

Lake County Area Computer Enthusiasts

NEWS JOURNAL

“Members Helping Members”

April 2023

(since 1983)

Volume 40, Issue 01

Lake County Atari Users Group



Lake County Area Computer Enthusiast

*"Members Helping
Members"
(since 1983)*

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2022-2024

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Lake County Area Computer Enthusiasts

c/o Group Ambassador

"J.J." Johnson

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. Permission is granted to reproduce any or all parts of this newsletter in other User Group publications, provided that credit is given to LCACE and the individual author (s). Logo designed on an Atari Stacy Laptop in 1989 by Dwight Johnson Jr.

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.

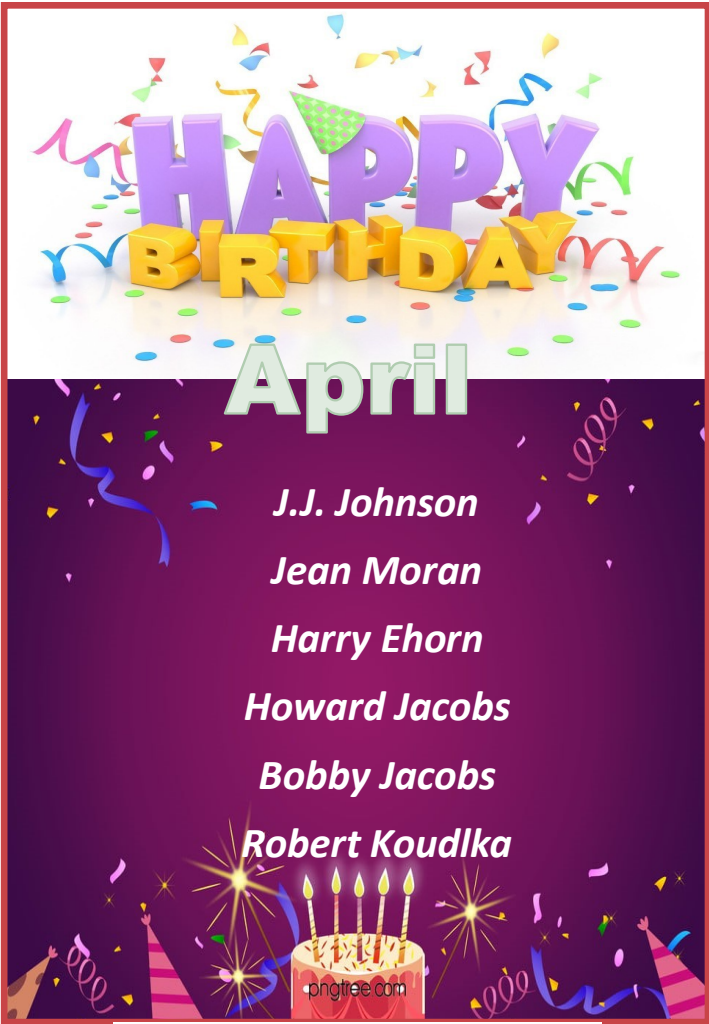
Newsletter Advertising

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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Membership Chairperson Report

ATTENDANCE: 24 / 52%

THANK YOU FOR RENEWING

- ⇒ Ted Rock
- ⇒ Maggie lam
- ⇒ Kathy Simon
- ⇒ Sue & Phil
- ⇒ Jean Moran
- ⇒ Cynthia Simmons
- ⇒ DeBorah Sirilla
- ⇒ David & Diane Carlson
- ⇒ Linda & Robert Koudelka
- ⇒ Michael Mcenery
- ⇒ Barton & Diane B
- ⇒ Linda Busch
- ⇒ Donna Kalinoski
- ⇒ Johanna Triggs

THANKS FOR VISITING

- ⇒ Nancy Musselmen
- ⇒ Richard Manglove



L.C.A.C.E Founder Retires

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2013 LL

LAKE COUNTY AREA COMPUTER ENTHUSIASTS

MEMBERS HELPING MEMBERS

Following that motto computes to successful club

BY BETH KRAMER

ekramer@stmedianetwork.com

Apple product v. android phone. Navigating Windows 8, Microsoft's newest operating system. These were among the computer-related issues brought up at the Lake County Area Computer Enthusiasts' latest meeting, held Saturday at the Grayslake library.

Two staff members from the Best Buy store in Gurnee demonstrated the latest mobile technology for about 35 LCACE members and guests, according to LCACE president Robin Seidenberg of Grayslake. Attendees at the meeting learned about smart phones, tablets and e readers.

"It was a definitely a success," Seidenberg said. "I think everyone enjoyed it. There was something for everybody."

Many people were surprised to learn that Best Buy offers free classes teaching people to use Windows 8, she said. Seidenberg said she plans to take those classes herself.



TOP: Dwight "J.J." Johnson talks with some of the members of the Lake County Area Computer Enthusiasts. Johnson helped found the organization in 1983 after getting out of the Navy. The group was originally the Lake County Area Atari Computer Enthusiasts. BELOW: President Robin Seidenberg opens the days agenda. | DAN LUEDERT-SUN-TIMES MEDIA

Linda Koudelka of Waukegan, who is also LCACE publicity chairwoman, said she liked the Apple product comparison with android phones.

"It was really great demonstrating different gadgets. They demonstrated popular phones in competition with Apple. I'm going to get an iPad. I think androids are a little harder to use," Koudelka said.

Many of LCACE's 60 members are senior citizens like herself. Koudelka got her first computer in 2000. She now says computers are her hobby. She specializes in software updates.

"We have a great, great club. I've learned quite a bit," Koudelka said.

The club's motto is "mem-



bers helping members." Koudelka is one of the volunteers who offers a free computer-help desk for the public and fellow members before each monthly club

meeting.

Meetings cover different topics. Next month's will address Internet security. People are welcome to attend meetings with no obligation

LAKE COUNTY AREA COMPUTER ENTHUSIASTS

Meetings are held one Saturday a month at Grayslake Area Public Library District, 100 Library Lane. For meetings dates, visit the group's Web site at www.lcace.org.

to join, Seidenberg said. There is no cost to joining she said.

LCACE is celebrating its 30th anniversary this April.

"We're having our 30th anniversary, which is amazing because a lot of marriages don't last that long," Seidenberg said.

Sunday

ILLINOIS

Midday Pick Three: 5-1-7

Midday Pick Four: 5-6-5-4

Lotto jackpot: \$3.2 million

Mega jackpot: \$34.6 million

WISCONSIN

Daily Pick Three: n/a

Daily Pick Four: n/a

Powerball jackpot: \$44.0 million

Megabucks jackpot: \$1.3 million

For more lottery results, visit www.illinoislottery.com or www.wilottery.com

Dwight "J.J." Johnson

Founder



Atari 800

My First Real Computer



1987 Consumer Electronic Show Chicago



Lake County Atari

User Group

1983-1991

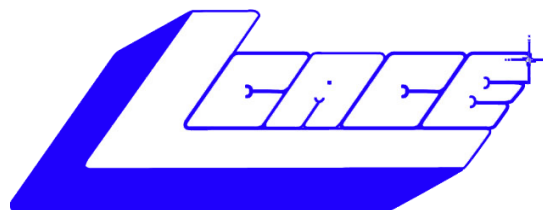


Atari STacy

My first laptop



Atari Office 1985



Logo by Dwight Johnson Jr.



Atari 1450xld

Free Music with Freegal

By Tom Burt, Vice-President Sun City Summerlin Computer Club
<https://www.scscc.club> [tomburt89134 \(at\) cox.net](mailto:tomburt89134@cox.net)

One of my occasional Computer Club seminars touches on the many electronic resources available for free via the Las Vegas / Clark County library website. (One of those resources I briefly review is a service called Freegal (short for Free and legal). This article gives you an overview of Freegal, which has an extensive collection of music tracks and albums you can play. They also allow you to download up to 6 tracks per week for free. You might want to check to see if Freegal is available at your library.

Reaching Freegal

You can reach Freegal from the Las Vegas / Clark County Library District website: <https://lvccld.org/>. Once there, click the **Online Resources** tab and then click **Music**. On the page that displays, click **Freegal**. A more direct way is to click the following hyperlink: <https://lasvegas.freegalmusic.com/home>.

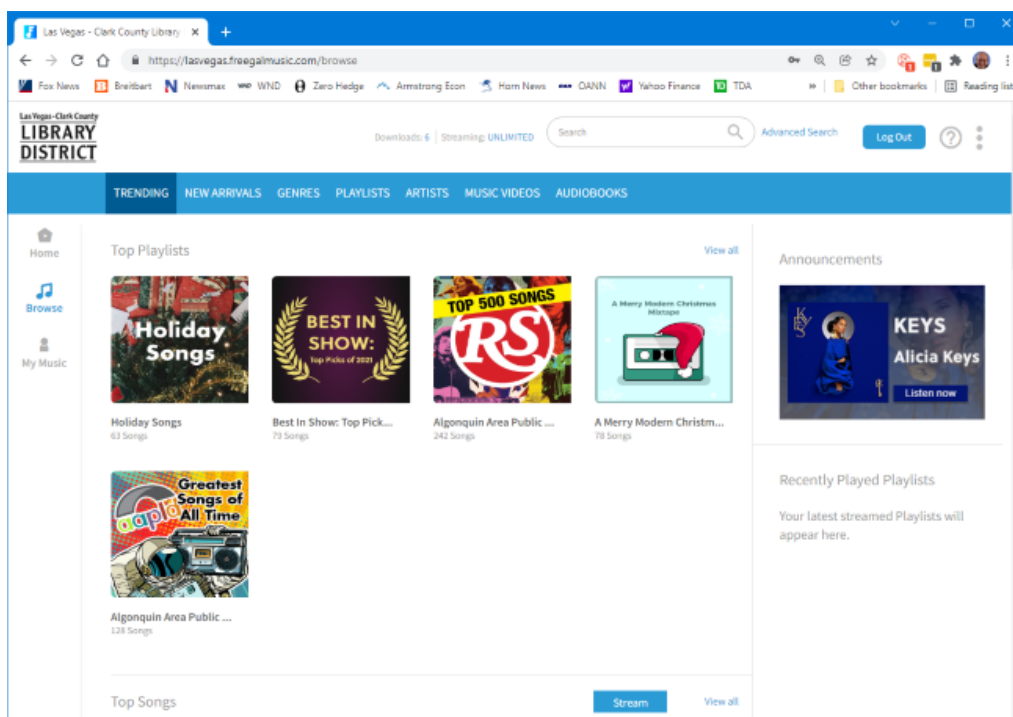
You can browse the Freegal website without logging in, but you must log in with your library card number and pin to download any music tracks.

Navigating Freegal

Freegal claims it has 13 million songs and 40,000 music videos. Logged-in users may download six tracks a week for free and may stream music from the website for up to 3 hours per day. However, finding the material you're looking for can be daunting.

The **Home** page displays featured playlists, songs, albums, music videos, and audiobooks. You can play any of these. Playlists and albums are collections of songs displayed in a list, so you can play or download specific tracks.

(Continued on page 12)





*Linda Busch
2001-2003*

*J.J. Johnson
1983-1985*



*Richard Bollmeier
1985-1986*

*Larry Grauzas
1986-1987*



*John Schultz
1987-1989*



*Steve Kostelnik
1992-1995*



*Mike Brown
1989-1991*

A nonprofit educational organization founded in 1983, Lake County Area Computer Enthusiasts (LCACE) promotes computer literacy among users of all computers. The group provides an opportunity to mingle with computer users of all levels—novice, hobbyist, and professional.

OPENSWIM MP3 HEADPHONES

By Jasmine Blue D’Katz

Bone conduction technology: These headphones use bone conduction technology, which transmits sound waves through the bones in your skull rather than through your eardrums. This allows you to listen to music or take calls while still being able to hear your surroundings, making them safer for outdoor activities.

This is my second set of Shokz bone conduction headphones. The first set were Bluetooth, which I purchased to pair with my iPad while I was on a trip last year. I’ve been using a regular set of ear bugs with my iPhone for years during my exercise walks in the park, although I could use these Shokz headphones with my iPhone. But using Bluetooth was a drain on the phone battery, therefore I searched for another solution, and came across the Shokz OpenSwim MP3 Headphones. This Waterproof design: Shokz bone conduction open swim headphones are specifically designed for swimming, making them completely waterproof and resistant to sweat and moisture.



- **Comfortable fit:** The headphones are designed to fit securely and comfortably around your head, without putting any pressure on your ears.
- **Good sound quality:** According to user reviews, the sound quality of these head-



phones is generally good, with clear highs and mids, and decent bass.

- **Long battery life:** The headphones have a battery life of up to 8 hours, so you can use them for multiple swimming sessions without needing to recharge.

Overall, Shokz bone conduction open swim headphones are a great option for swimmers and outdoor enthusiasts who want to listen to music or take calls while still being able to hear their surroundings. The bone conduction technology and waterproof design make them a unique and practical choice for those who value safety and comfort during their activities.



Resources for Seniors and Caregivers:

Tips and Products

If you are searching for information on how to make your home safe for an older adult, and how you can live your best life together, then this is the place to check.

[READ MORE](#)



Rocketbook Fusion Smart Notebook

Best Smart notebook overall

By Jasmine Blue D’Katz

book also includes a mobile app that allows you to scan and save your notes to the cloud, making it easy to organize and share your work.

One of the main advantages

Keeping notes on various pieces of paper has become a problem over the years, and keeping them organized is even more of a problem. Lately, I’ve been using Evernotes while on my main computer, but when watching TV, I don’t have a keyboard handy, therefore I’m looking for something to write on. This is where Rocketbook came in handy. I now have a table to jot down notes of movies and show I want to watch at a later date. And to take it a set further, there’s a Rocketbook next to my main computer, and in my laptop carry bag.

The Rocketbook Fusion Smart Notebook is a reusable notebook that allows you to write with a pen or pencil, and then erase your notes using a damp cloth or a microfiber cloth. The notebook features 20 pages that are made of a durable and waterproof material, making it suitable for use in a variety of settings. The note-

of the Rocketbook Fusion Smart Notebook is its reusability, which makes it an environmentally friendly option compared to traditional paper notebooks. The notebook is also lightweight and portable, making it convenient to carry around. The mobile app that comes with the notebook is user-friendly and allows you to organize your notes efficiently.

However, there are some potential drawbacks to consider. The notebook’s erasable pages may not be suitable for those who need to keep their notes for an extended period of time, as the pages can smudge or become difficult to read over time. Additionally, the notebook may not be suitable for those who prefer to write with a specific type of pen or pencil, as the material may not be compatible with all writing tools.

Overall, the Rocketbook Fusion Smart Notebook is a practical and eco-friendly option for those who want to reduce their paper waste and keep their notes organized digitally. However, it may not be the best choice for those who need to keep their notes for a long time or have specific preferences when it comes to writing tools.



“Damn it, I’m a brain surgeon, not a rocket scientist!”



Slate Plus

Wireless Travel Router

By Jasmine Blue D’Katz

With plans to do some serious traveling this summer, I decided to purchase a travel router to use while staying in hotels and connecting to their Wi-Fi to give me a more secure network.

The GL-iNet Slate Plus wireless router is a compact and portable router designed to provide secure and reliable internet connectivity. It has several features that make it a popular choice among travelers and remote workers.

One of the standout features of the Slate Plus is its support for VPN services. It comes pre-installed with OpenVPN and WireGuard, two popular VPN protocols that allow users to encrypt their internet traffic and protect their privacy while using public Wi-Fi networks.

The router also supports 4G LTE connectivity, which means that users can easily create a hotspot and share their mobile internet connection with other devices. This can be especially useful when traveling or when there is no wired internet available.

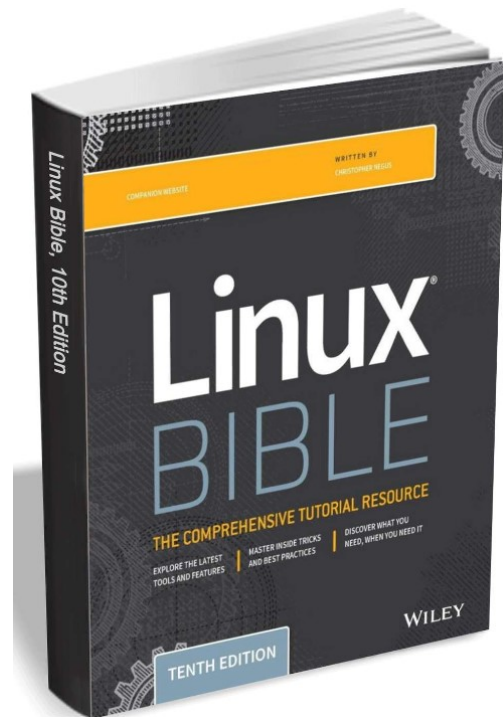
In terms of performance, the Slate Plus uses a dual-band Wi-Fi radio that supports both 2.4GHz and 5GHz frequencies. It also has four Gigabit Ethernet ports, which can provide fast wired internet connectivity to devices such as gaming consoles, desktop computers, and network-attached storage (NAS) devices.

The Slate Plus is also easy to set up and configure using the GL-iNet smartphone app or web-based interface. Users can set up their Wi-Fi network, configure VPN settings, and manage their network settings from a single, intuitive interface.

Overall, the GL-iNet Slate Plus wireless router is a reliable and versatile router that provides excellent VPN support and 4G LTE connectivity. Its compact size and portability make it an excellent choice for



travelers and remote workers who need a secure and reliable internet connection on the go.



This updated tenth edition provides clear explanations and step-by-step instructions that demystify Linux and bring the latest features seamlessly into your workflow. Whether you're a true beginner or a more advanced user navigating recent changes, this eBook is the ultimate hands-on Linux user guide. Best of all, it's completely free!

[Download your copy today to get started](#)

Cook's Country
ALL-TIME BEST
30-MINUTE
SUPPERS

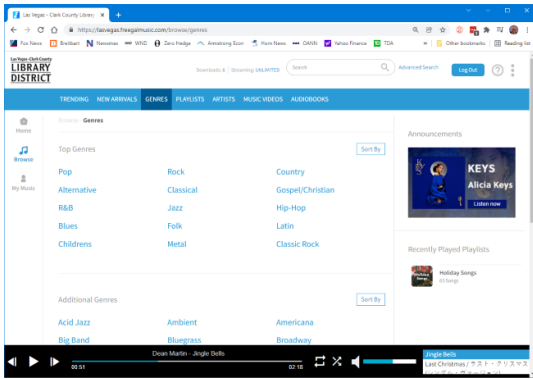
Guide to Online Security
(Not only for Seniors)

presented by
Uwe Dotzauer
October 12, 2022



(Continued from page 6)

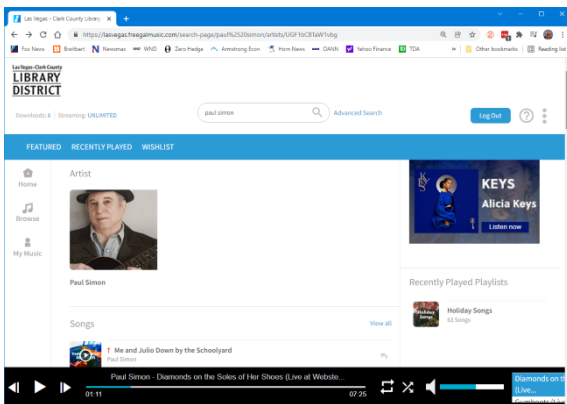
On the **Browse** page (see screenshot above), along the top are tabs for **Trending, New Arrivals, Genres, Playlists, Artists, Music Videos, and Audio Books**.



As an illustration, the Genres tab of the Browse page takes you to a listing of musical genres. You can click any genre to home in on the type of music you're interested in.

Searching

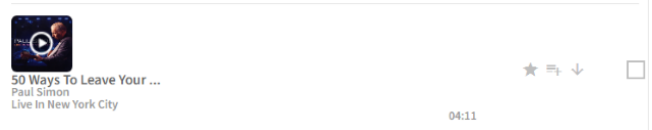
If you are looking for a specific artist or song, you can use the search box at the top of the window. The search is quite intelligent. For example, I entered "Paul Simon" into the Search box and displayed a page of offerings, including some single tracks, a few albums, and music videos. Next, I chose an album called "Live in New York City" and then had a listing of all the tracks from that album, ready to play or download.



You can search for any artist, album name, or song title.

Downloading a Track

April 2023



Click the down arrow when you've found a track you want to download and are logged in. The downloader will display a "save file/folder chooser" dialog. Select a folder to download the track into, click Save, and the file will then download. The file name combines the artist, album, track name, location, and date. In this case, it was: **Paul-Simon_LiveInNewYorkCity_50WaysToLeaveYour Lover-LiveAtWebsterHallNewYorkCityJune2011_3.mp3**.

You can edit this name in the save file dialog or later use File Explorer after the download is done. The file format is .mp3, and the sample rate is 256 kilobits.

Caveats

Many first-tier artists don't allow all their work to be posted on Freegal. So all you can do is try the search and see what shows up.

A lot of the content is covered, by lesser artists, of original songs by first-tier performers. Some of this is quite good, and a lot is fairly mediocre. Beware also of "remixes." These are cases where someone has taken an original song or album and digitally manipulated the background music. These are usually not as appealing as the original artist's recording.

Final Thoughts

Freegal can be a great place to find oldies in high-quality mp3 format. I use it mainly for that. Much of my personal music collection was "ripped" from LP albums or audio tapes at 128 Kilobit sample rates. The digital recordings have pops and hisses and weak treble. If I can find those tracks on Freegal, I download them to replace my original low-quality recordings.

You can get some pleasant surprises. For example, I enjoyed a lot of Peter, Paul, and Mary, the Limelinters, and the Kingston Trio – all folk groups back in college.

At six songs per week, if you're organized and committed, you can collect 312 songs per year. After a while, that starts to add up. And you can't beat the price.

BUG-A-SALT

Unique and innovative insect-killing tool

By Jasmine Blue D’Katz

While on vacation several years ago, I was checking out of a hotel and struck up a conversation with a gentleman who was also checking out. I not quite sure how the conversation led to him wanting to show me a device he said I should have. He then pulled this device out of his car, which looked like a water gun, but had an entirely different purpose. After arriving home, I looked for on Amazon and purchase one for Judy, since we spend lots of time enjoying her deck in the summer. One of her granddaughters became quite professional with it, and that encouraged me to buy one for myself.

Warmer months are coming, and fly season is right around the corner. And while we all have a fly swatter or some bug spray, it might be time to get something better. I’m talking about the BUG-A-SALT Nerf-like gun gadget that is seriously the most fun you’ll ever have getting rid of bugs and flies. Yes, this little device shoots grains of salt to help homeowners take on those pesky flies or spiders. It’s not a toy, but you’ll have fun with it.

The **BUG-A-SALT 3.0** is a unique and innovative insect-killing tool that has taken the market by storm. Designed to look like a toy shotgun, this device uses salt to kill flies, mosquitoes, and other small insects. It is a fun and entertaining way to keep your home free of pests.

One of the best things about the **BUG-A-SALT 3.0** is its design. It looks like a small shotgun and has a comfortable grip that makes it easy to hold and aim. The device is made of high-quality materials that are durable and long-lasting. It is also easy to clean and maintain, which makes it a convenient tool to have in your home.

The **BUG-A-SALT 3.0** is very easy to use. Simply load the device with table salt, cock it, and then aim and shoot at the insects. The device uses a pump-action mechanism that releases a spray of salt,



which kills the insect on contact. This makes it an effective and humane way to get rid of pests without using harmful chemicals.

Another great feature of the **BUG-A-SALT 3.0** is its accuracy. The device has a built-in laser sight that makes it easy to aim at the insects. This makes it a great tool for people who struggle to hit moving targets, such as children or the elderly. The device is also effective at killing insects from a distance, which means you can keep a safe distance from the pests.

Overall, the **BUG-A-SALT 3.0** is a fantastic insect-killing tool that is both effective and fun to use. Its unique design and easy-to-use features make it a great addition to any home. While it may not be the most cost-effective solution for pest control, it is certainly an entertaining one that will keep you and your family amused while also keeping your home free of pesky insects. If you're looking for a fun and effective way to get rid of pests, then the **BUG-A-SALT 3.0** is definitely worth considering.

Amazon: \$49.95



SwitchBot Blind Tilt

Alexa Brings Sunlight into My Home

By Jasmine Blue

We have been making our home smarter and smarter over the past couple of years. I enjoy getting up in the morning and seeing the bright light shining through my Livingroom and kitchen window. This has been done by MySmart Blinds, but recently, the Kitchen blinds stop working, and needed replacement. I trying the blind opener by Somfly but couldn't get it to sync with Alexa to set up a daily schedule, therefore I had to manually open and close it via the wireless remote.

After watching the 2023 CES (Consumer Electronic Show) on YouTube, a company called SmartBot showed a blind tilt device that appeared to be very simple to install. Upon researching this device, I found it to be highly rated and more affordable then the one I've purchased from MySmart Blinds and Somfly. Therefore, I ordered one.

The SwitchBot Blind Tilt a smart home gadget designed to automate your existing blinds, making them more convenient and efficient to use. This small, compact device attaches to your existing blind cord and allows you to control your blinds with a simple app on your phone or using voice commands via Amazon Alexa or Google Home.

One of the standout features of the SwitchBot Blind Tilt is its ease of installation. You don't need any tools or technical knowledge to attach it to your blind cord, as the device comes with a self-adhesive pad that makes the process straightforward and effortless. This means that you can start using your smart blinds in no time at all.

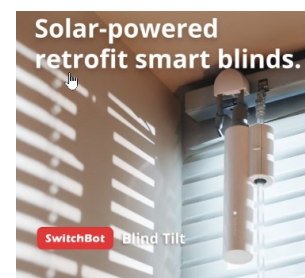
Once installed, the SwitchBot Blind Tilt is incredibly easy to use. The device connects to your home's Wi-Fi network and can be controlled via the SwitchBot app, which is available for both iOS and Android devices. The app allows you to adjust the position of your blinds with a simple swipe, and you can set schedules to open and close your blinds automatically, based on your preferences or the time of day.



One of the most impressive features of the SwitchBot Blind Tilt is its compatibility with voice assistants like Amazon Alexa and Google Home. This means that you can control your blinds with your voice, without needing to use your phone or the app. This is especially useful if you have your hands full or are in another room.

The SwitchBot Blind Tilt is also incredibly versatile, as it can be used with a wide range of blind types and sizes, including roller blinds, vertical blinds, and even curtains. This means that you can automate all of the blinds in your home, no matter what type they are.

Overall, the SwitchBot Blind Tilt is an impressive piece of smart home technology that can make your daily routine more convenient and efficient. With its easy installation, intuitive app, and compatibility with voice assistants, it's a gadget that can easily integrate into your home and improve your quality of life. If you're looking for a simple and effective way to automate your blinds, the SwitchBot Blind Tilt is definitely worth considering.



[YouTube Video](#)



MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

2023-2024

Annual Dues

It's Time to **Renew Your Membership**

A graphic of a clock face with a black border. The clock face is white with black tick marks. A red hand points to the 12 o'clock position. The text "It's Time to Renew Your Membership" is written across the center of the clock face. "Renew Your" is in red and "Membership" is in white.

Computer Services

Desktops, Laptops, All-in-Ones and more

A collection of computer hardware including a desktop monitor, a tower PC case, a mouse, and a laptop.

During our October Zoom meeting the following two computer services were mentioned.

White Box Computers

They say they are the place for all your computer repairs & upgrades at nearly half the prices of the competition.

<https://whiteboxcomputers.org>

847-833-9324

ZYTEK Services

Has been around for over 30 years and offers the best in fast, friendly, high-quality, fair price computer service solutions

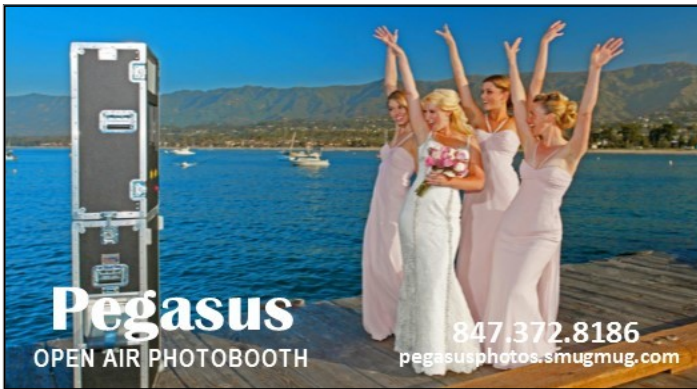
847-336-2259



Member's Area



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OPEN AIR PHOTOBOOTH

847.372.8186

pegasusphotos.smugmug.com

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Jazz Standards
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Deerfield
Italian Kitchen

CONTACT JIM AT 847.372.0656 OR JIMJACOBSMUSIC@GMAIL.COM



Phone: (847) 623-3815

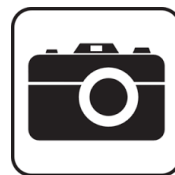
Members



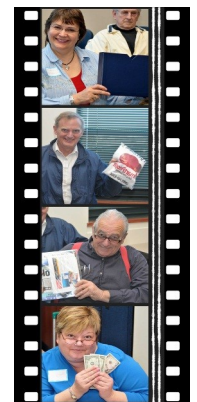
Members Web Sites

e-mail me at editor@lcace.org

www.pegasusphotos.smugmug.com



Take a good look, you just might see yourself.



[LCACE Photo Albums](#)

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 Chief Cookie Baker

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