

# MC<sup>3</sup> Newsletter

October 2018

VOLUME 35 NUMBER 10

The October meeting of the McHenry County Computer Club is **October 10, 2018 at Salvation Army Building 290 W. Crystal Lake Ave., in Crystal Lake, IL.**

**NOTE:** *Enter the building on the parking lot level under the awning.*

## Meeting Agenda

- Introductions & Reports
- Q & A
- Mixed Reality - Al Edlund

## Upcoming Demos - Subject to Change

November 2018 - Libre Office Pivot Tables & More  
December 2018 - John Katkus Shows Off Special Raffle Prize

## Alternate Location for November & December

Since the Salvation Army uses our meeting space for their Red Bucket campaign, we will hold our November and December meetings at:

**Senior Services Associates**  
**110 W. Woodstock Street, Crystal Lake, IL.**

**NOTE:** *Park across the street and enter at the south door, or enter at the west side and park along the side or rear of the building.*

## Facebook is adding support for 250-person chats in Groups - Chaim Gartenberg/ the Verge

Today, Facebook is adding a new feature to Groups: giant, intergroup Messenger chats with the option to add up to 250 people, via TechCrunch.

The chats can also support audio or video calls with up to 50 people in them. The idea is that users in big groups — like a book club or surfing club — will be able to have smaller con-

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Our membership is \$26.00 a year.

**NOTE:** This fee offsets the running of the club; membership benefits include help with computer problems. Please pay Lyle Giese, our treasurer, or the designated Board Member in his absence.

## **MC<sup>3</sup> OFFICIALS**

### **President:**

Larry Freeman  
[lpfreeman@hotmail.com](mailto:lpfreeman@hotmail.com)

### **Vice President:**

Bob Wagner  
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### **Secretary:**

Bruce Ecersberg

### **Treasurer:**

Lyle Giese  
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### **Database Manager:**

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### **Newsletter:**

[info@Mc3ComputerClub.org](mailto:info@Mc3ComputerClub.org)  
(for articles & suggestions)

### **Past President:**

John Katkus

### **Webmaster:**

Cindi Carrigan

### **Board Members:**

Jack Luff, Al Edlund,  
Ken Schuring

versations about things like local meetups that may not be relevant to the entire group.

In-Group chats can be viewed by all members of the group, and anyone already in the group can join or be invited. Crucially, Facebook won't spam you with notifications for each message in the thread until you accept the invitation to join, and users will be able to further filter that by only getting notifications when they're directly @-mentioned. Group admins will also be able to shut down chats or set it so that only admins can start threads to help limit spam.

Facebook will slowly roll out the new Messenger features to Groups starting today.

## **Apple's Original Content Will Reportedly Be Free on Apple Devices - Gadgets 360**

Apple's original programming efforts will be free for those who own its devices, be it an iPhone, iPad, or Apple TV, according to a new report. That marks a shift in the approach it has taken until now, with the two reality series – Planet of the Apps and Carpool Karaoke: The Series – exclusive to Apple Music subscribers. It would be a good way to get a foot in the streaming-service door, and the report adds that Apple is also on the lookout for big 'tentpole' franchises that could headline a subscription-based offering in the near future.

People familiar with the matter told CNBC that Apple is essentially going to copy Amazon's Prime Video Channel subscriptions format available in the US and the UK. Via its in-built 'TV' app, Apple will provide access to its original content and content from other "legacy media companies" such as HBO. That way, Apple users wouldn't have to download separate apps for each provider. Apple's TV app is currently only available in 10 countries. India is not one of them, and hence it's unclear if or how the TV shows will be released here.

Apple will roll out the new TV app "early next year", sources told CNBC, though Apple declined to comment on the matter. Nearly two dozen projects, excluding season 2 of Carpool Karaoke, have been greenlit by Apple and are in the works. These include a reboot of Amazing Stories from Once Upon a Time creators, a morning show drama starring Jennifer Aniston and Reese Witherspoon, and a space drama called For All Mankind from Battlestar Galactica's Ronald D. Moore.

Then there's thriller drama Are You Sleeping starring Octavia Spencer, Lizzy Caplan, and Aaron Paul, a drama series from La La Land director Damien Chazelle, immigrant anthology series Little America from Kumail Nanjiani, a thriller from M. Night Shyamalan, an adaptation of Isaac Asimov's Foundation series, coming-of-age comedy series Dickinson starring Hailee Steinfeld, and an adaptation of Gregory David Roberts' Shantaram.

One thing they all have in common is Apple's heavy emphasis on family-friendly programming, meaning there will be no sex or violence in these TV shows. Apple is reportedly spending \$1 billion on original content in 2018, which is expected to hit a total of \$4.2 billion by 2022.

## **US weapons systems can be 'easily hacked' - BBC News**

Some of the most cutting-edge weapons in the US's military arsenal can be "easily hacked" using "basic tools", a government report has concluded.

The Government Accountability Office (GAO) found "mission-critical" cyber-vulnerabilities in nearly all weapons systems tested between 2012 and 2017.

That includes the newest F-35 jet as well as missile systems.

Pentagon officials had no immediate response to the 50-page report from the Senate Armed Services Committee.

The committee's members expressed concerns about how protected weapon systems were against cyber-attacks.

The report's main findings were:

- the Pentagon did not change the default passwords on multiple weapons systems - and one changed password was guessed in nine seconds
- a team appointed by the GAO was able to easily gain control of one weapons system and watch in real time as the operators responded to the hackers
- it took another two-person team only one hour to gain initial access to a weapons system and one day to gain full control
- many of the test teams were able to copy, change or delete system data with one team downloading 100 gigabytes of information

The GAO added that the Pentagon "does not know the full scale of its weapons system vulnerabilities".

Ken Munro, an expert at security firm Pen Test Partners, said he was "not at all surprised" by the findings.

"It takes a long time to develop a weapons system, often based on iterations of much older systems. As a result, the components and software can be based on very old, vulnerable code.

"Developers often overlook 'hardening' the security of systems after they've got them operating, with the philosophy, 'it's working, so don't mess with it'.

"However, that's no excuse. This report shows some very basic security flaws that could easily have been addressed by changing passwords and keeping software up-to-date."

## **World's Longest Non-Stop Flight - Singapore Airlines**

The world's longest commercial flight has left Singapore for New York, beginning a journey expected to cover more than 15,000km in almost 19 hours.

A spokeswoman for Singapore Airlines said Flight SQ22 departed at approximately 15:35GMT with 150 passengers and 17 crew.

The flight from Changi Airport to Newark took off amid much fanfare.

The flight time is about 90 minutes longer than the previous longest non-stop service.

Qantas launched a 17-hour non-stop service from Perth to London earlier this year, while Qatar runs a 17.5-hour service between Auckland and Doha.

Have passengers been snapping up the tickets?

Singapore Airlines (SIA) said there was demand for customers for non-stop services which help cut travelling times compared with flights which have a stopover.

Ahead of the take-off, the airline told the BBC that business class seats for the flight were fully booked, and there were "a very limited number" of premium economy seats left.

The airline is not planning to offer any economy bookings on the route.

A business class ticket will entitle passengers to two meals, and the choice of when they are served, plus refreshments in between. They will also have a bed to sleep in.

Premium economy fares will get three meals at fixed times, with refreshments in between.

## **Aging In Place - Digitally! - TechNewsWorld**

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The U.S. currently has a population of 51 million citizens age 65 and older, according to Index Mundi and the CIA Factbook. That number is expected to double by 2060.

Meeting the demands of a rapidly aging U.S. population has given rise to a multibillion-dollar home care industry serving millions of Americans who hire private-duty home care agencies and their paid caregivers to provide personal care for clients.

The introduction of technologies like the software platform that saved the day for the elderly Dana Point woman is just one of several major trends -- for example, fewer nursing homes, a nursing shortage, digital senior care, home automation -- currently transforming the eldercare industry.

At the forefront of these industry trends is the idea of "Aging in Place," defined by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) as "the ability to live in one's own home and community safely, independently and comfortably, regardless of age, income or ability level."

The technology to make Aging in Place possible relies extensively on the Internet, plus a slew of smart devices and apps such as GPS location tracking on smartphones and tablets, remote monitoring of health conditions, medical alert systems, voice-activation gadgets and more.

Some examples:

**Care Coordination** -- CaringBridge is a care-sharing tool primarily used during a health crisis. Family and friends log on to get progress reports and sign up for assignments. The iPhone and iPad app synchronizes to a website.

**Medication Management Devices and Systems** -- On average, someone age 65-plus takes five medicines a day, according to AARP. Medication systems help aging parents stay on track -- and let family members know about any disruptions. CareZone is a free app that users set to buzz the phone when it's time to take pills. Users take a photo of a pill bottle and upload it, and the app transcribes the label and adds it to a medication list. MedMinder is a flashing, beeping digital pill dispenser with messages prerecorded in a family member's voice. Reminder Rosie, the Personal Voice Reminder, features a talking clock.

**Social Engagement Tools** -- grandCARE utilizes large touchscreens to enable residents at home or in long-term care to have video chats with family, get the news, play games, visit websites and more.

Other features: medication prompts, sensor monitoring, and telehealth device recording (e.g., glucose, pulse, weight, etc.). Caregivers can connect to a website portal from any Web-connected device.

**GeriJoy**, often used by people with mild to moderate Alzheimer's, features a touchscreen tablet that "talks." Tap the screen and a snoozing "virtual pet" (dog or cat) "wakes up," and interactive chatting begins.

A remote trained staff operates and speaks through the screen. Staffers know each client's interests and might ask knowledgeable personal questions. Family can inform remote staff about things happening on any given day.

**S.O.S. Safety Devices** -- Personal emergency response systems (PERS) such as medic alert-like pendants and wristbands have been getting more sophisticated. These devices can be pressed during an emergency to alert family members and professionals about any problems or trouble.

Some companies, like GreatCall and MobileHelp, have mobile PERS that work anywhere, not just in a client's home -- and they include fall detection. If the PERS senses a fall, it alerts a call center even if the user hasn't pressed the button.

### **No Place Like Home**

An optimum home care program features experienced, trained and supervised in-home caregivers providing personalized, one-to-one social, physical and cognitive support care and assistance with Activities of Daily Living, or ADLs.

Most adults would prefer to remain in their home of choice for as long as possible, and one-third of American households are home to one or more residents 60 years of age or older, according to AARP, which reports that 90 percent of adults older than 65 have indicated that they would prefer to stay in their current residence as they age.

### **Innovation Never Gets Old**

The most important trend regarding eldercare technology in the U.S. today is the movement toward smart home technology that allows control of a home's systems without the need for touching any controls, according to Laurie Orlov, principal analyst at Aging in Place Technology Watch.

Aging in Place Technology Watch is a Port St. Lucie, Florida-based market research firm that provides thought leadership, analysis and guidance about technologies and services that enable boomers and other seniors to remain longer in their homes of choice.

Enabling older adults to control technology by using their voices reduces their dependency on keyboards, an important advantage when finger dexterity has diminished.

Some of the major problems facing the eldercare technology industry today, according to Orlov, are the following:

"The venture capital industry is not interested in the space and prefers to focus on the young," she

told TechNewsWorld, “and the largest technology companies tend not to focus on this market either, also preferring to design for the young. Moreover, there’s the often prohibitive cost of technology for older adults. Most still require WiFi in the home, and at the older age ranges, WiFi access is limited and/or costly.”

Regarding the future as boomers reach their later years, Orlov said that with greater access to WiFi, along with other lower technology costs, “older adults will benefit from many innovations under way today.”