



THE COMPUTER CONNECTION SAUK COMPUTER USER GROUP

DECEMBER 2019

VOLUME TWENTY-NINE
NUMBER TWELVE

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NOVEMBER 8, 2019 MINUTES: SCUG CLUB MEETING

Open Meeting: Art Bendick brought the meeting to order.

Question and answers: Discussed deleting junk mail and adding a safe sender to inbox; removing spam and default inbox and theme settings on Gmail; select a list of emails, click on first one, hold space bar and click last one, use control key to select specific emails; use Adblock+ plugin to block ads on YouTube; use import/export process when saving bookmarks from one browser to another, control/shift brings up bookmark list on Firefox.

Treasurer's report: Neal presented treasurers report.

Old business: Bill Simane had surgery for removal of cancer but is facing another surgery for a mass near his liver; there will be no third pool table for WCSC, but still must consolidate and remove some cabinets, some items will be stored in small kitchen cabinets; server parts for business office are in and should be installed soon.

New business: Next month is club Christmas party on 12/14/19 at noon, catering from Candlelight includes Chicken George, sweet potato fries, and onion rings, members can bring salad or desert, Santa Joe will provide entertainment and

prizes; board meeting Wednesday, 11/13/19 at Angelo's-Sterling; board nominations for 2020 in December, elections in January 2020; Timber Lake Playhouse looking to replace computer, need computer donation or monetary donation towards purchase of computer.

Adjournment: Ken made motion for adjournment.

Program: Tom Rich presented a PowerPoint program on Cleaning Your Computer.

Next month's program: Christmas Party with Santa Joe.

*Respectfully submitted
by Nancy Rich,
Secretary*

Club Information

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**BOARD MEETING MINUTES
FOR
NOVEMBER 13, 2019**

December Drawing

There will be no drawing at the Christmas Meeting. Just lots of fun and prizes with Santa Joe. Lunch starts at noon

Joke from Web

A ragged individual stranded for several months on a small desert island in the middle of the Pacific Ocean one day noticed a bottle lying in the sand with a piece of paper in it. Rushing to the bottle, he pulled out the cork and with shaking hands withdrew the message. "Due to lack of maintenance," he read, "we regretfully have found it necessary to cancel your e-mail account."

Meeting was called to order: Art Bendick brought meeting to order.

Attending the meeting were: Art Bendick, Neal Shipley, Terry MacLennan, Nancy Rich, and Tom Rich.

Treasurer's report was presented: Reviewed treasurer's report.

Discussion

Highlights: Will be doing consolidating and rearranging of club storage at

senior center; thanked Tom Rich for club meeting presentation on Cleaning Your Computer; nomination for club officers in December with election at January meeting.

Future Programs:

December is Christmas Party; January program to be video tutorial on cell phones and tablets.

Meeting adjourned.

*Respectfully submitted by
Nancy Rich, Secretary*

The Internet Is My Cookbook Searching for Recipes

By Tim Burt

An oft-spoken motto around Casa de Burt is “Fight Boring Food.” Most nights we stay home and cook, as this gives better portion and ingredient control. We enjoy ethnic food – especially Indian and Thai, though our repertoire includes all cuisines. Another challenge is coming up with recipes that work well for two. Often, we plan for a second meal as a way to get double duty from the original preparation.

As part of the menu planning process, we sit down mid-week, after the supermarket flyers have arrived, along with an inventory of what’s in the freezer and refrigerator. We then figure out the dinner plan for the following week. Each dinner typically includes a protein, a starch and a vegetable or salad and some fruit. Once we have a general plan, the challenge is to decide how a given meal will be cooked. The goal is to have lots of variety while keeping cost and effort low.

For example, we might decide to have chicken one evening. Will it be boneless-skinless breasts or thighs or a whole roast chicken or do we boil a chicken to make soup or we do cut up the chicken and do it oven fried or perhaps a pan fricassee? Another night it might be beef - steak, pot roast, braised brisket, fajitas, carne asada, roast prime rib, sweet and sour? And so on. The choice of prep for the protein in turn drives the choice of starch – rice, potatoes, egg noodles, pasta, bread and so on – as well as the choice of veggies or salad.

Often, especially for a preparation we haven’t done for a while, I like

to fire up my favorite web search engine and get an idea of how a particular dish is prepared. Usually I’ll look over a dozen or so recipes to get a sense of what ingredients are fundamental to the dish, cooking time and temperature and any special techniques. Most dishes also involve a sauce or gravy. Once I know what it will take to make the dish, I note any unusual ingredients (e.g. fresh ginger, cilantro, coconut milk, scallions, tortillas) on the shopping list.

Now that I’ve got you salivating, let’s look at a couple of real-world examples.

All recipe searches should start with RECIPE followed by your protein (or perhaps veggie), followed by the preparation. For example: RECIPE CHICKEN TIKKA MASALA EASY. Adding the qualifier EASY to your search homes in on recipes that don’t have a lot of complex ingredients or preparation. Chicken Tikka Masala is actually a dish made popular in Britain, using Indian spices, chicken, tomato sauce and plain yoghurt. My search on Google turned up 3,260,000 hits – a few too many to read. But the top 10 or so provide all the essential information.

(See Figure 1 page 4)

Many of the resulting recipes have star ratings that help you home in on ones that produce the best results. Clicking on a link takes you to the website where the details of the recipe – ingredients and preparation steps are detailed. Many of the recipes also have calculators to let you adjust

the ingredients to the number of portions you want to make. Many also have lots of photos or even videos to help less experienced would-be chefs to understand the preparation.

Let’s try another search: RECIPE LAMB GOULASH EASY
(See Figure 2 page 4)

This one got 449,000 hits. The rating on the top recipe is 5 stars, so it should be pretty good. Goulash is a Hungarian spicy meat stew made with meat, onions, tomatoes, bell peppers, garlic, and lots of paprika. It’s a single pot meal that’s served in a bowl, so very easy on prep. There are many variations of the meat and veggies.

The recipe possibilities on the Internet are endless and no matter what you’re looking for, the web will serve up a recipe for you. If feeling adventurous, try searching for:
RECIPE DUCK A-L'ORANGE or
RECIPE AVGOLEMONO SOUP

Let your imagination be your guide and, in the words of noted French chef Jacques Pépin, “Happy Cooking!”.

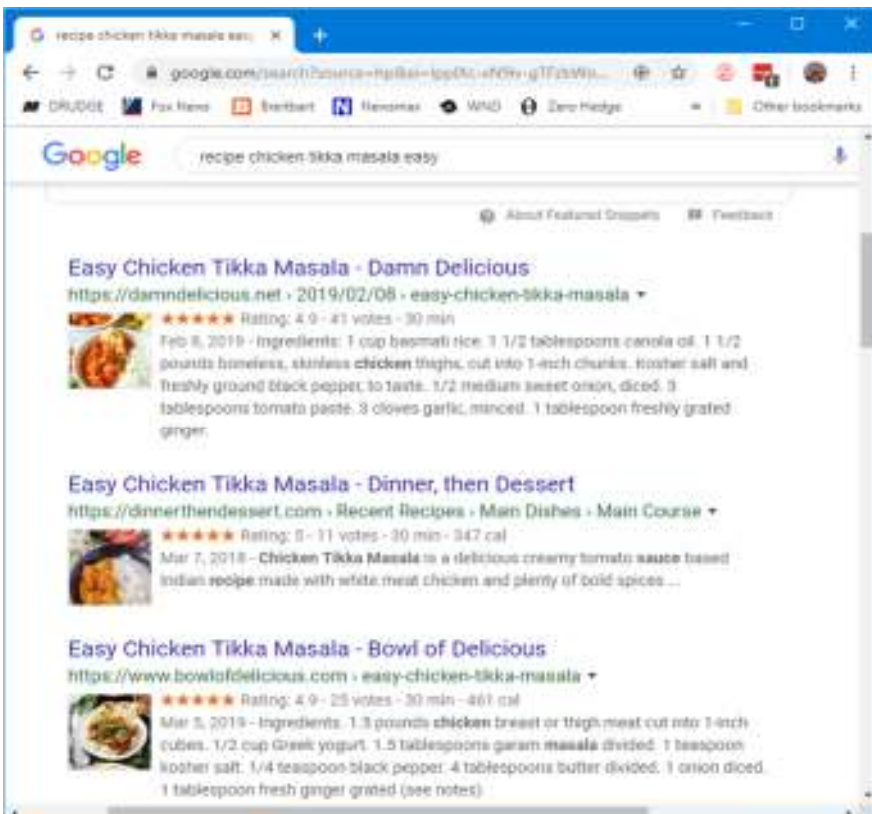


Figure 1

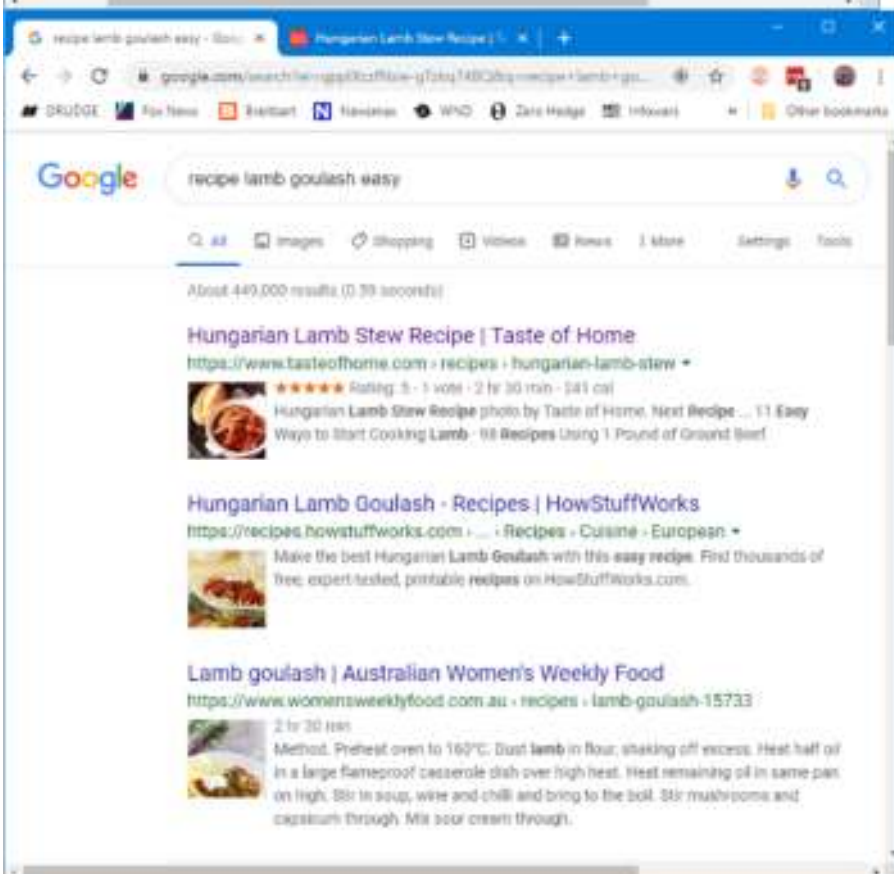


Figure 2

Author: Tom Burt, Vice-
President
Sun City Summerlin Computer
Club
September 2019 issue,
Gigabyte Gazette
www.scscc.club
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Cell Phone Collusion

By Jim Sanders

For several years, I have noticed a few ads for cell phones that said they included an FM radio. By that I mean the actual electronic hardware that allows the cell phone to be used as a transistor radio and tune in to the local, over the air, FM radio broadcasts. I regretted that it was never the phone that I had, nor one with the FM radio tuner feature, whose other features fell short of acceptable. For a long time I have thought that having the FM radio feature in my cell phone would be very nice. I could tune into my favorite music station without having to install some streaming Application. I would not have to worry about streaming music using up my online data allocation. With it, if I lost a cell phone tower connection, it wouldn't matter. And potentially, in any kind of an emergency, I might be able to receive an FM radio broadcast when there was no cell service available.

Having received an email that suggested I read an article in their electronic magazine, I opened it. After reading the article, I noticed in the "You might also be interested in" section of the page, an article titled: " Samsung enabled FM radio on US unlocked Galaxy S9 and S9+ with ..." The opposite of unlocked of course, is locked.

A long story as to why, but I

recently signed up with AT&T for a special deal they were offering. To wit, buy one Galaxy S9 and get one free if you sign up with us for two years. As a rule, when you sign up with a carrier for that kind of contract your phone is "locked" to their service. To me, that implied that I have a Galaxy S9 phone that has an FM tuner that I can use. That thought made me happy, but at the same time, a little confused. The last time that I had looked at the specifications for a Galaxy S9 phone, FM radio tuner was NOT on the list. So I went to AT&T online support to ask about it. I searched for AT&T online help and got this URL: <https://www.att.com/devicehowto/index.html#!/?make=Samsung&model=SamsungG965U>. The page title is: AT&T [Wireless Support, Devices, Samsung](#), Samsung Galaxy S9 / S9+.

When I got there, a line said: "How can we help you today?" I typed in "FM Radio."

The response was: "We searched for 'FM Radio' in Device Support and didn't find anything."

Per the instructions, I shortened it to just 'Radio', but got the same response. I tried multiple variations of the search, but the circle always came back to; we don't admit to knowing anything about FM radio.

I then clicked on the online

chat function and got Steve.

Steve: Hello! How may I help you today?

Steve: Hi! My name is Steve. How can I help?

Steve: Jim nice to meet you Please let me know how can I help you today ?

Jim: I am tired of going in circles looking for how to use the hardware FM Radio in my S9

Steve: Sure I can help you with that, Allow me a moment please

Jim: I am looking at websites that say the S9 has the FM radio tuner hardware but not how to use it/activate it/turn it on.....

Steve: Got it, first you need to have (wired) headphones or earbuds as they work like an antenna

Steve: I'm not sure about the steps

Steve: Allow me a moment please

Jim: I got the antenna part already. Even found one page that had a screen shot of the tuner

Steve: But that's not something you download it is supposed to be preinstalled in the phone

Steve: I'm having issues with the tools

Jim: pre-installed, after installed, I don't care. I just want to learn how to have it! when the auto (*online*) support asks what do I want help with and I type FM Radio or just Radio, it says it never heard of that and runs

in circles, somebody needs to fix that piece of stupidity.

Steve: Gotcha

Steve: One moment please.

(while waiting, I went back and copied the article I had found)

Jim: 6/26/2018 If you're a person who loves FM radio and owns an unlocked variant of the Galaxy S9 and Galaxy S9+, you'll be happy to know the handsets are now enabling support for FM radio reception after their most recent updates. There was a bit of confusion earlier in the year when Samsung debuted its Galaxy S9 and Galaxy S9+. The firm advertised that FM reception was indeed a feature on both devices but failed to give details that it was only going to be available on carrier-branded units. This left those that purchased the unlocked model without the ability to tune in to the radio. While it probably wasn't a huge issue, it is good to see that Samsung has finally resolved the problem after three months.

Steve: Yes I double checked that on internet as well

Steve: I'm checking the manual but doesn't show me any info about it

Steve: Have you checked directly with Samsung Jim ?

Jim: NO I haven't. I didn't buy the phone from them, I bought it on a two-year contract with your employer.

Steve: Thanks for clarifying

Steve: Not really I'm even checking on Samsung's website and doesn't show me any info about it

Steve: Is the phone updated Jim?

Jim: It has been updated to Android 9.

Steve: Allow me to connect you with our Tech Support Team so they can better check this

Steve: Is that okay with you ?

Jim: sure, anything to get an answer

Steve: Thanks, please keep the chat window this might take few min

Jim: I will do that.

Steve has left the chat
You are being transferred, please hold...

Steve: We are currently experiencing very high chat volumes which may cause long delays. An agent will be with you as soon as possible.

==== quite a bit later

=====

Agent Regina enters chat

Regina: Hi! My name is Regina. I'm happy to help!

Please give me a moment to review your request.

Regina: No worries. I can help you with that. Can I have your name and wireless number please?

Jim: Jim Sanders 714-xxx-xxxx

Regina: Thank you.

Regina: Jim, I understand that, the issue is with the FM radio in the Galaxy S9 device.

Regina: I can completely understand your concern.

Regina: As this is the issue with the device application, it should be resolved by the Samsung team.

Jim: I am not concerned. I just

want instructions from att on how to use a feature of my S9 phone

Regina: I understand that.

Regina: I will help you with the instructions.

Jim: That's nice because As noted before, when one types in FM Radio or just Radio, the what can we help you with screen says, "say what?" and runs in circles. That all by itself blows.

Regina: Usually FM radio apps will be paid apps.

Jim: We are talking about FM tuner hardware that is already in the phone. The same as if you turned on your transistor radio and started tuning to your favorite music station in your locality. DO you have to pay for that?

Regina: Generally, you will need to pay for the FM.

Regina: It will not be free in the galaxy phones.

Jim: I think you should transfer me to a supervisor as it is clear you are not sufficiently technically knowledgeable

Regina: Sure, Jim.

Regina has left the chat
===== another wait

=====

I then spent over a half hour chatting with the "supervisor" and largely got the same runaround. At one point I said that if AT&T is going to advertise a cell phone that has an FM radio tuner, they should support how to use it. He wanted proof that AT&T had advertised a radio with that feature, and I found one for a

radio made by ZTE. We went around and around about whether or not it was AT&T's obligation to support the radios in the cell phones that they sell through agents like Best Buy. I pointed out they provide support/help with lots of other features of the phones they bundle with their service. He continued to maintain that it was not AT&T's responsibility, and that I should go talk to Samsung using the 800 number that he supplied.

So I did that. I spent quite a bit of time on the phone with a very nice Samsung representative that tried quite hard to be helpful. He agreed that yes, the Galaxy S9 does indeed have an FM tuner built into it. That it appeared that Samsung has a program that interfaces with the FM tuner chip but does not install it on phones that are shipped to the United States. He said that the program/app looked like it had to be installed at the factory and he could find nothing about installing it later on.

Further research revealed that the FM radio receiver function is built into the QUALCOMM modem chip that a lot of cell phone manufacturers use. That function is free to the cell phone manufacturer whether they care to use it or not. No extra charge! I normally don't care much for conspiracy

theories, but I ran across a few more web pages that had a cynical article that suggested that AT&T and other carriers don't want to mention the feature as it would diminish their revenue from streaming music data usage. When you go to the www.samsung.com site and look up the specifications for the Galaxy S9, there is a long, long list of features, but NO mention of FM radio. Is there collusion between Samsung and the American carriers to influence the results in the market? The American people have a right to know! The FM radio stations of America should demand the Congressional Oversight Committee add this to their list of investigations.

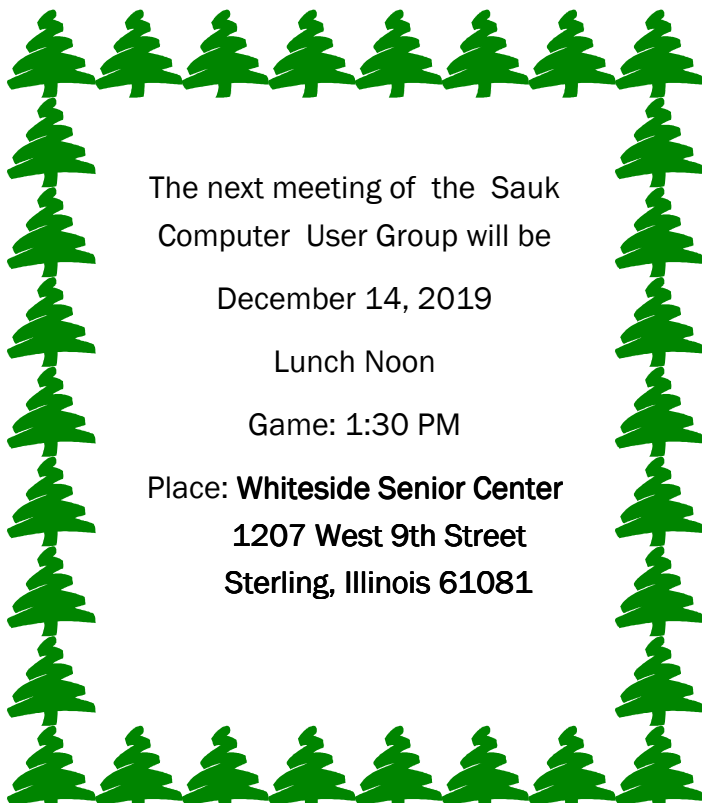
On the BRIGHT SIDE, my research found two things that surprised me. First, there is an APP on the Google Play Store that has been there quite a while called NextRadio. It does exactly what I need, and that AT&T refused to acknowledge exists. NextRadio has two modes of operation. The basic tuner screen (see photo) and a radio station logo screen. The tuner screen allows you to enter a frequency directly. The tap on a logo screen (with call sign and frequency) is determined by the ZIP code you enter. NextRadio used to do streaming but stopped as Jan. 2019. Second, there is a list of 222 phones that the APP works on. The list is at:

<https://nextradioapp.com/>. On the DARK SIDE, (well, disappointing anyway) several non-geek friends of mine treated the knowledge that their phone has a FM Radio tuner with an "OK, so what, ho-hum, who cares, my streaming works great" attitude. Meanwhile, I am enjoying listening to my favorite FM music stations even if I have to use the wired earbuds instead of my blue tooth headset.



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September 2019 issue, Orange
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There will be a No Question &
Answer at the December
Meeting



The next meeting of the Sauk
Computer User Group will be

December 14, 2019

Lunch Noon

Game: 1:30 PM

Place: **Whiteside Senior Center**
1207 West 9th Street
Sterling, Illinois 61081

**December Will Be Our Annual Christmas Party Starting at Noon
Followed by Games and Prizes by Santa Joe.
Please bring a salad or dessert to pass.**