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association of personal computer users group

where ideas and activities get started

3rd Quarter 2022 **APCUG FINANCIAL SUMMARY APCUG INFORMATION 21 APCUG INTERNET** 22 PRESENCE **APCUG MAILING** ADDRESS **ARTICLE DEADLINES, 21 CHECK OUT** 12 **DOES YOUR GROUP HAVE A YOUTUBE CHANNEL 19 GENERAL ARTICLES** 17 **MEMBERSHIP REGION 1**, **REGION 2 REGION 5 REGION 8 REGION 9 REGIONS 10, 11 & INTERNATIONAL**,

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Association of Personal Computer User Groups President's Message

Last month I had an APCUG experience that I have not had in over two years. What was that you may ask? I did an in-person presentation with an APCUG member group; the operative words **22** here are "in-person." My presentation was for the Prescott Computer Society in Arizona (about a two-hour drive from where I live). Considering all the extra work and setup involved with conducting a hybrid meeting, President JB Burke and his colleagues did an outstanding job in this regard; they had about an equal number of attendees in person as well as via Zoom.

While Zoom video conferencing is a very useful tool and helped us 3 all to continue our operations during the height of the pandemic, for some speakers, there are some shortcomings. For me, the biggest drawback is not being able to see my audience and their

- 11 facial reactions to what I'm saying. Additionally, if I make a humorous comment I don't know if there are any chuckles since 13 the audience is typically muted.
- 15 It took me several sessions to get used to talking to the four walls

of my office when doing a Zoom presentation. Call me "old 16 fashioned" but while I am now used to using Zoom for this purpose, 18 I still prefer face-to-face, most likely the result of my formerly teaching some basic computer classes at the local community

college for ten years. 8

Speaking of Zoom, this is a good time to remind all that APCUG continues to offer its members the use of our Zoom account for their

meetings. You can contact Judy Taylour or your APCUG Advisor for more information on how to utilize this benefit.

Ray Baxter

President & Treasurer

APCUG FINANCIAL SUMMARY 2021 Ray Baxter, Treasurer rbaxter (at) apcug.org



If you would like a copy of the last month's financial summary, please send an email to Ray at rbaxter (at) apcug.org

MEMBERSHIP Lee Laughner, Chair <u>llaughner</u>

(at) apcug.org



The Sun City Roseville Computer Club, CA, joined APCUG until December 31, 2023. Thanks to Yomar Cleary, past president of the Big Bear Computer Club, for joining the Roseville club when she moved to the Sacramento area. She is currently getting them set up with Zoom so they can start having Speakers Bureau presentations. We have 128 member groups.



REGION 1 CT, NY OPEN

DOES YOUR GROUP HAVE BUSINESS CARDS OR PROMOTIONAL CARDS FOR MEMBERS TO HAND OUT?

The Westchester PCUG does – from the July 11-14, 2022 Weekly Update. WPCUG Home

Will you...

...help WPCUG by handing out these promotional cards wherever and whenever you can. Print your own from the picture below.



REGION 2 DC, MD, NJ, PA, VA Gabe Goldberg, Advisor ggoldberg (at) apcug.org



Please note: If you're in Region 2 -- that is, a state listed above -- and your group's information is NOT included here, it's because I'm not receiving it. PLEASE add ggoldberg(at)apcug.org to your group's announcements mailing list so your news and events can be shared with all APCUG members. And let me know if you think I AM on your list.

New Jersey

Brookdale Computer Users Group (BCUG) <u>www.bcug.com</u> <u>www.facebook.com/BCUGNJ</u> www.meetup.com/Brookdale-Computer-Users-Group/

One main meeting featured "AI and Our Human Future - A chat with Daniel Huttenlocher and Eric Schmidt," two people with personal and intimate association with computers, artificial intelligence, business, and society in a conversation to enhance understanding of the impact computers and Artificial Intelligence have on us and our world.

Several SIGs provided diverse content:

Word Processing: Working with Graphics, Symbols & Equations: Insert and modify pictures, Create fancy text, Draw and modify shapes, Change the relationship of elements on the page, and Insert symbols and equations.

MacWaves: Bob Shindel looked at various system utilities for iOS/iPadOS. Lee Maxwell discussed activity dashboards for macOS and whether MacKeeper is now legitimate software.

Access-VBA: Intro to Macros, then Macros versus VBA.

Linux User Group: Bill Chriss demonstrated a Linux distribution he has as yet not chosen. Lee Maxwell discussed the first true Linux desktop environment, Gnome, including components, history, and current and predicted future status.

Graphics: Joe Zugcic presented, From A Photographic Pro – "Sharing my proudest projects and secrets that made them possible." A recording was made available to the first ten people downloading.

PC Roundtable: Members brought software and hardware questions for the group to help resolve.

Word Processing: Working with Longer Documents: Insert ready-made document parts, create and modify a table of contents, create and modify an index, add bookmarks and cross-references, add hyperlinks, add sources and pile a bibliography.

Access-VBA: Henry Home presented "Creating Backups of Changes to Data."

MacWaves: Bob Shindel discussed iPhones and iPads. Lee Maxwell talked about Macs.

Graphics: Ellie Brachfeld discussed Virtual Reality - what it is, the history of VR, its development, present uses, her greatest experiences with it, and the future of VR.

Linux User Group: Sergey Gleizer gave an overview of downloading, building, and installing an application from source code. Bill Chriss presented a Linux distro that piqued his interest.

MacWaves: Lee Maxwell led a discussion of Apple's announcements in the keynote telecast to kick off its mostly virtual Worldwide Developer's Conference. He shared sources of information to guide Apple device users on whether, when, and how to replace an older Apple product with a new one.

Access-VBA: Another look at Peter's Blood Test database, how to duplicate and update a record with one click.

The general meeting had Don Arrowsmith speaking on "Learn all about a VPN."

General Meeting featured John Krout discussing his "Complete Robocall Defense."

BCUG informed members of the Trenton Computer Festival's YouTube Channel with sessions from TCF 2021 and 2022 virtual events.

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTYWp_SRLaMBevBvUEtBsPw/featured

BCUG featured news of the nearby Vintage Computer Festival, one member noting, "This is an amazing place. They have not only a computer museum but also a huge collection of WWII vehicles and an incredible radio and early TV museum. Explore classes on Commodore, Apple, and 'Where is the Moon' (sic). You might even see a TRS-80s that I donated there. https://vcfed.org/events/vintage-computerfestival-east/vcf-east-schedule/ https://www.facebook.com/infoagemuseum/

BCUG shared an invitation for Mac SIG members to virtually attend a similar group's meetings, iSIG, at Central Florida Computer Society. These days of mostly online meetings, this cross-pollination is an excellent way to share the user group's wealth more broadly.

Pennsylvania

CPUser Group a Computer & Technology Club <u>www.cpusergroup.org/</u> www.facebook.com/cpug.cpusergroup

Main Presentation: Your Digital Legacy by Joe Kissell, Take Control Books. How do you want to be remembered? Of course, a will takes care of your physical possessions, but what about your digital life—photos, email, files, and the like? Learn the steps you need to take now to make sure your digital assets will be handled in the future the way you want them to be.

Secondary Presentations:

- Managing and Protecting Your Digital Identity by John Cornwell
- Linux Pop OS live demo by Ron Kazor
- PCLinux OS live demo by Jon Mazur
- FreeTube live demo by Jon Mazur
- Latest tip/gadget/tech news

Main Presentation: Managing and Protecting Your Digital Identity by John Cornwell.

Secondary Presentations:

- 30 Insanely Useful Websites by Jon Mazur
- PCLinux OS live demo by Jon Mazur
- FreeTube live demo by Jon Mazur

APCUG's Ray Baxter gave a two-part main presentation: A quick review of music listening habits during the last 65 years and looking at today's download and streaming offerings. From 78s to 45s, LPs, the 8track tape, cassettes, the Walkman, Compact Discs, iPods, and more – Ray covered it all. Ray considers himself an early Rock and Roll historian and has a digital collection of over 45,000 songs that began when he first started collecting records (most of which he still has) in his pre-teenage years. When living in California, he was President of the Doo-Wop Society of Southern California, a non-profit organization that for almost 14 years produced live quarterly musical stage shows featuring vocal groups of the 1950s.

Philadelphia Area Computer Society PACSnet.org

PACS' assortment of SIGs met virtually throughout the day. Digital Photography: Focus and Metering settings; Member Photos. Windows: A touch of code, Windows 11 updates, Windows 11 coming attractions. WordPress: Building Responsive Pages with Beaver Builder.

Novice Q&A: Selection from Changing Default Apps, Delivery Optimization, MS Office 2021 for \$39.99 offer described in The Street, Setup and test System Restore by creating a Restore Point and trying to restore to it, Background Apps, Startup programs.

Workshop of the Month: 'Connect Your Android Phone to Windows.' Member Gerry Hébert presented how Android phone users can view and reply to text messages, view their phone's notifications, make and receive calls, and more from their PC. It can be done with the new Microsoft Phone Link and Android Link to Windows apps. It will be a great demonstration of synching devices.

Linux: Continuing installation of Gentoo with a ZFS root.

Another busy day included:

Digital Photography: Charlie Watkins' suggestion of a checklist for camera settings has developed a good list of items to check, adjust, and/or think about before you head out to take some photos. Some are very simple, and some will take a bit of thought, depending on where and what you're going to shoot.

Apple macOS/iOS: New Information, Tips, and Tools.

Windows: Q&A.

WordPress How to successfully send email from your website.

Novice Q&A: Questions and Web Searching techniques; Preventing good mail from going into the spam folder; Forcing daily restore points; and Copying photos from iPhone to PC. Linux: Security Software Another assortment:

Digital Photography: Suggestion that everyone works on the same photo and compares results. Apple macOS/iOS: New Information, Tips, and Tools.

WordPress: Roundtable Discussion + Q&A on all things WordPress.

Novice Q&A: Cleaning temp files, Emptying Recycle Bin, System Restore, Clearing cache, and cookies, Uninstalling programs, Windows Accessories.

Workshop of the Month: Don Arrowsmith demonstrated IrfanView, a 'Swiss Army knife when it comes to image files. It includes a batch process that can be used for editing images and relocating and renaming any type of file.

Linux: OpenVAS (Vulnerability Assessment Scanner)

Workshop of the Month: Don Arrowsmith gave a doubleheader: FIRST - "A Poor Man's NAS (Network Attached Storage), Or What the Heck Can I Do with These USB Ports on My Router?" Learn how to share files to every device on your network and beyond by connecting a drive to your router by USB. Other uses for router USB ports were mentioned. SECOND - Clipchamp, a Microsoft acquisition in 2021, is a video editor with most of what non-professionals need; the free tier is sufficient for our potential uses. Available as a web app or a local app installable from the MS Store, not too basic and not too complex.

APCUG's Bill James presented "Modems, Routers, and Wi-Fi" described: In the early days of networking, the term modem described a device that transformed speech into analog signals (and vice versa) to be transmitted over telephone lines. This presentation will discuss Modems, Routers, and Wi-Fi and how to set up your devices for the best performance since we all want fast, reliable, and secure Internet. First, Bill will give us information on the latest modems, router hardware developments, and best practices for setup and deployment. Next, he will discuss Wi-Fi as the best option and how it fits into Home Automation, demystifying terms like WPA, Wi-Fi 6, 802.11, Ethernet, and DOCIS 3.1. Finally, he will also cover the pros and cons of using a professional tech service to solve technical difficulties. If one or more of these topics piques your interest, this 2-hour workshop is for you.

Maryland

Leisure World Apple Club (LWApple) http://www.mac.computerctr.org

Jim Ritz, a longstanding popular presenter and co-founder of MacRecycleClinic, a non-profit organization in Silver Spring, MD, with a mission to refurbish and recycle Macintosh computers, iPads, and Chromebooks to the community by donating them to needy students, families, veterans, and non-profit organizations. Donating procedures are at www.macrecycleclinic.org

Members heard, "Operating systems: What they are and how they work." Frequently asked questions were answered: "Should I update my Operating System? What happens if I don't? Will I compromise my security if I don't update? I have an older computer running 32-bit software that I don't want to lose, that won't run on a new 64-bit machine; what do I do now? The speaker also addressed important decisions, including using browsers that provide more security than Safari on older computers.

Another meeting featured retired Computer Science professor Marv Zelkowitz on Cryptocurrency, Bitcoins, and Blockchains. Marv walked through the origins and history of money, coins, and banks; the impact money and gold standard have on society, and is money disappearing. How much cash do we use? What's wrong with money? How does Bitcoin work? Is it a currency or investment? How to buy/sell bitcoins, Problems with and future of cryptocurrency.

Trudy Downs explained iPhone features many users don't bother with (or even know about) and thus miss useful tools. Trudy discussed features affecting iPhone and apps, including Reminders App, shortcuts for placing items on Calendar, Accessibility features for everyone, and more.

Virginia

Fredericksburg PC Users Group (FPCUG) <u>www.fpcug.org</u> goo.gl/Vt3nK9 (Facebook) <u>www.meetup.com/FredericksburgPC-Users/</u>

General Meeting in-person and virtual): Avenza Maps, a presentation by John Krout, APCUG contributor and member of APCUG's Speakers Bureau, about the free app Avenza Maps. Digital trail maps of Virginia State Parks were recently added to the app. The app can be used on Android and iOS devices. The Open Source Workshop presented Q4OS Linux, a lightweight distribution ideal for older computers. Frank Fota, FPCUG Secretary, and Newsletter Editor reviewed it, a Debian Linux Distribution he installed on a 22-year-old PIII laptop with 256MB of RAM. Frank says that "old computers that can't be upgraded to the Windows 10 operating system are ineffective online and vulnerable to malware attacks. However, such limitations and risks are not present when using many Linux distributions such as Q4OS."

A GIMP Workshop let people get started with this powerful free program, a free, open-source program for image manipulation and editing, free-form drawing, and saving image files in different file formats.

Members paid respects at a memorial service for long-time and beloved member Kay Pollock.

Potomac Area Technology and Computer Society (PATACS) www.patacs.org/

Gary Oddi presented "Creating Slideshows with PTE Studio," John Krout presented "Internet Radio on the Road, Safely," and Mark Shulman of Central Florida Computer Society presented Encryption Software.

Even though forced to relocate after a favorite pizza/salad/sandwich establishment closed due to building renovation, PATACS' Pizza SIG continues for chatting, eating, and fundraising after the two Wednesday evening meetings each month -- one with a presentation, the other for general problem solving and resource sharing.

A member's delegation attended a full military honors funeral at Arlington National Cemetery for a longtime member, volunteer, and officer. A collection of \$620 in his honor was donated to a local charity, So Others Might Eat", much appreciated by family members.

Washington Apple Pi (WAP) www.wap.org https://www.meetup.com/Waporg/

WAP -- also known as The Pi -- continues its four meetings/month schedule: two Saturday morning informal Clubhouse gatherings, semi-formal fourth Thursday Afternoon Learners SIG (ALSIG), and Saturday morning main meeting.

Rebecca Enonchong presented "Insights into the Africa Tech Scene, Entrepreneurship in General, My Story." She's a tech entrepreneur and Founder & CEO of @AppsTech, a cloud solutions company, and co-founder of @iospaces, a Silver Spring MD co-working space to help African immigrant entrepreneurs. Known for promoting technology in Africa, since 2010, she has chaired the African Center for Technology, Innovation, and Ventures Spaces. In 2021, Enonchong was confirmed as vice chair of the WHO Foundation Board. She was recently recognized on a distinguished list of women entrepreneurs. https://www.forbes.com/sites/maggiemcgrath/2022/01/18/50-over-50-emea-2022 CBS reporter Dan Patterson presented Cryptocurrency: Scams and Trends.

Afternoon Learners SIG highlighted Apple's WWDC reveals, building on an email exchange and playing some of the keynotes. And attendees helped a member with a home security problem.

President Roy Wagner forwarded a fifth-anniversary sale notice from Take Control Books, an excellent source of diverse titles bargain-priced.

Pi conducted the annual board election online with ease and success.

REGIONS 3 and 6 IA, IL, KY, MI, MN, OH, TN, WI John Kennedy, Advisor jkennedy

(at) apcug.org



Q3 REGION 3 QUARTERLY REPORTS

Canton Alliance Massillon User Group (Ohio)

CAMUG has a short before-meeting presentation they call "Computers 101" for those that arrive early. These last less than 30 minutes and have had topics such as Let's Learn About QR Codes and Keyboard Shortcuts and recently presented to their members the Benefits of CAMUG being a member of APCUG. Some of their main Spring presentations included 3-D Printing, Cloud Services, and learning about what more you can do with a Google Calendar.

Central Kentucky Computer Society (Lexington)

Near where CKCS is located, they have a big field of Solar Panels and had a presentation to answer the questions members might have about what they are, how long they have been there, and how they are utilized. In keeping with the theme of power, they had a very unusual meeting where a previous speaker on electric vehicles brought one to their meeting location, where members who had signed up got to take a ride in one. As with many groups, June was time for their Annual Picnic and Election of Officers.

Columbus Computer Society and the East-Central Ohio Technology Users Club

These two groups in Ohio, about 45 miles apart, share the same Program Chair, so they have continued scheduling the same programs for their members. They do a lot with the Speaker's Bureau but started with one of the CCS members and a former member, having a presentation on the Apple "Find my..." service along with the use of Air Tags. They finished their Spring meetings with a presentation on Genealogy and Touring the Web. Both groups have started meeting hybrid as things are improving in the COVID world.

Dayton Microcomputer Association (western Ohio)

DMA continues meeting both in person at a restaurant and online. The members attending in-person have a nice meal cooked for them, and those attending online probably have to fix it themselves. You've probably heard about *Open Source Software* (one of our Speaker's Bureau presentations), but have you heard about *Open Source for Processors*? DMA members learned about that along with Tips and Tricks for Posting Videos on YouTube and another new operating system called Chrome OS Flex.

Kentucky-Indiana Personal Computer User Group (Louisville area)

KIPCUG is another computer group that has not been side-tracked by COVID; they met via Zoom and are not meeting in person and have had both local and Speaker's Bureau presentations on *How to tell if you*

have been hacked and five ways not to get hacked; Saving your life with Wearable Technology, and one that every group needs to get scheduled, How to Prevent Theft to Keyless-entry Cars.

Lorain County Computer User Group (northern Ohio)

LCCUG had a big surprise for their members, a Membership Renewal Offer they can't refuse. Currently, they have their yearly dues set at \$15 per year since they are meeting online. However, to hopefully get back some "lost" members, they are now offering their \$15 a THREE-YEAR MEMBERSHIP.

Southeastern Michigan Computer Organization (Detroit area)

SEMCO runs two meetings each Sunday they meet. First, a general interest presentation followed by their Linux SIG. Some general topics they scheduled through the Speaker's Bureau included *Windows File Explorer Secrets* and *Creating a Restore Point in Windows 10* by Bill James. *Complete Robocall Defense* by John Krout, and *Declutter Your Digital Life* by Judy Taylour.

Q3 REGION 6 QUARTERLY REPORTS

Central Iowa Computer User Group (Iowa)

CIACUG went retro at one of their meeting's presentations. They showcased an active dial-up server running over VoIP, and that's running today in 2022.

Chicago Computer Society (Illinois)

CCS has several regional groups in the Chicago area, so there's no waiting for technology presentations. Among the more unique presentations was on a piece of software for backing up that few have heard about. It's the Cobian Backup program. Like many of us, are you confused about the differences between storage devices? You need to book this program where attendees learn about the differences between HDD vs. SSD vs. NVMe. One of the newest topics that is starting to pop up in club presentations includes *Cryptocurrency and Validated Transactions*.

Madison Personal Computer User Group (Wisconsin)

MPCUG meets online and also uses the APCUG's Speaker's Bureau. They never want for presenters and different topics. This Spring, their members enjoyed a wide range of topics, including, *Computers to the Moon* w/Mark Schulman; *It's All About Windows 11* w/Bill James, and Sharan Kalwani presented *Revolution OS*. A movie that tells the inside story of computer hackers and the development of alternative operating systems.

Milwaukee Home Users Group (Milwaukee area) and Southeastern Wisconsin Windows Users Group (also in the Milwaukee area)

The members of MHUG and SEWWUG have the best of both worlds. One group meets in person, and the other group meets online. So, members of both groups can attend whichever type of meeting they like or feel most comfortable with.

Twin Cities Personal Computer User Group (Minnesota)

Recent presentations have included A Hearing Revolution with Healthable Devices, Headless Raspberry Pi and Pi Hole Updates, How to Delete all Personal Data from a PC for Recycling (YouTube "experts,") Annual Meeting, and election of officers

Wisconsin All-Computer Users Club (Milwaukee)

WAUC is a very active club meeting both in-person and online. They have a meeting every Thursday with an additional meeting on the 4th Wednesday. Their main meeting is on the 1st Thursday, and they have many interesting presentations, including Mark Schulman's *Encryption Software*, John Kennedy's *Using Bitwarden Password Manager*, and Sue Mueller: *Genealogy Road Trip, it's all about the prep*. At their meetings, they always have a FREE Table, where members can bring the WAUC-related stuff they want to give others!

REGION 5

Florida OPEN DOES

YOUR GROUP DO SURVEYS?

The Sarasota Technology Users Group does.

Sarasota Technology Users Group (thestug.org)



STUG was considering changing the day and time of its Presentation Meeting; they sent the below survey to their members. They had from Monday to Friday to respond.

The meeting has been 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM for the past several years.

Question # 1: Please check all that you would consider attending. Note that the evening time may vary due to location hours. For example, starting time could be 6:00, 6:30, or 7:00 PM.

	Live Meeting	Zoom Meeting
Tuesday 3:00PM		
Tuesday 6:00PM		
Wednesday 3:00PM		
Wednesday 6:00PM		
Thursday 3:00PM		
Thursday 6:00PM		
Saturday 10:00AM		

Attendance

We would like to know if you will be attending meetings.

Please Choose from the following

I would attend a live meeting when comfortable with attending a meeting

- O I only will attend Zoom meetings
- $\bigcirc\$ I will not be attending presentation meetings but will watch the recordings on YouTube
- O I will not be attending any meetings but want to support STUG and its benefits
- O I will not be attending meetings and probably will not renew my membership.

Comment

Add any comments that you would like to add.

Comments?

Your answer

From Hewie Poplock, Forum Leader and APCUG Representative

370 people were sent emails to fill out the survey. 152 responded; the survey response rate was 41%.

147 responses

58.5% - 86 - I would attend a live meeting when comfortable with attending a meeting

23.2% - 34 - I only will attend Zoom meetings

10.9% - 16 - I will not be attending presentation meetings but will watch the recordings on YouTube

6.8% - 10 - I will not be attending any meetings but want to support STUG and its benefits

0.7% - 1 - I will not be attending meetings and probably will not renew my membership.

Also Of the 152 respondents: 76 included comments which were not only positive but helpful as well. 97 included their name & email for the drawing

Their board meets in early August and will determine whether STUG will be meeting in-person, hybrid, or possibly UCHUG's option of meeting in person quarterly.

CHECK OUT APCUG (apcug2.org)

<u>Groups Sharing Meetings (apcug2.org)</u> <u>APCUG Member Group Grant Program (apcug2.org)</u> <u>Speakers Bureau (apcug2.org)</u> Speakers Bureau Form (apcug2.org)

REGION 8 AL, KS, LA, OK, TN, TX Bill James, Advisor <u>bjames</u>

(at) apcug.org



This summer is proving to be one of the hottest summers on record. The summer months are not the best for Users Groups with most taking a summer break. I do not advocate Groups taking off during the summer because it is difficult to start up again in the fall. Some groups have operated in this fashion for decades. I understand the difficulty of getting people out and working around vacation schedules, but there are solutions. The APCUG Speakers Bureau (<u>https://apcug2.org/speakers-bureau/</u>) is a resource that features over 100 online interactive presentations in 20+ categories on the latest technology from Windows 11 to Home Automation. Some programs discuss Creating a Safe Environment on Facebook; Cybercriminals are out to get us-Senior Scams; Declutter Your Digital Life; and Digital Asset Estate Planning. These programs are presented via Zoom. The APCUG also has a YouTube Channel

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APCUG Reports

(<u>https://www.youtube.com/apcugvideos</u>) that is available to you. The site has over a hundred videos to choose from Wednesday Workshops to Virtual Technical Conferences and some standalone programs.

Summer activities in region eight, the **North Texas PC User Group** welcomes computer users of all levels of computer experience anytime between 8:00 AM-12:00 PM at their once-a-month Saturday meetings. Currently, the club is meeting online. If you are not a member and would like to attend one of these sessions, please email lbkatzenstein@gmail.com and you will be given nonmember access to their virtual sessions.

The **Senior Computer User Group of Greater KC** is a group that goes on a hiatus during July and August for their General meetings. But they do not completely shut down the club, all their Special Interest Groups (SIG), their unique Lunch & Learn, and classes continue to meet as usual. Their SenCom Lunch & Learn usually meets on the 4th Friday of the month. It is a social gathering, with casual computer talk and good times. Attendees can join in the conversation or just come listen. Everyone learns something!

Summer months do not have to be boring; the **Computer Club of Oklahoma City** continues to meet during the summer with hybrid meetings. They are planning a seven-session genealogy class featuring Ancestry.com, Family Tree Maker, and Family Book Creator. It will begin on August 11.

The **Bella Vista Computer Club** in Arkansas is offering Remote Help to its members. Their desktop tool of choice is AnyDesk, but the individual helpers may have other tools available as well. While much of their support expertise tends to center around PCs and MS Windows, they also have members with experience with other platforms and Operating Systems. If their helpers don't know the answer, they might still be able to do some research that could help them.

If your club is facing stagnant summer meetings, there are many ways to keep your club going and members engaged. Using the APCUG Speaker Bureau, APCUG YouTube videos, all benefits of your membership, and some innovative programming can add zest to your meetings and keep your membership. As your region advisor, I am always available to assist you in making your group successful. Take the opportunity to contact me at any time.

Happy Computing Bill James

DOES YOUR GROUP HAVE A PARTY FOR ITS RENEWING MEMBERS?

The ccOKC had one in July.



On July 28th, the Computer Club of Oklahoma City held a Members Only Party as part of their annual membership drive. The party was kicked off by President Rodney Duerksen and held in person, but it was also available via Zoom. The club has several

out-of-state Zoom members and some dual members who take advantage of the \$10 fee if you are a member of another APCUG-affiliated club. The club membership roster was checked to ensure all attendees had a current membership. Those that did not were allowed to renew at the event.

The party was held during their regular General Session, which Beth Mikkola of the ccOKC Program moderated. Beth chose two excellent TED Talks to present to the attendees: Apollo Robbins on The Art of Misdirection <u>https://www.ted.com/talks/apollo_robbins_the_art_of_misdirection</u> and Keith Barry on Brain Magic <u>https://www.ted.com/talks/keith_barry_brain_magic</u>. In addition to the presentations, which seemed to be well received by all who attended, there were 21 door prizes. A Portable Charcoal Grill, a Mini Grill, a Square Baking Pan, 5 Solar Powered Lanterns, 5 Solar Powered Flashlights, 2 Magnetic Battery Light/Flashlights, 2 emergency flashers, 2 miniature screwdriver sets, a tape measure, and a set of 4 coffee mugs were among the prizes. In addition, every attendee received a club logo pen.

Four of the club's lab computers will be on Windows 11. The board decided to donate two computers to a non-profit and raffle off two others at the event. Raffle tickets were sold during the event for \$10, and the club profited \$200 toward purchasing four new Windows 11 computers.

Our social events chair, Susie Wilson, provided a delicious spread of Turkey and Ham sliders and a variety of chips, cookies, and muffins for the members. During the TED Talk presentation, members were also served freshly popped corn.

This year's membership drive was a huge success, with almost 100 members renewing including regular members, significant others, and APCUG associate members. They also have 73 Lifetime members. We are grateful for our members' support, which is why we held the party. Bill James, Vice President – Operations

REGION 9 AZ, CO OPEN

DO YOU THANK YOUR MEMBERS?

The Prescott Computer Society does.

Prescott Computer Society Home Page (pcs4me.com)

From JB Burke, President



Saturday's PCS Picnic at Goldwater Lake

Gentlemen...

It is my opinion that the 2022 PCS Picnic was a total success. Several of those who attended thanked me for putting it on and said they really enjoyed it. I didn't hear a single negative comment throughout. It's too bad that more members didn't choose to participate - it could have been even more fun.

Bill - thanks for so ably handling the most important food department. The chicken was great, and everyone had all the accouterments they needed to enjoy a delicious lunch. And let's not forget that Bill was responsible for scheduling the Lakeview Pavilion, so we'd have a beautiful place to picnic.

Edi - great job as usual for the Parking Passes and name tags.

Dick - the raffle went well (it wasn't just a bunch of BOD members winning), and the table and extension cords helped make the whole party work.

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Ray - as usual, the Karnak routine was met with a tremendous round of applause, the usual groans, and guffaws. Thanks for doing that. It is a classic.

Alan - you did a fine job supporting The Great Karnak. Your preparation and attention to detail throughout the performance were obvious to all. And thanks for providing the trash & recycling bags - very necessary.

Phil - your 6 ft. table provided space for all the delicious desserts. And thanks for handling the recycles - I appreciate that.

Jouhn



REGIONS 10, 11, & INTERNATIONAL CA, NV, WA, CANADA, & AUSTRALIA Judy Taylour, Advisor <u>itaylour</u>

(at) apcug.org



REGION 10 UNDER THE COMPUTER HOOD USER GROUP'S COVID ADVENTURE (UCHUG)

Under the Computer Hood Users Group Home (uchug.org)

Our group could pivot almost immediately into virtual meetings when the pandemic started. We went from Bob



G's in-person security presentation in March 2020, our last meeting at Wesley Palms, to our group's first Zoom meeting (our March board meeting) in just two weeks. This was not without issues, effort, and consternation. Still, we held our first virtual general meeting two weeks after that, on April 1st (April Fool's Day!),

with an APCUG Speakers Bureau presentation on 5G from Ron Brown.

Those early days of the pandemic were tough on everyone. We all had to figure out the new rules and how to cope. Our board did very well in adapting to the new normal of virtual meetings, and we held many Zoom training sessions for members to practice. Most members learned how to use Zoom quickly, but a few were not interested in virtual meetings or in using that software. Fortunately, we found the

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online meetings opened our group up to a broader geographic audience. We welcomed members of other APCUG groups to our meetings. The virtual format benefited one particular UCHUG member who had moved out of the area but wanted to continue attending; this was now possible. Virtual meetings made sense for members concerned about driving at night. It saved me travel time to and from meetings and the effort of lugging equipment and materials for them.

This abrupt change could easily have resulted in the demise of our group, but instead, we merely continued the slow decline in membership we had seen previously. UCHUG's continued existence is due to the dedication and determination of our board and the help we received from APCUG.

UCHUG has been a member of APCUG, the Association of Personal Computer User Groups, for almost two decades. It is an international association of technology and computer user groups that have helped us in many ways over the years, providing presentation speakers, conferences, and organizational guidance. The help that APCUG and our Regional Advisor, Judy Taylour, provided during that first COVID year was instrumental in keeping us going. They offered the use of a paid Zoom account for our meetings, many virtual Speakers Bureau presentations, Virtual Tech Conferences and Wednesday Workshops for our members to participate in, and lots of good advice.

We held things together pretty well that first year and had a lot of participation in our meetings. The most regrettable part was that we could not hold our two annual parties, the June member picnic, and our December Cheer party meeting in 2020. We just had regular Zoom meetings for both, but per our tradition, we gave away a few electronic gift cards in a drawing for members attending the December meeting.

We continued the online formula of some Speakers Bureau presentations, some instructive videos suggested by members, and one or two homegrown presentations for our meetings in 2021. The Zoom process became routine. In March, Bob G. gave us his latest security presentation through Zoom and an update for National Cybersecurity Awareness Month in October. Hooray! We had our 2021 December Cheer party in a meeting room at a member's church, and in 2022, we had our annual picnic at the beach.

In addition to our Zoom meetings, the board is considering having quarterly hybrid meetings at the church, but it is quite a distance from where we previously met and so not as convenient for some. While it is closer to where I live, Zoom meetings are also good for me as they reduce my setup time and eliminate the travel time.

P.S. Where are our flying cars, robot maids, and space travel for everyone? When I was young, I thought we'd have these by 2022. Unfortunately, COVID and global warming are a poor trade. Greg Skalka, President



INTERNATIONAL

Melbourne PCUG

Melbourne PC User Group – The Melbourne PC User group Inc (melbpc.org.au)

MELBPC OFFERS FREE TUTORIALS - HOW TO USE SMARTPHONES, TABLETS, AND COMPUTERS

After nearly 40 years of "members helping members", Melbourne PC User Group is now open to the general public to teach and mentor adults entirely free of charge to increase their knowledge and confidence in using the latest digital technology.

With the increasing trend that everything is moving to the internet, it is important that all adults have the necessary skills and knowledge to carry out transactions online safely and with confidence.

Each Wednesday from 6 April 2022 the Moorabbin premises will be open to members of the public to attend in person and bring along their portable device; smartphone, tablet, or laptop computer to receive help with operating their device. Spare computers and tablets are also available for use by attendees if they do not already own a device or if their computer is not easily portable.

The Moorabbin premises will be open from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm each Wednesday and light refreshments are provided. Other days and times may be available on special request at the discretion of mentors. For health and safety reasons, people will only be admitted if they have been fully vaccinated or can produce a valid vaccination exemption certificate and are not currently showing Covid symptoms.

GENERAL ARTICLES

by Gabe Goldberg, Advisor Region 2

Meet Here, Meet There, Meet Everywhere

Many sites used for group meetings before Covid are unavailable due to health precautions and may not be for a while -- or even ever again. So, creativity and flexibility are required to begin returning to normal operation. For example, several people from a DC-area group recently visited the Auld She been restaurant in Fairfax City, VA, to explore options.

In addition to pleasant staff serving tasty food in a nice setting, it has two rooms for possible group use. One is a semi-private room (seating perhaps 15) off the main dining area; the other is a large basement room with a full bar (seating perhaps 50). Both have Wi-Fi adequate for meetings. The small room is available free, with people ordering food. The downstairs room would require a reasonable fee for staff. I learned about the meeting rooms by attending events in the basement room and chatting with the owner, then enjoyed eating there several times. As group officers/directors/volunteers/members go about normal activities, it's worth everyone scouting/exploring such resources as they're encountered.

If One is Lonely, Two is a Partnership

I belong to two DC-area groups -- Washington Apple Pi and Potomac Area Technology and Computer

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Society (Pi and PATACS for short). While PATACS meeting sites (one of which belongs to OLLI PC User Group, OPCUG) recently became available (with decent health precautions), Pi's have not. So, we recently arranged a combined meeting on Pi Day at the usual time at OPCUG's facility. This was especially valuable since the Pi speaker was Rob Pegoraro, a local tech journalist who's always one of the most popular group speakers.

That's especially true because he always brings a bag of swag -- gadgets, trinkets, hardware, software, shirts, socks, etc. -- he acquires from vendors and at conferences. Since this was his first appearance since Covid, he brought a LOT of giveaways. Naturally, this caused the usual entertaining feeding frenzy when attendees were invited to help themselves. I believe just one lone mug was left.

The meeting was successful for both groups -- hybrid (in-person and Zoom) format drew about 15 people in person and another 35 online across the groups. So, if groups are near each other, explore partnering to share technology, meeting sites, speakers, and other resources.

Accommodate Members/Attendees Changed Habits and Preferences

Before Covid, most group meetings were in-person, with no limited or occasional online presence. Covid forced instant adaptation, with many groups quickly learning how to run remote meetings and members coming to use (love? hate? Zoom. An interesting change was seeing many people who'd never been to meetings attending online. I've heard that some people who've attended online -- whether or not they were previously seen in person -- won't be back to meeting sites. At the same time, during Covid, many regular meeting attendees didn't join Zoom for whatever reasons.

This means that group meetings must be hybrid format going forward to serve all current and potential members. This shouldn't be burdensome, and the technology to do this is flexible. For example, I easily presented at Fredericksburg, VA group using their projector, their Wi-Fi, my iPad connected to Zoom to share slides with remote attendees, and my iPhone mirroring slides to the projector. Groups can mix and match devices to accomplish the same thing. PATACS/OPCUG are fortunate to have a well-equipped classroom with commercial-grade conferencing facilities, but that's not necessary -- objects in common use by members will usually suffice.

Share Your Group's Brand -- Market Yourself!

In my early user group days, it was common to receive all sorts of things bearing group logos: screwdrivers, coasters, magnets, screen cleaning cloth, etc. Washington Apple Pi just bought and is distributing to members and guests elegant coasters with Pi logo, marketing tagline, and contact information. We bought a hundred of these, costing about \$3/each in that quantity (buying more would reduce the price per item), from 4Imprint. From start to finish, 4Imprint was a pleasure to deal with.

Don't Be Mysterious!

It's worth repeating (so I will): all group communications should highlight full location information for events and reliable contact information for your group. Far too often, I receive material with a group name not including its location, meeting information with just street address (or only building name!), phone number with no area code, and either no contact point or one that's not monitored. None of that facilitates new people finding and joining your group. For extra credit, include the group name or acronym (PATACS/OPCUG/WAP/Pi/CPCUG/FPCUG/etc.) in the email Subject to indicate that it's not spam.

Get to Know Members!

How well do your officers/directors know group members? Do you hang out together, and chat among yourselves, seems just a bit cliquish and exclusive, "in the know" compared to members.

Among many cliched management slogans, one that's not bad is "Manage by walking around." That is, managers and executives shouldn't be cloistered in their offices; they should get out among employees - not as big-deal special occasions, but to know and be known. The same advice applies to user group leaders: getting to know members, making them feel valued, and involving them in decisions and activities is easy and valuable. After all, where else will you find new volunteers, directors, and officers?

DOES YOUR GROUP HAVE A YOUTUBE CHANNEL?



THE DMA YOUTUBE CHANNEL

By Mark Camden, DMA Webmaster

DMA

Did you know that DMA has a YouTube channel (videos)? The DMA YouTube Channel can be accessed



from the <u>https://www.dma1.org/</u> website in the footer (bottom of every page) by selecting the YouTube icon.

Once you get to the DMA YouTube channel, you will see the following five (5) tabs:

CHANNELS

ABOUT

Home

- Videos
- Playlists
- Channels
- About

There is also a red "Subscribe" button. If you subscribe, you will get a notification when a video is added to DMA's channel. You will need to be logged in to your Google Account or it will prompt you to log in before you subscribe.

Dayton Microcomputer Association

PLAYLISTS

The "Home" tab is the home page for the DMA YouTube Channel and displays the latest DMA videos. These are sorted by date, so you must scroll to the oldest ones.

The "Videos" tab displays all DMA videos. The "Playlist" tab displays folders where the videos are grouped by subject. We have the following Playlists:

VIDEOS

- Members' Videos (non-DMA videos)
- APCUG Videos (non-DMA videos)
- Resources (DMA videos)
- "How to" Videos (DMA videos)
- DMA General Membership Meetings (DMA videos)

As shown above, not all videos under the playlist are DMA videos. The Members' Videos and APCUG Videos playlists are videos from other YouTube sites that are saved (linked) on the playlist.

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APCUG Reports

SUBSCRIBE

If you have your own YouTube channel with videos related to computers or other digital devices, or programming such equipment, please let us know and we can add the video to the Members' Videos playlist.

The "Channels" tab is not currently being used.

The "About" displays DMA Web site links.

DMA Website: https://www.dma1.org/

DMA YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCy5S29a1cPi4PJTILHNQkzA Dayton

Microcomputer Association - YouTube

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