

MC³ Newsletter

August 2017

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The August meeting of the McHenry County Computer Club is **August 12th**, at the Salvation Army Building, 290 W. Crystal Lake Ave., in Crystal Lake.

Meeting Agenda

- Introductions & Reports
- **Demo – “Ad-Blocker” | Bob Wagner, and “Using Pi-Hole with Ad-Blocker” | Ken Schuring**

Upcoming Demos - Subject to Change

- September: Anniversary meeting – Pizza & Q&A.

July Q & A



There was no written Q & A for July

From Extreme Tech - Joel Hruska: August 9, 2017

Disney Dumps Netflix, Will Launch Own Streaming Service in 2019

Barely a year ago, Disney announced a major deal with Netflix to distribute all of its future movies on the company's service. Today, that deal is (mostly) dead. During its earnings report today, the House of Mouse announced it will remove its films from Netflix in 2019 and launch its own streaming service later that same year.

To launch its new service, Disney paid \$1.58 billion to acquire another 42-percent stake in BAMTech, a company that specializes in “direct-to-consumer streaming technology and marketing services, data analytics, and commerce management.” It plans to launch an ESPN-branded sports streaming service in 2018, with a general consumer service following the year later. This new service will be the exclusive home for movies like Toy Story 4 and Frozen 2: Freezer Burn (not an actual title), and the live-action version of The Lion King. The company adds:

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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.

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Ken Schuring

Disney will also make a significant investment in an annual slate of original movies, TV shows, short-form content and other Disney-branded exclusives for the service. Additionally, the service will feature a vast collection of library content, including Disney and Pixar movies and Disney Channel, Disney Junior and Disney XD television programming.

Back when services like Netflix and Hulu were new, pundits and cord cutters predicted an avalanche of back catalogs and killer new shows would make cable companies, with their sky-high bills and ever-increasing pricing, completely obsolete. Instead of paying over a hundred bucks a month for hundreds of channels you never watch, people would pony up a few dollars for streaming services. It was a nice fantasy, but it completely ignored one critical fact: Neither cable companies nor entertainment titans were going to swap billions of dollars in revenue from cable subscriptions for pennies on the dollar from streaming services.



Given the studios huge back catalog and ongoing investment in TV and live-action film, this kind of service makes perfect sense. CBS thinks Star Trek fans will pay for its online service just to watch the new show (it's wrong about that), and you can bet a lot of studios are watching to see if consumers will pay a per-studio or service fee for each individual company. We could be headed for a bright future of paying \$8 to \$15 each to a dozen different companies, provided you're willing to go the legal route.

<https://www.extremetech.com/internet/253863-disney-dumps-netflix-will-launch-film-service-2019>

CNet - Amanda Kooser: August 11, 2017

See wispy clouds drift across the sky on Mars

Step into the Curiosity rover's wheels for a moment and admire the shifting clouds of Mars with this NASA animation.

If you've ever paused to gaze up at the sky just to watch the clouds, then you have something in common with NASA's Mars Curiosity rover. On July 17, the rover captured a series of images showing clouds moving across the Martian sky and the result is haunting. NASA enhanced and accelerat-

ed the sequence of images and released the animations on Thursday.

More Mars

The images represent Curiosity's best look yet at clouds on Mars.

"It is likely that the clouds are composed of crystals of water ice that condense out onto dust grains where it is cold in the atmosphere," said John Moores, a member of the Curiosity science team. He describes the wispy cloud patterns as "fall streaks" or "mare's tails," which also form on Earth at high altitudes.

The rover just recently celebrated the fifth anniversary of its August 2012 landing on Mars. NASA shared another fascinating animation of the sands shifting under the Curiosity rover earlier in 2017. Between the two, we have both the ground and the sky of Mars covered.

<https://www.cnet.com/uk/news/nasa-rover-mars-curiosity-clouds-gif-animation/>

Top Tech News - August 7, 2017

Will the iPhone 8 Be Able To Scan Your Face?

The iPhone 8 reveal is almost here, and we will soon get our first official look at the latest flagship. However, until then we can expect leaks and tips, and here is what the latest ones talk about.

The first leak shows X-Ray shots of the phone from Chinese social network Weibo, and Apple tipster Benjamin Geskin. This leak shows two iPhone templates in production, one with a TFT-LCD screen, and one with an OLED screen, which could be the iPhone 7S and iPhone 8 respectively.

The iPhone 8 scan also looks like it has bigger room for battery.

The templates also show room for a charging coil which could mean that wireless charging is coming to the phone. Earlier rumors also hinted at a glass back for the iPhone 7S Plus, which could enable wireless charging more easily than the usual metal finish.

Another feature talked about is the new face recognition capability, or Face ID. After some digging into the HomePod firmware code, a reference for a resting state popped up, which suggested that you'll be able to unlock your iPhone with a glance even when it's sat down flat on a surface.

We can't confirm the authenticity of these rumors and leaks. However, they do back up earlier rumors. We will know more once the phone is officially announced next month.

http://www.toptechnews.com/article/index.php?story_id=022000OS2COQ

