TC/PC Exists to Facilitate and Encourage the Cooperative Exchange of PC Knowledge and Information Across All Levels of Experience

November 2022

General Meeting
Tuesday, Nov. 8, 2022
7:00 PM

Adding a Network Attached Storage Unit to Router Webinar
Presenter: John Krout

Via Zoom Only

At this month's meeting, we will have a webinar in which John Krout, an APCUG member from the Virginia Area PC users group, will be presenting the second half of a webinar he gave at the APCUG May 2022 Wednesday Workshop. He will be teaching us all about adding a Network Attached Storage (NAS) unit to your router. John does a good job of clarifying information for even the beginner user, so be sure to be there.⌨

Note: All TC/PC Meetings and SIG Groups will be virtual until further notice. Visit tcpc.com for info.**.**

Tech Topics with Jack Ungerleider via Zoom at 6pm before the General Meeting.

The Digital Viking

Advertising

Full page (7½ x 9½)	**$100.00**
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Member Bus. Card (2 x 3½)	10.00

Multiple insertion discounts available.

Contact Sharon Walbran at:: SQWalbran@yahoo.com

Deadline for ad placement is the 1st of the month prior to publication. All rates are per issue and for digital or camera-ready ads. Typesetting and other services are extra and must be requested in advance of submission deadlines.

Payment must accompany order unless other arrangements are made in advance. Place make checks payable to: **Twin Cities PC User Group**

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Meets once or twice per year. All members welcome to attend.
Visit www.tcpc.com for meeting details.

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Newsletter Staff

Editor Sharon Walbran

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Upcoming Meeting Info

December Meeting-Using Data Analysis to Identify Cause of Aircraft Crash

At our December 13th meeting, Bill Kunik, Senior Technical Fellow at Collins Aerospace (formerly Rosemount Engineering) in Burnsville and lecturer at the University of Minnesota, will give a presentation on the data analysis techniques he and his team use in analyzing data and determining the contributing factors and causes of aircraft crashes like the one in Indonesia. ⌨

Two if by Land, one if by Air
By Phil Sorrentino, Newsletter Contributor, Sarasota Technology Users Group
www.thestug.org
philsorr (at) yahoo.com

Well, that may not quite be the famous quote "One if by land, two if by sea," that allowed Paul Revere to signal the patriots how the English army was coming. But the idea may be similar. Here it's a statement of choices, and in this case, the option is how the internet is connected to your home. Until recently, the only choice was "by land." (Yes, I know there is DishNet [communications-satellite provided internet], but that is a reasonably small percentage, and it doesn't fit in my metaphor-simile.) There are two land delivery methods in this general area of southwest Florida, cable, and fiber. In the Sun City Center area, Spectrum will provide internet to your home via a cable-TV type of cable brought right into your home. (Brighthouse was the provider until 2015 when Charter Communications acquired Brighthouse and folded it into Charter Spectrum.) The other land internet provider is Frontier Communications. Frontier provides the internet via fiber optic cable brought right to your home. (The actual cable brought into your house may be fiber, but more typically, the fiber signal is converted to a cable-TV signal at the entry point, and a cable-TV type of cable is brought into the house.) Verizon installed all the fiber in the Sun City Center area, and then in 2016 sold that part of their business to Frontier.

So that's the two land choices, now for the air choice. The air choice is 5G wireless to the Home. Until 5G, distribution of the internet via wireless may not have been considered practical by Internet Service Providers for various reasons. But 5G's frequency spectrum, modulation schemes, and bandwidth appear to make it a practical way to connect homes to the internet. Keep in mind that this is a way to connect the internet to the house. Once the home is connected, you don't need a 5G phone to use the internet; Wi-Fi connects all your devices in the home to the internet. (A 5G phone is still required if you want to access internet resources directly using the 5G network.)

Just a brief review:
1G - The first generation of wireless systems was voice-oriented, analog cellular,

2G – The second generation was voice-oriented digital cellular,

3G – The third generation changed the emphasis from voice to data,

4G – The fourth generation increased the available bandwidth,

5G – The fifth generation continued to improve the available bandwidth and speed.

Most of us use phones that can take advantage of the 3G and 4G networks, though some newer, more expensive phones can use the 5G network. Here are some of the major features of the five generations. For those with technical curiosity notice the bandwidth improvement; it went from Two Thousand bps to over One Thousand-Million bps.

| Features	1G	2G	3G	4G	5G
Start/Devlopment	1970/1984	1980/1999	1990/2002	2000/2010	2010/2015
Technology	AMPS, NMT, TACS	GSM	WCDMA	LTE, WiMax	MIMO, mm Waves
Frequency	30 KHz	1.8 Ghz	1.6 - 2 GHz	2 - 8 GHz	3 - 30 Ghz
Bandwidth	2 kbps	14.4 - 64 kbps	2 Mbps	2000 Mbps to 1 Gbps	1 Gbps and higher
AccessSystem	FDMA	TDMA/CDMA	CDMA	CDMA	OFDM/BDMA
Core Network	PSTN	PSTN	Packet Network	Internet	Internet

Advertising for 5G states that 5G Wireless Technology is intended to deliver higher multi-Gbps data speeds, ultra-low latency, more reliability, increased network capacity, and availability, and provide a more consistent user experience for more users.
5G Internet to the Home is currently only available in certain cities. A recent estimate for T-Mobile indicated about 30 million people in about 40 states. So more than likely, all three major internet companies, Verizon, AT&T, and T-Mobile, will eventually provide 5G Internet to the Home in many geographic areas, even if you are not seeing any advertising for it right now. (The only advertising I've seen so far was an article that indicated that T-Mobile and Verizon services would be $50/month with no contract, no equipment charges, no added fees, and no data caps. We'll see.)

If you Google "5G internet to the Home," you will find websites that may help you determine if 5G to the Home is available in your area. T-Mobile and Verizon seem to have the most presence if the number of hits on Google is any indication. Verizon currently offers 5G internet to the home, referred to as "Verizon 5G Home Internet", in selected geographic areas. I tried a Verizon site with my address and concluded it is not available in Sun City Center at this time. However, Verizon offered LTE Home Internet service for $60/month if I was interested. (LTE stands for Long Term Evolution. It is a term used for a particular type of 4G network that delivers fast mobile internet service.) I also learned that the T-Mobile offering is called "T-Mobile Home Internet" and that AT&T currently only offers a 4G Home Internet. After trying a few other websites, I concluded

that 5G Internet to the home is probably not available from any of the three providers at this time in most places.

"5G Internet to the Home" is also called "Fixed Wireless 5G"; to differentiate it from "5G Mobile," which is the standard wireless service that supports our smartphones. Fixed Wireless refers to the equipment used to convert the 5G signals into an internet service. Fixed Wireless Internet is created from a fixed antenna connected to a nearby (and in the line of sight) wireless tower. The fixed antenna receives signals from the wireless tower, which it then sends to a router in your home to provide your home with local Wi-Fi access.

5G Internet to the Home
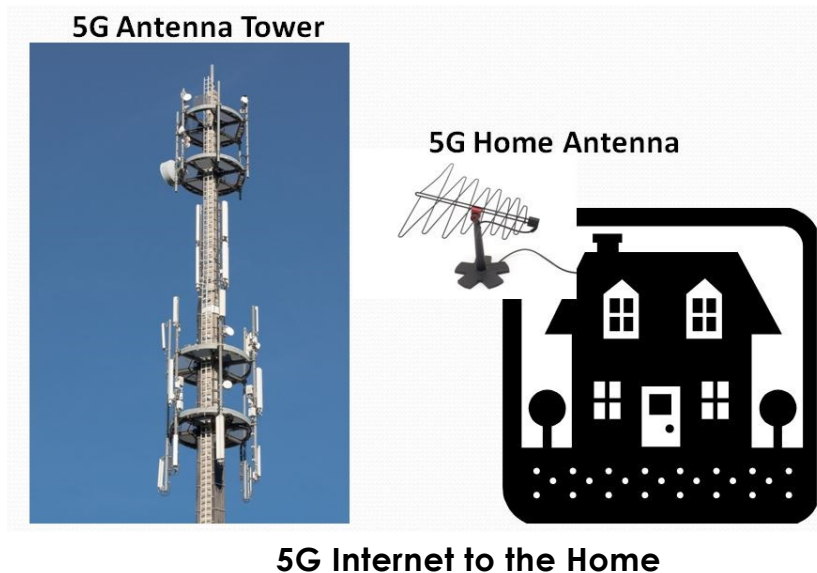
5G Internet to the Home providers advertise that this type of Internet distribution will come with benefits such as higher connection speeds, with a potential to reach 1,000 Mbps, and lower latency. This parameter affects buffering while streaming movies and video chatting. Another benefit cited is that the installation is pretty simple and that, in many cases, it can be installed by the end-user. Additionally, they are projecting higher reliability, lower prices, and no contract or hidden fees. We'll see how all this works out as 5G Internet to the Home becomes available in more and more locations.
💻

Who's Watching You?
By Kurt Jefferson, Editor, CKCS Newsletter
October 2022 Issue
https://ckcs.org/
lextown2 (at) gmail.com

More Internet users are relying on VPNs – apps called Virtual Private Networks – that keep your Internet activity from prying eyes – than ever before. As more of us pay our credit card bills online, buy tickets from online travel agencies, and read our email, it's clear online privacy is getting much more attention.

Most Americans are unaware that in 2017, Congress passed, and the president signed a bill trashing an F.C.C. rule.

That rule would have required Internet providers to get permission from customers before selling their web browsing history and other private information to advertisers, ad agencies and others.

Instead, Internet providers are free to sell your personal data, despite your objections. Isn't this backwards? Shouldn't you be able to decide who sees your browsing habits, your email, the banks with whom you do business, and your Social Security number?

Personal information such as which illnesses you've searched in a web browser, where you bank, where you shop, and potentially even where your child or grandchild goes to school can now be accessed by the company you pay for Internet service.

To prevent this, more and more of us are paying for VPNs to keep prying eyes away. The COVID–19 pandemic is having a major impact on VPN use.

"When the pandemic hit in 2020, VPN demand skyrocketed, driven by the increased use of internet-based services at home, and the evolution of remote work. During the first two weeks between March 8th and March 22nd alone, VPN usage in the USA increased a massive 124%," reports Findstack.

A blog called The Cornwall Seeker writes, "A decade ago, Only a third of Americans and 20% of the people in the U.K. knew what a VPN was. Now, 68% of all adults in the U.S. use a VPN according to security.org."

A just–released poll by Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research and Meritalk reveals that most Americans believe their personal online information is not at all secure.

Most polled believe social media activity such as Facebook, Twitter or Instagram is not very or not at all secure. 50% say private text conversations lack privacy.

In addition, many are not satisfied with the federal government's total lack of action. Nearly 75% of those polled support establishing national standards for how companies can collect, process and share personal data.

The Associated Press quotes Sarah Blick, a professor of medieval art history at Kenyon College in Gambier, Ohio, northeast of Columbus as saying, "I feel there is little to no security whatsoever."

Earlier this year, the college's human resources department told Blick that someone fraudulently applied for unemployment insurance benefits in her name. As we spoke about during the September Tech Night Zoom session, VPNs can keep your online activity secure – but only if you use them on all of your Internet devices.

If you missed Tech Night, check out A Beginner's Guide to Understanding VPNs.

If you're ready to choose a VPN, see what [Top10VPN](#) considers its best VPN services. Tom's Guide lists its top choices in the best VPNs.

Because so many Americans (and Internet users all over the world) are currently considering a VPN, it's a very competitive market.

As I mentioned during Tech Night if you can afford it, you can get better pricing if, rather than buying a VPN for six months or one year, you pay for a two- or three-year period.

What To Look For In a VPN

Security & Privacy: As one website says, "A VPN is only as good as its ability to keep you and your data safe."

Speed: Since a VPN is rerouting your Internet connection through its own private servers, if there aren't enough servers your speed can suffer. The best VPNs have vast networks all over the world. If you cannot connect to one server because too many people are connected at the same time, you simply choose another server.

Ease of Use & Customer Support: It should be as simple as moving a slider button on your phone or double clicking a tab on your Mac or PC to activate a VPN. If you have trouble with a VPN – or questions – the company needs to provide customer support. Period.

Performance & Server Locations: The more servers there are, the better chances you have to connect to your VPN if there's congestion. If you cannot connect to a server closest to you, then there should be one fairly close by. (Connecting to a VPN server in St. Louis or Virginia rather than St. Croix or Germany or Australia will typically give you faster Internet speed from your computer, phone, or iPad in Kentucky.)

Price: Find a VPN that you can afford. Avoid free VPNs. Many of them generate revenue by displaying plenty of ads. So, as you're trying to use the Internet, you're constantly

disrupted by ads. Free VPNs often have few servers, and it might be a challenge to find one located near you. What you might not know is that many free VPNs use your computer's processing power when it's not in use. In addition, your activity might be tracked, your browsing details may be sold, and your Internet connection is often slow. Also, it's been discovered that China owns a number of free VPNs. Do you really want your personal Internet data going to Chinese authorities?

No Logging: The best VPNs will not track your web browser visits, your email, your social media usage, or other Internet activity. VPNs that do track your activity usually have one goal in mind: Making money. They want to sell your personal data.

"One quarter of all Internet users have accessed a VPN in the last month," wrote Rob Mardisalu on the thebestvpn.com website in January 2020.

Here's a breakdown by device:
Desktop: 17% (had used a VPN in the last month as of Jan. 2020.) Mobile: 15%

Tablet: 7% For some, using a VPN was as common as washing their hands. bestvpn.com reports in early 2020, 35% of desktop computer users and 42% of mobile users (phones, laptops, iPads) had used a VPN every day.

VPN Users by Age (source: thebestvpn.com)
55-64 years old: 4%
45-54: 9%
35-44: 19%
25-34: 33%
16-24: 35%

The Asia–Pacific region has the highest number of VPN users (30%), while North America and Europe lag with far fewer VPN users (17%).

It turns out retaining anonymity (and keeping personal data private) is the strongest motivator to use a VPN in: the USA, Sweden, Canada, France, Japan, Germany, and South Africa. In other countries, folks use VPNs to stream TV shows and movies that have not yet been released or are off limits in those regions. In China and Russia, reporters use VPNs to get around repressive, dictatorial Internet restrictions.

Need more details? There are a number of websites that describe VPNs in simple English so that all of us can decide what's best for us individually.

 Here are some links providing details, descriptions, and information about VPNs that are easy to digest:

How–To–Geek   Tricky Enough   Forbes Advisor

🖥️

Transfer Photos from Your Android Device or iPhone to Your PC

By Sharon Walbran,
Editor TC/PC Digital Viking
**Swalbran (at) Hotmail.com**

If, like many of us, you find yourself with a boatload of photos on your smart phone that you would like to transfer to your computer to edit or create an album or just back up in case of loss or death of your phone, the Photos app in Windows 10 or Windows 11 is a good choice. You'll just need your USB cable to connect the two.

Here are the steps:
1. Unlock your phone. Turn it on and log in or swipe.
2. Connect the phone to your PC using a USB cable. If prompted to charge the phone, opt out of that and choose transfer files.
3. Start the Photos app on your PC.
   In Windows 10, click the Start button and click the Photos app from the start menu.
   In Windows 11, click the Start button and type Photos in the search box, then click on the Photos icon to start the app.

4. In the Photos app, click the Import icon on the toolbar, then select..From a Connected Device choice.
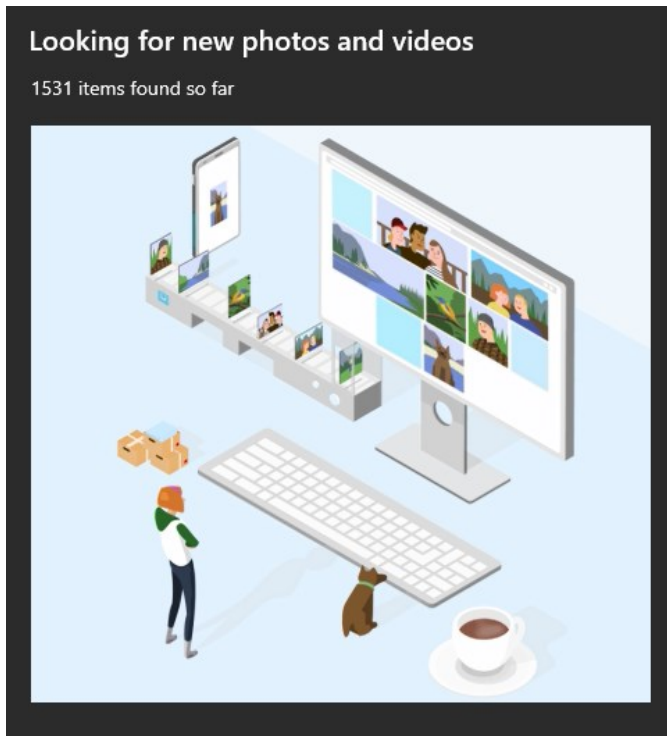
The app will set up a connection to your nearby devices.
If prompted on your phone, agree to unlock the phone to allow access.
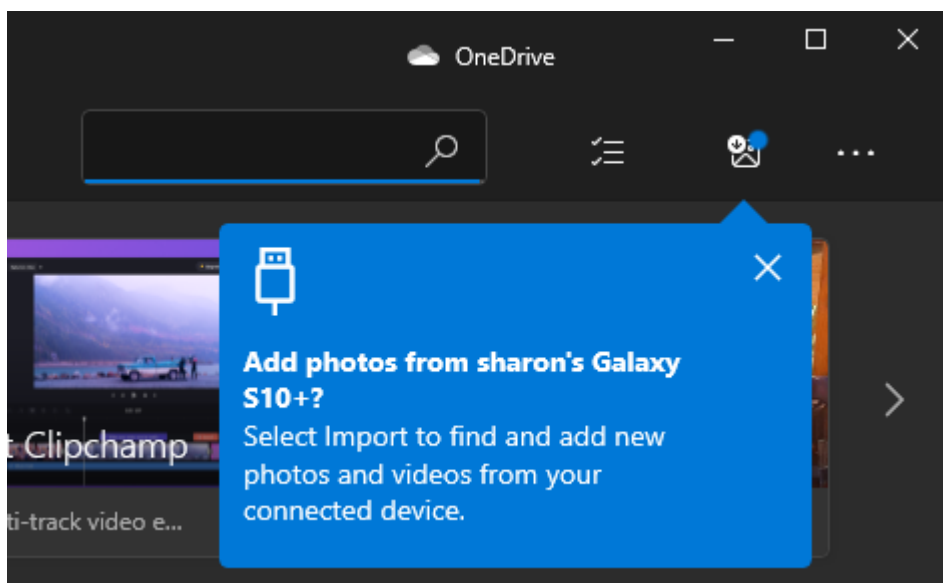
The Photos app scans your phone to find photos and videos. This process takes a few minutes.

Note: The photos must be stored on the phone and <u>not in the cloud</u>.

Looking for new photos and videos
1531 items found so far

5. When done scanning, the app displays a chosen destination on your PC but you can click the Change Destination link and make a different choice.

Import items

Import to: C:\Users\swalb\OneDrive\Pictures
Change destination

Select:

None

☐ November 2022

6.
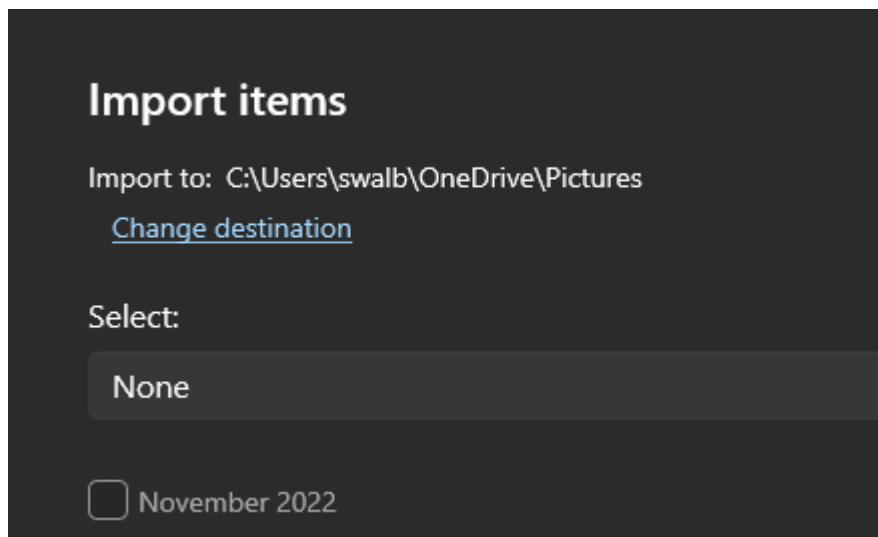
6. Click checkboxes to choose photo folders or individual photos to include in the transfer.
By default clicking to check an entire month's photos checks each one in that month but you can uncheck those you do not want to include in the import.

You can also choose to delete these photos from your phone after transfer to free up memory space on your phone. Select to check "Delete after Import" at the bottom if you want to move, not copy these photos.
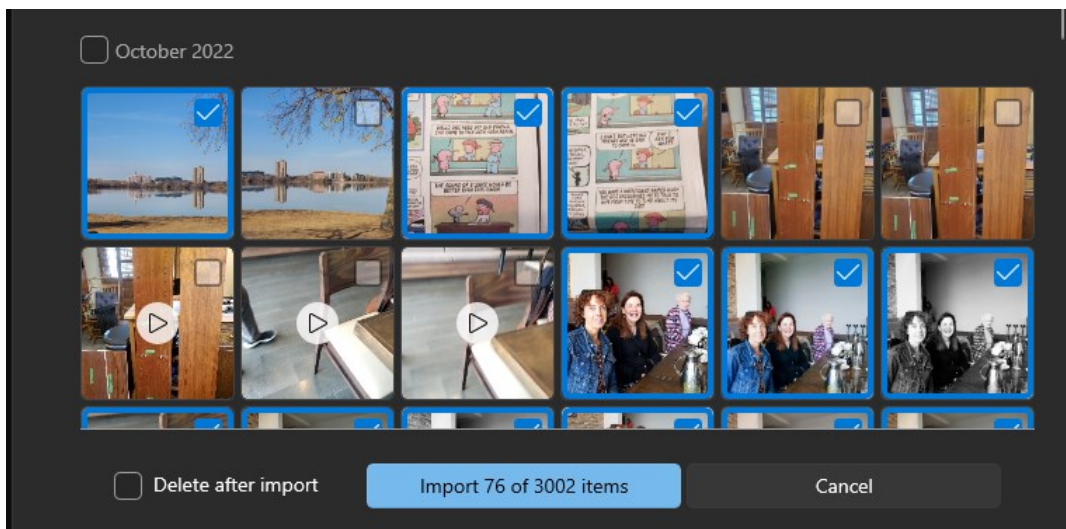
7. Finally, click the blue button at the bottom to start the import.
   If you are importing thousands of photos, it will take several minutes, so enjoy a cup of coffee while you wait.

The Photos app remembers the photos and videos it imported the last time and will prompt you to only import recently added photos and videos but you always have the option to import the same photos again.

So try it!! It's easy and fast. And a hat tip to Microsoft for making it available for both Android devices and iPhones.🖥

What Makes a Great Organization Great?
By Jim Cerny, Forums Coordinator, and Class Instructor
https://thestug.org/ jimcerny123 (at)gmail.com

Most "non-profit" organizations exist to help others. They help in the community and have a mission and goals. Although I am writing this article for the members of our organization, the Sarasota Technical Users Group, I am hoping that this article will benefit many members of other organizations and yours. It has to do with making things better – to help more people in more ways. And we are NOT talking about money here! What makes an organization work to do some good is its people. If other organizations are like ours, you will see that only a handful of people do almost all the work. They serve on boards, committees, make phone calls, send out communications, and more. Wouldn't it be a big help if someone volunteered to help, at only one or two hours a MONTH?!

Yes, it would! Let's take an example; we'll call him Joe. Joe likes to help others and enjoys it very much. He serves on the board, sends out communications, and answers emails about the organization. The big help for Joe would be if someone would volunteer to send out one or two emails a month. Or make a couple of phone calls to verify membership. Or send out

an email survey. This frees Joe up to do a better job in other ways, not to mention to give him a break.

Why do people not volunteer to help? I've heard many reasons over the years, and here are the main ones:

1. I don't have the time. Yes, you do. This is not a full-time job, and you will not be bothered by many phone calls or emails. There are plenty of needs for people like YOU, anyone, to give just an hour or two a month.
2. I don't have the skills or knowledge, and you don't need ANY skills or expertise to help. Of course, if you DO have some skills that could be useful, that's great. But we need people to help first; many areas need your help, and no skills are required! Besides, we offer free training too!
3. I'm taking care of a sick relative. Wow, that's important, and no one wants you to neglect your taking care of someone who needs you daily. But if you have the time to make phone calls to your friends, can you not make a few calls for your organization? Or send an email? A phone call to a member is a great personal touch that makes the organization more meaningful. Keeping in touch with members is a huge step to make a good organization a great organization.

Here are some things our organization would like to do to help our members, but we need volunteers to help:

A. Offer more classes – our instructors could use some help (no, you do not have to teach).

B. More contact with our members to understand how our organization helps them and what they would need or like in the future.

C. Conduct a survey to help us do more and better things.

D. Improve communications with our members – news articles, email, and phone calls.

E. More recognition of others, especially our volunteers, organizing a gift or luncheon.

F. Asking other members to help too!

There are many benefits to helping too – you will make new friends, learn something new, have more fun in your life, and have something to talk about (which makes you a more exciting person). What's NOT to like?

I also do volunteer work at a food pantry. I once asked another volunteer this question: "Wouldn't it be great if some of these people who come here to get food would volunteer just for an hour to help us distribute it? I know they have the time." The answer I got back was a bit shocking. The answer was, "These people do not think that way; it is not in their mindset." It was tough for me to understand that. I can't imagine people taking advantage of a not-for-profit organization over and over again and not thinking to "pay back" a little with an hour of their time. What do you think about that?

Organizations would always like to improve and do more for their members.

Every such organization needs everyone to contribute a little to provide more.

Will you donate an hour or two a month? Contact ANYONE in your organization to find out how. And I thank you for your kind help in advance.⌨

Special Interest Groups (SIGs)

Most SIGs will meet at Edina Executive Plaza, Conference Room #102, 5200 Willson Road, Edina, MN
 Confirm with a SIG group if they meet elsewhere.
For more info contact the SIG Leader(s) listed here.

Get SIG announcements!
Link from www.tcpc.com

Board of Directors*
All members are welcome! Check www.tcpc.com for location.
Selected Saturday mornings

Linux on Saturday
This is for the Linux newbie and those trying to come over from Microsoft to a different operating system.
Second Saturday @ 9 AM-Noon
Note: No Meetings June-August

Jack Ungerleider   612/418-3494 c
                jack@jacku.com

Tech Topics
Technical presentation/discussion on various technical topics from the following areas:
- **Web/Internet**
- **Mobile Devices and Apps**
- **Playing with Programming**
- **DIY (3D Printing, R-Pi, other hobby electronics, etc.)**

Second Tuesday @ 6:00-7:00 PM
Every month
Right before the general meeting.

Jack Ungerleider   612/418-3494 c
                jack@jacku.com

Microsoft Access
All levels. Presentations by expert developers within the group and by MS reps.
Third Saturday 9:00 AM—Noon
Note: No Meetings June-August

Steve Kuhlmey   952/934-8492
                skuhlmey@hotmail.com

Microsoft Office
Addresses the use, integration, and nuances of the Microsoft Office applications.
Combined with Systems on Saturday
Third Saturday of the Month
9:00 AM—Noon
Note: No Meetings June-August

Steve Kuhlmey   952/934-8492
                skuhlmey@hotmail.com

Directions to **Accord, 1515 Energy Park Drive** for **General Meetings**:
From I-94 in St. Paul, take the Snelling Avenue exit, then go north on Snelling Avenue about one mile to Energy Park Drive. Take Energy Park Drive and take the first left into the driveway to 1515 Energy Park Drive.
From I-694 or Hwy 36 in St. Paul, take the Snelling Avenue exit, then go south on Snelling Avenue past Como Avenue to Energy Park Drive. Take Energy Park Drive and take the first left into the driveway to 1515 Energy Park Drive.

Directions to **Edina Executive Plaza** for **Systems on Saturday, Access, Word and Picture Perfect SIGs**: Take Highway 100 to the 50th Street/Vernon exit. [If you have come from the north, cross back over Highway 100 to the east side.] Take the first right and go past Perkins [The golf course will be on your left.] and continue on the east frontage road (Willson Road) to the next building—5200 . There is ample parking in the building's lot. Conference Room #102 is on 1st floor.

Help yourself by helping others!
Join the team & share your knowledge with others.

Contact TC/PC at www.tcpc.com

Meetings start at 7:00 PM (9:00 AM on Saturday) unless otherwise noted. *Virtual Meetings during Covid pandemic.*

November

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8 7pm General Mtg Attach NAS to Router Webinar part 2 of 2 6pm Tech Topics	9	10	11	12 Linux on Saturday SIG 9am—Noon
13	14	15	16	17	18	19 MS Office SIG (includes Access) 9am—Noon
20	21	22	23	24	25	26

December

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10 Linux on Saturday SIG 9am—Noon
11	12	13 7pm General Mtg Data Analysis of Aircraft Crash-Bill Kunik live via Zoom 6pm Tech Topics	14	15	16	17 MS Office SIG (includes Access) 9am—Noon
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Twin Cities PC USER GROUP

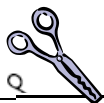## You have just read an issue of The Digital Viking.

Would you like to receive this delivered directly to your email or business each month?

As a member of TC/PC, the Twin Cities Personal Computer Group, one of the benefits
is reading this monthly publication at www.tcpc.com..

As a member of TC/PC, you may attend any or all of the monthly Special Interest Group (SIG) meetings and be eligible for
software drawings. The small membership fee also includes
access to real-live people with answers via our helplines, discounts, and various other perks.

Does membership in this group sound like a good way to increase your computer knowledge?

It's easy to do! Simply fill in the form below and mail it to the address shown.
(If you use the form in this issue, you will receive an extra month for joining now.)

11/22

Here's the info for my TC/PC Membership:

Full name_____

Company name_____

Address_____

City_____ State_____ Zip_____

❍Home ❍Business ❍Change address: ❍Perm. ❍Temp. 'til _____

Home phone_____ Work phone_____

Online address(es) _____

Where did you hear about TC/PC? _____

❍ I DO NOT want any of my information disclosed.
❍ I DO NOT want to receive any mailings

I'm signing up for:

❍ Individual/Family Membership ($18)
❍ Business Membership ($100)
If an existing member your # _____
Make checks payable to:
Twin Cities PC User Group
341 County Rd C2 W
Roseville, MN 55113

http://www.tcpc.com

❍ Check #_____ ❍ Bill me
❍ New member ❍ Renewal ❍ Prior member
I'm interested in:
❍ Training classes ❍ Volunteering
❍ Special Interest Groups: New User, Access, etc.
List here:

Administrative Use Only Rec'd_____ Chk#_____

November 8, 2022
7:00 pm
General Meeting

Attaching a NAS to Your Router Webinar

Presenter: John Krout

Via Zoom Only

341 County Rd C2 W
Roseville, MN 55113

FIRST CLASS MAIL