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Our 33th Year

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Views And Reviews in this Issue.

What Is The WinX Menu And How To Open It

Test Your Firewall To Make Sure It's Working

Interesting Internet Finds - Sept. , Oct. & Nov., 2017

How To Start The Command Prompt When Windows Does Not Boot

How To Make Your Router Hack Proof - Lamp Post 201 & 202

Tools For Computer Users With Impaired Vision

How Should I Encrypt The Data On My Laptop

Cloud Services How Do They Compare



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JOURNAL OF THE CHICAGO COMPUTER SOCIETY

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by **MICK HEDRICK**, Managing Editor
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Commentary and news about some of the articles and also our writers, along with related matters, all intended to make this journal more useful to you.

Greetings,

We have gathered a collection of articles that we hope will inform you as well as entertain you. The first article by Ciprian Adrian Rusen informs us about the WinX menu and its usefulness. This menu was not given an official name by Microsoft so many websites named it WinX and the name has been accepted by the computing public. Ciprian describes the many system shortcuts this menu contains and their use. The article "Test your firewall to make sure it's working" shows us how to use the port testing service like Gibson Research Corporation's (GRC) ShieldsUP!! This software scans your firewall to make sure your incoming internet ports are not exposed and vulnerable to internet hacks. Steve Costello combs more than 300 RSS internet feeds each month and incorporates the ones he thinks might be of interest to other user group members into his monthly articles. Steve Costello's column "Interesting Internet Finds" for the months September, October, and November 2017 follow. The article "How to start the Command Prompt when Windows does not boot" informs us how to start the command

prompt for Windows versions 10, 7 and 8.1 using a setup DVD or a USB stick with the Windows 10 installation program you can use to start the Command Prompt.

The article by Francis Navarro "How to make your computer Hack-Proof" gives us various actions we can take to shield our router from attacks, thus making it harder to infiltrate and hack. With many members achieving advanced age the article by Dick Mayback "Tools for Computer Users with Impaired Vision" describes what is available to help users with physical limitations rather than provide step-by-step instructions on their use. Leo Notenboom in the article "How Should I Encrypt the Data on My Laptop?" describes three common encryption methods to protect data on your computer. The Lamp Post 201 and Lamp Post 202 articles are provided by courtesy of John Spizzirri, the Webmaster and all around technical expert for our sister APCUG chapter Computers Are Easy User Group (CAEUG) located in Glendale Heights. John's main activity is his busy customer support service, but he also finds time

The Chicago Computer Society is a 501(c)3 educational not-for-profit personal computer User's Group with monthly meetings throughout Northeast Illinois. All chapter and Special Interest Group meetings are open to the general public.

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application.

to keep abreast of the current news events within the computational field. His articles reflecting his interests, are insightful as well as entertaining. Komando.com is the source of the next article "Cloud services: How do they compare?". This article compares 7 of the most popular cloud services available informing us what they can do, what operating systems they work with, some of their features, and if space is free and the relative cost if and when one exceeds the free space.

Members may communicate with the Hard-Copy staff using the UID ccshcopy@gmail.com. We welcome your comments, photographs, etc. Please include your name and phone number with all communications.

NOTE: Starting in 2011(Fall) APCUG (our parent organization) conducts Vertical Technical Conferences (VTC) four times a year. The presentations given at the last 4 VTCs are listed on a following page. Please check the topics as they are specifically designed to be of interest to APCUG members.

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***Be Sure to check out the monthly
calendar for meetings about your
computing needs at
www.ccs.org***

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APCUG Virtual Technical Conferences (VTCs)

NOTE: Starting in 2011 (Fall) APCUG (our parent organization) has conducted Virtual Technology Conferences (VTC) four times a year. These conferences typically have 6 one-hour presentations on subjects of interest to many of us. On the day of the conference the presentations are available to view live (webinar) and allow members to ask questions of the presenters. If you are unable to attend the live webinars, APCUG has available on their website (apcug2.org) both video (YouTube) and PDF's of the presentations to allow all members to enjoy the presentations. To access the presentations (1) Go to the APCUG website www.apcug2.org, (2) At the top of the webpage place your cursor on the "Member Benefits" heading (3) From the dropdown list, select "Virtual Tech Conferences". This takes you to a new web page that lists all the prior Virtual Tech Conferences. Click on the conference presentations you wish to access. You can also subscribe to APCUG's YouTube channel at: www.youtube.com/apcugvideos. The VTC Presentations made during the last Summer, Spring, Winter, and Fall Conferences are as follows:

APCUG 2018 Spring Virtual Technology Conference (VTC 28) 05/05/2018

TRACK 1

1:00 PM ET Create a Smart Home with Home Automation & Voice Assistants Joe Melfi,
Strategic Technical Marketing Engineer

2:00 PM ET What's new in the Spring Windows 10 update Jere Minich, Program Chair,
Lake-Sumter Computer Society

3:00 PM ET Teaching Technology Topics to Seniors Ray Baxter, Payson Computer
Meet-Up Club, APCUG Treasurer

TRACK 2

1:00 PM ET Synchronizing Your PC, a Guide to.....Bill James, VP, Computer Club of
Oklahoma City; APCUG Advisor, Region 8

2:00 PM ET That's new with Ubuntu? Orv Beach, Training Chair, Southern California
Linux expo – SCALE

3:00 PM ET Write and Publish Your eBook on Amazon Kindle... for Free [Bill Neves](#),
Member, Silvercom Computer and Technology Club

APCUG 2018 Winter Virtual Technology Conference (VTC27)**02/10/2018****TRACK 1**

1:00 PM ET Social Networking: How to Navigate Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and Instagram Abby Stokes, Author, "Is This Thing On?"

2:00 PM ET Protect Your Important Tech 'Stuff'
Toby Scott, Tech Guru, Channel Islands PCUG

3:00 PM ET 2 Factor Authentication (2FA)
Ron Brown, Program Chair, Silvercom Computer and Technology Club

TRACK 2

1:00 PM ET Google apps at home and on the go
Phil Sorrentino, The Computer Club newsletter contributor

2:00 PM ET Becoming Your Own Computer Expert
Philip "Phil" Bock, President, Lake County Area Computer Enthusiasts

3:00 PM ET Getting Better Google Search Results
Hewie Poplock, APCUG Rep/Windows SIG Leader, Central Florida Computer Society;
Chromebooks for Seniors Proponent, <http://hewie.net>, <http://cb4s.net>

APCUG 2017 Fall Virtual Technology Conference (VTC26)**11/04/2017****TRACK 1**

1:00 PM ET Tips for Staying Safe Online and Preventing Identity Theft Bob Gostischa

2:00 PM ET Internet Camouflaging Using VPN How to Use VPN As Your Cloak of
Invisibility When Accessing the Internet

3:00 PM ET Sharing Club Articles on Medium

TRACK 2

1:00 PM ET Hands-on LibreOffice Demo

2:00 PM ET Google Photos

3:00 PM ET Voice Operated Assistants

APCUG 2017 Summer Virtual Technology Conference (VTC25)**August 19, 2017**

01:00 PM - 01:50 PM

Track 1 Pi-hole**Track 2** GNSS (Global Navigation Satellite System) - Why You Shouldn't Get Lost!

02:00 PM - 02:50 PM

Track 1 Home Automation Security**Track 2** Chromebooks are for Seniors

03:00 PM - 03:50 PM

Track 1 Finding Tech Information on Medium.com**Track 2** Ideas for Revitalizing Your Computer Club

CCS Computer Clubs

Your *Chicago Computer Society* has several Computer Clubs which meet monthly throughout the Chicagoland area. Computer Club meetings provide the opportunity for beginners and experienced computer users to get a chance to meet and share experiences, ideas, problems and challenges.

You are welcome to attend as many Computer Club and SIG meetings as you wish each month. Many CCS members regularly attend the Computer Club meetings most convenient to their home or work place. Some have also been to one or more SIG meetings of particular interest, and also attend other Computer Club and SIG meetings when the topic is of interest. There is no charge to attend CCS Computer Club or SIG meetings. Guests are always welcome.

Please check The Monthly Calendar on the CCS (ccs.org) website to Determine if the meeting has been re-scheduled from day stated below or has been canceled

Northwest Senior SIG 1st & 3rd Thursday 9:00 a.m.
Dick Brandt Day (847) 825-3873 E-mail: richbran1@comcast.net

North Suburban Computer Club Third Thursday 7:00 p.m.
Ed Keating Eve: (847) 438-0027 E-mail: edward.keating@yahoo.com

South Suburban Computer Club Third Tuesday 7:00 p.m.
Jane W. Smith Eve: (708) 95-5420 E-mail: jmin413@aol.com

West Suburban Computer Club First Thursday 7:00 p.m.
Stan Hungness Eve: (630) 357-4554 E-mail: shungness@yahoo.com

Access Developers SIG Second Monday 6:30 p.m.
Mary Sue Honigschmidt Eve: (630) 986-1853 E-mail: marysue@red-works.com

ACT! SIG Various 7:00 p.m.
Alan Lee: (847) 352-4770 E-mail: Alan@etechsys.com

Computing Tips Tricks SIG First Monday 6:30 p.m.
Sanford Kolnick: E-Mail: sanford@core.com

Computing Tips/Fixes SIG First Wednesday 6:00 p.m.
Bill Zeigler: (847)-265-8215 E-mail: bz@zeigler.com

South Suburban - Windows New User SIG First Tuesday 7:00 p.m.
Al Cheeks Day: (708) 748-5115 E-mail: alcheeks@comcast.net

Downtown Computer Club Fourth Friday 2:00 p.m.
Norman Montgomery: G-mail nfmontgomery@gmail.com