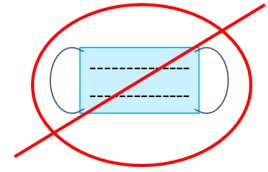


SCA Computer Club notes

Classes for the Month of Dec



Still... No mask..
no entry. Thanks
for cooperating!

NOTE: The club is limited to twelve (12) members while maintaining social distancing per Gov Sisolak's most recent mandate. To enroll in classes, log into the website at <https://computer.scaclub.org/>. Go to Calendars and select Classes/Events. Click on the class you want to take and under "Action", click on "Enroll". (Be sure to check the date as there may be multiple offerings of the class). All classes are FREE to Computer Club members in good standing and are geared for *beginners* unless otherwise indicated. A member can take any class as many times as desired. **IMPORTANT: You must have your SCA Resident ID with you to check-in at the Monitor desk AND AGAIN in the front of the classroom to ensure you are enrolled on the day of the class. Check-in will begin 20 minutes before the scheduled class time. A MASK covering BOTH the nose and mouth is required inside of the club at all times.**

Classes for Dec

Buying a Computer: Are you considering buying a new computer for yourself or as a gift? Should you buy a desktop, a laptop or a tablet? What are the differences between them? Should you buy a Mac or a PC? Will it be used for email, to watch movies, organize your photos, write a book, etc.? Have your questions answered before you buy.

If you've recently joined our Club we encourage you to attend the **New Member Orientation** class to familiarize yourself with our Club's activities. Learn how to sign up for classes, schedule a house call, volunteer to be a monitor and more. **Current members not familiar with all of the benefits offered by our Computer Club are also encouraged to take this Orientation as a refresher.**

LAST Monitor Refresher Training for 2020: Refresher course for current Monitors. Keep abreast of changes and current club policies. What issues are other monitors having? Learn how to solve them. Learn who to contact when equipment fails. **All monitors are required to attend one monitor refresher session every twelve (12) months to stay abreast of policy,**

operational changes in our Club and remain in good standing. This is the last class for 2020.

Macintosh Mail App: Topics will include basic account setup, creating and using mailboxes, mail filtering rules, attachments, signatures and stationary. We will also cover sending attachments including pictures by email. Avoiding Spam and phishing. Avoiding Spam and phishing schemes will be explained. **Prerequisites:** *Mac for Beginners or familiarity with Mac operating system.*

Macintosh Contacts App: We will cover account configuration, using groups to organize contacts, integration with the Mail app and import and export options. We will also cover moving contacts between servers and printing (including labels). **Prerequisites:** *Mac for Beginners or familiarity with Mac operating system.*

Apple Watch Introduction: An introduction to the basic capabilities of the Apple Watch including; pairing with your iPhone, basic setup, and use.

Classes for Dec (continued)

Macintosh Safari Browser: Using the Safari browser including using multiple windows or tabs, creating, organizing and using bookmarks, downloading and using plug-ins and extensions, removing un-

wanted malware, and setting preferences.

Prerequisites: *Mac for Beginners or familiarity with Mac operating system.*

Special Interest and User Groups

A SIG is a “**special interest group**” that meets on a weekly or monthly basis. “**User Groups**” also meet on a monthly basis. We invite ANY Computer Club member who is interested in learning more about a specific product/application or a specific topic to join in the discussions. All groups meet in the computer classroom. Participants ask questions and discuss various topics at each session.

Please remember there will be limited seating in the classroom so please “ENROLL” if you plan to attend.

Computer Talk meets **weekly** from **9 -10 AM every Thursday** and is designed as a “question and answer” session. Any member in good standing is welcomed to attend. It doesn’t matter if you use a Windows based personal computer (PC) or an Apple product (e.g. iPad, Mac, iPhone) or an Android tablet or phone, etc. Can’t figure out how to do something? Do you have a question regarding a specific product or application? Anyone can ask anything **computer related**. Don’t ask us how to fix your ice maker. Bring your questions and join the discussion each Thursday. New members are always welcome.

The **Photography User Group (PUG)** will meet virtually via Zoom on **Monday, Dec 14 from 1-3 pm**. This is for any computer club member is interested in photography. If you are a beginner with a camera phone or a point and shoot camera or an expert and professional with high-range DSLRs we welcome you. We schedule talks and presentations interesting to everyone. If you would like to learn about photography, photo editing, how to take your camera off the auto mode, or learn how to get the best photos with your phone camera, the PUG is the place to come! If you already are a “seasoned” photographer, whether amateur or professional, we invite you to join our meetings and share your photography knowledge and skills with us! To receive a link to the Zoom meeting, be sure to **enroll** in the next meeting session on the Computer Club calendar. For more information on how to use Zoom to join the meeting, please contact Pat @ scaphotogroup@gmail.com

Apple Talk will meet on **Saturday, Dec 12 from 10am - noon**. Apple Talk is an ongoing investigation of all products Apple. It will include presentations, discussions and demonstrations of iPads, iPods, iPhones, Apple TVs and of course Macintosh computers and related peripherals. As new Apple products are introduced they will be included. Topics for discussion: your Apple device, your experiences, your problems, your accomplishments, etc. Others will add their bit, and you will all come away with something more than when you entered the room.

The Jan **Board meeting** will be on Thursday, Jan 28, 2021 from 1:30-3:00 pm in the Computer classroom. Any member in good standing is welcome to attend. Space is limited to 12 attendees, including Board members, due to social distancing requirements. Masks are required for attendance. Board Directors have preferential seating.

Congratulations to the Computer Club Officers and Directors for 2021.

Position	Name
President	Nancy Ward
Vice President	Woody Parks
Secretary	Linda Norton
Treasurer	Rich Blotner
Assistant Treasurer	Tom Strange
Board Member	Warren Begas Brian Corr Jerry Peterson Tony Ptak Bernie Thompson

Due to Covid-19 initiatives to reduce the capacity of allowed meetings and gatherings in SCA, the Club had to cancel the Dec Auction of computers. As announced in emails and on our club website, we instead displayed eight (8) computers for sale during the last week of Nov and on Monday, Nov 30, made them available for purchase by members, first come, first served. All computers were sold during the first hour. Thank you for supporting your club.

2020 in Review: Here are some of the topics that appeared in the past year's Newsletters. You can review them by going to the club website at: <https://computer.scaclub.org> and selecting Documents> Club Newsletters.

Jan: Recycling electronics and computers, Windows 7 End of Support

Feb: Apple Watch, Schlayer Trojan

Mar: Apple Watch-Interesting Apps, Pinning browsers to your Task Bar, Keyboard shortcuts

Apr: Changing the Mac Home Page, Henderson Library services, Services online for reading books, watching movies, etc., Internet slang, Netflix Party

May: Audiobook, TV and movie sources, Macintosh Finder Basics, Forwarding email from one account to another, Microsoft OneDrive

Jun: Be Safe Online, Quick Fixes for Common Problems, Clipboard in Windows 10, Unsend email in Gmail, Windows Defender Antivirus, Fleeceware, Browsers

Jul: Apple's Big News, Facebook bulk-delete tool, Featured Snippet boxes

Aug: Digital Tracking, Protecting your Android Phone, Adding a Second Monitor

Sep: What is a Personal Mailbox?, Covid Trace App, Phishing emails from Netfilx, Microsoft 365 Family, Specific Windows settings

Oct: Flash is Dead!, Video Conferencing, New Microsoft Edge browser, Automatically delete unwanted emails in Gmail

Nov: File Chaos, turn off ACR, Medicare phishing scams

Dec: Scams affecting Seniors, delete Google search history

The Photography User Group (PUG) met virtually via **Zoom** on Nov 9, 2020. Here is a summary for those who missed it.

Congratulations to three (3) PUG members, all winners in the Spirit Magazine Photo Contest. 1st place: Rick Bold, 2nd Place: Gene Kennedy and 3rd Place: Linda Gertier. Look for their photos to appear in upcoming Spirit magazines!

At the Nov meeting, Susan led the photo share segment on the topic of "Water". Sixteen photos were submitted, viewed and commented on. The December theme is "Architecture" so be sure to submit your photos to Susan at susanbarcomb91@gmail.com NLT Friday, Dec 11 so they can be used at the Dec meeting.

Thank you Mort for leading the Photo Talk segment regarding photo enhancing. Demonstrating how enhancing can change one's photo is easily visible once shown. Submit your photos to Mort at mjsconst35@gmail.com NLT Friday, Dec 11 so they can be displayed at the Dec meeting.

"Time to Shine" was a new topic introduced by Pat at the Nov meeting. Everyone has a favorite photo or two, so share it and tell us why it is your favorite. Submit your photos to Rick at rbold1@aol.com NLT Fri, Dec 11 for inclusion in the Dec meeting.

Our Club took a trip to Joseph (Jojo) Jilbert's work yard (in Enterprise, NV) where we were able to photograph Jojo's "The Fleet of Apocalypse" creations and Mort provided us with a presentation on the Photoshop Elements photo-editing application, sharing for whom Elements is designed and led us through the steps he uses to enhance his photos. Three aspects of the app include quick edit, guided edit and expert edit. The app is fairly easy to use and one can definitely see a difference when used to improve their photos.

One of our members, Mitch, has a website at: <https://mitchchandran.com> Please visit it to see some amazing photographs. We discussed how to create a website, including different sites that offer this service, the steps involved, and the costs. As you can see, our group provides a lot of information for those interested in photography, those interested in photo editing and those who want feedback on the photos they have taken. Please join us at our next Zoom meeting on Monday, Dec 13, from 1-3 pm. Enroll on the Computer Club calendar and you will then receive a link to the meeting. For more information or for questions, please contact: Pat at scaphotogroup@gmail.com

Unfortunately, our Senior Community is a target of computer scams and right now during Medicare Open season, there are many scams out there. Don't be a victim! Here's what to watch for:

- **Watch out for calls out of the blue.** People representing Medicare or ACA plans don't contact you by phone unless you're already enrolled. And even then, they will never demand payment over the phone or threaten you.
- **Refuse any gifts in exchange for personal information.** Medicare or ACA callers will never offer you incentives to share personal data.
- **Beware of dishonest brokers who offer "free health screenings."** Real ACA or Medicare representatives will not offer this.

Medicare scams (continued)

- **Never share your government-issued numbers.** Once you provide this information, it becomes easy to steal your identity. Only enroll or re-enroll in Medicare at [Medicare.gov](https://www.Medicare.gov) or with an ACA plan at [Healthcare.gov](https://www.Healthcare.gov)

Another recent scam is this phishing campaign in which Chinese hackers are emailing targets and impersonating the antivirus provider McAfee, so that victims are tricked in downloading malware used to spy on one's computer. It purportedly prompts targets to install a legitimate version of McAfee anti-virus software from GitHub, while malware was simultaneously silently installed to the system. This of course is concerning since McAfee is a reputable name in antivirus software and it seems to be targeted on high-profile individuals. But one can never be too careful.

So, please be careful about which emails you open. We cannot over emphasize the following:

- If an email looks suspicious or if is from someone you don't know, then DON'T open it.
- Avoid links in unsolicited emails. Although you may be curious to "see" the attachment, think twice about if you really want to click on a link that may just lure to you a malicious site. Hover over the link to see the URL before clicking on it or just delete the email.
- Don't download attachments. If you get an attachment, even from someone you know, contact the sender to find out what it is. If could be from someone you know who actually didn't send you an email with an attachment, but instead their email account was hacked. Don't take a chance, check it out first.
- Always use reputable antivirus software and run regular scans. Windows 10 has Windows Defender built into its OS and you can always go to "Settings> Update and Security> Windows Security" to check your Protection Areas" to ensure you have no issues.

Delete your search history on Google

Activity Control is where you can edit or delete information associated with your Google account.

- Go to the Google's home page and log into your account.
- Tap the circle in the upper corner with your image (or initials) and a menu opens.
- Click on "Manage your Google Account". Now select "Manage your data & personalization" of the Privacy & Personalization category.
- Under Activity controls, you can pause Web & App activity tracking, Location History, YouTube History and more. To see other options, click on "Manage your activity controls". Even though Google can still track your browsing activities, it won't be able to personalize your searches with ads or keep any of your recordings.
- To delete your search history completely, you need to go to your Activity page. Go to My Activity page> Activity and timeline and click on My Activity. Then click on "Delete activity by" and choose how far back you would like to delete your history. (When you click on an option, another menu will appear to detail what you are about to do). Now click "Delete" and that's it.

Windows 10 - 10 and listening in...

Support for Windows 10 version 1903 comes to an end on Dec 8, 2020 and Microsoft has already started pushing those users to Windows 10 version 1909. It is a quick and painless process, but remember that version 1909 itself will end in May 2021. Typically, Microsoft will start pushing users on older versions of Windows to upgrade six months before a version reaches end-of-life. That did not happen with version 1903 (probably due to the Covid-19 pandemic). After the Dec 9, 2020 date, users of Windows 10 version 1903 will no longer receive security updates so it is best to update your systems accordingly.



The most current version of Windows 10 is now version 20H2, the October 2020 update that was released on Oct 20, 2020. Remember that Microsoft releases major updates every six (6) months but it can take some time to roll out to all users due to extensive testing done by both Microsoft and PC manufacturers. The Oct update focused on bug fixes and removed the System pane in the Control Panel. Also, the new Microsoft Edge browser is now a built-in feature. To check to see which version you have, open your Start menu and click on the gear-shaped “Settings” icon. (You can also simply press the Windows key + the letter I). Once you are in the Settings, select “System” and scroll down until you see “About” and then click on it. Under Windows specifications, it will tell you which version you are on. If you see version 2004 (like the example, you are on the May 2020 update AND NOT the latest “20H2” version, so perhaps you might want to update.

Windows specifications

Edition	Windows 10 Pro
Version	2004
Installed on	10/9/2020
OS build	19041.630
Experience	Windows Feature Experience Pack 120.2212.31.0

If your PC doesn't get the update, Microsoft isn't entirely confident it will work on your hardware just yet, so be patient. To install the update anyway, you can go to Settings> Update & Security> Windows Update and click on “Check for Updates”. If a stable version of Windows 10 is available, Windows Update may offer to download and install it. Look for the “Download and install now” link below the notice about a “Feature Update” being available for your PC. A word of caution though. It is not always best to be the first to get new updates once they are available. Sometimes, these updates are released and soon after, bugs are found. Sometimes it is just better to wait until your system determines the new release is compatible with your hardware. Just a thought.

Although the “new” update, version 20H2 does offer some changes, it is not a big thing. It offers a “scoped set of features to improve performance and enhance quality” per Microsoft. It is fast to install and shouldn't require a long download or lengthy reboot. The Start menu will look a little different in that it has “theme-aware tiles” and the tile background will be light or dark to match whichever Windows 10 theme you are using (light or dark). The Alt+ tab will now show Edge browser tabs by default but if you don't like that you can change that by going to Settings> System> Multitasking and configure Alt+Tab to show your most recent three (3) or five (5) tabs or turn it off altogether and get the classic Alt+Tab experience. If you use Windows 10 Focus Assist (automatically hides notifications when using other full-screen apps) it will simply pop up to show you a notification that it is not going to bother you with notification until you are done with your “focused” activity. Then it will give you a summary of all the notifications you missed.

Useful things you may want to know, or Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

that we made up ourselves

Q. I have a free TV video streaming service called Pluto TV. I heard it was recently hacked and account information, including email addresses, passwords, IP addresses, etc. were breached and now on the dark web. What should I do?

A. Resetting your Pluto TV password is the first step to protecting your data. Follow the steps below to create a new password and secure your account.

- Log in to your Pluto TV account and click on the **ACCOUNT** icon found in the upper right corner. You may be asked to confirm your username and password.
- Click **CHANGE PASSWORD** or **UPDATE EMAIL** to update your information. If you are logged in but not seeing these options, click on the account icon again.
- Create a strong password that uses a combination of letters, numbers and symbols or even better, create a passphrase that is easy for you to remember, but long. It can be a verse from your favorite song, a line from your favorite poem, etc.

Once your password is reset, keep an eye on your email inbox for any suspicious messages. Even though Pluto TV didn't have payment card data, email addresses and personal information are sought after by scammers looking for new marks.

Q. Is Facebook safe to use?

A. Many folks still use Facebook, even though it has been breached several times. If you use it, the best thing you can do is change your password frequently. Here's how:

On your desktop:

- Click the **downwards-pointing arrow** in the top right of the Facebook homepage.
- Click **Settings & Privacy**, followed by **Settings**.
- Click **Security and Login**.
- Click **Edit** next to **Change password**.
- Enter your current password and type in a new password. Use a complex combination of letters, numbers and symbols that won't be easily guessed.
- Click **Save Changes**.

On your phone:

- Open the Facebook app and tap **the three-line icon**. On iOS, the icon will be on the **bottom right**. On Android, the icon will be on the **top-right**.
- Scroll down and tap **Settings & Privacy**, then tap **Settings**.
- Tap **Security and Login**, then tap **Change Password**.
- Enter your current password and type in a new password. Use a complex combination of letters, numbers and symbols that won't be easily guessed.
- Tap **Save Changes**.

For extra security, it is also recommended activating two-factor authentication for your Facebook account. Once 2FA is set up, you'll automatically know when someone tries to log in without your permission.