



Computers Are Easy User Group

Abort,
Retry,
Ignore....

Founded 1984 ARI is the
Official Newsletter of
Computers Are Easy User Group

August 2025
Volume XLI Issue 8

PER GLENSIDE Library (Masks are optional)

INFORMATION for Saturday July 26 start time in person at
Library Board Room is 9:30am or at home Zoom is 10:00am.
There will be a meeting invitation e-mail Thursday evening
before the Saturday meeting.

Our July presentation
We will have various videos about Internet Privacy

NEW MAIL ADDRESS!!!

NEW MAIL ADDRESS!!!

**CAEUG,
P.O. Box 153
South Elgin, IL 60177**

***Thank you! to all who paid the
low \$20.00 dues for 2025!
Your support helps pay for our
APCUG membership and CAEUG website***

Confirmed
meeting dates

2025

Aug 23
Sept 27

:: ::

Hybrid
Board Room
in person
OR Zoom

:: ::

Check
website for
dates and
meeting info

:: ::

**!!!! NEW !!!
Mailing
address:**

**CAEUG
P.O. Box 153
South Elgin,
IL 60177**

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Join CAEUG meeting in Library or from Home,
Stay Safe! Update information on our website at
<https://www.CAEUG.net>

CAEUG OFFICERS

President Carl Wallin

V.P. (Programs) Roger Kinzie

Secretary Position OPEN

Treasurer Kathy Groce

Newsletter Kathy Groce

Board Member

Frank Braman

Joanne Beauregard

Webmaster John Spizzirri

webmaster(at)caeug.net

The Glenside Public Library address is at 25 E Fullerton Avenue, Glendale Heights, Illinois. The meeting(s) are not library sponsored. Individuals with disabilities who plan to attend this program and who require certain accommodations in order to observe and / or participate in the program are requested to contact CAEUG president, at least five (5) days prior to the program, so that reasonable accommodation can be made.

Members Helpline

Any member can volunteer to be on the Members Helpline.

Hardware problems, Win 7, Win 10, Linux and Virus Removal

- John Spizzirri



Lamp Post 282 August 2025 by John Spizzirri

The brown bear cams are live (**1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6**). The Brooks River is teeming with salmon and other fish. The salmon are swimming upstream for the spawn that will soon attract the experienced bears. Currently, there are a few adolescent bears feeding on the salmon. They don't seem to know how to catch fish. If you are interested, tune in every few days to look for more bears. There is a highlight reel of

bears feeding in the river. The eagles are around but the camera operators have trouble finding them (**7**). The Canadian Geese had a clutch at the Decorah South nest (**8**). The camera views the family at the pond.

- 1) <https://is.gd/5XSkeR>
- 2) <https://is.gd/8qsdz0>
- 3) <https://is.gd/BYn1NE>
- 4) <https://is.gd/5RsMdk>
- 5) <https://is.gd/c7jg58>
- 6) <https://is.gd/ERw674>
- 7) <https://is.gd/0YqTVG>
- 8) <https://is.gd/YAuMF0>

Arstechnica reported (**1**) that Github (**2**) which was purchased by Microsoft (**MS 3**) in 2018 will no longer have separate management at the end of 2025. The fear that MS would take over Github will now come to pass. It just took seven years. We will have to wait and see if the developer platform, much of it open source, survives the proprietary ownership of the MS behemoth. The

competitor Sourceforge (**4**) is not as big as Github but if MS acts as it has in the past maybe the developers will switch to Sourceforge.

- 1) <https://is.gd/qWaEdu>**
- 2) <https://github.com/>**
- 3) <https://www.microsoft.com/>**
- 4) <https://sourceforge.net/>**

TechCrunch reported (**1**) that Eaton Zveare of Harness Security (**2**) found a flaw in Toyota's (**3**) online dealership portal a few years ago. The flaw let Zveare create 'an admin account that granted "unfettered access" to the car-maker's centralized web portal.' This allowed Zveare to unlock a vehicle anywhere in North America (or the world for that matter) by just knowing a Toyota employee's email address and the vehicle identification number (VIN). The email addresses are on dealership websites. The VINs are on the cars. Zveare showed his work on the EatonWorks website (**4, 5**). The flaw was fixed.

- 1) <https://techcrunch.com/?p=3035561>**
- 2) <https://www.harness.io/products/security-testing-orchestration>**
- 3) <https://www.toyota.com/>**
- 4) <https://eaton-works.com/2023/03/06/toyota-c360-hack/>**
- 5) <https://eaton-works.com/2023/02/06/toyota-gspims-hack/>**

Arstechnica reported that The Rocky Horror Picture Show (**1**) is 50 years old. Disney/20th Century Studios (**2**) will be releasing a 4K hi def stream and DVD / Blu-Ray in October. I look forward to it.

- 1) https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Rocky_Horror_Picture_Show**
- 2) <https://www.disneystudios.com/business/20th-century-studios>**

Night hours will be getting shorter (**1**) so now is the time to check the Aurora cam sites (**2**) in your favorites. The Northern Lights (Aurora Borealis) cam at Churchill, Manitoba, Canada (**3**) is in the Central Time zone as is the polar bear site (**4**). If you stay up really late or get up early, try the Alaska Borealis cams (**5**). Two places to try offer various cams from around the world (**6, 7**). To check on the space weather (for aurora forecasts) try here (**8**) and NASA (**9**).

- 1) <https://www.weather2travel.com/daylight-hours/>**
- 2) <https://seetheaurora.com/webcams>**
- 3) <https://is.gd/3RjcRQ>**
- 4) <https://is.gd/7PDEvO>**
- 5) <https://auroranotify.com/aurora-links/>**
- 6) <https://seetheaurora.com/webcams>**
- 7) <https://lightsoverlapland.com/?p=79>**

8) <https://www.spaceweather.com/>

9) <https://www.swpc.noaa.gov/>

Between you, me and the LampPost, that's all for now.

Missing a Drive Letter? – This might help

By Phil Sorrentino

Secretary and APCUG Rep

Sun City Center Computer Club, FL

<https://www.scccomputerclub.org/>

philsorr ** yahoo.com

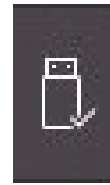
When you plug a portable or external drive into a computer USB port, you expect the drive to be immediately available.

You may hear a few familiar sounds at first, but eventually, you expect to see an indication that the drive is usable. First, you should see the new drive in File Explorer with a new drive letter. The drive letter will typically be the next available letter in the alphabet. (Drives installed on your system start at the beginning of the alphabet with the exceptions that A: and B: are reserved for floppy drives (I wonder how many of us ever had a B: drive), and C: is reserved for the main drive, where the OS is located. So added drives can start at D: unless you have other mechanical, electrical, or optical drives.) So, in a typical laptop with a C: and D: drive, it will be assigned the E: drive letter when you add a USB drive.

Just as an aside, if you have a network of local computers, drive letters may also be assigned by the "map a network drive" feature. These drives typically start from the end of the alphabet, so the first will be Z, followed by Y, and so on. To map a network drive, open File Explorer and click "This PC." Click on the Computer tab, click "Map network drive," browse, and select the network drive from the list. (To be on the list, the drive must have been shared on the computer it is attached to.)

While we're talking about temporarily added drives, when you are finished with the drive, it is always a good idea to eject the drive in the prescribed way by first clicking the "Safely Remove Hardware and Eject Media" icon. It should be in the notification area on the right side of the taskbar. If you don't see it, you may have a taskbar setting chosen to not display the icon in the notification area, or there may be too many notifications chosen. If you don't see it and you see an up-pointing caret (^), click the caret, and the "Safely Remove Hardware and Eject Media" icon should show up.

Safely Remove the Hardware and Eject Media Icon



Yesterday, I had a house full of friends and relatives I had invited over to see some movies that I created from some family and friend activities over the past few years. Knowing this, I connected the portable drive with the movies to my computer in the living room, where everyone could comfortably enjoy the pictures and movies on the connected big-screen TV. Unfortunately, the drive never showed up, though I did hear the familiar sounds. And I could tell the computer knew a drive was there because the "Safely Remove Hardware and Eject Media" icon was in the notification area, but no new drive appeared in File Explorer.

I couldn't show any of the movies on the new drive. So, what's up? I was anxious to show the movies on the new drive to a large group of friends and relatives, so I postponed trying to solve the immediate problem. Fortunately, the living room computer is on a network, so I removed the new drive from the living room computer, the safe way, and brought it to another computer on the network. When I plugged it into the kitchen computer, the installation went as expected, and the new drive showed up as the E: drive in File Explorer. Now all I had to do was share the E: drive on the kitchen computer and then go to the living room computer and map the shared kitchen E: drive. All this went as expected, and we could watch all of the movies and pictures from the new E: drive, which was on the kitchen computer and the living room computer/TV; the party was saved. Everyone enjoyed the movies, but at the end of the day, I was still stuck with the problem of the missing drive letter.

Disk Management

So, before I head to the Computer Lab, I always take a little time to try to solve the problem, or at least try to narrow the problem down using Google to look for a solution. I tried "no drive letter for USB device," pointing me to a few possibilities. One Google hint showed me that related areas could be found with a right-click of the start button. "Disk Management" is one of those areas. (Be very careful if you go into this area, you can easily turn your computer into a brick with a few short commands, and then you'll have no choice but to go and see "Bob.") When you click "Disk Management," you see the disk drives on your computer and their assigned letters.

After I plugged in the USB drive and got into "Disk Management" on the living room computer, I clicked on the newly added USB disk to select it. I noted that the USB drive was "Disk 1" and a "Healthy Primary Partition," all good indications, but no drive letter was assigned. So the next step was to click on the "Action" menu and then click "All Tasks," where "Change Drive Letter and Path" was found. Again, no drive letter was assigned, so I clicked "Add" to assign an unused letter, in my case, E. After I assigned E: to the USB drive, I

could see the drive and its contents in File Explorer, as expected. When I removed and reconnected the drive, it connected as expected and had the E: drive letter.

Epilog: Unfortunately, when I used a different portable drive, it reacted the same way; it showed up without a drive letter. So, now I know how to get around the problem, but I should think that any portable USB drive connected should show up with the next unused letter. So, I may still have something amiss.

Learning Technology Today
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In the ancient computer days, ten or so years ago, learning technology was very different than it is today. Before the dreaded COVID days of isolation, classroom settings were very popular for learning technology. Classrooms had individual computers, and the subjects were on general and basic topics everyone needed to learn. Most people then purchased their own computers for the first time and needed to know how to use them. Do you remember having to learn how to use a mouse? How about changing the size of a window on your screen or searching the Internet? In those days, these things were new to most people. Now technology training (not just "computer classes") has dramatically changed.

The big jump off the cliff into something new in learning was the massive changes that COVID brought about. You know the story – training went to online classes, and in-person meetings were all but eliminated. Now that the COVID epidemic is over, have we returned to "normal" learning? I think not. Many of these changes will remain with us. So how do we adapt, and what do the "tech learning classes" look like today and in the future?

I advise searching the Internet for the specific training you want or need. Here's why:

1. More and more everyday devices will use more and more technology – refrigerators, cars, TVs, doorbells, and toilets. Can you imagine attending a class on how to use your refrigerator? No, I can't either, no matter how cool it would be! If there was a class, how many attending would have the same refrigerator with the same controls or options?

2. There are too many options, and no one uses all of them. I am still learning my car's options and have been driving it for four years! A word-processor app like Word has options I am not even aware of and will probably not use anyway but may be very useful for a few people.

3. Use of multiple devices – cell phones, TV adaptors, tablets, laptops, etc. Now you can get your email, watch a movie, or do your banking on different devices –each one will have a slightly different way of doing the same thing. Likewise, teaching even the same topic or app can be used differently on other devices.

4. We tend to have specific needs from our technology. Do any of these questions sound familiar? -- "How do I put text on a photo?", "How do I read my email on my cell phone?" or "How do I get the sports channel I want on my TV?". Our needs and wants are now getting much more specific. A class on a specific topic and device would be attended by only a few people wanting that specific knowledge.

5. We don't want to waste time learning things we will probably not use or already know. In any class, people come with different and unequal levels of experience and knowledge.

6. People are used to "convenience learning" when they have time and do not have to travel. Many colleges provide "at home" learning using the Internet.

All this is to say that the Internet is probably the best source for learning a specific task for a particular device. Ask Google, "How do I ..." and be very specific. Enter the name, model, and year of your car, the make and model of your refrigerator, or your phone or tablet. Google loves specificity. Demonstration videos and text instructions will magically appear for you on any topic. It is truly a learning gold mine of knowledge – give it a try!

