Random Bits

ECOTUC
East Central Ohio Technology Users Club

NOW SHOWING

Coming Attractions

This Month's Meeting

General Membership Meeting program on March 15, 2015, 2:30 PM, will be presented by our own President Jim Amore. The program topic is, "Windows 10, and why you will want it". President Amore will explain/demo Windows 10 and have Win 10 running on at least 3 computers for anyone that wants to test drive it. Come with questions and learn how you may get a FREE upgrade to Windows 10.

After XP (which was a very solid operating system) was wrenched away from us, we were offered Win 7 (which was a great improvement over Vista); then they offered Win 8 (which came with many changes, especially that change from the "Start Button" to the massive "Start Screen"), and then along came Windows 8.1 (which confused us with so many changes trying to make up for some bad design choices in Win 8), and then we heard rumors of Windows 9 coming (and then not coming). Suddenly, there is a new dawn breaking with the promise of Windows 10.

For Microsoft, the primary goal of Windows 10 is to create a more unified computing experience. To do that, it is making a common OS available for desktops, laptops, tablets, and phones as well. Windows 10 will also offer a common store for downloading applications on phones, PCs, and tablets. Come join us on the 15th to hear some very exciting news that ALL Windows 7, Windows 8, and Windows 8.1 users will want to hear.

Be there at 2 PM for Fellowship time and be prepared for our Meeting to start promptly at 2:30 PM.

Hopefully you will have read your Random Bits Newsletter for news and special announcements (such as maybe a free door prize ticket?). Also, did you go to our LCCS web board seeking our "Bonus Word for February, 2015".

Vice-President - Programs, Mary Frances Rauch

Member of

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An International Association of Technology & Computer User Groups
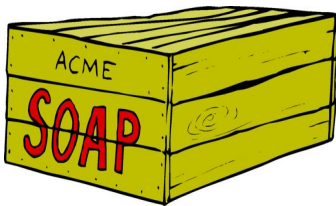
NOW SHOWING

Past Attractions

Previous Program Points

The February program was cancelled due to the weather.

* Click on the link to the right to see a video of Past Programs and Meetings   **LCCS Media**

The Soapbox

Recycle/Re-purpose Your Used Greeting Cards

Trustee, Wayne Snyder, will collect all your used greeting cards and get them into a special recycle program. He plans to have a bag, tote, sack or large envelope at our meeting room (123 South 3rd St., Newark) marked "Cards To Recycle" for drop-off convenience. Don't be concerned about messages or addresses that might be on the "throw-away" cards. Thank you Wayne Snyder for taking on this projcet, you are our *free tickket winner for March.*

MFRauch

News and Events

2015 March

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
01	02	03 Repair SIG/Help Desk 7:00- 9:00 p.m.	04	05	06	07 Repair SIG/Help Desk 1 - 4 p.m. Executive Mtg 3 - 4 p.m.
08	09	10 Digital Imaging SIG/Help Desk 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	11	12	13 Windows Help 9:00 - 11:30 a.m. Linux SIG 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.	14
15 General Meeting and Program 2:00 - 4:30 p.m.	16	17 iPad SIG/Help Desk 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	18	19	20	21 Repair SIG/Help Desk 1 - 4 p.m.
22	23	24 Facebook Help Desk 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	25	26	27 Linux SIG 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. Random Bits Deadline 6:00 p.m.	28
29	30	31	01	02	03	04 -
05	06	NOTES				

For the latest information on Events "Click" on the link below
LCCS Google Calendar

News and Events con't

Notice: For the month of March, 2015, all the money and food items LCCS donates to Food Pantry Network will also be credited to our account under the heading of "Operation Feed Participation". This is only a matter of paperwork, but I wanted you to know in case someone asked you if LCCS participated in Operation Feed.

per Mary Frances Rauch

APCUG offered a Free Virtual Technology Conference on February 21, 2015. LCCS members were given many notices ahead of time so we could sign up and view the conference in the comfort of our homes. Also, we were given the option of attending our LCCS (ECOTUC) meeting place at 123 South 3rd St., Newark, OH and watching the conference with others on the "big screen". I chose to view at home because of arctic temperatures. What a treasure it was! Of the seven (7) subjects offered, I viewed three (3) including "Windows 10 Demo" at 1:00 pm. It was as if the presenter was sitting by me talking me through the demo. Also, there was a column of Q & A on the right side of my computer screen. The questions were being answered in "real time". If I wanted to ask a question, there was an Icon to click representing "Holding Up My Hand", and the presenter could see it and answer (or refer it to after the presentation).

At 2:00 pm I viewed "Linux Software Superstore" by John Kennedy (yes, FreeJohn himself). This was extremely well presented. One of the APCUG officers, who has not yet explored Linux, commented it was so interesting they decided to consider Linux operating system for themselves.

At 3:00 pm, I viewed Mark Richards' presentation of "Google Glass". Until now I would have never considered this device and its place in personal technology. Now I'm interested!

You may want to put notes on your personal calendar for 3 more conferences in 2015. They will be scheduled for May 2, 2015; August 15, 2015 and November 7, 2015.

Summarized for you by Mary Frances Rauch, 2015 VP

February, 2015 Virtual Conference included:
 Title: Windows 10 Demo- Windows 10 Hands-on Demo
Title: How Secure is My Device?
Title: Linux Software Superstore
Title: Using VMware Player to Create a Virtual Machine
 Title: The Secrets of Making Chrome a Solid Computer
 Title: Google Glass
Title: Marketing Your User Group on Pinterest, Twitter and Facebook

So if you missed the virtual conference please check out the APCUG website for complete descriptions and the presentation handouts.

The Education Corner

Teaching Program
Still time to take advantage of the Classes being offered this spring.

This winter has been a productive one for the Teaching Program. A team of computer geeks have updated all the computers to make them ready for a new year of classes. We have revised a few of the courses to make them fit better to your needs. March classes will begin the week of the 9th, and April classes will begin the week of the 6th. For exact classes being offered and their day/time, either check with Janet at the reception's desk at Heritage Hall (after the middle of the month), or check either of the websites for LCAP (http://lcap.org/computer-classes/) or LCCS (http://www.lccsohio.org/class%20schedule.htm).

In March we will be offering our "Computers for the Total Beginner" class, for those new to computers (do you know someone that got their first ever computer?). This is a free class to get you started. All the rest of the classes have a very reasonable fee of only $20 for 12 hours of instruction. Registration and sign-up for seniors takes place with Janet and fees are due before the first class. If you have a friend that hasn't quite crossed over the "senior line", they can sign-up through the Licking County Computer Society by contacting: John Kennedy, lccs.freejohn@gmail.com .

We'll also be offering a class for new Windows 8 users that want to learn how to "Compute Using the Modern/Metro Screen". For those with more computer experience and wanting to know even more, there's the "Beyond the Basics: What's Next?" class. This is for both Windows 7 and Windows 8 users and is a more advanced class. For those interested in the free Linux operating system, there will be an "Everyday Computing with Linux" class where students will do all the normal computer work that can be done on a Microsoft Windows computer, but doing it on the Linux computer instead (and for free).

During the April session, we'll be offering a new intermediate level class for those that want to "Compute from the Microsoft Windows Desktop". This is a class that will go beyond the beginners class and help students get full use out of their computers from the traditional desktop. This will be for both Windows 7 and Windows 8 users. For the current Linux user we will have another class learning to use the command line for different tasks and other more advanced practices.

Additionally we hope to offer both an "Exploring the Internet" class and the "Communicating with E-mail" class during either March or April. Our final two classes to be offered (if there's enough interest) will be a "Word Processing" class and a "Spreadsheet" class. If anyone is interested in either the Word Processing or Spreadsheet class, you are asked to call Janet (740-345-0821) and get on the "interested list".

SIG Help Desk Reports

Repair SIG / Help Desk

February Repair SIG

Chuck Tyndal recovered documents and tutored a member.

Ron Simms and Al Barol worked on a Microsoft product to recover lost pictures.

Meeting Times
First Saturday 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.
First Tuesday 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.
Third Saturday 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Everett McKee backed up a laptop and downloaded apps for a member.

Ken Bixler worked on a hard drive failure on classroom machine #3.

Bill Toothman worked on refurbishing desktop computers.

Bob Vance worked on refurbishing a laptop.

## Linux SIG / Help Desk
Linux Help Desk/SIG

Although we meet twice a month for 2.5-3 hours at a time, I think we could go even more often with all the things we try to cover. Among the many topics that were covered in February, were the following:

Meeting Times
Second Friday 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Fourth Friday 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

* We took a deep look at two of the main desktop environments that can run on many of the Linux distributions: MATE and Xfce. We looked at the differences and similarities each had with itself and with the other one. We learned that it's an individual preference as to which desktop environment is the one for you.

* We looked at a few terminal commands that gave you information about your computer.

* We looked at a number of different photo editing programs available for the Linux operating system. All programs were free and just about all of them run on whatever distribution or desktop environment you wanted. We looked at some programs that were simple to use and did just some of the basic editing tools. Then we looked at programs that combined the features of photo editing and photo managing/organizing. Finally we looked at some complex editing programs that might equal the mainstay Adobe Photoshop program. What each person has to do is decide how much editing they plan on doing and find the one that works best for their needs.

SIG Help Desk Reports
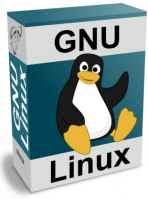
Meeting Times

Second Friday 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Fourth Friday 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

* We had a discussion about printer "spools" and what they do and how they can bottleneck printers. We were shown an couple of procedures as to how to resolve printing problems related to the spool.

* We looked at ways to see just what's filling up our hard drives, that is to say which programs are taking up the most space on the drive. We also checked out a program on our Linux computers that can be used to check the health of hard drives.

And in between all of this, there were lots of other questions and comments that led to a good time being had by all those in attendance. The Linux Help Desk/SIG meets the second and forth Friday afternoons of each month and anyone/everyone is invited to come and learn more about Linux. We are also having a computer class for those interested in seeing Linux in action called "Everyday Computing with Linux". This would be a great time to get hands-on experience in a relaxed atmosphere where you can do your everyday computing activities usually done on a Windows machine, on a Linux machine. The class will be meeting on Tuesday/Thursday afternoons from 3:00-5:00, starting on March 10th. Call Janet Hill at Heritage Hall (740-345-0821) to get signed up.

Digital Imaging SIG / Help Desk

Meeting Times

Second Tuesday 7:00 - 9:00 p.m

Rich started out the evening giving everyone a copy of the PDF file that showed how to use iTunes and other free software to rip a music CD and transfer it to an MP3 format. After that Dave Clement gave a presentation on how to put text to your presentation as well as animation of that text. He also demonstrated the audio functions, all show the difference between also show the difference between 7.5 and 8.0 software called PictureToexe.

Next month's meeting on March 10 from 7:30 PM to 9:30 PM we are asking for the members to bring in a couple of photographs that need repair work. Then we will scan it for the individual save it to a digital file put it on their thumb drives for them. Then the students can go back to their computers startup Corel paint shop Pro and let them repair their old or damaged photographs.

SIG Help Desk Reports

iPad / iDevice SIG / Help Desk
February 2015

With about a dozen attending, we had another good session this month. We help with a password issue for one of our group. We also helped solve an email folder problem with their Road Runner account. The folders were setup on their desktop computer but were not transferring over to the iPad. It turned out that the desktop email was setup in the IMAP format and the iPad was in the POP format. When we setup the iPad in the IMAP format, all the folders were available on the iPad also. refer to the following for more info on IMAP v. POP

http://forums.timewarnercable.com/t5/Email/E-Mail-POP3-Vs-IMAP-Servers/td-p/65441 .

Meeting Times

Third Tuesday 7:00 - 9:00 p.m

Facebook SIG / Help Desk

The new Facebook group met Tuesday, February 24 with three folks coming to learn more about Facebook. Tracey passed out a general guideline on things to say and do on Facebook. There were several questions about how to setup things within Facebook and how to keep things secure. The topic for the next Help Desk will be how to setup a new account and the security that is needed.

Jim H

Meeting Times

Fourth Tuesday 6:00 - 8:00 p.m

3 Better Ways to Store Your Files than On the Desktop

By Joel Lee, MakeUseOfCom.com,
May 5, 2014
http://www.makeuseof.com/tag/3-better-ways-store-files-desktop/
http://bit.ly/1iiLU2u

Did you know that storing files directly on your desktop can harm your productivity? I used to be one of "those" people who downloaded files straight to the desktop. If you can identify with that, then I have good news for you: you can do better. Desktop storage is simple, sure, but it comes with hidden drawbacks you may not know about.

Kick the bad habit with these alternative file storage methods. They may not be as convenient but I promise that you'll learn to love them in the long run.

The urge to save files to the desktop is understandable. It provides immediate access with a single click, which means that it's tempting to turn the desktop into a de facto headquarters for storage. But unless you are strict with maintenance, you'll eventually succumb to these issues:

• **No file protection**. As noted by PC World, certain directories are not affected by System Restore, the most recognizable location being My Documents. Files on the desktop are affected by System Restore, which can result in unexpected file disappearances.
• **No file backups**. Many file backup programs ignore desktop files by default. Most programs worth their salt will allow you to change the settings and include the desktop if necessary, but all it takes is one forgetful moment to accidentally lose an important desktop file.
• **Clutter, clutter, clutte**r. The story is always the same. You begin your desktop with a few documents. Over time, the collection grows to include images, music, programs, zip files, and more documents. Suddenly, finding the right document takes more time than actually opening it.

Separate Drive Partitions
One bit of computer wisdom that you should learn is this: "Never save data on the same partition as your operating system." In Windows, the location of the desktop on the file system does reside on the same partition as the operating system itself.
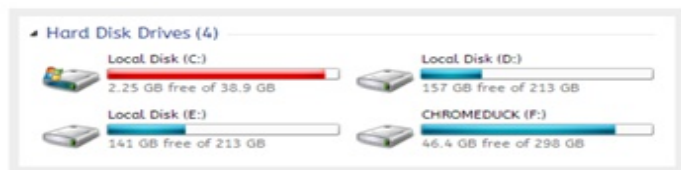
Why is this important advice? Because you want to avoid putting all of your eggs in the same basket.

Featured Articles

Let's say that you happen to contract a mild virus or malware that attacks your operating system. It might wipe all files related to the operating system itself OR it may affect the entire partition that holds the operating system. By losing the operating system, you lose all of your saved data as well.

But if you installed Windows to the C: partition and stored all of your files on the D: partition, your files on D: would be safe even if C: were wiped clean. The only way D: would be affected is if the physical hard drive itself was wiped or damaged.

One additional benefit of having separate partitions is that you can reinstall Windows without losing your saved data. Tina has written on the subject of resizing Windows partitions, so check it out if you want to take advantage of this feature. http://bit.ly/1lfBCDe
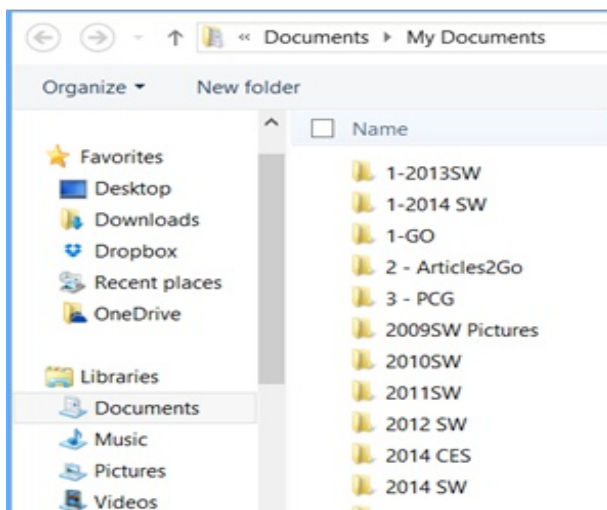
Use Windows Libraries

Every installation of Windows comes with a directory called My Documents. In Windows 7, it was renamed to Documents and came with a couple of buddies: Music, Pictures, and Videos. They're called libraries and you've probably seen them before, but never really used them, right? Well, you should reconsider.

In truth, these four libraries are special. They aren't just directories; they're collections of multiple directories. In each library, you can specify different directories to be included and that library will show the content from all included directories. It sounds more complicated than it is.

Think of it like this: You can save your videos to many different locations and link those directories to the Videos library. Then, whenever you access the Videos library, you'll see all of those files in one place.

It's just as convenient as storing everything on the desktop, yet infinitely more flexible and organized. For more details on how to take advantage of this feature, check out Chris's writeup on how to use Windows Libraries. http://bit.ly/1iMkORF

Store Files in the Cloud

Cloud storage has been a big buzz term over the past few years and for good reason. While cloud-related solutions like Dropbox, G+ Drive, or Microsoft OneDrive come with privacy concerns <http://bit.ly/1lzsQ4F>, they also offer many benefits and I think people are too quick to throw the baby out with the bathwater.

Here's how it works: You set aside one or more directories that automatically sync with whatever service you're using (comparison of cloud storage services). These files can be accessed from

anywhere and they can be set to private or public.

Why is this better than storing straight on the desktop?

• Immediate backups. Due to automatic synchronization, you rarely need to worry about lost files. If your computer gets wiped somehow, those files still reside on the cloud and you can always retrieve them again.

• Revision history. Not every cloud service offers a revision history, but most do and it's an important feature. Basically, the service will track every change that's made to the file (it may be limited to the last X changes) and allow you to instantly revert to a past version if necessary.

One Drive (aka SkyDrive) comes integrated with Windows 8 and can help you keep your files synced.

Need Quick Access to Files?
Sometimes convenience wins out over practicality and reason. The desktop is great because it allows for immediate access, right? With one small compromise, you can maintain that convenience. The answer is to use shortcuts.

Creating a shortcut is as simple as dragging a file using the right mouse button to where you want the shortcut to appear, then selecting Create shortcut here from the menu. Even if a shortcut gets wiped, the actual file will still be safe.

But instead of putting the shortcuts on the desktop, why not take it one step further?

Right click on any file shortcut and select either Pin to taskbar or Pin to start menu. It's a self-explanatory feature that works just as well as, if not better than, traditional desktop shortcuts. I use it day in and day out and I wouldn't have it any other way.

Conclusion
Ultimately, personal preference will always win. For those of you who have been "desktopping" for years, you'll probably find it near impossible to break the habit. I still do it from time to time, though I try my best to clean up after myself when I realize what I'm doing. It just doesn't make sense to store everything on the desktop anymore.

Do you clutter up your desktop with files and folders galore? If so, are you convinced enough to try a safer method of file storage? Share your thoughts with us in the comments!
http://www.makeuseof.com/tag/3-better-ways-store-files-desktop/

Article Source: http://www.apcug2.org/

Article Link : Click Here

Featured Articles

Learn How to Shoot Products on a Tabletop
VIT KOVALCIK
Zonerama Magazine 16 February, 2015 at 12:48

With the weather outside being so cold here is and article that will allow you to practice your photography skills indoors.

Article link: CLICK HERE

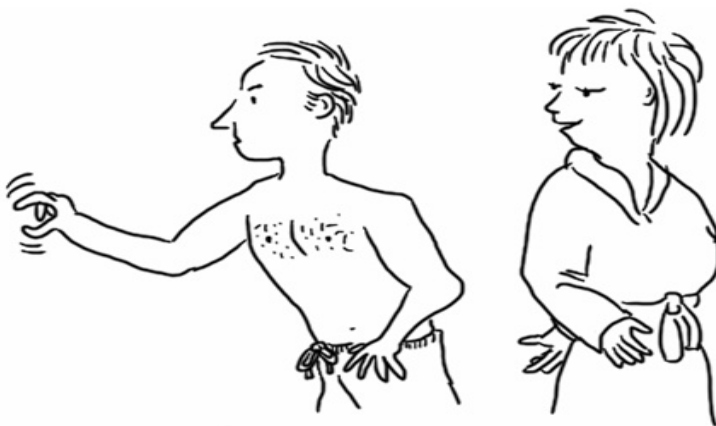## COLD WEATHER PHOTOGRAPHY TIPS | HOW TO DEFROST AND SAVE A FROZEN CAMERA
MATTHEW SAVILLE
Zonerama Magazine 16 February, 2015 at 12:48

Now for those brave of heart that are willing to brave the cold temperatures here is an article on tips for using you camera in cold weather enviorments.

Article link: CLICK HERE

NOISE TO SIGNAL
RobCottingham.ca/cartoon

Source Link: Noise To Signal

Direct Link: CLICK HERE

Pinch and zoom doesn't work on mirrors, honey.

Featured Articles
Music and Video Files: Modify them to your needs.

By Phil Sorrentino, Contributing Columnist, STUG, FL
June 2014 issue, PC Monitor
www.spcug.org
philsorr (at) yahoo.com

Music and Video files that you produce with your video camera, or voice recorder, are not always exactly what you want. Now, I'm not suggesting that you can change the artistic quality of the file, but that you can change the file length or size to accommodate your particular needs. With either an audio or a video file, the particular file may be too long, or it may contain sections that are not needed. So, it would be nice to be able to cut off the beginning, the end, or remove a slice somewhere in between. I'm sure there are many other ways to accomplish these tasks, but I have found that Windows Movie Maker (to modify video files) and Audacity (to modify audio or music files) are good choices, and both of these software applications are free. Windows Movie Maker is provided by Microsoft and can be downloaded at www.windows.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/get-movie-maker-download, and Audacity is provided by Sourceforge and can be downloaded at www.sourceforge.net/download.

A multi-media presentation, or "movie" as Movie Maker (and many other commercial packages) calls it, is a collection of pictures, videos, and music, organized as a movie, used to tell a story. It may be the story of your latest vacation, your last birthday, the last big holiday, your youngest grandchild, or a pictorial history of someone, something, or some organization. If you have appropriate pictures, videos, and music, Movie Maker can easily put them together to create a movie to express your particular point of view. So, obtaining the pictures, videos and music is usually the first step in producing your movie. Pictures are probably the easiest; you just review the pictures, improve their quality if needed, and then put them is an appropriate sequence. Videos are a little more difficult because they usually need to be shortened, and possibly have inappropriate sections removed. Music, or audio, is easy if you have good recordings, but sometimes you may want to remove certain portions, like bad scratches or pops, or a long lead-in or long lead-out. Or you might only want a few words out of a lengthy oration.

Movie Maker can be used as a tool for modifying video clips. (Once the video clips are the way you want, you can then add them to your movie.) After opening Movie Maker, click "add videos and photos", and navigate to the video clip that you want to modify. Select the video clip and it will be added as the only item in your movie. The video clip will be imported and shown as a series of Video blocks. Now you can play your video clip using the Play and Pause buttons, and identify the pieces to be removed. Select "Edit", under Video Tools, and you will see the "Split" tool. Move the Movie Cursor (the dark vertical bar) to the first point where you would like to split the video. If you are going to remove the beginning, move to the point where you would like the video to begin. Click the Split tool. This will create two videos, one before the split and one after the split. Right click the video piece to be removed and select "Remove". This will delete that piece of the video. Now you can move through the video and identify pieces to remove and pieces to keep. Just move the Cursor to the locations to split the video and use the Split tool. Then Remove the unwanted pieces and save the good piece as

Featured Articles

a new video with a new name. Usually you will find pieces to keep and pieces to remove interspersed. If you want to save many pieces, you will probably have to find a piece to save and delete everything else, and then start over with the original video and isolate the next piece and delete everything else. So it may be very tedious if you want to save a lot of small pieces from one larger video, but it will surely be worth the time and effort. Once you have video pieces, you can join them by starting with a "File-New" movie and adding the video pieces using "add videos and photos". Put them in the proper sequence and add a "transition" in between so they will flow smoothly, then save it as a new video.

Audacity is an Audio Editor and Recorder. Audacity is very comprehensive and can do many things. One of those things is that it can be used as a tool for modifying audio (sound or music) files. After opening Audacity, click File-Open and navigate to the audio clip that you want to modify. The audio clip will be imported and shown as a graph of the amplitude of the audio. (Both Left and Right channels will be displayed if the audio is in stereo). Now you can Play your clip using the Play and Pause buttons and identify the pieces to be removed. No, or very low, volume periods will be indicated by just a horizontal line with no amplitude. The Audio Cursor can be placed on the recording by Right-clicking on a point in the recording. A section of the recording can be selected by pressing the Right Mouse button while on the recording, and dragging the Mouse to the end of the area to be selected. Then using the File-Export Selection, the selected section can be saved as a new audio file with a new name. I found this tool very helpful in separating multiple cuts from an audio recording of a complete side of a vinyl recording (a record album for those of us over 40). I had converted my old vinyl recordings to .mp3 files, just before giving them away. To save time I converted the recordings a side at a time. So for each vinyl album I ended up with two .mp3 files, each about 20 to 25 minutes, and each having 12 to 16 cuts (songs) in each .mp3 file. So, the individual songs were separated by about 2 seconds of silence (no amplitude), making them easy to identify, once you have listened to the cut using Audacity.

As you can see from these basic directions for modifying a video file with Movie Maker and an audio file with Audacity, the process is very similar, even though the displays look very different and the displayed file representations look very different. The results are very similar too; it's a modified file that will be useful in your next Movie Making project.

N☐ISE TO SIGNAL
RobCottingham.ca/cartoon

Source Link: Noise To Signal

Direct Link: CLICK HERE

How the hell does Facebook know I'm a dog?

Club Officers

Below is a list of your Club officers and their information.

Officers

Office		Name	Contact Email	Phone
President		Jim Amore	President@lccsohio.org	740-404-3963
Vice-president		Mary Frances Rauch	Vice.President@lccsohio.org	
Secretary		Nancy Grower	Secretary@lccsohio.org	
Treasurer		Waneta Newland	Treasurer@lccsohio.org	
Agent		David Bibler	Agent@lccsohio.org	740-345-3492
Trustees			trustees@lccsohio.org	
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	2	Vicky Atkins	Vicky.Atkins@lccsohio.org	740-928-0119
	3	Wayne Snyder		
Newsletter Editor		Rich Allen	Newsletter@lccsohio.org	
Membership		Vicky Atkins	Vicky.Atkins@lccsohio.org	740-928-0119
Meeting Programs		Mary Frances Rauch	Vice.President@lccsohio.org	
Repair/Maintenance SIG		Jim Amore and/or Everett McKee	repair@lccsohio.org	
Digital Imaging SIG		David Clement	digitalimagesig@gmail.com	
Linux SIG		John Kennedy and/or Ken Bixler	Linux@lccsohio.org	
Computer Refurbishing Program		Position Open		
Teaching Program Chairman		John Kennedy	lccs.freejohn@gmail.com	740-348-5229
Webmaster		Jim Amore	President@lccsohio.org	740-404-3963
* Note: Phone mumbers listed are in area code 740, except where listed				

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