



FEBRUARY 9, 2019 GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

The regular monthly meeting of the Prescott Mac User Group (PMUG) was held on Saturday, February 9, 2019, at 10:00 a.m., at the Yavapai College, Building 4, Room 102.

The President, John Carter, presided over the meeting. The Recording Secretary, Bobbie Pastor, was present at the meeting. We had 48 people in attendance. This was a record total for our club.

The guests were made welcome. They were: Jimmy Duke, Phil Groves, Gerald and Mary Mitchell, Michael and Joyce Gatson. We also got a visit from longtime former members, Bob Kitterer and his wife Dolores McComas. They had a box of computer related items that they offered free, to our membership. Thank you both, for thinking about us.

New members since last month: Melinda Westcott, Diana Vollmer, Bill and Linda Cecil.

Business Meeting: We approved the Minutes for the last meeting. Sharon Walsh gave the Treasurer's Report. We had a closing balance for January: \$3121.56. A complete financial report is on our website. Click on Meeting Information → Minutes and Financials.

John talked about the member's participation in the reviewing of software. He said anyone who has bought a particular software program and feels he has mastered it, please consider doing a review. Just write down your experiences and thoughts and submit to John Carter. He will, in turn, format your text and submit for a review.

Mary Albertson, our Public Relations Chair, announced that we have more brochures. And she has made a flyer for us to post somewhere in our personal environments. Such as a bulletin board in the community center, if one lives in such a place. Or, if you see a place on the grocery store bulletin board. Just about anywhere we might come across, as a good place to advertise.

John talked about the survey that was handed out to the members as they came in. He asked us to please fill out the survey to help us better understand the knowledge needs of the club.

John mentioned that the Board is seeking new talent to give presentations. He urged us to volunteer to give a presentation on any aspect of Apple devices that we particularly like.

Mac Brunch will be held on Wednesday, February 27, at the Prescott Junction. We meet in the back room at around 10:00 a.m.

Frank announced that Bob Kitterer former member, brought us a box of free computer stuff and it is on the back wall of the classroom.

Short Topics: John Carter presented us with a couple of topics that he feels would be important to us.

Flash Player: Apple feels that Adobe Flash Player is too easily hacked by third party people. John suggests you uninstall Adobe Flash Player. Here is a [LINK](#).

If you need to use Flash Player, go through the Chrome browser. Chrome has a built-in Flash Player that is not as susceptible to third party hackers.

Frank mentioned that all the HTML5 format which is being used now can handle all the aspects of Flash Player.

ONYX: John said there is a different ONYX version for each version of the Mac. You need to be sure you pick the right version of ONYX on the website:
<https://www.titanium-software.fr/en/onyx.html>. Don't download from any other site. It is free.

When you open up the application for the first time, go ahead and let it check everything in the Maintenance page. It will take a long time. You don't have to have everything checked after that. Run ONYX about once a month.

CleanmyMac: A software program that is really good. The price is dependent on how many Macs you want to cover. Check the website: <https://cleanmymac.com>.

Disk Utility: If you want to check the validity of your Hard Drive or any External Drive, you can use Disk Utility.

One way to get Disk Utility: Go to Finder → across the Menu Bar you will find: Go → Click on Go and follow the dropdown Menu to Utilities. Scroll all the way down until you find the Utility folder → scroll down until you find Disk Utility.

Open Disk Utility and click on the First Aid tab. Make sure that the bottom device on the Sidebar is highlighted. Example: MacPro HD, Macintosh HD. Click on RUN. This may take a long time.

If problems are found, they are noted. However, to fix these problems, another process is needed to repair. The repair is done by Restarting the computer in Recovery Mode, by holding down the 'R' key while the computer Restarts.

When the computer reboots, it will open to a very limited menu. On this menu, you will find another Disk Utility. Open it up and you will find exactly the same window, and click on First Aid. This time, you will be able to Repair as well.

The discussion came up about downloading apps not found at the App Store. Art advised us against downloading apps from the Internet. Although there are many perfectly viable apps offered on the Internet, we are really taking a chance of downloading them.

We broke for social time.

Main Topic: Frank Croft talked about Hidden Features in Software.

First, Frank made a pitch for anyone to volunteer to be a Presenter. Frank assured us that having a high skill level in public speaking is not necessary. Just talk about an app or a program that is a favorite and one that would be of interest to the membership as a whole.

Frank talked about the different operating systems Apple uses in its devices. There is MacOS, iOS, tvOS and Apple Watch. Here is a [LINK](#) that will give you more information.

Stacks: (Desktop organizer) Go to Finder → View ↓ Use Stacks. Stacks is a feature of macOS available on the desktop and in the Dock. Stacks on the desktop (introduced in macOS Mojave) organizes clutter by automatically stacking files into groups by name, kind, dates, size, or Finder tags. In the Dock, stacks provide quick access to frequently used files or folders.

Dark Mode: A feature introduced in macOS Mojave that transforms the desktop and built-in apps with a darkened color scheme to put the focus on user content. Frank loves the feature for his photography but finds the Light Mode more conducive to his email program. You can turn it on and off depending on the program you are using.

Dynamic Desktop: This is a fun feature. A desktop picture that automatically changes throughout the day. The Dynamic Desktop in macOS Mojave includes a series of beautiful desert images that match the time of day in your current location.

Favicons: (Short for Favorite Icons) Favicons are back in macOS Mojave. Favicon is an icon associated with a URL that is variously displayed, as in a browser's address bar or next to the site name in a bookmark list.

Security/Privacy: Frank talked about Autofill and Keychain. Frank admitted that he had never used those features because he didn't trust his information being in a "cloud". He used a Password Manager (that didn't store data in the Cloud) to facilitate his passwords. Now, he has had a change of mind.

All Password Manager programs store your data in the Cloud. Frank has the belief that the Apple iCloud is just as secure as any Cloud-based companies out there.

Frank said he has full confidence in Apple's Keychain program. Art mentioned an article where an expert in the field of security, said he preferred using his Password Manager program for his critical passwords and the Keychain for everything else. Frank said he does the same thing. Frank uses a Password Manager as well, in addition to Keychain. Here is a [LINK](#) to an article about choosing a Password Manager software. The password Manager has one more level of security.

Short Points:

*Emojis - Mail has a tab for emojis now. You don't have to go out of Mail to use the emojis now.

*Permissions - Mojave gives more control on what apps can access the Camera, Microphone and other sensitive user data. Go to Systems Preferences → Security & Privacy → where you can access your security preferences.

*Siri - You can ask Siri to open up your list of iCloud Keychain passwords, which are synced across your devices. Siri can now answer questions related to food, celebrities, and motorsports.

*Group FaceTime - macOS Mojave and iOS 12, features support for Group FaceTime conversations that include up to 32 people. As of this writing, the security breach has been resolved. It is safe to use the app.

*Finder Improvements - Apple overhauled Finder in macOS Mojave, making it easier to find, view, and manipulate the files on your Mac. New view option, Gallery, gives you metadata on the Sidebar. (Metadata is data about data.)

*Screenshot Improvements - New Screenshot shortcut: (Shift + Command + 5), opens up a new interface where you can choose Markup options. This new interface includes two new screen recording features for recording your entire screen or a portion of it. The Options button lets you save it to a particular destination. And that stays as default, even if you use the other modes for using Screenshots.

*Dock - Your most recently used apps are shown on the Mac's Dock, right above the trash can. Can be toggled on or off in System Preferences.

*Software Updates - Software Update options (macOS) are now located in a new "Software Update" section in System Preferences instead of in the Mac App Store. Frank believes it is a must that you have your devices automatically update. iOS Settings → General → Software Update. Turn on Automatic Updates. In order for your device to automatically update, it must be plugged in and on Wi-Fi, in the overnight hours.

*USB Restricted Mode - Is a privacy safeguard that prevents a USB accessory using the Lightning port from making data connections with an iOS device. The device has to be locked for over an hour. To do this, go to Settings → Face ID & Passcode → USB Accessories. Toggle on (Green) means a connection can be made at any time. No restrictions. Here is a [LINK](#) to more information.

*Notifications - There is an option to enable notification previews in the Notifications section of the System Preferences.

*Do Not Disturb - iOS 12 - Tap down on the Do Not Disturb icon, in the Control Center, and get a menu where you can select - "For one hour," "Until tomorrow morning," "Until I leave this location."

*tvOS - Want to know where the screensaver pictures are taken? Well, now, you can tap on the trackpad in the middle of the Apple remote, and the text appears in the left bottom corner of the screen.

Start the screen saver whenever you want. Go to the TV icon on the home page of your Apple Tv. Press the Menu button on your Apple TV Remote.

Want to change the Aerial Screen Saver? On the Apple Remote, while the screen saver is playing, swipe right or left on top of the remote's Touch surface.

Need to manage your storage? Do you know how much storage each app is taking up? Open Settings from your Home screen on your Apple Tv. Go to General → Manage Storage. Here is a [LINK](#) for information.

Want to download a new video? Go to Settings → General → Screen Saver and select Download New Video. Here is a [LINK](#) to more information.

*Customize your Control Center - Go into the Control Center in Settings. Put in the items you want to use and the ones you don't, remove them. You have quick access to the locked screen, by swiping down from the top right-hand side.

*Widgets - From the Home screen, swipe to the right. There you have the most used apps listed. You can add and remove all but the most important apps.

*Apple TV Remote - Download this app, and you will be able to control your Apple TV from your phone or iPad. It makes a better remote than the little remote that came with your Apple TV.

*AirPods - The AirPods will hook up to the Apple TV. This allows complete movement around the house, while you are listening to the TV.

*Activity Monitor - for your Watch OS. This tells you how far you have walked, run, jog, etc.

*Siri is turned on, on the Lock Screen. You really don't want this. Someone can get into your phone and to some of your information. Go to Settings → Siri & Search → "Allow Siri when locked" → turn off.

John took Q & A from the floor.

We did our drawing for the door prizes. Take Control Books - won by Frank Croft and Deborah Neff. The Staples gift card - won by Mary Mitchell. The iTunes card - won by David Haines.

Next month's topic: The Short Presentation will be on Apple TV and MacMost.com. The Main presentation will be a comparison between Pages, Word, and LibreOffice for Mac.

Adjourned at 12 noon.

Submitted by,
Bobbie Pastor
PMUG Secretary
(February 25, 2019)