

McHENRY COUNTY COMPUTER CLUB

USERS GROUP FOR PC-COMPATIBLE SYSTEMS



MAY 2011

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The **May 2011** meeting of the McHenry County Computer Club is **May 14**, at the Salvation Army Building, 290 W. Crystal Lake Ave., in Crystal Lake.

Our membership is \$26.00 a year. **NOTE:** This fee offsets the running of the club; membership benefits include help with computer problems. Please pay Lyle Giese, our treasurer, or the designated Board Member in his absence.

Meeting Agenda

- Introductions & Reports
- Demo: Excel: Graphs & Charts - Jack Luff
- Break
- Q & A

The Newsletter is published monthly by McHenry County Computer Club, online.

Editor-in-Chief: Lucë York ; Webmaster: Cindi Carrigan

Direct technical questions to MC3 at: info@Mc3ComputerClub.org

MC3 website: <http://www.mc3computerclub.org/>

UPCOMING DEMOS

- *May* Excel - Jack Luff
- *June* TBA
- *July* TBA

Suggestions for future demos are always welcome.

MC³ OFFICIALS

President : Larry Freeman lpfreeman@hotmail.com
Vice President : Bob Wagner rmwagner@ameritech.net
Secretary : Shirley Teetsov
Treasurer: Lyle Giese Lyle@lcrcomputer.com
Database Manager : Dan Weise
Newsletter Editor : Lucë York info@Mc3ComputerClub.org (for articles & suggestions ONLY)
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Questions & Answers

Q. On May 2nd, AT&T is going to start to limit residential DSL Internet usage to 150GB per month. If the 150 GB limit is exceeded, an extra charge will be imposed. If one uses an Internet radio, will that likely exceed this 150db limit?

A. Remember that they will warn you before charging. So *IF* you are exceeding the limits, you will get warned before getting charged. With that said, I think it will be unlikely that continuous use of Internet radio will cause overage.

You can do a lot with 150 or 250 GB. Here is an example.

Monthly Activity	150 GB	250 GB
Send/receive one page emails	10,000 emails -and-	10,000 emails -and-
Download/upload a medium resolution photo to social media site like Facebook	3,000 photos -and-	4,000 photos -and-
MP3 Songs downloaded	2,000 songs -and-	3,000 songs -and-
Stream a one-minute YouTube video (standard quality)	5,000 views -and-	5,000 views -and-
Watch hour-long TV Shows (high quality)	100 shows -and -	200 shows -and -
Stream full length movies (Standard Definition: SD; High Definition: HD)	20 SD or 10 HD movies	25 SD or 13 HD movies

Usage examples are estimates based on typical file sizes and/or duration of file transfer or streaming event.

Q. Why when I click on a hot link at websites do I first get an "about" blank screen page followed by the hot link URL providing the info I wanted? Can I eliminate the "about" blank screen?

A. That "about" screen in IE is how IE opens a new screen/window and is its normal/default behavior.

Q. I attempted to download the monthly newsletter from the e-mail reminding us of the meeting. I received a blank screen. I was able to download the newsletter in the past. I recently updated Adobe so I suspect this is the problem. Did anyone else experience this problem?

A. There is a problem with Windows7 and Adobe. When selecting a .pdf file from a website, etc., a blank screen will appear with a pop-up with 2 buttons. One is **OK** the other is **Cancel**. If one clicks on the **Cancel**, the .pdf file will appear in the browser you originally selected the link from. I have not found a resolution to this problem at this time.

Q-What security issues are there when accessing the Internet while traveling? Hotels, rest areas, restaurants, public buildings, etc.

A. As with any public internet connection, one never knows what is on the other side of the wall, so a good firewall, spam blocker, anti-virus software & malware software should be on your personal computer. Also make sure that you are not logged on as the administrator of the computer. You should always have 2 users defined on any portable computer, one as administrator and one as a basic user with no special privileges on the computer.

Q. I ran and filed last April 15 taxes using H&R tax software. I have the summary tax info from that file in the H&R format. My new attempt at doing my taxes due next week requires that I have a complete printout of last year's taxes which I (1) cannot locate & (2) cannot print out using the H&R tax software for this year.

A-You need to load last year's H&R software and do the printout of the complete tax form(s) using that software. The current software will not read last year's file.

Q-What would be the most important part of having videos and games playing on a PC without stopping and catching up?

A new better video card?

A faster Processor?

A change from the lowest DSL to a faster DSL?

I have no problems with downloading upgrades for an nVideo GeForce video card. But it seems that upgrades for the ATI video care are almost impossible to get from the website. They always direct the search to a pay program, like Driver Detective etc.

A. All of these affect the smooth playing of games. However, the DSL speed is probably not an issue, as they do try to optimize the amount of traffic across the Internet. Google searches for ATI drivers will show the other sites first as they pay for placement. AMD owns ATI, so go to www.amd.com and search for the drivers you want there.

Freeware

by Al Schrader

Any Video Converter Freeware- the Free Video Converter

Download it here:

http://www.any-video-converter.com/products/for_video_free/

Any Video Converter is an All-in-One video converting tool with easy-to-use graphical interface, fast converting speed, and excellent video quality. I have used this to convert our club's demos from one format to another, but I use this for another reason and not just for video.

Sometimes I don't have time to watch a video podcast or something. But there always seems to be time to listen in the car while to and from work or trips out of state. On out of state trips, the radio often stops receiving the stations I want to listen to. So, I attach my MP3 player to the car's radio system and listen to those videos (much better than listening to the news). I download just about any video to my computer (of course the legal ones) and then use this program to strip out the audio and save it as an MP3 audio format and it works great (especially after all my music CD's are exhausted and the road trip seems to get longer after that). The converted MP3's are hours of listening and usually I do not miss the video part. So now I do not just have to listen to music anymore and actually may learn something new. I give this software a thumbs up.

Your smile for the day -- This library has "catalogued" their therapy dog:

<http://morris.law.yale.edu/record=b1039135~S3>

He can be "checked out" for 30 minute increments.

Note: If you haven't visited your library recently (in the last year or two), you may be surprised at all the new kinds of materials, services, and programs that are now available. Libraries are not just about books anymore.

York/Editor

Lucë