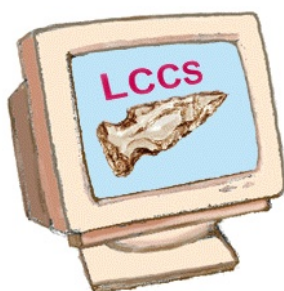


Random Bits

VOLUME 23

OCTOBER - NOVEMBER
2010

ISSUE 4



<http://www.lccsohio.org>

<http://lccsohio.org/meeting.htm>

<http://www.apcug.net/>



Notices-pg1,2,3

Members Speak-
pg4,5,8

Reports-pg6,9

APCUG-pg7,8

Recycling-pg9

November Speaker-
pg10,11

Teaching Program-
pg12

Tips-pg13-18

Linux SIG-pg19

Officers - pg20

**December
Election!!**

SPECIAL NOTICE

Officer Election in December
by Jim Amore, VP

At the December 21, 2010 meeting we will hold the election of officers for 2011. This will include President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and one trustee position for a 3 year term. The Trustee is presently held by George Hreha who is running again.

Please email Carolyn J. Clark
cjclark10@windstream.net, Chairman of the Nominating Committee to be nominated for any position. We will also ask for nominations from the floor immediately prior to the Election. Other members of the nominating committee are Joe and Mary Ann Higginbotham.

At the November General Meeting we enlisted Mary Frances Rauch and Virginia Bowers to run for office. Kemp O'Dell, Jim Amore and John Kennedy will run for their current positions. We need a volunteer/nominee for Secretary.



Photo from Slate Run Park which is south of Columbus. A horse was being used to drag a 20 inch diameter by 12 foot log to the saw mill. The park has a historic farm and a beautiful set of walking paths through a prairie wetland. We saw several Sand Hill Cranes this fall.

DECEMBER CALENDAR

Please go to
<http://lccsohio.org/meeting.htm>
to see last minute changes.

Sunday, December 5th, 1:00 PM Repair/Maintenance SIG A-Frame building at 2121 Cherry Valley Rd. Jim Amore, 740-404-3963, VicePresident@lccsohio.org

Tuesday, December 7th, 7:00 PM Repair/Maintenance SIG, A-Frame building at 2121 Cherry Valley Rd. Wyn Davies, 740-366-6314, aeolus@windstream.net

Tuesday, December 14th, 7:00 PM, Digital Imaging SIG, Zerger Hall. LCCS Member, David Clement, digitalimagesig@gmail.com

Wednesday, December 15th, 9:00 a.m.-11:30 AM HELP DESK — Looking forward to seeing you, Free John (John Kennedy). Computer classroom at Zerger Hall.

Saturday, December 18th, 1:00 PM Repair/Maintenance SIG, A-Frame building at 2121 Cherry Valley Rd. Wyn Davies, 740-366-6314, aeolus@windstream.net

Tuesday, December 21st, 5:30 PM, LCCS Executive Meeting. Zerger Hall.

Tuesday, December 21st, 7:00 PM LCCS General Meeting. Meeting program to be announced. The public is cordially invited! Zerger Hall.

Sunday, December 26th, 1:00 Repair/Maintenance SIG A-Frame building at 2121 Cherry Valley Rd. Jim Amore, 740-404-3963, VicePresident@lccsohio.org

NO LINUX SIG IN DECEMBER

Computer Help Desk Session by Free John (John Kennedy)

The final session is Wednesday, December 15th, 9:00 a.m.-11:30 AM

These sessions are for any LCCS member or LCAP Teaching Program students that would like some help with doing things on the computer. This is not a time for computer repairs (we have other days for that), but for help remembering how to do something, learning how to do something new, or figuring out solutions to your software problems. For those that are really interested in Digital Imaging and Photo Editing, we have a group that meets monthly on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. A reminder that the computers at the classroom run Windows XP, Windows Vista, Windows 7, and Linux Ubuntu; so we can give you general help in any of those operating systems.

In addition to help with general operating system questions, we can help you on specific program such as:

Word processing; spreadsheets; presentations using Open Office (but many things also apply to other productivity programs like Microsoft Office or WordPerfect)

Internet browsing using Firefox/Internet Explorer

E-mail, mainly using any of the web based programs (Gmail, Yahoo Mail, Hot Mail), but not the type that have to be installed on your computer like Thunderbird/Outlook/Outlook Express/Windows LIVE mail
General things dealing with sound/music files

We have a number of graphic programs if you need help with photos and editing.

So, if you have any problems and you think we might be able to help (or if we can't we'll sure try and find help for you), please join us on those Wednesday mornings. If you have any specific questions, please contact me by replying to this message.

Looking forward to seeing you,

Free John (John Kennedy)

September Dinner at Zerger Hall
by George Hreha

Did I have fun Thursday night? You bet I did. Was the food good? Yum, you betcha. Was Vicky surprised seeing her Birthday Cake? Aha!

I want to take this opportunity to thank Lorie Brown, Mary Francis, Vicky and Free John for all the help and support getting this Annual Banquet together, without their help and support it would not have been as well organized as it was this year.

Thanks for an excellent meal from the "The Cottage Restaurant".

Thanks also to Ken Bixler for taking pictures so we can have something to look back at 100 years from now.

A real big thanks to Carolyn and Jim Hearing for their demo on digital albums. Very Interesting. Thanks to Fiberglas Federal Credit Union for their demo and the 2 prizes they donated for our Raffle.

And a big thanks to Jim Amore, Ken Bixler and John Dovjak for their contribution towards the prizes given away at the Raffle.

Of course, a great big thanks to all who came out and enjoyed the networking and just being a friend. Thank you one and all for the Food Pantry Contributions. God Bless you all and see you at the next Banquet.





George Hreha at the
microphone opening the
show



The two Daves testing
the food to insure
everyone's
safety. . . That's their
story and they're
sticking to it.



Birthday Girl!

Happy birthday
Vicky Atkins.



And the winner of the
2010 fall banquet first
choice prize is. . .

November Treasurer's Report by John Kennedy

[Balances](#)

Please see the links to the right for the monthly report of November. I'll provide a 6 month budget vs. actual spending report after the December report. The December documents will be delivered to the Executive Committee on the weekend before the General Meeting.

[Category](#)[Itemized](#)[Year to Date Categorized](#)[Year to Date Itemized](#)

Next General Meeting Subject

Jim will speak about Microsoft Office
or Windows 7 on your phone.

When the person comes by offering you a doorprize ticket for being a paid member, you may want to "Whisper" the secret bonus word to him or her. They will offer you an extra doorprize ticket just because you went to the web board and read the news, along with this Bonus Word.



December

is the secret word





General Computing Information
Submitted by Your Region 3 Advisor
Robert Lee Vance (Bob)

Storage — Worry About It the Day After Tomorrow (Brian Parks (The Day After Tomorrow, 2004) 20th Century Fox)

This article by,
Andy Marken
Marken Communications
408-986-0100
C - 408.390-0002
andy@markencom.com

We finished this analysis on storage types/applications over the weekend and Apple decided to talk about all their new devices and everyone (we mean everyone) jumped on the tablet bandwagon. We'll look at the area shortly but right now we can only say every bit of storage folks can make/ship is being used...then some! Right now let's look at the leading storage offerings:

Flash drive

Hard drive

The cloud (don't let em kid you the cloud is still hard drive)

But only you can determine which storage option is best for you in each of your applications: work in progress, valuable, super valuable, irreplaceable. Weigh the costs/risks and store accordingly.

Don't wait till the Day After Tomorrow.

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1vFuIvaDe1OKuXeasVdJcQCzdAMjxy5Blr9v_7H4BxTU/edit?hl=enA



To: All Region 3 User Groups,

Here are the latest APCUG Reports. If you are getting this from Don Singleton as well as myself, then I apologize for the duplication. I just want to make sure that all the User Groups in Region 3 have a chance to read this publication and post it for their general membership.

The most recent reports are at

<http://reports.apcug.org/>

Your Region 3 Advisor
Robert Lee Vance (Bob)

[2010q4.pdf](#)

Member's Notes

Appreciation
by George Hreha

After accepting our donation of \$53 and a bag of food this month, Mrs Krumm has bought \$10 meat coupons for 100 family's and she has put the Thanksgiving Baskets together for distribution. She says she is blessed with a large outpouring from us and the area community.

For Christmas, The Johnstown United Methodist is going to donate meat (ham or turkey) and proceeds from a special Worship Service for members or non members to bring food or cash donations. And I don't doubt that we will be able to contribute at our next meeting as we have done in the past.

I can say with all honesty, that I am blessed to be able to represent such an outstanding group of folks. May your God bless you and have wonderful Thanksgiving

George H

Jim Amore's Chicago trip report.

The Executive Committee sent Jim to a seminar/convention to keep us up to date on recycling rules, laws and options. (Ed.)

He developed contacts for laptops and batteries. Laptop batteries are notorious for the expense of replacement. His contact has some popular replacements or soon will have them for a reasonable price. Bring your laptop to a repair meeting for battery identification and ordering information.

Another contact has some refurbished laptops available at reasonable prices. Contact Jim Amore, VicePresident@lccsohio.org for more information.

New environmental laws are expected in Ohio. These laws have the potential to affect our recycling effort. House Bill 447 has been introduced.

http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=128_HB_447

Related to our recycling effort is the licensing rules change introduced by Microsoft. There are several license options available as replacements to the current method. We will have to make a choice and Jim is evaluating our options for the refurb/repair SIGs.

November General Meeting
Presentation by
Jim Amore

During the November meeting we discussed some Google apps. To utilize Google you first need to set up a Google account e-mail address. With that account you can have it forward to your current e-mail account and not have to change your current e-mail.

I recommend you have a couple of possible email names and passwords written down ahead of time. There is one of those funny wavy, distorted letter boxes (captcha) on the page. The page will reset if you time out because you didn't work through the setup quickly. (Ed.)

Next you can install Google Voice which has a lot of options. You will need to pick a local phone number and I picked 740-963-9703 which I think is Pataskala area. I set up my home phone to send to this number after 3 rings or when it's busy. Google Voice will record the message and send an e-mail of a missed call and transcribe it so you can read it. It can also send a text message to your cell phone of the transcribed message. There are many settings you can change to suit your needs.

Google Talk can be installed with voice and video chat. In addition to sharing voice and video chats with your contacts from computer to computer, you can also place and receive phone calls to any landline or mobile phone number in the continental United States. To get started, you must be signed in to chat and have the voice and video chat plug-in installed.

<http://www.google.com/googlevoice/about.html>

<http://www.google.com/support/chat/bin/answer.py?answer=159499>

<http://www.google.com/support/chat/bin/answer.py?hl=en&answer=187614>

Continued -->

November General Meeting
Presentation by
Jim Amore
(Cont'd.)

Several of us have been using a service provided by Dropbox for storing files in the "Cloud." The "Cloud" is a term used to indicate a service or software access on the internet. See

http://searchcloudcomputing.techtarget.com/sDefinition/0,,sid201_gci1287881,00.html Ed.

This service similar to renting a storage unit for your boat or Johnny's stuff while he is away. You get some space from Dropbox for free but, more is available if you want to pay for it. What you are doing is using a Dropbox server and hard drive to store your files. We find the ability to access Power Point, Word, pictures and other information, from any computer in the world, a real asset to our work, business and or pleasure.

Dropbox offers 2 gigabytes of free storage to anyone.

You must create an account using a valid email address and a password. Installing the software on one computer is required but, after you have done so you can login from any internet computer with your email/password combination.

Once logged in you see a layout of files and folders similar to "My Computer" in Microsoft Windows. Double click a folder to open and select files the same way. There is no need to download a file or folder! Dropbox immediately updates all files when you edit them. The next time you log into a computer with the Dropbox software installed, you will see the updated information.

<http://www.dropbox.com>

You should watch the video for a better idea of how to use Dropbox. The video and answers to common questions can be read at:

<https://www.dropbox.com/tour>

Answers for those of us who worry about security and privacy

<https://www.dropbox.com/help/27>

TEACHING UPDATE
George Hreha, Chair

The scheduling for classes beginning the 2nd Monday in January is going well. We will start taking enrollments for those classes around the 2nd week in December. We will by then have a list of the courses offered as well as a brief explanation of what to expect in the class. Still a bargain at \$20, so keep your eye on our newsletter and the Zerger Times.

Teaching Committee Maintenance Group
(written by Ken Bixler, Ed.)

The current computers in our teaching facility are being upgraded again. We have found it difficult to accommodate the SIG groups because of the security requirements needed to keep maintenance to a minimum. The maintenance group, with suggestions from the general membership, have identified components that will make it easier for the SIGs and the Maintenance Group.

John Kennedy, in particular, has led the effort to prototype a machine. Quoting John,

"We will have to drop the DVD drive down to the bottom bay and we also have to take both sides off the case in order to screw in the screws for the switch. But, after it's all said and done, the computer will work just great. The Ubuntu hard drives are all set and ready to go. I just need to order the extra A/B switches and install them. We should have everything up and running by the time we have classes in January, probably before." End quote.

Cyber Security Tip ST05-015

Understanding Bluetooth Technology

Many electronic devices are now incorporating Bluetooth technology to allow wireless communication with other Bluetooth devices. Before using Bluetooth, it is important to understand what it is, what security risks it presents, and how to protect yourself.

What is Bluetooth?

Bluetooth is a technology that allows devices to communicate with each other without cables or wires. It is an electronics "standard," which means that manufacturers that want to include this feature have to incorporate specific requirements into their electronic devices. These specifications ensure that the devices can recognize and interact with other devices that use the Bluetooth technology.

Many popular manufacturers are making devices that use Bluetooth technology. These devices include mobile phones, computers, and personal digital assistants (PDAs). The Bluetooth technology relies on short-range radio frequency, and any device that incorporates the technology can communicate as long as it is within the required distance. The technology is often used to allow two different types of devices to communicate with each other. For example, you may be able to operate your computer with a wireless keyboard, use a wireless headset to talk on your mobile phone, or add an appointment to your friend's PDA calendar from your own PDA.

What are some security concerns?

Depending upon how it is configured, Bluetooth technology can be fairly secure. You can take advantage of its use of key authentication (see Understanding Digital Signatures for more information) and encryption (see Understanding Encryption for more information). Unfortunately, many Bluetooth devices rely on short numeric PIN numbers instead of more secure passwords or passphrases (see Choosing and Protecting Passwords for more information).

Continued -->

Cyber Security Tip ST05-015

Understanding Bluetooth Technology

(Continued)

If someone can "discover" your Bluetooth device, he or she may be able to send you unsolicited messages or abuse your Bluetooth service, which could cause you to be charged extra fees. Worse, an attacker may be able to find a way to access or corrupt your data. One example of this type of activity is "bluesnarfing," which refers to attackers using a Bluetooth connection to steal information off of your Bluetooth device. Also, viruses or other malicious code can take advantage of Bluetooth technology to infect other devices. If you are infected, your data may be corrupted, compromised, stolen, or lost. You should also be aware of attempts to convince you to send information to someone you do not trust over a Bluetooth connection (see Avoiding Social Engineering and Phishing Attacks for more information).

How can you protect yourself?

- * Disable Bluetooth when you are not using it - Unless you are actively transferring information from one device to another, disable the technology to prevent unauthorized people from accessing it.

- * Use Bluetooth in "hidden" mode - When you do have Bluetooth enabled, make sure it is "hidden", "not discoverable." The hidden mode prevents other Bluetooth devices from recognizing your device. This does not prevent you from using your Bluetooth devices together. You can "pair" devices so that they can find each other even if they are in hidden mode. Although the devices (for example, a mobile phone and a headset) will need to be in discoverable mode to initially locate each other, once they are "paired" they will always recognize each other without needing to rediscover the connection.

- * Be careful where you use Bluetooth - Be aware of your environment when pairing devices or operating in discoverable mode. For example, if you are in a public wireless "hotspot," there is a greater risk that someone else may be able to intercept the connection (see Securing Wireless Networks for more information) than if you are in your home or your car. Continued -->

Cyber Security Tip ST05-015

Understanding Bluetooth Technology

(Continued)

* Evaluate your security settings - Most devices offer a variety of features that you can tailor to meet your needs and requirements. However, enabling certain features may leave you more vulnerable to being attacked, so disable any unnecessary features or Bluetooth connections. Examine your settings, particularly the security settings, and select options that meet your needs without putting you at increased risk. Make sure that all of your Bluetooth connections are configured to require a secure connection.

* Take advantage of security options - Learn what security options your Bluetooth device offers, and take advantage of features like authentication and encryption.

Authors: Mindi McDowell, Matt Lytle

Produced 2005 by US-CERT, a government organization.

Note: This tip was previously published and is being re-distributed to increase awareness.

Terms of use

<http://www.us-cert.gov/legal.html>

This document can also be found at

<http://www.us-cert.gov/cas/tips/ST05-015.html>

For instructions on subscribing to or unsubscribing, visit
<http://www.us-cert.gov/cas/signup.html>.

Package delivery notice spam

According to
<http://snopes.com/computer/virus/ups.asp>

UPS, Fedex and DHL have all been hit over the years. You receive a notice of failure to deliver a package and you are directed to print the notice and take it to the local office for pick up. When you click the print icon/link it dumps a virus in your computer. Read the article for more detail.

Scam Busters

<http://www.scambusters.org/> has a newsletter you can sign up to receive. It tries to keep up to date about the most recent scams, etc.

A google.com search provided some other interesting sites for scam education...

[TruthOrFiction.com](http://www.truthorfiction.com) - The home of TruthOrFiction.com, the place to ... - [truthorfiction.com](http://www.truthorfiction.com)

Hoax Busters - An alphabetical list of Internet hoaxes, scams and chain ... - [hoaxbusters.org](http://www.hoaxbusters.org)

Make Sure Downloads Are Safe Before Downloading

Are you always nervous that you'll accidentally download a malicious file or program?

Here's how you can scan files for viruses before downloading them to your computer.

Whether you're a geek or a standard computer user, chances are you often download new programs and apps for your computer. There's tons of great stuff out there, but there's also tons of stuff that can steal your information, mess up your Windows install, and worse. We've written before about how to upload files from your computer and check them on VirusTotal, but it's much better to simply scan files before your download them.

There's a couple ways you can do this, so keep reading to see what will work best for you.

<http://www.howtogeek.com/howto/30508/make-sure-downloads-are-safe-before-downloading-them/>

Mary Frances scores a point!

She doesn't like my yahoo email name and another club member agrees with her. The username has the number 0 in it, which is confused with the letter O. She also recommend avoiding the number 1, letter l controversy as well as the disappearing underscore "_". So, there you have it. My yahoo username is offensive and wrong. haha. We love you Mary Frances! Thanks.

It wouldn't be a newsletter without something for Free John

15 Best Free Photo Editing Software review/recommendation

<http://techdiffuse.com/15-best-free-photo-editing-software/>

DVDStyler is a cross-platform free DVD authoring application for the creation of professional-looking DVDs. It allows not only burning of video files on DVD that can be played practically on any standalone DVD player, but also creation of individually designed DVD menus. It is Open Source Software and is completely free. Features include,

- * create and burn DVD (ISO images as well) videos and photo slideshows with interactive menus
- * design your own DVD menu or select one from the list of ready to use menu templates
- * support of AVI, MOV, MP4, MPEG, OGG, WMV, MPEG-2, MPEG-4, DivX, Xvid, MP2, MP3, AC-3 and other audio and video formats
- * add multiple subtitle and audio tracks
- * support of multi-core processor
- * use MPEG and VOB files without reencoding
- * Different audio/video format on one DVD (support of titleset)
- * user-friendly interface with support of drag & drop
- * flexible menu creation on the basis of scalable vector graphic
- * import of image file for background
- * Place buttons, text, images and other graphic objects anywhere on the menu screen
- * change the font/color and other parameters of buttons and graphic objects, scale any button or graphic object
- * copy any menu object or whole menu
- * customize navigation using DVD scripting

<http://www.windowsreference.com/free-utilities/dvdstyler-free-opensource-dvd-authoring-software/>

Safety Message - CFL Bulbs
George Hreha

Below is a picture of a CFL light bulb from my(Jim Barker) bathroom. I turned it on the other day and then smelled smoke after a few minutes. Four inch flames were spewing out of the side of the ballast like a blow torch! I immediately turned off the lights. But I'm sure it would have caused a fire if I was not right there. Imagine if the kids had left the lights on as usual when they were not in the room.

I took the bulb to the Fire Department to report the incident. The Fireman wasn't at all surprised and said that it was not an uncommon occurrence. Apparently, sometimes when the bulb burns out there is a chance that the ballast can start a fire. He told me that the Fire Marshall had issued reports about the dangers of these bulbs.

Upon doing some Internet research, it seems that bulbs made by "Globe" in China seem to have the lion's share of problems. Lots of fires have been blamed on misuse of CFL bulbs, like using them in recessed lighting, pot lights, dimmers or in track lighting. Mine was installed in a normal light socket.

I bought these at Wal-Mart. I will be removing all the Globe bulbs from my house. CFL bulbs are a great energy saver but make sure you buy a name brand like Sylvania, Phillips or GE and not the ones from China.

YOUR SAFETY IS OUR CONCERN
Jim Barker
Director of Public Safety/Admin. Services
City of Findlay, Ohio



Linux SIG

NO DECEMBER MEETING

October

John Kennedy demonstrated the top and bottom "ribbons" with short cuts and weather widget. He also covered the recent change to LibreOffice from OpenOffice.

I introduced the text based terminal command for listing the directories; terminal command for copying a file; terminal "find" command; and F3 for Ubuntu 10.04 "Place" expansion. (creating a duplicate explorer window for ease of copy/pasting, moving files/folders).

November

We had 10 members in attendance. Free John continued with desktop usage and modification. He covered a question and answer session which took quite some time but was well worth it.

We addressed Ira LaFollete's unreadable CD woes. The CD has jpg images written to it and it is read by windows just fine. When loaded into a Ubuntu 10.04.1 it won't read or mount. We did mount it with a PCLinuxOS operating system and that helped us find the problem. It turns out the CD is formatted with an

older file system type, UDF, that is not automatically supported in all linux distributions. The packages for support are available from the standard repositories.

Ken Bixler began demonstration of installing linux on a USB or SDHC. It became apparent that we couldn't accomplish the installations on the current machines in the teaching facility. We'll pursue this after the maintenance team has completed their modifications. There were some USB devices available with linux installed which allowed a bit of experimentation.

Several magazines were offered as a rotating library for those interested in reading about linux.



Licking County Computer
Society, Inc.
PO Box 612
Newark, OH 430580612
LCCS OFFICERS 2010

President: Kemp O'Dell, 740-963-9632, President@lccsohio.org	MS Word/Works SIG: Mary Frances Rauch, 522-4710, rauchhouse@alink.com
Vicepresident: Jim Amore, 404-3963, VicePresident@lccsohio.org	Novice SIG: George Willey, geowilley@gmail.com
Secretary: JC Deck, deck101@embarqmail.com	Repair/Maintenance SIG: Wyn Davies, 366-6314, aeolus@windstream.net
Treasurer: John Kennedy, Treasurer@lccsohio.org	Web SIG: Kevin Clement, clementk777@gmail.com
Agent: David Bibler, 345-3492, dbibs@hotmail.com	Digital Imaging SIG: David Clement, digitalimagesig@gmail.com
Trustees: George Hreha, 924-1925, ghreha@columbus.rr.com	Linux SIG: Jim Amore, 404-3963, VicePresident@lccsohio.org
Vicky Atkins, 740-928-0119, vmatkins@alink.com	Computer Recycling Program: Jim Amore, Events Coordinator, 404-3963, VicePresident@lccsohio.org
Bob Vance, 779-3218, vanleer@horizonview.net	Computer Refurbishing Program: Position open
Newsletter Editor: Ken Bixler, Newsletter@lccsohio.org	Teaching program: George Hreha, Chairman, 924-1925
Publication Distribution: Vicky Atkins, 740-928-0119, vmatkins@alink.com	Webmaster: Jon Luzio, 587-4632, Webmaster@lccsohio.org
Membership: Vicky Atkins, 740-928-0119, vmatkins@alink.com	
Meeting Programs: Jim Amore, 404-3963, VicePresident@lccsohio.org	Note: Phone numbers listed are in area code 740 except where listed.