APCUG SPEAKERS BUREAU PRESENTATIONS
As of January 2026

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RAY BAXTER, COORDINATOR, PAYSON COMPUTER MEET-UP CLUB

Technology Always Seems to be Changing the Way We Listen to Music at Home and in the Car. We've all experienced the changes technology has provided over the last several decades in almost every facet of our lives. I think how we listen to our favorite tunes at home and in our cars has probably changed the most. I'll review how we've listened to music in our homes, starting with the 78-rpm record and all the devices in between, bringing us up to date with today's various streaming options. Then, the focus will move to how we consume music on the road, starting with when it was so "cool" to have a push-button AM radio in the car. I'll also focus on using your existing Compact Disc collection now that new cars no longer have a CD player, including streaming services, Bluetooth, flash drives, smartphones, and more.

This is a presentation that Ray constantly updates, so there is always something new to present.

Plex. Free Streaming Service or Media Server -- Choose to Use One or Both—streaming service -- Over 50,000 free on-demand titles for you to watch. Media server free app -- Plex scans and organizes your files, automatically sorting your media.

JB BURKE, PRESIDENT, PRESCOTT COMPUTER SOCIETY

How the Electric Telegraph Changed the World. The 1800s saw the birth of the telegraph. This remarkable technology transformed the world, shrinking vast distances into mere dots and dashes and enabling instantaneous communication. We'll see its impact on many aspects of life, commerce, news, warfare, and society. It'll help you appreciate the telegraph's pivotal role in shaping our modern world, setting the stage for today's digital age. Don't miss this fascinating story of the telegraph and its immense effect on our lives.

Online Security Secrets - Are Your Passwords Really Complex? Why they don't need to be – and other stories. By now, we are all aware of the online threats – phishing, smishing, malware & viruses, identity theft, fake websites, tech support scams, phony shopping sites – the list goes on and on. It is widely recognized that strong passwords are an important method of protection. But do you know what makes passwords strong? It isn't necessarily caps, numbers, or special characters, though they also play a part. This presentation reveals the real story of strong passwords and beyond.

Touring the Web - This program asks: Can there possibly be more to find on the Internet? Answer: There will always be more—JB drills down and mines the web for those hidden gems you probably would not otherwise see. You'll be enlightened, entertained, and educated with a dollop of humor.

Who could ask for more? How does JB obtain information for his 'Touring the Web' presentations? A quick search reveals that there are approximately 4.2 billion indexed pages. Some are interesting, informative, educational, or entertaining, while others are unusual. So, he looks for all those while making his morning coffee, eating lunch, and whenever he finds a spare moment. He saves them to create his *Touring the Web* presentations. It consists of web pages, videos, images, and other tidbits that will, he hopes, keep you entertained for an hour or so.

Touring the Web #12 - A Diversion from Current Happenings. The World Wide Web has everything, and JB has discovered much of it. Join JB Burke for his Touring the Web #12. You'll learn how to visit the Sistine Chapel without traveling; how to use Picture in Picture in your browser; why email is such a great way to communicate; when kids in France drank wine in school; how internet traffic travels the world – it mostly isn't via satellites; all about the origin of the QWERTY keyboard; and, of course, robots! Plus, videos and much, much more.

Touring the Web #13 - Stuff you didn't know you needed to know. Touring the Web #13 is educational, inspirational, entertaining, and a lot of fun. Discover webcam windows to the world, how to save money buying computers, how to erase yourself from the internet, what the SMARTEST smart home upgrade is, and whether you should rent or buy your modem and router. Plus, why sliced bread was once outlawed in the US, how to look back in history on Google Earth, the seven password rules you need to know, which are the happiest countries on Earth, and much more. Don't miss it.

FRANCIS CHAO – See his ever-growing presentation list at aztcs.apcug.org/fc.pdf

BILL JAMES, VICE PRESIDENT, COMPUTER CLUB OF OKLAHOMA CITY

A Blend of Linux & Windows Apps - Syncing Files and File Sharing. Cloud storage usage is everywhere in today's multi-platform environment. One issue with Linux is file synchronization with other non-Linux devices, such as x86, macOS, iOS, and Android. It is not as complicated as it may appear; this presentation explains how to do it from a Windows user's perspective.

All Things Google Updated—Google apps are constantly evolving; this presentation discusses the more popular apps, including an interesting twist on Google's newest app, Gemini.

Chromebooks, an Alternative. A Chromebook does what many people want a computer to do: better and faster than any other laptop, regardless of price. It is the most secure portal to the Web ever built, thanks to its super-fast updates and sandboxing. A Chromebook can pair with your Android phone for messaging and video calling. It is perfect for anyone who wants to grab a laptop, sign in, and spend an afternoon watching Netflix or shopping online. You can also use it as a terminal to connect to your Windows PC or Mac. Chromebooks are Fun! Learn more from this informative presentation.

Home Automation – An Introduction. This presentation shows how Home Automation technology allows us to control our connected devices and appliances from a central hub using smartphones or tablets. The presentation will explain how to set up a system using widely available home automation devices. Are you worried that home automation devices might be listening in on your conversations? Do you wonder whether your devices can be hacked but don't know how to protect them? Bill will answer these questions and more in this presentation, making it easier to take the first step toward automating your home and potentially securing a better price when you sell.

Home Automation Security. Bill's presentation covers home networks and automation, hackers, privacy, Smart TVs, and security for your router and home automation devices.

Mac OS vs. Windows OS. Many individuals are familiar with the Apple ecosystem, primarily through iPhone or iPad use. However, using a Mac PC, such as a Mac Mini or MacBook Pro, presents a new opportunity to gain experience with macOS. As a newcomer to the Mac Operating system and transitioning from a Windows environment, it was intriguing to compare Mac functionality with that of Windows. Furthermore, it was imperative to evaluate how the knowledge and skills gained from Windows could be applied to the Mac, considering that the Mac is just another PC. Through this evaluation, Bill sought to understand the similarities and differences between the Mac and Windows keyboards, as well as the differences in their built-in applications. This presentation aims to share his discoveries, particularly the similarities between the two operating systems, with a specific focus on web-based cross-platform applications.

Microsoft Backup Solutions: What Are They, and Should You Use Them? Backing up your documents and other files in Windows is always advisable, as the originals may become lost, corrupted, or damaged. That's especially true for critical, sensitive, or irreplaceable files. Ideally, you want a seamless, automated way to back up your files, so you don't have to do it manually. You can turn to various third-party backup programs. However, a built-in Windows tool, namely File History, is worth trying.

Microsoft's Edge. The new Microsoft Edge is a Chromium-based browser that introduces new features. Bill explores many of these features; the more you learn about Edge, the more you can decide if this browser is for you. You will also learn how to earn $$ by using Bing.

Windows File Explorer Secrets – Windows 11. File Explorer is an indispensable app with a simple user interface (UI) that lets you navigate, access, and organize files, folders, and apps on your computer's hard drive, external drives, and across your network. Have you ever thought you knew exactly where an item was, only to spend hours searching your home for it? Folders and files on your hard drive can cause the same chaos. File Explorer can help you take control of your documents. Just like a filing cabinet, you determine your filing method. However, unlike a filing cabinet, you can change how files are displayed, grouped, and shared.

My Favorite Android Apps. Smartphones – the Swiss Army knives of mobile devices- can perform many tasks. Selecting the right apps makes your phone a multi-functional device. Bill discusses productivity, communication, remote control, entertainment, games, and social media. His presentation features a live demo of how he uses his Smartphone.

Mesh Routers. Dealing with an unstable or poor Wi-Fi connection nowadays is one of the most annoying things imaginable. You might consider getting a Wi-Fi range extender if your home is large or if multiple people use the Internet, but don't. This presentation discusses the pros and cons of mesh routers and why you might consider acquiring one.

Modems, Routers, and Wi-Fi. In the early days of networking, the term "modem" referred to a device that converted analog signals to digital signals (and vice versa) for transmission over telephone lines. This presentation will discuss Modems, Routers, and Wi-Fi, and how to set up your devices for optimal performance, so we can all enjoy 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 such as WPA, Wi-Fi 6, 802.11, Ethernet, and DOCSIS 3.1. Finally, he will also cover the pros and cons of using a professional tech service to solve technical difficulties.

Privacy and Security for Windows 10 and 11. Security concerns data safeguarding, whereas privacy concerns user identity safeguarding. The specific differences between the two are more complex, and there can certainly be areas of overlap. This presentation discusses both and how to apply the safeguards built into Windows 10 and 11 to protect both privacy and security.

Synchronizing Your PC with Other Devices. There are numerous ways to sync desktops, laptops, tablets, and phones, from complex to relatively simple solutions. This presentation discusses the simple and easy ways to share files and folders with other devices.

The Dark Web. This presentation explores the enigmatic realm of the Dark Web, aiming to demystify this concealed segment of the Internet. We will explore its origins, structure, and the diverse ways it influences the digital and physical worlds. By examining the complexities of the dark Web, we will highlight its legitimate uses and its more notorious aspects. Bill aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of the dark Web, equipping you with the knowledge and awareness needed to navigate and comprehend this often-misunderstood digital frontier.

Windows 11 and 10 look quite different, but much of what we like to use is still the same. Bill's presentation takes us through what's New, what's changed, and what is no longer included. Then, he will guide you through your decision about whether Windows 11 is right for you or if you will continue with Windows 10 for a while longer. Of course, you have until 2025 to choose, but learning something new keeps us sharp.

Mini-presentations – choose two for your meeting.

This is an additional layer of security for your Windows PC. You can choose to sign on as an admin rather than a standard user on your Windows 11 PC.

Backing Up Windows 10 and 11 Using Windows File History. Backing up your documents and other files in Windows is always advisable, especially if the originals are lost or corrupted. That's especially true for important, sensitive, or irreplaceable files. Ideally, you want a seamless, automated way to back up your files so you don't have to do it manually. You can turn to a variety of third-party backup programs. However, this presentation discusses a Windows tool worth trying: File History.

Configure Storage Sense to Free Up Disk Space - Windows 11. Microsoft Storage Sense is a little-known utility built into Windows 11. It is on by default. Discover what it is and how to utilize it.

Create a Restore Point - Windows 11. Creating a restore point is made easy.

Edge Browser Secrets. A discussion of Microsoft Edge secrets and more you might want to know. This presentation discusses them and why you might want to use them.

Mesh Routers - Pros and Cons. Mesh routers have gained significant popularity in recent years. This presentation covers their popularity, router placement, longevity, the latest Wi-Fi standard, and many pros and cons, so you can decide if a mesh router is right for you.

Safeguarding Windows Against Malware: Exploring Microsoft's Powerful Scanning Tools— MSRT and MSERT. Microsoft offers two malware-scanning tools for Windows: the Microsoft Malicious Software Removal Tool (MSRT) and the Microsoft Safety Scanner (MSERT). The latter is less well-known. It is a scan tool designed to find and remove malware from Windows computers. Microsoft Safety Scanner is a portable executable that scans on demand and doesn't appear in the Windows Start menu or as an icon on the desktop.

Software App Stores. App stores are digital platforms where users can browse, download, and install apps for Internet devices. This presentation discusses the stores maintained by Apple, Microsoft, Google, and Linux, where to find them, and how to use them within the applicable operating systems.

Windows and Mac: Bridging the Gap. When it comes to computer operating systems, Windows and macOS have long been rivals, each with unique features and designs. However, amidst their differences, intriguing similarities are worth exploring. Despite their distinct interfaces and underlying architectures, Windows and macOS share common ground in terms of functionality and user experience.

In this presentation, we will delve into the fascinating parallels between these two operating systems, highlighting how their functions converge and offering insights into the benefits of their shared features.

JOHN KENNEDY, WEB ADMIN, EAST-CENTRAL OHIO TECHNOLOGY USERS CLUB

An Introduction to Linux: What is it, and why would I want to use it? Freedom and security, maybe? Linux is a free, open-source, and highly secure operating system that meets most people's everyday computing needs and looks and acts like most other operating systems. Learn what it is, what it does, why people are switching to Linux, how well it works on new and older computers, AND that it remains free to all.

AnyDesk – Providing free tech support from the comfort of your home (and in your fuzzy slippers). A "picture is worth a thousand words," as we are told. The same goes for "seeing" people's computer problems. This program allows you to view someone else's computer screen and discuss their issues. And when they are having trouble trying to do what you tell them, you can take over their keyboard and mouse with yours. For instance, I resolved a computer issue using AnyDesk in approximately 10 minutes, a task that would have taken over 25 minutes to complete over the phone.

Backing Up with FreeFileSync. Whether or not you should back up is no longer open for discussion. The bottom line is that you must back up. However, the method you choose and the tools you use are up to you. You want something easy to use, that gets what you want backed up in a way that makes sense, and it won't hurt if it turns out to be free. One part of the recommended "3-step backup plan" is to back up your important files to an external drive. Join John as he shares his program of choice, FreeFileSync, and shows you how easy it is to use. He can back up whatever it is that he wants in whatever way he wants. The process is straightforward: decide what you want backed up, where you want the backup stored, and what type of backup you want. John will guide you through setting up your plan, then demonstrate how to keep your files up to date with FreeFileSync.

Easy and painless migration from Windows to Linux.

Explaining Cloud Storage using pCloud.

Trustworthy Free and Open-Source Software (FOSS).

Linux is Like Cars (Why Are There So Many?). One of the many "concerns" about Linux is that there are so many different versions/distributions (or distros, as Linux users call them) that a new user doesn't know which one to use. A similar question is: Why are there so many cars? Because not everyone likes the same car, the same applies to the Linux desktop. John will take you through the 'Linux showroom" so you can see what Linux is all about.

Linux Software Store. John will share information about the vast array of free software options for Linux users and provide examples of software for all our daily computer tasks. Attendees will see that running a Linux operating system does not hinder them from doing anything. Much of John's software is also available for Windows and Macs.

Password Management featuring Bitwarden. Are you using a password manager? Do you try to remember your passwords? Do you keep them in a notebook? On your hard drive? John discusses why you should use a password manager and what Bitwarden can do for you. He says that he uses a Password Manager for two main reasons: "speed" and "convenience." He proves that with his app demonstration.

Securing your communications, events, files, and online activities with Proton. You do everything possible to prepare for the unexpected and keep your family safe. But extending this protection online is difficult unless you're particularly tech-savvy — until now. The Proton Family plan lets you protect your loved ones by giving them access to all Proton services and premium features. Up to 6 family members share 3 TB of storage, and each member receives their own encrypted email address, calendar, secure file storage, and a VPN for secure browsing.

SUE MUELLER, GENEALOGY SIG ORGANIZER, COMPUTER USERS OF ERIE, PA; TEACHER, MONTHLY GENEALOGY CLASSES FOR THE ERIE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY (NOW VIA ZOOM)

How to Get Started with Family History. This session focuses on getting started and is designed for true beginners who are ready to explore their family history. Focus on your family, gather records and photographs, and conduct interviews with your family members. Software? Online tree? Names, place names, facts, stories. Plus, a word about DNA and social media.

Beginning Genealogy. Designed for beginning genealogy researchers, this session will focus on free online research resources. Topics include starting and avoiding mistakes, library resources nationwide, free genealogy websites and resources, and a word about DNA and social media.

Technology's Impact on Genealogy. From equipment to software and apps, tools and backup storage to increased access to records, the ability to do online genealogy research has increased exponentially. DNA analysis, artificial intelligence, and photo restoration provide valuable tools for genealogists. Apps for Smartphones and tablets put genealogy in the palm of your hand. Let's also recognize that there may be a right and a wrong way to utilize technological advances.

General and Lesser-Known Sites
Genealogy Websites You May Have Been Missing. Enhance your research with this potpourri of free genealogy sites that you'll wonder how you've missed. Genealogy Potpourri, out-of-the-box genealogy resources: useful websites that may not be on your radar: From finding county and family history books, going beyond Cyndi's list to using obituaries to find living people, learn about free sites that will enhance your genealogy research.

The Frugal Genealogist. How to do genealogical research without breaking the bank! This class focuses on free resources found on the Internet, including county, city, and university libraries, as well as lesser-known free sites, social media, and connecting with relatives you've had trouble finding. Bring your laptop to visit some of these new genealogy sites.

Basic Level Skills and Sources

Death Records for Genealogy. Locating and using death indices, certificates, obituaries, cemeteries, and beyond, emphasizing free online resources, and locating death records from official records to funeral homes and cemeteries.

Immigration Records for Genealogy: who came when, finding your immigrant ancestor's origin, searching passenger lists, destinations—why and where, and naturalization records.

Finding Female Ancestors. Special challenges: how and where to search; using indirect proof; women and the law; military; immigration and naturalization

Finding and Using Historical Newspapers. Newspapers record basic details about your relatives, stories about their lives, and information necessary to their communities. This session will help you understand digitized collections and locate free online newspaper sources. Learn how to search and what you can find.

Census Records—More than you think. Explore federal and state census records, where and what you will find on the census, family and neighbor clues, linking census clues to other sources, other census schedules, and census substitutes.

Military Records for Genealogy. Why, What, and Where to Find Military Records. Which records are public, and who has access to the other records? Service records, Pension and land grant records, Extended strategies, Destroyed records.

Solving Genealogy Puzzles with Land Records. Where to find deeds and maps; What you'll find; migration and neighbors, heirs and inferential data

Wills, Probate, Estate, and Orphan Court/Guardianship Records. What they are, where to find them, and what you can learn. Many of these valuable records are not indexed but are findable and browsable (just not searchable).

Intermediate Level Skills and Sources

DNA for Genealogy. What you can and cannot learn and why? Choosing Your Test: Explore the Differences Among Testing Companies. Adding a tree to your results and extending them with gedmatch is important.

Finding, Dating, Identifying, and Sharing Old Family Photos. Online resources for finding family photos. Use photo clues, such as hairstyles and fashions, as well as photo formats, to date and identify individuals in the photos. Then learn how to easily share your findings with family and friends.

Finding/Using Alternatives to Vital Records. Can't find birth, marriage, and death records? What happens when your research predates vital records? Or when vital records are not readily available? Where to find and use newspapers, yearbooks, city directories, census clues, church, tax, military, and court records.

Genealogy Focus 1880-1920. What's new in the 1880 census? What happened to the 1890 census, and what should I substitute? Getting the most out of the 1900/1910 census.

Historical events that impact your research. Spanish-American War, WWI, and the Flu epidemic, with special attention to researching your WWI veteran ancestors.

Impact of History and Geography on Genealogy. Immigration and migration--what made your ancestors come/go? State and county boundaries changed: Did your ancestors really move? Disease, epidemics, and your ancestors. The military and your ancestors.

Enhancing Your Genealogical Story with Social History. What is social history? Benefits of incorporating social history into your genealogy. What to look for, where to find social history resources.

Finding State Records. Birth, marriage, divorce, and death records--What state records are in the public domain, and how can you find them? Explore free online resources. Can social media help? What's the cheapest/fastest way to get state records if you must purchase them?

Using City Directories for Genealogy. Information that may be missing from these resources can be found in city and county directories. Locating city directories. Hints for using city directories. Abbreviations. Other historical directories.

Researching Criminal Ancestors. Could historical criminal records yield clues about your family? Explore records for criminals, courts, and prisoners. Follow the paper trail to document activities, whereabouts, and other valuable information, tracing your family history.

Genealogical Searches
Getting better results with your Genealogical Searches. Understand how site searches and digitized collections work; it's where you search and how—tips on improving your online search techniques. Find browse-only collections. Understand terms and clues in historical documents and newspapers.

Assuring Accuracy in Genealogy Research. Should you use software to document, source work, back up your data, and share your research?

Genealogy Road Trip—It's all about the Prep Work. Are you making a trip to your ancestral roots? What should you know before you go? Research places and facilities online and via phone. Prepare for cemetery visits. Make your list and check it twice! Social media (Facebook) is your friend—the benefits of personal contacts before your trip.

Lineage Societies. What is a lineage society? Why join? Proof documents: What's Acceptable and What's Not. Useful websites for finding acceptable proofs.

Specific Sites and Software
Family Tree Maker 2017 (genealogical software). Participants should have the software or plan to purchase it, as the class will focus on using it. Ideally, participants will bring a laptop with FTM 2017 installed. Creating a new tree; Uploading/downloading trees to/from Ancestry; Entering data; Adding media files; Troubleshooting/fixing mistakes.

Genealogy Site Ancestry. Getting the most out of ancestry.com. Learn how non-subscribers can benefit from using the Ancestry Index, free state resources, and windows of free access to limited collections. Learn more about getting the most out of your Ancestry DNA test. Ancestry subscribers will learn to take full advantage of all Ancestry has to offer and discover what they've been missing.

Genealogy Site FamilySearch. Explore FamilySearch's extensive informational wikis. Learn to go beyond a simple records search, search specific collections, and use the family search catalog. Enter the world of browsable-only collections that have not yet been indexed. Understand FamilySearch wiki trees.

Facebook for Genealogy. Connect with family. Establish a family group. Understand group privacy settings. Connect with a broad range of genealogy-related groups. Connect with others to learn your family history story.

HEWIE POPLOCK, VICE PRESIDENT, SARASOTA TECHNOLOGY USER GROUP, AND AI HOST OF THE "LET'S TALK AI" AND THE STUG-CFCS WINDOWS SIG

Embracing the AI Age with Practical Applications for Seniors. Hewie will demonstrate how we are embracing the age of artificial intelligence (AI) and exploring practical applications for seniors. He provides an overview of what AI is, explaining that it is a technology that helps computers think and learn like humans. Hewie highlights ChatGPT as an example of AI that can engage in human-like conversations.

The presentation then delves into the various ways AI is being utilized, including the development of medicines and vaccines, medical imaging analysis, and autonomous vehicles. It also covers concerns about AI, including unemployment, bias, accountability, privacy, and ethics. There will be many examples of AI that will amaze you.

PC & Laptop Ports Explained: What are all those connections? We will explore the various connectors found on a computer, including those used for data transfer, audio and video output, and power supply. The presentation will provide a brief overview of each connector, its function, and its typical location on a computer. Additionally, the presentation will explore the evolution of computer connectors, from the early days of serial and parallel ports to the modern USB-C standard, and discuss some of the challenges and considerations involved in selecting and utilizing connectors.

What You Need to Know about SD Cards. SD cards are small, portable memory cards used in a wide range of devices, including cameras, smartphones, and tablets. They come in various sizes and capacities and use flash memory technology to store data. SD cards are compatible with many devices and can be easily removed and replaced. There are different types of SD cards, each with a different capacity limit, and they can be protected by a password or encrypted for increased security. This presentation explains the various symbols on SD cards, their meanings, and which ones to use in your device.

MARK SCHULMAN, MEMBER, CENTRAL FLORIDA COMPUTER SOCIETY

Backups in a Busy World. Given enough time, every hard drive eventually fails, and most often, this means that all your photos, documents, and videos -- everything! -- is lost. And recent evidence suggests that even under the best circumstances, hard drives don't last as long as previously thought. Backups are the only defense against serious data loss, yet most people don't bother. So, instead, discover essential strategies to ensure your data is safe with the least amount of trouble.

Being an IT Hero. Whether we want to or not, most computer enthusiasts end up providing front-line computer support to parents, siblings, and close friends. Learn what you can do right now to keep the people you love -- and even yourself -- safe from computer disasters.

Computers to the Moon. Did the spacecraft have computers? What were their goals? How did we accomplish our goals and land on the moon? Mark will answer these questions and more during his presentation.

Email Privacy. Mark discusses how email is not as private as we might like and offers methods for securely exchanging information via email. He also covers encryption, disposable email addresses, and secure email services.

Keeping Your Data Private with VeraCrypt. VeraCrypt is one of the most popular "on-the-fly" encryption programs. It enables you to store sensitive data on your PC in an encrypted format, so you can access it without constantly worrying about encryption and decryption. VeraCrypt is based on the older TrueCrypt application and is both free and open source.

Topics in this presentation include:
- Creating and using encrypted containers
- Encrypting flash drives
- Encrypting your laptop's hard drive
- Backing up your encrypted data
- Caching passwords
- Using hidden containers

Encryption Software. Losing a laptop or flash drive might mean you're out of money, but it doesn't have to mean that your private data leaks into the world. Learn how to use encryption software to protect your private data on a PC, laptop, external hard drive, or USB flash drive.

Internet Privacy. Do you think your Internet activities are safe from prying eyes just because you turned on your browser's Privacy Mode? Think again. Learn what's safe and what's not and how to cover your tracks and keep your Internet activities secure and private, especially when using public Wi-Fi hotspots.

Microsoft Power Toys. Power Toys is a free collection of small, useful Windows utilities designed to make life with Windows easier and more productive in various ways. Each Power Toy addresses a straightforward task, but often with beneficial results. This presentation reviews all the 2025 Power Toys.

Preserving Digital Photos. Digital photos ought to last forever. Digital images don't fade with time and can protect against natural disasters, such as fire and floods. That's the theory, anyway. And yet, if you're one of the millions of people with a digital camera, the chances of your great-grandchildren ever seeing your digital photos are slim. Find out why the odds are stacked against you and what you can do to increase the chances your family historian, 200 years from now, will be able to enjoy the photos you're taking now.

Virtualization. Want to try Linux without committing to giving up Windows? Want to run Windows on your Mac? Like being able to go back to Windows 7 or XP whenever you want, but still have Windows 10 most of the time? Want to test out the next version of Windows? Want to be able to try things that might be dangerous without fear of messing up your computer? Then, you're a candidate for virtualization. Free virtualization software enables you to create a computer within your computer -- a simulated world in which you run different operating systems, try new software, and experiment without worrying about affecting your computer.

CHRIS TAYLOR, PRESIDENT, OTTAWA PC USERS' GROUP

Artificial Intelligence (AI): fun and helpful tips. Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools have exploded over the last few years. They can supercharge your web searches & help you find the most relevant information, generate images & videos from text prompts, summarize web pages, meetings, YouTube videos, & PDF files, assist with tasks in your programs, and help with creative writing, among other

things. Chris Taylor from the Ottawa PC Users' Group will demonstrate how easy it is and how to avoid the dreaded "AI hallucinations." And you can do it all (well, most of it) for free.

Fun with Fonts - the art and science of typography. Dive into the fascinating world of typography with Chris Taylor, President of the Ottawa PC Users' Group. Chris will demystify typography terminology and explore its rich history. Learn what makes a typeface readable or distracting, how to effectively combine multiple typefaces, and the emotions different fonts can evoke.

Whether your next project is a greeting card, poster, newsletter, business card, logo, or any other design that incorporates text, Chris can help you avoid common typographic pitfalls. Practical tips on choosing the right typeface and creating visually appealing and readable text will be shared. For the design novice or seasoned pro, this presentation will enhance your appreciation and understanding of typography's powerful impact. (90 minutes)

How to Buy a Digital Camera. When buying a digital camera, you face a bewildering array of choices. Chris Taylor, Ottawa PC Users' Group President and Orleans Photo Club Vice-President, will help you "focus" your search for the ideal digital camera that fits your budget and suits the style of photography that interests you. (60 minutes)

How to Buy a PC. When buying a PC, you face many choices: laptop or desktop, processor cores, Intel or AMD, storage size, monitor size, and whether to buy a faster processor or more memory. Chris Taylor, President of the Ottawa PC Users' Group, will help sort out the choices so you can buy the right computer for your needs. (90 minutes)

How to Secure a Home Wireless Network. Many wireless routers do not default to the most secure configuration. Ensure you are not the "low-hanging fruit" that someone will decide to target. It is surprisingly easy to make sure your network is secure. Chris Taylor, President of the Ottawa PC Users' Group, will show you how easy it is. (60 minutes)

Keeping Passwords Safe. We are advised not to write down passwords, reuse passwords, and create passwords that are long and complex. Chris Taylor, President of the Ottawa PC Users' Group, will demonstrate how to utilize free software that stores all your usernames and passwords, along with related information, and protects them with a single, very strong password. Protect your online accounts from compromise. It's easy and free. (90 minutes)

Protecting Your PC. The average time it takes for an unprotected computer to be compromised after connecting to the Internet is under 15 minutes. Don't let it be yours. Chris Taylor, President of the Ottawa PC Users' Group, will demonstrate the simple steps you need to take to protect your PC from being hacked. And best of all, it can be done for free. (90 minutes)

Quick PC Tips: Enhancing capabilities and performance with free tools. Learn how to extend the battery life of your PC laptop, discover the handy Microsoft PowerToys, detect fake USB flash drives before you lose data, learn why you should avoid PC "fix-it" utilities, and embed music in PowerPoint presentations. Chris Taylor, President of the Ottawa PC Users' Group, will help you with these quick and effective remedies. (90 minutes)

Whoa, back up! Effective Strategies for Keeping Your Computer Files Safe. Think about all the data on your PC: videos of the grandkids playing in a park, photos of your trip to Patagonia (lucky you!), tax records, emails… Now, think about whether those files exist anywhere else. If the answer is no, you need to think about a backup.

You could lose data due to viruses, fire, theft, tornado, hard disk failure, making an unintended change to a file, or a wayward finger deleting a file. Chris Taylor, President of the Ottawa PC Users' Group, will discuss various ways to ensure your essential data survives any catastrophe. (90 minutes)

Who's the Boss - You or Your Camera? Take your photography to the next level by getting your camera off "Auto" to achieve your desired creative effects. Learn how to tell your camera to capture what you see - don't let it decide for you. Topics covered will include an understanding of aperture, shutter speed, and ISO, which can be applied to any camera that has a dial for selecting exposure settings (e.g., "A" or "Av," and "S" or "Tv"). Presented by Chris Taylor, President of the Ottawa PC Users' Group and Vice-President of the Orleans Photo Club. (90 minutes)

Windows Performance Tune-up. If your Windows computer is sluggish, you don't have to reinstall Windows to regain lost performance. Chris Taylor, President of the Ottawa PC Users' Group, will demonstrate and explain how to safely use various native and free third-party tools to help speed up Windows. (90 minutes)

JUDY TAYLOUR, PRESIDENT, SCV COMPUTER CLUB

Accessibility – Help! Can't see, can't hear, can't touch. Accessible and assistive technology has been designed to meet the needs of various users. This presentation will explore software, hardware, peripherals, and accessible and assistive technologies to help make computers, phones, and tablets easier to use.

Butt, Neck, Eyes. Oh My! Surviving Screen Time. In our increasingly digital world, our bodies are paying the price for long hours spent in front of screens. This presentation explores the hidden toll of modern technology on physical health, focusing on common but often overlooked conditions, including Butt Syndrome, Tech Neck Strain, Mouse Shoulder Stress, Tech Back Issues, Tech-Related Eye Strain, and Repetitive Strain Injury (RSI).

Cool, Fun, & Helpful Google Stuff. Games, Google tours……

Cybercriminals Are Targeting Seniors: How to Stay One Step Ahead. Identity theft, phishing, vishing, spoofing, and other types of fraud are increasingly targeted at older adults. According to 2024 Federal Bureau of Investigation data, seniors aged 60 and older filed over 147,000 complaints, with losses totaling nearly $4.9 billion—a sharp 43% increase from 2023.
In 2025, new scam patterns emerged, posing particular risks to older adults. Some of the most prominent include:
- **AI-powered deep-fake impersonation scams** where voices or video are used to pretend a grandchild or family member is in urgent trouble.
- **Sophisticated investment "pig butchering" schemes** that combine romance or friendship with convincing fake investment opportunities, often using cryptocurrency.
- **Tech support impersonation fraud,** where scammers claim your computer is infected, gain remote access, and then steal money or identity information.
- **Government or benefit-impersonation scams** where victims are told their Social Security or Medicare benefits will be cut unless a "fee" is paid immediately.

This presentation will explore these evolving scam types, highlight how they work, and provide practical strategies you and your loved ones can use to detect, avoid, and report them—so you stay protected.

Creating a Safe Environment on Facebook. This presentation examines the benefits and drawbacks of utilizing Facebook. Discover the steps to enhance your app security. Protect your

privacy; choose carefully when signing up and customize your settings. What to do about friend requests and how to avoid scams, fake news, ads that drive you crazy, and more.

Declutter Your Digital Life. You invest a lot in your devices—this presentation shows you how to get the most out of them. Over time, digital clutter can slow computers and devices and make everyday tasks more frustrating. Regular digital decluttering helps keep everything running smoothly.
In this presentation, Judy explains simple, practical ways to declutter your digital life, get organized, and improve device performance—so you can work faster, smarter, and with less stress.

Protect Your Digital Legacy: Secure Your Online Future. In today's digital world, your online identity remains valuable—even after you're gone. Unfortunately, criminals often target the accounts of deceased individuals to steal personal information and commit identity theft.
This presentation explains how to protect your digital legacy with practical, easy-to-follow strategies. You'll learn how to secure online accounts, choose and prepare a digital executor, and take essential steps to ensure your digital assets are handled correctly—preventing unauthorized access and giving you and your loved ones peace of mind.

Unlocking the Power of Digital Wallets: A New Era of Payments
In this session, we'll dive into the rapidly evolving world of digital wallets and how they're transforming the way we pay. We'll look at a range of digital wallet options—from mobile apps to online payment platforms—and break down the key advantages they offer, including enhanced security, greater convenience, and faster transactions. Join us as we uncover how digital wallets are reshaping consumer habits and accelerating the shift toward a truly cashless future.

Do I Really Need to Back Up? This presentation is an overview of backing up your hard drive and Smartphone.
- You don't want to lose any or all of your important data: documents, photos, music, or videos.
- A virus could hit your computer
- Ransomware could hold your files hostage,
- You should be prepared for a natural disaster
- Hard drives / SSD drives can fail

Ergonomics: You, Your Computer, Tablet, and Smartphone. Sit straight! Relax your shoulders! Keep your arms comfortable, feet on the floor, and wrists and hands floating—not bent or strained. Poor posture and repetitive movements can lead to cumulative trauma and repetitive stress injuries over time.

We've all been using computers for years, but are we still practicing good ergonomics? Many of us unknowingly stress our bodies every day by slouching, extending our wrists, sitting without proper foot support, or bending our heads to view poorly positioned screens.

As tablets and smartphones became part of daily life, new ergonomic challenges emerged. This presentation reviews the basics of computer ergonomics. It explores practical, easy-to-follow tips for using computers, tablets, and smartphones more comfortably—helping reduce strain and keep your body feeling better.

Home Automation for Seniors. What do you want to accomplish? Do you have a plan? Do you have a budget? How secure is your home? Which system is best for you? This presentation will cover all this and more.

Netiquette & Email Tips & Tricks. Do you communicate effectively when you send an email? Do you know which email closings encourage more positive responses? Are you aware that using ALL CAPS can feel like shouting to the reader?

As more of our communication moves online, strong email etiquette and netiquette skills are more important than ever. This presentation shares practical tips and simple guidelines to help you write clearer, more respectful, and more effective emails—so your messages are understood the way you intend.

Protect Yourself from ID Theft. Identity theft is a serious crime in which someone uses your personal information without your permission. Judy's presentation explains the common ways identities are stolen, practical steps you can take to reduce your risk, and what to do if you become a victim.

Safeguarding Your Digital World: The Importance of Backing Up. In today's digital world, backing up your data is essential for protecting against loss, damage, and unexpected problems. Reliable backups help keep your information safe and accessible, giving you peace of mind knowing your files can be recovered when needed.

Judy is on a mission to encourage all APCUG group members to back up their data, so important photos, documents, and files are never lost.

Social Media for Seniors. What is social media? Would you like to reconnect with old friends, make new ones, and keep up with what your children and grandchildren are doing? Social media can help—but it's important to know what to share, what not to share, and how often to post.

This presentation covers those topics and more, helping you use social media safely and comfortably. Doctors also note that social media can be beneficial for seniors, helping keep them mentally active and socially connected.

Tech Skills for an Easier & Safer Computing Experience. No matter how tech-savvy we are, there are everyday computer tasks we all need to handle—and we don't always do them as efficiently as we could. This presentation introduces essential tech skills that everyone can (and should) learn to help keep their computer fast, secure, and easy to use.

Embrace the Cloud. Are you making the most of the Cloud? Surprisingly, many people still aren't. While the term "Cloud" might sound like just another tech buzzword, it's already a big part of our daily lives—and it holds even more potential than most realize.

These days, we don't rely on just one computer. We use smartphones, tablets, and often multiple computers. The Cloud makes it easy to access and share your data anytime, anywhere. This presentation will show you how to harness the full power of the Cloud and make your digital life more seamless.

Beyond Just 'Google It': Exploring Google's Ecosystem. This presentation dives into the wide world of Google's apps and hardware. Google provides a comprehensive suite of free apps and devices that work seamlessly together, creating a powerful and convenient ecosystem for users. We'll also take a nostalgic look back at a Google office in Venice (circa 2011) and explore YouTube's first office in Playa Vista near LAX, giving a glimpse into the early days of technology.

Troubleshooting Your Computer 101. Before you make that $99 tech support call, you can do many easy things to troubleshoot problems you encounter with your computer. Can't start your

computer? Does your hard drive make grinding noises? Is it taking forever to start? Does it randomly turn off and restart? Has your printer stopped working? This presentation covers problems and solutions that might be helpful if and when…

Utility Apps. What is a utility? An app that performs a specific task and adds functionality to your computer or helps your computer perform better. We all have our favorites: system monitoring, backing up, system maintenance, password management, virus protection, and more. Judy shares some favorite apps in this presentation. Please plan to share one of your favorites during the Q&A part of the meeting. Hopefully, we will all learn about at least one new utility we want to try.

What is a Password Manager, and Why Should I Use One? How does it work? Why should I have one? Why am I so resistant to using one? How safe are they in the Cloud? Will a PM sync between my devices? Free vs. yearly fee. Should I use one as a source for my digital asset manager to close my accounts?

What's cooking? Home Automation in your Kitchen. Turn your kitchen into one that works for you and makes everyday tasks fun.

Ideas for Revitalizing Your Computer Club. In 2007, 2011, 2012, 2014, and 2016, APCUG member groups were surveyed about their top challenges, with approximately 50-60 groups responding. Over the years, the topics have mainly remained consistent: lack of volunteers, maintaining and increasing membership, officer burnout, presentation ideas, finding presenters, and meeting attendance.

Surveys were conducted among APCUG member groups in 2007, 2011, 2012, 2014, and 2016 to identify their main challenges, with approximately 50-60 groups participating each time.
This presentation answers some of those questions for your group.

ROB TRUMAN, WEBMASTER, COMPUTER BOOTERS OF SUN LAKES – See his list of presentations at **https://geezertek.us/speaker/**

BOB GOSTISCHA, IT ENTHUSIAST
Check out his ever-growing list of videos.
https://www.youtube.com/@bob3160/videos

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Chris and Jim Guld - www.geeksontour.com