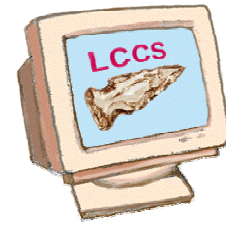


Licking County Computer Society



L.C.C.S.
P. O. Box 612
Newark, Ohio 43058-0612

Random Bits



Reports

By Jim Amore

RANDOM THOUGHTS

I want to thank everyone for the great support for the recycling event. Everything went very well and we collected a record amount of 30,000 lbs. Hope we can continue with this successful community event in March.

I want to thank Ron and Brenda for all they've done for our society. Good luck in Florida.

The agreement with the city is final and we are in the A-Frame at Reddington Rd and Cherry Valley Rd. and have had our Repair and Linux Sigs there. George Hreha has agreed to be at the house on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2-4pm. I will be there on Saturdays in the afternoon. The phone number at the A-Frame is 522-8207. This property is leased to the LCCS and any member can use it. Most Executive Board members and Trustees have keys.

We have submitted our programs for the Jerry Awards during the annual APCUG Conference in Las Vegas. Teaching, Recycling and Refurbishing. Keep your fingers crossed.

Our auction will be held on Nov 15. Please bring friends. More details inside.

Gift certificates are available and the gift giving season is upon us. Give a gift that someone can use all year long. Certificates cost the same as dues.

Positions open

Executive Secretary

Program Director

Newsletter Editor

Web Sig Leader

Any help would be appreciated



Jim Amore at Kiwanis meeting.

Jim and Jaki Amore was invited to speak at the Moundbuilders Kiwanis club meeting about the Licking County Computer Society. Question and answer session followed a powerpoint presentation.

Sept 2005

LCCS TRADITIONAL AUCTION/Fund Raiser Zerger Hall Dining Room

November 15, 2005, (regular LCCS meeting night)

Catered Dinner: (optional) **6:00 PM** You must prepay by Friday, Nov. 4, and there will be NO refunds after Nov. 4, 2005

Auction: 7:00 PM

Co-chairpersons: Dave and Mary Frances Rauch

Their phone is 740-522-4710 and their email is rauchhouse@alink.com

Donated items are being collected and tagged by the Rauch family.

There will be the option of a reserved, pre-paid, catered dinner at 6:00 PM in Zerger Hall Dining Room.

Dinner Price is \$12.00. The **reservation DEADLINE** is Friday, Nov. 4, 2005.

Bob and Georgia Porter are in charge of the dinner and reservations. Their **new** phone is 740-366-3284, and **new** email is gbporter@alltel.net

Call Porters for their mailing address if you need to send your dinner reservation money.

Checks are made out to: LCCS, in the amount of \$12.00/each and designate "Dinner reservation" on your check.

Vicky Atkins will be the liaison/coordinator/listkeeper between the LCCS members and the business/community people. When you plan to contact someone, please call Vicky first and she will tell you if they have already been contacted. Hopefully, this year, we will not duplicate asking for donations. Vicky's phone is: 740-349-8048 and her email address is vmatkins@alink.com

We hope all LCCS members will make a donation of time/items for the Auction. Remember that ALL items are DONATIONS (no consignments). A variety of items and "secret" envelopes make the evening more fun for all.

Please have your donations in the hands of the Rauch family by November 9, 2005.

NOOZ

NOOZ is sent to the President, APCUG Representative, Newsletter Editor, Webmaster and Program Chair of each APCUG-member User Group. We urge you to share the information in NOOZ by including it in your newsletter, posting in on your website, or e-mailing it to members of your group.

In this edition of NOOZ:

1. Newsletter / Website Contests
2. Jerry Awards
3. Annual Conference
4. Elections 2005
5. 2006 Membership Renewal
6. Newsletter / Website Idea

1. NEWSLETTER / WEBSITE CONTESTS. As of writing this NOOZ, 65 APCUG-member groups have entered both the website and newsletter contests. Group size ranges from 27 members to a little over 3,000 members. Nine newsletters were entered via U.S. mail, 29 groups post their newsletters on their websites and submitted links to the PDF files, and 27 groups submitted zipped PDF files.

The winners will be announced at the Annual Conference in January and an e-mail will follow to all groups announcing the winners. Contest winners do not need to be present at the conference - awards will be mailed to the group.

A big thank you to all of the groups that entered the contests.

NOTE FROM DAVE: So far only 4 Region 5 Groups have entered the Newsletter Contest and only 3 have entered the Website Contest. There's still time to make your Webmasters, Editors, User Group Members and Region 5 proud !!!!

2. DON'T FORGET to enter the community service JERRY AWARD CONTEST. The deadline for submitting your entries is October 31. There are three areas where you can enter your group's community service projects:

New - A program run by or in association with the user group. The program has to have been in existence since December 2004.

Ongoing - A program run by or in association with the User Group. The program should have been in existence for a number of years.

How - This category requires you to provide documentation on how you run your program.

You can find out more information about the Jerry Awards at http://apcug.net/events/conference06/contests/Jerry_06.htm

3. ANNUAL CONFERENCE - January 2 - 6, 2006 at the Stardust Hotel & Casino, Las Vegas. The next registration deadline is October 18, 2005 - November 30, 2005 - \$100.00. After December 1, 2005, the registration fee is \$150.00. For those of you who registered by October 17, your check must reach the office in Las Vegas by October 25.

Information about Registration, Conference Schedule, Special Events, Hotel Reservations, Las Vegas Office address, etc. may be found at: <http://apcug.net/events/conference06/index.htm>

APCUG's special negotiated room rate ends on December 2. Please reserve early.

ANOTHER NOTE FROM DAVE: I certainly am excited that I'll be attending my 1st APCUG conference in many years. I hope to see my fellow Floridians in Las Vegas. If you plan to attend CES (Yay!!) you'll have to register seperately for that at <http://www.cesweb.org>

4. ELECTIONS are coming up in November. To review the candidate bios prior to receiving your ballot, visit <http://apcug.net/APCUG/election/05/candidates.htm>

The APCUG Representative for each eligible member group will be sent a user name and password along with a link to our online voting. Newly elected officers will start their term on January 1, 2006.

5. MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL - 2006. Also coming up in November is the start of the Annual Membership Drive. We'll again have a contest for those renewing their membership by December 31, 2005. A drawing will be held and the winner (s) will be announced at the Annual Conference. The prize will be sent to the group(s) if they are not present at the conference.

6. NEWSLETTER IDEA. Publish a list of all the local computer-related radio / TV shows in your area. Also include those that can be accessed via live Internet stream. Two of those are:

continued on page 4

Computer Outlook Radio Talk Show with John Iasiuolo. John is a member of the Las Vegas PC Users Group and you can listen live Monday through Friday from 5:00 to 6:00 PM Pacific time to his show at <http://computeroutlook.com/>. You have the opportunity to chat with John and his co-host, Rob Winchell (currently President of the Las Vegas group) live during the shows or via 'live' e-mail (time permitting during the show) by sending a message to live@computeroutlook.com. If they don't have time to answer your e-mail on-air during the show, it will be answered after the show. Find out more information about the live chat at the above URL. John's show is Your One Stop Connection to Discovering in Plain English ... What's New, What's Best, and What's Next in the computer & technology industry. The first Monday of each month is devoted to User Groups.

The "Bits & Bytes" Computer Show features Dave Gerber (Sarasota PCUG, Florida) and his fellow co-host, Forrest Paradise. Just turn on your speakers and access the live Internet feed at www.bitsandbytesradio.com The Internet feed is live on Sunday from 9:30 - 10:45 am Eastern time. If you live in their neighborhood, you can also listen to the live show on WIBQ AM 1220. The call-in numbers are: Sarasota Area: 954.2339; Toll Free: 866.952.1220. You can also access the schedule of upcoming shows and listen to the archived shows at the above URL. Each week they will give you the latest news from the Digital World, Computing Tips, Industry Guests and Prizes!! They are also testing a Chat Room that is only a click away, again via the above URL.

If you have someone in your group who also has a computer-related show, please send the information to Judy Taylour at jtaylour@apcug.net. The info will be included in an upcoming NOOZ.

That's all for this NOOZ. Please let me know if you find this useful information to share with your group - it's a benefit of your membership in APCUG. If you have anything you would like me to include in NOOZ, just let me know.

As an APCUG member, you have received this e-mail to inform you of updates, changes, or special news and information from APCUG. Our policy has always been to send e-mail messages only to announce such information, and we'll continue to honor this policy. If you no longer want to receive these e-mails, please reply to the sender. Thank you for being an APCUG member.

---For your APCUG membership and support,
THANK YOU!

L.C.C.S. MONTHLY MEETINGS

**LCCS General Meeting will be our
annual auction on Nov. 15, 2005**

General Meeting 3rd Tuesday Zerger Hall

Windows SIG
Saturday after the
General Meeting.
The home of
Phyllis Hartroft

Word/Works and
Novice SIG
3rd Wednesday
Zerger Hall

Linux SIG
Every 3rd Sunday
A-Frame

Repair SIG
1st Tuesday
Zerger Hall (Dec. only)
A-Frame

Check website for times
and cancellations
www.lccsohio.org

A-Frame Update Home for Recycling and Repair

By Jim Amore

We have moved in as you can see with the pictures. I've had so many great comments from everyone that has seen the building. Thank everyone that has helped in any way. In December we will only be able to use the basement so all meetings will be at other locations.



Licking County Computer Society Ongoing Projects

The LCCS/LCAP Teaching Program

Summary:

Computer courses for senior citizens are provided by **Licking County Computer Society LCCS**) at Zenger senior Center of the **Licking County Aging Program (LCAP)**. LCCS provides the computers, accessories, and projector and maintains the equipment. All personnel who help manage and teach the classes are members of LCCS who donate their time as volunteers. LCAP provides the room, furniture, support from staff, and makes other facilities available to us.

This teaching program began in 1995, with used computers running early versions of MS-DOS. Thanks to private donations and donations from our refurbishing program, we have been able to keep abreast of the rapidly changing computer world. We upgraded to Windows 95 in 1999 and to Windows XP in 2004. A history of our teaching program (see documentation) describes the changes that were necessary to maintain updated instruction during the ten-year period.

Currently, we are using 11 computers running Windows XP. A class consists of 10 students, an instructor, and 2-4 aides. Each Year, approximately 210 seniors complete the 14 hour (seven weeks, 2 hours per week) courses, running from September through May. **MORE to come.....**

The LCCS Refurbishing Program

The Licking County Computer Society has been refurbishing computers since 1997. In the spring of 1997, Denison University contacted the society to get rid of some of their old computers. We accepted the challenge and used a member's barn for storage and work space. The computers were given to people unable to afford new ones and to non-profit organizations. Some computers were also distributed for a nominal donation to help with refurbishing costs. Later that year, used computers from Alvin-Meritor Co. were donated to the society and refurbished for our teaching program.

Over the years we continued to receive used computers from various sources. The refurbishing program has expanded and recently, LCCS acquired a place to work on them. The City Of Newark has allowed us to use a building for the cost of the utilities and upkeep. Through the recycling events we are able obtain used hardware for the refurbishing program. All of our projects -- teaching, recycling and refurbishing -- have helped LCCS in supporting our community. **MORE to come.....**

The LCCS Recycling Program

Our society has been recycling computers for years but was only accepting serviceable units. We needed a program to get rid of older computers. After much research we found Trumbull County Correctional Center (OPI/TCI) in Warren , Ohio that will accept all electronic equipment except TV's for recycling at no charge. Needing transportation for the 175-mile trip, we talked to a local trucking co. (Browns Trucking) and they have given us a tractor-trailer semi and a driver for all of our events. We set the events up every 6 months and had a full load last time with a weight of 30,000 lbs. We've had great community support and with the events we are able to promote our society within our community. Our documentation provides more details. **MORE to come.....**

First Phishing, Now Pharming

By John Pearce, Pikes Peak Computer Application Society, Colorado Springs, CO

First, there was phishing trying to collect personal information. A newer attack called pharming is trying to do the same thing in a more technologically sophisticated way. You need to be on guard but neither phishing nor pharming should keep you away from the Internet. Let's take a quick overview of both.

Phishing starts with an e-mail, typically from a financial institution, with a message that some dire consequences will happen if you don't immediately verify your account information. A web site link is conveniently provided for you in the e-mail. The provided link is to a web page that looks like the real web site but is actually a web site controlled by the bad guys. The fraudulent web page asks you to enter credit card and billing information or possibly user name and password information. You can imagine what the bad guys are going to do with the information they collect.

Pharming is a way for the bad guys to redirect your web browsing to a site which they control. Pharming is also known as DNS (Domain Name System) cache poisoning. DNS is what converts human friendly names like webboard.apcug.org to numerical addresses like 192.160.122.122. The bad guys want to impact the largest number of Internet users possible so ISP's and large corporations are the most likely targets of pharming attacks. One goal is to download spyware or adware to your PC.

Protecting yourself from phishing attacks is as simple as ignoring the e-mail. All but one of the dozen or so phishing e-mails I have received have been from banks where I don't have an account. In that case, delete the e-mail and go on with your life. If you have an account with the financial institution and are concerned, use the telephone and ask to speak with their Internet security department. If you go to the web site to login, type the web site URL into the browser – do not use the link provided in the e-mail.

Protecting yourself from pharming attacks takes a little effort. Start by keeping your browser updated with all the security patches. Next, you should be sure the padlock icon is displayed on any page where you enter personal information such as username, account number, or password. The padlock icon indicates you are connected to the legitimate owner of the URL and the data you enter is protected by SSL encryption during transmission. The bad guys would have to know the private key of the site in order to make the padlock appear. You can view the security information by double clicking the padlock icon on your browser. You can also use a tool like SpoofStick to confirm the URL of the web page you're viewing.

Two other exploits are worth a quick mention. The first is an instant messaging worm that changes the content of the hosts file on your PC. This is effectively the same as DNS cache poisoning. The other exploit is domain hijacking which is done by manipulating the domain name registrars. Domain hijacking is what happened to Panix, a New York ISP, in January.

Being aware of phishing and pharming along with a little care and caution will keep your web browsing safe from the bad guys.



Licking County Computer Society, Inc.
PO Box 612
Newark, OH 43058-0612

LICKING COUNTY COMPUTER SOCIETY

President:

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Information Director:

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LCCS/LCAP Seniors Classes:

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open

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Web SIG:

open

Windows SIG:

Phyllis Hartroft, 587-3444, hargrei@alink.com

& Jon Luzio, 587-4632, juzio@adelphia.net

Area code is 740 except where noted

LCCS APPLICATION FORM

Check one: New Membership Renewal

Please fill out all applicable sections and submit this

page to the address shown below.

DATE: _____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

E-MAIL: _____

CITY: _____

STATE & ZIP : _____

PHONE NO.: _____

- SINGLE\$24
- STUDENT (full-time)..... \$12
- FAMILY \$36
- SUSTAINING (life)\$250

Please send your check with this page to:

Licking County Computer Society
Jim Amore, Membership Chairman
647 Evans St, Newark, OH 43055

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

- Updated database
- Sent membership card and bylaws
- Sent new member name to RB

Please check your mailing label. Your membership expiration date appears above your name. If the expiration date is March 2005, or before, please submit a renewal application form.

If no date appears above your name, we invite and welcome you to join as a new member.