



Computers Are Easy User Group

Abort,
Retry,
Ignore....

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

June 2025
Volume XLI Issue 6

PER GLENSIDE Library (Masks are optional)

INFORMATION for Saturday June 28 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 June presentation
We will have various videos about Windows 11 24H2 update.

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

June 28
July 26

:: ::

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>

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Newsletter Kathy Groce

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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 280 June 2025 by John Spizzirri

The brown bear cams are live (**1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6**). There are no salmon and no bears in Brooks River. There is a high light reel of past bear feeding on the river. The salmon will soon be spawning that will attract the bears. If you are interested, tune in every few days to look for bears. The eagles did not re-clutch after their eggs failed to hatch. 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>

Cybernews reports (**1**) that 16 billion login credentials from 30 different databases. This release is new and not from recycled breaches. It is from a number of 'infostealers' and not just one source. Cybertheives now have and can use this data to do account takeovers, identity theft, ransomware, and targeted phishing attacks. Infostealer is a form of malware that steals data on a particular PC (**2**). Newsweek (**3**),

Forbes (**4**), Tom's Guide (**5**), and PC World (**6**) all picked up the story. Cybernews provided a password checker (**7**) to determine if your password has been compromised.

- 1) <https://is.gd/BGFIDC>
- 2) <https://is.gd/lpaRwB>
- 3) <https://is.gd/J3fQvu>
- 4) <https://is.gd/COdYDD>
- 5) <https://is.gd/muVm8X>
- 6) <https://is.gd/VAwITt>
- 7) <https://is.gd/VAwITt>

Aflac Insurance (**1**) self reported (an honest insurance company?) a security breach (**2**). The breach thieves stole Social Security numbers, insurance claims and health information. If you have Aflac Insurance, contact the company for free credit monitoring and identity theft protection at 1-855-361-0305.

- 1) <https://is.gd/hj2Db3>
- 2) <https://is.gd/CZ02sN>

Malwarebytes (**1**) reported (**2**) that the Security Alliance (**SEAL 3**) is working on a 'threat actor' that self identifies as Elusive Comet (**4**). Elusive Comet lures crypto investors using social engineering to a Zoom (**5**) meeting. If the investor is not tech savy Elusive Comet sends a remote control request using the Zoom as an ID so it appears that the app is asking for the remote control. If the victim says yes, Elusive Comet takes over the victim's PC, empties the victim's crypto wallets, collects the victim's contacts from Gmail (**6**), X (**7**), and Facebook (**8**). You may not think this applies to you because you do not invest in crypto coins. Wrong. Once crackers see what Elusive Comet can get away with others will apply this same technique for other purposes. I do not think we have to worry about APCUG Zoom meetings but if you go to other Zoom meetings the host may not be aware of what they are doing and let in bad actors.

- 1) <https://www.malwarebytes.com/>
- 2) <https://www.malwarebytes.com/?p=210043>
- 3) <https://www.securityalliance.org/>
- 4) <https://is.gd/pnoSKG>
- 5) <https://www.zoom.com/>
- 6) <https://is.gd/j7Ns9h>
- 7) <https://x.com/?lang=en>
- 8) <https://www.facebook.com/>

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

YouTube as a Knowledge Resource
By Tom Burt, Vice-President
Sun City Summerlin Computer Club
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YouTube (www.youtube.com) is Google's online platform for user-created videos. Over the years, users have posted an amazing collection of videos, which grows larger daily. YouTube is my "go-to" resource when I'm looking for arcane bits of knowledge—especially "how-to" examples. This month, we'll look at a few examples of YouTube videos that quickly convey helpful knowledge in an audiovisual format.

Example 1 – Adjust the Brakes on a Walker

Take, for instance, my 4-wheeled rollator walker. It has brakes for the rear wheels that need tightening every couple of years. I turned to YouTube, entered the phrase "how to adjust brakes on a drive rollator" into the search window, and immediately found several helpful videos. After watching a few to ensure I had all the necessary information, I was able to make the adjustment using just a pair or two of pliers.

Example 2 – Replace the Hard Drive in an HP Laptop with a Solid-State Drive

Among the various computers in Casa de Burt is a 2014 vintage HP Pavilion laptop that originally came with Windows 8. Its disk drive is a 500 G-byte 5400 RPM hard drive. Its CPU is an AMD A8, and it has 4 G bytes of RAM. I upgraded the operating system to Windows 10 in early 2016.

After that upgrade, this laptop became so slow it was almost unusable for about 15 minutes after booting, even with software tuning to minimize Microsoft's "instrumentation." After booting, Windows 10 launches a variety of scans of the hard drive, all running simultaneously, that fight each other and overwhelm the system. While this happened, it often took Windows over a minute to respond to a mouse click.

The Computer Club experienced this same effect with laptops in our training lab. The club's volunteer maintenance team eventually mitigated the problem by installing solid-state drives in those laptops. However, the procedure is complex and requires careful handling and sequencing of the steps to disassemble and reassemble the laptop.

I decided to look into what it would take to upgrade to a solid-state drive on my HP laptop. I browsed YouTube and entered the search phrase: "replace hard drive on hp pavilion 17z laptop". YouTube offered me a

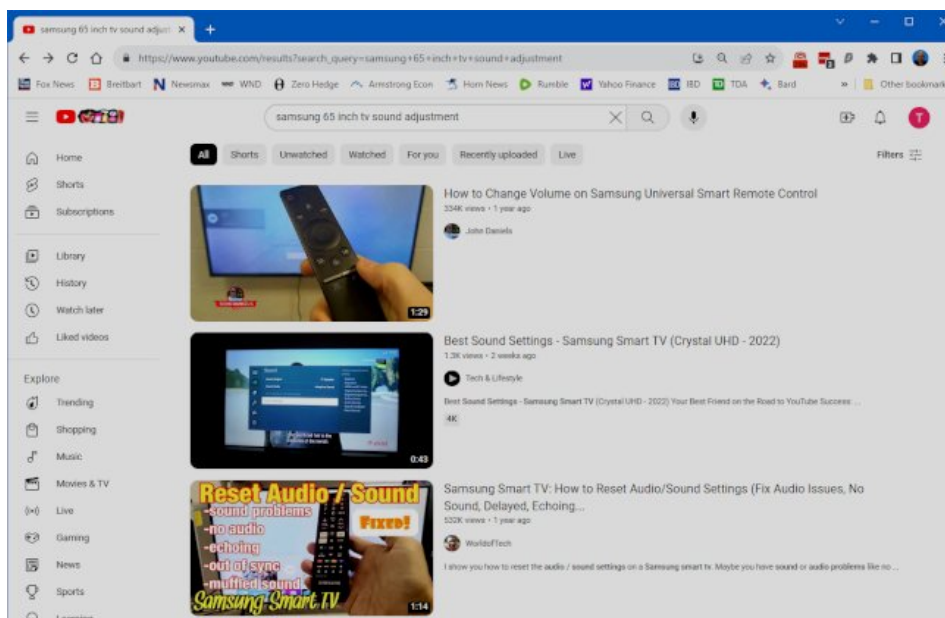
selection of similar searches, one of which I picked. I got an excellent selection of hits on “step-by-step” videos that detailed the procedure. I played a few of these to get a sense of how complex the upgrade would be. Ultimately, I decided to pass on the upgrade, not because I felt I couldn’t do it, but because, even after upgrading the laptop with a new SSD, the rest of the system components were over eight years old. The other hardware specs (CPU, RAM, chipset) would not be compatible with Windows 11. I concluded that installing Linux Mint on that laptop in place of Windows 10 would be better.

This was an example of YouTube helping me decide NOT to do something.

Example 3 – Adjusting the Sound Settings on My Samsung Smart TV

A few months ago, I “cut the cord,” abandoning DirecTV in favor of streaming YouTube TV, Paramount+ (CBS), Amazon Prime Video and its companion FreeVee, the free tier of Peacock TV (NBC), and Samsung’s own 100+ channel free streaming TV service. The video quality of these services has been excellent, and I’ve got more content available than I could ever have watched. One frustration, however, has been that the sound level varies a lot between the various services. I must frequently adjust the TV volume depending on which service I’m currently streaming.

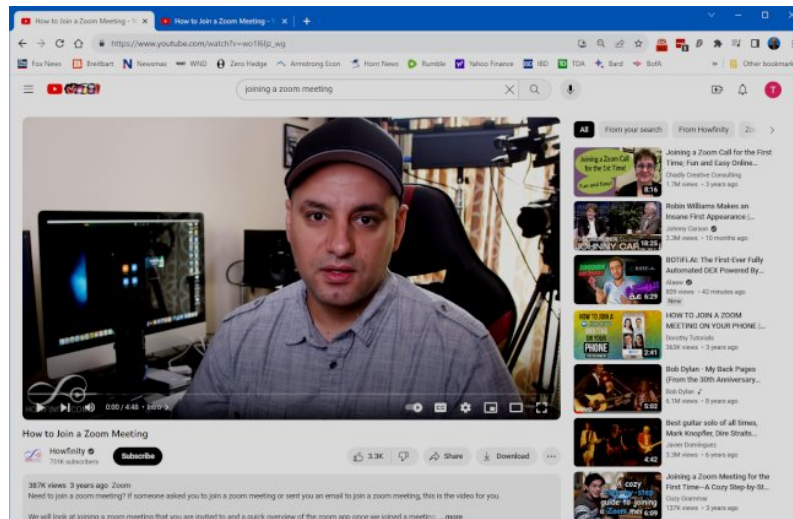
I decided to see what YouTube could tell me. I browsed to YouTube and entered the search phrase: “samsung 65 inch tv sound adjustment”. I got several useful hits, as shown below. The middle hit video showed an advanced setting for Adaptive Sound, which I needed.



Example 4 – Tutorial on Using Zoom

I do two monthly teaching sessions – one on investing and one on some technology topics of current interest, such as AI, networking, or photo editing. My preferred presentation venue is Zoom, which I can use to teach from my home office. Zoom works well, but one problem has been that some of our Sun City seniors have found getting Zoom to work difficult. It would be nice to teach a class on using Zoom; however, teaching a class on Zoom via Zoom is a classic “Catch-22”. What to do?

I browsed to YouTube and entered the search phrase: “joining a zoom meeting”. I got several helpful video hits. Below is a screenshot of one of the videos.



The video was a simple tutorial focusing solely on how a novice user could join a Zoom video session. That is the only procedure my class attendees would need to attend my Zoom sessions. Once I had reviewed the video, I copied the URL of that video so that I could include it in my email notice of the meeting as a helpful tutorial aid for beginners.

Closing Thoughts

The possibilities for finding online tutorials on YouTube are vast, all available for free. Alas, in this article, we’ve barely scratched the surface. A caveat is that, like all Internet content, there’s no guarantee that it’s up-to-date or even factually correct. The quality of videos can vary, and speakers make many with difficult-to-understand accents. Patience is the key to finding the gem that you are seeking.

