

NEWS JOURNAL

“Members Helping Members”

June 2024

(since 1983)

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Unlocking the Potential: Embracing the Benefits of 5G Wireless Service in the USA

By Ron Brown

Tech For Senior

<https://www.techforsenior.com/>

In today's interconnected world, where speed and reliability are paramount, the advent of 5G wireless service stands as a transformative leap forward. With the United States at the forefront of this technological revolution, the benefits of 5G are poised to reshape industries, enhance connectivity, and empower innovation like never before. Let's delve into the myriad advantages that 5G brings to the table and how it promises to redefine the American landscape.

Blazing Fast Speeds: One of the most touted benefits of 5G is its remarkable speed. Offering download speeds up to 100 times faster than 4G, 5G enables lightning-fast data transfer, ushering in an era of seamless streaming, rapid downloads, and unparalleled responsiveness. This accelerated pace not only enhances user experiences but also fuels advancements in fields such as augmented reality (AR), virtual reality (VR), and gaming, unlocking new realms of possibilities.

Low Latency: Reduced latency is another hallmark of 5G technology. With latency as low as one millisecond, compared to the tens of milliseconds with 4G, tasks that require real-time interaction, such as remote surgery, autonomous vehicles, and industrial automation,



become not just feasible but reliable. This low latency empowers critical applications where split-second decisions can make all the difference, revolutionizing industries and enhancing safety standards.

Capacity for Connectivity: 5G boasts significantly higher

(Continued on page 3)

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News Journal

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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.

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(Continued from page 1)

capacity than its predecessors, enabling it to support a vast number of devices simultaneously. This scalability is crucial in the age of the Internet of Things (IoT), where billions of interconnected devices—from smart appliances to wearable gadgets—require seamless connectivity. With 5G, the infrastructure is primed to accommodate this surge in connected devices, fostering a more interconnected ecosystem.

Economic Growth and Innovation: The rollout of 5G infrastructure represents a substantial investment in the nation's digital future. Beyond enhancing consumer experiences, 5G fuels economic growth by stimulating innovation and fostering entrepreneurship. Industries ranging from healthcare and manufacturing to agriculture and entertainment stand to benefit from the newfound capabilities offered by 5G, driving productivity, efficiency, and competitiveness on both a national and global scale.

Rural Connectivity: One of the promises of 5G is its potential to bridge the digital divide, particularly in rural and underserved areas. By leveraging technologies like fixed wireless access (FWA), 5G has the capacity to deliver high-speed internet to regions where traditional wired infrastructure is impractical or cost-prohibitive. This expanded connectivity holds the key to unlocking opportunities for education, healthcare, and economic

development in communities that have long been underserved.

Environmental Sustainability: While not often highlighted, 5G technology also brings environmental benefits. Its efficiency improvements, such as lower energy consumption per transmitted byte, contribute to reduced carbon emissions compared to previous generations of wireless technology. Additionally, the enhanced capabilities of 5G facilitate advancements in smart infrastructure and resource management, paving the way for more sustainable cities and communities.

Competitive Edge on the Global Stage: As nations worldwide race to deploy 5G networks, maintaining leadership in this technology is critical for the United States to retain its competitive edge in the global economy. By embracing and investing in 5G infrastructure, the nation positions itself as a pioneer in innovation, attracting talent, investment, and fostering a fertile ground for groundbreaking discoveries and advancements.

In conclusion, the benefits of 5G wireless service in the USA extend far beyond mere convenience; they represent a fundamental shift in how we connect, communicate, and collaborate. From empowering industries to bridging divides and driving economic growth, 5G holds the promise of a brighter, more interconnected future. As we embrace this technological revolution, let us harness its potential to shape a world where possibilities are limitless, and connectivity knows no bounds.



I'm So Old That

I have dialed a rotary phone, listened to music off an 8-track tape, watched a black and white TV with foil on the rabbit ear antennas, and went through a whole day without taking a picture of myself.





J.J. Johnson

President Emeritus

As the warmth of summer embraces us, I hope you are all in good health and spirits. This season provides an opportunity to reflect on the remarkable technological advancements that can enrich our lives, especially for our esteemed senior members. The future of technology holds immense promise, offering tools and innovations that enhance independence, connectivity, and overall quality of life for seniors.

One promising advancement is wearable technology like smartwatches and fitness trackers. These devices can monitor health metrics and alert users to potential issues proactively, empowering seniors to take control of their well-being in unprecedented ways.

Voice assistants like Alexa and Google Assistant are also simplifying daily tasks for seniors who may not be as comfortable with traditional computing. They can set reminders, control smart home environments, and provide engaging companionship.

Technology is revolutionizing social connectivity too - a crucial aspect for seniors. Video calling and social media help reduce isolation by enabling connection with loved ones. Virtual reality experiences offer entertaining cognitive stimulation by allowing seniors to explore new environments from home.

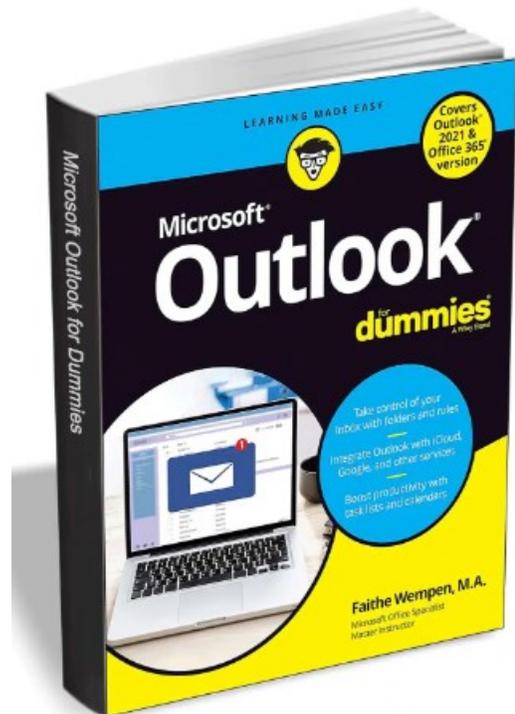
These innovations enhance not just convenience but emotional well-being for our senior members. As we look forward, our club must foster an environment of learning and support to help all members, regardless of age, benefit from new technologies.

Let us explore, learn, and share knowledge, making the most of the technological marvels that await. Here's to a bright and innovative future for all!

A graphic with a blue background and a white calendar grid. The calendar shows dates from 4 to 6. A red pushpin is on the 4th, a yellow pushpin on the 5th, and a blue pushpin on the 6th. A dark blue banner with white text reads 'UPCOMING EVENTS'.

- June 8: Ask the Guru/Q&A**
- July 13: Annual Picnic**
- August 10 : Dog Days of Summer Digital Declutter**
- September 14: Fun with AI Graphics**
- October: Cybersecurity Month**

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National Backup Day

Did You Forget?



There is not actually a National Backup Month, but there is a World Backup Day that happens every year on March 31st. This day serves as a reminder to back up your important data to prevent data loss. It serves as a crucial reminder of the importance of backups for cybersecurity. On this day, we are encouraged to take action and safeguard our digital treasures by creating multiple copies of our valuable data. Whether it is cherished photos, important documents, or critical files, having backup ensures that we do not risk losing everything forever.

Data loss can happen due to a number of reasons, such as hardware failure, software corruption, or even accidental deletion. By backing up your data regularly, you can ensure that you have a copy of your files in case something happens to the originals.

Here is a brief history of World Backup Day:

- 1956:** The first external hard drive, the **IBM 350 Disk File**, was introduced by IBM engineer Reynold B. Johnson.
- 1960s:** Computer scientist Dr. Joseph Carl Robnett Licklider is believed to have invented **cloud storage**.
- 1998:** A close call with disaster occurred during the production of **"Toy Story 2"** when someone accidentally deleted 90% of the film's files.
- 1998:** A close call with disaster occurred during the production of **"Toy Story 2"** when someone accidentally deleted 90% of the film's files.

Remember, backups are like insurance for your digital life—essential for peace of mind!

Yoda Has Four Ears



The household pet of Valerie and Ted Rock. Yoda was born with an extra set of ears.

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Verify the Safety of Websites

By Terry Harvey, Program Chair and Newsletter Editor
Wisconsin All-Computer Users Club

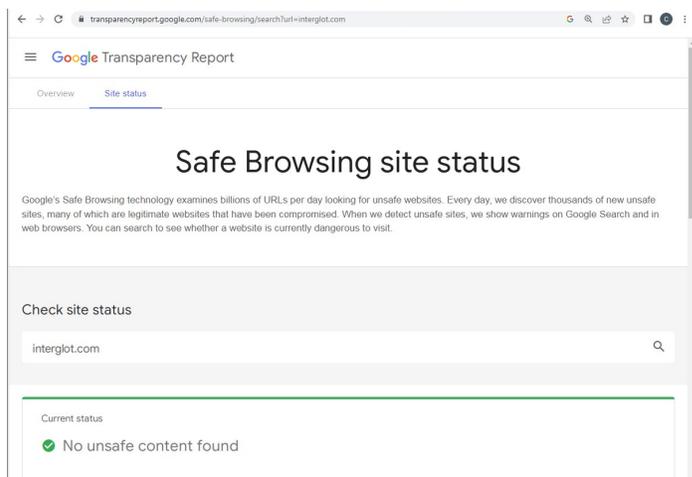
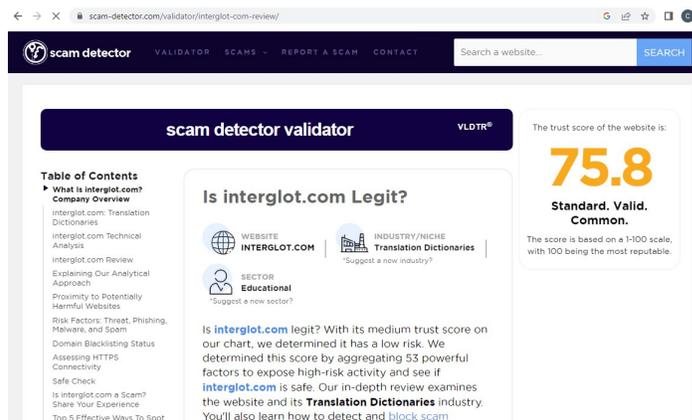
<https://wauc.apcug.org/>

terryharvey@wi.rr.com

Verifying the safety and legality of a website is crucial for online security. Here are some steps to follow:

1. Check the website's URL: Ensure it starts with "https://" instead of "http://". The "s" indicates a secure connection.
2. Look for security indicators: A lock symbol or the word "Secure" in the browser's address bar confirms a secure connection. Avoid sites with warnings or certificate errors.
3. Research the website: Search for reviews, ratings, or experiences other users share. Be cautious if there is a lack of information or negative feedback.
4. Check for contact information: Legitimate websites provide valid contact details, including a physical address and phone number. Verify if the information is accurate and reachable.
5. Assess content quality: Poor grammar, excessive ads, or suspicious content can indicate an untrustworthy site.
6. Review privacy policy and terms of service: Ensure they are transparent, well-written, and provide clear information on data collection, storage, and usage.
7. Use website reputation services: Online tools like Google Safe Browsing or Norton Safe Web can check a site's safety rating.
8. Trust your instincts: If something feels off or too good to be true, it's wise to proceed with caution or avoid the website altogether.

Remember, online safety is an ongoing practice. Stay updated with the latest security measures and



use reliable antivirus software for additional protection.

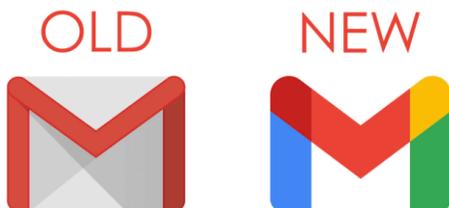
What's New in GMAIL?

New features you may not be aware of.

By M.H. Members



Gmail has received several updates and new features in recent years. Here are some of the notable new things in Gmail:



1. **Confidential Mode:** Allows you to send emails that expire after a set time period and prevents recipients from forwarding, copying, downloading or printing the email.
2. **Smart Compose:** Uses AI to suggest completed sentence phrases as you type, helping you draft emails faster.
3. **Nudging:** Gmail will nudge you to follow up or respond to emails that may have slipped through the cracks.
4. **Hover Actions:** Hover over an email in your inbox to quickly archive, delete, mark as read/unread or snooze it.
5. **Email Scheduling:** You can now schedule emails to be sent at a later date and time.
6. **Attachments in the Body:** Gmail can now display attachments like images directly in the body of the email.
7. **Smart Reply:** Suggests simple reply phrases based on the context of the email you received.
8. **Improved Search:** Gmail's search functionality has been enhanced with better filters, suggestions, and the ability to search for specific attachment types.
9. **Offline Mode:** You can now access your Gmail inbox and compose emails even when you don't have an internet connection.
10. **Integrated Google Calendar:** See your upcoming calendar events directly in Gmail.

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Where to Get E-Books

By Tom Burt, Vice President
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As we approach summer, a perennial challenge is to find new, interesting, fun books to read. Lately, e-books have been a popular choice. With the maturing of the electronic book (e-book) format and industry, it should be more accessible than ever to find the right title, purchase it, download it to your book reader, smartphone, or tablet, and read it. In practice, things aren't quite that simple, so you may want to read on.

This article is based on a seminar I gave in December 2020 titled "E-Books and E-Readers." My updated (2024) seminar slides are at:

<https://www.scscclab.com/smnr/E-BooksandE-ReadersSeminar-2024.pdf>

E-Book Formats

There are two main e-book formats: Amazon Kindle and E-Pub. There are hardware and software readers for each. Both formats support digital rights management (copy protection) so that the purchaser of a book can't share it with more than a few others. Amazon mainly uses the Kindle format. E-Pub is used by Barnes & Noble and Kobo and for many self-published books. Adobe PDF and HTML are also often used for e-books. Apple's iBook format is a variation of E-Pub.

When buying an e-book, it's essential to know its format so you can be sure your reader device or program can retrieve and display the book. A common problem for Amazon's Kindle or Fire tablet owners is that they do not support the E-Pub format; you need to convert the EPUB file to Amazon's proprietary format, AZW, using a conversion tool like Calibre.

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Let's look at a few of them in more depth.

Amazon Kindle

The Amazon bookstore is vast. You can buy books in hardcover, paperback, audio, and e-book format. As with all Amazon shopping, the search is very smart, and you can set filters to narrow choices. You can click on items in the search results to view details and add them to your shopping cart.

E-books are delivered (downloaded) to the reading device you specify if buying for yourself. You can also specify that you are buying for someone else and enter the giftee's information so they can receive the book.

You need an Amazon Kindle or Fire Reader tablet or Amazon's free Kindle Reader app to read Kindle books. There are Windows, macOS, Linux, Android, and iOS versions.

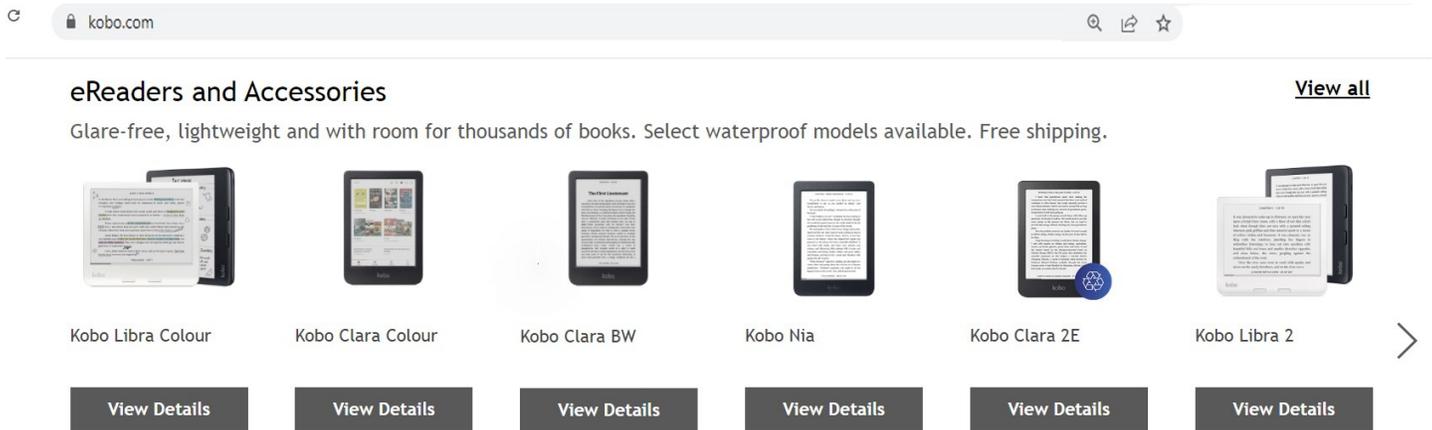
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Project Gutenberg

Project Gutenberg was founded by Michael Hart, who invented e-books in 1971. Its website claims to have 60,000 titles in its library. All these titles are completely free. Most are "classics" that are out of copyright. For example, I searched for Albert Einstein and found an English translation of his Special and General Relativity expositions.

I tried downloading a copy of Herman Melville's "Moby Dick" in Kindle format and was able to read it using the free Calibre book reader app on my PC. The Amazon Kindle Reader app wasn't able to open



The screenshot shows the Kobo website's "eReaders and Accessories" section. At the top, there's a navigation bar with the Kobo logo and search, share, and star icons. Below the navigation bar, the section title "eReaders and Accessories" is displayed, followed by a sub-header "Glare-free, lightweight and with room for thousands of books. Select waterproof models available. Free shipping." Below this, there are six product cards, each featuring an image of a Kobo e-reader, the product name, and a "View Details" button. The products shown are: Kobo Libra Colour, Kobo Clara Colour, Kobo Clara BW, Kobo Nia, Kobo Clara 2E, and Kobo Libra 2. A "View all" link is located in the top right corner of the product grid.

ten e-books for as long as you wish. When you want another, return or buy one of the ten you have.

The **Amazon Fire HD 8** tablet with 64 GB of storage currently costs \$129.99.

Barnes and Noble

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the book. I'll try to find out why and see if I can copy the e-book to my Amazon Fire tablet and read it there.

Hopefully, that will help you learn more about e-books and how to get them. I love them because of their convenience and ease of reading. And they take up zero space in the house.

The Nook book reader is a 10.1-inch Lenovo Tab

PairDrop

Easiest Way to Transfer File Between Your Mobile and Desktop

By M.H. Members

PairDrop is a tool that lets you share files between devices on your local network, similar to Apple's AirDrop. Here's the key advantage of PairDrop:

- **Cross-platform:** It works on pretty much any device with a web browser, including Windows, Mac, Linux, Android and iOS - unlike AirDrop which is limited to Apple devices.

Here's a quick rundown of how it works:

1. Open PairDrop in the web browser on both the sending and receiving devices.
2. Select the files you want to send on the sending device.
3. The receiving device will appear as an icon on the sending device's screen.
4. Drag the files onto the receiving device's icon to transfer them.

In addition to local file sharing, PairDrop also offers a couple of other features:

- **Public rooms:** You can join temporary public rooms to share files with people on other networks, although this is not as secure as local file sharing.
- **Pairing devices:** This allows for easier discovery of specific devices you transfer files to frequently.

Overall, PairDrop is a handy tool for quickly and easily sharing files between devices, especially if you're using a mix of operating systems.

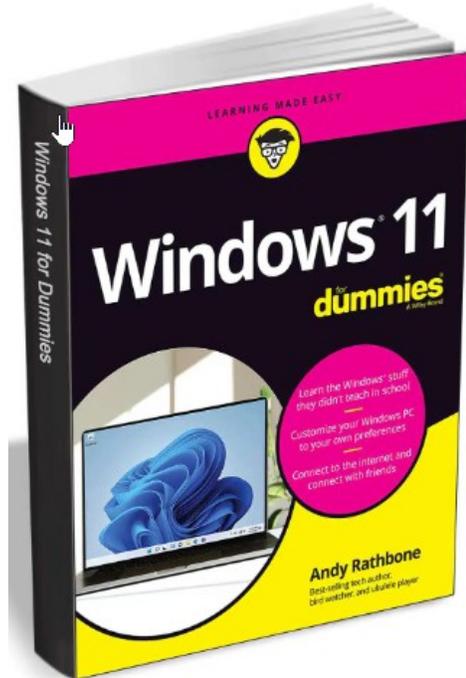
[Tech for Seniors Video](#)

Shame is like everything else: live with it for long enough, and it becomes part of the furniture.

SALMAN RUSHDIE

Shame

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Bringing the Digital Divide

By Norbert Gostischa

Tech for Senior

Today, we're tackling a serious topic with a catchy phrase: "The digital divide, a term from which you cannot hide."

Essentially, the digital divide refers to the gap between those who have access to technology and the internet, and those who don't. This divide can be based on various factors like income, location, education, and even age.

Those on the wrong side of the divide face numerous challenges. Limited access to information and educational resources, fewer job opportunities, and difficulty accessing essential services like healthcare and government assistance. It can feel isolating and frustrating, and it can limit opportunities for personal and professional growth.

So, how do we bridge this gap and ensure everyone has a chance to thrive in our increasingly digital world?

Education and Training: Investing in digital literacy programs for all ages is crucial. This includes teaching basic computer skills, internet safety, and how to use online tools effectively.

Affordable Access - Governments and private companies can work together to make internet access more affordable and accessible, especially in underserved areas. This could involve expanding broadband infrastructure and offering subsidized plans.

Community Initiatives - Local libraries, community centers, and non-profit organizations can play a vital role by offering free computer access, digital skills workshops, and device lending programs.

Digital Inclusion Policies - We need policies that promote digital inclusion and ensure everyone has the opportunity to participate in the digital economy.

Closing the digital divide isn't just about providing

technology; it's about empowering individuals and communities. By working together, we can create a more equitable and inclusive future where everyone has the opportunity to reach their full potential.

Remember, we can all play a role in bridging the digital divide. Share this information, support organizations working on this issue, and let's get everyone connected!

You can help by getting involved. I encourage you to learn more about the digital divide and help others escape.

If you're interested, I have a video on my YouTube Channel on this topic. You can watch the video here: <https://youtu.be/pKG9e9cRz2s>

Don't forget to like, share, and subscribe. Thanks. I used AI to help in the creation of this article.

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Tech for Seniors LIVE



Ron Brown, Hewie Poplock, Bob Gostischa, Ray Baxter & Bill James

Tech for Senior- Live on Thursday

Click this Button for a video on how to join TFS-Live



Google Groups

Google Groups is a platform for online discussion forums and email listservs. It allows people with a shared interest to connect, share information, and have conversations. Members of a computer club can use Google Groups in the following ways:

Facilitate Group Communication

- Create a group email address (e.g. computer-club@group.com) to send emails to all members simultaneously.
- Members can reply to the group email to start discussions or share information with everyone.

Host Online Forums

- Set up a web forum where members can post topics, start conversations, and reply to each other's posts.
- Organize discussions into different categories or topics related to computers and technology.

Collaborate on Projects

- Use the Collaborative Inbox feature to assign tasks, questions or project components to specific members for tracking and follow-up.
- Share files, documents and resources related to club projects and activities.

Manage Membership

- As an owner, you can add or remove members from the group.
- Set permissions to control who can join, view conversations, post messages, etc.

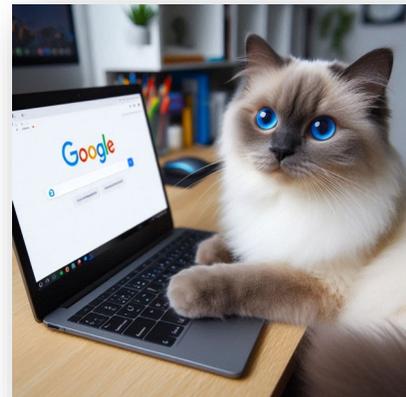
Organize Events

- Send event invitations and updates to all members via the group email.
- Create calendar entries visible to the entire group.

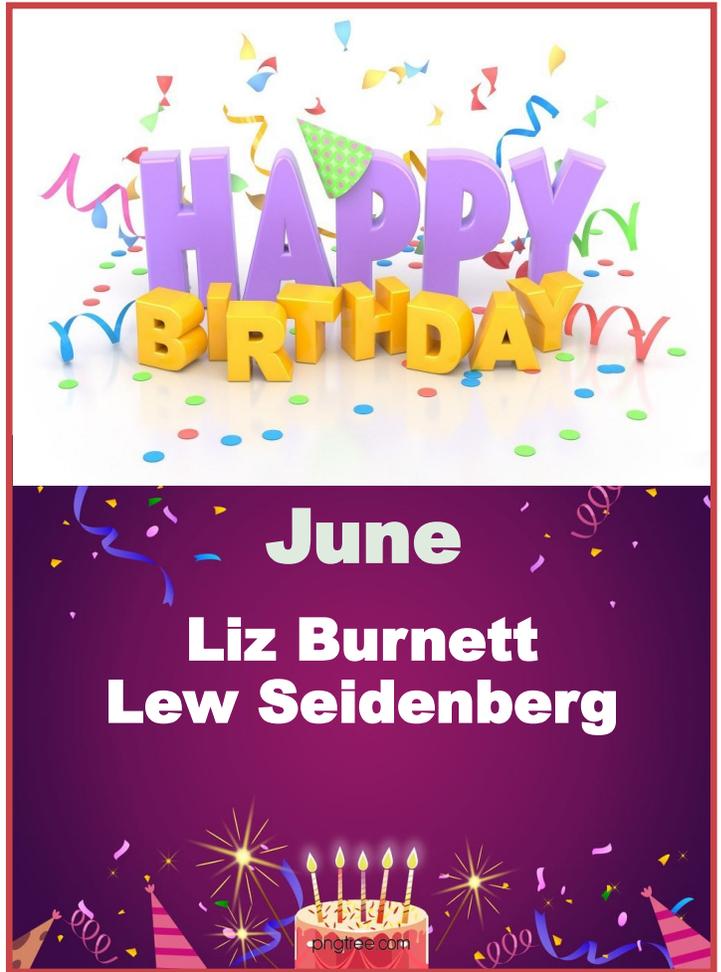
Overall, Members can post questions, share solutions to technical problems, and have discussions on various computer-related topics. This can be a valuable resource for getting help, learning new things, and staying up-to-date on the latest tech trends.



[Google Groups—Complete Overview](#)



Yes, Google Groups is my way of purring to the members.



Computer Services

**Desktops,
Laptops,
All-in-Ones
and more**



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

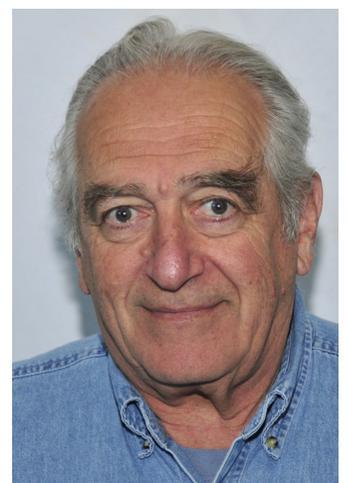
ZYTEK Services

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

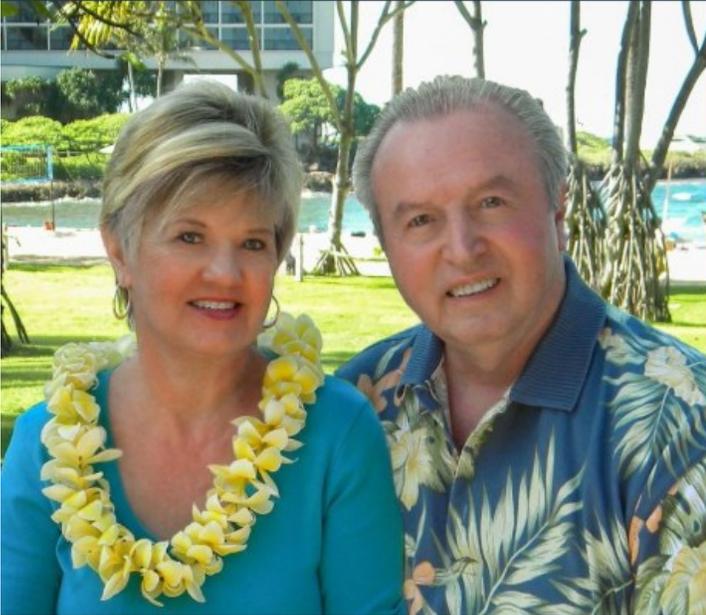
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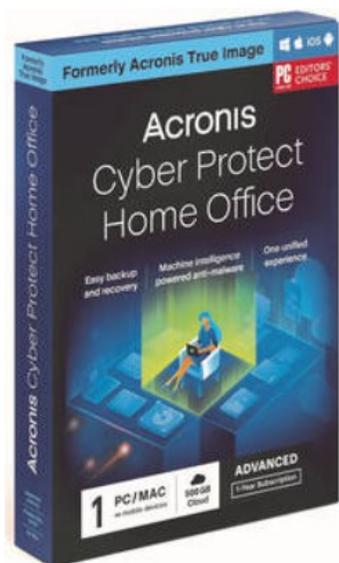
New Version of My Starter Guide

To ugr7.com

My May 2024 Activities

We are [Gene and Linda Barlow](#), owners of the User Group Relations consulting firm that represents excellent Acronis products to the user group community

This month I was occupied with two important activities. First, my doctors found skin cancer on my forehead. So, I ended up taking 20 daily radiation treatments to cure it. The treatments are now over, but the sores have not yet healed. I'm told this could take a month to heal. So, this is still not finished, but looks very hopeful. Second, I realized that I have not been able to update my Starter Guide in the past few years. So that is a project that was long overdue. In my free time, I updated the Starter Guide and need to get it out to everyone. You can download the updated Starter Guide from: www.ugr7.com/files/CyberProtectHomeOfficeStarterGuide.pdf If you are still using the old True Image product, then stay with your old Starter Guide. However, if you are using the new Acronis CPHO, then download this new version and follow it instead. Next month I hope to be back on track and cover Installing My Recommendation in June's newsletter. Watch for it then.



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Ever heard the saying that someone or something "broke the internet"? Well it looks like our Artificial Intelligence (AI) Quiz did just that.

We apologize for the issues many of you experienced with loading the "Test Your AI Eye" quiz on Senior Planet, but are thrilled to see how much interest there is in the topic! We created a new page for you to view the quiz. Just click the red button below.



Real or AI?

Test your AI eye!

Why are we sending out information about AI? Because AI is rapidly changing the world around us. It's transforming many aspects of our lives, from voice assistants, to smart devices, to the ads we're shown online. Understanding AI is crucial, especially as it becomes more integrated into everyday use. Here at Senior Planet, we're committed to ensuring older adults can navigate new technologies like AI with confidence.



AI Generated Pictures

hu·mor

'(h)yōōmər

1. the quality of being amusing or comic, especially as expressed in literature or speech.

2. a mood or state of mind.



*"I'm going to start using my phone as my wallet.
All I have to do is fit this stuff in it."*



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JIM JACOBS TRIO
Jazz Standards
THURSDAYS 6:00-9:00 PM

Deerfield Italian Kitchen

CONTACT JIM AT 847.372.0656 OR JIMJACOBSMUSIC@GMAIL.COM

Take a good look, you just might see yourself.

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