

**Abort,  
Retry,  
Ignore....**

Founded 1984 **ARI** is the  
Official Newsletter of  
**Computers Are Easy User Group**

April  
2014  
Volume XXXI Issue 4

**Confirmed  
meeting  
dates**

April 26  
4th Saturday

May 24  
4th Saturday

Check  
[www.caeug.net](http://www.caeug.net)  
for confirmed  
meeting dates

**MEETING  
PLACE**  
is the  
Glenside Public  
Library  
\*\*\* \*\*

Visitors  
Welcome  
**HOPE TO SEE  
YOU THERE!!**



**\*\*\* April 2014 meeting \*\*\***

**April meeting -- April 26th Saturday**

Our presenter to be announced

Don't forget our wonderfully relaxing annual CAEUG picnic.

**2014 ANNUAL PICNIC ON  
SATURDAY JUNE 21, 3RD SATURDAY.**

Also, you will have the opportunity to bring items either computer related or not to the picnic. You need to take back any item not chosen that you bring.

To renew your membership see John St. Clair, Treasurer, at any meeting to pay your annual dues.

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## **Book Review – The Art of the Photograph**

By Art Wolfe and Rob Sheppard

Review by Mark Mattson, Editor, Computer Users of Erie, Pennsylvania

[www.cuerie.com](http://www.cuerie.com)

cuerie01 (at) roadrunner.com

“Good photography does not come from simply capturing an image. It comes from constructing a photo, building it up visually in your mind” (Author Art Wolfe).

The thought process embodied in the quote above describes the ideals that are presented in this book. Based upon a series of workshops taught by Wolfe over the years, it attempts to change the way photographers look at the world around them, to help them improve in their art.

Published in early December, the 256 pages in this book are chock-full of valuable information from the 40+ year career of Art Wolfe. There are also contributions from fellow photographer Rob Sheppard interspersed throughout, giving his insights into the topic at hand.

The book is divided into ten chapters, covering the whole gamut of photographic composition:

1. Finding Inspiration
2. Discovering the Subject
3. Constructing the Image
4. Camera and Lens
5. The Elements of Design
6. Color and Black-and-white
7. Light and Composition
8. Creative Solutions
9. 10 Deadly Sins of Composition
10. Equipment and Workflow

In addition to the information presented on each page, there are also photos illustrating the concepts being discussed, with technical details given for each. Also, each chapter ends with a series of questions related to the information in that chapter. These are presented to give you a chance to think about what you've learned, and starting points to apply the techniques to your own photography. The final spread in each chapter presents an image shot by Wolfe, and gives detailed information on how it was made, further illustrating the concepts presented in the preceding pages.

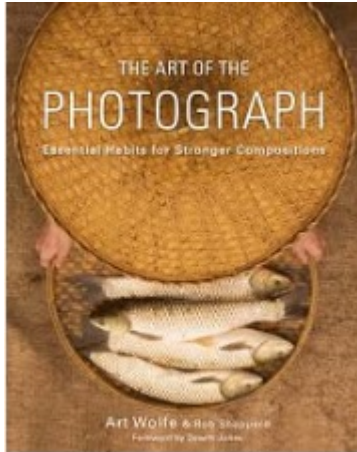
This is not, however, your typical “do these things and you'll shoot better” photo book. Everything in its pages has been learned and refined over many years of practical field experience. It goes beyond the mere technical aspects, and presents the knowledge in an almost philosophical tone, in the hopes that the reader will feel the material as well as learn it...to incorporate it into the reader's thoughts and emotions.

The bulk of the book concentrates on the various topics relating to the composition and creation

of your images. Chapter nine discusses the 10 deadly sins of photographic composition, such as centering your subject, putting the horizon in the center, and eight more. These cover the most common mistakes made by amateur photographers, and are presented to help you avoid them.

The final chapter talks a bit about what gear Art Wolfe carries in the field, and why. There is also several pages devoted to the workflow Art has developed when preparing to go on a shoot, and also the process he follows when home doing is post-processing.

This book is an enjoyable and thought-provoking read from cover to cover. If you wish to improve your photos and give them more impact, then you'll want to add this one to your library, and absorb it fully.



This book was published December 3, 2013 by Amphoto Books (<http://crownpublishing.com/imprint/amphoto-books/>). It lists for \$29.99, and may be purchased from the publisher direct, or from Amazon.com (click the cover image to go to their page). Amazon offers the title for \$23.20, or a Kindle edition for \$18.99. In either case, the ISBN number is 978-0770433161.

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### **Hard Drive Failure? No, it was the CMOS Battery** by Larry Bothe, 4/4/2014

I have my old XP machine in my office out at the airport. I use it a few times a month to access the Internet when I conduct a pilot examinations for the FAA. I bought the machine new in late 2005 and have never had any trouble with it. The other day I turned it on to conduct a test, and it wouldn't boot. It just stopped at the first screen after the eMachines splash screen, the one that normally appears for only a few seconds to allow you to get into the BIOS setup. The hard drive light was not flashing. Uh-oh; hard drive failure.

I first tried starting the machine again; got the same result. I then went to another machine in the building so I could get the job done. The next day I went back to see if I could determine what was wrong. I started by unplugging and replugging all the connections to the hard drive, including the one to the motherboard. No help. Then I used my multi-meter to check the output of the power supply. It was OK. After that I was out of ideas so I called John Spizzirri. I didn't want to accept the notion that my hard drive had truly failed.

While talking to John I turned the machine on again, and when it right away stopped at the 2nd screen I pressed F2 to get into the BIOS setup. While John and I were discussing some possibilities I noticed that the date and time were way off, which is an indication of a dead CMOS battery. That wouldn't be unreasonable after 8 years in service. I told John that, and he said that

the machine really ought to run anyway. But since we had that known problem he suggested that I cure it first before going on with any further testing. John told me that after battery replacement I should go directly into the BIOS and correct the date/time; I should not wait to see if the machine would go beyond that point or not.

What is CMOS, and why the battery? CMOS is the memory on a motherboard that stores the BIOS settings. A small battery, called a CMOS battery, keeps the CMOS powered. The battery, about the size of a 25¢ coin, is very common, a CR2032, cost me \$4.37 for a package of 2 at Walmart (a single cost over 6 bucks, don't ask). It is of course necessary to take the side-panel off the computer to get to the motherboard, but once open the actual battery change is very easy. You just depress a little spring clip with your fingertip, which releases the old battery. You then press the new battery into place, and you're done.

I did as John instructed; installed the new battery and powered up the machine. I immediately hit the F2 key to get into the BIOS and corrected the date and time. I then selected SAVE and EXIT from the BIOS. The machine immediately moved forward and went right through the rest of the boot sequence. It ran perfectly. I'm saved, at least for a while. I know that Microsoft is no longer supporting the Windows XP operating system, and my little house in Microsoft Security Essentials will forever be caution orange in color.

Larry Bothe is an associate member of CAEUG and a member of FVPCA. He was President of CAEUG for a time back in the 90's when he lived in the Chicago area. Larry presently resides in southern Indiana where he is retired from the plastics industry and currently teaches people to fly airplanes. He also performs pilot examinations for the FAA. He can be contacted at [LBothe@comcast.net](mailto:LBothe@comcast.net).

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### **Review: East-Tec Eraser 2014**

[www.east-tec.com](http://www.east-tec.com)

By Herb Goldstein

Columnist-The Computer Buffet

PC Monitor, Sarasota PCUG, Florida

[www.spcug.org](http://www.spcug.org)   [pcugedit \(at\) Verizon.net](mailto:pcugedit@verizon.net)

It's a miracle! Yes, finding something on the internet can seem to be miraculous. But the actual miracle is no longer finding what you are looking for; it's finally completely getting rid of what you've found! In fact, getting rid of what you've found is the real miracle. Pound on your delete key all you will, take an oath it's gone and forgotten, and don't you know that some smart-aleck computer enthusiast will come along and make a liar out of you despite your fervent oath.

Bringing back the text or photo you have vigorously deleted is not as miraculous as it may seem. The real miracle is how easy it can be to bring back from the dead. With surprisingly little effort your deleted item can be readily restored. Now if your restored text or photo happens to exist in any variety between embarrassing and deadly, you may wish you backed up your delete key with something that really did the job.

East-Tec Eraser is the quintessential software for eliminating anything you really want to get rid of without worrying that it will show up unexpectedly because someone was able to restore it. What's more, it's easy to use and fool-proof.

After an easy installation, East-Tec Eraser opens with a vertically placed menu bar the first item in which is Privacy Guard. Its purpose is to erase sensitive data you have gathered from Windows and the internet that was extracted without your knowledge or permission. It will not erase files you have saved or that are needed for normal operation.

The Privacy Guard engages as the first and basic "hot" item in Eraser's menu and in my initial venture gathered a collection of 2,351 previously "deleted" files that had been originally quarantined by Malwarebytes or Norton Utilities over a several year period among a collection of other files that I had long ago considered "gone forever". Well what do you know? There they were just sitting there unknown and out of reach to me, just waiting to be reclaimed by someone with the smarts to do it. With the click of a single button in Privacy Guard, one by one each of those 2,351 files was finally and finitely laid to rest by East-Tec Eraser.

Of course the object in the future would be not to wait until a few thousand of those files were accumulated, but to use Privacy Guard regularly on an ongoing basis which I will make it my business to do henceforth. Needless to say, before using Privacy Guard you need to be certain you are not erasing something you plan to possibly restore at a future time. This is a caveat that holds true for anything else you feed to East-Tec Eraser in one or another of its tools. The items selected by Privacy Guard will conform to pre-chosen defaults.

Button #2, Erase Files and Folders, allows you to indicate files or folders that you want to add to your erase list. You can specify certain criteria or otherwise drag and drop specific files or folders to this area.

Button #3, Erase Deleted Data, ensures that previously deleted files are removed from specified drives on your computer beyond recovery.

Button #4, Media Wiper, was designed to address all removable media devices up to 64 GB. It also has provisions for wiping entire disks or partitions.

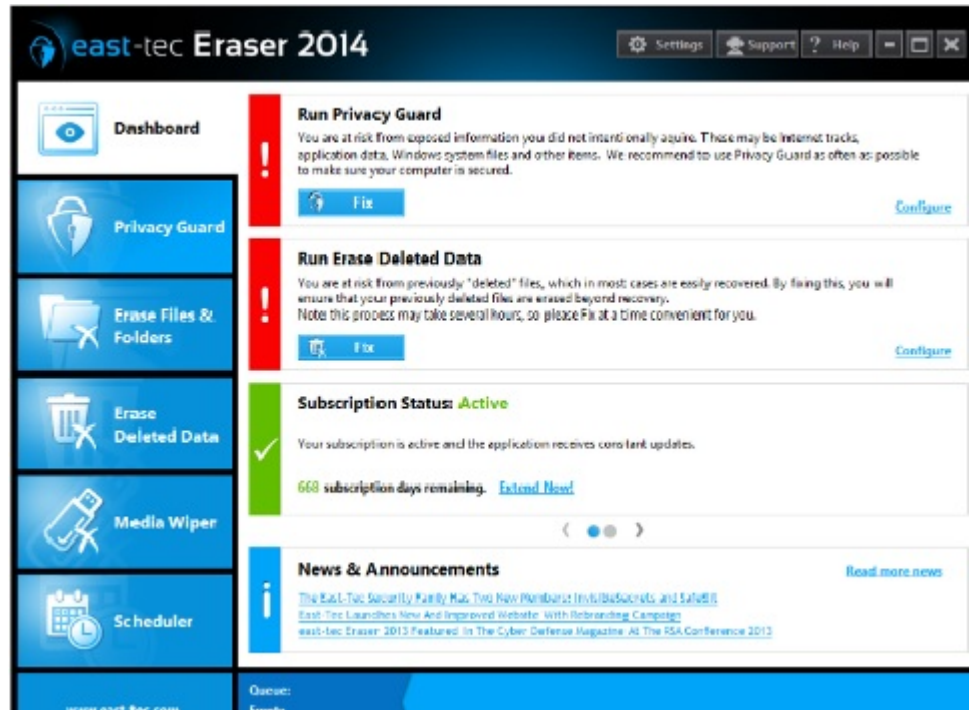
Button #5 cleans traces of your online activities at certain intervals which you specify.

How does it all work? To the best of our judgment, East-Tec competently removed everything it boasted it was going to. We had the opportunity to put East-Tec Eraser through its paces in both Firefox and Chrome browsers. It worked equally well with both and can be expected to work similarly with other common browsers. Erasing the free space allocated to previously deleted files needs to be done while the computer is not in normal occupied usage. It takes plenty of time.

East-Tec provides for very secure erasing that meets and exceeds the U.S. Department of Defense standards for the permanent erasure of digital information. If there is a caveat, it is in nomenclature. East-Tec provides for a free trial period for Eraser. You need to wring the software out to make certain you are comfortable with its instructions, straightforward as they may be. It is very powerful software whose purpose is to readily, permanently and irretrievably erase. Not too much imagination is required to imagine problems that can result in improper use. While there is little really difficult in its usage, wisdom dictates caution. East-Tec helps by making a trial copy of Eraser available to you. It will also help convince you it is software you don't want to be without if you desire to maintain unrestricted control over what is available or not on your hard drive.



As you would expect, whatever Eraser activities you may be employing at the moment need be during a period of time when your cyber-activities are not otherwise occupied. Eraser helps by offering a scheduler to properly and conveniently plan the periods of time during which Eraser functioning will occur and prevent other computer or internet usage.



## Lamp Post 157

April 2014

by John Spizzirri

Have you heard of Heartbleed **(1)**? Heartbleed is a security hole in servers that use Open Secure Sockets Layer (SSL **(2)**). Another name for SSL is Transport Layer Security (TLS **(3)**). OpenSSL was developed as an open source protocol for secure communications on the Internet. Netscape **(4)**, now a subsidiary of AOL **(5)**, wrote the original version of

SSL and made it open source in 1998. The Internet is a cooperative network consisting of a coalition of public and private carriers. These carriers cooperate by carrying each others traffic (one hand washing the other - so to speak). In the early days of the Internet (Advanced Research Projects Agency Network ARPANET **(6)**), it was recognized that security of the communication and authentication on both ends of a communication was very important. Each party in a communication must be assured of the identity of the other party and that the communication is private. OpenSSL authenticated parties on each end of a communication and encrypted the communication so no one could read it, even if it was intercepted. For instance, this means that when you ask Google **(7)** for information about some topic, that you know you are actually contacting the one and only Google. When Google sends the data back data back to you, it must know that the data is going to you. Further, both you and Google

should be assured that the communications, in both directions, are not subject to snooping by ANY outside party. On a side note, Google and other Internet companies were ordered, in star-chamber **(8)** proceedings, to give your name and your searches **(9)** to the National Security Agency (NSA **(10)**). What does all this have to do with Heartbleed? OpenSSL is updated and improved on a regular basis by volunteer programmers **(11)**. Changes are submitted to an authority in charge of OpenSSL **(12)** and analyzed before they are implemented. Changes are not done lightly. Changes are reviewed by many programmers so that flaws will be spotted and not included in the final product. Once in a while a flaw will get through. That is what has happened with Heartbleed. About two years ago, an update to OpenSSL was approved and implemented across the Internet. That update incorporated a security flaw that no one noticed until early this month **(13)**. Codenomicon, a Finnish computer security company, discovered the flaw by attacking their own servers. They found that a small amount of server memory (up to 64K) could be accessed during a session. That 64K of memory could contain cookies, usernames, passwords, or encryption keys. The 64K is a blob or dump of memory and not in any discernible format. Had this blob been easily deciphered, the flaw would have been discovered long ago, because widespread random attacks of individuals and Internet servers would have led researchers to discover the reason for the attacks. The Electronic Frontier Foundation (EFF) and arstechnica has speculated that two thirds of all Internet servers are affected by Heartbleed **(14)**. EFF has long advocated that all Internet users force the use of SSL with a free product called HTTPS Everywhere **(15)**. They have versions for Firefox, Chrome, and Opera browsers. EFF does not recommend using Internet Explorer because of its security short-comings. Over the last week I have recieved a number of e-mails that cited authorities that advocated changing all of my passwords. That is not advisable **(16)**, in that not all the Internet servers are patched (Heartbleed removed from OpenSSL). CNET posted a site that shows what major web sites have been patched **(17)**. The site is continually updated. When I first saw the site it listed a number of porn websites that had been patched, while Yahoo.com had not been patched. Since the patches have been implemented, I have received a couple of e-mails from affected web sites recommending that I change my password for their site because they patched their server. There are a number of web sites that will test a web site to see if it has been patched ((**18**), **(19)**, **(20)**, **(21)**, **(22)**). If you use the Chrome web browser, there is an extension that will automatically notify you if the server you are trying to access has been patched **(23)**. Lance Whitney wrote an article for CNET that coincides with what I have been advocating for a number of years. He said that using a password manager can help you with managing passwords **(24)**. Whitney recommends Lastpass **(25)** and Roboform **(26)**. I used Roboform about 12 years ago and found it to push loads of advertising and thus I stopped using it. I know people who use and like Keepass **(27)**. If you use the same password everywhere, you should stop that immediately. You do not have to use a different password for every site you access but, each financial institution should have its own unique password. By the way, almost no banks, S&Ls, and credit unions were affected because most do not use OpenSSL or do not use the portion of OpenSSL that was affected by Heartbleed. Your bank website should have an announcement about Heartbleed and if they were affected by it. Trusted Reviews has some advice that may be of value **(28)**. If you have had your identity stolen or have had other people use your credit, the Identity Theft Resource Center **(29)** has a lot of resources that can help you get back on track.

**1) <http://heartbleed.com/>**

**2) <http://www.webopedia.com/TERM/S/SSL.html>**

- 3) [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Secure\\_Sockets\\_Layer](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Secure_Sockets_Layer)
- 4) <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Netscape>
- 5) <http://corp.aol.com/>
- 6) <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ARPANET>
- 7) <https://www.google.com/>
- 8) <http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/star-chamber>
- 9) <http://bit.ly/1mnryKm>
- 10) <http://www.nsa.gov/>
- 11) [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Open-source\\_software\\_development](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Open-source_software_development)
- 12) <https://www.openssl.org/>
- 13) <http://sn.im/28tu4ok>
- 14) <http://sn.im/28tu4pe>
- 15) <https://www.eff.org/https-everywhere>
- 16) <https://www.eff.org/mention/does-heartbleed-bug-mean-you-should-stay-internet>
- 17) <http://www.cnet.com/how-to/which-sites-have-patched-the-heartbleed-bug/>
- 18) <https://www.ssllabs.com/ssltest/>
- 19) <https://filippo.io/Heartbleed/>
- 20) <http://global.sitesafety.trendmicro.com/index.php>
- 21) <http://heartbleed.criticalwatch.com/>
- 22) <https://lastpass.com/heartbleed/>
- 23) <http://sn.im/28tu4qg>
- 24) <http://sn.im/28tu4r4>
- 25) <https://lastpass.com/>
- 26) <http://www.roboform.com/>
- 27) <http://keepass.info/>
- 28) <http://sn.im/28tu4s4>
- 29) <http://www.idtheftcenter.org/>

The Decorah bald eagles (1) three eggs have hatched. The parents are hunting for fish and small mammals to feed the eaglets. The feeding cycle is about once every 90 minutes to two hours. The adults tears off pieces of a carcass and presents it to an eaglet. If the eaglet refuses the food, it is presented to another eaglet or eaten by the adult. The eaglets are spending much of their time sunning themselves on good days.

- 1) <http://www.ustream.tv/decoraheagles> Between you, me and the LampPost, that's all for now.

### **Portable Digital Storage**

By Richard Durand, President  
 Wisconsin All Computer Users Club  
 December 2013 issue, WAUC Talk  
[www.wauc.info](http://www.wauc.info) rgdurand (at) yahoo.com

When I first joined WAUC in 1995, I noticed that some members would always come prepared to meetings and events with some 3.5" floppy disks. These disks were very useful for passing along or receiving files of photos, documents, and even programs. The 3.5" disk had a larger capacity than the previous 5.25" disks but wasn't much more reliable. I remember having a lot of



problems getting these disks to be recognized in disk drives. Still, when they worked, they worked very well. They were relatively portable and handy to have along anytime one was out and about.

Of course, for portable storage, floppy disks have long been replaced by USB flash drives. When these were first available, they were incredibly expensive and by today's standards their memory capacity was very small.

I am now embarrassed to reveal how much I paid for my first USB flash drive (which I still have somewhere). It was a lot. But as I think back on it, I carried it around and used it for a long time and it's one of the things I can say I really got my money's worth for. All the other much smaller and slower items of computer equipment at that time cost a lot more also.

Today, USB flash drives are much more affordable and come with unbelievable memory capacities. If you don't have one, this is a good time to pick one up. I have found that for something to carry around, the most affordable ones with the smallest memory sizes are the best. For most purposes, one doesn't need that much memory and if one should lose a flash drive, something almost inevitable with something so small, one hasn't lost that much value.

If you get a chance, pick up an extra one to have as a backup in case you lose the one you already have. And as another precaution, transfer the files on your flash drive to your regular computer as often as possible.

There is now an even smaller and handier form of portable storage available, the SD memory card. These were first used as portable memory for digital cameras. To transfer photo files to a computer one had to connect the camera or an external card reader to one's computer. For some time now, computers, laptops, the new tablet and e-reader products sometimes come with a built-in slot for SD memory cards. If yours has an SD card slot, go ahead and take advantage of it and if not, look for this feature in your future computers and devices. An SD memory card can hold all the different files a USB flash drive can including documents and music files, not just photo files. It is even smaller and easier to carry than a USB flash drive and also easier to lose. One might want to carry it in one of those little plastic cases they sometimes come in. The same advice for USB flash drives applies to SD memory cards also. To be prepared for anything, you can have one of each on you.

USB flash drives and SD memory cards are so small, portable, and useful that you may find yourself with a lot more than you ever expected to have. I'm sure a lot of members have been using these items as portable storage for a long time already. This column is just a way of saying how practical we are.

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### **What is a 'CAPTCHA'?**

by Phil Chenevert, member and instructor for Computer Lab Workshops  
Cajun Clickers Computer Club, LA  
December 2013 issue, Cajun Clickers Computer News  
[www.clickers.org](http://www.clickers.org) ccnewsletter (at) cox.net

Have you ever found yourself grinding your teeth because you can't make out those weird words in something like this? All you want to do is get somewhere on the internet to do something and then, Wham! They hit you with this silliness!

Well, they are not there just to annoy us or have fun at our expense. They are there to save everyone a lot of misery so be patient with them. CAPTCHAs, or Completely Automated Public Turing Tests to Tell Computers and Humans Apart, exist to ensure that user input has not been generated by a computer. These peculiar puzzles are commonly used on the Web to protect registration and comment forms from spam.

To understand the need for CAPTCHAs, we should understand spammers' incentives for creating and

using automated input systems. For the sake of simplicity, we'll think of spam as any unwarranted interaction or input on a website, whether malicious or for the benefit of the spammer (and that differs from the purpose of the website). Incentives to spam include:

- Advertising on a massive scale;
- Manipulating online voting systems;
- Destabilizing a critical human equilibrium (i.e. creating an unfair advantage);
- Vandalizing or destroying the integrity of a website;
- Creating unnatural, unethical links to boost search engine rankings;
- Accessing private information;
- Spreading malicious code.

A captcha is a challenge-response test that determines whether a user is human or an automated bot. A typical captcha includes an image of distorted text and a form field for the user to enter the text. Captchas are commonly found at the end of website forms, and must be filled out in order for the form to be submitted. By requiring users to decipher and enter the captcha text, webmasters can prevent automated programs from sending spam or other unwanted data through online forms.

It is estimated that 80% of email is actually spam and captcha's protect us from most of 'em. Be patient, use the 'give me another one' symbol that looks like two arrows, or the little speaker symbol to have it pronounce the word if you continually fail to type it correctly. It is kind of like seatbelts, irritating to put on but for our own safety.



### April DVD of the Month

- AdwCleaner - Updated adware cleaner
- ARI - April newsletter
- CDOMlists - Lists of past CDOMs and DVDOMs
- CintaNotes - Note taking software
- GEGeek - Tools and info to recondition a PC
- JRT - Updated junkware removal tool
- KilleAll - Terminates all processes except those necessary for Windows
- MemberContributions - Things e-mailed to me from members
- NirSoftLauncher - 150 utilities for PCs
- OldTimeRadio - Old time radio broadcasts
- Recuva - Updated file recovery tool
- Speccy - Updated hardware discovery tool
- WindowsDefenderOffline - MS Defender for offline use
- WindowsRepairAllInOne - Updated Windows repair tool
- WiseDataRecovery - Data recovery tool

### CAEUG OFFICERS

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