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# The Rochester Computer Society, Inc. a computer club open to everyone



# MONITOR

Vol. 35, No. 3

March 2017

“Your Computer User Group of the Air”, Saturdays from 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm with Nick Francesco, Dave Enright, and Steve Rae. Broadcasting on JAZZ 90.1 FM from Rochester, NY. Call 966-JAZZ (585-966-5299) or 800-790-0415

The RCSI 'Monitor' newsletter can be found in most public libraries in Monroe County. *Free* copies can also be found in the following computer stores: Microworx, Just Solutions, TSC Electronics, and Pod Computers. Digital copies may be obtained from [www.rcsi.org](http://www.rcsi.org) or my cloud storage at <http://tinyurl.com/tonydel-rcsi-newsletters/>.

### Some Past Presentations:

Open Source and Free Software  
Protecting Your Identity  
Keeping Mobile Devices Secure  
Mobile Payments  
Flash Drives-Not Just for Storage  
Features, Mac OS X & Windows  
Tablets, the Programs and Uses  
Personal Finance Software  
Amazing Browser Tips  
Linux is Like Cars  
Close up Photography



Next Meeting - Tuesday, March 14

Search With Better Results With Google,  
by Hewie Poplock, via Skype  
Central Florida Computer Society

Tuesday, April 11, 2017

3-D Printer Demonstration, by Skip Meetze,  
volunteer at RIT's e-NABLE Lab

### In This Issue

Browser Pop-up Scams	David Kretchmar
Your eyes can so easily be deceived!	Babette Bloch
How do I Copy Photos from My Phone to My PC?	Ask Leo!
Tracking and Third-Party Cookies	Melanie Birnbom
Tech Heck	Greg Skalka
What is PayPal and how does it work?	TechBoomers
The 8 hottest new devices for 2017	BrandPoint
Musings of an Apple Tyro	Lorrin R. Garson
What Is JavaScript, and Why Is Gmail Blocking It?	Jere Minich

### Browser Pop-up Scams

By David Kretchmar, Computer Hardware Technician  
Sun City Summerlin Computer Club, NV

Windows 10 has proven itself to be the most secure Windows operating system ever, so hackers seem to be turning to another vulnerability. Browsers (Internet Explorer, Edge, Firefox, and Google Chrome) are becoming a prime target of scammers. If you are at all adventuresome exploring the Internet, you probably have had a browsing session interrupted by a pop-up visual often accompanied by an obnoxious audio warning to the effect that your computer has been infected and you must call a toll-free 800 (or 8XX) number to prevent something terrible from happening to your hard drive or data. *This*



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## Special Interest Group

### Linux Sig

The workshop is the **third Saturday of each month**, at Interlock Rochester, 1115 East Main St.



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

Enter through door #7 on the end of building, near *Comics Etc* and Goodman St. Find 'Interlock' on the intercom directory to get buzzed in and go upstairs to suite #200. We have experts on hand to fix problems and answer questions about Linux and FOSS (free and open source software). Bring your system in so we can help you get the most out of it. Hope to see you there.

**Free, online  
Virtual Technology  
Conferences,**

presented by APCUG  
Saturdays from 1-5 pm, on

May 6, 2017  
August 19, 2017  
November 4, 2017

*warning is bogus; often this "threat" can be usually deleted by simply closing your browser.*

To protect yourself from serious malware infection, you must be careful about how you close a pop-up window. Specifically, you should never click anywhere in a pop-up window. Even buttons labeled "Cancel" or "Close" or a red-X button in the upper-right corner are dangerous to click; doing so could trigger an infection.

### Safely close a pop-up window

To safely close a pop-up window, locate the button in your Taskbar that represents your browser. Also, look for other highlighted icons on the Taskbar; the button and the pop-up will usually have a similar name. Right click on the button and select Close. If that doesn't work, you need to use the Windows Task Manager to close the pop-up. Simultaneously press the CTRL, ALT, and DEL keys, and, from the resulting window, select "Task Manager". In the Task Manager, under the Processes tab, highlight your browser application and click the End Task button. It is probably a good idea to close all applications except the Task Manager, unless you are comfortable identifying non-problem items.

Occasionally you will have to power down your system to remove the problem, either by holding in the start button on your computer for 10 or so seconds or unplugging your tower. If the problem occurs on a laptop computer naturally the battery must also be removed to completely power down the computer.

### What has happened to my system?

Usually the pop-up described above does no lasting damage to your computer. It is "only" a URL (Internet site) function with some unique properties. The purpose of the URL function, which you experience as a pop-up, is to frighten the user into calling the toll-free number. A con-man (it seems to usually be a male) probably on the other side of the world will attempt to extract as much money and data from you as possible to remove the threat. Usually the scammer will attempt to get the caller to initiate a remote connection to the victimized computer. The remote connection can then be used to make it appear that the scammer is examining your system and often additional software, such as a Citrix program, which is a legitimate application, is loaded into your system to increase the scammer's control of your computer.

### Never call any phone number that appears

The scammer might trick you into granting them remote control of your computer. This might, enable them to install a "backdoor", granting scammers the unfettered ability, now and in the future, to harvest any or all the information contained on your system, to be used for any purpose. Never allow anyone you don't know to remotely log in to and use a computer that you own and control.

Inevitably the scammer discovers some terrible problem with your computer.

You are informed that you will be required to pay a substantial fee to have the problem removed and/or prevent future problems.

From the November 2016 issue, GigiBytes Gazette, [www.scsc.org](http://www.scsc.org), [tomburt89134@cox.net](mailto:tomburt89134@cox.net).

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Webmaster: . . . . . Bob Avery  
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Membership: . . . . . Steve Staub

## Planning Meeting

Held on 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month  
at 7 pm, at St. John's Meadows,  
Briarwood building.

## Newsletter Printing

The February newsletter was  
printed at St John's/Chestnut  
Court by the main printing staff of  
Chuck Wells and Don Nichols,  
with the help of Don Wilder  
(computer and printer operator).  
We will try and print on the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Thursday morning, following the  
monthly meeting.

[www.ggcs.org](http://www.ggcs.org), [editor@ggcs.org](mailto:editor@ggcs.org).

## Your eyes can so easily be deceived!

By Babette Bloch, Contributing Editor  
Golden Gate Computer Society

WE'VE ALL HEARD OVER AND OVER not to click attachments and links in e-mail messages that are suspect. There is less talk about another way to get sucked into trouble either by incurring a big fee or worse, an invasion of your computer. I call it "The Technical UNsupport," or "The Program Support That Isn't". It's the second time I've run into this scam, or worse, and it's well worth avoiding. Case 1: A Quicken SIG member who had a problem thought he was contacting Quicken's Tech Support. He'd googled the very words "Quicken Support" and found this: Quicken® Help 1-800-656-6115, Get 24x7 unlimited quicken support and phone help from quicken tech experts. Quicken Mac Tech Support includes quicken diagnose, install, upgrade and fix <http://quicken-help.com/>

He thought he was talking to the real Quicken Support, and they led him through a long discussion of the problem, plus getting permission to actually look at his program on his computer. And then they came up with a diagnosis that the whole program was corrupted and would cost \$300 to fix. At that point he hung up and called me. Case 2: When I was wrestling the Windows 10 upgrade and everyone in GGCS I called was not available; my husband tried to call the Quicken Store in Corte Madera. After 20 minutes on hold, he gave up and turned to Google, looking for "Windows 10 Support Phone Number." He found: Call - +44-800-086-8333(UK) for Microsoft Windows 10 Technical Support. Get Certified Technician for Windows 10 Update Failed, Windows 10 Activation Error Call +61-1800-502-681(Australia), Windows 10 Update from 8, 8.1, 7 Call to Toll Free Number - 1- 855-883-1117(USA) Call 1-855-883-1117 Microsoft Windows 10 Technical Support [www.microsoftwindows10technicalsupport.com/](http://www.microsoftwindows10technicalsupport.com/). He called the number and then handed me the phone to explain the problem I was having. A man with a slight Indian accent told me they could take care of the whole thing and download Windows 10 from their end to my computer; just give them access! At which point I hung up. And they called back! And I hung up again.

What was going on? The huge, main clue was that neither of these links had a site URL that was any of the following: [quicken.com](http://quicken.com), [intuit.com](http://intuit.com), or [Microsoft.com](http://Microsoft.com). In addition, when I clicked the link with my computer today, running the MalwareBytes program, it would not let me open either site and said each was a "malicious site." So if you're looking for any help by searching the Internet, regardless of what search engine you use, watch those links before you click! The description before the link's notation can be very misleading. Make sure the link is for the company whose product you are searching. If in doubt, use a search for the phone number or name of the suspect in the description. In addition, one has to wonder why Google doesn't vet such links and puts them so high in the list.

From the August 2016 issue, Golden Gate Computer Society Newsletter,

## Ask Leo !

By Leo Notenboom, <https://askleo.com/>  
Making Technology Work For Everyone

### How do I Copy Photos from My Phone to My PC?

Copying photos from your phone to your PC is simple with a few readily available tools.

//

Is there a simple way to transfer pictures from my mobile phone to my PC? I use Windows and have Bluetooth on the phone. I don't know how to get Bluetooth on the PC. Is there any other way?

There are several different ways. Bluetooth might be the most inconvenient of the bunch, but I'll touch on it, as well as the techniques I use myself.

As you might imagine, I prefer techniques that are automatic, and all in the name of backing up.

#### Automatic via the cloud

The short version is this: simply install any of a number of apps associated with cloud storage, and there's a very good chance it'll offer to upload your photos automatically right after you take them. Install the corresponding app on your PC, and the photos will be automatically downloaded as well.

For example, install Dropbox on your phone and on your PC. Even if you don't already have a Dropbox account, a new account includes two gigabytes of free storage, which is plenty to start with. As you set up the phone application, it'll ask if you want to enable "camera uploads". Say yes, and you're done.

Take a picture, and a few minutes later it'll show up on your PC. Once there, you can move it elsewhere at your convenience if you want to free up cloud storage space.

I've used this technique successfully with [Dropbox](#) and Microsoft's OneDrive. Currently, I use Google's Photos app on my Google Pixel phone. Each mobile app will offer to automatically upload your photos to the associated cloud storage. Install the corresponding PC equivalent, and your photos will be automatically downloaded to your PC.

All three offer this functionality in roughly the same way.

#### Cloud confusion

This technique of using mobile apps in conjunction with cloud storage is so ubiquitous, it can actually be a problem.

I have apps for all three services installed on my phone. Each one offers to automatically upload my photos. It's important to *pick just one* for the task, and turn the feature *off* in the others, or you might find yourself uploading multiple copies of every photo you take. In a sense that's benign, except that it eats up your data plan and slows down your connection while all the uploads happen.

#### Bandwidth control

Speaking of data plans, if you're concerned that you might use too much data uploading all these photos as you're out and about, most mobile apps offer a few ways to control what's uploaded and when.

- *Upload when connected via Wi-Fi only.* This causes the app to never use your mobile carrier's data plan, but

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#### Computer Recycling

Some Residential Drop off  
Locations: **Call first**, to find out what is accepted, especially for 'tube type' tvs or monitors.

#### Monroe County EcoPark:

10 Avion Drive  
Rochester, NY 14624  
[www.monroecounty.gov/ecopark](http://www.monroecounty.gov/ecopark)

#### Orleans County:

below sites M-F, 9 am – 2 pm  
Orleans County Highway Garage  
225 West Academy Street  
Albion, NY 14411  
Town of Murray Highway Garage  
3840 Fancher Road  
Holley, NY 14470  
Town of Shelby Highway Garage  
4062 Salt Works Road  
Medina, NY 14103

#### Regional Computer Recycling & Recovery (RCR&R)

7318 Victor Mendon Road  
Victor, NY 14564  
(585) 924-3840

to perform the upload only when the phone is connected to Wi-Fi. Typically, as soon as you're back home and your phone connects to your local internet via your Wi-Fi connection, the photos are uploaded and copied to your other machines.

- *Use mobile data to upload only pictures under a certain size.* This allows the app to upload “small” photos immediately (measured by file size, typically in KB, or kilobytes), and save the larger ones for Wi-Fi connection. Since most phones take photos of a similar size, this isn't very useful.
- *Upload photos, but not videos, via mobile connection.* Videos can be large. If the application supports uploading the videos you take (most do), then it'll probably default to only doing so when connected via Wi-Fi. Most apps will let you configure this upload to use your data plan if you like.

### Connecting the phone to your PC

The other common approach is to connect your phone to your computer. You can typically do this in either of two ways: via cable or Bluetooth.

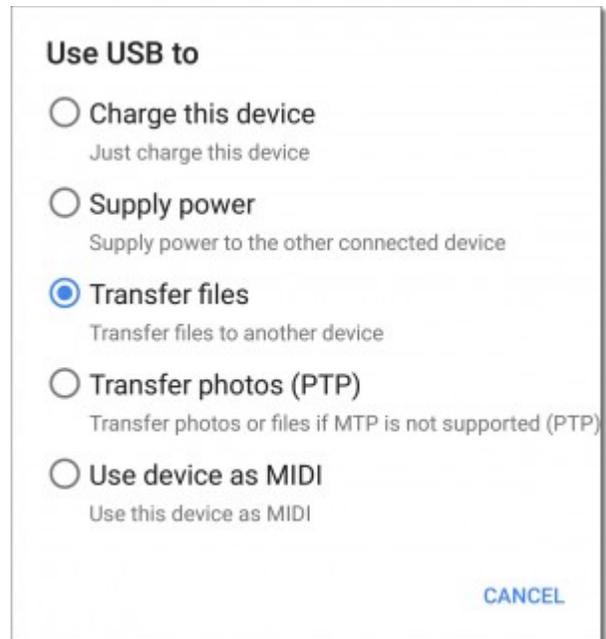
Honestly, Bluetooth for file transfer has proven unreliable for me. If you can get it to work, great, but it's not the approach I recommend.

Use a cable. Chances are your phone came with a USB cable to connect your phone to your computer. The copies will happen faster, and as a side benefit, your phone will probably also be charging its battery at the same time.

Once attached, your phone should appear in Windows as if it were another disk drive on your computer, just like inserting a USB memory stick. (On some phones, you may need to change a setting to appear as a “data drive” for file transfer. Check your settings, or any settings that appear when you attach the phone.)

Depending on how Windows itself is configured, and the software you have installed, it may automatically prompt you to import your photos.

If not, use Windows File Explorer to look for a top-level folder called “DCIM”. Your photographs will be in that folder; use Explorer to copy or move the picture files from your phone to wherever you'd like on your PC.



Do you need an extra copy of the newsletter for a family member or friend. Additional copies may be picked up at the following:

**Microworx**, 585-271-0050  
20 Allens Creek Rd, Rochester, NY 14618 [Brighton]

**Just Solutions**, 585-203-8790  
7300 Pittsford Palmyra Road (RT. 31), Fairport, NY 14450

**TSC Computers and Electronics**, 585-429-6880  
765 Elmgrove Rd. #2 Rochester, NY, 14624 [Gates]

**POD Computers**, 585-244-2240  
1925 South Ave, (meets East Henrietta Rd), Rochester, NY 14620

# Tracking and Third-Party Cookies

By Melanie Birnbom, Editor  
Century Village Computer Club, FL



What are "tracking and third-party cookies?" Should I delete them? How can I prevent them from getting there in the first place? A cookie is a small bit of information a website saves on your computer when you visit. That's how sites remember your settings and preferences between visits.

For the most part, cookies are harmless. For example, news sites use them to tell which stories you read and suggest related or updated stories. Ad companies buy space on dozens, hundreds or thousands of sites, which means they can see your traffic habits and learn your likes or dislikes. All of this happens independently of the site you're actually visiting.

For example: third-party cookies learn enough to guess that you're a **(insert gender here)** from the **(insert location here)**. That's why you probably see ads for attractions or restaurants in your area.

It gets worse. If you browse a vegetarian blog that the advertiser buys space on, ads for steakhouses on sites you visit after that can disappear and be replaced by ads for vegetarian restaurants. The cookies could even track down allergies or food sensitivities you have and target those.

While you can delete the cookies, advertisers can hit you with them again if you don't change your browser's settings.

Each browser has a way to stop them:

## **Internet Explorer**

Click the wrench in the top-right corner  
Internet Options  
Go to the Privacy tab  
Click "Advanced"  
Select "Override automatic cookie handling"  
Click Block under third-party cookies

## **Microsoft Edge**

Click the three-dot (Hamburger) More Actions button on the top right  
Select "Settings"  
Click "View Advanced Settings" (you'll need to scroll down to the bottom of the page). Click the dropdown arrow under the "Cookies" field  
Select "Block Only Third Party Cookies"

## **Firefox**

Options  
Privacy tab  
History  
Select Use Custom Settings for History where it says "Firefox will."  
Uncheck "Accept third-party cookies"

## **Chrome**

Click...  
Three-lined (Hamburger) icon in the top-right corner of the window

Show advanced settings  
Content settings in the Privacy menu  
Choose to block third-party cookies and site data.

## Opera

Menu Tab  
Click  
Settings  
Cookies  
Select Block third-party cookies & site data

From [www.centuryvillagecomputerclub.com](http://www.centuryvillagecomputerclub.com), [nbirnborn@yahoo.com](mailto:nbirnborn@yahoo.com)

## Tech Heck

by Greg Skalka, President  
Under the Computer Hood User Group, CA

Somewhere between tech heaven and tech hell is tech heck, where most of us that are tech users reside. No one's technology experience is always flawless and perfect, so tech heaven is not achievable in this existence (I mean, really - who has not received a spam email or had a cell call dropped). Likewise, it is unlikely anyone is always bested by technology and gets absolutely no benefit from it, or lives a life of total misery because of technology. We all live somewhere in between, usually where technology helps us a lot of the time, but betrays us on occasion. We all have our own individual tech hecks, and where ours is in that wide spectrum can vary greatly, and even change over time.

I don't think that anyone today can live completely apart from our modern technology. Even if you forsake everything modern and retreat to the wilderness to live completely off the grid and off the land with only stone tools, you'll probably be spotted by surveillance satellites or aircraft. Then the authorities will soon arrive to find out why you are trespassing, or if you do own the land, why you have not been paying your property taxes. In a world that seems to be shrinking due to increased population and easy travel, technology serves the purpose of helping us to better get along with all the other humans here.

That does not mean that everyone has to be "all in" on the latest tech. Each person must decide for themselves what they feel comfortable dealing with and capable of understanding. No one need be forced into using Snapchat or smart phones or self-driving cars, but we all live in a world where these exist, and we can still benefit from their existence. I don't know how to perform laparoscopic (or minimally invasive) surgery, but I am glad the technology to perform it exists, otherwise the recent removal of my appendix might have left a big scar and required a lengthy recovery. All the latest medical devices and procedures help us to live longer and healthier lives, but as I found with my recent procedure, and as we are all finding out as country, there is often a higher financial price to be paid for those advances.

Shunning technology can reduce the negatives of tech heck in a limited sense, but we are all sharing this planet and are affected by what everyone else does, at least to some degree. The Amish certainly don't have to worry about their buggies being set afire by an exploding Samsung Galaxy Note 7, as they shun modern conveniences like smart phones. They will, however, suffer the same unfortunate fate as the rest of us tech users if we can't prevent a climate disaster from human-induced global warming or avoid a global nuclear war. The Amish may decline modern transport and walk beside the roads, but could still fall victim to an accident caused by a cellphone-distracted automobile driver.

Technology connects us all and provides a backdrop for all we do. Television, telephones, computers and the Internet have reduced the distance between us and broken down geographic barriers, all without our having to leave our homes. We have the advantage of knowing what is happening on the other side of the globe; we also have the disadvantage sometimes of knowing exactly what is happening on the other side of the globe. The media's emphasis on sensationalism can make it seem that all news everywhere is bad. The internet can help spread knowledge and tolerance, but can also be used by the hateful and intolerant to spread their views. We benefit from the ability to conduct financial transactions and shop online, but suffer from identity theft, online scams and loss of privacy.

Tech heck is even creeping into the political debate, one of the main current news subjects. Both major party presidential candidates have their own tech problems, Hillary Clinton with email servers, and Donald Trump with having embarrassing recordings from his past made public. We have had concerns about the integrity of election results in the past due to technology; now do we have to worry about the Russians hacking voter databases and influencing our election?

Our technology problems are not even confined to this world alone. Going into space is difficult. We have had many successes, but also a number of failures, and lost lives in the process. We were able to land men on the moon with computers not much more powerful than a pocket calculator, yet we still crash expensive, sophisticated spacecraft today. Mars appears to be particularly intolerant of our technology, as of the 55 spacecraft humans have tried to send its way, less than half have been successful missions. The recent crash of the European Space Agency's Schiaparelli lander is another example of Mars tech heck. The U.S. and Russia have sent the bulk of the missions to the red planet, with NASA succeeding in 19 out of 25 tries, while Russia succeeded in only three of 23. Maybe we don't have to worry so much about election hacking after all.

When it comes to new technology, it appears the young are the most eager and adept adopters. Put a smart phone in the hands of a two-year-old and they will dive right in, but the same device may be intimidating to a senior citizen. My children (in their late 20's now) are more accepting of and accomplished with some new tech than I am, while my parents (in their late 70's) would like to keep up but need some help.

My daughter is not very technical, but knows most everything about social media, and the iPhone and iPad are her weapons of choice. My son is an engineer and has become quite accomplished at building little project boards that communicate over text or the internet, letting him know if his mail was delivered, if a monitored item moved and how much beer is left in the keg. He uses computers all day at work, set up his own home network (with network cameras) and is kind of tethered to his smart phone. He seems quite pragmatic about technology and is not at all intimidated by it; he has no reluctance to just trying things until he gets it working. Part of his confidence I'm sure comes from growing up with all this tech stuff. When I bought network cams like his, I resorted to having him come over to help me set them up (a true indication that I'm getting old). He has no interest in a user group to help solve his tech problems; he'll just Google the problem.

My parents live 100 miles away; I wish I were closer, so that I could help them with their tech problems more often. My dad has been my idol and role model through life. It has always impressed me that he grew up in a farm house with no indoor plumbing or electricity, yet picked up tech and computers easily. He has built his own computers, but lately has had a harder time keeping up with advanced topics like networking and email. My mom has used computers for years but is slowing down a bit as well. Both have cell phones but don't text. My mom now has a smart phone, but is waiting on my nephew to come over and give her more guidance on how to use it. What is intuitive for the younger generation is not so much for the older.

I'm somewhere in between, in my own tech heck. I'm an engineer and spend my work days designing telecom hardware, but no longer have the time or inclination to build little projects like my son. My first computer was a Timex Sinclair 1000, so I knew BASIC pretty well, but by the time C programming came along I was so much into the hardware that programming fell by the wayside. I'm pretty good at networking and setting up tech stuff; I have a wide variety of printers, scanners, cameras, GPS receivers, action cams and other gadgets. I may succeed in conquering technology more due to being methodical and persistent than being skilled. I have lived so long in the Windows environment that I've never had much interest in the Apple world (too expensive) or in Linux (too unfamiliar and seemingly less useful). Mobile devices have never caught on with me; I own a couple of tablets that I rarely use, and I've yet to buy a smart phone (I'm paying for everyone else's data plans, so can't afford one for myself). I don't really see a point in social media like Facebook; it is hard enough keeping up with email.

I am the IT department for my extended household, responsible for keeping everything running. On the whole, things usually work as expected, but with more tech comes more opportunities for interaction problems or outright failures. My least favorite call to receive is from my wife, to tell me while I'm at work that her home PC is having problems (as if there was anything I could easily do to diagnose or fix it remotely). I sometimes wonder if in an afterlife our heaven or hell would be tailored specifically to us individually. In that case, I know my heaven would be a place where everything works and nothing ever breaks or malfunctions, while my hell would be a place where everything was perpetually broken, and Lucifer was constantly after me to fix it all.

Oh heck!

From the November 2016 issue, Drive Light, [www.uchug.org](http://www.uchug.org), [president@uchug.org](mailto:president@uchug.org)



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\*\*\*\*\* Software and Hardware \*\*\*\*\*

## What is PayPal and how does it work?

<https://techboomers.com/t/what-is-paypal>



At Techboomers, one of the most common security questions that we get from our users is with respect to websites that require you to pay for something: "Is it safe to put my credit card details into this

website?" Often, the answer is "yes," but some people are still a little uncomfortable with entering their credit card details into every single website that requires payment, either for a subscription to a service or an item that they want to buy from someone. And with all of the horror stories about how permanent information on the Internet is, and how often others try to steal it (and sometimes succeed), we totally understand that.

That's where a website like PayPal.com is useful. Just enter a few of your personal and financial details into PayPal, and you can use it as a payment method on millions of websites across the Internet, including eBay.com and OverStock.com! And here's the kicker: you don't have to reveal your credit card or bank account details to any of those websites. That's right; authorization of your PayPal account is all that you need to seal the deal!

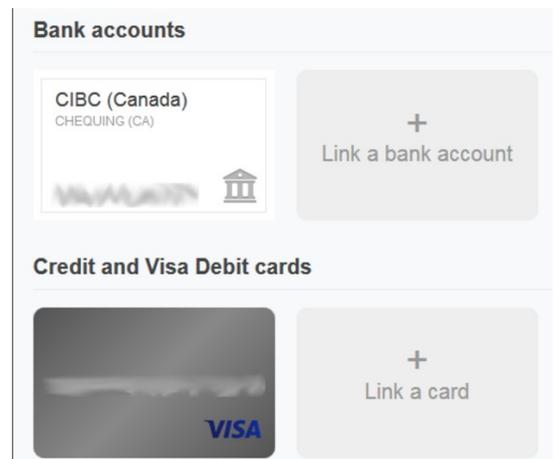
### So what exactly is PayPal?

PayPal is a financial tool that lets you conduct transactions online without entering your financial details into every website you deal with. Link your credit card and/or bank account to PayPal, and then add to (or withdraw from) a secure money pool, shop at retailers who accept PayPal, or send money to other PayPal users.

### How does PayPal work? 5 key ways to use PayPal

#### 1. Pay from your credit card or bank account

When you sign up for PayPal, you can link your credit card account, your bank account, or both to your PayPal account. That way, when you pay for something using PayPal, you get to choose where the money comes from!



### Add Money

Add money from your bank account

Bank transfers may take 3-5 business days depending on your bank.

Amount

To your PayPal balance

No fees when adding money from your bank.

Remember, you don't need a balance in your PayPal account to make a purchase or send money. [Learn more.](#)

Add

#### 2. Create a secure pool of money

You can transfer money from your bank account to your PayPal account. That way, when you want to send money or pay for something with PayPal, you can just use the money in your PayPal account. You don't have to involve your credit card or bank account details at all in the transaction!

### 3. Draw money from your PayPal account when you need it

If you need to make a purchase that can't be completed with PayPal, don't sweat it! PayPal allows you to easily transfer money back into your bank account from your semi-anonymous pool on PayPal if liquid cash would be more useful to you in a certain situation.

The screenshot shows the 'Review' step of a PayPal withdrawal. It includes the following fields: Amount (Change \$50.00), Bank name (blurred), Account type (Chequing), and Account number (blurred). Below these fields is a note: 'Please allow 3-5 business days for processing.' At the bottom, there is a blue button labeled 'Withdraw \$50.00'.

### 4. Seamless online shopping through PayPal

Millions of websites accept PayPal as payment, and shopping with PayPal is a snap on sites like eBay.com, OverStock.com, and HomeDepot.com! When you go to check out, simply select PayPal as your payment type, log into your PayPal account, and select where you want the money to come from: your bank account, your credit card, or your balance on PayPal. No credit card details required!

The screenshot shows the PayPal checkout interface. At the top, the PayPal logo is visible. Below it, the email address 'corbin@techboomers.com' is shown with a 'Switch account' link. There are two radio button options for payment source: 'CIBC (Canada)' (selected) and 'VISA'. At the bottom, there is a link that says 'Add a credit or debit card to PayPal'.

The screenshot shows the 'Send Money' screen in PayPal. It features a profile icon at the top, followed by the text 'You're sending to' and a blurred recipient name. The amount '\$20.00' is prominently displayed, with 'CAD' and a dropdown arrow below it. At the bottom, there is a blue button with a plus sign and the text 'Write a note (Optional)'.

### 5. Transfer money quickly and easily to other PayPal users

If your friends or family members use PayPal, too, then you can send them money when they need it with just a few quick clicks! Just type in their email address or phone number, choose how much money you want to give them (and in what currency), write them a note if you want, select where the money's going to come from -- your credit card, your bank account, or your PayPal balance -- and send your gift off!

That's an introduction to what PayPal is and what it does! Throughout our PayPal course, we'll teach you everything you need to know to make PayPal your best friend when it comes to transferring money online. We'll show you how to sign up for a PayPal account, transfer money to your PayPal account, use your PayPal account for online purchases, and do all this and more as safely as possible. Let us be your guide for using PayPal to move money online safely and quickly! TechBoomers' PayPal course: <https://techboomers.com/p/paypal>.

The advertisement for POD Computers features the company logo at the top left. To the right, the address '1925 South Ave. Corner of South Ave. and East Henrietta Rd.' and phone number '244-2240' are listed. Below the logo, there are images of a laptop and a desktop computer. The laptop is priced at '\$129.99' and the desktop at '\$149.99'. Text indicates 'Laptops starting At' and 'Desktops starting at'. A box at the bottom states 'Rochester Computer Society Members receive 10% off (must have membership card to redeem)'. On the right side, a box titled 'What we do' lists services: 'Windows, Mac, and Linux PC Repair', 'Mac Repair', 'Virus Removal', 'Custom System Builds', 'Data Destruction', and 'Electronics Recycling'. A QR code is located in the bottom right corner, and the website 'www.podcomputers.com' is at the bottom.

## The 8 hottest new devices for 2017

posted on BrandPoint, Jan 5, 2017

When it comes to the latest technology, you can never have too many options. And for tech lovers, there is nothing like the annual Consumer Electronics Show (CES) which took place Jan. 5-8 in Las Vegas.

CES delivered **an exciting look at the newest Windows 10 devices** that will make your life easier by having a battery life long enough to last through a 15-hour flight, allowing you to log into your computer with just your face - no need to remember a password and much more. Featuring experiences such as Windows Hello, touch, Windows Ink, Cortana and Continuum, these devices will command attention this year. From PCs to all-in-ones, gaming solutions and portable devices, here are some of the most amazing unveilings from CES 2017 sure to enable the creator in everyone.

1. Dell Canvas. Channeling the innovative possibilities of Windows 10 and the upcoming Creators Update into a new category of smart workspace technology, the Dell Canvas expands productivity allowing you to create, communicate and express your ideas as naturally as you do with pen and paper. Through the use of touch, digital pen and totems, you can turn drawings into part of the digital workflow with Windows Ink or mark up webpages in Microsoft Edge. Powered by virtually any Windows 10 PC, this device plugs seamlessly into software solutions from many partners to unleash the creative genius in everyone.



2. Samsung Notebook Odyssey. Built specifically for intense and casual gamers alike, the Samsung Notebook Odyssey features advanced technology, such as the HexaFlow Vent, an advanced cooling and ventilation system allowing the device to remain cool at all times. For optimal gameplay, the Samsung Notebook Odyssey is equipped with an intelligent and robust processor. Powered by a 7th Generation Intel Core i7 processor, both models of the Samsung Notebook Odyssey offer lightning fast performance with premium graphic technologies.

3. LG Gram. Weighing in at only 2 pounds and featuring a 60W battery - the highest capacity in the industry to-date - for a long battery life between charges, the LG Gram has a near edgeless touch screen and is built to deliver superior portability. Complete with a built-in fingerprint scanner that unlocks Windows Hello, the LG Gram promises to be this year's hot travel companion.

4. HP Spectre x360. The second generation of HP's 15.6-inch revolutionary x360 is the most powerful in the Spectre profile and can be pre-ordered today. Its bigger battery allows for up to 12 hours while powering a micro-edge 4K display and featuring the latest Intel processors, high performance NVIDIA GeForce 940MX discrete graphics. It also offers fast and secure login with Windows Hello and a nearly borderless display with two new front-facing speakers to round out the user experience.

5. Lenovo ThinkPad XI Yoga. The latest ThinkPad X1 Yoga is flawlessly flexible and adapts to your needs offering true multi-mode capability that delivers stunning colors and absolute blacks. The only 14-inch notebook with an OLED display option, the ThinkPad X1 Yoga also comes with a redesigned rechargeable pen and improved "rise and

fall" keyboard. The ThinkPad X1 Yoga will be available in February.

6. Toshiba Portégé X20W. A premium 2-in-1 convertible PC running Windows 10 Pro with a 360-degree dual-action hinge allows you to use the Portégé as a notebook or digital inking tablet. And with a 7th Generation Intel Core processor, the Portégé packs plenty of power into its thin, 2.5-pound frame that includes a 16-hour battery. The pre-configured Portégé X20W will be available soon in Slate Gray.

7. Acer Aspire VX 15. With its crisp videos, smooth games and clear audio, the Aspire will be hot throughout 2017. Available in January, the Aspire is equipped with a 7th Generation Intel Core processor, a 15.6-inch Full HD IPS screen and dual fans to keep it running at optimal temperature, no matter how much you push it during a gaming session.

8. MSI GS63VR Stealth Pro Gaming Laptop. Created with the gamer in mind, the MSI GS63VR delivers a faster and smoother VR experience and is part of the latest lineup of MSI gaming devices powered by Windows 10. Thanks to the new 7th Generation Intel Core processor and NVIDIA GeForce GTX1050 Ti & GTX1050 gaming graphics cards. Enhanced audio makes the GS63VR ready to support the finest audio quality through SABRE HiFi DAC delivered straight to high-end headsets.

These are just a few of the hottest devices shown for the first time at CES, and if you didn't get a chance to see them at the show, don't worry. They'll be available in the coming weeks at your nearest Microsoft Store, [microsoftstore.com](http://microsoftstore.com) or a partner retailer, so don't wait to experience this amazing new tech this year.

## Musings of an Apple Tyro

By Lorrin R. Garson  
Potomac Area Technology and Computer Society

### 2016 Computex

See <http://bit.ly/1rvQLZQ> for an overview of this Taipei trade show, including a 10-core CPU from Intel (at \$1,723!), 7<sup>th</sup> generation APUs from AMD, new GPUs from AMD and Nvidia, new motherboards, a 512 GB SSD from Samsung the size of a postage stamp, etc.

### How Intel Makes a Chip

*Bloomberg Businessweek* (June 13-June 26, 2016, pp. 94-100) has published an excellent article on how Intel manufactures computer chips. Here are a few highlights:

- It costs at least \$8.5 billion to create a factory to build chips.
- Starting with a 12-inch silicon disk, each disk yields 122 Xeon E5 CPUs selling for \$4,115 each. These are CPUs used in high end servers, not home computers.
- Chips are created through 2,000 steps of photolithography (a form of printing) and the deposition of ultra-thin layers of materials, some the thickness of a molecule.
- Each Xeon E5 has up to 7.2 billion transistors.
- By 2026 such CPUs are expected to have more transistors than the human brain has neurons (~100 billion).
- Intel manufacturing works on a 14 nm scale. In comparison a human red blood cell is 7,000 nm across and a typical virus is 100 nm in size.

### Look Into My Eyes...

Researchers at Brown University have developed eye-tracking technology that can be added to any Web site. To quote from <http://bit.ly/1tDn2jL> "Overall, it could help website developers prioritize popular or eye-catching content, optimize a page's usability, or place and price advertising space. Further ahead, potential applications could include eye-controlled gaming or broader accessibility".

### Mac Internet Recovery

Newer Mac computers have the ability to boot-up from the Internet, should your hard drive be completely dead. See <http://bit.ly/1UiqiMN> for detailed information and <http://bit.ly/1tvBCcr> for a useful video on this topic. If the

operating system is corrupted and/or the the disk drive is repairable, recovery can often be achieved by using Disk Utility and/or reinstalling the OS from the recovery partition (see <http://apple.co/1tDmOZP>). This is a topic that may warrant being prepared for—think fire drill. Of course, you can always drop off your computer at an Apple store for repair.

### **Symptoms of Malware Infection**

How do you know if you've been infected with some kind of malware? It's an increasing problem. Here's what you might experience:

- Computer slows down.
- Unwanted pop-ups appear.
- Computer crashes.
- Suspicious hard drive activity.
- Running out of hard drive space.
- Unusually high network activity.
- New browser homepage and/or toolbars.
- Unusual messages or programs that start automatically.
- Disabled security software.
- Friends tell you they are getting strange messages from you.
- A program holds your computer for ransom (you won't have to look for this).

For details see <http://bit.ly/1rvQIgP>, <http://bit.ly/1V8Bw0t> and <http://bit.ly/1Y2PdoR>.

### **Audits of Open Source Software**

How safe and secure is open source software? In principle, anyone can make changes to it and potentially introduce flaws that the bad guys could exploit. Mozilla has set up an initial \$500,000 fund called "Secure Open Source" to provide security audits of open-source code. Mozilla is hoping that companies and governments that use open-source software will join in the effort and provide additional funding. See <http://bit.ly/1WWSXaA>.

### **UPS Maintenance**

We generally ignore our UPS units (**un**interruptible **p**ower **s**upply) until they don't work. The power goes off and your computer, and other attached equipment, goes down. Generally, our UPS units are just left in some out-of-the way location (under a desk, in a closet, etc.) and ignored; that's what I do. It would be prudent to visually check UPS devices every six months or so to see if the batteries are being charged and everything you think is plugged in is indeed properly plugged in. Sealed lead batteries deteriorate over time with most manufacturers recommending they be replaced after three years or so. Some inexpensive UPS devices don't have replaceable batteries and the whole unit needs to be replaced. Recently we had a power failure and my Mac computer went down at the same time. What? Why didn't the UPS do its job? Checking the panel of my APS Model XS 1000 showed dead batteries. So, either the batteries were indeed dead or the UPS wasn't charging them. Replacing the 6-year old batteries solved the problem. By the way, replacing the two batteries in this particular UPS is a bit challenging. Yes... do as I say (write) and not as I do!

### **Updates to Office for Mac**

Many Apple computer users also use Microsoft Office rather than the office automation tools that come with Mac computers (e.g. Pages, Numbers, Keynote, Mail, Calendar, etc.). Microsoft has provided information at <http://bit.ly/24ZIBHz> that provides information on updates.

From the September 2016 issue, PATACS Posts, [www.patacs.org](http://www.patacs.org), [newslettercolumnist@patacs.org](mailto:newslettercolumnist@patacs.org).

### Donate your old computer

Computers For Refugees (CFR) continues its mission of repairing and donating computers for the Refugee community here in Rochester, N.Y.



- ☀ To provide and to service computers for refugees
- ☀ For every computer donated there is at least one service call

Agencies Supported:

- ☀ Meek
- ☀ Refugees Helping Refugees
- ☀ Refugee Resettlement
- ☀ Mary's Place

Contact: Bill Perkett 338-3861    Blog : [ComputersForRefugees.wordpress.com](http://ComputersForRefugees.wordpress.com)  
 Email: [Perkettbill@Yahoo.com](mailto:Perkettbill@Yahoo.com)

Since 2009 CFR has made over 1200 home visits to donate and service computers for the refugees. Each computer is loaded with educational software developed by CFR, including several programs that speak English. CFR also supports other nonprofit agencies including: Meek, Refugees Helping Refugees, Rochester Refugee Resettlement and Mary's Place. To donate your old computer, monitor or other computer equipment, please email Bill at [perkettbill@yahoo.com](mailto:perkettbill@yahoo.com).

Bill Perkett, 95 Mayville Lane,  
 Rochester, N.Y. 14617, (585)-338-3861  
 Blog: [ComputersForRefugees.wordpress.com](http://ComputersForRefugees.wordpress.com)

### How to reduce you current Time Warner Cable Bill

by Bill Perkett

Currently Time Warner is renting their standard modem for the outrageously high rate of \$10 a month and if you have a wireless modem then you pay an additional \$5 for Home WIFI, bringing the total rental fee to \$15. This is extremely high when you consider that Frontier will give you a wireless cable modem for free. Everyone who is renting should rush to the nearest electronic store and buy a standard cable modem for \$70 or a wireless cable modem for \$100 and install it. Follow the directions on the computer screen then return the modem to the Time Warner store.

I have been very happy since I replaced my modem several years ago when the rental rate was only \$3. Here is an actual bill and on the bill where you can see the \$10 rental fee and a separate \$5 WIFI fee.

2 DVR Service 1.00	2.00
Whole House HD-DVR	7.00
DVR Service	0.50
Whole House DVR Service	5.00
Standard Internet	49.00
Extreme Internet	50.00
Home WiFi	5.00
Internet Modem Lease	10.00
Home Phone National Includes UNLIMITED local and long distance in the US and Canada	62.00

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 Saturday 9:30am-4pm

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**Additional Modem Lease for Wifi**

**Mo**

Inventions with origins credited to the Rochester area:  
Though similar concepts existed, George Baldwin Selden was issued the first US patent for the *automobile*  
*Automatic voting machine*, created by Jacob Myers in 1892  
*Fuzzy pipe cleaner*, was created by John Harry Stedman, and commonly used in children's arts and crafts  
*Jello*, invented in nearby Leroy, [www.jellomuseum.com](http://www.jellomuseum.com)  
*Jolt Cola*, created in Rochester in 1985 by C. J. Rapp  
*Garbage Plate*, trademarked by Nick Tahou's  
*Machine gun*, by dentist Dr Josephus Requa in 1862, actually fired a volley of 25 rifles at once, later outdone by the Gatling gun  
.. the above, taken from RocWiki – The People's Guide to Rochester

## What Is JavaScript, and Why Is Gmail Blocking It?

By Jere Minich,

APCUG Board of Advisors, Region 5  
Starting February 13, 2017, Gmail changed its policy regarding JavaScript. Here's why this is changing, and how you can protect yourself from malicious JavaScript.

### What Is JavaScript, Anyway?

JavaScript (not to be confused with Java, a separate programming language with a similar name) is not inherently a dangerous or malicious

thing. JavaScript is a programming language that is stored in plain text and executed by various programs, including web browsers. Currently, it is likely the most popular language on the web.

### Why Is Gmail Blocking It?

Security experts have noted a trend of more malware written in JavaScript. These are often sent over mail, disguised as a resume, or phishing message targeting businesses, or a claim the attachment will "track a recent order." This is a "trojan horse" (or simply "trojan") kind of injection of malicious software, because it needs an unsuspecting user to download, open, run, or install malicious bits of code. One frightening recent trend from the past few years is Ransomware. Given access to your computer, a JavaScript program might install software to turn your important files into unreadable gibberish through a process called Encryption, forcing you to pay someone halfway around the globe to get back the files that used to be yours. Google keeps a list of common file types used by malware creators, and Gmail blocks them. Because of the increase of this kind of malware, the JavaScript file type has been added to that list. It's unlikely this will cause most users any problems, most users will not likely notice any difference.

### What you can do to keep yourself safe.?

Never open email attachments from untrusted or unknown senders, or from known senders if the email looks suspicious or confusing. Doing this will cut your risk to all malicious Trojan code down to almost nothing, since the majority of it comes from spam or hijacked email accounts. And that's roughly all you need to know about keeping safe from any bad bits of JavaScript. Gmail also blocks password protected files and archives as these, too, can be used to send malicious payloads.

Sent to us after Jere's presentation on 'Cloud Computing'. Feel free to contact Jere, at anytime with computer related questions, [jminich@apcug.org](mailto:jminich@apcug.org). The presentation slides may be viewed on my 'Dropbox cloud site' and possibly later on our club website. <http://tinyurl.com/tonydel-rcsi-newsletters>.

**Proposed changes to the club bylaws**, affecting the term length of the President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary. At the present time, all the officers come up for renewal each year, on the same date. The proposal would change the term length to two years, instead of the current one year, but have the President and Secretary up for renewal on 'even-numbered years' and the Vice-President and Treasurer on odd-numbered years. It is suggested that this change would help the club take care of business, with little or no duties over looked (including the club bank account). The vote will take place at the May meeting, an absentee voting system hasn't been setup yet.