

The Digital

# Viking



**Twin Cities**

PC USER GROUP

NEWSLETTER

Minneapolis & St. Paul, Minnesota USA • Vol. 44 No.2 • Sept. 2023

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

**September 2023**

**Membership Info .....2**

**If You YouTube Part 2 ...3**

**Modern Day Bonnie &  
Clydes are Trying To  
Steal Your Identity &  
Your Money.....4**

**So Long LastPass —  
Hello, NordPass .....7**

**The Wisdom of Battery-  
Powered Products.....9**

**Interesting Internet  
Finds ..... 12**

**SIG Information .....13**

**TC/PC Calendar.....14**

**Membership Application.15**

**Maps to Events .....16**

4

## General Meeting

**Tuesday, September 12, 2023**

**7:00 PM**

### **BIOS vs UEFI: What's the Diff?**

**Via Zoom Only**

A question arose at the August meeting asking about UEFI, so it seemed like a good topic for a meeting to discuss the differences between BIOS and UEFI.

We'll explore what the terms BIOS and UEFI stand for, what roles they play in starting up and running a computer system, the history of each and what features they each support as well as what limitations they might have.

All input, additions, corrections, and anecdotal experience from attendees are welcome 🖥️

---

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

---

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

TC/PC is a  
Member of



**24-Hour Information • [www.tcpc.com](http://www.tcpc.com)**

Application form inside back cover

# The Digital Viking

The Digital Viking is the official monthly publication of the Twin Cities PC User Group, a 501(c)(3) organization and an all-volunteer organization dedicated to users of IBM-compatible computers. Subscriptions are included in membership. We welcome articles and reviews from members. The Digital Viking is a copyrighted publication and reproduction of any material is expressly prohibited without permission. Exception: other User Groups may use material if unaltered and credited.

**Disclaimer:** All opinions are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the opinions of the TC/PC, its Board of Directors, Officers, or newsletter staff. TC/PC does not endorse, rate, or otherwise officially comment on products available; therefore, readers are cautioned to rely on the opinions presented herein exclusively at their own risk. The Digital Viking, its contributors, and staff assume no liability for damages arising out of the publication or non-publication of any advertisement, article, or other item. All refunds in full or in partial, for advertising, membership or any other item shall be at the sole discretion of the Twin Cities PC User Group Board of Directors.

## Advertising

Full page (7½ x 9½)	\$100.00
Two-thirds page (7½ x 6)	80.00
Half page (7½ x 4¾)	65.00
One-third page (7½ x 3)	50.00
Quarter page (3½ x 4¾)	40.00
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 1<sup>st</sup> 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. Please make checks payable to: **Twin Cities PC User Group**

## TC/PC 2023-2024 Board of Directors

Meets once or twice per year. All members welcome to attend.

Visit [www.tcpc.com](http://www.tcpc.com) for meeting details.

<b>President</b> —Lee Kaphingst	leekap@comcast.net
<b>Vice President</b> —Curtiss Trout	ctrout@troutreach.com
<b>Secretary</b> - Sharon Walbran	sharon.walbran@gmail.com
<b>Treasurer</b> - Sharon Trout	strout@troutreach.com
<b>Newsletter Publisher</b> Sharon Walbran	952-925-2726 sharon.walbran@gmail.com
<b>Web Master</b> Curt Trout	ctrout@troutreach.com
Board Members:	
Steve Kuhlmeier	skuhlmeier@hotmail.com
Lon Ortnier	612-824-4946 lon@csacomp.com
Lee Kaphingst	leekap@comcast.net
Jeannine Sloan	Ambassador for Friendship Village
Curtiss Trout	ctrout@troutreach.com
Sharon Trout	strout@troutreach.com
Jack Ungerleider	jack@jacku.com
Sharon Walbran	sharon.walbran@gmail.com

## TC/PC Member Benefits

Product previews  
and demonstrations

Special Interest Groups  
Monthly Newsletter

Discounts on products  
and services

Contests and prizes

## Business Member Benefits

All of the above PLUS:

FREE ½ page ad on  
payment of each renewal

20% discount on all ads  
Placed in the *Digital  
Viking* Newsletter

Up to 5 newsletters mailed to  
your site  
(only a nominal cost for each  
additional 5 mailed)

## Newsletter Staff

Editor Sharon Walbran

## If You YouTube... Part 2

Ron Sherwood, Member

East-Central Ohio Technology Users Club

<https://ecotu.club/>

newsletter \*\* ecotu.club

YouTube content, is it treasure or trash? You make that decision. But, if you view YouTube videos, here is an introduction to some of the basic controls that you may find helpful. Let's start with the basic playback menu at the video's bottom.



At the far left is the play-pause control. This image appears as an arrow or triangle on its side because the video is paused. Click on the arrow, the video starts playing, and the arrow changes to two parallel bars. These symbols should look familiar since they are used on most audio and video playback devices.

Tapping the space bar, clicking on the video, or pressing the letter “k” will also stop and start playback. The next icon, the arrow with a vertical bar, another icon used on most playback devices, jumps to the end of the current playback and starts a new video.

Next on the control bar is the volume control. Again, the symbol may be similar to other audio-video devices. Placing the cursor over the “speaker” image brings up a slider control used to increase (slide to the right) or decrease (slide to the left) playback volume. This control differs from the Windows volume control, which affects the entire system. To quickly mute a video, click on the speaker or slide the control all the way left. An “X” will appear over the speaker when playback is muted.

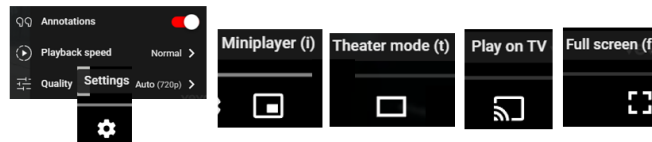
The numbers to the right of the speaker indicate the current playback position in minutes and seconds and the total time for the video. For example, this video is at the 2-minute 48-second position of a 15-minute 20-second video. “Nitecore EDC27 is the title of this presentation. The greater than character (>) opens a list of chapters if the video is set up with them.


Skipping to the right, the next control turns Autoplay on or off. In the image above, with the button to the right, Autoplay is on. Moving the slider to the left turns off Autoplay. With Autoplay on, playback will go to a new video and start playing it when the current selection ends.

Moving to the right, the CC icon turns closed captioning on and off. Generally, it works well, but I have seen some strange words pop up in the caption dialog. Tapping “c” also opens captioning. Not all videos have the closed caption option.

The Settings gear lets you choose Annotations, Playback speed, and Video Quality. Next, Clicking on the open square of the screen. YouTube calls this “Miniplayer.” Again, we have a one-key shortcut. This time it’s the “l” key. The shortcut key is a toggle: opening the picture-in-picture with a press, then reverting to the standard view with another touch of the “l” key. The next icon, an open

rectangle, is the “theater” mode. The standard view places a list of additional videos to the right of the one playing. Theater view toggles this list on and off. The shortcut key “t” does the same. The four corner brackets that form an “open square” is the “full screen” icon. Click it to enlarge the current video to full screen. Pressing Escape returns to the standard view. The “f” key is a toggle for full screen and returns to the normal view.



We touched on the basic controls for viewing YouTube videos, but the site has many other features, such as sharing, clipping, saving, and transcripts. I encourage you to explore these features if you are a YouTube regular or just an occasional user. 

[Go to Page 1](#)

---

## Modern-Day Bonnie and Clydes Are Trying To Steal Your Identity and Your Money

By Kurt Jefferson, Editor, Central Kentucky Computer Society

<https://ckcs.org/>

lextown2 \*\* gmail.com

I've written in the past that if Bonnie and Clyde were alive today, they definitely wouldn't waste time robbing banks. If you're not familiar with the couple, they were ruthless gangsters who robbed banks, stores, and other places of business and killed lawmen, shopkeepers, and owners of cars they were stealing in at least four states.

They were, perhaps, best known for robbing more than a dozen banks— some of the same banks twice—over a four-year period, primarily in Missouri, Oklahoma, New Mexico, and Texas. Back in their heyday, they also targeted stores in small towns and funeral homes located in rural areas. Make no mistake about it. They were dangerous lawbreakers. That was how it was in the Depression-era 1930s.

Fast forward to today. Modern Bonnie and Clydes don't rob banks. It's too much work. Instead, they steal personal data from computers, phones, and tablets. They're called hackers. One of their main goals in this life is to steal, rob, and gain access to your hard-earned dollars. Their goal is to grab your money and run; your goal is to keep that from happening. So, whether you're tech-savvy or not, how in the world are you supposed to keep this from happening? There are simple steps you can take.

1. When someone calls you on the phone from an unknown number, DO NOT answer the phone; wait for a voicemail message. Microsoft, Apple, etc., will not call you. These thugs want to get their hands inside your computer or other device to steal your passwords or personal information. If you answer the phone, your number may be sold for more money.

2. Don't open emails from unknown sources. Don't open attachments from unknown senders. Don't respond to schemes alerting you that a friend has been hurt in London, Paris, Sydney, or some other location. Could you send money to help them? Your friend is in the hospital and needs your financial help. Their wallet's been stolen. Their purse has been snatched. And I'm the king of Spain.

Please don't fall for it. Don't click on links in an email from someone you don't usually hear from, urging you to view these great photos. There are no photos. Once you click on the link, malware infects your Windows PC and sends emails to everyone in your address book with the same message, urging them to click on a link to view photos. Phishing is the most successful cybercrime in America.

There were nearly 324,000 victims last year alone. (Phishing refers to an email that appears to be from a legitimate company or organization. There's often a threat – your account will be closed, or the sheriff will come to your house unless you respond. It's all bogus. But plenty of Americans fall for it.) Ever gotten an email that you owe \$500 for Norton 360 (virus and malware protection software) that you never even purchased? You'd be surprised by how many folks respond to the email and even pay for the software they don't own. The thugs sending the email are not from Norton. Most junk email trying to get into your wallet originates in Russia, Germany, the U.S., and China.

3. Yes, it's a pain. But what tech folks call two-factor authentication can save your bacon. Turn it on. You'll be blocked if you decide to change your Gmail password, Facebook log-in, iCloud username or password, or some other account, you'll be blocked. You must enter a code you receive in a text message, an email, or even using the Gmail app on your smartphone to get permission to change your password. Yes, as I said, it's a pain. But it's preventing crooks from gaining access to your account. So instead of just changing your passwords, you must first receive a code and enter it into a website or Gmail app. That proves you are who you say you are.

4. Run antivirus software.

For Windows PCs:

Safety Detectives: The Best Windows Antivirus

<https://www.safetydetectives.com/>

PC Mag: The Best Antivirus Software for 2023

<https://www.pcmag.com/picks/the-best-antivirus-protection>

For Macs:

Safety Detectives: Ten Best Antiviruses for Mac in 2023

<https://www.safetydetectives.com/best-antivirus/mac/>

Macworld: Best Mac Antivirus Software 2023

<https://www.macworld.com/article/668850/best-mac-antivirus-software.html>

For Linux:

Safety Detectives: Five Best Antiviruses for Linux in 2023

<https://www.safetydetectives.com/best-antivirus/linux/>

Ubuntu Pit: Top 15 Best Linux Antivirus Programs in 2023

<https://www.ubuntupit.com/best-linux-antivirus-top-reviewed-compared/>

5. Don't go on a fishing expedition on the Web. The World Wide Web is remarkable. It's the best library in the world. There are an estimated 1.6 to 1.9 BILLION websites currently accessible. Less than 400 million are currently active. More than 51% of all people in the world are online. Asia accounts for half the Internet traffic worldwide. Talk about diversity. Websites appear in more than

200 languages. But watch your step. Don't put your foot into horse dung. Make sure the website you visit starts with https. No, this is not always possible.

Some websites refuse to use the "https:" system. The "s" stands for secure. You're accessing a secure website. Don't randomly visit online gambling websites, sites with outdated addresses, websites with shortened addresses, sites ending in .onion, torrent websites (file sharing sites), porn sites and others.

Google constantly scans websites, looking for legitimate websites that have been compromised, unsafe sites, or other questionable pages. If you wonder whether a website is safe or not, visit the web address below and paste your website into Google's Safe Browsing website:

<https://transparencyreport.google.com/safe-browsing/search>

It will tell you whether it's safe to proceed or not.

#### 5. Use a well-regarded virtual private network (VPN).

This tool sends your Internet signal through a tunnel so that hackers and other thieves cannot access the web pages you visit, your email, your passwords, or additional private information. Do your homework. Find a good VPN you can afford.

Steer away from free VPNs because many sell your data online, bombard you with ads, and some even use your computer's processing power.

For Windows PCs:

Privacy Savvy: Five Best VPNs for Privacy

<https://privacysavvy.com/vpn/best/windows/>

VPN Reports: Best of the Best VPNs

<https://www.vpnreports.com/best-vpn/windows/>

For Macs:

VPN Reports: Best VPNs for Mac in 2023

<https://www.vpnreports.com/best-vpn/mac/>

Safety Detectives: Ten Best VPNs For Mac

<https://www.safetydetectives.com/best-vpns/mac/>

For Linux PCs:

Safety Detectives: Five Best Linux VPNs

<https://www.safetydetectives.com/blog/best-linux-vpns/>

Pro Privacy: Ten Best VPNs for Linux

<https://proprivacy.com/vpn/comparison/best-linux-vpn>

6. Use a password manager to track your passwords and log in to many websites requiring a username and password automatically. Experts say this is smarter than allowing your browser to remember your passwords. Unfortunately, web browsers are not really safe to keep that sort of information. As Tom's Guide writes, "That's because desktop web browsers, despite their best efforts, tend to do a lousy job of safeguarding your passwords, credit card numbers, and personal details, such as your name and address. As a result, web browsers are fairly easy to break into, and

lots of malware, browser extensions, and even honest software can extract sensitive information from them."

Here are websites where you can read about the best password managers and pick one that works for you:

PC Mag: <https://www.pcmag.com/picks/the-best-password-managers>

Tom's Guide: <https://www.tomsguide.com/us/best-password-managers,review-3785.html>

How To Geek: <https://www.howtogeek.com/780233/best-password-manager/>



[Go to Page 1](#)

---

## So Long LastPass – Hello NordPass

By Bob Woods, Co-Webmaster, Under the Computer Hood User Group

<https://www.uchug.org/> , Webmasters \*\* [uchug.org](https://www.uchug.org/)

For several years, I used LastPass as my password manager. The free version allowed my PC and Android devices to use the same encrypted vault. In 2021 there was a change. Only paid accounts could have PC and Android using a shared vault. The free version no longer did. This required one vault for the PC and another for Android devices.

Because of this, a few UCHUG members changed to the free open-source BitWarden for their multi-platform password management, which uses the same vault across all platforms. I tried BitWarden and did not care for the interface. LastPass either auto-filled or only required a single mouse click to fill in the login information. BitWarden usually needed two or three clicks. But it may have just been me or an incorrect setting. At any rate, I didn't want to change. So, I created an account for my Android devices and exported the PC vault. I also had different master passwords for each version. It required me to sink the two different vaults manually, but I was willing to accept this inconvenience for free.

Then, last year one of the LastPass backup servers was breached, and some user information was stolen. LastPass Corporate informed their users and assured everyone that sensitive data (usernames, passwords, credit card information, etc.) was encrypted and safe. This prompted me to re-evaluate password managers. After online reviews of password managers, I decided to give NordPass a try.

My reasons to try were:

1. They are highly rated in many password manager reviews.
2. They recently had and passed an independent security audit.
3. They have never been breached. LastPass has. In 2022, LastPass suffered significant security incidents. User data, billing information, and vaults (with some fields encrypted and others not) were breached, leading many security professionals to call for users to change all their passwords and switch to other password managers.
4. NordPass is based in Panama, which has no mandatory data retention laws and does not participate in the Five Eyes or Fourteen Eyes alliances. This means that the company isn't required by law to keep logs or share them with governments.

5. Your NordPass vault is encrypted with the XChaCha20 encryption algorithm. XChaCha20 is more modern and faster than AES 256-bit. For an explanation, go to [XChaCha20 Encryption vs. AES-256:What's the Difference? | NordPass](#)


6. They have a family plan that allows up to 6 independent accounts. You can also share your vault with a family member. For example, this will allow me and my wife to have a synced vault.

7. The software is multi-platform. Even the free version can be used on all my devices using the same vault. After loading the NordPass free version, it asked for some account setup info: username, password, and Master Password. You should make it different from your account password, as it will be the magic key to decrypting your vault. I used a phrase that would be easy to remember containing the normal mix of upper/lower case, symbols, and numbers. You will use this key on all your devices to decrypt the vault. **DO NOT FORGET WHAT THE MASTER PASSWORD IS!** You are the only one that knows what it is. NordPass support cannot help if you forget it. There is one thing that may help. When you create your master password, you will receive a 24-character alphanumeric recovery code. The recovery code will allow you to create a new master password. You should lock this code away in a safe place. During the Windows setup process, you will be prompted to install the browser extension for whatever browsers you have installed. Setup will help you get and install the extension as needed.

After the setup, I exported my password vault from LastPass and imported it into NordPass. Everything went in without a hitch. Next, I went into settings, turned off launching at startup, and set the auto-lock to four hours. That way NordPass will only launch if I needed it, as there are times I am not doing anything that would require a login. Also, the four-hour timeout will keep NordPass from requiring a re-login unless I go over four hours or shut down.

I set the password generator for upper/lower case numbers and symbols. I also set it for 16 characters. Next was to install NordPass on my Android phone and tablet (both Samsung). The app is available in the play store and can be installed easily. The app also installs into your browsers, so there isn't a separate extension installation that I had on the Windows PC. You can launch the NordPass app on Android devices, but I find that just going to a site requiring a login will bring up NordPass as a selection for a spelling selection atop the onscreen keyboard. You select NordPass, which will open the window to input the Master Password. Then you can populate the login info for the site you are accessing.

On my phone, I left auto lock at five minutes as a trial time. If I go to another location requiring login info within five minutes, I do not need to input the Master Password again. Better to be more careful with the phone auto lock settings than the PC on my desk at home. After using NordPass for a few days, I liked how it worked. Since I wanted to have NordPass available to my wife and share the vault with her, I opted for the family plan. The cost for the two-year plan is \$68.00. But with six separate accounts available, I can offer an account to both my wife and my son. Also, the paid plan offers a weak and reused password check and a data breach scanner to scan the web for data breaches. I spent some time doing some cleanup. When checking for weak passwords, a change password button will launch a browser to the site needing a password change. Unless you want to create a new password, NordPass will manually offer to autofill the new password per your password settings and save it to the vault.

I am happy and comfortable with NordPass. However, if you have never used a password manager or are looking for an alternative to one you may be using, go to <https://nordpass.com/> and check the personal free version. 

[Go to Page 1](#)



## Wyzedom - The Wisdom of Battery-Powered Products

Greg Skalka, President, Under the Computer Hood User Group

[www.uchug.org](http://www.uchug.org)

president \*\* uchug.org

Batteries are the new normal. Throughout history, humans have found different ways to power their devices. Humans initially provided the power but soon enlisted animals to plow, power mills, and pull wagons. The industrial age was powered by burning fuels like coal and oil, which brought significant progress but released a lot of carbon dioxide into the Earth's atmosphere. We must transition to low- or carbon-free energy to reduce climate change. Electricity is the best medium to distribute that energy, and batteries are the primary way to store it. As we move into an all-electric world, we will need more electricity, batteries, and some good strategies for charging and disposing of those batteries.

When I look around my house, I see many things that are now powered, or now powered by electricity, but were not when originally invented. Toothbrushes, razors, can openers, corkscrews, safes, clocks, clothes washers – all these things were originally human or mechanically powered but now have electrically-powered versions.

Stoves cooked by chemical processes (burning fuel) and clothes were dried by natural processes (outdoor air on a clothesline). Still, these tasks are predominantly accomplished by using electricity (or soon will be, with the eventual elimination of residential natural gas). Automobiles, trucks, trains, and planes were all powered by burning fuels but are now on the path to eventual electrification. Many of these things are mobile, or at least would be hindered in use by being tethered by a cord, and so will need batteries to operate.

My house now has several electric items it didn't have before. My wife has bought some electric soap dispensers for the kitchen and bathroom. Instead of pressing down on the top of the bottle to dispense some liquid hand soap, you put your hand under the nozzle, and a sensor detects it and squirts some in your hand. It is more hygienic, but it has batteries that require replacement or recharging periodically, and it is just another device that can break. Do we really need it?

How many battery-powered devices do you think you have in your home? Ten? Twenty? Fifty? One hundred or more? I don't know how many I have, but it could well be that last guess. I pondered this question recently as I sat on the only seat in our master bathroom. From that vantage point, I could see nine devices that contained a battery, with another two that I knew were nearby in cabinets. Multiply 11 by the number of "rooms" in our house, and we would have over one hundred batteries to deal with.



These bathroom devices I found are probably a fairly representative sample of the types of battery-powered devices we own and fall into two classes, depending on if the batteries can be removed. Six of them (two electric toothbrushes, a shaver, a Bluetooth speaker, a face scrubber, and one hair trimmer) have rechargeable batteries that can't be removed. The other five (wall clock, clock/thermometer, flashlight, another hair trimmer, and a bathroom scale) have replaceable batteries. These five typically use disposable single-use batteries, though all but the wall clock (which is



powered by a coin cell battery) use AA or AAA batteries, which would allow the use of rechargeables.

Being powered by batteries does not limit the usefulness of any of these bathroom devices. The toothbrushes are charged inductively through their holders and can stay charged constantly; their charging is transparent to the user. The other four devices that don't have removable batteries must be plugged into a wall outlet to recharge, but since a full charge typically provides many uses, we are seldom caught with a dead battery. My shaver, for example, can go for well over a week of normal use on one charge, so I

typically plug it in to charge after I have used it on Sunday mornings. It charges fully in an hour or so before I need it again. Like the hair trimmer and face scrubber, it also can be used in a pinch while charging; having a cord does not significantly degrade its usability. The remaining devices with removable batteries either have a long battery life (typically years for the clocks and scale) or rely on a quick battery change to keep going.

Moving from the bathroom into the bedroom, I find only slightly fewer battery-powered devices. There are remote controls for the TV, cable box, DVD player, ceiling fan, and window air conditioning unit. A couple of flashlights, a clock, and a cordless phone are in its charging base. These fall into the same two battery categories and present no particular problems to the user by being powered by batteries (other than having some replacement batteries on hand when needed).

Moving from the bedroom to the hall, I see one of my favorite battery-powered devices, the Wyze night light. These small stick-on lights can be used to illuminate your path at night. They detect your motion and turn on, and can be linked to turning on a series of them when triggered. I have a set of three on my stairs (top, middle, and bottom) to keep me from falling and breaking my neck in the morning when it is dark, and I don't want to wake my wife by turning on the ceiling light fixtures.



I love my Wyze lights, but keeping them charged can be problematic. In normal use in my stairs location, they run for about three weeks on a charge. I have come to rely on them to light my way, and so I do not want to wait until they are discharged. I initially tried charging them on a two-week schedule, taking them down (they are magnetically attached and easily removed) every other Sunday. They must be charged during the day when not needed and take about 2 hours to charge fully from a USB charging source. The Wyze lights have a USB-C connector, and to protect that connector, I use USB magnetic charging cables and adapters.

The problem in charging the Wyze lights came from having to charge each one separately. I initially used one USB AC charger and cable and had to charge the three lights sequentially. This took at least six hours, and I had to be around most of the day on Sunday to swap them on the charger. Occasionally I was not, so I sometimes had problems getting all three lights charged before dark.

I celebrated with the First Lady most of the day on Mother's Day and did not get my Wyze lights charged before dark. I decided to find a better way to charge these lights. Possible solutions to my problem included:

1. Faster charging – The process would not take all day if each light could charge faster. This would require some investigation to determine if this would be possible.
2. Parallel charging – If I could charge all three lights simultaneously, it would take 1/3 of the time,



and I would not have to hang around to swap lights on the one charging station. It would require buying a three-output USB charging station and two more USB charging cables.

3. Have an alternate set of lights – If I bought a second set of Wyze lights, I could charge the alternate set over the two weeks and then swap them all out at once. This would be the fastest and most versatile but requires buying another set of lights.

I first investigated if faster charging was possible. I bought a MakerHawk USB 3.0 Tester from Amazon a while ago; it can be used to test USB-powered devices and USB cables and to monitor USB charging. Connected between a USB charging source and a device to be charged, it can display the voltage, current, power, charging mode, and other things.

I used the USB 3.0 tester while trying to charge a Wyze light with several different power sources (USB AC charging cubes and USB power source batteries) and several other USB cables. No matter

what combination of source and cable I used, the power into the Wyze light remained between 0.951 W and 0.976 W. A higher power into the light would be needed to charge faster, so it appears speeding up charging is not possible.

I found another dual-output USB charging block and a couple more cables in my household stock and set them up in the spare bathroom I use for charging. This method worked well, and I could set them up and walk away, knowing they would all be charged when I remembered and returned.

Using another set of Wyze lights as a charging spare might be slightly easier, as I could charge them sequentially at my leisure over the two-week operating period. It would, however, require buying another \$26 set of lights, and I'd still have to keep track of which lights are charged and which are not.

Ultimately, I've found the parallel charging method works the best for me. It gets the lights all charged at once and has the benefit of having the "charging station" set out for less time, which makes my wife happier. I've now adopted this charging method for my bike lights and switched to charging my front and rear rechargeable safety lights simultaneously rather than sequentially. 🖥️

[Go to Page 1](#)

## Interesting Internet Finds =October 2022

by **Steve Costello**

**scostello \*\* sefcug.com**

While going through the more than 300 RSS feeds, I often encounter things that might interest other user group members. The following are some items I found interesting in October 2022.

### **How to Change Name on Zoom on PC or Mac**

<https://www.groovypost.com/howto/change-name-on-zoom/>

Do you Zoom? If so, did you know you can change your name? Check out this post to learn how to change your name on Zoom.

### **Why A Laptop Stand Is The Next Desk Accessory You Need**

<https://www.howtogeek.com/830241/why-a-laptop-stand-is-the-next-desk-accessory-you-need/>

I see a lot of people using a laptop without a stand. However, I always use a stand with my laptop. In fact, I have several different stands. Check out this post to learn why you should also always use a stand with your laptop.

### **Faster And Safer Internet? Here's How...**

[https://askbobrankin.com/faster\\_and\\_safer\\_internet\\_heres\\_how.html](https://askbobrankin.com/faster_and_safer_internet_heres_how.html)

Do you want to know how to have faster and safer internet? I am sure you do, so check out this post from Bob Rankin. I have done this on PCs, Linux, and Android devices for years.

### **Make The Mouse Easier To Use**

<https://askleo.com/make-the-mouse-easier-to-use/>

Have you ever thought about making your mouse easier to use? If so, check out this post from Leo Nottenboom if you use Microsoft Windows.

### **Share What You Want!**

<https://cynmackley.com/2022/10/24/share-what-you-want/>


Sometimes I want to only link to a specific part of a story. Now thanks to Cyn Mackley's post. I know how to do it. (Note: I have tested this, and it works with Google Chrome and Vivaldi but not Firefox. I found and am using the "Link to Text Fragment" add-on for Firefox.)

### **Why Don't We Have World's Fairs Anymore?**

<https://www.mentalfloss.com/posts/why-dont-we-have-world-fairs-anymore?>

This is a subject I have not thought much about, but I was intrigued when I started reading this post. The reasons given make a lot of sense to me.

\*\*\*\*\*

This work by [Steve Costello](#) is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License](#). If you attribute this article (see above), you can use it in part or whole for your newsletter website, or blog. 

[Go to Page 1](#)

# Special Interest Groups (SIGs)

w Work phone   h Home phone   c Cell phone  
\* Meets at an alternate location

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.tcp.com](http://www.tcp.com)

## Board of Directors\*

All members are welcome! Check  
[www.tcp.com](http://www.tcp.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 develop-  
ers within the group and by MS reps.

**Third Saturday 9:00 AM—Noon**

**Note: No Meetings June-August**

Steve Kuhlmeier      952/934-8492  
skuhlmeier@hotmail.com

## Microsoft Office

Addresses the use, integration, and nuanc-  
es 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 Kuhlmeier      952/934-8492  
skuhlmeier@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.tcp.com](http://www.tcp.com)

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

## September

## October

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9 Linux on Saturday SIG 9am—Noon
10	11	12 7pm General Mtg BIOS vs UEFI  6pm Tech Topics	13	14	15	16 MS Office SIG (includes Access) 9am—Noon
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 7pm General Mtg TBA  6pm Tech Topics	11	12	13	14 Linux on Saturday SIG 9am—Noon
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 MS Office SIG (includes Access) 9am—Noon
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				



## 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](http://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.)



9/23

### 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:4

☐ 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**

### Or sign up on our website:

<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# \_\_\_\_\_

**September 12, 2023**  
**7:00 pm**  
**General Meeting**

**BIOS vs UEFI:**  
**What's the Diff?**

**Via Zoom Only**



341 County Rd C2 W  
Roseville, MN 55113

***FIRST CLASS MAIL***