

# MC<sup>3</sup> Newsletter

October 2019

VOLUME 36 NUMBER 10

The September meeting of the McHenry County Computer Club is **October 12, 2019 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
- Extended Q & A
- Anniversary Party

## Upcoming Demos - Subject to Change

October - Digital Photography Topix, What Was Not Covered In Part I”.

Please let a board member know if you have any ideas for upcoming demos.

## 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, Inc.  
4704 Three Oaks Rd (just West of Holiday Inn across Rt. 31)  
Crystal Lake, IL 60014

**This is a new address!**

**NOTE:** Enter “Activity Door” - north door on the east side.

## Visual Studio 2019 Community Edition - Tom Burt, Sun City Computer Club

Most of our club members are content to simply use software programs that are provided with their computer’s operating system, or programs that they purchase or download for free. However, a few may wish to have the freedom and flexibility that comes with being able to create your own custom pro-

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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  
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### **Vice President:**

Bob Wagner  
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### **Secretary:**

Bruce Ecersberg

### **Treasurer:**

Lyle Giese  
[lyle@lcrcomputer.com](mailto:lyle@lcrcomputer.com)

### **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

grams to do some specific function or to use a preferred user interface. Programming an application for Windows can be daunting because so much of the coding effort goes into managing the screen, keyboard and mouse interactions.

For several years, Microsoft has been providing a free version of their Visual Studio developer tools called “Visual Studio Express” or, recently, “Visual Studio Community Edition”. The newest version is “Visual Studio 2019 Community Edition”. It includes the Visual Basic.Net, Visual C#.Net and Visual C++ languages, an extensive set of built in interactive components, plus an Integrated Development Environment with debugger and Microsoft’s “Intellisense” assistance to make Windows programming easier than ever. It is designed to run on the Windows 7, 8.1, and 10 desktops. It can create many types of applications, including traditional desktop apps, “Modern/Metro/Universal” apps, web applications and even apps for Android and iOS mobile devices.

You can download Visual Studio 2019 Community Edition at the following hyperlink:

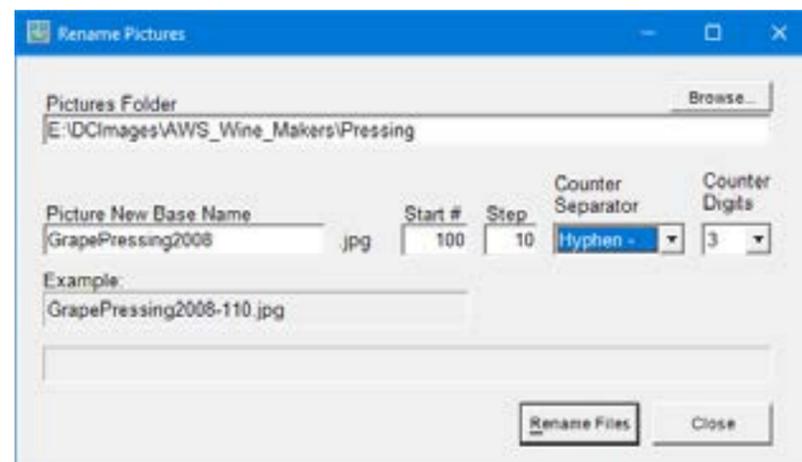
<https://visualstudio.microsoft.com/vs/>

Space here doesn’t allow me to even scratch the surface of programming in Visual Studio, which uses the “.Net” framework runtime environment. However, for those interested, I’ve built PictureRenamer.exe, a simple bulk picture renaming tool using VB.Net 2019. I use this tool often to rename a set of images in a folder to something more meaningful than the “Img-nnnn.jpg” names that come from my cell-phone came

The picture renamer program lets you select a folder of images, set a base name, a starting number, a step increment, a separator pattern and the number of digits to use in the sequence number to use for the resultant file names. As these settings are changed, an example of the resultant file name is displayed.

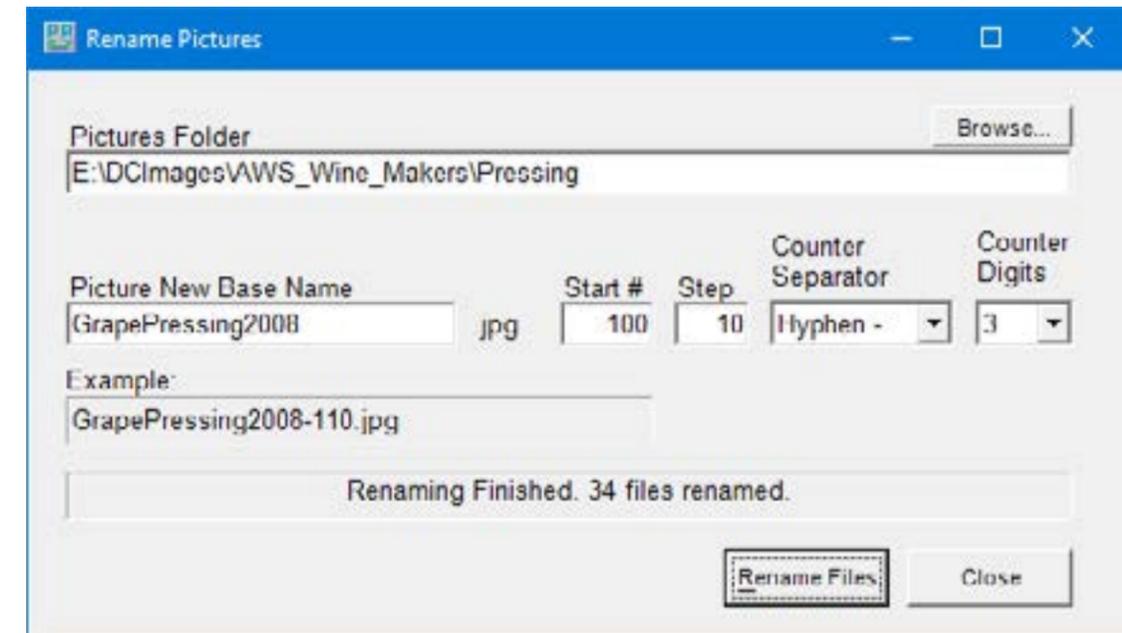
When the rename settings are suitable, the user clicks the “Rename Files” button and the program sets about renaming the image files in that folder. A file is considered an image file if its suffix is: .jpg, .png, .bmp or .tif. Files with other suffixes are ignored.

See the following screen shot to get an idea how this actually looks.



Picture Renamer Set Up to Perform Renames

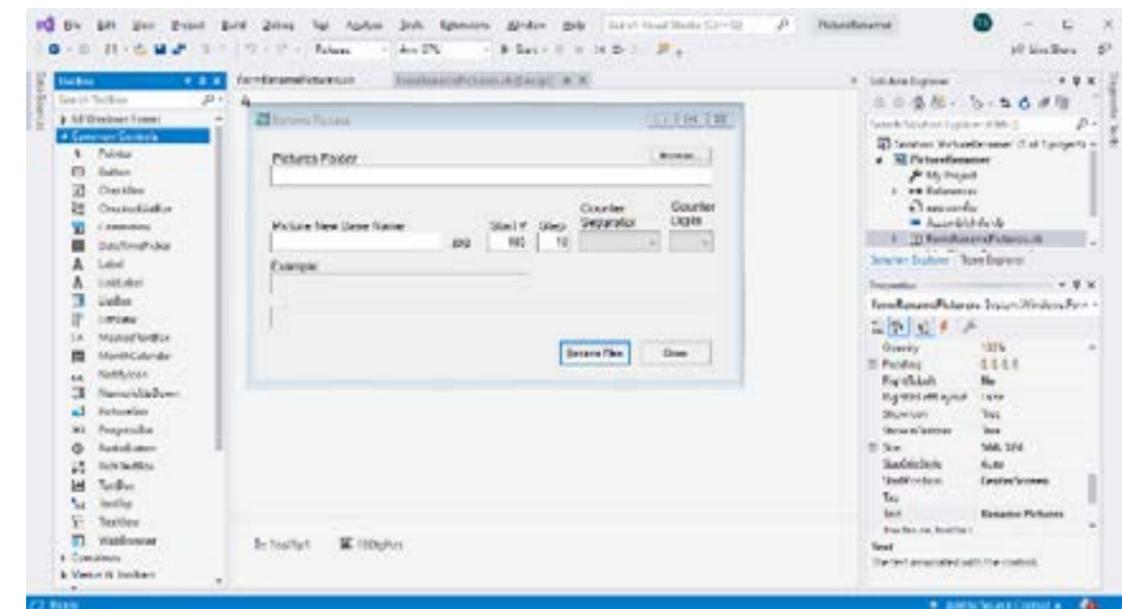
After the user clicks the “Rename Files” button, the program renames the qualifying image files in the folder using the base name, separator and successive sequence numbers.



Picture Renamer After Run

The Picture Renamer program is implemented as a Windows Desktop application. It has only a single screen. The “Browse” button opens a standard Windows “Select Folder” dialog that allows the user to pick the folder whose images are to be renamed.

To view or edit the program’s project file and source code, you must first have installed Visual Studio 2019 Community Edition. Double click the PictureRenamer.vbproj file in the extracted set of files. From there you’re off and running.



Visual Studio 2019 Developer Interface – Design View



3. Don't forget – color change can be as or more effective than size change in some circumstances.

4. Many programs have “options” or “preferences” that can be set to make viewing easier. Where these do not exist, third-party “extensions” can provide additional modifications not included by the developer.

Don't forget about using ZOOM to make individual pages larger or smaller when needed, rather than changing the entire machine unnecessarily.



Hopefully, you got an idea or two in this. In coming issues, we will talk about:

- Does size matter?
- Things in your hands
- Cords, Voice, Sound, and other hazards

