Lake County Area Computer Enthusiast

June's Meeting Program

Grandad

Granny

Aunt

Mum

Dad

Uncle

Cousin

Brother

Me

Sister
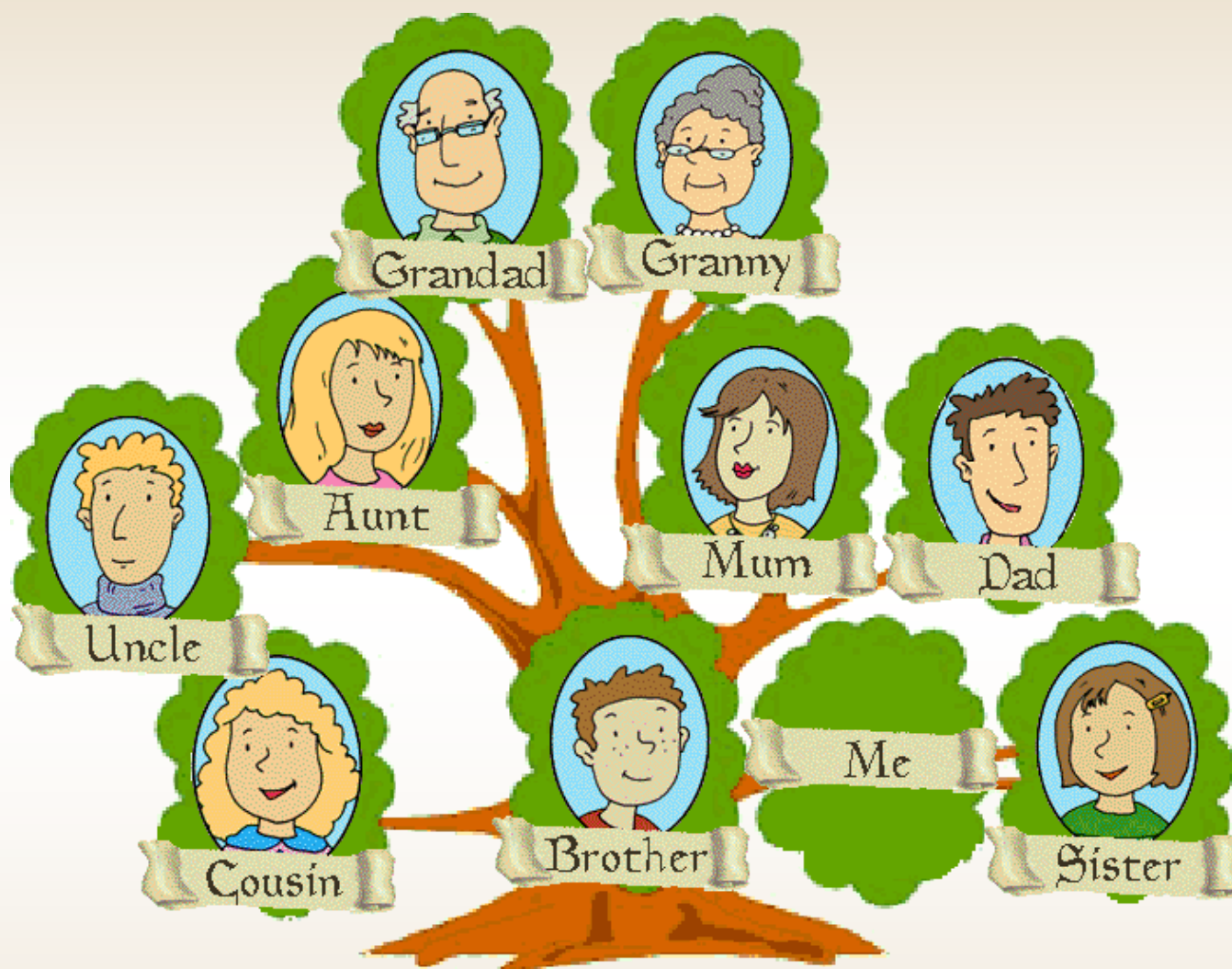
Come Join us at the Grayslake Public Library Saturday June 11, 2016 for Mrs. Bobby Jacobs Demonstration Genealogy 101

News Journal

WWW.LCACE.ORG

"Members Helping Members"
(since 1983)

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2016-2017

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News Journal
The LCACE News Journal is published eleven times annually. Members are encouraged to submit contributions which will be acknowledged in this newsletter.

Send articles to editor@lcace.org
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Logo designed on an Atari Stacy Laptop in 1989 by Dwight Johnson Jr.

Lake County Area Computer Enthusiasts

LCACE c/o Group Ambassador

"J.J." Johnson

Membership
LCACE membership is open to all individuals and families interested in personal computing. Annual dues are $20.00 per individual/family. Applications for membership may be obtained at the monthly meeting, by request on the club hotline, and are now available on our web site at http://www.lcace.org.

Meetings
LCACE meetings are usually held on Saturdays at the Grayslake Area Public Library, 100 Library Lane, Grayslake, Illinois. The meeting room opens at noon and the formal meeting begins at 12:30 p.m. All meetings are open to the public. Bring a friend!

Newsletter Submissions
Club members are welcome to submit classified ads, reviews, tips and other articles for publication, to our newsletter editor in Microsoft Word format (.doc). **Publication deadline is the 20th of the month for all ads and articles.** Please do not use tabs or special formatting.

Newsletter Advertising
Ad rates per issue: Full page - $25, Half page - $15, Quarter page - $10, Business Card - $5. Discounts are available on advance purchase of multiple issues. Please send camera-ready copy and payment to the club address by the 15th of the month preceding publication. For more information on ad pricing, please call our Hotline. Ads are **FREE** to all paid members.

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Phil's Ramblings

Welcome to spring / summer! As the seasons change, so does the Tech frontier….

Big news at Microsoft! They have just announced the layoff of 1,850 staff from their smartphone hardware business, with up to 1,350 of those job reductions occurring in Finland at the former Nokia operations acquired a few years ago by Microsoft.

Given that Microsoft has touted their intent to create a single Windows OS and universal app library that will tie together computers, tablets and phones, this announcement begs a lot of questions. The uncertainty is further reinforced by Microsoft's 2015 announcement of Continuum, the ability to create, modify and store content in OneDrive from any device, from anywhere. Promotional articles and photos actually show Windows phones connected to a monitor and keyboard being used as miniature PCs to access and modify content stored in OneDrive.

In some ways this layoff announcement probably should not be a surprise. Windows phone market share, always miniscule compared to iOS and Android, has actually shrunk in the past year. Meanwhile, Microsoft has yet to release Windows 10 Mobile to existing Windows phone users, limiting it to a few high-end new phones that were introduced since last July. Reviews of the new software on those phones have been mixed; the perception has been that Microsoft is having problems fine-tuning Windows 10 Mobile and was therefore delaying roll-out to existing Windows 8.1 Phone users.

Microsoft's drive toward Universal apps was supposed to be the catalyst for greater market penetration by Windows phones going forward. With truly universal apps, a user would be able to use their favorites on any device. This was expected to create an incentive for developers to step up their focus on the Windows platform, and create lots of new Windows apps. And, lots of new Windows apps would in theory make Windows phones more competitive in the smartphone marketplace. Whether because of the lack of Windows phone market penetration, existing developer tie-ins with the Apple and Android universes or something else, there has not been a significant increase in Universal Windows 10 apps since that OS launched last July

What happens now is anyone's guess. Here is what a Microsoft spokesperson had to say after the layoff announcement, as reported in a related PC World online article:

"We will continue to develop new devices and adapt Windows 10 for small screens, support Lumia Phones such as the Lumia 650, Lumia 950 and Lumia 950XL, and phones from our OEM hardware partners like Acer, Alcatel, HP, Trinity and Vaio, where we're seeing good traction," a Microsoft representative said in a statement, when asked if the Microsoft Lumia smartphone brand was officially dead. "We have nothing to share about our future product roadmap."

Meanwhile, the same PC World article reports that Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella has stated that development will also continue on Continuum. So, one could assume that this layoff announcement may simply represent Microsoft getting out of the phone hardware business and leaving that arena to their OEM hardware partners, while development of phone software and apps will remain a priority within Microsoft. Time will tell……

Another big Tech announcement, this time from Alphabet (Google)! Over the balance of the year Google will modify their Chrome OS to allow Android apps from the Google Play store to run on Chromebooks. You can read

more about this in a recent Yahoo! Finance article; here is the link:

http://finance.yahoo.com/news/buy-chromebook-android-apps-200443448.html.

Chromebooks have made significant inroads in the educational marketplace and have also been well received by home users who have ready access to the Internet and who are looking for a simple, inexpensive device to handle mail, social media and Web-browsing. But, they have suffered to an extent from the fact that, unlike the Google Play Store, the Chrome OS Store has a very limited number of apps. Since these were the only apps that would run on a Chromebook, this meant that owners who had come to rely on a series of favorite apps on their Android phone would in most cases not be able to run those same (or similar) apps on their Chromebook. Moreover, since Chromebooks were designed with the idea that application software would be stored in the Cloud, they required Internet access to do just about anything – even creating something simple like a letter.

In recent years, Google has made it possible for users to store Google's proprietary "office" software on their Chromebook, so users can now create documents offline for future uploading to their Google Drive account in the Cloud. However, for those dependent upon Microsoft Office software for business – or simply for ease in sharing content with friends and family – "work-arounds" are necessary that involve first creating the content in the applicable Google software and then converting it to its Office counterpart or creating native Office documents online in a Microsoft OneDrive account. With the transition to allow Android apps to run on Chromebooks, this all becomes much simpler. Microsoft has made key Office software components available as free apps in the Google Play Store, so Chromebook users will eventually be able to create, print, store and transmit Office documents in much the same way that they would on a Windows PC.

Initially, Google will provide this Android app capability on a few new Chromebook releases during the third quarter of 2016. However, during the fourth quarter of 2016 they are expected to roll out this capability to many existing Chromebooks through an automatic Chrome OS upgrade. Early model Chromebooks are not likely to be upgraded; however, most Chromebooks released in the last two years will be eligible.

Stay tuned; I'm sure we will see quite a bit more on this subject during coming months!

"I've fallen and I Can't get UP"

By Randy D (the tech guy)

Many of us have heard this phrase before, but now we are at that age where this can really happen to us. There are many alternatives to getting help and one that I have recently run across is the Frist Alert Big Button Phone with Safety Pendant.

This phone features three one-touch keeps for automatic emergency dialing, plus an emergence remote pendant to wear in case

Check out our Website The Web Master had been making many improvements and update.

http://www.lcace.org

L.C.A.C.E. Club Historian

History Report, 5/14/16 Meeting
By Les Larkin
LesLarkin@AIM.com
Our May meeting was conducted by Phil Bock.

Our door prize was won by William Fosdick. It's a WiFi Display Dongle. You plug it into your TV so you can see your phone/tablet/computer display on your TV through WiFi.

DeBorah Sirilla won the 50/50 raffle, the club and DeBorah each receiving $12.50. Congratulations to all winners!

Thanks to Linda Busch for tending to the coffee, and to those who brought munchables for us.

This month's program was "PC Tuneup by OfficeMax / OfficeDepot". Several of our members got their machines improved in some way. They also introduced us to their products and services.

The club picnic is scheduled for July 23rd. It will be at the Vernon Hills Park Dist. facility at the east end of Warrington Rd., which is on the east side of Deerpath Dr. Please sign up to bring an appetizer, salad/side dish, or dessert at the June meeting.

Another great meeting, and I hope to see you at our June 11 meeting.

Membership

Membership Report

May 14, 2016

Members: 43
Meeting Attendee: 19 = 44%

THANKS FOR JOINING

Phillip Copp
Patricia Copp

THANKS FOR RENEWING

Ellen Smatlak
Jean Anderson
Stephanie Risinger

THANKS FOR VISITING

Happy Birthday!

Bob Berry

Danjean Savage

Doreen Lagoni

MAY WINNERS

Congratulations to William and DeBorah the May 2016 winners of the 50/50 and door prizes.

of a fall, break-in or other emergency. Simply press a button on the pendant to dial a stored contact and play you own pre-recorded emergency message. Best of all there are no monthly fees! The phone features 3—number speed dial, oversize keys making easy to read without your glasses, talking dialer keys, digital clock, indicator LED lights and smartphone. Phone plugs into an AC outlet. Pendant battery included.
First Alert Big Button Phone with Safety Pendant sells for $79.99 @ Walmart and Sharper Image.

Review

MailWasher Free — Version 7.7

Free e-mail filtering software for Windows
Software review by John Langill, Newsletter Editor, Southern Tier Personal Computer Club
December 2015 issue, Rare Bits
http://www.pageorama.com/?p=stpcc1979
jlangil1 (at) stny.rr.com

Publisher: Firetrust - www.Mailwasher.com
Current Free Version: 7.7 (Pro Version also 7.7)

Supported Operating Systems: Windows XP, Vista, 7, and 8 (10? – see article)
Download: MailWasher (Free) -
www.mailwasher.net/

MailWasher is e-mail filtering software for Windows that can detect and delete spam from a user's e-mail while it remains on the e-mail provider's server; that is, BEFORE it is downloaded to the user's computer. This approach is what makes MailWasher unique among similar competitive products.

MailWasher uses a combination of user-defined filters, spam databases, and Bayesian filtering. The filters work on a small portion of each e-mail, and then allow unwanted e-mails to be directly deleted from the user's POP3 inbox without them being downloaded to the e-mail client on the user's computer. This approach prevents the downloading of spam and other messages infected with malware.

Through the use of a Bayesian filter, the more MailWasher is used the more the program's spam detection capabilities improve. By marking certain e-mail messages as spam, the user trains this filter to detect spam more effectively in the future. For example, once MailWasher's Bayesian filter learns that most messages containing the word "Drugs" are spam, it will automatically classify e-mails that use the word excessively as spam in the future.

MailWasher is available in two versions... Free and Pro. I'll get to the main distinctions between the two versions a little later.

MailWasher debuted in 2001 and has been continually updated and enhanced ever since. I've been using the free version of MailWasher for well over a decade and I can say — thankfully — that I've never experienced having a PC infected by malware transmitted via e-mail in all that time — knock on wood.

Admittedly, it has required some diligence on my part; but MailWasher has made the task a lot easier by enabling me to filter out the spam e-mail without having it downloaded to my computer.
There are any number of programs that purport to automatically filter e-mail and remove spam; and they may do a fair job. While MailWasher can and does do much the same, it gives the

user more "hands on" control by displaying e-mail waiting on the e-mail provider's server; thus enabling the deletion of any suspicious or unwanted e-mail from the user's inbox prior to downloading it to the e-mail client on the user's computer. As a person who believes in the adage "If you want something done right, do it yourself," I appreciate the direct control MailWasher gives me to categorize e-mail that is sent to me as coming from "friend" or "foe" as well as to set up MailWasher to recognize and delete e-mail from specific senders or domains even though it adds an extra manual step to the process of receiving e-mail.

The free version of MailWasher offers many customizing options; the Pro version even more. The screen-shot below illustrates how I've chosen to display e-mail messages waiting for me on the e-mail provider's server and how they might be categorized. Note that two e-mail messages were automatically classified as spam and check-marked for deletion when MailWasher's main screen was displayed. Any other messages, including those classified "Good" and "Friend," may be check-marked manually. Any checked messages can also be un-checked. Clicking the "Wash Mail" button causes the checked messages to be immediately deleted from the e-mail provider's server. Clicking the Thunderbird button brings up my default e-mail client to which the remaining messages on the e-mail provider's server can be downloaded to my Inbox.
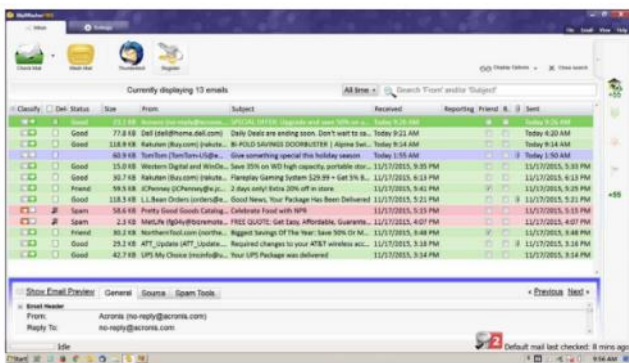
MailWasher Features

User Friendly
MailWasher is quick to install and easy to learn. MailWasher's extensive Help fully explains the use of the many options and the methods of marking e-mail for various actions — deleting, reporting spam, even returning spam to senders — thereby training the software to differentiate between spam and good e-mail.

As with any such anti-spam program, however, MailWasher does not detect the presence of malware; e.g., fraudulent links, etc., that may be imbedded within an e-mail. That the user must still do through diligent observation of the content of an e-mail that has been downloaded to his or her e-mail client's inbox.

E-mail Compatibility
The software works on all e-mail platforms, whether these are Web-based, POP, or IMAP servers. These include the most common e-mail hosts such as Microsoft Outlook, Outlook Express, Thunderbird, Windows Live Mail, Gmail, Hotmail, Incredimail, AOL, Postbox, Outlook.com, and Yahoo with Mail+.

Supported Operating Systems
MailWasher supports the following Windows operating systems: Windows 8 and 8.1 Windows 7 Windows Vista Windows XP. According to Firetrust's website
MailWasher Pro 7.7 has been tested with Windows 10 and no issues were found. However, I have been unable to verify if the most recent version of MailWasher Free works with Windows 10 as well; but you can download and install the free version to see if it does.

Free vs Pro
The adjacent chart differentiates the features found in the two versions. Except for one year during which I tried the Pro version, I have found that the free version of MailWasher serves my needs well. I use only one e-mail address (account) and, except for an occasional oops, I found the Recycle Bin feature to be of little use — that's not to say that I haven't sometimes wished to have had it available.

In addition to what is shown in the chart, Mail-Washer Pro now includes mobility support for iPhone and Android devices.

Summary
There's no question that e-mail remains the number one method for the distribution of malware with the potential to infect a user's computer. A major headache among all e-mail users alike, phishing e-mails, junk e-mails, unwanted newsletters, and such, continue to clog inboxes and slow down server performance by unnecessarily taking up capacity. By structuring MailWasher around removing security

threats before e-mails even reach user servers, the software ensures only wanted e-mail makes it to a user's computer and learns quickly to adapt to the individual recipient's preferences.

Feature Comparison	MailWasher Free	MailWasher Pro
Preview emails on the server	✔	✔
Delete emails at the server	✔	✔
Effective anti-spam tools	✔	✔
Preview Pane	✔	✔
POP3, IMAP, Hotmail, AOL, GMail etc	✔	✔
Colored grid lines for easy reading	✔	✔
Real-time spam filter service	✔	✔
Auto delete spam	✔	✔
Search inbox	✔	✔
Automatic updates	✔	✔
Customize interface	✔	✔
Use multiple email addresses	1 email address only	✔
Recycle bin	-	✔
Full preview pane	-	✔
7 days a week technical support	-	✔
Price	Free	$29.95

Perspective

Looking Back to See Forward

By Greg Skalka, President, Under the Computer Hood User Group, CA
February 2016 issue, Drive Light
www.uchug.org
president (at) uchug.org

With 2015 in the rear view mirror, one starts to wonder what kind of year 2016 will be for computers and technology. We had better figure that out quickly, as almost 1/4 of the year is gone already, and before we know it Christmas decorations will be appearing in the aisles of Home Depot once again. I now prefer to avoid making New Year's predictions. A lot of interesting things happened with technology in 2015, and I'm now so good at guessing. Perhaps by considering the events, milestones and trends of last year, some useful conclusions can be made about what is likely to happen to our tech items in 2016 and further into

the future. A lot of tech topics were in the news in 2015; looking back at them now may provide insight into what we will face going forward.

Automobiles. Quickly name the most powerful computing device you own. For most of us, it is probably our car. Most new cars have more than 40 embedded processors, running everything from the emissions to the entertainment system. Luxury cars may have 100 processors each. Car makers are now packing 200 lbs. of electronics in a new vehicle; though they try to shave weight from the vehicles to increase fuel mileage, the added electronics typically saves fuel by replacing heavier mechanisms. Today's cars are safer (air bags, electronic traction control and braking, tire pressure sensors, backup cameras, collision avoidance), more efficient (electronic engine control) and more capable (GPS navigation, cruise control, self-parking, Wi-Fi hub), due in a large part to electronics.

Along with all those processors come 100 million or more lines of code. That software can do great things for an automaker, or it can be their undoing. The VW diesel emissions scandal that was revealed last year, in which they admitted configuring software to cheat on emissions testing, hurt VW sales and its stock value and resulted in fines, lawsuits and recalls. There were, in fact, a record 51 million vehicles recalled in 2015, many resulting from the other major auto scandal and the problem of airbag inflators made by Takata firing shards of metal at car occupants when they inflate. In general, however, more complex vehicles and short design schedules will lead to more design problems and more recalls.

Autonomous or self-driving cars are being developed by most major automakers, including Tesla, as well as Google, Uber, Lyft and Apple. Unfortunately, the state and federal regulations to deal with this new vehicle paradigm are also still under development. Meanwhile, many automakers are introducing semiautonomous driving features incrementally. Vehicles with automatic braking and steering for collision avoidance, as well as self-parking capabilities are already available. Will the automakers get a self-driving car in the public's hands (or under their behinds) first by adding autonomous features piecemeal, or will Google and the

government regulators get their vehicles and laws completed first?

Though 2015 set a record for auto sales, low fuel prices sent sales of electric cars down 17% from 2014. While new plug-in electric and hybrid models continue to be introduced, consumers are reluctant to pay the $8K to $10K premium for these vehicles with gas prices so low. Only 400,000 out of the 1 million electric vehicle sales goal set by the Obama administration by 2015 had been achieved.

Going forward, consumers can expect more electronics in their cars and trucks and more electric cars in general, especially if oil prices increase sharply. If fuel prices stay low, auto makers will be conflicted, having to choose between selling bigger vehicles that consumers want and smaller, high mileage gas and electric cars that allow them to meet the much tougher 2025 average fuel economy standards. Though adding electronics tends to increase reliability, look for more recalls as the complexity of the products increases. Autonomous vehicle development has become "too big to fail"; with so many players in the market, the cars could be available in just a few years, and then the regulations will have to be resolved. This will be great for the disabled and inebriated, but devastating for bus, taxi and truck drivers.

Drones. The FAA (Federal Aviation Administration) finally released some regulations for small unmanned aircraft or drones in 2015, requiring registration for some and specifying flight rules. As with their wheeled autonomous cousins, regulations have not kept up with the technology and popularity of personal drones. Aerial firefighting efforts for wildfires last summer were interfered with by drones in a number of cases. A number of new laws relating to drones were proposed in California but none were enacted. Meanwhile, small quadcopters continue to drop in price and become more available. Fry's has several aisles devoted to drones and their accessories.

Personal drones usually have a lot of autonomous flight capabilities, but most still require some human control, as with a radio-controlled plane. A new product to be released this summer called Lily promises to make drone photography easy for everyone (www.lily.camera). This quadcopter with built-in camera is very easy to use; it is launched by simply throwing it in the air. It tracks and follows you via a small tracking device and takes video and stills. It is in pre-sales online for $800. This kind of device could be the next Go-Pro Hero of action cameras. If the price could come down further, it could be a big hit.

Computers. Sales of laptop and desktop computers fell slightly in 2015, continuing a trend started in 2012 when tablets began to compete with them. Tablet sales rose for several years, but were flat last year, probably because by then almost everyone that wanted a tablet had finally gotten one. Microsoft's release of the Windows 10 operating system was supposed to spur sales of new computers, but by the end of 2015, it had only a 10% market share (less than Windows 8.1 at 10.3%, XP at 11% and Windows 7 at 56%). This was in spite of Microsoft offering it for free to existing Windows 7 and 8 users. For tablets, 57% used the Android OS at the end of 2015, while iOS had 35% of the market.

The main competition for computers and tablets at this point is the smart phone. While computers (desktops and notebooks combined) had around 300,000 shipped in 2015, and tablets an additional 300,000 units, nearly 2 million mobile phones were shipped worldwide. While smart phones and tablets may be great for web surfing and emails, most file creation work is still best done on a conventional PC, with a larger screen and full keyboard. Tax return filing season is here, and while a few may file using a tablet, I would guess the majority of filers will do so on a desktop or laptop PC (with practically none on a smart phone). I can't see editing spreadsheets or writing large documents on a smart phone. Even online shopping is more difficult on a smart phone's small screen. Thus I feel computers will continue to hold their percentage of market share for quite a few years into the future. It will also take a few years for Windows 10 to become the most used computer OS, but it will get there.

Smart Phones. Smart phone sales may have peaked simply because it is getting harder to find anyone that does not already have one. There are some that own no computing devices other than a smart phone, but those people are primarily content consumers, not

creators. In the smart phone arena, Android is the king of the OS with 83% of the market; Apple's iOS only had 14% in 2015.

What started out as mobile device that could only make voice calls has turned into a mobile computer, web browser and instant (text) messager. An interesting phone prediction says that one quarter of phone users won't make a single voice call in any given week this year. I would guess that trend will continue. Almost everyone will have a smart phone, but fewer people will use it as a phone.

Wearables. Activity trackers like Fitbit have been growing in popularity, with Fitbit alone selling 4.5 million units in the 3rd quarter of 2015. The Apple Watch was not far behind in sales. Still, I see the activity tracker as a useful device, while the Watch seems little more than an extension for the iPhone's ability to call. The Watch display seems far too small to be useful for reading texts.

I thought Google Glass was a clever device, though expensive. I read recently that Google may be reintroducing it or a similar product. A wearable computer like that would be useful; it just needs the right user interface. We will probably see more medical-related wearables introduced in the future.

Social Networks. Facebook is still the top social network spot on the web, with 45% of users in 2015. You Tube is the next most popular destination at 22%. All the others are in low single digits each, including Twitter, Reddit, Pinterest, Tumblr, LinkedIn and Instagram. These sites will remain popular, and though it will continue to have new competitors, Facebook will probably remain on top for some time. Tastes can change quickly in this category, however. Who remembers Myspace?

Feature L.C.A.C.E Meetings

July 23,2016
Club Annual Picnic

August 13,2016
Smartphone (Part 2)

Trivia

How many Americans use a dial-up modem to connect to the internet?

a. 2,000
b. 20,000
c. 200,000
d. 2,000,000

Lake County Area Computer Enthusiasts

Do you have computer questions
or need help with your computer?

Visit Lake County Area Computer Enthusiasts'
help desk for one on one help

Open to all

11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.
Grayslake Area Public Library
Rooms A-C

12

LCACE

Cordially Invites You and Your Family to Our
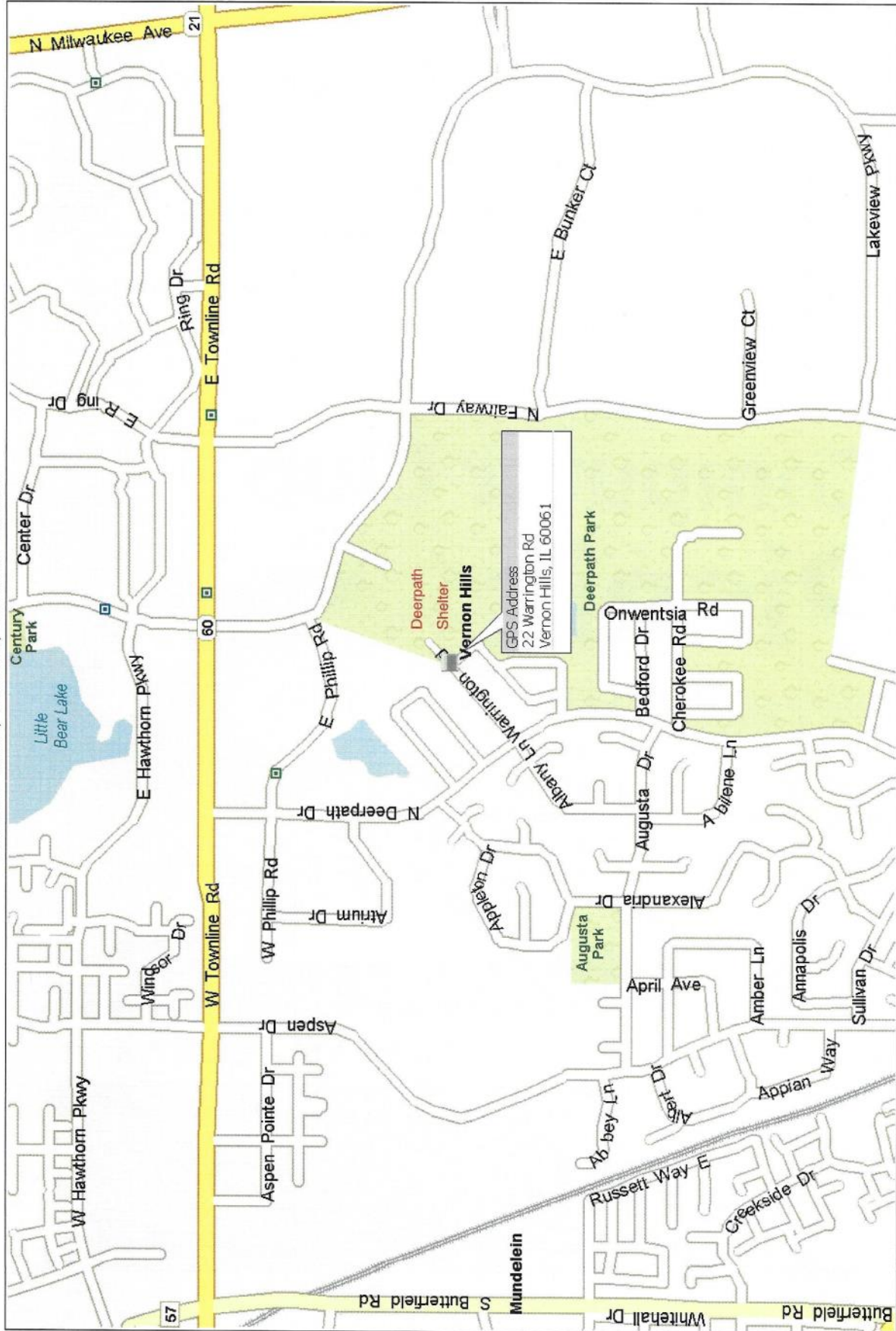
Annual
Computer Club
Picnic

Saturday, July 23, 2016

11:30 AM – 5:00 PM

Please R.S.V.P. by July 16 at
io@fuzzynet.org or call 847 942-6767

Deerpath Shelter in the Park
past the following address
22 Warrington Road
Vernon Hills, IL 60061

Vernon Hills, Illinois, United States

Century Park

Little Bear Lake

N Milwaukee Ave

Ring Dr

E Townline Rd

E R ing Dr

Center Dr

E Bunker Ct

N Fairway Dr

Greenview Ct

Lakeview Pkwy

Deerpath Shelter

Vernon Hills

GPS Address
22 Warrington Rd
Vernon Hills, IL 60061

Deerpath Park

Onwentsia Rd

E Hawthorn Pkwy

W Townline Rd

E Phillip Rd

Albany Ln Warrington

Bedford Dr

Cherokee Rd

A bilene Ln

N Deerpath Dr

W Phillip Rd

Atrium Dr

Appleton Dr

Augusta Dr

Alexandria Dr

Augusta Park

April Ave

Amber Ln

Annapolis Dr

Sullivan Dr

Windsor Dr

W Hawthorn Pkwy

Aspen Dr

Aspen Pointe Dr

Ab bey Ln

Albert Dr

Appian Way

Russett Way E

Mundelein

S Butterfield Rd

Whitehall Dr

Butterfield Rd

Creekside Dr

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