



Computers Are Easy User Group

Abort,
Retry,
Ignore....

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

February 2021
Volume XXXIX Issue 2

Confirmed
meeting dates

- Feb 27
- Mar 27
- Apr 24
- May 22
- June 26
- July 24
- Aug 28
- Sept 25
- Oct 23

Zoom
meeting
10:00am
:::
Check
website for
dates and
meeting info

Mailing address:
CAEUG
P.O. Box 3150
Glen Ellyn, IL
60138

MEETING
will be
held using
Zoom
until further
notice



PER GLENSIDE WEBSITE Limited LIBRARY MEETING
LIBRARY PARTIALLY CLOSED FOR Meetings
No food or drink are allowed inside

UPDATED MEETING INFORMATION
* * * Saturday February 27, 2021 * * *

4th Saturday at 10 AM via Zoom.
A meeting where you get to stay at home.

There will be a meeting invitation e-mail Thursday evening
before the Zoom meeting on Saturday morning at 10:00

Our February 27, 2021 presenter:
A representative from Citizens Utility Board
will explain the pros and cons of
How to cut the cord (cable TV)
and how to Stop Unwanted Robocalls.

REMINDER: \$20.00 Membership dues for 2021 are due.
Mail dues to CAEUG, P.O. Box 3150, Glen Ellyn, IL 60138

Table of Contents

Page	
2	Lamp 232 by John Spizzirri
5	Updating Your Computer to Windows 10, Version 20H2 by Larry Bothe
7	Helpful Memory Bytes by Jim Cerny
8	Gathered From the Internet by Kathy Groce
10	DVD List February 2021

Stay Home, Stay Safe, Wash your hands!!!!
Stay tuned for updates!!!



Lamp Post 232 February 2021 by John Spizzirri

The Decorah Eagles (1) north nest pair have two eggs as of this writing (2/19). The south nest looks like it has been partially rebuilt. No birds seem to be actively working on the nest. It is hard to tell as the Raptor Project keeps switching highlight videos from the past in with the live feed. The north nest eggs will hatch some time in the first few days of April, if all goes well.

1) <https://is.gd/OYqTVG>

On February 13 an APCUG presenter, Hewie Poplock, displayed the ins and outs of the Windows 10 Tips App (1). The first URL is a fully functional replica of the app included in Windows 10. As of this writing the full video has yet to be posted on the APCUG Youtube Channel (2). Hewie has personally posted Parts 1 and 2 to his Youtube channel (3, 4). I was a little leery of the app and the topic as I think the number of new users of Windows has diminished in the U.S. Granted, a refresher is always welcome so I kept an open mind. That being said, Tips expect you to use and / or own Microsoft (MS (5)) products exclusively. If you use other products, your mileage may vary. Here is a summary of the presentation starting with Part 1. In order to open the 'Tips App' type tips in the search box next to the Start button. A list of Apps will appear with 'Tips' at the top. Click on 'Tips'. 'Tips' will open displaying a number of tip icons called cards. These will change periodically, if you are connected to the Internet. Listed are topic cards, each with a number of sub topics. Select the card that interests you to find out how to make Windows 10 do what you want. The first card is always labeled 'What's new'. During this presentation the first sub topic under 'What's new' was 'What's your favorite mode?'. It described how to change the look of Win 10 from light to dark. Start - Settings - Personalization - Colors - (Light , Dark , Custom).

The next card was 'Keep tabs on your website tabs'. When you are on a frequently used website and want that site pinned to your taskbar, you can in the Edge browser click Settings - Tools - More Tools - Pin to Taskbar. That will pin that website in Edge to the taskbar. Even if Edge is closed, clicking on that icon will open Edge to that website.

The next card was 'Quickly jump between open web pages with Alt + Tab'. I found that description a little confusing. I use that function of Windows (and Linux) all the time to 'jump' between open applications on the desktop / taskbar. Just hold down the Alt key and touch the Tab key. The display will show thumbnails of the applications with a highlight around one of them. As you touch the tab key the highlight moves from one application to the next.

When the highlight is on the application you want to focus on, release the Alt key. If you use the Edge browser, each tab will be listed as an application.

The next card was 'Have Magnifier read text aloud'. Hewie says to hold the Windows key and press the plus key to start the magnifier. In actuality you hold the Windows key and press the equal sign key to start the magnifier. Pressing shift equal sign to get the plus sign does not start the magnifier. When you magnify the screen with the control on the magnifier, on the right side of the control is another control marked read. Place the cursor on the text where you want to read aloud and click the read control.

The next card was 'Keep an editor handy'. I think the editor is part of MS Word or Office. It does not seem to be part of Windows 10. Spell checking is part of most word processors and e-mail programs. Grammar checkers are an add-on in third party programs. If you own MS Word or Office, it is nice to have.

The next card was 'Edit in multiple languages'. Review - Editor - Set Proofing Language then choose the language to use. Hewie (and I) only use English and cannot demonstrate this feature.

The next card was 'Family safety and emergency prep'. This card displays a page with ten Office templates for family preparedness. Emergency contact lists, prep checklist, child care log, and etc for peace of mind when things go wrong.

The next card was 'Fun activities for you and your kids'. This card displays a page with 60 Office templates for entertaining you and your (grand)children. The templates include colorful bookmarks, word find puzzles, sudoku games, learn to draw, paint by numbers, photo album title maker, and other things.

The next card was 'Explore your family history'. This card displays a page with 21 Office templates for making and documenting a family tree as well as other family related items.

The next card was 'Top templates for home learners'. This card displays a page with 36 Office templates for various aged students. There are lesson plans, homework tips, actual lessons, assignment calendars, and flash cards.

The next card was 'Add emoji from your keyboard'. By pressing the Windows logo key then the period key the emoji panel appears. Select the emoji(s) you wish to add to your document or e-mail. Also on that card are keyboard short cuts.

The next card was 'Take a snip of what's on your screen'. By pressing the Windows logo key and the shift S key opens the snip tool. If you have used this tool before in other Windows versions, this one works just about the same way with a few extra features. It allows you to copy parts of the screen to the clip board to be pasted into a picture or graphic file.

In part 2 of the presentation Hewie opens the Lets Get Started with Windows 10 Card in the Tips App.

The first card was 'The ultimate search box'. When you click the Start button (Windows Logo) a entry box may open. Whether or not the box opens, type your search query. Results will be shown first from the PC then from the Internet, if you are connected. You may use the tabs, if any, to narrow your

search.

The next card was 'Customize your Start menu'. When you click the Start button (Windows Logo), the start menu appears. The list of applications is in the center column. Right click on any application you want to put on the start menu (on the right) and click Pin to start. You may also Click Settings - Personalization - Start for other settings.

The next card was 'Organize Start with folders'. Icons on the Start menu can be combined into folders to conserve space. Just drag an icon and drop it onto another icon. A folder will result with the two apps in it. More apps can be dropped into the folder.

The next card was 'Find settings quickly'. Click the Start button (Windows Logo) and the gear icon then type the setting you want to view or change.

The next card was 'Sign in with one account on all your devices'. Hewie (and I) do not have or want a Microsoft account to register Windows and other MS products. If you do, you may do so.

The next card was 'Quickly change settings in action center'. To open the action center click the icon to the right of the time in the Task Bar. Explore the various items that are available there.

The next card was 'Get apps for your PC'. Click the Start button (Windows Logo) and click the Microsoft Store icon or type Microsoft Store. You can browse through the various programs or search for a particular program. Some are free. Some cost money.

The next card was 'Keep your PC up to date'. Click the Start button (Windows Logo) Windows - Settings - Update & Security - Windows Update - Check for updates to see if any updates are available.

The next card was 'Learn from the experts'. That goes to a web site with 'expert' videos (6).

The next card was 'See the quick start guide to Windows 10'. This card also opens a web site (7) which has a downloadable quick start guide to Windows 10.

At that point Hewie ended the presentation and recommended a book called 'Windows 10 Field Guide' (8) by Paul Thurrott. It is available only on line.

Hewie and Ron Brown host a video streaming show every Monday at 10:30 AM Central time on Zoom and Youtube called Tech for Seniors (9).

Hewie also hosts the Central Florida Computer Society Windows Special Interest Group meetings (10) that are on line.

Hewie and Ron Brown also host a Learning Chromebook meeting (11) on the third Thursday at 1 PM Central Time. You must register for those meetings.

- 1) <https://is.gd/pRxiFz>
- 2) <https://is.gd/K7ivl5>
- 3) <https://youtu.be/VHSTTIuqShA>
- 4) <https://youtu.be/mX0hnAeVddY>
- 5) <https://www.microsoft.com/>
- 6) <https://is.gd/FfP6Zu>

- 7) <https://is.gd/w9mDAn>
- 8) <https://is.gd/6kWCQJ>
- 9) <https://www.techforsenior.com/>
- 10) <https://hewie.net/winsig/>
- 11) <http://bit.ly/learningchromebooks>

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

Updating Your Computer to
Windows 10, Version 20H2
By Larry Bothe, 2/7/21

This past week I updated five Windows 10 computers to version 20H2. Four of them went very fast; the fifth one a bit slower. The good news: None of them had any problems. Bad news: None yet.

But wait a minute; didn't 20H2 come out last fall? How come I'm just now getting around to doing the update? Well, I'm cautious about major "feature" updates. I use my computer every day, for my own needs, and to help manage two not-for-profit organizations. It is really inconvenient if my computer stops working properly. Microsoft tests software before they release it to the general public. First, they test extensively in-house, and then they release it to outside-world beta testers. But even with several levels of testing, sometimes a problem gets by them, and is not discovered until the general public puts the update on millions of machines. Because of that I wait several months, for any issues to be corrected, before I update my computers.

However, you can't wait too long. These feature updates (as opposed to monthly security updates) come out approximately every 6 months. You want to install a feature update before the next one comes out. When a new feature update is released to the general public, Microsoft makes it difficult to go back and get the previous one. It is best if these updates are installed in sequence, and not skipped. That's what happened with the last machine I updated two days ago. It was still back on version 1909 (year 2019, month 9), not on the more current 2004 (2020, April). It took much longer to do that computer than the first 4, which were all on 2004.

Time is relative here. The first 4 machines I did took only 5 to 7 minutes, from beginning to end, including the one restart that was required. Note that, unlike the monthly security updates, which are installed automatically for most users, you must click on Download & Install in Windows Update to get a feature update. But before you click on D&I, click on Check for Updates at the top of the page. If any small updates are needed, do them first. After the small ones update, click on Check for Updates again. Keep doing that until Windows

doesn't find any updates for your computer. It is necessary to do Check for Updates more than once because some updates require that earlier updates be installed first. Keep checking until Update tells you that your computer is up-to-date. Then you can go down below and click on Download & Install for the 20H2 feature update.

I suppose I need to issue the standard warning here that before you do any major update, you need to have your computer backed up. Some experts say that you should have a full disk image backup before a feature update. I don't do that, but I sure as heck have all my data backed up. My computer data is backed up to the "cloud" every evening, using a service called iDrive. It doesn't matter how you back up your computer, but you should be doing it on a regular basis. Enough nagging.

I told you at the outset that the 20H2 update went very fast; in fact, way faster than I expected. When I clicked Download & Install on the first machine, I expected a lengthy download time, perhaps 15 minutes to a half hour, because I thought the full operating system would be downloaded, and used to replace the old version. As I watched, I was surprised to see that after only about 15 seconds, the download was complete. While I was thinking about that, the computer switched over to Installing. I then thought the install would take quite a while to update all the necessary files, but that too went in 15 or 20 seconds. The computer was ready for Restart. I clicked on Restart Now. The machine went to the standard blue screen with the circling dots, and the warning of Working on updates. Don't turn off your computer. It only stayed in the Working phase for maybe half a minute, shut itself down, and immediately restarted. Upon restart, it again went to Working on Updates for perhaps another half a minute, and then went through the rest of a normal start, and came up to my desktop. All done. Total time? – About 7 minutes.

I got to thinking, why so fast? I can only conclude that Windows had already downloaded 20H2 in the background, and in fact had done most of the necessary processing. By clicking on Download & Install, I was in reality just "activating" what was already on my computer. The next 3 machines I did went the same way, very fast, 5 minutes or so. The last one, a laptop in the media room at the museum where I volunteer, took longer because it was still back on version 1909. On that one, the download alone took about 20 minutes. Then it went to Installing, and it was obviously very slow. It was late in the day, so I went home and left it doing its install thing. I don't know how long it took, but I had watched it for about 5 minutes, and it was at only 11%. The next day another volunteer came in and restarted it. By the time he went and made a pot of coffee, it was up and running.

Although it's been less than a week, none of the 5 machines I updated to 20H2 have exhibited any problems. There were no problems in doing the actual updates; all went smoothly. If your system is anything like "normal",

meaning you use it for usual home computing activities; checking email, shopping online, researching questions over the internet, and dealing with photographs, you likely won't experience and difficulties either. Very old printers and drivers can be problematical, but I'm not using any ancient peripherals. Be sure your computer is otherwise up-to-date, have your data backed up, and go for it. Click on Download & Update, and enjoy the experience. I can tell you that my primary computer, the one I'm writing this article on, is noticeably faster since I updated to Windows 10, version 20H2.

Larry Bothe is an associate member of CAEUG. He served as president 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, and is the volunteer curator of the Freeman Army Airfield Museum.

(<http://www.freemanarmyairfieldmuseum.org/>)
He can be contacted at [LBothe\(at\)comcast.net](mailto:LBothe@comcast.net).

Helpful Memory Bytes

By Jim Cerny, Help Desk Host, The Saratoga Users Group

July 2020 STUG Monitor

www.thestug.org [jimcerny123 \(at\) gmail.com](mailto:jimcerny123@gmail.com)

Let's review and explore what we really need to know about basic computer storage (bits and bytes) and how it helps us get an idea of the data space needed to save and backup our stuff.

Suppose you landed on a planet and the aliens there only had one hand and only one finger on it (not ten fingers like we do). All they could do is flash a single digit or none at all (hence, a zero or one). How high could they count? Could they do basic math?

All computers use the binary system (a single digit of 1 or 0) – that is, they store and work with data saved in memory as zeros and ones. But there is NO LIMIT to how high you can count – you just keep adding on more zeros and ones. For example, the digits we know in our numbering system such as 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 15, 16, 31, 32, 33, etc. would be the following in binary = 1, 10, 11, 100, 101, 110, 111, 1000, 1111, 10000, 11111, 100000, 100001, etc. So, adding a new digit to the left doubles the size of the memory (or number). Believe it or not, math gets a lot simpler with only two digits.

A single binary digit is called a BIT. Eight bits together form a BYTE of data. Eight bits allow for 256 different combinations, enough to cover not only our 26-character alphabet but special characters and more. Every keystroke on your keyboard enters one byte into memory!

I love the old science fiction movies – where the spacecraft command center was filled with gauges and dials! To read a value on a dial you had to look closely and see where the arrow was. It showed measurement on a scale of lines and it was up to you and your eyesight to see the amount or "reading." But with binary digits, you don't care about "how much" you only need to know if it is there or not there -- a one or a zero. To get more accuracy, you just

add more binary digits. So, you will need a lot of them, but they are cheap and much easier for use in electronics.

One KILO-byte of memory is 1024 bytes, but when we start dealing with really large amounts of computer storage, we round it off and call it a thousand.

One MEGA-byte of data is one million bytes or one-thousand kilobytes. Those old 3.5-inch computer disks (remember them?) held about one and a half megabytes or about 220 pages of text. A CD-ROM (computer disk) could hold about 700 megabytes, that's over 400 of those old floppy disks and about 90,000 pages of text. It is good to remember that photos, depending upon the number of pixels in them, can be from 10 or 20 kilobytes up to 2, 12, 24, or more megabytes each! So, is a picture worth a thousand words? You bet, and more!

One GIGA-byte is one trillion bytes or one-thousand megabytes. Now we are talking serious (and very inexpensive) memory! You can buy a small portable USB drive (called a "thumb" drive or "flash" drive) in various gigabyte sizes – I tend to like the 32 or 64-gigabyte size because it can easily hold all my photos and documents as my backup. Just one gigabyte can hold almost 700,000 pages of text. That's a den full of books. One HD (high definition) movie can take 2 to 5 gigabytes of memory. Movies and videos are moving pictures, of course, several pictures (or "frames") per second. Fortunately, the data used to store photos and movies are "compressed" or coded to take up much less space than you would expect.

One TERA-byte is one thousand gigabytes. For us normal people, this is a HUGE amount of memory! You can get a one-terabyte drive for about \$50. It can hold 300,000 photos or about 500 hours of movies. And, unlike my memory, it will never forget anything.

The next memory size up is the PETA-byte -- yup, one-thousand terabytes! And, no, they are not going to run out of prefixes. All just to store ones and zeros.

I use a nice little thumb drive I use to back up my memory, but I seem to forget where I put it!



Gathered From the Internet by Kathy Groce

The Byte from <https://www.zmescience.com/science/how-big-data-can-get/>

The byte is composed of eight bits.

0.1 bytes: A binary decision

1 byte: A single character

10 bytes: A single word

100 bytes: A telegram OR A punched card

Kilobyte (1024 Bytes)

1 Kilobyte: A very short story

2 Kilobytes: A Typewritten page

- 10 Kilobytes: An encyclopaedic page OR A deck of punched cards
- 50 Kilobytes: A compressed document image page
- 100 Kilobytes: A low-resolution photograph
- 200 Kilobytes: A box of punched cards
- 500 Kilobytes: A very heavy box of punched cards
- Megabyte (1024 Kilobytes)
 - 1 Megabyte: 4 books (873 pages of plain text) OR A 3.5-inch floppy disk
 - 2 Megabytes: A high-resolution photograph
 - 5 Megabytes: The complete works of Shakespeare OR 30 seconds of TV-quality video
 - 10 Megabytes: A minute of high-fidelity sound OR A digital chest X-ray
 - 20 Megabytes: A box of floppy disks
 - 50 Megabytes: A digital mammogram
 - 100 Megabytes: 1 meter of shelved books OR A two-volume encyclopedic book
 - 200 Megabytes: A reel of 9-track tape OR An IBM 3480 cartridge tape
 - 500 Megabytes: A CD-ROM OR The hard disk of a PC
- Gigabyte (1,024 Megabytes, or 1,048,576 Kilobytes)
 - 1 Gigabyte: A pickup truck filled with paper OR A symphony in high-fidelity sound OR A movie at TV quality. 1 Gigabyte could hold the contents of about 10 yards of books on a shelf.
 - 2 Gigabytes: 20 meters of shelved books
 - 5 Gigabytes: An 8mm Exabyte tape
 - 20 Gigabytes: A high-quality audio collection of the works of Beethoven OR A VHS tape used for digital data
 - 50 Gigabytes: A floor of books OR Hundreds of 9-track tapes
 - 100 Gigabytes: A floor of academic journals OR A large ID-1 digital tapes.
- Terabyte (1,024 Gigabytes)
 - 1 Terabyte: An automated tape robot OR All the X-ray films in a large technological hospital OR 50,000 trees made into paper and printed.
 - 1 Terabyte: 1,613 650MB CDs or 4,581,298 books.
 - 1 Terabyte: 1,000 copies of the Encyclopedia Britannica.
 - 2 Terabytes: An academic research library OR A cabinet full of Exabyte tapes
 - 10 Terabytes: The printed collection of the US Library of Congress
- Petabyte (1,024 Terabytes, or 1,048,576 Gigabytes)
 - 1 Petabyte: 5 years of Earth Observing System (EOS) (at 46 mbps)
 - 1 Petabyte: 20 million 4-door filing cabinets full of text or 500 billion pages of standard printed text.
 - 2 Petabytes: All US academic research libraries.
 - 20 Petabytes: Production of hard-disk drives in 1995
 - 200 Petabytes: All printed material ever OR Production of digital magnetic tape in 1995
- Exabyte (1,024 Petabytes)
 - An exabyte of data is created on the Internet each day in 2012 or 250 million DVDs worth of information.
 - 5 Exabytes: All words ever spoken by human beings.
- Zettabyte (1,024 Exabytes)
 - Cisco estimates 1.3 zettabytes of traffic annually over the internet in 2016

Yottabyte (1,204 Zettabytes, or 1,208,925,819,614,629,174,706,176 bytes)

It's equal to one septillion (10²⁴) or, strictly, 280 bytes.

Its name comes from the prefix 'Yotta' derived from the Ancient Greek (ὀκτώ), meaning "eight", because it is equal to 1,0008

In 2010, it would have cost \$100 trillion to make a yottabyte storage system made out of the day's hard drives.

After 'Yotta', the officially recognized prefix system comes to a halt, likely because humans haven't had the need to work with larger quantities of... anything really. There are some other measurement units, however, which go well beyond the Yotta and which are recognized by some experts in their fields. For instance, the brontobyte is 1 followed by 27 zeros and some believe will be the scale of data enabled by the internet of things (smart devices from toasters to fridges to home sensors that constantly transmit and receive data). Gegobyte is 10 to the power 30, which by now is futile to count in DVDs or anything like it.

February 2021 DVD of the Month

ARI - Monthly newsletter

AudioBook - Free audio book

Balabolka - Updated text to speech software

Brave - Updated web browser

CCleaner - Updated HD cleanup utility

Chromium 64-Bit - Updated web browser

DVDDOMlists - Contents of CDs and DVDs of the Month

Easy2Boot - Program to make a USB flash drive bootable

MemberContributions - Things members send me

Mozilla Firefox ESR - Updated web browser

Nirsoft - Updated set of 200 Win utilities

OldTimeRadio - Old radio audio files

Opera - Updated web browser

PhotoEffects - Photo editor

Sandboxie - Updated sandbox program

SIW - Updated system information program

Sysinternals - Updated utilities by Microsoft

Tails - Updated privacy Linux distribution

TeamViewer - Updated remote control software

TurboVNC - Opne source remote control software

WordPress - Software to create a free blog

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

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 , at least five (5) days prior to the program, so that reasonable accommodation can be made.

Mailing address:

CAEUG

P.O. Box 3150

Glen Ellyn, IL 60138

Members Helpline

Any member can volunteer to be on the Members Helpline.

Hardware problems, Win 7, Win 10, Linux and Virus Removal

- John Spizzirri

CAEUG OFFICERS

President Mike Goldberg

president(at)caeug.net

V.P. (Programs) Roger Kinzie

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Webmaster John Spizzirri

webmaster(at)caeug.net