



\$3.00

# THE WYSIWYG

APRIL 2016

Volume 28, Issue 4

**STERLING HEIGHTS COMPUTER CLUB**

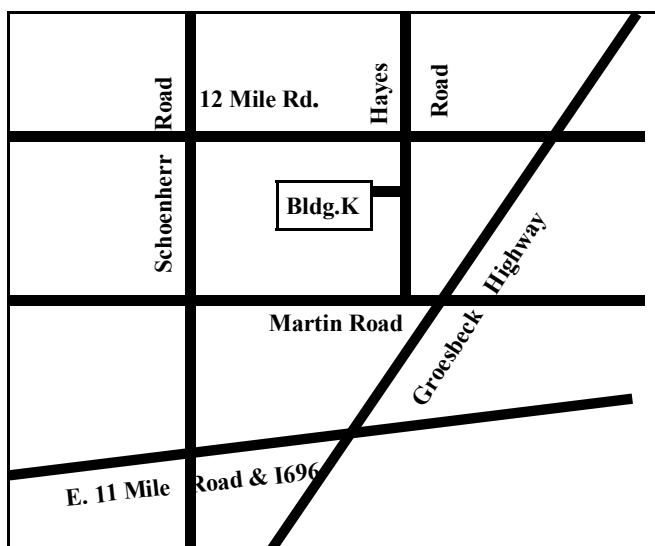
PO Box 385

Sterling Heights, MI 48311-0385

**MAIN MEETING: TUESDAY APRIL 5**

**6:30 PM**

**Macomb Community College  
South Campus  
14500 E 12 Mile Road, Warren  
John Lewis Community Center  
(Building K)**



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## **This Month's Main Meeting Topic:**

**"Setting Up A Home Network" by member Mike Bader**

## **PC SIG Meeting:**

**Tuesday, April 19  
starting at 6:45 at the  
Sterling Heights  
Public Library  
(In The Conference  
Room - Second floor)**

## **Sterling Heights Public Library**

**T**he Sterling Heights Public Library, at 40255 Dodge Park Road, is located just south of Utica Road. A large sign reading "City Center" marks the driveway to the library and parking. The Programming Center, where the meeting is held, is just inside the front door of the library.



Guests and visitors are welcome. People can attend any SHCC meetings during two consecutive months before deciding to become a member or not. Meetings include the main meeting and SIG. July and August don't count since there is no main meeting. Membership includes admission to all SHCC functions and the newsletter. Membership is open to anyone. It is not limited to the residents of Sterling Heights.

**DUES: \$25/YEAR**

**CLUB ADDRESS:** PO Box 385, Sterling Heights, MI 48311-0385  
**CLUB E-MAIL ADDRESS:** Info@SterlingHeightsComputerClub.org  
**CLUB WEB PAGE:** http://www.SterlingHeightsComputerClub.org

### Resource People:

Family Tree	Rick Schummer
Firefox	Don VanSyckel
FoxPro	Rick Schummer
General Computer Questions	Jack Vander-Schrier
Hardware	John Rady
MS Publisher	Rick Kucejko
MS Word	Rick Schummer
Spreadsheets	Rick Schummer

### SHCC Coordinators:

Associate Editor	Rick Schummer
Door prizes	Don VanSyckel
Greeter for visitors	Jim Waldrop
Newsletter publisher	Rick Kucejko
Novice SIG	Paul Baecker
Program Coordinator	Mike Bader
Publicity	Patrick Little
Resource People	open
PC SIG	Jack Vander-Shrier
Welcome & check-in desk.	Jim Waldrop
Web Site	Don VanSyckel
Web Watch column	Paul Baecker

### 2016 SHCC Officers

V. President: Mike Bader  
 Treasurer: Paul Baecker  
 President: Don VanSyckel  
 Secretary: Rick Kucejko

### Four Month Meeting Schedule:

#### APRIL 2016

- 5 - SHCC – “Setting Up A Home Network” by member Mike Bader  
 6 - COMP meeting  
 10 - SEMCO meeting  
 19 - PC SIG

#### JUNE 2016

- 7 - SHCC – Main Meeting  
 1 - COMP meeting  
 5 - SEMCO meeting  
 ? - PC SIG

#### MAY 2016

- 3 - SHCC – Main Meeting  
 4 - COMP meeting  
 8 - SEMCO meeting  
 ? - Novice SIG

**No SHCC meetings in July and August.**

### Other Computer Clubs:

As a member of SHCC, you can attend meetings of other clubs where we have reciprocating membership agreements, at no charge.

#### Computer Club of Marysville and Port Huron (COMP)

Time: 1st Wednesday, 7:00PM  
 Place: Mackenzie Bldg, Room 201, St Clair Community College, Clara E McKenzie Library-Science Building, 323 Erie St. Port Huron, MI (810) 982-1187  
 Web Page: http://www.bwcomp.org  
 Reciprocating: Yes

#### South Eastern Michigan Computer Organization (SEMCO)

Time: 2nd Sunday at 1:30PM  
 Place: Altair, 1820 E Big Beaver Road, Troy, MI 48083  
 (248) 840-2400  
 Web page: http://www.semco.org  
 Reciprocating: Yes

#### Royal Oak Computer Club

Time: Every Wednesday at 12:30  
 Place: Mahany/Meininger Senior Community Center 3500 Marais Ave. Royal Oak, MI 48073  
 248-246-3900  
 Reciprocating: No

### Contact Information:

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Rick Kucejko	248-879-6180	rick@kucejko.com
Patrick Little	586-264-1497	pblittle@wideopenwest.com
Rick Schummer	586-254-2530	rick@rickschummer.com
Don VanSyckel	586-731-9232	don@vansyckel.net
Jack Vander-Schrier	586-739-5952	jvanders@comcast.net

(Call Jack after noon)

Newsletter submissions are due 10 days before the club meeting, but the earlier the better. They should be sent to :  
 WYSIWYG Publisher  
 5069 Fedora, Troy, MI 48098  
 OR at the e-mail addresses: newsletter@SterlingHeightsComputerClub.



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## The President's Pen

by Don VanSyckel

**W**e've covered so many topics at the meeting and in this column, the President Pen, that I am having trouble coming up with new topics that would have wide appeal. In the last few months we discussed:

Backups  
Cable TV alternatives  
Cell phones  
Drones and Quadcopters  
Hot New Items  
Internet Safety  
Internet Security  
Linux  
Mobile Computing  
NSA  
Phishing  
Smart meters  
Spyware, ransom-ware, and Trojans  
Tablets and Laptops  
USB  
Video Surveillance  
VOIP Phones  
Windows 10

Quite a list. I bet you didn't realize how much information SHCC offers to you. If anyone has a topic they'd like to see a presentation on or get more information about, let me know.

Go to the web site and select "Web Page Review" in the menu on the left.

Then select "WWW Reviews by Key Word". Cruise around the keyword page and review pages of interest. Let me know what interests you the most. Let me know if you were looking for anything that you couldn't find.

This month we're please that SHCC member Mike Bader will be presenting about "Setting Up A Home Network". Mike will cover items such as wireless speed, wired versus wireless, and security. If you don't have a wireless router you should. If you have a wireless router you should attend this presentation.

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## Last Month's Meeting

**L**ast month we had a very interesting and informative presentation about "Cyber Security" by Macomb Sheriff's Department Reserve Deputy Will Luker. If you surf the web or use the internet any other way you should have braved the weather to hear Deputy Luker.

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## Presenters Wanted

**T**he officers invite any member to make a presentation at the main meeting.

If there is some software you have been using and think others may be interested as well, or there is a computer topic you would like to present to other members, please call or e-mail Don VanSyckel. Making presentations is not that difficult. The hour goes by before you know it and there is always enough material to cover in a software package so that the hour is easy to fill.

If there is a topic you are interested in or something you would like demonstrated, please see any of the officers. They are always interested in what the members would like to see.

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### VISIT THE SHCC WEB PAGE:

[http://www.](http://www.SterlingHeightsComputerClub.org)

[SterlingHeightsComputerClub.org](http://www.SterlingHeightsComputerClub.org)

## Door Prizes

**D**oor prize drawings are held at regular club meetings. The winner's circle for March included:

**Mike Bader** won an APC battery backup unit

**Ed Zaremba** won a 26 piece screw-driver set

**Rick Monk** won a power strip

**Ralph Osinski** won a tape measure

**Don VanSyckel** won letter paper

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### SHCC Linux Fest 2016 - May 14

Later this year, when the 'free upgrade' opportunity to Windows 10 has passed, what operating system will you have chosen to use?

**Windows 10?**

**Windows 7 or Windows 8.1?**

**An always free and secure version of Linux?**  
*SHCC's Linux Fest 2016 might help you decide.*

## Many Devices Utilize New Charging And Data Transfer USB-C Cable

by Ira Wilsker

### WEBSITES:

<http://www.amazon.com/gp/pdp/profile/A25GROL6KJV3QG> (Benson Leung reviews)

<http://www.cnet.com/news/usb-type-c-connections-better-soon-confusion-first/>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USB\\_Type-C](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USB_Type-C)

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USB>

<http://fortune.com/2015/11/05/usbc-google-amazon-reviews/>

<http://www.cnet.com/news/usb-type-c-one-cable-to-connect-them-all/>

<http://www.cnet.com/news/meet-the-new-reversible-usb/>

<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2478121,00.asp>

<https://plus.google.com/u/0/+BensonLeung/posts>

<https://forums.oneplus.net/threads/in-response-to-the-type-c-cable-discussions.412344/>

<http://au.pcmag.com/oneplus-2/40241/news/oneplus-offers-usb-c-cable-adapter-refunds>

<http://www.pcworld.com/article/3009658/hardware/oneplus-offers-a-refund-for-its-potentially-damaging-usb-c-cable-and-adapter.html>

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/tech/2015/12/01/iphone-7-headphone-jack-rumor-report/76591864/>

<http://www.androidheadlines.com/2015/11/checkr-app-tests-usb-type-c-for-nexus-5x-6p-compatibility.html>

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=net.mderezynski.checkr>

Recent purchasers of smart devices, including many new phones, laptops, Apple devices, and other new high tech electronics probably noticed that the USB cable used to charge the device and transfer data between devices is the same on the "big" end, but slightly different on the "small" end. The traditional "Micro-B" (the "small") end of the USB cable that has been widely used for several years to connect chargers and data devices to billions of smart devices is a somewhat asymmetric shape resembling a flattened trapezoid. Because of its shape, the common micro USB cable can only be inserted in one direction, which countless users have found as an inconvenience, but engineers intentionally designed so as to assure that the tiny conductors in the plug could only mate with appropriate matching connectors within the device. Likewise, millions of Apple device users have been using the popular, but somewhat fragile "Lightning" connector connected to an otherwise somewhat identical USB cable to charge their devices and to connect to external devices.

For the past several months a newly standardized connector of about the same dimensions as the older Micro-B plug, and with the moniker "USB-C" has started to appear on recently assembled smart devices produced by several of the major manufacturers, including LG, Samsung, Apple, Microsoft, HP, Nexus (the Google brand made by LG, Huawei, and others), OnePlus, and other cutting edge brands. This new USB-C connector is more symmetric, in a flattened rectangular shape with rounded corners, is reversible, and can be inserted with either wide side up, easing the ability

to perform the simple task of connecting the charging cable or transferring data. In terms of data transfer speed, the new USB-C cables, with its 24 connecting pins, can easily transfer data with speeds somewhat similar to the USB 3.0 standard, which is a potential of 4 GB per second throughput, and possibly even transfer at the screaming USB 3.1 speed of 10 GB per second, but many of the currently available devices with the USB-C connector can only receive data at something resembling effective USB 2.0 transfer speeds of a respectable 280 MB per second. In addition to being a reversible plug and offering generally faster data connection speeds, the USB-C standard also allows the USB cable to transfer more charging capacity than most earlier USB 2.0 cables, with the USB-C cable and connector easily able to handle from 1.5 amps to 3 amps at 5 volts, allowing for the faster charging of connected devices as well as providing more power to other compatible USB powered devices, such as external hard drives. For those USB powered devices that demand even greater power, the new USB-C cable can handle up to 20 amps at 5 volts, for 100 watts of power. Computer notebook designers are considering replacing the existing power point on newly manufactured laptops with a USB-C port, as newly made laptops now only require about 60 watts of power, and some USB-C cables can handle up to 100 watts. While in technical competition with the unusually shaped USB 3.0 and USB 3.1 cable and plugs, USB-C has recently had greater industry acceptance than its competing standards apparently because of its greater capabilities than the more traditional USB cables and connectors.

In addition to the traditional functions of charging devices, and transferring data, the new USB-C cables can do much more. Through a single port and a compatible cable, rather than multiple ports requiring different cables, USB-C can also handle video and audio. This makes it more convenient (and more cost effective) to

provide connectivity to video devices such as a TV or monitor as well as audio devices, such as an amplifier or speakers, all from a single port on the device, using a single cable for all of the functions. It has recently been reported in the media that the upcoming iPhone 7, due later in 2016, will be doing away with the traditional 3.5mm headphone jack, and instead connecting the headphone to a traditional (and reversible) Lightning power port, but some leaked images of the iPhone 7 show what appears to be a USB-C style port, which by design can handle headphones as well. Some of the new MacBooks are using the USB-C cable instead of a Lightning cable. ([usatoday.com/story/tech/2015/12/01/iphone-7-headphone-jack-rumor-report/76591864](http://usatoday.com/story/tech/2015/12/01/iphone-7-headphone-jack-rumor-report/76591864))

While the USB-C standard was finally approved and adopted during the summer of 2015, what has happened with the early adoption of other technical standards, has happened to USB-C; that is some of the hardware with USB-C ports and many of the newly manufactured USB-C cables fail to meet the new standards, which can create sometimes serious incompatibility problems. Following complaints from users of new model Google Chromebooks (such as the Pixel 2 model) and newer model Google Nexus phones (Nexus 5X and 6P) that require USB-C cables, a well respected engineer working for Google, Benson Leung, intentionally purchased a variety of cables advertised as USB-C compatible on Amazon, and found that many of them were very problematic. Posted on his Google+ blog, Benson Leung found that, "You may not just get weird behavior from your devices with these bad cables... What some of these vendors are doing is downright dangerous." As quoted in Fortune Magazine ([fortune.com/2015/11/05/usbc-google-amazon-reviews](http://fortune.com/2015/11/05/usbc-google-amazon-reviews)), Benson Leung was reported to have said, "Some cables with a type C connector on one end and a legacy connector on the other end do not connect the cor-

rect resistor to pin A5 of the type C connector, causing a device connected to the cable to incorrectly determine the amount of power it is permitted to draw from the cable. Cables with this issue may not work properly with certain products, including Apple and Google products, and may even damage power sources such as chargers, hubs, or PC USB ports." Fortune goes on to say, "Leung has taken to calling out bad cable vendors in Amazon reviews under the username Laughing-Man. So far, he's reviewed 10 different cords and adapters and has found seven of them severely lacking. The biggest issue he's found is that the cords won't charge the Chromebook Pixel properly. Although some of the deficient cables will transfer data and power, they do it incorrectly, which could end up damaging your device in the long run." Some of these deficient USB-C cables sold for as little as \$8.99 on Amazon. The Fortune article mentioned that Benson Leung did find a few of the third party made USB-C cables that he purchased on Amazon did work as well as the more expensive name brand cables made by Apple, Google for their own devices. Leung tested a \$19 cable made by iOrange-E (currently priced at \$12.99 on Amazon), and found that it did indeed work well on Google devices, for which he gave it a 5-Star rating on Amazon. Leung also found that the \$20 USB-C cable made by Belkin was "good as the ones that Apple and Google provide with and sell on their stores as accessories" and also awarded it five stars.

Some smart phone makers have also fallen into the trap of providing incompatible and potentially damaging USB-C cables and chargers for use with their newly produced phones. One such example is the recently released OnePlus branded charger and USB-C cable sold on the OnePlus factory website; the chargers and USB-C cables were manufactured by third party suppliers. Because these chargers and cables allegedly do not meet the USB-C standard, and are similar

to the problematic USB-C cables discovered on Amazon by Benson Leung, OnePlus has offered anyone who purchased these questionable chargers and USB-C cables from their website a full refund. According to OnePlus, only the "standalone" chargers and USB-C cables purchased on their website will be refunded, but the USB-C cables and chargers bundled with new phones, such as the OnePlus 2, are not eligible for that refund.

Many of the media pundits are referring to USB-C as the primary "go to" cable and connector of the future. It is fast, can carry more electrical power, and can drive a variety of other devices. One cable manufacturer, Monoprice, is already offering connectors and converters for USB-C that can take a signal directly from the smart device, and output the data to HDMI (HD TV video input), gigabit Ethernet (high speed networked data), and other devices. I did a search on Amazon and other websites for USB-C cables, carefully reading the published reviews and ratings (which I know are not always accurate and truthful), finding that many of the listings have changed their wording since Leung and Fortune did their expose' on sub-standard USB-C cables. Some of those which were problematic now only state that they are capable of USB 2.0 data speeds, but nothing about the alleged electrical deficiencies. Some, such as the \$20 Belkin cable cited positively by Leung, now display a statement that they are certified as compatible by USB-IF, the organization that finalized the USB-C standard and conducts compliance testing.

If considering purchasing a USB-C cable, be sure to read the reviews (acknowledging their sometimes unreliability), and check to see if it is certified by the USB-IF. There is no need to waste money and possibly damage your devices by buying inferior cables. For users of some Nexus devices, specifically the Nexus 5X and Nexus 6P phones, there is a free app



available in the Google Play Store called CheckR that can test USB-C cables for proper functionality; at present this app will not yet work on other devices, but a version for the Chromebook Pixel will be available in the future. Also check to see if the transfer speed of the cable is appropriate for your devices, as most are now labeled as compatible with the USB 2.0 480 MB per second transfer rate, but a few that are much more expen-

sive are listed as USB 3.1 compatible with transfer speeds up to 10 GB per second. If your device is listed as USB 2.0, then there is no need to waste your money on a cable with a greater speed potential than that which can be handled by your device.

*This article was reprinted with permission of the author, Ira Wilsker.*

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## Five Things The Tech Industry Won't Tell You

by Greg Skalka, Under the Computer Hood User Group, CA  
[www.uchug.org](http://www.uchug.org) [president@uchug.org](mailto:president@uchug.org)

In a nod to a past Wall Street Journal Sunday's imaginative, interesting and informative "10 Things . . . (xxx) Won't Tell You" columns, I offer my half-sized version. The tech industry's annual new product celebration, CES (Consumer Electronic Show), occurred in January. I've never attended, but I enjoy reading about the latest tech items presented each year.

Each year brings a new batch of innovative products that get the favorable buzz. Sometimes items at the show succeed in the marketplace, while others never make it to prime time.

### 1. 'The latest is not necessarily the greatest.'

The main purpose of a lot of new products is often not to help the customer but to make money for the tech companies. Occasionally this results in products that despite a big marketing effort are not well received by consumers. It may be due to a company going in the wrong direction, hastily putting out a shoddy product or attempting to pass off a few changes (some perhaps not really wanted by consumers) as a new product.

Windows 8 is an example of a desire to sell something that the customer really does not want. Microsoft seems to get it right in terms of operating systems only about every other at-

tempt. They were very successful with Windows 98, but then disappointed with the release of Windows Me (Millennium Edition). They captured almost all the market with the popular Windows XP OS, but then followed it up with poorly-received Vista.

After correcting their mistakes in well-received Windows 7, their successor, Windows 8, went in a direction most computer users did not want to go. Since Microsoft has decided that they must skip the number nine, all we can do is hope Windows 10 is an improvement when it is released this year, as our time with Windows 7 is limited (mainstream support ended on Jan. 13, 2015; extended support, which includes free security updates, will end in 2020).

Unfortunately, Microsoft continues to irritate me with their new versions of Office. It is a very powerful application but most users only scratch the surface of its capabilities. I use it daily for work, but never to its fullest potential. Yet they continue to add additional obscure features and greatly change the familiar user interface to let them somehow justify selling a new version every other year or so. Now they want to sell it by subscription, so users can become just a revenue stream.

And let's not get me started on Microsoft Bob.

### 2. 'Your old stuff probably still works just fine for what you need.'

Some consumers are enamored with the latest thing and must upgrade whenever possible. It seems to me that these are the customers Apple is often targeting with their new smart phones and tablets. Tech companies would like their customers to think like some car buyers used to (and some maybe still do), and trade up to their latest product every year or two. In most cases, the product the consumer already has meets most if not all of their present real needs. Just as with automobiles, "trading in" for a new smart phone, laptop, camera or office suite too often can cost a lot with little increase in benefits.

A number of PC users hung on to Windows XP a lot longer than Microsoft would have liked. Though the poor reputations of Vista and Windows 8 contributed, a lot of XP users resisted switching because XP met their needs. Businesses were particularly reluctant to switch. I am presently using three XP computers at my work, a small telecom equipment design firm. I also still have a couple of XP computers at home (I wrote this column on one), though I'm definitely phasing them out because of security concerns.

A lot of technology costs a lot when initially introduced, but drops in price once it is more widely adopted and production volumes increase. Staying off the cutting edge can save money but still provide a good user experience.

### 3. 'This new stuff may seem great, but it is still a long way from reality.'

Highly innovative new products can capture the imagination, but most successful new products are the result of iterative development. These iterations can require years to finally come up with an implementation that is cost-effective for consumers.

I was excited about Google Glass when I first heard about it a few years

ago. I'd hoped by now it would have had greater availability and a lower price, but instead Google has just announced that it is halting production of this model. I am encouraged that Microsoft is working on the HoloLens device, but I expect I'll be waiting a while longer to personally experience this type of device. With luck Google will continue development of Glass as well; I'd hate to see it become the Segway of computing device.

It also seems to be taking a long time to get autonomous cars into the hands of consumers. The Google Self-Driving Car project has been in existence for a number of years, having logged nearly 700,000 autonomous miles. A new prototype without human controls began testing in 2015. A number of major auto manufacturers are also at work on autonomous cars. Google believes that it will be able to offer a self-driving car to the public between 2017 and 2019. The legal issues may take as long to work out as the technical ones, however. Meanwhile, we may get there piecemeal as car-makers offer features like self-parking (for parallel parking) and auto braking now

#### 4. 'New technology may provide benefits, but there are usually unintended consequences.'

Almost every new technology introduced has resulted in job losses somewhere in the economy. The automobile put a huge dent in buggy sales. Streaming video wiped out most of the jobs involved in video disc rental. Computers and robotics greatly reduced factory employment. Digital cameras decimated the photographic film industry and computers and tablets have reduced the need for photo prints.

These technologies have of course created new jobs of different types, but this forces great change on the industries and employees. Email and social media have greatly reduced the number of letters delivered by the

Postal Service, so it has had to recast itself as a deliverer of Amazon packages. Unskilled labor is being pushed out as almost all workers, from the burger flipper to the airline pilot, must deal with video displays and electronic controls on the job.

The Internet has revolutionized communications, education, shopping, entertainment and our relationships. Smart phones and social media have greatly changed our culture and our society. We get our news, find our jobs and pick our mates using the Internet. Crime has followed the technology path to our money; it is not in the banks, but in our personal information. Identity theft, phishing, cyber terrorism, sexting and laws against texting while driving are all unintended consequences of our new technology.

Our technology may have had a hand in changing our planet's climate and it may ultimately provide us with a remedy, but some initial tech solutions have provided mixed results. Nuclear power has the promise of carbon-free energy, but radioactive leaks have resulted in disasters. Wind power seems to be a clean renewable source of energy but the large rotating blades may also cause excessive bird kills. The new Ivanpah Solar Electric Generating System in the Mohave Desert may be scorching thousands of birds each year with its concentrated reflected light.

How will new tech advances change our economy and our society in the future? We can guess that widespread use of autonomous cars might make our highways safer, increase productivity by reclaiming lost commute time and wipe out the taxi industry. What other unanticipated effects will it have on us? Police body cameras and other public video surveillance may reduce misconduct, but how will they affect privacy? Will virtual reality technology wipe out the travel industry? Will increased use of online communications and telepresence de-

vices leave us virtually connected but physically isolated in our homes? Will biotech advances turn us into a long-lived, genetically engineered species? Will our computers and autonomous vehicles achieve artificial intelligence? We can never fully predict the future.

#### 5. 'Playing the Luddite is pointless, as technology is transforming our society as we speak.'

The Luddites were 19th century English workers who rebelled against technology by smashing the new machines that were taking their jobs. They were not successful in stopping progress and it is likely modern opposition to technology would be ineffective on the whole. Cell phone networks are being spread through almost every developing country and satellite-based Internet and Wi-Fi installations are increasing, so soon no one will be able to escape technology's reach. Our culture and our relationships are being changed by our technology. We may not be able to put the genie back in the bottle, even if we wanted to.

*This article has been obtained from APCUG with the author's permission for publication by APCUG member groups.*



### Member Ads

Ads are available free to SHCC members, and are limited to computer related items for non-commercial purposes. Any ad shall be a maximum of twelve newsletter lines of text.



**If your e-mail or mail address changes, please e-mail:  
secretary@SterlingHeights  
ComputerClub.org**

## New Amazon Competitor "JET" Combines Online Shopping With Local Sourcing

by Ira Wilsker

### WEBSITES:

<https://jet.com>

<https://jet.com/help-center/trial-membership>

<https://jet.com/anywhere>

<https://jet.com/help-center/membership>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marc\\_Lore#Jet.com](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marc_Lore#Jet.com)

<http://www.cnbc.com/2015/07/21/our-prices-are-cheaper-than-amazon-jetcom-ceo.html>

<http://news.yahoo.com/latest-threat-amazon-walmart-jet-215900687.html>

<http://www.cnet.com/news/e-commerce-startup-jet-com-launches-with-eye-on-amazon/>

<http://www.inquisitr.com/2273490/jet-com-new-costco-amazon-rival-stirs-up-retail/>

<http://www.ibtimes.com/jetcom-offers-cheaper-prices-amazon-it-worth-your-time-personal-info-2017988>

<http://www.cbsnews.com/news/meet-amazons-newest-rival-jet-com/>

<http://finance.yahoo.com/news/jet-com-opens-rivalry-amazon-185429065.html>

<http://www.forbes.com/sites/erikamorph/2015/07/21/jet-com-is-making-its-employees-salaries-transparent-and-non-negotiable/>

<http://www.moneytalksnews.com/new-competitor-amazon-and-warehouse-clubs-takes-off-today/>

In beta testing for several months, this new online shopping service "Jet" (jet.com) went live to all on July 21, 2015. Claiming to outdo Amazon Prime, by undercutting its prices, and providing reasonably fast delivery, Jet offers some substantial money saving benefits over Amazon Prime, claims to have 4.5 million items available on its website at jet.com (soon to be over 10 million items), has an annual membership fee of \$49.99 which is about half of Amazon's \$99 Prime membership fee, and offers very easy rebates (applied to future Jet purchases) from purchases made on over 600 other online and local sellers.

Founded by Marc Lore, who made his first fortune when he sold his Diapers.com and its sister company Soap.com to Amazon in 2010 for \$550 million, Jet uses a different marketing strategy than other retailers, in that the price charged to the consumer for services is at or below the marginal cost of the product; any commissions or rebates from manufacturers normally paid to the seller are instead used to transparently lower the final selling price of the merchandise. Unlike other online sellers, prices are dynamic, in that they automatically decrease in the shopping cart as additional items are added, giving any economies of scale back to the consumer. Shipping is free on purchases over \$35 (\$5.99 on smaller orders), and timely returns are free; jet offers additional savings at the time of purchase if the shopper voluntarily waives the free return option, with the additional price reductions reflecting that savings.

In his media interviews on July 21, Marc Lore said that the final prices of the goods sold reflect their actual wholesale costs, but his business model intends to utilize the \$49.99 annual membership fee as its source

of profits, rather than profiting on the sale of goods. In his opening day interview on CNBC, Marc Lore stated that aggregate online selling from such giants as Amazon, is currently a \$1.5 trillion business, and that he projects Jet to be profitable within five years when it has 14 million members, and reaches an annual sales volume of \$20 billion. Unlike many other online startups, both current and those who collapsed in the infamous "Dot Com" bubble several years ago, he claims to have adequate capital to survive until profitable, with \$180 million cash on hand, and an unspecified pool of incoming capital investment.

Unlike his major competitors, specifically Amazon, but also the online selling divisions of Walmart and Best-Buy, as well as the "brick and mortar" stores including Costco and Sam's Club, Jet has a much lower overhead which must be factored into the cost of goods sold. While Amazon has dozens of huge warehouse distribution centers scattered all over the U.S. (and in many foreign countries), Jet only has one centrally located distribution center. In order to save on shipping costs and delivery time, Jet has calculated that it would be more cost efficient as well as offer faster delivery by sourcing many of its goods locally, near the consumer, rather than bear the inventory and storage costs of keeping goods in stock. In his media interviews, Marc Lore said that he has employees who actually shop local stores, mostly online, but live if necessary, to quickly purchase the item for the customer, and have it shipped directly. Even if some of these locally sourced items result in a financial loss to Jet, the customer will still receive the item at the advertised price.

A review of the Jet.com website, and its Android app (also available for devices running iOS) shows a very extensive assortment of available goods. On the app, the Jet menu is divided into 16 master categories, with each master category then offering appropriate sub categories. Among the ma-



jor categories of goods are: For the Home; Patio, Lawn & Garden; Tools & Home Improvement; Furniture; Sports & Outdoor Recreation; Toys & Video Games; Office Supplies; Books; Appliances; Computers & Electronics; Beauty; Household Supplies; Grocery; Pet Supplies; and Baby. While I personally did not verify Jet's claim of having 4.5 million products listed, it would not appear to be an unreasonable claim. For items not listed, Jet offers a "Concierge Service" to locate merchandise for the consumer, still guaranteeing the best price.

For anecdotal comparisons, I used the Jet app on my phone to compare prices for some items that I am currently shopping for. My aged kitchen microwave oven is having some issues, after a long and productive life; I found the newest similar model on Jet. Clicking on the image, the app showed that the same model number was \$259.99 at Amazon, and the same \$259.99 at Jet; but Jet showed "Add to cart and get -\$87.40 off your order." Since both Amazon and Jet offer free shipping, Jet would sell me the same microwave for about a third less than Amazon. About the only significant difference is that with my Amazon Prime account, I would receive my microwave within two business days, while Jet indicates that it might take three to five business days for delivery. Since I am not yet in urgent need, I could save \$87.48 by getting it from Jet instead of Amazon, although it may take one to three business days longer than Amazon to receive it.

The concept of additional savings from Jet based on economies of scale was very evident when shopping for small, low cost items including groceries and school supplies. Jet dynamically gives greater discounts as more items are placed in the shopping cart to reflect the "economy of scale" savings of combined processing and shipping. My grandkids like glitter glue, and Amazon sells the bottle for \$6 exactly; Jet has the exact same bot-

tle of glitter glue for \$1.46, or about 75% less than Amazon, and very competitive with the "back to school" promotions at the big box stores; I placed it in my cart at Jet. Adding a bottle of Elmer's common white glue to my shopping cart, which was only \$0.11 cheaper than Amazon, suddenly generated an extra 27 cent savings. Adding a second bottle of Elmer's to my cart generated a savings of \$1.26, a significant savings for an item priced well below \$2. Going to groceries, I looked for my favorite gourmet packaged cookies. At Kroger, they are normally \$5.49, while at Walmart they are \$4.99. Both Amazon and Jet show the same bag of cookies for \$5.19, but on a single bag, Jet gives an additional discount of \$1.20 per bag, lowering the net cost to \$3.99, which matches the best sale price at Kroger. Adding a second bag of these cookies increased the discount to (minus) \$3.48, a small additional savings. Jet offers these cookies, as well as most other grocery items, with a second day delivery, matching Amazon's two day delivery. As I continued to add more items to my cart, the "bonus" savings, over and above the initial savings, increased, making Jet an even better deal for the consumer.

In addition to offering excellent prices, Jet also has its "JetAnywhere" program which pays rebates in "JetCash" for purchases from over 600 other online and local stores; these rebates can range as high as 20%. The process is a simple way to generate substantial "JetCash" which can be used for any purchases on Jet.com. Last Friday, I purchased two new tires from a big named Beaumont tire store; prior to the purchase, I went to the websites of several local tire and big box stores shopping for tires. After choosing the best deal, I placed my order online, and made an appointment at the local tire store to get the tires installed. Had Jet been operational at that time, I could have received an immediate "JetCash" rebate on my total order from the local tire store of about \$20.

The rebate process is very simple, but also may be very advantageous to the consumer. The consumer simply goes to the "JetAnywhere Brands" link on the website or app, click or tap on the seller's logo, shop, and purchase items online for local pickup or delivery in a normal fashion; any affinity programs, coupons, or other money savings deals offered by the seller are still applicable. After the purchase, forward the purchase confirmation to anywhere@jet.com. The rebates in "JetCash" will be credited to your Jet.com account, and can be used for any future purchases. JetCash balances do not expire as long as the user has a current membership, and Jet offers a six month grace period after membership expiration for the member to renew, and retain any JetCash balances. Many of the 600+ participant businesses in the JetAnywhere rebate program include most of the major local department stores, florists, hotels, automotive stores, and other local businesses that also have an online presence.

Jet is currently offering a no-strings, no automatic renewal, full service, three month trial membership; no credit card is required, only an email address, password, and zipcode is required to register. Regular, full service, annual memberships are \$49.99 with a Jet guarantee that you will save more than your membership fee or it will be refunded. Contrary to some erroneous media reports, the \$49.99 membership is for an annual membership, not a monthly fee.

Compared to the \$99 Amazon Prime annual membership fee, Jet is half the price, and offers significant savings through its "JetAnywhere" rebate program. Jet does not offer other services included in Amazon Prime, such as streaming media and a lending library for digital (Kindle) eBooks. Not to be outdone, Walmart is heavily promoting its online sales program, without an annual membership fee, but with free pickup at a local Walmart store, or free shipping with a minimal order.

There has been some buzz in the media that Walmart and other major retailers with an online presence will try to compete with Jet by either offering totally free shipping, or a competitive annual membership fee that would include free shipping, similar to that offered by Jet and Amazon Prime.

Jet is an interesting new concept in retailing, combining low prices, rebates, free delivery, and other services, along with significant local sourcing. I signed up for the no-strings three month trial, and have

been very impressed with the prices. I already purchased my gourmet cookies and other items, with the two day delivery on the grocery items. It is near certainty that I will be joining Jet with an annual membership when my three month trial expires. Since I also use my Amazon Prime account for streaming media and the free Kindle lending library, I will keep that membership as well.

*This article was reprinted with permission of the author, Ira Wilsker.*



takes more time than actually opening it.

### Separate Drive Partitions

One bit of computer wisdom that you should learn is this: "Never save data on the same partition as your operating system." In Windows, the location of the desktop on the file system does reside on the same partition as the operating system itself.

Why is this important advice? Because you want to avoid putting all of your eggs in the same basket.

Let's say that you happen to contract a mild virus or malware that attacks your operating system. It might wipe all files related to the operating system itself OR it may affect the entire partition that holds the operating system. By losing the operating system, you lose all of your saved data as well.

## Three Better Ways To Store Your Files Than On The Desktop

by Joel Lee, MakeUseOfCom.com

**D**id you know that storing files directly on your desktop can harm your productivity? I used to be one of "those" people who downloaded files straight to the desktop. If you can identify with that, then I have good news for you: you can do better. Desktop storage is simple, sure, but it comes with hidden drawbacks you may not know about.

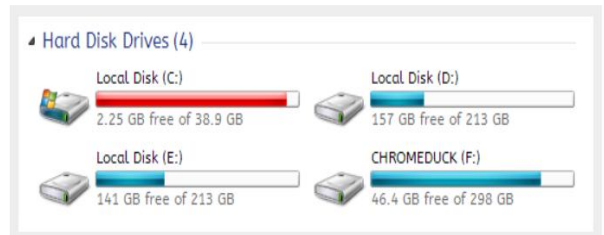
Kick the bad habit with these alternative file storage methods. They may not be as convenient but I promise that you'll learn to love them in the long run.

The urge to save files to the desktop is understandable. It provides immediate access with a single click, which means that it's tempting to turn the desktop into a de facto headquarters for storage. But unless you are strict with maintenance, you'll eventually succumb to these issues:

- **No file protection.** As noted by PC World, certain directories are not affected by System Restore, the most recognizable location being My Documents. Files on the desktop are affected by System Restore, which can result in unexpected file disappearances.

- **No file backups.** Many file backup programs ignore desktop files by default. Most programs worth their salt will allow you to change the settings and include the desktop if necessary, but all it takes is one forgetful moment to accidentally lose an important desktop file.

- **Clutter, clutter, clutter.** The story is always the same. You begin your desktop collection with a few documents. Over time, the collection grows to include images, music, programs, zip files, and more documents. Suddenly, finding the right document



But if you installed Windows to the C: partition and stored all of your files on the D: partition, your files on D: would be safe even if C: were wiped clean. The only way D: would be affected is if the physical hard drive itself was wiped or damaged.



One additional benefit of having separate partitions is that you can reinstall Windows without losing your saved data. Tina has written on the subject of resizing Windows partitions, so check

it out if you want to take advantage of this feature. <http://bit.ly/1lfBCDe>

### Use Windows Libraries

Every installation of Windows comes with a directory called My Documents. In Windows 7, it was renamed to Documents and came with a couple of buddies: Music, Pictures, and Videos. They're called libraries and you've probably seen them before, but never really used them, right? Well, you should reconsider.

In truth, these four libraries are special. They aren't just directories; they're collections of multiple directories. In each library, you can specify different directories to be included and that library will show the content from all included directories. It sounds more complicated than it is.

Think of it like this: You can save your videos to many different locations and link those directories to the Videos library. Then, whenever you access the Videos library, you'll see all of those files in one place.

It's just as convenient as storing everything on the desktop, yet infinitely more flexible and organized. For more details on how to take advantage of this feature, check out Chris's writeup on how to use Windows Libraries. <http://bit.ly/1iMkORF>

### Store Files in the Cloud

Cloud storage has been a big buzz term over the past few years and for good reason. While cloud-related solutions like Dropbox, G+ Drive, or Microsoft OneDrive come with

privacy concerns [<http://bit.ly/1lzsQ4F>](http://bit.ly/1lzsQ4F), they also offer many benefits and I think people are too quick to throw the baby out with the bathwater.

Here's how it works: You set aside one or more directories that automatically sync with whatever service you're using (comparison of cloud storage services). These files can be

accessed from anywhere and they can be set to private or public.

Why is this better than storing straight on the desktop?

- Immediate backups. Due to automatic synchronization, you rarely need to worry about lost files. If your computer gets wiped somehow, those files still reside on the cloud and you can always retrieve them again.
- Revision history. Not every cloud service offers a revision history, but most do and it's an important feature. Basically, the service will track every change that's made to the file (it may be limited to the last X changes) and allow you to instantly revert to a past version if necessary.

One Drive (aka SkyDrive) comes integrated with Windows 8 and can help you keep your files synced.

### Need Quick Access to Files?

Sometimes convenience wins out over practicality and reason. The desktop is great because it allows for immediate access, right? With one small compromise, you can maintain that convenience. The answer is to use shortcuts.

Creating a shortcut is as simple as dragging a file using the right mouse button to where you want the shortcut to appear, then selecting Create shortcut here from the menu. Even if a

shortcut gets wiped, the actual file will still be safe.

But instead of putting the shortcuts on the desktop, why not take it one step further?

Right click on any file shortcut and select either *Pin to taskbar* or *Pin to start menu*. It's a self-explanatory feature that works just as well as, if not better than, traditional desktop shortcuts. I use it day in and day out and I wouldn't have it any other way.

### Conclusion

Ultimately, personal preference will always win. For those of you who have been "desktopping" for years, you'll probably find it near impossible to break the habit. I still do it from time to time, though I try my best to clean up after myself when I realize what I'm doing. It just doesn't make sense to store everything on the desktop anymore.

Do you clutter up your desktop with files and folders galore? If so, are you convinced enough to try a safer method of file storage? Share your thoughts with us in the comments! <http://www.makeuseof.com/tag/3-better-ways-store-files-desktop/>.

*This article has been obtained from APCUG with the author's permission for publication by APCUG member groups.*

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## More Door Prizes

**H**ave software you no longer use? It could make a good door prize for a fellow member. It would also give that member another good reason for being glad to have been at the club meeting. Contact one of the officers, or just bring it.

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## Club Record Changes

**T**o update your e-mail address, phone number, etc., please e-mail the club secretary at: [Secretary@SterlingHeightsComputerClub.org](mailto:Secretary@SterlingHeightsComputerClub.org). Using this address will provide the smoothest and quickest venue for any changes.

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## Be Careful Of Buying Old Versions

by Sandy Berger, CompuKISS

[www.compukiss.com](http://www.compukiss.com) [sandy@compukiss.com](mailto:sandy@compukiss.com)

**D**on't be fooled by a cheap price on a product. It may be last year's model. While sometimes this is okay, for others it is a real rip-off. Here are some examples that you may want to read. Remember being a savvy consumer is essential in today's high tech world.

In the recent past, when a new version of a product was introduced, the old versions were removed from the retailer's shelves. So when you went into the store, you were sure of getting the latest and greatest version of each product.

But times have changed. Now the manufacturers are keeping their old versions available right alongside the newest models. In some cases, the product names have changed enough that the average person can easily tell the new from the old. For example, the iPad Air is Apple's newest full-sized iPad. You will see that Apple is also still selling the older iPad 2 model. In this case, the name actually changed and the marketing will usually indicate which is new and which is old.

In many cases, however, the name of the product doesn't change. There are often several versions of the same product with the same name or similar names selling at different prices.

Take the iPad mini, for example. Apple recently introduced a new, improved version of that product. The cheapest current version is selling for \$399. So when Walmart advertised the iPad mini for \$299 and it offered a \$100 gift card with that purchase, it seemed like a fantastic deal. However, Walmart was selling last year's model in that ad. They didn't have to stipulate anything other than "iPad mini" because both last year's model and the latest version are both simply called "iPad mini". The same is true for de-

vices from other manufacturers, as well. The Microsoft Surface tablet has an original version and a newer updated version. If you purchase a Nexus tablet, you will find a version from last year right alongside the newest 2013 version that was just released.

The newer versions almost always have improved functionality and new features, but buying last year's model is not necessarily bad. To be a smart consumer, however, you need to know exactly what you are buying. It is always wise to ask if you are purchasing the latest version. Even better, take the time to research the older version and compare it spec-by-spec with the newest version. That is the only way to know if the price difference is worthwhile for you.

Luckily, the Internet makes such research easy. Right on the Apple website you can find a comparison for the two versions of the iPad mini. The newer iPad mini has a much improved screen resolution and a faster processor but the main specifications of the device remain the same. If you don't care that much about the screen clarity or the speed, the savings may be worthwhile.

You may not always need to purchase the latest and greatest version of each product. Only you can determine exactly what you need and which features you will use, and which you can do without. Doing research on the products can be time-consuming, but it is a worthwhile endeavor that will help you find the perfect device at the right price.

When it comes to high tech gadgets, being a savvy consumer is essential. You need to be "in the know" so you can make an informed decision on whether you would rather have the

best device currently on the market or a little extra money in your pocket.

*This article has been obtained from APCUG with the author's permission for publication by APCUG member*

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## Request For Door Prizes

**Y**our Computer Club Needs You, or at least your 'stuff.' We could use a bit of help in accumulating useful items for the door prize give away. Please take a look and see if you have any computer related items or equipment that you no longer need and that might be of value to another club member. If you come across some treasures, just bring them to the next club meeting and pass them along at the speaker's table.

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## SHCC Emergency Cancellation

**S**terling Heights Computer Club meets at Macomb Community College (MCC). We will meet if MCC is open and will not if MCC is closed. MCC closure is announced with other school closings on many local TV and radio stations and on their web site. All members of SHCC have an email address. One of the SHCC officers will send an email to the addresses SHCC has on file alerting members to the event cancellation. If your email is broken, call an officer; don't leave a message, call another officer if you don't talk to someone live. It is your responsibility to keep the email address you have listed with SHCC current.

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**WYSIWYG WEB WATCH (www)***by Paul Baecker* [webwatch@sterlingheightscomputerclub.org](mailto:webwatch@sterlingheightscomputerclub.org)

This column attempts to locate sites containing valuable, amusing and free content, with no overbearing pressure to purchase anything. Send your favorite entertaining, helpful or just plain useless sites (a description is optional) to the e-address noted above, for inclusion in a future WYSIWYG.

A list of some 101 free online alternatives to popular desktop software. (Of course, there are MANY others.)  
<http://websearch.about.com/od/web20officealternatives/tp/101-Free-Online-Alternatives-To-Popular-Desktop-Software.htm>

Eight reasons to switch from Windows 10 (or from any other Windows version) to Linux.  
<https://www.maketecheasier.com/switch-windows-10-to-linux/>

As you know, there is no such a thing as too many backups! Here's how to make an image backup of your Windows 10 PC.  
<http://www.it-tutorials.net/windows-10-full-image-backup/>

How to uninstall the Windows Product Key and use it on a new PC.  
<https://www.maketecheasier.com/uninstall-windows-product-key>

Live stream of backyard wild animals in Minnesota. Usually, at 2pm Minnesota time, watch as everyone gets fed.  
<http://www.deertrail.us>

How to make your Windows 10 PC more secure -- disable Cortana, data collections, and targeted advertising.  
<https://www.maketecheasier.com/windows-10-more-secure/>

Over 160 short (3-min.) videos about Windows 10 features and functionality. (From [www.windows10update.com](http://www.windows10update.com))  
[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkBhnZlJrJT-bOtparL\\_wA/](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkBhnZlJrJT-bOtparL_wA/)

Four ways to reset a Windows password.  
<https://www.maketecheasier.com/reset-windows-password/>

More arcade games.  
<http://www.bubblebox.com>

Windows 10 and your privacy: What you need to know.  
<https://www.maketecheasier.com/windows-10-privacy/>

Home Hacks and How-To tutorials. Loads of photos to help do all sorts of things in the home.  
<http://www.apartmenttherapy.com/collection/home-hacks-2010-586>

How to get more out of your adblocker.  
<https://www.maketecheasier.com/get-more-adblocker/>

Test your car smarts with this challenging quiz about engines.  
<http://www.zoo.com/quiz/car-engine-quiz>

OpenType or TrueType --- which font system should you use?  
<https://www.maketecheasier.com/opentype-vs-truetype/>

How to upgrade your existing hard drive in under an hour.  
<http://www.howtogeek.com/199068/how-to-upgrade-your-existing-hard-drive-in-under-an-hour/>

Microsoft admits Windows 10's automatic spying cannot be stopped. (The YouTube link reads the article to you.)  
<http://www.forbes.com/sites/gordonkelly/2015/11/02/microsoft-confirms-unstoppable-windows-10-tracking/#37ddd4862f4a>  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jFvQ\\_c3P\\_wE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jFvQ_c3P_wE)

Ten ways to protect your web privacy.  
<http://websearch.about.com/od/anonymoussurfingsafety/ss/Ten-Ways-to-Protect-Your-Web-Privacy.htm#showall>

Twenty websites to listen to music for free.  
<http://www.hongkiat.com/blog/free-music-online/>

**NOTE: Many of the links in the digital newsletter connect to the Internet if clicked. For those that do not, copy the link into your browser, and reach the web site that way.**

## World Wide Web Column on the Club Web Site

**C**heck out the WebPageReviews section on the club's web site. You can see past web sites reviewed in this column on our club web page. They are arranged into various key word categories to help locate a specific site.



**BONUS WYSIWYG WEB WATCH (WWW) PAGE***by Paul Baecker* [webwatch@sterlingheightscomputerclub.org](mailto:webwatch@sterlingheightscomputerclub.org)

Over 1200 military aircraft videos -- wars, shows, fly-overs.  
(Also available at <https://www.youtube.com/user/TJDOZIER1>)  
<http://flybynightvideos.com>

Common reasons why Google Chrome browser crashes and how to fix it.  
<https://www.maketecheasier.com/reasons-google-chrome-crashes/>

How to clean up system files with the Windows 10 Disk Cleanup tool.  
<http://www.techrepublic.com/article/how-to-clean-up-system-files-with-the-windows-10-disk-cleanup-tool/>

Come along on a tour of the Voyager adventures, presented in sound, video and text. Start scrolling down and enjoy the trip.  
<http://news.nationalgeographic.com/space/voyager/>

Here's how Windows 10 'spying' forced a user to switch to Linux Mint on his computer.  
<http://fosbytes.com/heres-why-a-user-got-irritated-by-windows-10-and-installed-linux-mint/>

Ten do's and don'ts for securing your Android device.  
<http://www.techrepublic.com/blog/10-things/10-security-measures-you-should-take-with-your-android-device/>

How to manage partitions with the Disk Management tool in Windows 7, 8.1, and 10.  
<http://www.digitalcitizen.life/how-manage-your-disks-using-disk-management-utility>

Don't you get annoyed when you accidentally type everything with CAPS LOCK on?  
<https://davescomputertips.com/how-to-fix-caps-lock-annoyances/>

Some free tools to tell if your computer is vulnerable to hackers.  
<http://www.makeuseof.com/tag/tell-computer-vulnerable-hackers/>

How to use the Windows System Configuration tool & all its awesomeness!  
<http://www.digitalcitizen.life/how-use-system-configuration-tool-all-its-awesomeness>

Guinness world records videos from around the world.  
<https://www.youtube.com/user/GuinnessWorldRecords/>

Make Windows 7 faster by removing context menu entries.  
<http://www.makeuseof.com/tag/make-windows-7-faster-by-removing-context-menu-entries/>

Free open-source genealogical research software.  
<https://gramps-project.org>

Taking basic steps to secure your home network will help protect your devices – and your information – from compromise.  
<https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0013-securing-your-wireless-network>

Collection of videos of comedian and prankster Tom Mabe.  
<https://www.youtube.com/user/MabeInAmerica>

Got an ASUS router at home? Read this.  
<https://www.onguardonline.gov/blog/got-asus-router-home-read>

How to create an image of your PC before upgrading to Windows 10.  
<http://www.howtogeek.com/223139/how-to-create-an-image-of-your-pc-before-upgrading-to-windows-10/>

Select a year between 1960 and 2013 to hear some of the popular tunes of that era.  
<http://thenostalgiemachine.com/years/1960.html>

Learn about, or improve your knowledge of, stock investing with the stock trading tutorials and FAQs here.  
<http://www.wisestockbuyer.com>

How to enter Windows 10 Safe Mode.  
<http://www.pcworld.com/video/61624/how-to-enter-windows-10-safe-mode>

Ransomware is a rapidly growing plague on computer users, and the latest variant of Locky adds malicious Word macros to its weaponry.  
<http://windowssecrets.com/on-security/ransomware-alert-dont-be-unlucky-with-locky/>

How every tech support call feels --- a comical view.  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=11qBpDVvnKY&list=PLe6bnyY7uIDgY1SCkqYlt\\_ULx04\\_49AH5&index=4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=11qBpDVvnKY&list=PLe6bnyY7uIDgY1SCkqYlt_ULx04_49AH5&index=4)

How to extract embedded images from a PDF file in Ubuntu using PDFImages.  
<https://www.maketecheasier.com/extract-embedded-images-pdf-ubuntu/>