

Interface

Lorain County Computer Users Group
LCCUG.com (or) info@LCCUG.com
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2024

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**Tuesday
September 10, 2024
10:00 AM**



Presented by

**LCCUG OFFICERS
&
APCUG VIDEOS**

Our links can be found at:

LCCUG.com/links, There you will find many interesting places to visit. Check them out and see what you can find interesting

**This meeting will be held in person and on Zoom
on Tuesday September 10, 2024 10:00 am.
Join us in person at:**

**LCCC Community Learning Center
201 W Erie Ave, Lorain, OH 44052**

**Please Email: info@lccug.com
if you have any questions or concerns!**



A Word From Our President



We will continue meeting in person and online. In September we will again show Hodgepodge segments. Hope you can join us!

This will include tips for using your smart phones. At the meeting we will use some videos from Geeks on tour to look at tips for using your smart phone. We will look at things like activating as a hot spot and ideas for troubleshooting issues on your phone

We will also look at some examples on using some of the new AI tools like Copilot and Chat GPT. Bring your questions and join us as we continue to learn more about current technology developments. In upcoming meetings we will continue to demonstrate how we can take advantage and learn about new AI tools!! If you haven't "dipped your toe" in yet, you will be surprised at what is possible.

The latest Windows 11 update is rolling out. We will look at some of the features in this at upcoming meetings.

Send your questions ahead of time if you like and we will address them during the meeting.

Sandra Ruth
LCCUG President



LCCUG

LCCUG is on Facebook

Come and visit our Facebook page for interesting facts and ideas. You can get a lot of computer information from our Facebook page. Have a question ask it on Facebook.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/lccug>

LCCUG Officers For 2024

President	Sandee Ruth president@lccug.com
Vice President	Vacant vp-programs@lccug.com
Secretary	Don Hall secretary@lccug.com
Treasurer	Micky Knickman treasurer@lccug.com
Newsletter Editor	Pam Rihel newsletter@lccug.com
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Tuesday
September 10, 2024

HODGEPODGE



Presented by

LCCUG OFFICERS
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APCUG VIDEOS



Again we will have a hodge podge meeting. This will include tips for using your smart phones for things like activating as a hot spot and ideas for troubleshooting your phone. We will use some videos from Geeks on tour for this.

We will also look at some examples on using some of the new AI tools like CoPilot and Chat GPT1 . Bring your questions and join us as we continue to learn more about current technology developments.

Check out our website at: <https://lccug.com/> click on Presentation Weblinks and there you will find websites mentioned in all or most of our presentations. We are hoping you enjoy these educational videos.

In short:

Be skeptical

Scammers are constantly trying to fool you into trusting them. Your first reaction to any notification — be it of malware found, a package delivered, or that your computer is supposedly “causing problems on the internet”— should be a skeptical one. Don’t blindly trust. Take the time to consider the source and make an informed decision rather than a knee-jerk reaction.



It Pays to Be Skeptical

There are people trying to fool you.

by [Leo A. Notenboom](#)

If we would all be a little more skeptical, we'd be safer and the internet would be a more trustworthy place.

A message pops up warning you that malware has been detected on your computer. What do you do?

The answer's not as clear as you might think.

Your trust is a commodity

It's no secret that **scammers actively prey on the trusting.**

But it's not just con artists who abuse our good nature and desire to trust. Hackers, malware authors, overly aggressive salespeople — essentially anyone who wants something from us — are skilled at using your trust against your better interests.

Warning: malware detected,

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Executive Board Meeting Minutes

AUGUST 6, 2024

The board Zoom video meeting for August was cancelled due to power outages in the county.



General Meeting Minutes

AUGUST 13, 2024

President Sandee Ruth called the hybrid meeting to order. A motion to accept the minutes as shown in the August issue of the *INTERFACE* was made by Micky and seconded by Lata Arora. Motion passed by voice vote.

Sandee announced next months topic will be about AI (Artificial Intelligence) information.

Sandee and Micky presented a program "Hodge Podge" of information they have gleamed from the Internet including : Unmasking Falsehoods, Hoaxes in Facebook, Geeks on Tour, Map Your Memories and Google My Maps.

Nancy Smith moved, Ellen Endrizal seconded meeting be adjourned.



MEMBERSHIP WITH LCCUG:

Yearly dues are now \$15.00 For 3 years. For more information contact:

LCCUG
Director of Membership,
membership@lccug.com.

Meeting Location:
At a new time: from 10 am. - noon
in a new location: LCCC facility at
[201 W. Erie, Lorain](#)

Our meeting space is on the first floor – easily accessible – larger – refreshments available! Please email info@lccug.com if you have any questions.

Newsletter Editor: Pam Rihel using Microsoft Publisher, 2019

This Month's contributors: Micky Knickman, Sandra Ruth, Pam Rihel, Don Hall, Neil Higgins, Michael John Neill, Phil Sorrentino, Jim Cerny, Lynda Buske, Kurt Jefferson Adobe Stock, Scambusters, Ask Leo, APCUG, Google Images, Microsoft Office art online, AARP

Newsletter is now
Online at:
lccug.com/newsletters or lccug.com

The Lorain County Chapter of OGS

is having its next meeting online:

Check our webpage for the next program.

<http://loraincoogs.org/events.html>



We are having our meetings virtually only, using Zoom

<https://zoom.us/j/6681479672?pwd=amh0NmtmalZWa0lmRWVBWEwySkxmZz09&omn=92912561207>

Lorain County Chapter is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Meetings are free and the program begins at 7:00 PM.

John Kolb
secretary@loraincoogs.org

NEED HELP?



Here's Who to Contact:

Neil Higgins

440-985-8507 - higgins.neil@gmail.com

Evenings 6 p.m. -10 p.m. + Weekends
Hardware, Linux & Windows Operating Systems,
Chromebooks, Tweaking your system

Micky Knickman

440-967-3118 - micky@knickman.com

Daily 5:00 am to 3:00 pm. Leave message if no answer.

General Software Configuration, Hardware Installation, Basic to Advanced Windows

Richard Barnett

440-365-9442 - Richard216@aol.com

Evenings & Weekends
General Software Configuration, Hardware Installation, Basic to Advanced Windows & Web Page Design

Sandee Ruth

440-984-2692 - sandee29@gmail.com

Basic Word Processing, Windows, & Web Design
Advanced Internet

Pam Casper Rihel

440-277-6076 or 440-308-8196

6:00 p.m. to 9:00 pm Monday thru Thursday
Genealogy help
prihel1947@gmail.com

Denny Smith Unavailable at this time

440-355-6218 - dennis.smith@windstream.net

Microsoft EXCEL
Leave message on machine if no answer

If any of our members are interested in helping other users with what programs you are adept at, please contact any of our officers with your name, what program or programs you would be willing to give help with, your email address and or phone number and when you would like to have them call you. Thanks



LCCUG ONGOING WORKSHOPS

ALL ARE FREE AND SOME ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Problem Solving Workshop

Date: Tuesday– September 10, 2024

Time: 12PM –Please show up by 11:30

Instructor: Micky Knickman

Place: LCCC @ 201 W. Erie Ave., Lorain, OH

Learn how to repair or update your computer by changing hard drives, memory, CD ROMs, etc.

This workshop is limited to LCCUG members in good standing.

The Problem Solving Workshop is being held at our new building, LCCC, 201 W. Erie Ave. Lorain, Ohio

You are asked to bring in your computer, laptop and other electronics that you need help with unless the problem/question can be replicated on any device.

Learning About Electronics

Date: Tuesday– September 10, 2024

Time: 12PM –Please show up by 11:30

Instructor: Sandee Ruth

Place: LCCC @ 201 W. Erie Ave., Lorain, OH

Learn how use you electronic devices.

Members are encouraged to bring their tablets, iPod, kindles, etc. for assistance from Sandee and any other knowledgeable members. The public is welcome to sit in on these sessions.



Member of Association of Personal Computer Users Groups

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click to remove...

A [pop-up message telling you there's malware on your machine](#) and directing you to "click here to fix it" is probably no big surprise to most people. With the constant barrage of news reports about hacks and malware and the ongoing emphasis on [anti-malware tools](#), your first response to such a message may be to believe it.

"Malware? Well, it happens to so many people, it's no surprise it happened to me!"

Except that it might not have.

That message might be completely fake. It may be trying to get you to trust it and click to take further action. "Further action" could *install* malware, or worse.

Or it could be legitimate.

What do you do?

Unable to deliver package, details attached...

You've probably received an important-looking email telling you there's a package on its way and the [details are in an attached file](#).

Or maybe a message says that your online email provider has detected a problem with your account, and you need to check something by clicking on a [conveniently provided link](#).

I've even received email from "PayPal" telling me access to my account had been "limited" because of suspicious

activity. I needed to log in to provide additional information — once again, using the provided link.¹

In each case, the sender wants you to trust them and take whatever action they've recommended in their message, be it examining the contents of an attached file, clicking a provided link to their website, or replying to the email with sensitive information.

Abusing your trust in this manner is currently one of the most effective ways to distribute malware or [hack](#) your online accounts.

And yet, each one of those scenarios could be legitimate at times.

What do you do?

I'm from Microsoft, and we've detected...

You're working on your computer one afternoon and get a phone call from someone who says they work for Microsoft, and your computer is causing many errors on the internet. They offer to walk you through some steps to show this to you, and indeed, there *do* seem to be lots of unexplained errors right there on your computer.

Then [they offer to fix it for you](#) if you just go to a site and type in a few numbers they recite to you.

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(Continued from page 6) Recognizing Phone Scams...

Those errors are pretty scary looking, and you certainly don't understand them.

What do you do?

What you do: get skeptical

Skeptic: a person who has or shows doubt about something. – [Merriam Webster](#)

If there were one skill I could magically impart to my readers — hell, on the entire technology-using, internet-loving universe — it would be healthy skepticism.

I'm not suggesting you believe nothing and trust no one. I mean that **before you believe, you question, and before you trust, you learn.**

Being skeptical is the only solution to the scenarios I've outlined above.

In each case, it's *critical* that you not blindly trust the information presented to you. In each case, you must question whether or not the person or company at the other end of the message has your best interests in mind. Is the story they're telling accurate? *Verifiably* accurate? Do you know *beyond a doubt* that they are who they say they are?

If the answer to any of those questions is "no", or even "I'm not sure", **then stop.** Stop and take additional steps to confirm what you're being told is legitimate.

It might mean some internet research, calling them back, or asking a trusted friend or resource for their opinion.

But *question everything.*

Be more skeptical: it's a skill that helps prevent disasters before they happen and keeps you and your technology safe.

Nullius in verba.

"Take nobody's word for it."

Do this

It's more than just technology. My plea to be skeptical and question everything is about far more than the technology you have sitting in front of you.

As I've written about before, an amazing amount of the information we're shown each day is completely bullsh*t — or at least nuanced and presented in such a way as to cause you to believe that things are other than they truly are.

Add our natural tendency to believe that which supports what we already believe (known as the "echo chamber" or "confirmation bias"), and it's easy to be misled and misinformed.

The solution remains the same:

Be skeptical.

Question everything...

...even things you already believe are true.

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