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APRIL 8, 2017 MINUTES: SCUG CLUB MEETING

The April meeting began with a visit from Piper from CGH Love on a Leash program, a dog sponsored by SCUG and her owner Cathie. Piper is seven years old and has been in the program from the beginning.

Question and answer session was next. President Bendick called the business meeting to order at 2:00PM. No visitors. Items from the computer lab will be added to the drawing, the computer lab is downsizing

then approved. The treasurers report was given and approved.

Glenda reported on the Mexican Riviera trip and we have one cabin left. The Chicago trip is May 6th, time and pickup will be set at the board meeting.

Meeting was adjourned.

Terry MacLellan gave the program on files, shortcuts and icons plus ways to customize your desk top.

The drawing was held next with the usual exciting prizes.

Club Information

Sauk Computer User Group
PO Box 215
Sterling, IL 61081-0215

Art Bendick - President
a.bendick@comcast.net

Website
www.saukcomputerusergroup.org

SCUG Email
saukcomputerusergroup@gmail.com

Editor and Printing done by:
Joe Fornero

The secretary's report published in the newsletter had one error the misspelled name of our new member Wanda Willstead, minutes were

*Respectfully submitted by,
Darla Stigall club secretary*



BOARD MEETING MINUTES FOR APRIL 12, 2017

Humor from the Net

The April board meeting was held at Wendy's in Sterling at 6:00PM. Officers attending were Art Bendick, Neal Shipley, Joe Fornero and Darla Stigall. Board member present were Cheryl Johnson, Gloria Schneider Terry MacLennan and Joe Schmitt.

There was no old business. Treasurer's report was given. Terry MacLennan is going to retire from presenting programs. The board would appreciate members volunteering and doing a program for the club members. If you have a subject you would like to learn about let Art or Neal know. It would be great if members would bring a note on their favorite websites and what they enjoy on the internet.

The time and place for pickup for the Chicago trip has been decided and an E-mail will be sent to the people who have signed up to go.

The program for May will be

by Cheryl on buying and selling on Craig's list and June will be on travel and vacation planning by Glenda and Joe Fornero. July is the Club cookout with hot dogs and hamburgers cooked by Chef Joe. Members please bring a dish to share and a guest if you choose.

*Respectively submitted by
Darla Stigall, Secretary.*

Drawing for May

The large prizes for May will be a **\$25 gift certificate from Applebee's, \$25 gift certificate from Buffalo Wild Wings and a portable 500gb 3.0 Hard Drive** There will still be a number of smaller items including a flash drive. We are hoping you will invite friends to the meeting and thereby increase our membership. Remember you can only win a large prize once every 3 months.

A married couple in their early 60s are celebrating their 40th wedding anniversary in a quiet, romantic little restaurant.

Suddenly, a tiny yet beautiful fairy appeared on their table. She said, 'For being such an exemplary married couple and for being loving to each other for all this time, I will grant you each a wish.' The wife answered, 'Oh, I want to travel around the world with my darling husband.'

The fairy waved her magic wand and - poof! - two tickets for the Queen Mary II appeared in her hands.

The husband thought for a moment: 'Well, this is all very romantic, but an opportunity like this will never come again. I'm sorry my love, but my wish is to have a wife 30 years younger than me.'

The wife, and the fairy, were deeply disappointed, but a wish is a wish.! So, the fairy waved her magic wand and poof!...

The husband became 92 years old.

Back to Basics: Is Using Amazon “Prime” Worth It?

BY JIM CERNY

Gradually as technology progresses faster than our minds can catch up to it, on-line shopping is becoming more and more the trend. If you check the contents of Santa’s sleigh this year you will find many items are in Amazon shipping boxes! Even Walmart and other stores are allowing ordering on-line and then picking up your completed order at their store – all for free. But Amazon is taking a big piece of the Walmart customer pie, and the big plus with Amazon “Prime” is FREE delivery anywhere!

Amazon has great prices too. And although the cost to become an Amazon “Prime” member is \$100 a year, (ouch, you say!?) even if you purchase a modest number of products it can easily be worth the price.

Shopping for things to buy comes often in our house, not just at the Holidays, and we make note of prospective purchases at the stores. We write down (or make a note in our iPhone) the make, model, and price of the items we are interested in. Sometimes we

take a quick photo of the item on the shelf with the price tag. Then we look up the same item on Amazon.com. Almost always the price is the same or in many cases cheaper. Once we know what we want, we can save selected items in our “shopping cart” on-line and continue to compare multiple items before purchase. For our extended family, which is literally in all parts of the country, the benefit is definitely the “free shipping” – being able to send any Amazon purchase anywhere in the country with NO shipping costs. If it is a gift, they will even gift-wrap it for you and send a message for a small fee. So, if you do any shipping of gifts Amazon Prime could be a big help to you. Just your savings on gas for going to the stores and then to the post office or shipper could make up the \$100 annual fee.

There are other benefits to Amazon Prime which may be of interest to you. Amazon keeps adding enhancements and options to get your business, and many could be fun or

helpful for you as well. Here are just a few of them:

- Movies on-line or downloaded to your device. Many are free with your “prime” membership.
 - Music on-line with fun playlists of different styles or by artist or album.
 - Free photo storage.
- Groceries and pet supplies delivered to your door for a flat \$5 fee.

Please go to Amazon.com or use Google to search for “How to use Amazon.com” and watch a video to learn all the possibilities. Many of these added services may be available only within a limited area or zip code.

*Jim Cerny, Forum Leader,
Sarasota Technology User’s
Group, FL
December 2016 issue,
Sarasota Monitor
www.thestug.org
jimcerny123 (at) gmail.com*

Multiple Virtual Desktops – Task View

By Phil Sorrentino

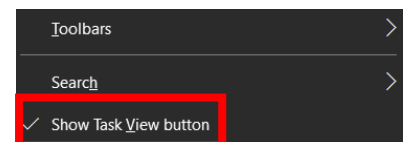
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One desktop is all most of us need, most of the time, but Windows 10 has included a new feature that allows you to create multiple “virtual” desktops. Virtual desktops aren’t new. In fact, Xerox PARC (the creator of Ethernet, Laser printers, and the Graphical User Interface using a mouse) created one of the earliest virtual desktop experiences called Rooms, back in the 1980s and subsequently made a version available for Windows 3.x. (Desktops are Virtual in that your one monitor provides the display for multiple desktops, which are created by the Operating System, in RAM. That being said, the number of desktops that can be created is only limited by the amount of RAM in your system.) More than one desktop can be helpful in organizing multiple activities. You can dedicate a desktop to a specific activity. You might have one desktop for messaging; that could include your email apps like yahoo mail, along with your texting apps like Messenger, and even

Skype for video conferencing. Another desktop might be dedicated to social networking Apps like Facebook and Twitter. One desktop might collect your browsers like Chrome, Edge, Firefox, and Internet Explorer to be used for exploring the internet and taking advantage of on-line shopping websites like Overstock, Monoprice, and Amazon. Another desktop might be used for working on your picture collection using Photo Gallery and/or Photoshop Essentials. Another desktop might be dedicated to writing letters or articles with Word. (Right now, I’m using Word on Desktop4 for writing this article; desktops 2 and 3 are set up for picture editing and spreadsheet creation.) You might even dedicate one desktop to be used for a guest. I know you can create a guest account, but if you don’t need it often enough to go through the trouble of creating a guest account, a “guest desktop” might just satisfy that temporary need. Desktops are easily removed, so you might want to set up a few to help organize some short-term activities and then remove them once you no longer need that particular

type of organization. The more you think about it, the more you might find reasons to use Task View.

Task View is accessed by clicking the “Task View” icon. That’s the icon on the Taskbar that looks like a square with square ears as shown here. If the Task View icon is not on your Taskbar, right click on an empty space on your Task Bar and select the Icon.



Click “Task View” and you will see a blank screen with only one control in the lower right side of the screen. (If you had any open windows when you clicked Task View, they would be shown as thumbnails towards the top of the screen.) Click Task View again or press escape to get back to the original desktop. After clicking Task View, new desktops can be created using the “New Desktop +” button at the far right of the screen, just above the taskbar. Click the

+, and a new desktop will be created as desktop 2 and it will be shown, towards the bottom of the screen, as a desktop 2 thumbnail, along with a thumbnail representing the original desktop, desktop 1. Now you have two desktops with identical capabilities. (The only difference might be the open Apps on desktop 1 if you had any open Apps when you clicked Task View.) Subsequent clicks of the + will create desktops 3, 4 and so on. Each new desktop will have all the capability of your original desktop. (Unfortunately, until you open something on a new desktop, they will all look alike; they will have the same background, and icons (shortcuts). There is no desktop number on the actual desktop. It might have been nice if each one had a different, maybe selectable, background so they would be noticeably different.

You can create as many desktops as you need, probably no more than a handful, but that depends on how you want to

organize your work. New desktops can easily be deleted by clicking the “X” above the appropriate desktop when you hover over that desktop. If there were any open Apps on the desktop that is being closed, those Apps would be moved to another desktop. So, don’t worry, you can’t delete any Apps that are open. In addition, you can’t delete the original desktop. Once you close desktop 2, the desktop 1 thumbnail is removed and you are back to only one desktop; just the way you started.

Once the desktops are created, you can use them independently and open the Apps needed on the particular desktop, or you can move an open App to a desktop where it is needed. Click Task View and the desktops are shown as thumbnails at the bottom of the screen, and the open Apps, for the desktop chosen, are shown as thumbnails in the middle of the screen. In order to move an open App, just drag the open Apps to the desktop where it will be used. You can go back and

forth between desktops just by clicking the Task View icon and choosing the desktop of interest. (There are also keyboard shortcuts using the Windows key, shown here:

Hold down the Windows key and the Ctrl key and then tap the left or right arrows to move to the next or previous desktop.)

Even if you don’t think you have multiple activities to organize, give it a try to see how it works. Once you see what it is and how it works you might, sometime in the future, come upon a use for the multiple desktop operation of Task View.

*By Phil Sorrentino, Contributing
Writer, The Computer Club, Florida
<http://sccccomputerclub.org/>
Philsorr.wordpress.com
[philsorr \(at\) yahoo.com](mailto:philsorr(at)yahoo.com)*

Online Safety: February Meeting Recap

By John Weigle

Online safety was the primary topic of the February program, with member Michael Shalkey discussing the amount of personal information that's on the internet and many of the dangers that creates. He used chayn.co/safety, which was designed for women but has tips for everyone in its online security guide as a general guide to dangers and solutions, and familytreenow.com, a genealogy site, to demonstrate the amount of information that's easy to find.

The chain.co/safety site offers a starter pack and an advanced guide about possible scams, dangers and solutions. Both are free and part of the website. Its introduction includes this statement: "Modern technology such as the internet/mobile phones etc., has made it increasingly easy for abusive partners to stalk, intimidate and threaten their targets both online and offline. The good news: you can take

measures to protect yourself! Assess your risk and take back control with this guide of best practices."

The site emphasizes that everyone posts all kinds of information on social media, opens accounts of many kinds, logs in to sites, and have apps on our computers or smart phones that have information we seldom think about, such as Wi-Fi signals and GPS locations, websites we've visited and pictures we post. It also suggests considering how your children's posts might affect your privacy. Are they posting their addresses, schools, activities, and places they like to visit? General recommendations:

Use a strong password — at least 15 characters, upper and lower case letters, and numbers and symbols.

Don't use the same password on many sites.

Don't let your browser save your passwords.

Think passphrase instead of password.

Use a password manager and change your passwords periodically.

Use two-factor authentication.

Browser recommendations

Use the Electronic Frontier Foundation's Panoptick at <https://panoptick.eff.org>. (The writer tested the site and it recommended installing Privacy Badger, which it says blocks tracking ads, and invisible trackers, unblocks third parties that promise to honor do not track and determines if the browser protects you from fingerprinting (it lists the information that's shared).

The site has instructions on privacy settings for Chrome, Firefox, Safari,

Explorer, and others, and discusses private browsing techniques within browsers and with add-ons. Facebook and Twitter settings are explained as are location apps in smart phones. Message apps WhatsApp and Signal are also discussed. The Advanced Guide discusses how to identify your security risks and what to do about the ones you find, starting with documenting any abusers who are bothering you. Sections include securing mobile phones, laptops, computers, and apps; browsing the web, social engineering and phishing, IP addresses and Wi-Fi, among others. Other topics include anti-virus and firewall software, encryption and deleting information, remembering that deleting computer files does not remove files. It just changes the file name, which tells the computer other files can write over the "deleted" one.

FamilyTreeNow.com - As noted above, this is a

genealogy site, but it could be used by stalkers and others who want to learn more about an individual. "This is a scary, scary thing," Shalkey said. The opening page asks for the first and last name of the person you want information about and a state or all states.

Shalkey used himself and the result was ultimately a long list of associated names, possible relatives, possible associates, current and past addresses and phone numbers. Most of the entries were valid and names that he recognized. (The writer visited the site and the first result was a list of nine people with the name John Weigle. I selected myself and got a much shorter list than the one Shalkey found. My name and my deceased father's name were correct. I did not recognize the sole possible associate. Of the eight current and past addresses, four were correct home or mailing addresses, one was a business site my brother

and I co-owned, and three were wrong. Three phone numbers were correct.).

A member of the audience noted that the ease of finding former addresses is a good reason not to use them as part of a password. Clicking on an address brings up a picture of the location. "When you think 'nobody knows anything about me' — not necessarily true," Shalkey said. The site has an opt-out page.

Questions and answers Q: Are maiden names on the site? A: Yes.

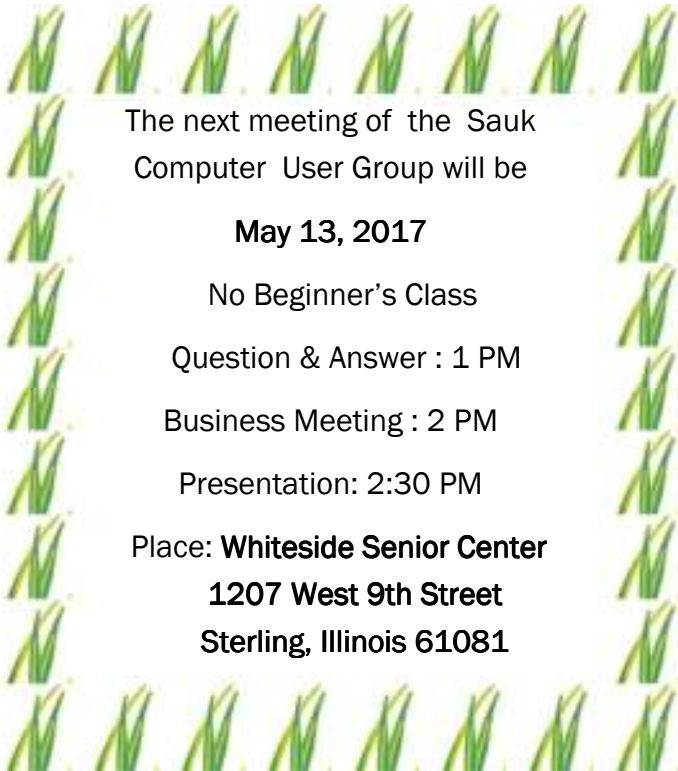
Q: Is there a fee? A: I'm sure there is somewhere, but so far what I've shown you is free.

Q: Is the site tracking you? A: I'm not sure. I could have used incognito browsing, which is not tracked.

*By John Weigle, Editor, Channel Islands PCUG, CA
March 2017 issue, The TOE
www.cipcug.org
jweigle (at) vcnet.com*

There will be a Question & Answer Session starting at 1 PM. Bring any questions you have about your computer or problems you may be having. It will be conducted by:

Art Bendick & Neal Shipley



The next meeting of the Sauk
Computer User Group will be

May 13, 2017

No Beginner's Class

Question & Answer : 1 PM

Business Meeting : 2 PM

Presentation: 2:30 PM

Place: **Whiteside Senior Center**

1207 West 9th Street

Sterling, Illinois 61081

**OUR MAY PRESENTATION WILL BE ON BUYING AND
SELLING ON CRAIG'S LIST BY
BY CHERYL JOHNSON.**