issue

you a new card. Identity theft is much more difficult to handle because a thief can open lines of credit in your name, buy a car, and obtain new credit cards. In order to steal your identity, the thief needs personal information like social security number, address, phone number and financial information. So be careful when giving out any such information.

Many financial experts say that having your bills sent to you electronically and paying them electronically is safer than sending and receiving them by mail. They also recommend shredding paper documents with personal information. So whether you use a credit card at a physical store, you shop and pay bills online, or you pay bills by mail, the key word is "caution." Our mothers taught us to watch our wallets and keep the doors closed. Now we have a lot more convenience, and also a lot more to watch out for.

Disable Images in Browsers (PC and Android)

Carol Picard, Webmaster/Newsletter Editor, Midland Computer Club, MI

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When low-speed internet connections were the norm, turning off images in web browsers was often done so pages would load faster. With high-speed connections more common, there may not be as much concern about images in web pages but there still might be times when you don't want to have the images display.

The following changes take place immediately, it isn't necessary to close and re-launch the browser. New pages will open with no images. Pages that were already open will still display images, to remove images, refresh the pages.

PC

Firefox

In address bar, type: about:config

Press: Enter

Search for: permissions

Double click: permissions.default.image

Type desired value in Enter Integer Value window:

1 -- always load the images

2 -- never load the images

3 -- allow only images from the same site to load and block third-party-images

Click OK

Top of Form

Top of Form

<https://support.mozilla.org/en-US/questions/981640>

Google Chrome

Click Menu icon (upper right corner of Toolbar)

Click Settings

Scroll to bottom and click "Show advanced Settings"

Under Privacy, click "Content Settings..."

Under Images, chose one of the following options:

- disable all images – click in circle to left of "Do not show any images"
- disable some images: keep the default option set to "Show all images", click on "Manage exceptions..." and add domains/subdomains that should be blocked
- disable all images, with some exceptions: click in circle to left of "Do not show any images", click on "Manage exceptions..." and add domains/subdomains that should be allowed . Click Done

<https://answers.yahoo.com/question/index?qid=20111125034126AAVvk8e>

Internet Explorer

Click Tools icon (gear icon at top-right corner of window)

Click "Internet Options"

Click Advanced tab located at top of resulting dialog box

Scroll through list of options to Multimedia section

Click to remove checkmark from box to left of Show pictures

Click "OK" to confirm change.

http://www.ehow.com/how_8166038_turn-off-images-internet-explorer.html

ANDROID

Browser (stock browser - globe icon - not on all tablets)

Tap Menu button (3 small vertical squares in upper right)

Tap Settings

Tap Bandwidth management

Tap to uncheck box for Load images

Dolphin

Tap Dolphin icon

Tap gear icon (Settings)

Tap Web content

Tap Load images

Tap in circle to set: Always off or Show in WIFI

Firefox

In address bar, type: about:config

Press Enter

Search for: permissions

Single tap: permissions.default.image

Tap up pointing arrow to change setting:

2 (never load images)

3 (allow only images from the same site to load and block third-party-images)

To re-display images:

tap Reset

or

tap down pointing arrow to change setting: 1 (always load images)

Google Chrome

Have not found in current Android version

Back to Basics**Finding Programs on Your Computer**

Jim Cerny, 2nd Vice President, Sarasota PCUG, FL

May 2014 issue, PC Monitor

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When you turn your computer on, Windows (the master supervisor program, also called the "operating system") starts and, after a few moments, displays your start screen called the Desktop. This is where you begin using your computer and decide what you want to DO with your computer – that is, select what program you want to run. On the Desktop are:

ICONS – those little symbols with words underneath them. Most of these icons represent programs and you "double-click" your left mouse button on the icon of the program you want to run and use. Each program runs in a "window" (hence the term

"Windows" for the operating system). The programs you use should have an icon on the desktop. However, most people new to using a Windows computer may not realize that your computer – all computers – come with many programs already installed on the computer. And, over time, you (or someone else using your computer) may have downloaded or installed more programs. Not all these programs have icons on your desktop.

To see ALL the programs on your computer, left click once on the "Start" button (or "Start orb") which is in the lower left corner of your desktop screen. This will open the start MENU which has all kinds of goodies. On this start menu, very near the bottom, is a rectangular box with the words "All programs" on it. Move your mouse arrow to that box and wait - it will open a list of ALL your programs on your computer. There are two important things about this list that you should know. First it is a long list and you will have to use the scrollbar on the right side to see the whole list. You can "scroll down" by putting your mouse arrow on the scrollbar gray slider, hold down the left mouse button, and then drag the mouse down. This will "drag" the scrollbar and show you the rest of the list. The second thing is that there are so many programs they are organized into FOLDERS. Scroll down this list until you see the list of folders – a "folder" has a small yellow icon that looks like folder to the left of the name.

The first FOLDER in the list should be the "Accessories" folder of programs. It is this particular folder that we will use for the rest of this article because all Windows computers have it (no matter what version of Windows you are running on your computer). Left click once on the Accessories folder to open it. This will give you a list of all the programs in that folder. All these programs come with Windows so they are on ALL Windows computers. To open or run any program from the "All programs" list, you just left-click once on the name of the program you want to start.

We are going to look at three of these programs, so left click on each of these to open them:

- Click on "Calculator" and a small calculator window will appear on your screen. You can move this window around by dragging the top part of the window with your mouse. It works just like any calculator – just click on the keys with your mouse. Notice that you can click on the "View" menu and change it to a "scientific" calculator and you can click on the "History" option (Windows 7 version or later) to see a list of your calculations. The nice thing about using this calculator is that you can "Copy" and "Paste" any result into your document or email.
- Click on the "Paint" program and you can draw and have fun creating your own work of art. You can

learn how to use this enjoyable program by clicking on the small blue circle with a white "?" in the upper right of the window.

- Click on "WordPad". This is a free word-processing program that works just like the Microsoft Word program – except that WordPad has far less features. It works fine for writing letters and creating documents. The beauty of using WordPad is knowing that everyone who has Windows has it, whereas not everyone may have the Word program.

The "All Programs" list contains all the programs on your computer and you can run any program on this list by left-clicking on it once. But to REMOVE a program from your computer you need to use the "Uninstall or change a program" feature which we will not go into here.

If you want to create a shortcut on your desktop to one of these programs, here is one way to do it: Find the program you want on the all programs list. Move your mouse arrow on that program:

1. Hold down the "Ctrl" key (the Control key) on your keyboard
2. Hold down the left mouse button and DRAG to your Desktop area

The reason you must hold down the Ctrl key first and hold it down while you drag is so that you will make a COPY (also called a "shortcut") icon on your desktop and NOT MOVE the program from the all programs list. You should ALWAYS keep ALL programs on your All Programs list. If you DELETE a program icon from your desktop, you will not be deleting the program from your computer, only removing the "shortcut" icon from your desktop.

You can also find any program from the start menu by entering the name of the program you want in the "Search programs and files" box just below "All programs".

Personally, I find the Calculator, WordPad, and Paint programs fun and helpful, and I am sure you will too. I have made icons (shortcuts) for them on my desktop.

Google Voice

by Dick Orenstein, Member, Sarasota PCUG, FL

June 2014 issue, PC Monitor

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Google Voice is a free telephone number that you can direct to forward calls to any other telephone number. In addition, you can block calls, receive transcribed messages, and do numerous other activities. Google Voice will also dial and connect calls for you; however, the call will be connected to another telephone number, i.e. your cell phone or your land line, as you direct.

For a visual introduction you can go to this YouTube link:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cOZU7BOeQ58>

If this link does not work here are two things you can do: first, copy the link to the URL window of your browser, not the search window, the window with the web page address in it. And second, you can search Google (or any other search engine) for "Google Voice" and find a long list of assistance.

You may be able to get a Google Voice number that is within your area code, but in today's world the area code of the number is not necessarily an indication of the location – witness mobile phones. Most of us have a mobile number from our home base, but if we move, most don't change the number. And in my case, I have a mobile number from there, but have a Google Voice number from this 941 area code, and calls get routed to my cell phone!

To get a Google Voice number, sign into Google Voice (you do have a Google Account don't you?) by going to the URL, www.google.com/voice . If you don't have a Google Account (some-name-you-choose.gmail.com), you can do it right there.

Once there, you can answer the questions and select your phone number from a list that will be presented.

Once you have your number, you'll now have to set up certain parameters so that the number works for you as you desire.

The first thing you'll want to do is to establish your settings. Click on the gear on the right side of the screen, and then click "Settings." The first tab is "Phones."

Since you already chose a number, you will see that number and "Chang/Port" and Delete and Transfer as available options. I do not recommend porting your mobile number as that will limit choices down the road. You will want a NEW GOOGLE VOICE NUMBER.

Then you will see a list of options for forwarding calls. I forward calls to my mobile number, but you can select other options which include forwarding calls to up to six (6) other numbers. You can "Add another phone" by clicking on that link.

The next tab, "Voicemail & Text" allows you to record a greeting, play your greeting, set up an email alert, forward texts, add a PIN and to turn on transcribing messages.

The "Calls" tab allows you to turn on Call Screening, and a number of other pretty self-explanatory options.

"Groups and Circles" tab allows you to establish actions by grouping. In order to use this feature, your address book has to be part of Google Contacts. That feature is beyond the scope of this article at this time, but I'll make a follow up. For now, all incoming calls will be treated the same.

"Call Widgets" can be put on any web page, and allow people to call from that web page. When somebody clicks on the widget, we call them and connect them to you. Your number is always kept private. You can create multiple call widgets and have different settings for each of them. This, too, is beyond the scope of this article.

"Billing" will allow you to set up Calling Credits. These can be used to make calls (outgoing) to other number, mostly in our case international numbers, at low rates. You can look up the rates for international calls.

And, "Account" is some simple setups, language, time zone passwords, etc.

On the left of the Google Voice page are two red boxes, "CALL" and "TEXT" that allow you to call another number using Google Voice. US numbers can be called for free and are connected to the phone you specify. For example, I can call someone from my Google Voice number and speak to them from my cell phone. I might do that because I do not want that person to see my real cell phone number. So, I click

"CALL," enter the number I wish to call and specify to connect the call to my cell phone. You may do the same for text messages by clicking the "TEXT" box and entering the mobile number and the message.

So, let's summarize the advantages that Google Voice provides:

1. A new phone number with lots of control. The ability to allow or block callers, screen calls, forward calls to numbers by who made the call, and to transcribe and received messages by email.
2. An ability to make calls from your Google Voice number and speak from any device that's handy to you at the time.
3. It's free.
4. Depending upon your use, you will find many more advantages as you use these features.

I am also referring you to a great article by Kim Komando at

<http://www.komando.com/tips/248497/3-great-things-you-never-knew-you-could-do-with-a-free-internet-phone-number/all>

Again, if the link does not work, copy it into your browser's URL window.

IoTMT (Internet of Too Many Things)

By Greg Skalka, President, Under the Computer Hood User Group, CA

August 2014 issue, Drive List

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The Internet of Things (IoT) describes a situation in which everything is networked together on the Internet. Presently computers, tablets and smart phones dominate the Internet, but other kinds of devices are being added to the network all the time. A lot of us probably have some of these other devices already. I have networked hard drives and IP cameras that can be accessed through the Internet from anywhere I can connect. My smart TV and networked Blu-ray player can receive content, including streaming media, from the Internet. There are already refrigerators, thermostats, door locks, sprinkler timers and light bulbs available that can be connected through the Internet. It is said that the real power of the IoT will come about when machine to machine (M2M) communication is the predominant traffic. All that interconnection holds the promise of greater efficiency, knowledge and control in our lives. At that point, however, will humans get to use the Internet anymore, or will we have reached the Internet of Too Many Things? Is there too much stuff on the Internet now?

The power to control or query objects over the Internet is just the beginning. It is great to be able to check the weather report online while away on vacation, and remotely turn off your landscape irrigation when rain is forecast at home. This still requires thought and intervention on your part, however. With the appropriate weather sensors and intelligence, your sprinkler controller could measure the local weather conditions and adjust its irrigation cycles autonomously, but this would require costly sensors that you would also have to maintain. Since local weather information is already available on the Internet, it would be more cost effective to have the sprinkler timer query the Internet for the local weather and adjust its operations accordingly, saving water and money. A sprinkler controller like this will be available soon (www.skydrop.com).

Many common devices could provide additional benefits by being networked. Refrigerators could sense when they were empty and order grocery deliveries. Cars could schedule their own periodic maintenance

and service appointments.

Once "things" can get their own information from the Internet, they should also be able to communicate with each other. This will provide us with more benefits and greater efficiency, while freeing us from the drudgery of monitoring every aspect of our household's operation. Home lights and ac that are informed of your car's arrival and greet you with a pleasant environment are just the beginning. Garage door openers could be told by your car that the engine has started, and open the door automatically. This would have the additional benefit of inhibiting potential suicides (for those determined enough to close the door manually, the opener could contact the online suicide hotline).

If our present Internet of Few Things is any indication, the benefits provided by this future Internet of Many Things may be offset by questions raised and problems created. Security is a significant problem for our online lives today; an exponential increase in networked devices probably means a similar increase in risks. Our government is concerned about the implications that networked infrastructure such as the electrical grid, ground and air traffic control systems and water distribution would have for national security; hopefully those implementations will be secure enough. There is typically less concern for security on the consumer level, but in an IoT world the effects could be just as troubling. If the electrical grid controls were sufficiently protected, terrorists (or criminals) could perhaps achieve the same ends by taking control of the devices in the homes and businesses on the grid. Instead of turning power off at the source, all loads on the grid could be remotely turned off (or on, perhaps overloading the grid).

Internet-connected TVs and refrigerators have already been hacked; now add light bulbs to that list. An Internet security firm recently demonstrated that LIFX smart LED bulbs (<http://lifx.co>) can be hacked due to deficiencies in their security. The company released a firmware upgrade to correct the security problem, but how many existing users of their light bulbs will be able to perform the update?

That is one of the unintended consequences of the IoT - having microcontrollers in most items in your home. And with microcontrollers come firmware, and with firmware comes firmware updates. I already get firmware upgrade messages on my Samsung Smart TV. What happens when I have to perform firmware updates on my toaster oven, microwave, blender, electronic door lock, water heater, electric razor and toilet? Will I spend all my time checking and updating my household devices? If I leave it to my "things" to update themselves unsupervised, will that just open up a gaping security hole?

Another unintended consequence of having so many smart devices is all the information they generate. While more information is usually good, too much information may not be. I already get texts and emails from Amazon when my packages ship. I get informed by my bank when my credit card is used without the card being physically present to the merchant (as in online). I get informed when the tracking device in the car my daughter drives leaves a specified location. All these messages are useful, but I am finding that most of the texts I am receiving on my phone are these automated messages, not communications from humans. I can see the benefit in having my refrigerator tell me that its inside temperature is 60 degrees F. I would like to know if my water heater thinks it is leaking. I can't, however, imagine any communications I might need to have from my electric toothbrush, electric razor or electric can opener. I hope device manufacturers would keep this in mind and not spam us with messages from our own products. I think most IoT devices would best be seen and not heard from.

An obvious consequence of the IoT world is the need for more Wi-Fi bandwidth. No one wants to have to route Cat5 cable to their refrigerator or have an RJ-45 socket on their electric razor. Most all IoT connections will need to be through Wi-Fi. This will require everyone to have a Wi-Fi router, causing

greater interference issues, especially in apartments. Encrypted links will be required for security, perhaps leading to more configuration and connection problems. Fortunately, for most devices other than TVs and computers, the bandwidth required on each connection will be very low.

Too Much Information?

With the IoT, there will definitely be more information available on the workings of your household appliances and thus your household. Privacy may be a major issue. Recently manufactured cars continuously record operational data that includes speed, miles and how a car is driven. This information can be useful to insurance companies to better rate drivers. It is also of interest to the police in accident investigations, and to lawyers when they become involved. There are concerns now about who owns this data and who can have access to it. I hope the IoT devices don't raise the same legal questions. I don't want to see my appliances being required to "testify" against me.

The big fear of course is that through the IoT our devices may unite and turn against us. Hopefully our household appliances won't collaborate with each other and our national intelligence assets, become self-aware and attempt to exterminate all humans. I'd hate to think my GPS car tracking device could be the start of the Terminator. If it is, though, we have unfortunately given the enemy too much help already, as the one thing I feel there is definitely too much of on the Internet is information - the personal kind.

In the 1984 sci-fi movie "The Terminator," the T-800 Terminator cyborg (played by Arnold Schwarzenegger) travels back in time from 2029 to 1984 Los Angeles to kill Sarah Connor, the mother of the person that will lead to the machines' defeat in the future. Not having the Internet as a resource in 1984, the Terminator had to use a paper phone book to methodically find and eliminate all three Sarah Connors listed there. If the Terminator had arrived in 2014 instead, its job would have been much easier, as Sarah Connor no doubt would have posted an abundance of personal information, including photos and perhaps her schedule, on her Facebook page. Accessing her postings, the cyborg would have no doubt been able to find her more easily, and perhaps more quickly identify her from among the other Sarah Connors.

Most of us have performed a Google search on our names to see what information was available about ourselves. How many have also done a Google Image search? I've found the results are interesting. I'm pretty careful about keeping my personal information off the Internet (I don't have a Facebook page, and only have the most basic stuff on my LinkedIn page, with no photo). My Google Image search found only one photo of me, from my Southwest 2014 presentation. There actually is another Greg Skalka in Texas, who was foolish enough to provide LinkedIn with a photo; he is the first search result listed. With an uncommon name like mine, the remaining results are much less related. I guess we'd all better hope my offspring aren't the source of humanity's savior from the IoT gone berserk; as the Terminator would likely be done with me in one shot and wouldn't have to "be back."

Open Source Lab, KGeography

By Cal Esneault, former President of CCCC and leader of many Open Source Workshops & SIGs, Cajun Clickers Computer Club, LA.

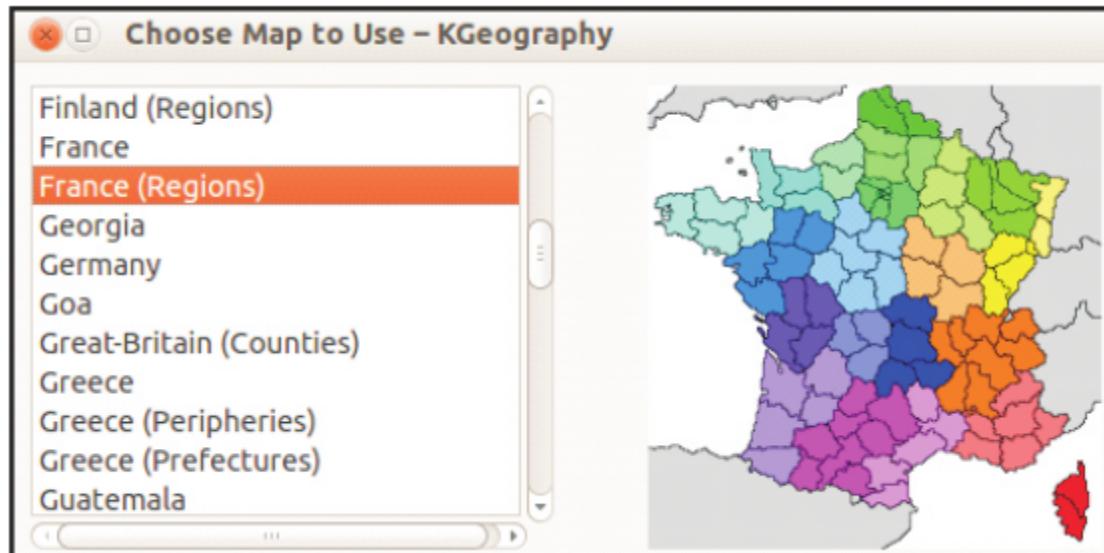
March 2014 issue, Cajun Clickers Computer News, www.clickers.org, ccnewsletter (at) cox.net
<http://kgeography.downv.com/Linux-software-download/kgeography> (Windows version too)

KDE (K Desktop Environment) is a very popular set of Linux software that is available as the default desktop system for many popular distributions. Since initial release in 1996, it has gone through four major version families (KDE 1.x, 2.x, 3.x, and 4.x). With the release of the developmental toolkit Qt 4, much of the KDE software will soon also be available for **Microsoft Windows** and Mac OS X. (**now available - DY**)

What you may fail to realize is that there are many useful applications available through the KDE Community web site. For example, from the site kde.org/applications/education, the list shown below is a limited sample of available software. One that I recently tried for my Ubuntu system was KGeography (note that many KDE applications have the letter "K" prominently displayed in the title).



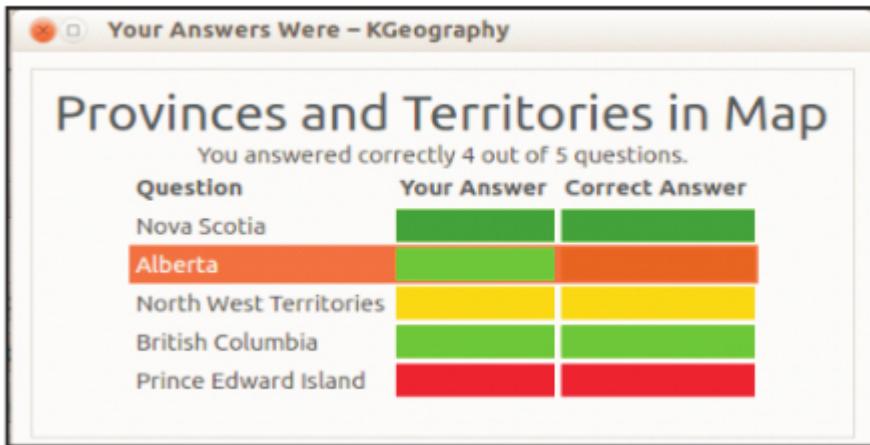
In KGeography, you first choose the country map that you want to investigate. Below I have selected France. Within each map the next geographic subdivision is displayed on the map (possible options include regions, territories, counties, etc.).



After selecting the map of the desired country, a larger map is displayed along with a side panel consisting of several categories for you to test and build your geographical knowledge. For example, the next map shows the country of Canada as a selection with its provinces outlined with different color schemes. By clicking on each province, you will get a display of the province's name, capital, and flag.



After you become familiar with the information, there is a "Test Yourself" section where you can be queried to identify the location, capital, or flag of a series of provinces. At the end of the quiz, you will get the score and results of each question. Below is a sample result of a series of 5 questions.



KGeography provides an entertaining way to familiarize you or your children with the details of many countries. Well-known locations are the easiest to start, but you will be challenged as you work your way through less familiar sites. My experience was that flag identification was the most difficult.

This is only one example of a KDE education application. There are many others types of programs available in such categories as office, multimedia, graphics, business, games, screensavers, etc. Currently these apps are available through the repository of most modern Linux distributions. Enjoy!

Back to Basics**Many Ways to Get Help**

Jim Cerny, 2nd Vice President, Sarasota Technology User Group, FL

May 2014 issue, PC Monitor, www.spcug.org, Jimcerny123 (at) gmail.com

As with any tool with so many options, computers offer us so many applications that it is easy to become confused and need help. Fortunately, many of these "options" that computers have available are those that are supposed to help us. Here are some ideas for getting help when you are stuck.

Google it – yes, believe it or not, Google is one of the best places to get help. Go to the Google web page at google.com and enter in the search box your SPECIFIC problem for which you need help. You may phrase it as a question if you like, such as: "How do I change the default font size in Word 2010?" Notice that you should be as specific as you can with the product or program name and the edition of that program that you are using. Google will provide you a list of things to click on to get the answer you need.

YouTube – another amazing way to get help. On the Google web page look for a "YouTube" option or look for a very small array of little black squares. Clicking on that array will bring up many Google options, one of which is YouTube. Or you can just go to the YouTube web page at youtube.com. Again enter in the search bar your specific question or problem and you may be able to actually watch a tutorial on how to solve your problem. YouTube is a great resource for many things.

Classes – The big plus for classes is that you will go through a learning program instead of trying to learn "just one thing." If you are having more than one or two isolated problems with a specific program, you probably need a good class to bring you up to speed with that whole application. In a class you will become much more aware of what you do not know and get the bigger picture. And if you are stuck in class you can always ask the instructor or cheat by looking at what your classmate is doing.

Books – There is no lack of computer publications to help you. I like the books that have lots of pictures in them to show you what the computer screens look like as you learn. Although most people enjoy books, not many people can read a book and learn from it as they read. You need to actually do the exercises to learn.

Tutoring – This is really the best learning option because it should target your specific needs. If you do decide to have a paid tutor help you, why not negotiate and invite one or two friends to be there with you and share the cost?

Friends and Relatives – especially teens. They already know more than we ever will and would really have the knowledge to help you. But would they be able to teach well and be patient with you? That could be a problem. Or maybe you wouldn't understand the tech-talk they might use. The blue circle with the white question mark in it – this symbol represents, in most Windows applications, the way to get help. Otherwise, look for anything on the screen that says "help." Click on it and search for what you want for that particular application.

Calling in a professional or taking your computer in to a repair shop – there is nothing wrong with doing this, especially if you are having a hardware problem. But they may not take the time to teach you anything.

I know I have not covered all the possibilities there are many more ways to learn; you have to decide which way is best for you. Learning one new thing is day is good for you and your brain. If all else fails, put your computer under your pillow at night and maybe some of the knowledge will be absorbed by your brain while you sleep. (This may only work with a laptop.)

Short Circuits....zzzt!

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"You'll experience denial, anger, bargaining, depression, acceptance, and finally, stuffing."

A Scientist's Recipe for Apple Pie: "If you wish to make an apple pie truly from scratch you must first invent the universe." —Carl Sagan

How did Albert Einstein celebrate Thanksgiving?
He was very thoughtful.

Pour You Another Glass? "I come from a family where gravy is considered a beverage." —Erma Bombeck

"Vegetables are a must on a diet. I suggest carrot cake, zucchini bread, and pumpkin pie." —Jim Davis.

When a Butterball Talk-Line staffer asked a caller what state her turkey was in (meaning how thawed was it) the caller responded with, "Florida."

Luke: What did the turkey say to the computer? Will: What?
Luke: "Google, google, google." What do computers eat?
Computer Chips!

<http://www.manataka.org/page269.html> - Wow, the true story of Thanksgiving and Wampanoag Indians.

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/richard-greener/the-true-story-of-thanksg_b_788436.html

"One year my aunt, who had hosted Thanksgiving dinner before, tried to make mashed potatoes. She tried to mash the full 10 lb. bag of cooked potatoes at one time in a huge stock pot. That year we were slicing our mashed potatoes with forks and knives, and not scooping them as you should! She never made them for dinner again — she told my mom it was her job!" —Bonnie Ramsburg, Akron, OH

"The first Thanksgiving after moving overseas, I decided to treat my family to a traditional turkey dinner. I went to the closest store, which happened to be French-speaking, and approached the area where a variety of meats were laid out. Not being fluent in French, I looked and tried to determine on my own whether the large poultry breasts I saw were turkey or goose. The butcher indicated that he was ready to help me. I asked in broken French if he spoke English; he replied, 'No.' I tried again, asking if he spoke German; again, he replied, 'No.' I pointed at the poultry breasts, then tucked my thumbs in my armpits, flapped my arms, and said, 'Gobble, gobble?' The butcher broke into a smile as he replied, 'Oui.' Embarrassing, sure, but I ended up with a turkey and the butcher got a laugh!" —Monica Harris, Kalamazoo, MI

"My sister-in-law was up early in the morning making stuffing and preparing the turkey, and when she opened up the stuffing mix, moths flew out of the sealed package! Her husband had to make an emergency run in search of stuffing mix that morning. He found it, but it was a challenge." —Glynis Buschmann

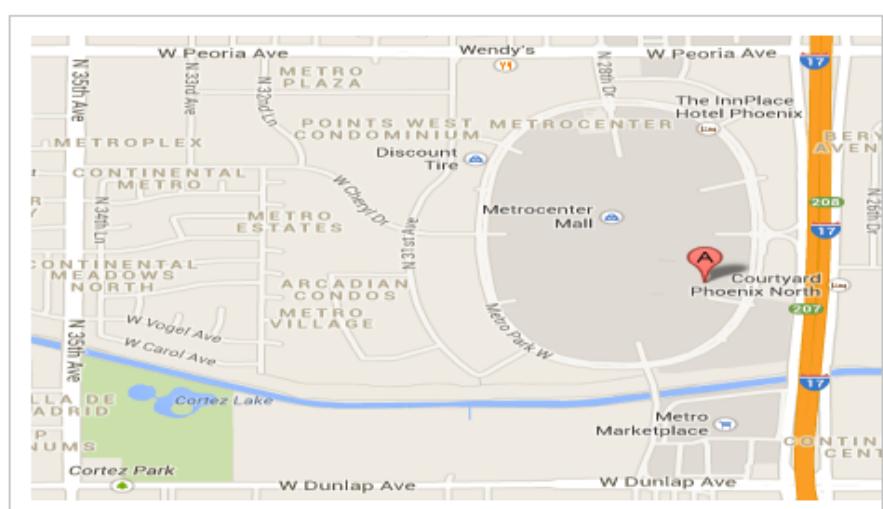
"I dropped the turkey after rubbing olive oil all over it. I rinsed it off, rubbed [the oil] on again, and cooked it. Didn't tell anybody for 10 yrs...just told them last year. Oh well, it didn't kill anybody or make them sick, lol!" —Debbie Kirby Waters, Jefferson, GA

So What Is the World's Largest Turkey Ever Recorded?
Surprisingly enough, it was actually kind of hard to find who, where, and how much the World's Largest Turkey was. After some digging I found some conciseness among several different sites, so I'm taking it as the answer.

According to the Guinness Book of Records, the heaviest (which is close enough to largest) turkey in the world belongs to turkey farmer, Philip Cook of Leacroft Turkeys Ltd. The record itself was actually set at the annual Heaviest Turkey Competition of London in 1989. Mr. Cook's prize winning turkey name was Tyson, and weighed in at a record setting 86 lb (39.09 kg), which was then auctioned off for charity, earning a record \$6,692. Talk about having some left overs!



HOW TO GET THERE



West Side Meeting

CollegeAmerica

www.collegeamerica.edu/phoenix

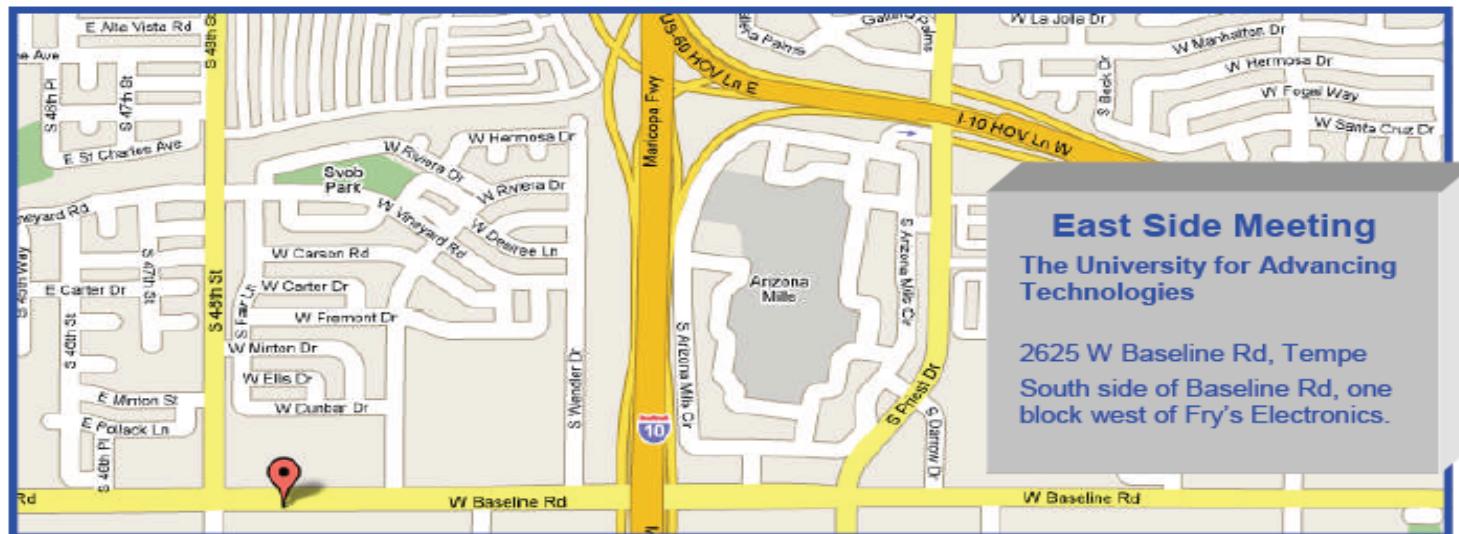
9801-N-Metro-Parkway-East

Phoenix, AZ 85051

Phone (602) 257-7522

Google-map-error, "the-red-A".is.
actually-east-side-of-Metro-Parkway

Exit Peoria Ave west, past I-17,
turn first left, go south on the frontage road, turn right at the first driveway past Cheryl Drive, CollegeAmerica is the white building on your right (north).--North off Castles & Coasters amusement park.

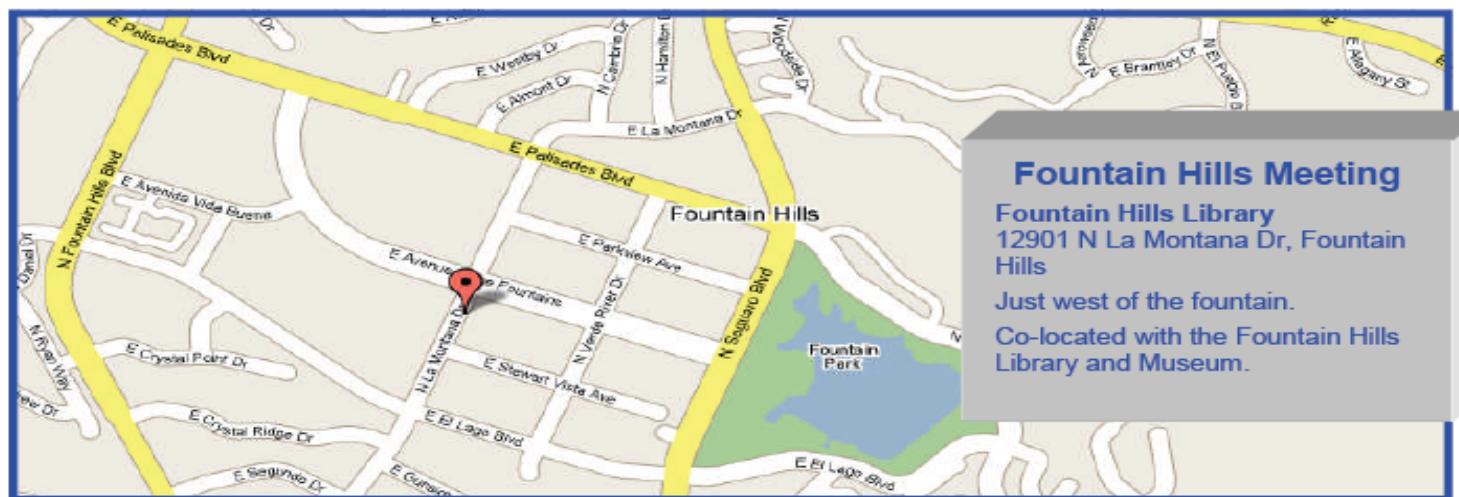


East Side Meeting

The University for Advancing Technologies

2625 W Baseline Rd, Tempe

South side of Baseline Rd, one block west of Fry's Electronics.



Fountain Hills Meeting

Fountain Hills Library

12901 N La Montana Dr, Fountain Hills

Just west of the fountain.

Co-located with the Fountain Hills Library and Museum.

MEMBERSHIP DUES

The Official Policy of the Phoenix PC Users Group is that we do not condone software piracy in any form.

*2014 DUES \$36, prorated
Example - \$12 for 3 months*

Phoenix PC Users Group Membership Application

First: (Print Legibly) _____ Initial: _____ Last: _____

Address: _____

City, State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home or Cell Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ Ext: _____

Please note: We **DO-NOT** share phone numbers outside the club, and will generally only use your phone information, if we cannot contact you in a timely fashion, via e-mail, or the club web-site.

Receive Electronic PDF newsletter in place of printed one: Yes No

E-mail address: _____ (Print Legibly)

Signature _____ Date _____ / _____ / _____

Release my address to vendors ? Yes No Note: Phone numbers **will not** be listed.

May the club share your e-mail address with other members only? Yes No
With club approved vendors? Yes No

Mail this completed form with payment to:

**Phoenix PC Users Group
PO Box 45451
Phoenix, AZ 85064-5451**



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STAMP

PLEASE NOTE - OUR NEW ADDRESS