

**Remote access.** Can this be done through VPN or through a network attached storage (NAS) device, for example Synology NAS. Discussion covered whether remote user just needed access to the data file, or whether the remote user didn't have the program on their computer and needed to run the program on the local computer. Also discussed was whether it would be easier to send the data file by email or some other means that the other person could work with on their computer and then send the data file back to the original person if there were any changes. Files with certain extensions can't be sent via some email programs so might be necessary to change the file extension before sending and then change it back when received.

**Title of a book that had been discussed at a previous meeting:** The Thread Across The Ocean by John Steele Gordon, with subtitle Heroic Story of the Transatlantic Cable. There are several books available on the subject.

Al recommended an eBook: Piracy: The Intellectual Property Wars from Gutenberg to Gates by Adrian Johns.

Larry recommended the Morning Brew newsletter that compiles business and tech news and is available 6 days a week. <https://www.morningbrew.com/daily/issues/latest>

**Is Linux Mint a good version of Linux to use?** Suggestion was made to go to website DistroWatch (<https://distrowatch.com/>) to research different distributions including system requirements. Another comment: That's a good site but addictive.

**How to clone a hard drive in place?** The hard drive is failing and the time frame for cloning the drive might be extremely limited as drive overheats after about 30 minutes. There were several options discussed including connecting the drive being cloned to via USB. This would be the slowest option since it would require transferring data through USB. Computer might only support USB 2.0 speeds. If the failing drive is in a desktop computer with an available internal SATA connection, would be faster to open the case and connect the new drive via SATA. Both cases require a bootable flash drive with the cloning software

**File History in Windows 10.** File History backs up files to an external drive. An advantage to File History is that it keeps versions of each file so if you make changes and want to go back to a previous version it can be restored to either the same location or a different location. Can specify how often to back up, how long to keep versions, and which folders to backup. Can only specify folders, can't specify individual files. File History backs up some folders by default. Can choose to not back up all of the default folders and can add additional folders. If set to back up every 12 hours and computer is turned off for part of that time, not sure if it starts backing up immediately when computer is turned on or wait until it is 12 hours from last backup. Once the external drive is full, oldest versions of files are purged to provide room for additional backups.

If computer hard drive fails, after setting up new hard drive, should be able to connect external drive containing File History, add it under File History, and recover files to new hard drive.

Howard demonstrated how to find and restore previous versions from File History using File Explorer: Open File Explorer. Right click file name, click Properties, then click Previous Versions tab. Will show list of previous versions of the file.

Question: does encryption stop files from being saved in File History?

Howard also backs up files to a set of five flash drives, one for each week in the month.

Al uses iDrive for backup. iDrive only backs up files that are changed. Requires encryption key to use iDrive. If you lose the key, you can't access the files.

**Does Family Tree Maker still work on Windows 10?** It should. There are other genealogy programs that can import records from Family Tree Maker, e.g., Gramps (free/open source) and Roots Magic (\$29.95).

What is a good, free source for obtaining records on family members? Larry mentioned Grace A Dow Memorial Library (currently closed for in-person) and Latter-Day Saints (current status unknown). When open the Library has someone on the genealogy desk a certain number of hours every day to provide assistance.

There are several websites that indicate they are free but then ask for money before giving any usable information. The U.S. Census Bureau has records available through the 1940 census. They can't make the information publicly available until 72 years after the census so 1950 census information should be available in the spring of 2022.

**Office Suites.** LibreOffice and Open Office are both free office suites. Because of licensing issues, a group broke off from Open Office to create Libre Office. Both programs use the same file extensions so would not be good to install both on a computer at the same time. Microsoft 365 Home (formerly Office 365) is a subscription service that must be renewed every year. It includes Word, Excel, Power Point, One Note, Outlook, One Drive, and Skype. Windows version also includes Publisher. There are two options under Microsoft 365 Home. Personal version is for one user, up to five devices at a time, and 1 Tb One Drive cloud storage. Believe if a computer has multiple local user accounts and they all sign into Office 365 under the same Microsoft account, that counts as one device. Family Edition, \$99 a year, can be shared with up to five other users who use their own Microsoft accounts to sign into Microsoft 365. They do not have to be members of the same household. Each user can install/use on up to five devices at the same time and get 1 Tb One Drive cloud storage.

APCUG recently had a workshop that, among other things, covered **routers and modems**. The presenter suggested rebooting the router and modem twice a month. The question was asked, how often do members reboot router/modem. Most agreed they only reboot the router when they lose internet. Suggestion was made that it is a good idea to write down the steps for rebooting the router and modem so they are available. Al mentioned that U-verse has the capability to reset the browser through a special link, but this may not be available through routers from other ISP's.

Question was asked about a router losing 2.4 gigahertz signal but 5 gigahertz still working. New router, only old. Rebooting the router solved the problem. No suggestions as to possible cause or permanent resolution.

Larry talked about **researching towns with the same names** in different states or countries. Many towns have Facebook pages and Wikipedia entries.

**Microsoft OneDrive for backup** uses double encryption. Some members are using multiple cloud storage services. Biggest problem with using multiple services is it can be difficult to remember which files are stored on which Cloud service.

**Which fonts use the least ink.** Here are some articles on fonts that may use less ink when printing. Looks like they all agree on Garamond but will depend on how legible they are and how well they look on paper.

<https://www.tonerbuzz.com/blog/which-fonts-use-the-least-ink-toner/> (July 16, 2020)

[Fonts & Styles That Use Less Ink and Save You Money \(cash4toners.com\)](#) (July 30, 2018)

<https://www.smallbusinessbonfire.com/8-ink-efficient-fonts-for-your-small-business/> (July 30, 2020)