

Computers Are Easy User Group

Abort, Retry, Ignore.... Founded 1984 **ARI** is the Official Newsletter of **C**omputers **A**re **E**asy **U**ser **G**roup

July 2012 Volume XXIX Issue 7

Confirmed meeting dates for 2012 Room A

July 28

4th Saturday

August 18

3rd Saturday

MEETING
PLACE
will be the
Glenside Public
Library
** **

Visitors

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!!

Welcome



Our July, 2012 presenter: A Video: Save \$\$ With Free Software by Judy Taylour from APCUG (7/28/12 4th Saturday)

"And the Oscar Goes To . . ." - Making a Good Video

By Greg Skalka, President
Under the Computer Hood User Group, CA
April 2012 issue, Drive Light
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I've discovered it is a lot harder to make a good video than it is to take a good photograph. It is definitely a lot more work.

For the most part, the majority of the effort involved in taking a good photograph occurs before the picture is taken. While some augmentation and enhancement can occur after the exposure, through the marvels of digital photo editing, much of the merit of a photo comes from basics like subject, composition, focus and lighting. While photo editing software can enhance a photo, perhaps making a good picture great, it can only go so far in fixing a poor photograph.

In making a great video, once you have captured the action, your work typically has only begun. In spite of all the star-centric hoopla surrounding the Academy Awards, have you ever noticed that the majority of the awards don't go to performers, but to creators.

There are only a few categories of awards given to actors and actresses. The majority go to writers, directors, film editors, cinematographers and designers

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of sound, sets, costumes and effects. In a lot of movies made today, most of the work is done after the filming is over. The difference between raw footage and polished final product is much greater for video than for still photography, indicative of the amount of post processing work usually required. As with photography, however, it is still hard to turn poor exposures into a good final product.

I got my first still camera in 3rd grade, taking black and white film photos. In the 40-something years since, I learned to take decent photos (at least by my standards) using mostly slide film, where there was no chance for corrections after the exposure. I've had a digital camera for eleven years, but still don't typically edit or enhance my pictures after taking them. I've spent more time making digital corrections on the slides I have digitized, to fix the effects of film aging and imperfections, than on any of my recent digital photos.

Growing up, my family never had a movie camera. A neighbor friend my age got access to their family's old 8 mm movie camera, and he and I made a two-reel epic titled "The History of Aviation". Through careful planning and filming, we came up with a pretty impressive movie for a couple of grade school kids, though we probably destroyed most of our collections of model airplanes in the process (in addition to scorching the underside of his family's metal patio cover during our "reenactment" of the dropping of the atomic bomb on Hiroshima). I'd love to see that film again, if it still exists.

When my wife and I had kids of our own, my in-laws gave us one of the early shoulder-mounted video cameras (it was so big and heavy, you had to rest it on your shoulder), which recorded directly on VHS tape cartridges.

It recorded some of the early moments in our children's lives, but being analog tape, the results were of mixed quality and could not be edited. We still have some of those 20-year-old tapes around (we should digitize them), but unfortunately I think a few were taped over at some time in the past. Later, we bought a smaller handheld camcorder, which used the smaller VHS-C tapes and was more convenient to take on family outings. These too would not be editable unless digitized.

My very first digital camera had a primitive video capture capability of 320×240 with no audio, which was about half the 704×480 equivalent resolution of the camcorder NTSC video, but was much more convenient to carry. It still resulted in only video snippets of our lives being captured. Even after graduating in 2007 to a new digital camera with 640×480 video and sound, I only shot occasional video clips, and never tried to find a way to edit and combine them into a coherent video feature.

For my birthday late last year, my wife surprised me with a Panasonic SD40 HD video camcorder. It records HD video (1920 x 1080) in the AVCHD (Advanced Video Coding High Definition) file format. Depending on the card size, it can store hours of video on an internal SDHC memory card.

One of the first things I learned about shooting HD video with this camcorder is that I'm going to need more hard drives. I think I shoot a lot of digital photos, sometimes hundreds per month. Using my 12 Megapixel camera, this averages 5 MB per photo, I'm generating around 0.5 GB of new photos per month (assuming 100 photos), or 6 GB per year. I first used my new camcorder in earnest during family festivities on Christmas Day, and managed to fill up the 8 GB SD card that came with the camcorder that day.

If I hold my filming down to 16 GB of video per month, that means I'll generate nearly 200 GB of video data every year. How am I going to store it all?

The second thing I learned about shooting HD video is that not every computer can easily play it. I normally use my XP laptop PC to copy my still photos from memory cards to hard drive and to view them, so I plugged in the SDHC card from the camcorder. Unfortunately, I could not view the .MTS AVCHD video files with any program on that computer. When I put the SD card in my wife's new Windows 7 laptop, I was able to play the files with Media Player. Score another one for Windows 7.

To make the 45 minute video on computer upgrading that was shown at our meeting last month, I started by shooting 51 video segments, totaling 5.7 GB. These included the introductions and descriptions I gave, the scenes of dis-assembly and modification of the computer, and the screen shots of the computer showing the results. A tripod proved essential in filming the scenes where I was talking, as I had to work with a film crew of only one (me). The camcorder's display can be flipped around to allow the subject of the video to see how they look onscreen. The tripod was also used in most of the shots where I was working on the computer, since it usually took two hands to do the work. I would set up the tripod and camcorder to give a good view of the hardware, and then start filming. I was not watching what was being filmed, but just made sure my activities stayed within what I understood was the field of view.

One of the filming mistakes I made was in sometimes not allowing enough "lead in" and "lead out" time at the beginning and end of the scenes. Excess footage can be trimmed, but you can't easily make more footage after filming is done.

I started shooting scenes before determining what program I would be using to edit the video, so I was not sure what editing capabilities I could count on. I was not sure the program I would use could add titles, so I printed titles on paper and held them up in front of the camcorder. I later found titles could be added using software, but not with the flexibility of my paper signs.

Although I had a couple of commercial video editing software packages available to install, I decided to initially try the editing software that came with the camcorder, Panasonic's HD Writer LE 1.0. I installed it on my wife's laptop to make sure I'd have enough horsepower to do the video editing quickly.

I found the software would not recognize the raw video files I had copied from the SD memory card to the computer's hard drive. To use the captured video with this program, I had to connect the camcorder to the PC with the provided USB adapter cable and download the files from the camcorder through the program. The program had all the basic features I had seen in other video editing software. It allowed clips to be combined on a timeline, with a number of choices for transitions between scenes. Scenes could be edited for length, and basic titles could be added.

I chose the least flashy transitions and put the video segments together one by one. Because of the brief lead-ins I had shot, I could not add much in the way of additional titles, but fortunately the signs I had filmed worked well. I was concerned that 45 minutes might be too long without a break, so I split the video into two 22 minute segments, allowing an intermission in between.

The program could convert the finished video to several different resolutions on DVD or Blu-Ray discs for playing on home players or computers.

'Il try using one of my fancier video editing programs with this camcorder one day, but I found the Panasonic-provided software could turn out a good video.

Since making a coherent video out of the filmed segments I made was not too difficult, I'll probably try to make similar edited videos for all the events I film.

Lamp Post 139 by John Spizzirri July 2012

You may have heard about the Tennessee man, Ray Crockett, who was charged over \$84,000 for a \$30 tank of gas (1) by Citibank (2) on his debit card. The gasoline company said it was not paid. Citibank deducted the \$84,000 plus dollars from Crockett's checking account as well as charging an overdraft fee. The gasoline company nor Citibank would resolve the matter. The downside of paycheck direct deposit is that Crockett has no way of getting any cash (his account was \$84,000 overdrawn). Citibank told Crockett to get the \$84,000 from the gasoline company to clear the overdraft. He had to contact the local TV station (3), a CBS (4) affiliate before anything happened. The filling station issued him a \$100 gift card so that he could continue to get to work. Finally, Citibank corrected the problem giving a weak apology. I think that Citibank is not the company I would want to handle my money.

- 1) http://sn.im/24b45m6
- 2) https://online.citibank.com/US/JPS/portal/Index.do
- 3) http://www.newschannel5.com/
- 4) http://www.cbs.com/

The news media reported this past week that Yahoo! (1) had a security breech (2). They said that Yahoo! advised it's users to change their passwords. The story was misleading in that it indicated that Gmail, Hotmail and AOL users were also at risk. They were not, unless they were part of the Yahoo! contributor network and used an e-mail address from one of those companies. The story is meant to scare everyone. In one aspect it should. Yahoo! for some reason stored the passwords in question in plain text format with no encrption ((3), (4)). 450,000 passwords were stolen. According to CNET (5) 2,200 passwords were '123456' while 780 were 'password'. The stolen passwords did not belong to general Yahoo! e-mail users. They belonged to Yahoo! Contributor Network and Yahoo! Voices users (6). The contributor network was a business that Yahoo! purchased in 2010. Yahoo! has since blamed the breech on that business but has now taken "additional security measures" and "enhanced our underlying security controls" (7). Securi (8) is a malware service company that offers a site that allows you a method of checking if your password was compromised (9). Robert Siciliano from McAfee (10) offers password tips here (11). If you were part of the contributor network, you may have to change your password. Regular Yahoo! e-mail users should change their password only if they feel the need, their password is over 6 months old, or they have used the same password on any other account. My articles on making a secure password are in the July and August 2011 ARI...'s ((12), (13)).

1) http://www.yahoo.com/

- 2) http://sn.im/24b4hlg
- 3) http://sn.im/24b4iwn
- 4) http://sn.im/24b4jd4
- 5) http://news.cnet.com/
- 6) http://technology.pitt.edu/2012-07-12-yahoo.html
- 7) http://sn.im/24b4qvf
- 8) http://sucuri.net/
- 9) http://labs.sucuri.net/?yahooleak
- 10) http://www.mcafee.com/us/
- 11) http://sn.im/24b4wda
- 12) http://www.caeug.net/newsletters/2011/Jul2011.pdf
- 13) http://www.caeug.net/newsletters/2011/Aug2011.pdf

Apple Insider (1) reported a new Java (2) malware that attacks Apple's OS X (3) along with Windows (4), Linux (5) ((6), (7)). This, as best as I can determine, is the first malware that is cross platform (able to work on multiple operating systems). This one attacks OS X specifically but with some tweaking could do harm to Windows and Linux systems. This malware also needs an Internet connection so that it can get additional code to be executed on the target machine.

- 1) http://www.appleinsider.com/
- 2) https://www.java.com/en/
- 3) https://www.apple.com/osx/
- 4) http://windows.microsoft.com/en-US/windows/home
- 5) http://www.linux.org/
- 6) http://sn.im/24a9082
- 7) http://sn.im/24b52eb

Windows 8 Pro ((1), (2)) is available for \$39.99 (downloaded), a packaged DVD version of the upgrade to Windows 8 Pro will be available for \$69.99 (3). If you purchase a new PC with Windows 7 on it, you can get an upgrade for \$14.99 (4). The upgrade is for Windows XP, Vista, and Windows 7. Having a single price for upgrades from older versions of Windows is a first for Microsoft (MS (5)). The upgrade promotion for Windows 8 Pro, both online and at retail, runs through January 31st, 2013. This time the MS upgrade promotion runs more than 6 weeks. Maybe thats was why Vista failed. Nah, Vista was just junk. According to MS, Windows 8 Release Preview works on the same hardware that runs Windows 7. In my experience, the processor must be capable of virtual hardware acceleration. The other hardware requirements are;

1 gigahertz (GHz) or faster processor

1 gigabyte RAM (GB) (32-bit) or 2 GB RAM (64-bit)

Hard disk space: 16 GB (32-bit) or 20 GB (64-bit)

Graphics card capable of MS DirectX 9 graphics with WDDM driver

Additional requirements to use certain features include:

Touch screen or tablet for the multitouch feature

Internet connection to access the Windows Store and to download and run apps

Screen resolution of at least 1366 x 768 for snap apps

These hardware requirements spell the end of low cost PCs (6) after Windows 7 stops selling. Intel CPUs are not coming down in price and touch screens are very expensive. You can download a preview installation of Windows 8 here (7). The file sizes are 32bit=2.5GB and 64bit=3.3GB. According to Paul Thurott, IT execs do not think that Windows 8 is going to be accepted ((8), (9),

(10)). On the other hand, MS CEO Steve Ballmer said that Windows 8 will sell half a billion copies in the first 15 months (more than any other Windows version ever) as reported by Agence France-Presse (AFP (11)). After Ballmer's prediction, the MS public relations (PR) guys started damage control quickly, stating that Ballmer was misquoted (12). The Windows 8 user interface (UI) is set in stone. Unlike Linux where the UI can be selected from about 100 different plugin desk top environments with about 5 being very popular, MS has just one. There is a possibility that once it becomes clear to MS that business will not buy Windows 8 they may offer an older Windows 7-like UI. If MS were to do that, why would a business switch to Windows 8? Other than the UI and the 'apps' there is virtually no difference between 7 and 8, except the cost. Why would any business spend any additional money for an OS that looks and acts like the one that is currently in use. By the way, the only business reason to change to Windows 7 was the termination of MS support for XP.

- 1) http://windows.microsoft.com/en-US/windows-8/release-preview
- 2) http://windows.microsoft.com/en-US/windows-8/faq
- 3) http://sn.im/24b5fdk
- 4) http://windows.microsoft.com/en-US/windows/home
- 5) https://www.microsoft.com/
- 6) http://sn.im/24b6f7p
- 7) http://windows.microsoft.com/en-US/windows-8/iso
- 8) http://sn.im/24b6knb
- 9) http://sn.im/24b6tps
- 10) http://sn.im/24b6tzf
- 11) http://www.afp.com/en/home
- 12) http://sn.im/24b9etc

I have written about Unified Extensible Firmware Interface (UEFI (1)) before. This is the Basic Input Output System (BIOS (2)) that allegedly creates a secure boot environment. Does it really do that? That is the question that the Free Software Foundation (FSF (3)) is asking (4). FSF is calling UEFI the Restricted Boot system. It is starting to look like only OS players with money will be able to boot on PCs that have the UEFI implemented. That essentially eliminates 99% of all Linux distributions. Considering that all distributions of Linux are some of the safest OSs in use on PCs, why would anyone prevent them from booting on a PC? Could it be that MS does not want competition? MS probably wants to lock in it's income so they can make more \$6 billion mistakes (5). Its too bad that niche markets are almost non-existent in computer hardware. If niche markets existed, UEFI would not be a problem. Someone would make machines without it and be able to sell tens of thousands of them. Unfortunately, PC makers must sell millions of units to make a profit. You can sign a petition directed to PC makers at the FSF site (4).

- 1) https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Unified_Extensible_Firmware_Interface
- 2) https://en.wikipedia.orgsd/wiki/BIOS
- 3) https://www.fsf.org/
- 4) https://www.fsf.org/campaigns/secure-boot-vs-restricted-boot/statement
- 5) http://sn.im/24b753n

You may have heard the old saying, 'what goes around comes around' (1). A number of news stories brought this saying to mind. First, about 20 months ago, the U. S. Air Force contracted with MS to have all of their 600,000 systems upgraded to Windows 7 by December 2011 (2). Second, the United States was at least partially responsible for the Stuxnet (3) and Flame (4) malware. (I had an article

on that last month (5)). MS has 'hardened' Windows Update (6). The Flame malware has been found to masquerade as a Windows update infecting the OS. It does this by having a SIGNED SECURITY CERTIFICATE from Microsoft. The U. S. Navy has authorized a \$34 million contract to 'transition' vertical take off landing (VTOL) drone vehicles (i.e. helicopter drones) to Linux software control. The article reports, "The Navy has not disclosed its reasoning behind the switch to Linux...". My guess, as well as other pundits, is that the former unidentified OS is subject to malware attacks (perhaps Flame). Blowback (8) happens. In as much as the drone attacks are run by the U. S. Air Force, perhaps the Navy is being used as a guinea pig for the 'big guns'.

- 1) http://sn.im/24b7vfw
- 2) http://sn.im/24b7wiu
- 3) https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stuxnet
- 4) https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flame %28malware%29
- 5) http://www.caeug.net/newsletters/2012/Jun2012.pdf
- 6) http://sn.im/24bosou
- 7) http://sn.im/24bp5sk
- 8) https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blowback_%28intelligence%29

On a note that may have aspects applicable to the previous paragraph, Sophos (1) has reported that it has found about 20 percent of Mac computers that are home to malware that can spread to PCs (2). The Macs are not infected because the malware only affects PCs. I suspect that a similar situation may exist with Linux.

- 1) http://www.sophos.com/en-us/
- 2) http://sn.im/24bpb64

A few of my clients have called recently complaining of slow PCs. In order for you to keep your PC running like new, a few simple procedures can be run periodically that will prevent service calls. I instruct all my clients to do these things. I know that the time it takes to do these things can feel like a chore, but setting aside a special time once every week or two can keep your PC in top shape. Before you alter anything on your PC, set up a restore point. To set a restore point in Windows 7 open the Control Panel and click on the System and Security category. Click on the System icon and then the System protection on the left side of the window. The new window has a create button. Clicking that button will create a new restore point. The first thing you should consider is getting rid of Symantec Antivirus, Norton Antivirus, or McAfee Antivirus. Those three programs are bloated and use up system resources needlessly. Just deleting these programs speeds up most PCs. These three programs may not uninstall without a special program from the manufacturer. Symantec Antivirus requires that you prove you own a copy before you can get the uninstaller. Be sure you keep the registration key in a safe place in order to get the uninstaller. If you feel you need to pay for an antivirus program, use Nod32 from eSet (1) or ZoneAlarm Internet Security Suite from Check Point (2). Both are about \$40 per year. I prefer using MS Security Essentials, Malwarebytes, and Super Antispyware. Each of these are free or have a free version. Scaning the hard drive(s) is a job I do once per week. Sunday evenings I set each program to run while I am doing something else. When each program finishes, I view the results, delete malware (if any), and go on to the next program. When all are finished, I shutdown the PC for the night. The next item is to clean up the start menu. This can be accomplished in a number of ways. Using the run command, type msconfig. Click on the

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Startup tab. The programs that start each time the computer starts are listed on that tab. Using the check box in front of each program, you can enable (checked) or disable (unchecked) the program at startup. Another way to do the same thing is to use the cCleaner (3) program. Once it is installed, run it, click on the Tools icon (left side), then click the Start up button (just right of the Tools icon). Enable, disable, and remove buttons (right side) become active by clicking on each program. One of the niceties that is not available from msconfig is Save to text file... button (lower right). By pressing that button, a list of all startup programs will be generated showing whether it is enabled or disabled. By disabling any non Microsoft program and rebooting can show you if there is a speed improvement. Some programs, when you first install them, are added to the startup list whether you want them to start or not. If you lose some functionality that you want, you can always enable any program that you have previously disabled. The next step in the process is to clean up the hard drive. Over time, you have loaded programs that you have used for a specific purpose but now no longer use. Those programs should be deleted. That can be accomplished by starting the Control Panel and clicking Remove a program (in Vista and Windows 7) or clicking Add or Remove Programs (in XP). Locate the programs you seldom use and uninstall them. You may have to reboot in the process of removing some programs. Once you have removed most of the programs you don't use any more, run cCleaner. Click on the Run Cleaner button (lower right corner). If you have the time, before clicking the Run Cleaner button check the Wipe Free Space check box (on the lower left side of the screen). Wiping the free space can take a couple of hours. Once the cleaning and/or wiping is complete, defragment the hard drive. I prefer the Auslogics Defrag (4) program (free version). Once the Auslogics Defrag program is running, select the hard drive to defrag. The drive where Windows usually resides is the C drive. Check the box in front of the drive to be defragged. Uncheck all other drives. There is a Defrag button with a pull down. Use the pull down to select 'Defrag and Optimize (slower, use once a week)' selection. Depending on how long ago the drive was defragmented, the process could take some time. Once it completes, do it again. Reboot the PC. This should be all the steps you need to take to get the PC running considerably faster. Another speed up I covered last month (5) is to turn on additional CPU cores (Vista and Windows 7). A useful web site that can download many of the programs I mention on these pages is Ninite.com (6). Going to that site, checking the check boxes in front of the programs you want to install will create a custom downloader / installer for you. Once it downloads, run it. It will download and install each program you checked. Larry Bothe and I have mentioned this web site (7) before.

- 1) http://www.eset.com/us/home/products/antivirus/
- 2) http://sn.im/24bb73v
- 3) http://www.piriform.com/CCLEANER
- 4) http://www.auslogics.com/en/software/disk-defrag/
- 5) http://www.caeug.net/newsletters/2012/Jun2012.pdf
- 6) https://ninite.com/
- 7) http://www.caeug.net/newsletters/2010/Sep2010.pdf

Alan Turing's (1) 100th birthday occurred last month. If you are familiar with WWII Enigma machine (2), Bletchley Park code breakers (3), or the British Government Code and Cypher School (4), then you probably know about Alan Turing. He was a genius at creating and breaking code. He developed the idea behind the secure telephone conversation, a method to determine if a machine was inteligent, and other encryption / decryption methods. A committee of 50 countries (5) have declared 2012 as Alan Turing Year (6). One of his achievements was to figure out that militaries work the same in all countries in that Phd people develop the weapon or methodology. They in turn give the Master degreed people who implement the design into a prototype. Then the Bachelor degreed people take

the prototype into production. From there the primary and secondary school graduate operate the weapon or item. In the case of the Enigma machine, the German high schoolers used girlfriend names or swear words as the words with which to set the machine. The Allied high schoolers that captured a machine from the Germans was all that was necessary to break the 'unbreakable' German code.

- 1) https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alan_Turing
- 2) https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Enigma_machine
- 3) https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bletchley Park
- 4) http://sn.im/24bpfx2
- 5) http://sn.im/24bpjav
- 6) http://www.mathcomp.leeds.ac.uk/turing2012/

Burglary (1), also known as breaking and entering (B and E), seems to run in waves in the suburbs. Although property crime including burglary is down (2), in general, some neighborhoods or counties experience outbreaks now and again (3). My pet theory about why that happens is based, in part, on my experience as a police officer. I think that some children (usually boys) reaching the age of about 15 think that they can get away with it. Crime statistics in general agree that males between the ages of 16 to 24 commit the bulk of violent and property crimes (4). If parental supervision is lacking, as it is these days, with both parents working, the children won't be missed when they attempt these crimes. As a homeowner, rudimentary precautions will prevent all but the most determined youngster from committing a felony. Locking doors and windows is always the first line of defense. Making the home look lived in is next. Have someone pick up your newspaper / mail / flyer's, make tracks in the drive after snow falls, and arrange for lawn maintenance while you are away. Put interior lights on timers. Install motion sensing exterior lights. If you have some very valuable things, a burglar alarm system with or without a video system may be in order. Safes may also be helpful - make sure they are heavy or well anchored so they cannot be removed. I bring this up because I know someone who was a burglary victim recently as was I a couple years ago. I came across this device that makes your home or vacation home look like the television is on while only using the same energy as a night light (5). The device is call FakeTV. FakeTV does not use a timer. It, instead, comes on at dusk and stays on for four hours. I wish night lights could be set that way. Power failures do not affect when FakeTV goes on and off. We recently had a power failure do to the weather in Glen Ellyn. The power was off for a couple of days. My dial clocks were about nine hours out of sync with the correct time. A light timer would be totally useless after an outage like that. The FakeTV is a bit pricey at \$40, but it does offer some peace of mind.

- 1) https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Burglary
- 2) http://sn.im/24c0ai2
- 3) http://sn.im/24c0gst
- 4) http://sn.im/24c0o5x
- 5) http://www.faketv.com/

The Obama administration has taken control of ALL communications via an executive order (1). The order allows the federal government to sieze all critical infrastructure that would include "...wireline, wireless, satellite, cable, and broadcasting, and provides the transport networks that support the Internet and other key information systems." That is quite bit of power this administration has claimed for itself and all succeeding administrations. Just like George Bush in his creation of Homeland Security (2) and the build up of the Transportation Security Administration (TSA (3)), the idea sounds

good but the power gets turned over to an administration that about 47.1% of the people ((4), (5)) do not want or like. Some people consider this the end of the U. S. (6). I think it is only another nail in the coffin.

- 1) http://sn.im/24d9i0j
- 2) http://www.dhs.gov/index.shtm
- 3) http://www.tsa.gov/
- 4) http://sn.im/24d9svy
- 5) http://sn.im/24da3eu
- 6) http://sn.im/24d9gon

Between you, me and the LampPost. That's all for now.

July 2012 CD of the Month

ARI - July newsletter

Audacity - A free software for recording and editing sounds

Auslogics - Updated disk Defrag tool

Calibre - A free and open source e-book library management application

cCleaner - Updated Hard drive cleaner

CDOMlists - Updated Hard drive cleaner

ComboFix - A program that scans your computer for known malware & cleans it

ERunt - A free tool that backs up your Registry and allows you to restore it

Evernote - An on line tool to save your ideas, things you like, hear, and see

Faststone - Photo resizer and a Photo viewer

Foxit - Updated PDF reader

inSSIDer - Open-source Wi-Fi scanning software

MemberContributions - Things e-mailed to me from members

NetStumbler - A open-source Wi-Fi scanning software

NitroPDFReader - The only free PDF reader and creator

NortonRemovalTool - Removes Noton Antivirus software

NotePadPP - A text editor for programmers

OldTimeRadio - Old time radio broadcasts

Opera - Updated browser

PDFFill - A free PDF function for merge, split, reorder, delete, encrypt, & etc.

PhotoRazor - Makes high quality copy of your photos at a smaller size

pXcTweak - 180 registry free tweaks for XP, Vista, and 7

RevoUninstaller - A free uninstaller tool

Tomato - A small, lean and simple replacement firmware for Linksys'

WRT54G/GL/GS and other Broadcom-based routers

Meeting Location and Special Accommodations

The Glenside Public Library address is at 25 E Fullerton Avenue, Glendale Heights, Illinois. Please park away from the building. Thank you. The meeting(s) are not library sponsored and all inquiries should be directed to Mike Goldberg at

MikeGold60137(at)yahoo.com. Individuals with disabilities who plan to attend this program and who require certain accommodations in order to observe and / or participate in the program are requested to contact CAEUG president, Mike Goldberg at MikeGold60137(at)yahoo.com, at least five (5) days prior to the program, so that reasonable accommodation can be made.

Members Helpline

Any member with a specific expertise can volunteer to be on the Members Helpline.

Beginner Helpline

- Billy Douglas

Beginner hardware problems

- Dick Fergus

Phone before 9:00pm

Hardware problems, XP, Win 7 & Linux

- John Spizzirri

Phone 6pm-9pm

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