

# McHENRY COUNTY COMPUTER CLUB

USERS GROUP FOR PC-COMPATIBLE SYSTEMS



*JUNE 2010*  
*VOLUME 27 No. 6*

The **June 2010** meeting of the McHenry County Computer Club is [June 12](#), 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.

Meetings : 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month.

## Meeting Agenda

- Introductions & Reports
- Demo - Printers
- 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](mailto:info@Mc3ComputerClub.org)

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

## UPCOMING DEMOS

- *July*                      TBA

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## Questions & Answers

Q: I had no problems reading and printing the club newsletter in WinXP. But after I changed to Win7, it won't open in Notepad.

A: It's not compatible with Notepad. You need a PDF reader program, like Adobe Reader or Foxit's Foxit reader to read, display and print out the club newsletter.

Q: The Fast Ethernet connector doesn't work in XP. How do you enable it?

A: Go to control panel, Network connections (I keep control panel in classic or icon mode). After you open Network Connections, you should find your ethernet adaptor in there under LAN. Right click on it and select Enable, if the device is disabled.

If that doesn't fix it, you could have:

- cable trouble -- try known good cable into a known good port.
- router trouble (dhcp server broken) -- try power cycling.
- broken connector on computer -- install an addon ethernet adaptor. Internal for a desktop or USB for a laptop.
- Trojan/virus causing the computer to not see the dhcp traffic.
- bad driver for ethernet card.

These are not in any particular order!

Q: On the USB port, I am getting a message - Power Exceeded.

A: There is a limit as to how much power a USB port will put out. When you exceed this power max rating, the better computers will shutdown the USB port involved.

In the old days the early USB hubs were powered by the computer and it was common to plug in too many devices and cause USB problems.

Q: Explain Facebook.

A: That could be an entire demo or two! Facebook is a social network. You sign up and ask people to be your 'friends' on Facebook. And then you get updates on whatever they or you post on their Facebook pages. It's a good way to keep in touch with family and friends you don't see often. Just remember that whatever you post on a social network is forever. Deleting content does not delete it from their service: it just flags that content as deleted. A common rule of thumb is never post anything you may later regret. Remember your Mom may be reading your Facebook page<GRIN>!

While on the subject of social networks, did you know that the Library of Congress has copies of ALL public tweets going back to the start of Twitter and plans on tracking all public tweets going forward?

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## **Freeware**

*by Al Schrader*

Portable Document Format (PDF) is a file format created by Adobe Systems in 1993 for the purpose of document exchange. At one time the only way to create a PDF was to purchase Acrobat from Adobe, but it sells for between \$120 and \$150. For the few times I produce a PDF, it was just not worth it. Lately there are more programs that create PDF files. Usually I needed a PDF file from one that did not so I use doPDF, which is located at <http://www.dopdf.com/>.

Dopdf is actually a print driver that is used to print a document to a PDF file. Once installed, dopdf creates a printer in the printers folder right alongside all the other printers that I have set up. Now I can use just about any program that creates a document or a picture or graphic that can be printed and all that needs to be done is to select print just like always. Instead of my usual printer, however, I choose dopdf (which is usually right alongside), and it will create a PDF file. So create all the PDF files you want to. I am giving this a thumbs-up because it just works.



## **Update to the May Meeting Demo on Clonezilla**

*by Lyle Giese*

At the last meeting, I demoed Clonezilla, from <http://www.clonezilla.org> and I showed the "system rescue CD" from <http://www.sysresccd.org> and talked briefly about Knoppix and <http://www.knoppix.net>.

All three are live Linux CD distributions. They are downloaded as ISO images designed to be burned to a CD. You then boot your computer from them and they become the operating system for your computer. I use both the system rescue CD and Knoppix, as the people who build them will use slightly different defaults and you may find hardware that works better with one CD than the other, esp the video drivers.

You would use Clonezilla to make an image of your hard drive from time to time and before making major changes to your computer.

I recently purchased an Acer netbook for my wife from WalMart for under \$300 before taxes. It has a smaller screen and a smaller hard drive. But for traveling, it's great because it's small and has no CD/DVD or floppy drive. And you can access your email and the Internet just fine!

With Ghost there is a limitation to it. If you boot from an external USB device to load Ghost, you cannot use an external USB device to save the image on. If you think about that, you cannot clone/image the netbook hard drive without removing it and putting it on another computer. But with Clonezilla, I was able to boot from an external CD drive and then back up to another external USB hard drive.

Advantage Clonezilla!

Why do I need a clone or image of my hard drive?

For most of us, we spend several days/weeks tweaking and adding small programs to our new computers until we have it just right. Now something happens and the hard drive dies/quits or is trojaned/virused beyond repair. Without a clone or image, we are back to starting back at the factory

if we have CD/DVDs to reload it from. Not all computers come with CD/DVDs to reload; or, some do with just Windows, and they may not have all the extra programs we have loaded on or our data (like pics and financial info).

If you have cloned/imaged your hard drive, you have everything as of that date/place in time. All your addon programs and data that were there then. You may need to have backed up your data, like pics or financial data separately as that can change more frequently.

From experience, when a system goes bad and we have to build it up from scratch on a new or newly formatted hard drive, there is a lot of time expended just getting the desktop back to where it was, the programs re-installed and install all the windows updates.



## IPv6 vs. IPv4

*by Lyle Giese*

At the last meeting a question was posed about IPv6 and IPv4. In the world of the Internet, most of us are familiar with TCP/IP addresses and we usually think of something like:

192.168.1.1

That is an IP version 4 address (IPv4). It is limited to a 32-bit address or about 4,294,967,296 address, because of the number of digits available. Some address ranges are assigned for special purposes and are not available for general use, so the number of useable addresses is considerably less. But in any case, we are running out and it is estimated that we have less than 500 days left before all available IPv4 addresses will be allocated. (source <http://www.tunnelbroker.net>)

The proposed solution is IP version 6 or IPv6. The new addresses will have 128 bits in the address or  $3.4 \times 10$  to the 38th power (3.4 followed by 37 zeros). A whole bunch! Right now IPv6 is only in experimental operation. You can get access to IPv6 networks via two providers for testing purposes at this time.

<http://ipv6.sixxs.net>

<http://www.tunnelbroker.net>

Through either service, you can ask for and get IPv6 addresses and instructions on how to create an IPv6 to IPv4 tunnel (kind of like a VPN connection) to their services and bring native IPv6 to your network.

2001:470:1f11:45c:215:58ff:fe97:587d

This is a typical IPv6 address and is the address assigned to one of the servers here at LCR. If you have access to IPv6, you can ping this address and you will be bouncing packets off a server at LCR in Woodstock.

For the average home or business user, this is not important at this time. Other than Hurricane Electric (tunnelbroker.net), only Comcast has brought IPv6 to the end user in the US. And Comcast has only started field trials of IPv6 in March of this year. No other US ISP is providing IPv6

connectivity directly to the end user yet. There will be IPv4 to IPv6 gateways that major ISPs will operate to bridge IPv4 traffic to the IPv6 Internet and I am certain that this will be in place for many years in the future. Also for a lot of businesses, I see the internal networks can stay IPv4 for a long time. The WAN or Public side of their networks will need to be IPv6 ready sooner, but that is still a ways off in the future.

Because of the huge growth in users, you will see Asia (in particular, China) and Africa leaders in IPv6 implementation. The shortage of IPv4 addresses and the rate of explosive Internet growth in these geographical areas are requiring them to implement IPv6 now, not later.

For ISPs that provide email and web services(like LCR) we will have to be an early adaptor of IPv6 for two reasons. We need our servers to be visible to IPv6 users going forward. And with IPv6 coming, we HAVE to know how it works before we are required to implement it.

Right now, we have IPv6 service to our servers available via an IPv6 to IPv4 tunnel by way of tunnelbroker.net. [www.lcrcomputer.com](http://www.lcrcomputer.com) is visible via IPv6 at ip address 2001:470:1f11:45c::21 and all three of LCR's DNS servers are registered with IPv4 and IPv6 addresses. This service appears to be reliable and has good uptime, but I still consider this to be experimental.

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