Welcome New Members

PATACS welcomes the following new members who joined in 2017.

Micheal R Emery
William Gurley
Martin Menez
Cornelia Newbold
Kosmo Tatalias
Bryan Troutman

Acknowledgement

The PATACS Board of Directors expresses its condolences to the friends and family of Margaret Gurley, a member of PATACS who passed on 25 November 2016. The obituary is posted at http://www.timesfreepress.com/obits/2017/jan/01/margaret-gurley/84392/.

The Board also thanks Margaret's son, William Gurley, for his letter, in which he assumed her PATACS membership and provided a donation to the group as Margaret "very much appreciated all the help she received from your organization."

Help Wanted: Treasurer

Our Treasurer's position is vacant and we need a member to volunteer for this vital position on the PATACS Board of Directors.

This job entails writing about twenty-five checks and making a dozen deposits per year, and preparing the monthly financial report and annual report for the Board of Directors and membership.

Please email your expression of interest to: president (at) patacs.org

Musings of an Apple Tyro

by Lorrin R. Garson
Potomac Area Technology and
Computer Society
newslettercolumnist (at) patacs.org
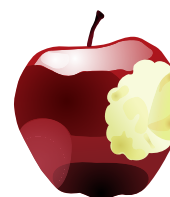
Creating and Using Encrypted Storage on Macs

Financial, medical and other private information should not be stored unencrypted on your computer. On Apple computers, it is easy to create a secure "virtual disk drive", using Disk Utility, in which sensitive information can be stored and easily accessed. Here are detailed instructions on creating and using such a "virtual disk drive"—it isn't as complicated as it initially seems and only takes 5-10 minutes to set up.

Definitions

Two terms are defined to make the instructions easier to understand. (a) the "Vault" and (b) "Unencrypted Stuff".

Vault is the object (file) that contains encrypted content and is only accessible via a password. "Vault" has the extension of .dmg, i.e., "Vault.dmg". The name "Vault" is used here as an example. It can be named anything. It is suggested that something innocuous like "Fairfax", "Party" or "School" be picked and not names like "Passwords", "Secrets", "Private" or "Vault" itself. "Vault" is referred to as a "virtual disk drive" because it acts like a separate storage device.

Unencrypted Stuff is the object (file) which contains decrypted content derived from "Vault.dmg". It too can be named anything. "Unencrypted Stuff" was chosen to convey in these instructions what that object contains. Something like "Unencrypted Stuff" may be an appropriate choice as it will remind the user that files in that location are unencrypted and insecure.

Creating Vault.dmg

1. Open "Disk Utility" in the Utilities folder.
2. From the "Disk Utility" Menu Bar on the top of the screen, select "File" then "New Image" then "Blank Image". A menu will pop up.
3. For "Save As" type in "Vault" (or a better, less obvious choice of name).
4. Select a destination for the to-be-created "Vault.dmg". The Desktop is a good location. "Vault.dmg" can later be moved to any appropriate location such as the Documents folder.
5. In the table displayed:
   a. Enter the name of the decrypted folder to be created, i.e., "Unencrypted Stuff" (or your name choice).
   b. Enter the size for "Vault.dmg" desired. Pick something somewhat larger than the size of the total number of files you wish to be encrypted. This is usually just an educated

guess. Most people can spare 1-2 GB and that will hold a lot of sensitive information.

   c. For Format, select "OS X Extended (Journaled)".[1]
   d. For Encryption, select "256-bit AES encryption".
   e. In the pop-up menu, enter a password and verify. It is critically important to pick a strong password. It is suggested to use a pass-phrase of at least 12-15 characters including numbers and special characters (e.g., $, %, @, etc.). The security of everything stored in "Vault.dmg" is dependent on this single password.
   f. Left-click on "Choose".
   g. For Partitions, select "Single partition - GUID Partition Map".
   h. For Image Format, select "read/write disk image".
   i. Left-click on "Save".
   j. At this point, two new files will appear in the destination selected in #4 above, "Vault.dmg" and "Unencrypted Stuff"—or whatever names were picked.
   k. After "Vault.dmg" has been created, left-click on "Done".
   l. At this point, sensitive files can be copied into "Unencrypted Stuff". You will need to erase them from the original location. "Dragging and dropping" files into "Unencrypted Stuff" copies the original file, it does not move it. "Unencrypted Stuff" acts like a separate disk drive.

Recommendation: Uncheck "Remember password in my keychain" if so prompted. If the password is in Keychain, when logging-on, presumably the file "Unencrypted Stuff" is generated and becomes accessible without entering a password and is open all the time you are logged-on. This may be convenient, but provides considerably less security.

[1]The format "OS X Extended (Journaled)" is a proprietary Apple file format introduced in November 2002 for OS X 10.2.2. It cannot be read by Microsoft Windows computers. Presumably selecting the format "MS-DOS (FAT)" would be accessible to both Apple and Windows machines, although I haven't tested this with a Windows computer.

Using (decrypting) the Vault

1. Double left-click on "Vault.dmg" and enter the chosen password.

2. The derived, unencrypted object will then appear ("Unencrypted Stuff", for example). Files in this object can be copied to and from "Unencrypted Stuff" and handled just like any other file on a disk drive.

Closing and Re-encrypting Material

Drag and drop "Unencrypted Stuff" (or the name chose) into the Trash can. This action dismounts "Unencrypted Stuff" like any disk drive and in effect re-encrypts the contents of Vault.dmg file. Remember, "Unencrypted Stuff" is just as insecure as a normal disk drive or folder. It should be closed ("trashed") when not in use.

Caution: Do not delete ("trash") "Vault.dmg" (or the name picked). Doing so also erases all the encrypted material stored in that object. "Vault.dmg" can be retrieved from backup, of course. It is the decrypted object ("Unencrypted Stuff") derived from "Vault.dmg" that is routinely deleted to reintroduce security. It is suggested you make and use an alias of "Vault.dmg" and store the alias on the Desktop for ready access. If you delete the alias by mistake, it is easy to regenerate another.

Reference: For more information see http://apple.co/295jgdq for "Disk Utility for Mac: Create a disk image using Disk Utility".

HomeKit Compatible Sensors

Since Apple released HomeKit on September 17, 2016, manufacturers have been slow to develop compatible devices. However, Fibaro (http://www.fibaro.com/us) has released two such devices. The Fibaro Motion Sensor ($70) detects movement, ambient temperature, light intensity, and tampering with the device, which then spawns alerts to various Apple devices. Likewise, Fibaro has made available the Fibaro Flood Sensor that detects water and ambient temperature. See http://bit.ly/2gJ8oR1. It will be interesting to see if such devices compete with today's home security systems like ATD, Xfinity and Vivint.

Upcoming Meetings

Refer to the PATACS Event Calendar on the back cover or http://patacs.org/mtgdetpat.html for meeting time and location.

March 18, 2017 (Fairfax)

Learn in 30: Computing on the Couch with Your TV and Intel® Compute Stick
Presented by Mike Pafford

Ever wish you could use the TV and sound system in your living room as a big computer screen and speakers, while you sat on the couch and surfed the Internet for neat Aircraft Carrier Landing videos to watch (okay, maybe not Carrier Landings, but other favorite videos, right)? Or, how about answering IMAX-sized emails, while Pandora or Spotify waft in the background?

Well, if you're into exercising Windows 10 while rendering the remote useless for anyone else, then here's the set-up for you. A dongle-sized computer that plugs into your TV's HDMI port. Mike Pafford will run through the set-up he uses to do all those things and more utilizing his HDMI-capable TV and sound system, USB Hub, wireless keyboard and mouse, lap table, and the Intel® Compute Stick.

Mike Pafford is a long-time PATACS member who can't resist new toys. He has a BS in Business and Management he completed while stationed around the world in the U.S. Air Force, and an MS in Information Systems he got as a Navy Officer from the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California. He retired from the Navy in 1993, then retired again in June 2016 from the Engineering staff at the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory. He continues to teach Software Systems Engineering in the JHU MS in Systems Engineering curriculum.

Presentation: Geophysics and Geohazards—Examples of Cutting-Edge Science Providing Insight Into Societally Relevant Earth Systems
Presented by Andy Frassetto, Ph.D
Senior Project Associate, Incorporated Research Institutes for Seismology

Great earthquakes around the "Ring of Fire", a looming threat from the Yellowstone supervolcano, effects of climate change ranging from extreme droughts and floods to ice sheets disintegrating in real-time, and earthquakes where there were none before caused by oil and gas production...these are Earth science stories that regularly churn through our mass media and color public perception and understanding. This talk will highlight recent advancements in geophysics that have been aided by revolutionary new datasets, help to separate scientific fact from sensationalist speculation when it comes to geoscience in the news, and provide background and context for modern observations with their associated societal risks. This talk will also highlight the role of the Federal government in driving fundamental research into the Earth system, and how better understand these systems helps protect against associated hazards, reminding us of the value of science in an increasingly politicized and uncertain funding environment.

I grew up on a barrier island in west-central Florida but even as a kid found myself drawn to volcanoes and glaciers, graduating high school already planning to major in geophysics. I spent the next 11 years passing through the Universities of South Carolina, Arizona, and Copenhagen, focused on using distant earthquakes to characterize the structure and tectonic evolution of mountain systems in Arizona, British Columbia, California, and Norway. In 2011 I left the academic research community to become a utility player (middle management on a wide variety of projects) at the Incorporated Research Institutions for Seismology, an NGO that is funded by the National Science Foundation to operate and distribute geophysical instruments, curate datasets, and create educational and public outreach products for academic researchers and the general public. In my spare time I moonlight as a softball outfielder, brewer (ales and mead), and gardener.

March 22, 2017 (Arlington)
Technology & PC Help Desk

Extended Question and Answer session; discuss topics of interest, share knowledge and get help with technology issues.

If You Missed It
by Geof Goodrum
Director, Potomac Area Technology and Computer Society
Director1(at)patacs.org

If you can't make a meeting in person, remember that members can participate in meetings remotely (and at no additional charge beyond Internet connection service) via Zoom teleconferencing. See http://zoom.us/ for Apple® macOS™ and iOS, GNU/Linux®, Google Android™ and Microsoft® Windows® clients. The Zoom meeting link is provided in emailed meeting announcements.

Remember: you must be physically present at the end of the meeting to be eligible for door prizes.

December 10, 2016 (Fairfax)

PATACS President Paul Howard opened the meeting, noting his T-shirt "Warning: Insufficient Memory" that he bought from Micro Center. We greeted one guest from the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI, http://olli.gmu.edu/) who attended our meeting for the first time.

Paul noted that the PC Clinic was in the OLLI Tallwood Annex for those needing hands-on assistance with technology issues. PATACS hosts the PC Clinic during the June and December meetings in Fairfax, but assistance is also available at the monthly Technology & PC Help Desk meetings in Arlington. Thanks to the PATACS tech crew for helping our members!

Remember that you can earn a six month extension to your PATACS membership by recruiting a new member (that includes gifting a membership). See "Special Membership Promotion" in this issue or

http://www.patacs.org/membershippat.html. So far, only four members have taken advantage of this offer.

Q&A Session

Q: Has anyone heard that the price for Amazon's Prime service (https://prime.amazon.com/) will be increasing and streaming movies will be dropped?
A: No one had any information [but there is no change in the service as of mid February].

Q: Are there any newsletters that advise user groups about the latest discounts or an alert system about the latest scams?
A: [As a member of APCUG, PATACS can access discounts listed at https://apcug2.org/discounts-special-offers-for-user-groups/, but individual members must make the request through the PATACS Board of Directors; individual members are not authorized to register the group for these discounts. Members of OLLI also have access to GMU student licenses and discounts, see https://itservices.gmu.edu/services/computers-software.cfm. If you see a technology discount that other members should be aware of, please post it to the PATACS-B email discussion list.] Gabe Goldberg recommended some websites for security and scam information, including http://www.krebsonsecurity.com/ (which Gabe noted was somewhat technical) and https://consumerist.com/. [Also see https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/scam-alerts, which offers an email scam alert, and fact checker/myth buster http://www.snopes.com/, which offers an email newsletter.] Gabe's advice is to practice safe computing; pay attention to what you are doing. Paul Howard added that UPS and FedEx delivery services also post info about scams (https://www.ups.com/content/us/en/about/news/service_updates/fraud_alert.html, http://www.fedex.com/us/security/). Others commented on receiving fraudulent emails that claimed to be from PayPal and US Automobile Association, and being suspicious of emails that claim to be from someone you have not heard from for a long time. Don't trust web links in email.

Q: Has anyone had problems working with Dell Technical Services? Dell rescheduled a support call several times regarding an issue with Bluetooth on a computer.
A: Gabe Goldberg reported that his experience with Dell Technical Services was a quick and effective response, but he suggested http://elliott.org/, a consumer advocate web site that follows up on consumer issues.

Q: How do I fix a problem using an old version of Microsoft Internet Explorer web browser on Windows 7? It prompts that Silverlight (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Microsoft_Silverlight) needs an update.
A: Gabe Goldberg said this is a legitimate update, but suggested using the Mozilla Firefox browser (https://www.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/new/) instead. Install Secunia to look at all software on a Windows system for updates. [Flexera Software distributes what was Secunia Personal Software Inspector (PSI), https://www.flexerasoftware.com/enterprise/products/software-vulnerability-management/personal-software-inspector/. The FAQ states that PSI only lists software updates that include security fixes.]

Learn in 30: Low Vision Technology Solutions

Presented by Phillip Linz

Our guest speaker, Mr. Phillip Linz, talked about technologies to assist people with low vision, which is defined as visual acuity worse than 20/60 in the better eye (legal blindness is defined as 20/200 or worse in the better eye; see https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Visual_acuity). Mr Linz is the owner of Atlantic Low Vision (http://atlanticlowvision.com/), a family-owned business that represents Enhanced Vision and NuEyes commercial products and works with doctors and organizations in the

Washington, Maryland, Virginia and West Virginia area.

Mr. Linz started the business because his father has macular degeneration (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Macular_degeneration), but he could not find a local representative to demonstrate available vision products. He noted that it is important to visit on-site to determine the right product for the environment and adjust lighting.

Common conditions leading to low vision include macular degeneration, glaucoma, stroke/brain injury (Mr. Linz noted more of these cases recently), retinitis pigmentosa, albinism, nystagmus and others. Mr. Linz had several recommendations for better vision: visit your doctor regularly, get exercise, reduce glare, use moisturizing eye drops regularly (but not redness reliever drops that affect the cardiovascular system), eat a healthy diet with vitamins, and use low vision aids as needed. Vitamin sources include Omega-3, lean meats, nuts/walnuts, fish, legumes, vegetables, eggs, beta-carotene, and vitamin E and C supplements.

Low vision devices can assist with distant and near vision, and field enhancement, and may be non-optical, hand held telescopes, mounted telescopes, and electronic systems. The field is seeing technology advancements, with five new devices released in Fall 2016. An example is the Pebble, which is a handheld electronic magnification device

(https://www.enhancedvision.com/low-vision-product-line/pebble-hd-hand-held-portable-electronic-magnifier.html). Another is Transformer, which will magnify anything external onto a computer, and uses Optical Character Recognition (OCR) to read text. When asked about assistance for night driving, Mr. Linz said that a company called NuEyes (https://nueyes.com/) has a military-design glass magnifier, but it will probably be another year or two to add night vision.

It is important to know and ask about equipment and devices. The first step is to identify goals, such as reading and writing, grooming, playing music (e.g., piano), arts & crafts, nature watching, and electronic communication (e.g., using email). Mr. Linz noted that one customer uses a video magnification device for woodworking, despite being advised against it.

Another aspect of using low vision technology is adjusting to changes in illumination, avoiding visual discomfort and fatigue, a need for additional lighting, and reducing glare. When asked about his recommendations on lighting, fonts, and background for computer use, Mr. Linz said that most new programs have accessibility features. Using a black background with white lettering is popular to reduce glare, and font size is usually 16 points or larger. There are also apps to provide a magnified view of portions of the screen. Gabe Goldberg offered that Windows can maximize a display across two monitors [true for macOS and GNU/Linux, as well]. Unfortunately, many web sites are not designed for low vision users. [There are online tools to assess web site compliance with accessibility standards, such as https://validator.w3.org/ and http://wave.webaim.org/.]

There are community resources for those with low vision, including support groups and paratransit services. Libraries provide talking books, live performances have audio descriptions, there are "tactile" tours, and large print publications are available.

Educational services are available, including from the Perkins School for the Blind (http://www.perkins.org/) and the Virginia Department for the Blind and Vision Impaired (https://www.vdbvi.org/). iCanConnect (http://www.icanconnect.org/) is a national program that provides communication equipment and software with training for those with hearing or vision loss to help them make phone calls and use email. Other services that may be available in the community or schools include orientation and mobility training, independent living skills training, braille instruction, computer training and counseling.

Insurance coverage is dicey, however, and sometimes only 10% of costs are covered. Medicare coverage is very slim, but state agencies, the Veteran's Administration, and organizations such as Lions Club International (http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/how-we-serve/health/sight/index.php) may provide assistance. AtlanticLowVision helps its customers obtain coverage and financial assistance.

Mr. Linz's presentation is available for download in Portable Document Format (PDF) on the PATACS Recent Meetings web page, http://patacs.org/recmtgspat.html.

Presentation: Demonstration of Amazon Echo and Some Apple Stuff

Presented by Lorrin Garson

Member Lorrin Garson demonstrated the Amazon Echo voice recognition appliance. His presentation is available for download in Portable Document Format (PDF) on our Recent Meetings web page (http://patacs.org/recmtgspat.html). [No meeting write-up, as I was assisting the PC Clinic.]

Open Source Software of the Month

by Geof Goodrum
Potomac Area Technology and Computer Society
linux(at)patacs.org

Brave – v0.13. https://www.brave.com/. Free Mozilla Public License source code and executables for Microsoft® Windows®, Apple® macOS™ and iOS, Google Android™ and GNU/Linux® by Team Brave. Brave is a free and open source web browser that lets you browse safer and faster by blocking ads and trackers. Brave blocks harmful advertising, tracking pixels and cookies, and integrates the Electronic Frontier Foundation HTTPS Everywhere plug-in to improve security and privacy.
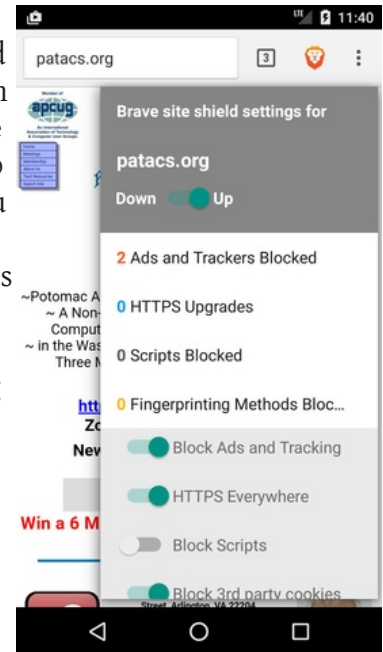
Doomsday Engine – v1.15.8. http://dengine.net/. Free GNU General Public License source code and executables for Microsoft® Windows®, Apple® macOS™, FreeBSD and GNU/Linux® by The Deng Team. Doomsday Engine is a portable game engine for classic first person shooters such as DOOM, Heretic and Hexen that lets you enjoy the original games using modern technology, including high-resolution OpenGL graphics, 3D models, and dynamic lighting effects. Besides supporting fan mods, there are also Add-Ons for the Doomsday Engine for high-quality sound, music and improved graphics. Note that the game files are available separately, either from the original game media, as downloads or online purchase.

Hydrogen – v0.9.7. http://www.hydrogen-music.org/hcms/. Free GNU General Public License source code and executables for Microsoft® Windows®, Apple® macOS™, FreeBSD
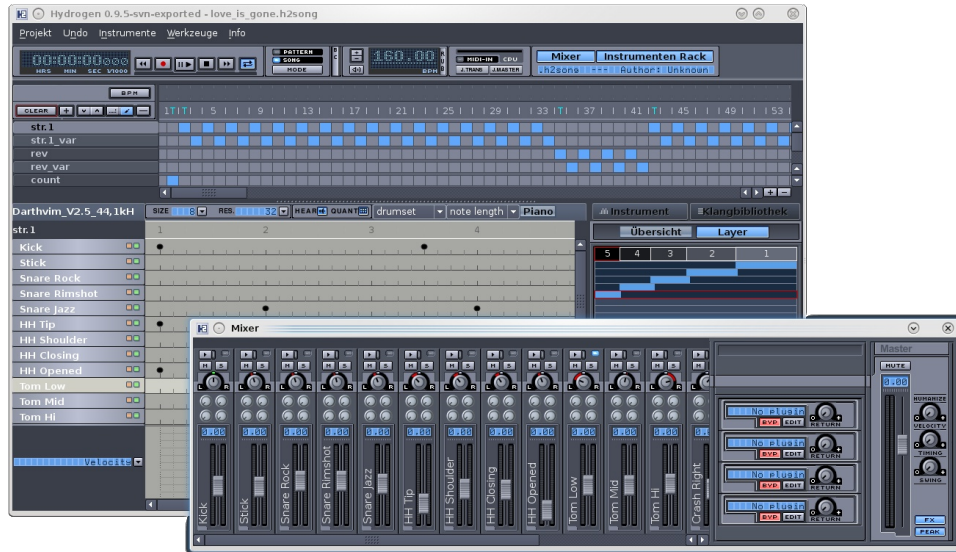
and GNU/Linux® by Alessandro Cominu, Sebastian Moors, et al. Hydrogen is an advanced drum machine. It's main goal is to provide professional yet simple and intuitive pattern-based drum programming. Features include:

- Very user-friendly, modular, fast and intuitive graphical interface based on QT 4.
- Sample-based stereo audio engine, with import of sound samples in .wav, .au and .aiff formats.
- Support of samples in compressed FLAC file.
- Pattern-based sequencer, with unlimited number of patterns and ability to chain patterns into a song.
- Up to 192 ticks per pattern with individual level per event and variable pattern length.
- Unlimited instrument tracks with volume, mute, solo, pan capabilities.
- Multi layer support for instruments (up to 16 samples for each instrument).
- Sample Editor, with basic cut and loop functions.
- Time-stretch and pitch functions via rubberband cli. Require the rubberband-cli package.
- Play-lists with scripting function.
- Advanced tab-tempo.
- Director Window with a visual metronome and song position tags.

- Time-line with variable tempo.
- Single and stacked pattern mode.
- Export/Import single patterns into song projects.
- MIDI learning via Shift+MouseClick on many gui-cotrollers combined with a MIDI settings editor.
- Ability to import/export song files.
- Unique human velocity, human time, pitch and swing functions.
- Multiple patterns playing at once.
- JACK, ALSA, PortAudio and OSS audio drivers.
- ALSA MIDI and PortMidi input with assignable MIDI-in channel (1..16, ALL).
- Import/export of drumkits.
- Export song to wav, AIFF, FLAC or Ogg file.
- Export song to MIDI file.

youtube-dl – v2017.2.11. https://rg3.github.io/youtube-dl/. Free Public Domain Python code executable for Microsoft® Windows®, Apple® macOS™, FreeBSD and GNU/Linux® by Ricardo Garcia Gonzalez, Philipp Hagemeister, et al. youtube-dl is a command-line program to download videos from YouTube.com and many more sites. It requires the Python interpreter (2.6, 2.7, or 3.2+), and it is not platform specific. The Windows executable includes Python.
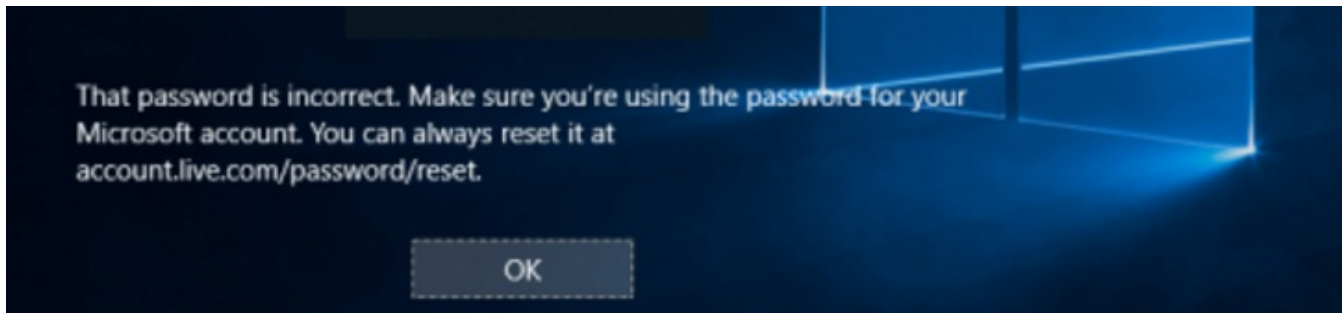
I Lost (Forgot!) my New Windows 10 Admin User Password

by Art Gresham
Editor, UCHUG Drive Light
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So yes, I upgraded a computer to Windows 10. On purpose. That was several weeks ago. But now I have forgotten what the password for that administrator, named "Admin" was set to. And since it is a local account (I have no use for creating a Microsoft Hotmail Account for every one of the computers I manage), I could not use the usual, published, methods for recovery using the Password Reset Tool for Microsoft Live Accounts.

I tried all my usual, possible and variations of passwords. No luck of course. This would call for the brute force method of recovery. Now I do have a log-in on the computer, as a non-administrator user. And there were no files or programs installed by the new administrator that had to be recovered. But I could not install/ uninstall, or do the normal set-up things that I need to do to put it in use again. I had to either get access by password, or create an entirely new administrator, which was a perfectly acceptable option for this situation.

After much searching, trying various easy ("Easy?") fixes, I gave up. For several weeks. Then in frustration I made more searches. Lots of fixes to be had, if I wanted to pay $17 or $35 for a 5 minute fix that is 'guaranteed to be easy and fast'. Pass.

More searching and I found a method that recommended making a couple of simple changes to some file names, and editing, done from a command box. Easy. Except it requires access beyond the normal login as a non-administrator. The file changes needed require administrator privilege, or to be accessed outside of a normal Windows boot up.

The method published would have you use the Windows distribution disk to go in a particular way, open the command box, do those commands and be back in business. Only one problem. Obviously I do not have a Windows 10 distribution disk. If I had that I would have been back in it long ago. What I needed was a way to access those files.

Many of us know that one way to have direct access to your hard drive files is to boot with another CD/DVD or Flash Drive, with another operating system. One which does not adhere to the file locks enforced by a Microsoft boot up. Since I run Linux Mint on all my home computers, and have the install on a thumb drive, and I have done several boots with other computers I knew this might hold the answer.

1. The first step was to get into the menu that selects startup boot process. That will be different for each manufacturer, but usually involves pressing a key during the early startup process, something like F11, or escape, or F8. Check with your manufacturer's model instructions, or just watch the screen as it starts and try to catch that quick message as it passes by. You may need a couple tries to succeed.

Once I was able to boot from my Linux thumb drive I used the instructions given from the original solution, performed the steps needed, rebooted into Windows 10, performed a couple more steps, this time in the Windows command

box. I now have a fully normal operating Windows 10 system.

So what is the magic? The original article I based this on is here: http://www.howtogeek.com/222262/how-to-reset-your-forgotten-password-in-windows-10/

But since I do not have the needed disk as described in the article, I skipped down to the section of that article that begins:

Create a New User to Save Account Files
If none of this works, there's another measure you can take which will (in a very roundabout way), allow you to regain access to your computer.

2. So instead of following the bootup instructions using the Windows disk, I booted with Linux.

The instructions then have you use the Windows command box to do the following two commands:

```
move d:\windows\system32\utilman.
exe d:\windows\system32\utilman.e
xe.bak
```

```
copy d:\windows\system32\cmd.exe
d:\windows\system32\utilman.exe
```

3. Basically, rename the program file utilman.exe to have the dot bak extension, making room for a new file of the same name. Then replace it with a copy of the cmd.exe file, renamed to utilman.exe.

So in my Linux file manager I simply did the same things. Rename, Copy, Rename.

4. That was done. Next I removed the Linux boot thumb drive and restarted, allowing Windows to start normally. This brought up the normal Windows 10 screen, and ready to log in in as the non-administrator user. No problem.

Here is where it can get a little sticky. You need to run that program (formerly known as utilman) from the login window. It may not appear on your initial login screen so you may have to start a log in as another user in order to make it present itself at the bottom of the screen. And

the popup help message will not say it is utilman, but rather something about setting up windows. Trust me. Just click it.

Click Utility Manager icon

5. Since we replaced the Utility Manager with the cmd.exe, a command prompt window should open now. Don't worry about the error message.

You can now do one of two things. Either create an entirely new Admin account. OR change the password on the existing one. Since there was nothing to be lost by creating a new one I used that method. I have not tried the rename option that I will show at the end as step 7.

6. You can now add a new user with the command below. We also have to add the user to the administrator group so that we regain full control of our Windows installation. Replace <username> with the account name of your choice. Note that the account name must not exist on this Windows installation. (Don't let the Windows 10 screen saver distract you.)

```
net user <username> /add
```

```
net localgroup administrators
<username> /add
```

Click the screen (get out of the command window) to make the sign-in page appear again.
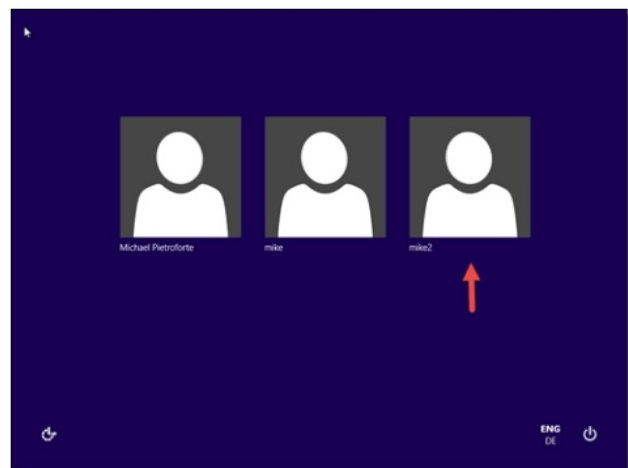
Your new account should show up, and you can sign in without a password.

7. A shorter way to reset the password of a local account is to replace the first command in step 6 with the following command. (In this case, you don't need to create a new user.)

```
net user <username> <password>
```

Now you can do all the normal things you may want to do, like change the password, after you write it on a sticky note!

Finally, remember to go back and delete that fake utilman.exe, and restore the name of the old one, if you ever want to get into those functions again. (using the Linux boot again)

My thanks to Michael Pietroforte for his article at (and credit for his images)
https://4sysops.com/archives/reset-a-windows-10-password/

as well as to Chris Stobing for his article at How-To Geek (credit for his login screen image)
http://www.howtogeek.com/222262/how-to-reset-your-forgotten-password-in-windows-10/

Please read their articles for more tips and instructions.

[*Ed.* You should also consider using the open source Windows password reset utility at http://pogostick.net/~pnh/ntpasswd/.]

DeedMapper

Presented by Mary Stewart
Northern Neck Computer Users Group, VA
October 2016 issue, The Computer Link
www.nncug.net

Mary Stewart gave a presentation on DeedMapper and showed a case study on how she found a family home.

DeedMapper is software that one can plat old land patents, grants, and deeds, and place them on a modern map. It is particularly useful when surveys are done with metes and bounds as was customary in our area. It also works with public lands.

With DeedMapper, you can find the location of a particular plot by anchoring a group of neighboring plots against a stream. You can also discover genealogical relationships by showing that person X sold part of person Y's land. It can untangle people having the same name by analyzing their landholdings and transfers.

With DeedMapper you can create a map of original landholders in a region. You can also trace changes in parcel ownership over the years.

Mary told us about Land Records in Genealogy and explained what State Lands are. Twenty colonies and states did not cede the unclaimed land in their borders to the federal government when they became part of the United States. These states are known as State Land states and included the original 13 colonies, those states created from original colonies plus Hawaii and Ohio.

Why research deeds? By researching deeds, they can help you determine family relationships, establish death dates, and upon the death of a widow, her dower interest goes to her husband's heirs.

Mary demonstrated how DeedMapper works by starting with the survey of Gerard Alexander's land. She showed how she took the information from the survey and inputted it in the Metes and Bounds function of the program. After entering the information, into the program, it created a map of the property boundaries. It also produced a map of what the property looks like today. Mary advised all this information can produce a view of the property in Google Earth. Mary advised she was able to find Col. Gerard Alexander's home that was built in 1820 in Campbell County VA.

To learn more about DeedMapper, go to directlinesoftware.com. A book Mary recommends for discovering your ancestors is Locating Your Roots Discover Your Ancestors Using Land Records by Patricia Law Hatcher.

More information about the book can be found at genealogical.com.

Browser Pop-up Scams

by David Kretchmar
Sun City Summerlin Computer Club, NV
November 2016 issue, GigiBytes Gazette
www.scscc.org

Windows 10 has proven itself to be the most secure Windows operating system ever, so hackers seem to be turning to another vulnerability. Browsers (Internet Explorer, Edge, Firefox, and Google Chrome) are becoming a prime target of scammers.

If you are at all adventuresome exploring the Internet, you probably have had a browsing session interrupted by a pop-up visual often accompanied by an obnoxious audio warning to the effect that your computer has been infected and you must call a toll-free 800 (or 8XX) number to prevent something terrible from happening to your hard drive or data.

This warning is bogus; often this "threat" can be deleted by simply closing your browser.

To protect yourself from serious malware infection, you must be careful about how you close a pop-up window. Specifically, you should never click anywhere in a pop-up window. Even buttons labeled "Cancel" or "Close" or a red-X button in the upper-right corner are dangerous to click; doing so could trigger an infection.

Safely close a pop-up window

To safely close a pop-up window, locate the button in your Taskbar that represents your browser. Also, look for other highlighted icons on the Taskbar; the button and the pop-up will usually have a similar name. Right click on the button and select Close.

If that doesn't work, you need to use the Windows Task Manager to close the pop-up. Simultaneously press the CTRL, ALT, and DEL keys, and, from the resulting window, select "Task Manager." In the Task Manager, under the Processes tab, highlight your browser application and click the End Task button. It is probably a good idea to close all applications except the Task Manager, unless you are comfortable identifying non-problem items.

Occasionally you will have to power down your system to remove the problem, either by holding in the start button on your computer for 10 or so seconds or unplugging your tower. If the problem occurs on a laptop computer naturally the battery must also be removed to completely power down the computer.

What has happened to my system?

Usually the pop-up described above does no lasting damage to your computer. It is "only" a URL (Internet site) function with some unique properties. The purpose of the URL function, which you experience as a pop-up, is to frighten the user into calling the toll-free number. A con-man (it seems to usually be a male) probably on the other side of the world will attempt to extract as much money and data from you as possible to remove the threat.

Usually the scammer will attempt to get the caller to initiate a remote connection to the victimized computer. The remote connection can then be used to make it appear that the scammer is examining your system and often additional software, such as a Citrix program, which is a legitimate application, is loaded into your system to increase the scammer's control of your computer.

Never call any phone number that appears

The scammer might trick you into granting them remote control of your computer. This might, enable them to install a "backdoor," granting scammers the unfettered ability, now and in the future, to harvest any or all the information contained on your system, to be used for any purpose. Never allow anyone you don't know to remotely log in to and use a computer that you own and control.

Help Wanted: Meeting Speakers

Finding presenters for our meeting programs is difficult—your help in the effort to enhance the value we all receive from PATACS membership would be greatly appreciated!

Please consider speaking to your friends at an Arlington or Fairfax meeting. We'd love to feature your take on a smart phone or tablet app. A presentation on these or other topics of interest to you would undoubtedly be welcomed by your PATACS colleagues. We have space in our schedule for 15, 30, 60 and 75 minute discussions—what are you waiting for?

We also have ready-made paragraphs you could use in e-mail communications to help us find speakers. Contact: director2(at)patacs.org

Shopping on Amazon.com? Don't Forget PATACS!

If you shop online at Amazon.com, don't forget to start each session by clicking the Amazon link on the PATACS home page, then continue shopping on Amazon as usual. Doing so earns PATACS a 4 to 6.5% commission on your purchase at no additional cost to you.

Thank you for supporting your user group!

PATACS Email Discussion List

Join the PATACS members-only email list to discuss topics of mutual interest, ask and answer questions, share resources, convey news, and increase our sense of shared community with fellow members.

Visit https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/PATACS-b/info for more information.

Special Membership Promotion

Current members who bring a new member to the organization will receive a six month extension of their membership. New member is defined as someone who has not been a member in the thirty-six months prior to month of received application. The new member should list your name as the 'source' of their membership on the application form (pick up at meetings or download from http://patacs.org/membershippat.html).

APCUG Resources

PATACS is a member of the Association of Personal Computer User Groups (APCUG), a worldwide organization that helps technology user groups by facilitating communications between member groups and industry vendors.

Fall 2016 VTC Videos

Follow the links to presentation videos from the Fall 2016 Virtual Technology Conference (VTC).

25 Awesome iDevice Tips, Diane McKeever
https://youtu.be/7lGUIwu24_w

Must-have Android Apps, Bill James
https://youtu.be/vTze3ZCI9Sw

Staying Safe Online, Pam Holland
https://youtu.be/UtXqeBsuhmg

What to Do When Your Computer Will Not Boot, Francis Chao
https://youtu.be/9E9Na7IJNfs

Windows 10 Features and Annoyances, Jeri Steele
https://youtu.be/fuEGQ5NDvF8

APCUG Reports, Q1 2017

The first quarter issue of APCUG Reports is available at http://apcug2.org/reports/. This issue includes:
- Region Advisor reports featuring what is happening with groups in their region, program ideas and more.
- New Presentation Technologies
- Informative Membership E-mails
- Opt-Out Info / Can-Spam Act
- Membership Application & Website Disclaimers

JCA SeniorTech Training

JCA SeniorTech Computer Centers offer diverse senior-friendly (50+) technology classes (personal computers, tablets, smartphones, online security, etc.). Offerings include beginner and intermediate computer classes in Windows 7, Windows 8, Windows 10, Excel, iPad and iPhone, email, photos, and social media.

SeniorTech is a service of the Jewish Council for the Aging (JCA). Within the limits of its resources, JCA serves people of all faiths and from all walks of life.

For additional information about SeniorTech courses, call 240-395-0916 or 703-652-1512. A course catalog is available for download at http://www.accessjca.org/programs/technology-training/.

Washington DC Area Training Locations

Asbury Methodist Village, 409 Russell Ave, Gaithersburg, MD, 301-987-6291

JCA Bronfman Center, 12320 Parklawn Drive, Rockville, MD, 301-255-4200
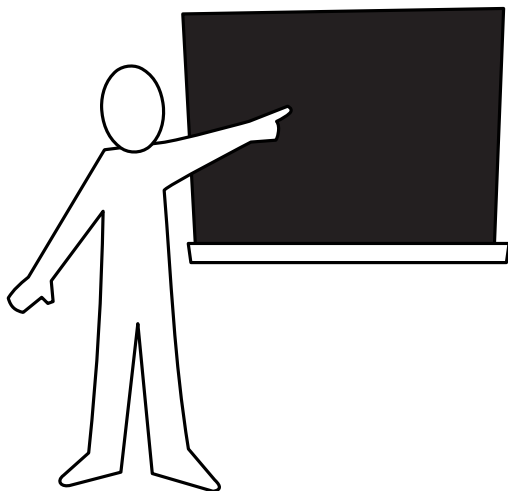
Micro Center® In Store Clinics

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Micro Center stores host free events called "In Store Clinics." The clinics cover a wide range of topics. All Micro Center store locations follow the same schedule of topics.

A link for store locations is at the top center of the home page, www.microcenter.com. For those in the Washington, D.C. area, the only store in Virginia is in the Pan Am Plaza at 3089 Nutley Street, Fairfax, VA 22031, phone (703) 204-8400, and the only store in Maryland is in the Federal Plaza at 1776 E. Jefferson #203, Rockville, MD 20852, phone (301) 692-2130.

Micro Center Clinics are held on most weekends, except during holidays. The same topic is usually presented on both Saturday and Sunday. Topics may change and clinics may be cancelled without notice. Please verify the schedule with the store before leaving and register online for e-mail updates (http://www.microcenter.com/site/stores/instore-clinics.aspx).

Signing up in advance reserves a seat, recommended as space is limited. This can only be done at a store, either at the Tech Support or Customer Support area.

March 2017 Schedule

Mar 04 & 05: Word & Excel 2016

Mar 11 & 12: Raspberry Pi

Mar 18 & 19: Build Your Own

Mar 25 & 26: Windows® 10 Basics

PATACS Posts

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March 2017 PATACS Event Calendar

www.patacs.org | 703-370-7649

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 7-9pm General Meeting, Arlington	**2** Dr. Seuss Day	**3**	**4**
5	**6**	**7** Alexander Graham Bell Day	**8** 7-9pm Online Meeting	**9**	**10**	**11** Genealogy Day
12 +1 Hour Begin Daylight Saving Time 2h ▶ 3h	**13**	**14** Pi Day	**15**	**16**	**17** St. Patrick's Day	**18** 12:30-3:30pm General Meeting, Fairfax
19	**20** Spring Equinox 7-9pm Board Meeting, Arlington	**21**	**22** 7-9pm Technology & PC Help Desk, Arlington	**23** National Organize Your Home Office Day	**24**	**25** May Newsletter Articles Due
26	**27**	**28** Barnum & Bailey Day	**29**	**30**	**31**	

Arlington: Carlin Hall Community Center
5711 4th Street South
Arlington VA 22204

Fairfax: Osher Lifelong Learning Institute
4210 Roberts Road
Fairfax VA 22032