The CKCS Newsletter

Central Kentucky Computer Society®

December 2022 Volume 38, Issue 12 38 Years of Teaching Tech

A monthly newsletter of CKCS, Central Kentucky Computer Society® in Lexington, Kentucky

Winter starts at 4:47 P.M. (E.S.T.) on Wednesday, Dec. 21.

The CKCS Resource Center is located at 160 Moore Drive, Suite 107.
Join CKCS today or **register** for classes and workshops online:
www.ckcs.org/store
Phone: (859) 373-1000
www.ckcs.org

CKCS SIG Meetings (Special Interest Groups)

Amateur Photographers Club
Dec. 1, 8, 15
In person at CKCS. May resort to Zoom meetings if conditions warrant. Contact Boone Baldwin for more details about meetings.

Windows SIG
Dec. 13 at 7 P.M.
Zoom only

'All Things Apple' **SIG**
Dec. 20 at 7 P.M.
Zoom only

Digital Photography SIG
No Dec. Meeting

Complete List of 2023 CKCS Spring Classes & Workshops

Annual CKCS Holiday Party on Dec. 12 @ 7 P.M.

This year's party topic: Virtual Reality

Learn more

Join us in person at CKCS as we celebrate the holidays with our annual party. CKCS provides the coffee and soft drinks. You provide the holiday treats. **Those attending will be eligible to win** a Mopie Powerstation (a universal external battery to charge smartphones, tablets, and more.) Hope to see you there!

Happy Holidays from CKCS.

President's Comments

Oh, what a difference two years and COVID vaccines make. We have been back to in-person classes and are about to have our first real Holiday Party since 2019. Do not miss the party this year because we have a special presentation on virtual reality. We all have heard about VR, but few of us really understand it or have experienced it. **Read more**

Notable December Dates Some Wacky. Some Not.

Dec. 1 - Rosa Parks Day
Dec. 2 - National Mutt Day
Dec. 7 - National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
Dec. 8 - National Christmas Tree Day
Dec. 9 - Christmas Card Day
Dec. 10 - Human Rights Day
Dec. 10 - Dewey Decimal Day
Dec. 14 – Roast Chestnuts Day
Dec. 16 - Boston Tea Party Day
Dec. 17 - Wright Brother's First Flight Anniversary
Dec. 18 - Hanukkah begins at sundown
Dec. 20 - Go Caroling Day
Dec. 21 - First Day of Winter
Dec. 21 - Crossword Puzzle Day
Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve
Dec. 25 - Christmas Day
Dec. 26 - Kwanzaa
Dec. 31 - New Year's Eve

Typical December Weather in LEX

Lexington's average daily December high is 45°, while the average overnight low is 30°. Cloud cover increases so that 60% of the month is spent in mostly cloudy or overcast conditions.

The clearest December day in Lexington is often the second – with mostly clear or partly cloudy skies 46% of the time. The earliest sunrise of the month is at 7:35 A.M. on December first.

The day, on average, when the least amount of sunshine reaches the ground is December 25.

Wanderlog describes a typical December day in Lexington: "Really cold with a gentle breeze."

The daily chance of rain or snow is 33%. The amount of daylight is 9.6 hours. Of course, the shortest day of the year is Dec. 21, the first day of winter.

Wanderlog notes the distant city with temperatures most like Lexington in December is Tbilsi, Georgia.

Source: Weatherspark & Wanderlog

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Click on a topic to visit that page.

The Membership of CKCS

New and Renewing Members
for the period Oct. 22 to Nov. 21

Provided by CKCS Board Member Ben Rice

CKCS Membership

New Members

Pam Brisky
Mary Havelda
Judith V Humble
Sheila Kenny
Martha Payne
Thomas J. Schweri

Renewing Members

Kathy Brinegar
Larry A. Cox
Sandy Emerson
Francis Fresh
Ric E McGee
Carmel Wallace
Gail Waller

Your membership makes a difference!

CKCS Resource Center
160 Moore Drive, Suite 107
Lexington, Ky. 40513
(859) 373–1000
www.ckcs.org

Incorporated in 1984
Teaching Tech for Nearly Four Decades!

Who's Who at CKCS?

Officers
Tenure ends June 2023
President: Brooke Thomas
Vice–President: Joe Dietz
Secretary: Larry Trivette
Treasurer: Jim McCormick

Directors
Tenure ends June 2024
Boone Baldwin
Jan Landers–Lyman
Ben Rice
Mike Seiler
Pat Vaughan

Tenure ends June 2023
Bob Brown
Janet Cartmell
Larry Mitchum
Eugene Potter
Pennie Redmond

Webmasters
Bob Brown
Wendell Curtis

Class Coordinator
Janet Cartmell

Office Supervisors
Jenny Brown
Bob Brown
Jan Landers–Lyman
Mike Seiler
Larry Trivette
Wendell Curtis
Nancy Bowling
Lydia Short
Edith Conyers

Alternate Supervisors
Sandra O'Neal
Cookie Dungan
Bonnie Sousley
Helen Pope
Eugene Potter
Maria Han

CKCS Online Calendar
Wendell Curtis

CKCS Newsletter Calendar
Larry Trivette

Newsletter Editor
Kurt Jefferson

Newsletter Proofreaders
Ben Rice
Brooke Thomas
Gail Waller
Pat Vaughan
Lydia Short

Mail Chimp Manager
Larry Mitchum

Refreshment Center
Jim Hughes

Website links used in the CKCS newsletter are in no way associated with CKCS. In addition, the linked websites do not endorse CKCS.

We include these links in this newsletter as a service to the reader. We attempt to provide high–quality content and believe the links provide a great addition to what you are reading.

Member of apcug

Spring 2023 CKCS Classes & Workshops

Here is the list of scheduled courses for spring 2023. **Registration by phone, online or in-person begins January second.**

Intro To Photoshop Elements (Windows)	Monday, Feb. 6, 13, 20, 27, March 6 & 13	11 A.M. – 1 P.M. CKCS classroom	In this introductory course to Adobe's Photoshop Elements program for Windows PC, we will learn to use the tools of this program to do basic photo enhancements, including quick fixes, cropping, cloning, spot healing, red-eye removal, levels, and adding borders. We will also discuss photo considerations before printing, introducing layers, converting images to black and white, enhancing and restoring old photos, adding text, using brushes, graphics, adjustment layers, templates, special features, filters, and creating a slide show. **Price: $60 for non-members, $48 for CKCS members.**
Photo Stacking and Photo Stitching	Monday, Feb. 6, 13, 20, 27	1 P.M. – 3 P.M. SIG room	Learn the photo stacking technique, which takes multiple images and processes them into one photograph that is in focus from front to back. This can be done in close-up, microphotography, and large landscape scenes. Students will also learn the photo stitching technique, which overlaps 2, 3, 4, or more images to create one panoramic print. Bring your camera with a fully charged battery, the camera manual, a tripod, and a notepad. **Price: $50 for non-members, $40 for CKCS members.**
Getting the Most Out of Your iPhone	Tuesday, Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28, March 7 & 14	1 P.M –3 P.M. CKCS classroom	Learn the essential (and hidden) functions of your iPhone. Learn how to download apps, move, nest, and delete them. Learn how to get better photos with your phone, organize your pictures, and send them in text and emails. Texting messages and using Siri will also be covered. Participants should bring their (fully charged) iPhone and know (or bring) their passcode, Apple ID, and password. Requires an iPhone – any version. **Price: $60 for non-members, $48 for CKCS members.**
Apple Watch Tips	Thursday, Feb. 23	1 P.M. – 4 P.M. SIG room	This workshop will cover 10+ tips on doing more than telling the time with your Apple Watch. You will learn how to get help in an emergency, remove apps from your watch, share a photo from your watch, make the text size larger, adjust brightness and wake duration, change the layout of your watch, mute your watch notifications, use your watch as an alarm clock, use auto-pause for workouts, use your watch as a running or walking light at night, unlock your iPhone with your watch, use wrist motion to activate Siri, and find your iPhone with your watch. An Apple Watch 6 will be used for the demonstration. However, many features are similar in the different Apple Watches using the WatchOS 9. **Price: $30 for non-members, $24 for CKCS members.**
Photography: Seeing the Light	Monday, March 6	1 P.M. – 4 P.M. SIG room	Lighting can make a difference in taking a good photograph versus a great one. You will learn how the camera sees the light and ways to manipulate light to enhance the picture. Topics include the electromagnetic spectrum, setting monitor color space, white balance, color temperatures and histograms, filters, hard and soft light, and backlighting. **Price: $30 for non-members, $24 for CKCS members.**
Computer Basics For a Windows PC	Thursday, March 9, 16, 23, 30, April 6 & 13	10 A.M. – 12 noon CKCS classroom	Learn the fundamentals of using a Windows 10 computer. Learn to use various aspects of the Microsoft word processing program, including manipulating text and inserting graphics into a document. Basic filing and file management are introduced. The final class of this course deals with the basics of email and the Internet. **Price: $60 for non-members, $48 for CKCS members.**

Scroll down to view more courses, including Mac, iPad, Windows 11, Photography, Making Personal Note Cards and Greeting Cards, Microsoft Word for Windows and more!

Page 2 of the list of scheduled courses for spring 2023. **Registration by phone, online or in-person begins January second.**

Composition and Elements of Design in Photography	Monday, March 13, 20, 27, April 3 & 10	1 P.M. –3 P.M. SIG room	Improve your photography skills by learning to use lines, shape, form, texture, pattern, and color to enhance the composition of your photographs. The class will utilize lectures, handouts, and videos to explain the various elements of good design. Between classes, students will be encouraged to take photos using the information they learned. These photos will be used and discussed to help students improve their skills. Topics will be covered progressively, building on what is learned in each class. Students should bring their camera, full battery, memory card, thumb drive, camera manual, and notepad. **Price: $60 for non-members, $48 for CKCS members.**
Using Your iPhone Camera To the Max	Thursday, March 16	1 P.M. – 4 P.M. SIG room	Using apps already on the iPhone, students will learn to take better pictures and fix them by cropping, lightening, darkening, or adding filters. In addition, they will learn how to take videos, time-lapse, and panoramas. They will also learn how to create albums and several ways to share their photos with others. **Price: $30 for non-members, $24 for CKCS members.**
Introduction To Windows 11	Tuesday, March 21	10 A.M. – 12 noon SIG room	This workshop will look at what is new in Windows 11, what has changed, and how to set it up to make it more user-friendly. If you are thinking about installing it on your computer, this workshop might help you decide whether to install it. On the other hand, if you have already installed it, this workshop might help you set up Windows 11. Therefore, students are encouraged to bring their laptop computers if they have Windows 11 already installed. However, ensure your laptop is fully charged before bringing it to class. **Price: $30 for non-members, $24 for CKCS members.**
Keep Your Mac Secure **Via Zoom Only**	Wednesday, March 22, 29, April 5	10:30 A.M. – 12:30 P.M. **Via Zoom Only**	If you use a Mac computer regularly, this is one class you should attend. Out-of-the-box, Macs are secure computers. But you can take additional steps to protect your privacy and prevent hackers from stealing your passwords, credit card numbers, identity, and more. These are steps that all Mac users should take to safeguard their personal data. This is a hands-on class. Students will be directed to check settings, ensure their machine is secure, and possibly use a password manager. A VPN (Virtual Private Network) will be discussed to make their Mac as secure as possible. Should you run anti-virus software on a Mac? We'll give you tips and let students decide whether it's worth the cost. We will also discuss setting up multiple accounts on a Mac if you share the machine with another person. **Price: $45 for non-members, $36 for CKCS members.**
Making a Photo Book Using Shutterfly	Tuesday, March 28, April 4	1 P.M. – 4 P.M. CKCS classroom	On the first day of this workshop, the students will learn how to prepare pictures for a photo book, transfer pictures to the Shutterfly workspace, and organize the pictures from the front to the book's last page. Then we will go through the process of ordering a book and applying coupons to reduce its price. Before the second day, students will start gathering and organizing, and editing their photos. On the second day, students will begin putting their book together and maybe even finish. **Price: $40 for non-members, $32 for CKCS members.**

Scroll down to view more courses, including Mac, iPad, Photography, Microsoft Word for Windows and more!

Spring 2023 CKCS Classes & Workshops

Page 3 of the list of scheduled courses for spring 2023. **Registration by phone, online or in-person begins January second.**

Getting the Most Out of Your iPad	Tuesday, April 11, 18, 25, May 2, 9, 16	1 P.M. –3 P.M. CKCS classroom	Learn how to use the built-in Apple apps on your iPad. Personalize and organize your apps, fix your photos, and organize them. Acquire information about settings, learn the secrets of the keyboard, emailing, and text with animation. Get tips on using the Calendar, Notes, Reminders, and Books. Facetime will be included if time permits. Participants should bring their fully charged iPad updated with the latest operating system and know (or bring) their Apple ID and password. **Price: $60 for non-members, $48 for CKCS**
Adventures in Photography	Monday, April 17, 24, May 1, 8, & 15	1 P.M. – 3 P.M. SIG room	This class will include instruction in white balance, Depth of Field, aperture, and shutter speeds to blur and stop motion. The instructors will show how to photograph close up with the lens students already have and demonstrate close-up and micro photography techniques with other lenses. Students will learn how to use standard filters correctly. The instructors will also introduce infrared photography with the student's camera using filters provided by the instructors. This five-week course will spend alternating weeks in the classroom and outside shooting photos. Students should have a basic knowledge of their camera. Students must have their camera fully charged, an empty memory card, the camera manual, and a notepad. **Price: $55 for non-members, $44 for CKCS members.**
Making Personal Note Cards and Greeting Cards Using Microsoft Word	Thursday, April 20	10 A.M. – 12 noon CKCS classroom	Learn to save money by creating original and personalized notes and greeting cards using Microsoft Word! You will be taught to set up a notecard page, add graphics from the Internet and/or your photos, set up templates, make note cards or individual cards, and file them for future use. This workshop is an opportunity to engage your imagination and creativity and to have fun. Card stock and a starter-kit folder of graphics for note cards will be provided. In addition, each student should bring a thumb/flash drive loaded with photos to create their note cards. **Price: $30 for non-members, $24 for CKCS members.**
Get More Out of Pages For Mac	Friday, April 21, 28 May 5	10:30 A.M. – 12:30 P.M. CKCS classroom	Pages for Mac is an easy-to-use, powerful word processor/ desktop publishing app provided free by Apple on all modern Macs. Students will learn how to create eye-appealing documents using tools provided in the program. This course is a hands-on session where students will be invited to create their own documents to become acquainted with this powerful app. Students will also learn to save files in PDF, Word, and other formats. **Price: $45 for non-members, $36 for CKCS members.**
Basics of Microsoft Word (Windows)	Thursday, May 18	1 P.M. – 4 P.M. CKCS classroom	In this workshop, students will learn many of the basics of Microsoft Word. Topics covered include setting the margins, changing font and font size, and copying and pasting. We will also cover making envelopes, using bullets, inserting a picture in the document, and how to properly save your document in the correct folder. Students will then prepare their own letterhead, learn how to save it, and use it in future documents. This and lots more! **Price: $30 for non-members, $24 for CKCS members.**

Remember, starting Jan. 2, you can register in person at CKCS, online using the CKCS Store, or by calling CKCS at (859) 373–1000 and providing details of the course(s) you'd like to take. You can also use your smartphone to connect with the CKCS Online Store by using the QR code appearing on the following page in this newsletter.

QR Code For the CKCS Store

Use the QR code below to register for CKCS classes or workshops, join CKCS, or just visit the CKCS online Store to browse.

If you have an iPhone running iOS 11 or later, simply open your camera app and point it at the code. Once your camera recognizes the code, a notification will appear, providing a link to the CKCS Store. Tap on the link and you'll automatically visit the CKCS Store.

If you have an Android Phone running Android 9 or later, open your camera and point it to the QR code. A notification will appear with a link you can tap on to visit the CKCS Store.

If you're new to QR codes:

QR stands for 'quick response,' which was first created in 1994 by a Japanese company specializing in auto parts. The QR codes were used to keep track of different makes of cars so they could match the right parts with the right car.

During 2020 when Covid struck, some restaurants began using QR codes to provide a way for customers to read their menus without having to touch paper or laminated cardboard menus.

Today, QR codes are used for all kinds of reasons.

Before you scan any QR code, make sure you know where it comes from and which websites it will take you to. QRs from bad actors can lead you to dangerous websites with malicious software that may try to get access to your private information.

Read more about the development of the QR code **here**, from the Tokyo–based news service, Nippon News.

CKCS President's Comments
What a Difference!

By Brooke Thomas

Brooke Thomas

Oh, what a difference two years and COVID vaccines make. We have been back to in-person classes and are about to have our first real holiday party since 2019.

Do not miss the party this year because we have a special presentation on **virtual reality**. We all have heard about VR, but few of us really understand it or have experienced it.

During the holiday party Richard Hoagland will explain what VR is and what his company is building. He is bringing the VR headsets that we can try out. He will project what the people wearing the headsets are seeing on our big screen TV. It will be so cool!

As we wrap up 2022, we are looking forward to an active year. Classes, SIGs, and an open house are on the schedule.

The winter/spring session of classes and workshops start in February. We will be offering sixteen classes/workshops. The descriptions are in this Newsletter, so check them out and plan to start registering on Monday, January 2.

On January 10 at 1:00 we are holding a Free Open House for Community Groups, **Demystifying Technology**.

Invite your garden club, service organization, book club or other type of groups you participate in to come learn some tech tips. The CKCS instructors will be sharing information on how to use your iPhone and iPad, ways to operate your Windows 11 computer and some computer basics information, some advice on how to take better pictures with your camera, and ways to "photoshop" your photos. Mac users will learn about some neat features in the Pages program.

No registration is required.

Check out all the details of these activities in this newsletter.

We hope to see you at the Holiday Party and in our classes next Year!

Holiday Party: Dec. 12 at 7 P.M.
Virtual Reality. What Is It?

By Brooke Thomas

Richard Hoagland

Come to December's Tech Night for the fun and food at the holiday party and learn about virtual reality. VR is the future in all levels and aspects of learning.

We have all heard about virtual reality, but do you understand what it is? In addition to members bringing delicious appetizers and desserts to share, we will be learning about and experiencing virtual reality!

Richard Hoagland, founder and CEO of VRTogether, will provide a presentation about virtual reality – (VR) technology, and what makes VR technology exciting. He will describe what VR is, how it's being used, and how it can help improve health and wellbeing. In case you're wondering, VRTogether is a VR social games platform for older adults, designed to improve health and well being.

Richard will end his presentation by sharing data from his company's research collaboration with the University of Kentucky into the VRTogether virtual reality platform. Attendees are invited to try out VRTogether after the presentation.Hoagland is principal investigator on VRTogether's National Science Foundation grant. He has more than two decades of experience as an entrepreneur and expert in social virtual reality and digital game development.

Hoagland has launched virtual reality experiences on Oculus and Google headsets, and his projects have been displayed at the Smithsonian in Washington D.C., FILE festival in Brazil, and the Athens Digital Arts Festival. He calls Lexington home.

Bring your favorite appetizer or dessert to share. CKCS will provide soft drinks and coffee. Be prepared to jingle and mingle, have a good time, and learn all about VR technology.

Those attending are eligible to win a Mophie Powerstation (a universal external battery to charge smartphones, tablets, and more).

JOIN US FOR A
HOLIDAY PARTY
12
DECEMBER
AT 7:00PM
COME FOR A VIRTUAL REALITY PRESENTATION BY RICHARD HOAGLAND CEO OF VRTOGETHER
WE WILL GRAZE ON DELICIOUS APPETIZERS AND DESSERTS THAT MEMBERS BRING TO SHARE.. SOFT DRINKS AND COFFEE WILL BE PROVIDED BY CKCS.

CENTRAL KENTUCKY COMPUTER SOCIETY

DEMYSTIFYING TECHNOLOGY

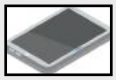
OPEN HOUSE

Come learn some valuable tips to using your computer and mobile devices. The CKCS Instructors will be sharing tips on getting the most out of your iPhone, iPad, your Windows 11 computer, your Mac, and Photoshop Elements

TUESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2023, AT 1:00 PM

160 MOORE DR, STE 170
LEXINGTON KY

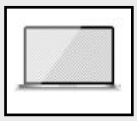
CKCS Calendar & Links

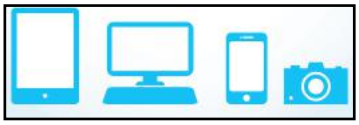


Troubleshooting: Dr. Fixit & iHelp Saturday Session

Dec. 3 @ 10 A.M.

In person only





Zoom Links

Amateur Photographers Club

Thursday

Dec. 1, 8, 15 @ 10 A.M.

Zoom or in person

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89234995079

Note from Boone Baldwin: Most meetings will be held in person, with monthly outings scheduled. Zoom meetings are currently on hold, but could resume if the group feels it is not safe to meet in person. Contact Boone to be added to the weekly emails to stay up-to-date on the arrangements. **Ask Boone for details.**

Board of Directors

Thursday

Dec. 1 @ 7 P.M.

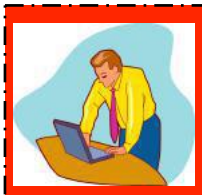
Zoom only

Holiday Party

Dec. 12 @ 7 P.M.

In person

You bring the treats.
CKCS supplies the soda and coffee.
Holiday Party Topic: Virtual Reality with Richard Hoagland

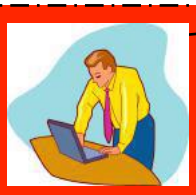


Windows SIG

Tuesday

Dec. 13 @ 7 P.M.

Zoom only



https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82811157647

The 'All Things Apple' SIG

Tuesday

Dec. 20 @ 7 P.M.

Zoom only

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81185707914

Digital Photography SIG

No Meeting In December

December 2022 CKCS Special Interest Group (SIG) Schedule

Larry Trivette prepared this SIG calendar. Print this page for your refrigerator or bulletin board.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 Nov	29 Nov	30 Nov	1 Dec	2 Dec	3 Dec
			10 a.m. Photography Club 7 p.m. Board of Directors Zoom Only		10 a.m. Dr. Fix-It In-Person Only iHelp Bring your Mac, iPad, or iPhone problems or questions and we'll try to help In-Person Only
5 Dec	6 Dec	7 Dec	8 Dec	9 Dec	10 Dec
			10 a.m. Photography Club		
12 Dec	13 Dec	14 Dec	15 Dec	16 Dec	17 Dec
7 p.m. Tech Night Holiday Party & Virtual Reality In-Person Only	7 p.m. Windows MIKE SEILER Zoom Only		10 a.m. Photography Club		
19 Dec	20 Dec	21 Dec	22 Dec	23 Dec	24 Dec
	7 p.m. All Things Apple Brooke T, Kurt J, Joe D & Janet C Zoom Only		10 a.m. Photography Club No Meeting		Christmas Eve
26 Dec	27 Dec	28 Dec	29 Dec	30 Dec	31 Dec
	7 p.m. Digital Photography JOE DIETZ No Meeting this Month		10 a.m. Photography Club No Meeting		New Year's Eve

Join us in Dec.!

Meetings will be held in person this month.

From Boone Baldwin: Most meetings will be held in person, with monthly outings scheduled. Zoom meetings are currently on hold, but could resume if the group feels it is not safe to meet in person. Contact Boone to be added to the weekly emails to stay up-to-date on the arrangements. **Ask Boone for details.**

Check out the group's Facebook page at:
•The Amateur Photographers Club of Lexington KY.•

CKCS SIG Meetings

Windows Special Interest Group

Tuesday, December 13, 2022

7:00 pm

Mike Seiler
Windows SIG Leader

Window's built-in Assistive Technology

Join us in December to explore what Windows offers in assistive technology. You may find something you can use to help see your computer in a different light.

The Zoom link for this meeting is: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82811157647

A link for the handout used in this meeting will be sent to everyone on the Windows 10 Special Interest Group mailing list two days before the meeting. To be placed on this list, send an email to w10sig.ckcs@gmail.com. In the email, state your name, your email address, and the purpose of the email.

CKCS SIG Meetings

All Things Apple SIG

Meets Dec. 20 at 7 P.M. *via Zoom only.*

The 'All Things Apple' SIG will meet regularly via Zoom on the third Tuesday of the month at 7 P.M.

Join Joe Dietz, Kurt Jefferson, Janet Cartmell and Brooke Thomas for the Apple SIG on Zoom.

Topics? *iPhones, Macs, iPads, Apple Watch, apps, and more. You will learn tips and tricks about your favorite Apple devices, the apps you use, and more.*

You can join us here using Zoom: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81185707914

‘All Things Apple’ SIG Topics We’ll Discuss

What we’ll discuss:

iOS

Joe: **I will demonstrate** how to size your photo to perfectly fit your paper whether it is a 4x6, 5x7, or 8x10.

macOS

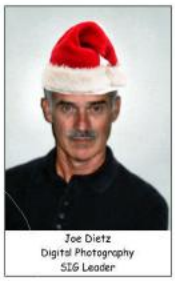
Kurt: **I will share several Mac tips and tricks** available in macOS Monterey. Every Mac user should know these easy tips – but I’ve discovered that they’re not known to a widespread audience. So I’ll show you how you can use these to your benefit. The latest version of macOS is Ventura. But I’ll be using a Mac mini running Monterey since that version of macOS has been around for more than a year and more Mac users are currently running that version.

iPadOS

Brooke: **I will demonstrate** how to use the Draw Tools on a photo to add text, and shapes, and make drawings.

CKCS SIG Meetings

Digital Photography SIG



There will be no Digital Photography Special Interest Group in December. Take this time to spend with family and friends and enjoy the season!

See ya in January!

Joe

Digital Photography SIG November Photo Winners

Topic: Three of Something

Three-Way Tie for First Place:
Ward Ransdell, Pat Vaughan, and Anne Campbell

Ward Ransdell

Ward responded to our email: This owl shot has become one of my favorites. I took it late in the afternoon on May 3, 2021 as part of the City Nature Challenge. Was simply hoping to get a shot of the owlet in the owl box at the Arboretum and did, but as I stayed a little longer then a second one appeared. Shot those two, and, as I was getting ready to leave, the third one popped up.
I was delighted. Used Canon 90D with Tamron 150-600 at 600mm. ISO 1600 at f/6.3 at 125th sec.

Digital Photography SIG
November Photo Winners
Topic: Three of Something

Three-Way Tie for First Place:
Ward Ransdell, Pat Vaughan, and Anne Campbell

Pat Vaughan

Pat responded to our email: The picture of the three friendly goats was taken at the "Big Cat Habitat Gulf Coast Sanctuary" in Sarasota County, Florida. Great visit to the Sanctuary with my daughter and grandsons in 2011. The sanctuary is a permanent home of over 150 exotic and domestic animals. The photo was taken with a cell phone.

Digital Photography SIG
November Photo Winners
Topic: Three of Something

Three-Way Tie for First Place:
Ward Ransdell, Pat Vaughan, and Anne Campbell

Anne Campbell

Anne responded to our email: We have a saucer magnolia tree ("Ann" variety) in our yard and every spring I love to take pictures of the blooms - some years the flowers are better than others depending on timing of the blooms and spring freezes. This particular picture was from March 2020 and I took it with my Fuji X-T1.

Make Your Batteries Last Longer

by Kurt Jefferson

Back when the battery was first invented, no one could image that we'd rely so heavily on them in the 21st century.

Wikipedia.org notes, "Experimentation with lithium batteries began in 1912 under American physical chemist Gilbert N. Lewis, but commercial lithium batteries did not come to market until the 1970s in the form of the lithium-ion battery."

Batteries operate our cell phones, tablets, laptops, landline phones, flashlights, wireless mice, trackballs and some trackpads, and many more items. They even power our EV (electric) cars. Batteries are everywhere.

But as all of us know–batteries die. They need to be continually charged. There are steps you can take to extend your batteries' lives. The *Cliff Notes* version is here: **keep them away from heat.** Don't leave them in a hot car. Don't leave them sitting in the sun or lying in front of a heat register in your home in the winter.

The How to Geek website **explains:** "You can't fully stop batteries from discharging, but you can do one simple thing across all battery types to lower the discharge rate: **keep them cool."**

Don't put your devices in the freezer. How to Geek says this causes condensation that can wreck the electronics as you constantly take the devices in and out of the freezer.

On the other hand, keep battery–powered devices in a cool spot. "You might consider charging and storing your power tool batteries in your cool basement instead of leaving them out in your sweltering detached garage. You'll also want to keep electronics out of hot cars and store them in the coolest part of your home if they won't be in use for a while," adds How to Geek.

"If your batteries are discharging rapidly enough that you practically need to leave them on the charger to ensure they are ready to use when you need them, then it's time to replace them. Batteries degrade over time, even with the best of care, and if a battery is no longer properly holding a charge, it should be recycled and replaced." writes the website.

Live Package Tracking Comes to Gmail

by Kurt Jefferson

Gmail users who are anxiously awaiting the delivery of a holiday package may just smile when they hear about this latest feature. They'll be able to track packages directly from within their Gmail accounts. Mashable **reports,** "Gmail will initially ask users in a pop-up at the top of the inbox if they wish to opt-in to receive tracking updates before enabling package monitoring. Users can choose whether to click "Allow" or "Immediately now" based on their preferences."

If users opt in, a small green label with the estimated package delivery day will automatically appear under the sender's name and subject line in the Gmail in-box. Mashable reports that a small truck icon and status of the order's progress are shown after the estimated delivery date.

Courtesy: Solen Feyissa on Unsplash

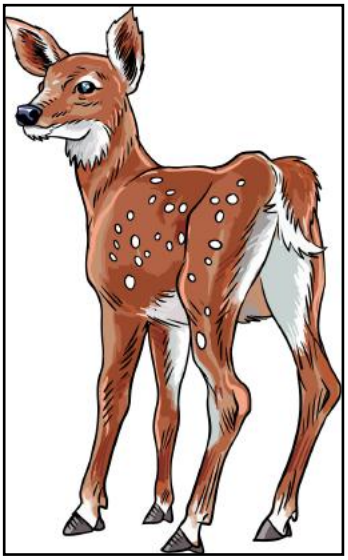
Most major freight delivery companies are expected to provide the new feature. The user must have an order confirmation with a tracking number for Google to offer the live tracking in its Gmail service, **according** to Tom's Guide.

Of course, you must be using the Gmail app for this to work. If you're viewing your Gmail account messages using a different email app (such as Apple Mail, Outlook, Thunderbird, Postbox, or Canary Mail) this feature won't be available.

Study: Year-round Daylight Saving Time Greatly Reduces Car-Deer Crashes

By Kurt Jefferson

Anyone driving in the Central Kentucky countryside knows there are plenty of four-legged hazards in the form of deer racing across the highway leading to terrifying car crashes, dead or badly injured deer, mangled cars, and badly injured or even dead motorists.



A new **study** by the journal *Current Biology* reveals that **switching our clocks in November back to Standard Time only makes matters worse.** A lot worse.

It turns out collisions with deers climb 16% following the week in November when we make the switch back to Standard Time.

The study reveals the period directly after dark leads to 14 times more car-deer collisions than the period before it gets dark.

Current Biology reports that year-round Daylight Saving Time would dramatically reduce car-deer crashes, saving $1.2 billion annually.

The study goes even further. It shows that year-round Standard Time would save:

- 33 human lives
- 2,054 human injuries
- 36,550 deer lives
- $1.19 billion in collision costs every year (US dollars)

Current Biology studied more than one-million deer-vehicle collisions in the U.S. as it reviewed 96-million hours of traffic. Then it crunched the numbers:

"The switch from daylight saving to standard time in autumn causes peak traffic volumes to shift from before sunset to after sunset, leading to a 16% spike in deer-vehicle collisions. By reducing traffic after dark, our model predicts that year-round daylight saving time would prevent 36,550 deer (Odocoileus sp.) deaths, 33 human deaths, 2,054 human injuries, and US$1.19 billion in collision costs annually," reports *Current Biology*.

Car-deer collisions in the U.S. are no small matter. There are a lot of cars on rural highways, and plenty of deer living in nearby woods.

Overall, the study determined, "Around 2.1 million deer-vehicle collisions occur in the US annually, causing more than $10 billion in economic losses, 59,000 human injuries, and 440 human deaths."

By turning back the clocks, more of us are driving in the dark. That leads to many more car-deer collisions.

> **"The period directly after dark leads to 14 times more car-deer collisions than the period before it gets dark."**

Current Biology notes the strong peak of car-deer collisions in the fall coincides with the switch to Standard Time along with deer breeding season, known as the "rut."

Hooved animals, especially male deer, move around a lot more during this time in the fall, boosting their movements by as much as 50%. Add the time change into the mix, and *Current Biology* concludes you're building a recipe for many more car-deer collisions.

The study uses insurance industry numbers for its study and concludes the figures most likely greatly underestimate the implications for wildlife and deer-car crashes.

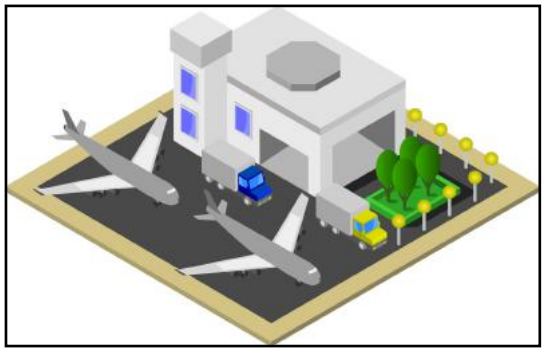
It adds that an estimated 50% of all car-deer crashes are not reported to insurance companies so the number of deer lives lost by the switch to Standard Time could be twice as large as what is reported by the study.

U.S. Airport Free Internet Wi-Fi Speeds Compared

by Kurt Jefferson

Tis the season for traveling by air. If you are stopping at one of the 50 busiest airports in the U.S. over the holidays, now might be a good time to check out how wireless Internet speeds stack up at the different airports.

Ookla, the company behind the popular Speedtest app (available through the various App stores) and on the web at **Speedtest.net,** has crunched the speed data at these airports.



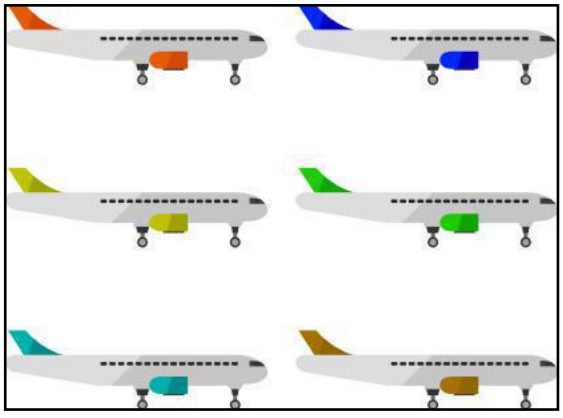
In its **article** headlined, *17 U.S. Airports With Supersonic Wi-Fi (and 12 That Are Still Stuck At the Gate),* Ookla discovered that Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky Airport comes in second place with a download speed of 177.16 megabits per second (Mbps). This reading shows how much data an Internet connection can send in one second.

First place goes to San José International Airport (the epicenter of Silicon Valley), with a Wi-Fi Internet speed of 203 Mbps.

Rounding out the top ten airports in order with the fastest Internet (along with their airport codes):

U.S. Airports With 100+ Mbps Internet Speeds Over Free Wi-Fi
(Tested in the third quarter of 2022)

- San José Int'l (SJC) **FASTEST at 203 Mbps**
- Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky Int'l (CVG)
- San Francisco Int'l (SFO)
- Daniel K. Inouye Int'l (HNL) Honolulu)
- Oakland Int'l (OAK)
- Louis Armstrong Int'l (MSY) (New Orleans)
- Seattle-Tacoma Int'l (SEA)
- Dallas Love Field (DAL)
- JFK Int'l (JFK)
- LaGuardia (LGA)



The ten airports in order with the slowest Internet (along with their airport codes):

U.S. Airports With Less Than 50 Mbps Internet Speeds Over Free Wi-Fi

- Pittsburgh Int'l (PIT) **SLOWEST at 5.23 Mbps**
- George Bush Intercontinental (IAH) (Houston)
- William P. Hobby (HOU) (Houston)
- Southwest Florida Int'l (RSW) (South Fort Myers)
- Logan Int'l (BOS) (Boston)
- Philadelphia Int'l (PHL)
- Tampa Int'l (TPA)
- Sacramento Int'l (SMF)
- John Glenn Columbus Int'l (CMH)
- Denver Int'l (DEN)

What about some of the busiest airports that nearly all of us have visited? Most of us in Central Kentucky think of Atlanta–Hartsfield International, because so many flights in this part of the country are routed through that airport.

Atlanta Hartsfield clocks in with Internet download speeds of 78.17 Mbps.

Many travelers in the Bowling Green area or other spots in southern, south central and southwestern Kentucky travel through **Nashville International.**

Nashville airport offers free Wi-Fi speeds of 100.46 Mbps – ahead of John Wayne Airport in California (Orange County) and a bit slower than Midway International (Chicago).

Speaking of Chicago, one of the busiest airports in the country (usually competing with Atlanta for passenger traffic), O'Hare International, offers 56.39 Mbps Internet speeds.

Los Angeles International, another very busy airport, provides free Internet speeds of 50.59 Mbps.

Other airports in the region include:

- Indianapolis Int'l (IND) with an Internet speed of 74.59 Mbps
- Charlotte Douglas Int'l (CLT) – 45.02 Mbps
- St. Louis Lambert Int'l (STL) – 110.38 Mbps

Ookla notes that free Wi-Fi Internet speeds at these airports dropped between the first three months and the second quarter of this year: Seattle-Tacoma, O'Hare, Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Dallas/Fort Worth Airport.

December Factoids: Tidbits You May Not Know

Meteor showers will fill the nighttime sky in mid–December, as the Geminid meteor shower, the most active shower of the year, occurs on December 13 and 14. If the sky is clear, you should be able to catch a glimpse after 9 P.M., peaking around 2 A.M. if you can stay up that late. Look to the northeast to see the most meteors. This year, there will be a waning gibbous moon shining, so you may have to look more carefully to see the showers in the nighttime sky.

On Dec. 5, 1901, Walt Disney came into the world. By age 27, Disney had introduced Mickey Mouse in his first cartoon called Steamboat Willie. By age 54, Disney had witnessed construction on his brainchild, Disneyland, in Anaheim, Calif.

Aviation history was made in December. On Dec. 17, 1903, the Wright Brothers flew the world's first powered and controlled airplane at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina (now called Kill Devil Hills). The original Wright Flyer aircraft only flew for 13 seconds, but the two brothers from Dayton knew right away they were on to something big. Before that flight, they had experienced numerous failures, with crashes of kites, gliders, and early aircraft. In addition, broken propeller shafts and other problems plagued their efforts but they refused to give up. The brothers even faced swarms of mosquitoes at night as they tried to sleep. The first Wright Flyer is on display at the National Air and Space Museum in Washington, D.C.

A full moon in December is often referred to as the Full Cold Moon by various native American tribes in North America. The Fact Site **notes** it's called the Cold Moon because "December marks the time of year where the days become long and dark. It is also the month with the winter solstice, which is the shortest day and longest night."

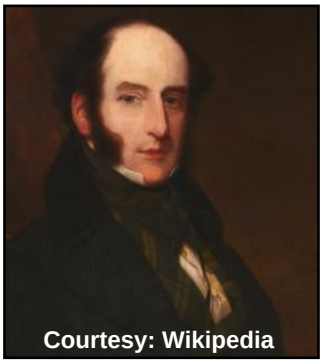
On Dec. 21, 1968, NASA launched Apollo 8 into space. Later, her crew members would become the first men to orbit the moon.

On Dec. 30, 1803, the U.S. doubled its size when it formally took control of the Louisiana Territory. The U.S. paid $15 million for the 885,000 square-mile territory. The Louisiana Territory included all of the land acquired by the U.S. in the Louisiana Purchase - north of the 33rd parallel. The eastern border of the purchase was the Mississippi River. The territorial capital was St. Louis.

From the 'Did You Know?' Category: In 1647, a British Puritan leader named Oliver Cromwell banned Christmas Eve. He banned all Christmas festivities. Anyone celebrating Christmas Eve was arrested. The ban was finally lifted in 1660.

As of Dec. 2020, more than 100-million Apple Watches had been sold. Apple reports more of its smartwatches are sold in December than any other month.

Dr. Robert Liston, a British surgeon, was well known for his speed and skill. Speed made a major difference on reduced pain and whether the patient survived. He was the first Professor of Clinic Surgery at University College Hospital in London. He successfully completed the first public operation using modern anesthesia in Europe on Dec. 21, 1846. Wikipedia writes, "Richard Gordon describes Liston as "the fastest knife in the West End. He could amputate a leg in 2 1/2 minutes." Gordon was a naval surgeon and anesthetist aboard a British warship.



Three U.S. presidents were born in December:

- Andrew Johnson on Dec. 29, 1808
- Martin Van Buren on Dec. 5, 1872
- Woodrow Wilson on Dec. 28, 1856

History buffs remember Dec. 15, 1791. On that date, the Bill of Rights took effect. They include the first ten amendments to the U.S. Constitution.

The bloodiest battle for U.S. forces in all of World War II was the Battle of the Bulge which began on Dec. 16, 1944. It was the last major German offensive on the Western Front during World War II. The major military goal was to stop the Allied forces from further use of the Belgium port of Antwerp and to split the Allied forces. The Germans failed in their efforts, but the number of casualties on both sides was considerable.

Sources: Thoughtco.com, Wikipedia.org, factsite.com, Interestingfactsworld.com

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Holiday Shoppers Flood a Busy Department Store Days Before Christmas

Christmas shoppers flood a U.S. department store to shop for holiday gifts.
Photo taken: Dec. 10, 1963
Photographer: Marion S. Trikosko
Safety negative from a 35 mm camera
Location unknown, but photo was taken for an edition of *U.S. News & World Report.*

First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt on a Christmas Shopping Tour

Mrs. Roosevelt is seen here inspecting an assortment of toys as she speaks with Santa in the toy department of a Washington D.C. store.

Photo taken: 1934
Photographer: Harris & Ewing
From a glass negative

Toy Department Display at
R.H. Macy's in New York City

Photo was taken one week before Christmas. The hobby horse at the top carries a $100 price tag.

Photo taken: Dec. 1942
Photographer: Marjory Collins (1912-1985)
From a black and white nitrate negative

A young girl tries out a hobby horse during the week before Christmas at R.H. Macy and Company in New York City

Photo taken: Dec. 1942
Photographer: Marjory Collins (1912-1985)

From a black and white nitrate negative

A holiday shopper checks out a Speed Queen automatic clothes dryer in a department store, with the apparent salesman on the left.

Photo taken: Dec. 1963
Photographer: Marion S. Trikosko
Safety negative from a 35mm camera

Red Cross window in the J.T. Campbell Store in Franklin, Penn., just before Christmas (1916)

Crews changed the window display every week during a major drive for war-time supplies.
Print is from the *Red Cross Magazine.*

Photo taken: Dec. 1916, shortly before Christmas
Photographer is unknown
From a glass negative

Sign reads, “This is the color the large cross in the park should be. It will take $20,000 to change it from white to red. Won’t you help? Another sign indicates that President Woodrow Wilson has issued an appeal to the public to give to the Red Cross. The Franklin, Penn. share is $20,000.

The Nation’s Christmas Tree, Across the Street From the White House in Lafayette Square, Is Ready to Be Lighted When President Roosevelt Pushes the Switch on Christmas Eve To Set It Aglow.

Miss Mable White is seen feeding the pigeons in front of the nation’s Christmas tree.
Photo taken: Dec. 22, 1938

Photographer: Harris & Ewing
From a glass negative

Army Officers Set Up a 'Christmas Box Hospital' to repair damaged boxes received in the mail for shipment to American soldiers in France. This photo shows a pile of damaged boxes ready for inspection and repair.

A total of 200,000 Christmas packages were sent from the U.S. to France. About 11,000 Christmas packages had to be repackaged for travel overseas.

Photo taken. Feb. 1918
From a glass negative
Photo is from a Red Cross photo collection, photographer unknown

Grammar School Christmas Program, Second Graders Singing 'White Christmas'

Photo shows Japanese American children standing on stage and singing while incarcerated at Heart Mountain Confinement Site in Wyoming. Japanese Americans were held there after the bombing of Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941. Heart Mountain was one of ten such sites in response to an order from President Roosevelt. Reports indicate 10,000 Japanese Americans were held at Heart Mountain under guard and behind barbed wire from 1942 to 1945. They came from Oregon, Washington state, California and Arizona.

Photo taken: Dec. 22, 1943 Photographer unknown

A Christmas 'peddler' on the streets of New York City, displaying a product he hopes to sell to onlookers

Photo taken: Dec. 19, 1910
From a black and white negative

Photographer is unknown

A Group Assembles Christmas Socks to Be Sent To American Soldiers in Vichy, France

A total of 13,657 Red Cross socks were eventually distributed for Christmas 1918.
Photo taken: Dec. 1918
Photographer is unknown. From the American Red Cross Photo Collection.
From a glass negative.

Christmas 'Spirits' Rush Hits Bureau of Engraving and Printing

In anticipation of an unusual Christmas 'spirits' rush, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing in Washington D.C. is now turning out more than 9.8 million liquor stamps every day. Miss Florence Benland, bureau employee, is pictured with the batch of liquor revenue stamps printed during her first hour of duty. Revenue stamps were used long before postage stamps and were used as proof that taxes were paid on alcoholic beverages.
Photo taken: Nov. 8, 1939
Photographer: Harris & Ewing
From a glass negative.

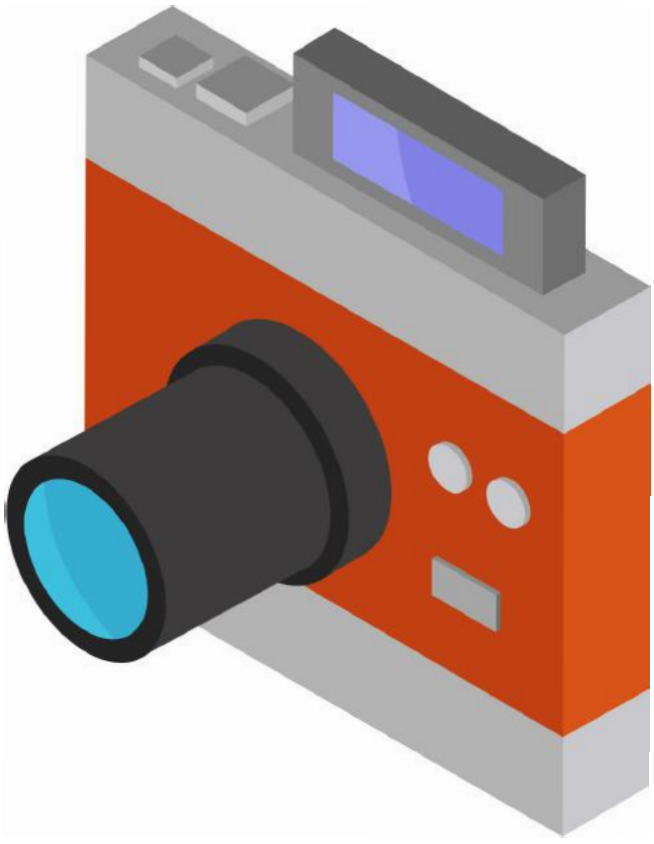
Christmas Tree in the East Room of the White House

Photo caption reads: Sightseers to the White House today were given an added thrill as they were allowed to view the huge Christmas tree set up in the East Room.

Photo taken: Dec. 23, 1936
Photographer: Harris & Ewing
From a glass negative

Monthly Photo Contest Topics

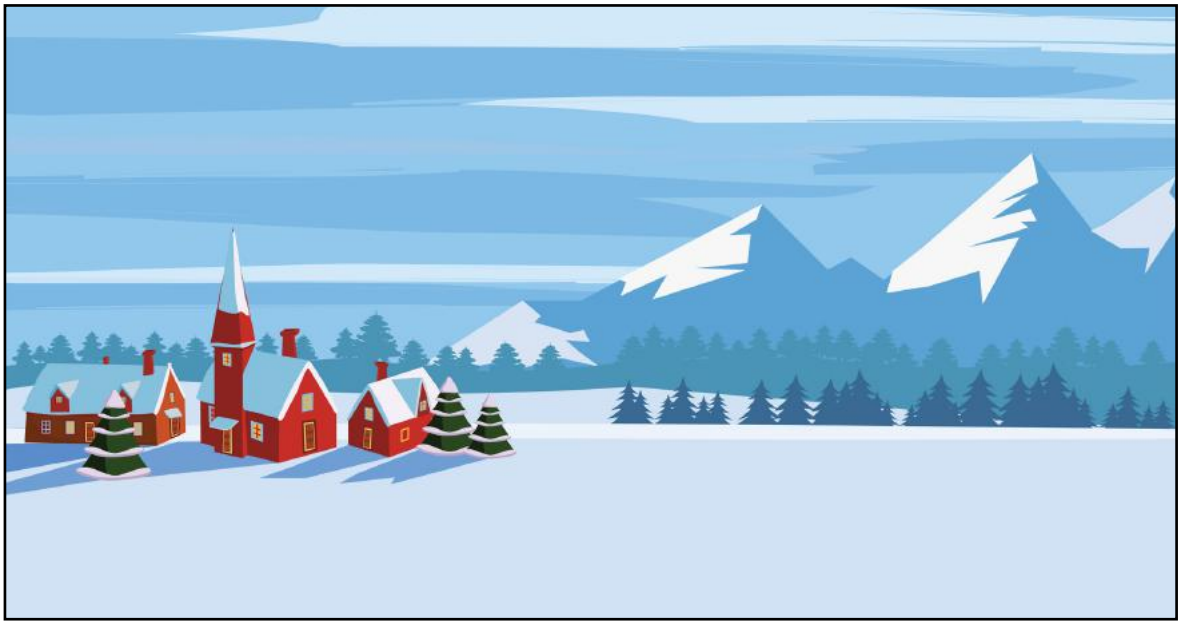
Dec. No Contest
(Happy Holidays)



Email your photos to joedietz@aol.com one day *before* the Digital Photography SIG meeting.

Held by the CKCS Digital Photography SIG

Thank You For Supporting CKCS in 2022

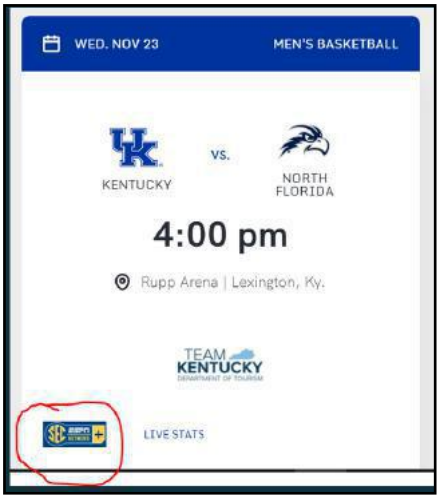


Watch U.K. Sports Teams In Action Using Streaming, Satellite or Cable TV

Editor's Note: Plenty of us want to watch Kentucky sports and other college action, but making sure you have the connection can sometimes be tricky. The former editor of this newsletter, Jerry Heaton, provides a list of steps below you can follow to make sure you're able to watch University of Kentucky basketball or other SEC action. Thanks, Jerry!

ABOUT THE SEC NETWORK +

You can buy a subscription to the SEC + but it's expensive. To watch an SEC + program for free, you must have the basic SEC channel offered on your television or streaming service.



I use ROKU. On the ROKU Home Screen, select and click on the ESPN app.

Move to the top line and click on the search icon (a magnifying glass).

Type in the word KENTUCKY (or the sports team name you want) and all available and former games icons will appear.

Scroll to find the game of interest. NOTE: If the program is offered on the ESPN+ **AND** SEC+ as many may be, be sure to select the icon for the SEC+ network.

At some point, the first time you may be asked to select your TV provider or streaming service. Understand the list starts with icons for major TV providers but under that is an alphabetical list or maybe 100 or more streaming services. Since I use YouTubeTV the Y is way down the list.

You will be offered a Code of six letters/numbers.

On your mobile smartphone, if you have the ESPN app on there use it, otherwise, search the internet for SEC NETWORK + select the category which allows you to enter the SEC code.

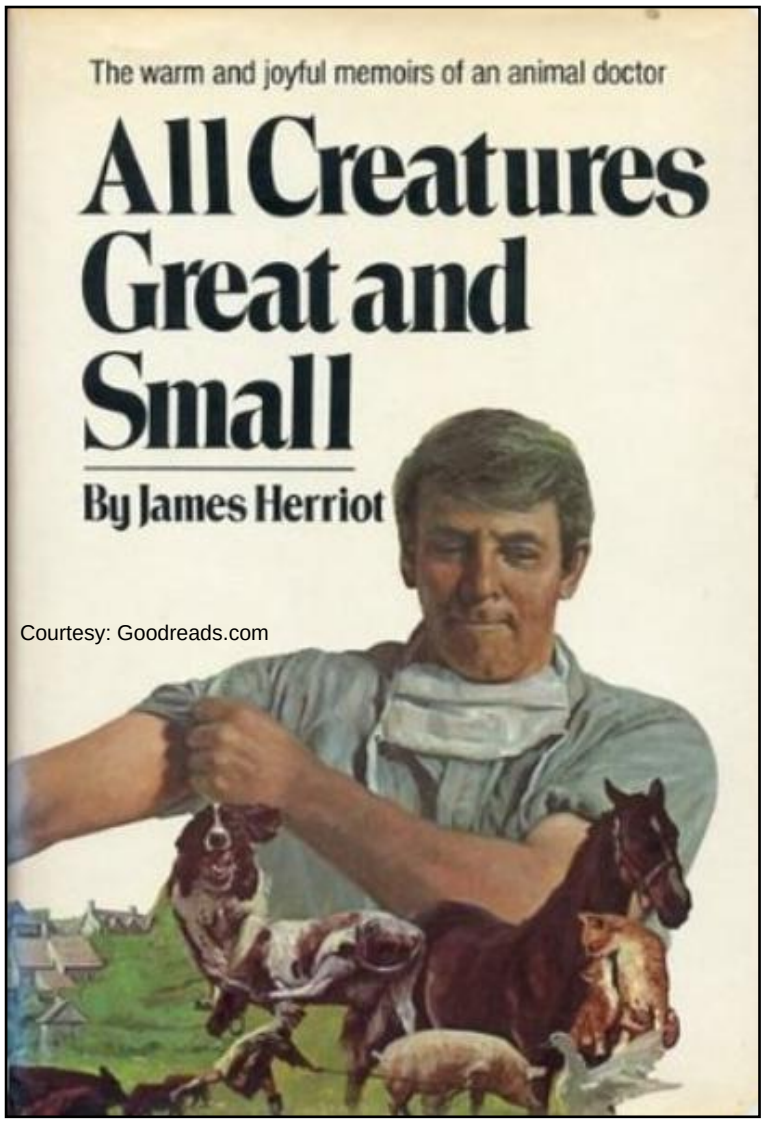
When your smart TV automatically detects you have done this, your program will start.

Note:
On SEC + You may chase, skip commercials. pause or stop any program you are watching, however the system may work slighlly differently than what you are accustomed with your regular TV recordings. Also, if you must leave the program before it ends, there's no problem. Later, you can again repeat the above steps to return multiple times if necessary (you may not have to do the mobile phone step a second time.)

These instructions prepared by Jerry Heaton

Hey, What Are You Listening To?

by Kurt Jefferson



Courtesy: Goodreads.com

When I was a young boy, I wanted to be a veterinarian. I loved animals, so it seemed a natural choice: work to keep animals healthy and nurse them back from injury. Why not become a vet? My occupational choice changed after I discovered that vets have to put down sick animals. If it's your beloved pet, it's an absolutely emotionally wrenching decision to say goodbye.

James Herriot accepts putting animals to sleep as part of his job as he goes about his rounds in the Yorkshire countryside in his classic 1972 novel, *All Creatures Great and Small*. He quickly learns that real life is far different from his veterinary schooling. I'm currently listening to the audiobook version of the book. It begins as Herriot (whose real name was James Alfred Wight) is hired on as young veterinarian in Yorkshire, after completing his schooling in Scotland.

Wight spends much of his time treating large farm animals – and dealing with farm families who live in the hills and valleys of the Yorkshire countryside. As many of you know, this half–century old book is in the middle of a rebirth of sorts.

A BBC-TV series with the same name as the book started on PBS in January 2021 on *Masterpiece*. The show's production is ongoing, with a third season expected on PBS in January of next year.

An earlier BBC version aired beginning in 1978 and was so popular, 90 episodes were produced before it ended in 1990. Talk about staying power. Another popular British series, *The Yorkshire Vet*, followed two vets as they tackled their duties in the practice originally established by Wight in the town of Thirsk. One of the vets, Peter Wright, actually mentored under Wight as a young man. That show is available to American viewers on Acorn TV, the streaming service. It still stands as one of the most popular shows ever broadcast on Britain's Channel 5.

All of these series are connected to that 1972 book, and Wight's books are still selling. As of 2020, his books had sold more than 60 million copies–including *All Creatures Great and Small, All Things Bright and Beautiful, All Things Wise and Wonderful,* and all the rest.

Goodreads describes the book that started it all this way: "Delve into the magical, unforgettable world of James Herriot, the world's most beloved veterinarian, and his menagerie of heartwarming, funny, and tragic animal patients."

Readers add their two cents:

Oh dear heavens, a cow is having a difficult birth! A cat is sick! The local lord's thoroughbred has skinned its knee! To live in a world where these are your most worrisome worries is to live in the world of James Herriot, the pen name of Alf Wight, the real-life mid-20th century country vet of the Yorkshire Dales in northern England. Having said that, Herriot's stories wouldn't be as ragingly popular as they have been if they were nothing but fluff. No, for a bunch of "animal tales" there's a great deal of pathos herein. Just about every story delves into the human condition as it pertains to the Dales farmers and their struggle to exist, never mind thrive, in the harsh conditions of not only weather, but the rapidly accelerating industrialization of farming. - Jason Koivu

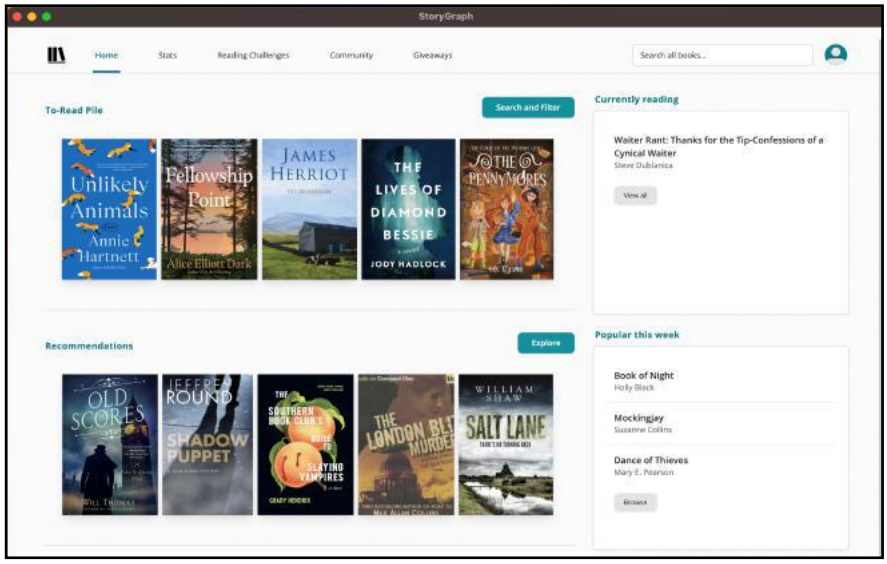
It's semi-astonishing that I've been married to a veterinarian for a year and a half, which followed a year and nine months of dating/engagement, in which time I went on many emergency calls with her to treat sick horses (and the occasional goat), adopted a dog and a second cat to go with the first one my dearly beloved already owned, and various and other sundry proximity-to-a-vet type stuff has gone down AND YET only now have I finally said to myself, "Hunh, I should read that James Herriot guy." - Dale

I empathize with Dale. This book has been around for a long time, yet I'm finally getting around to listening to it. If you've never read it, check it out. You might just learn to respect veterinarians in a different light thanks to James Herriot and the book that started it all. So many years after this book was first published, and we're still talking about it. That is staying power.

Use StoryGraph To Find The Books You Want to Read

by Kurt Jefferson

If you're constantly search for a good book, then you might want to check out a new app called StoryGraph. It's a competitor to Amazon-owned Goodreads. **https://www.thestorygraph.com**



The Mac version of the StoryGraph app provides thumbnails of books it believes I might be interested in. I downloaded my Goodreads book library file and then imported it into StoryGraph so the app has an idea of what I like to read. The app is also available for Windows, iPads, iPhones, and Android devices. It's free. But if you want even more customization and additional features through StoryGraph Plus, you can pay $4.99 a month or $49.99 a year for unlimited personal recommendatons, advanced stats on your reading and what's available, and quite a few other features.

StoryGraph's slogan: Because life's too short for a book you're not in the mood for.

Story**G**raph is available through the Mac App Store, for Windows PCs, through the App Store for Apple's Mobile devices, and via Google Play for Android devices. You can also log into the web site and use it instead of the app if you prefer.

Desktop App details for Mac and Windows
(Mac version available through the Mac App Store;)
https://webcatalog.io/apps/the-storygraph/

iOS and iPadOS details (download through the App Store)
https://apps.apple.com/us/app/storygraph-reading-tracker/id1570489264

Android App details (download through Google Play)
https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.thestorygraph.thestorygraph&gl=US

Story**G**raph tracks your reading and then helps you choose your next book based on your mood and your favorite topics and themes.

One of the neatest features is the ability to see how your reading changes over time and use the StoryGraph app or website to help you pick better books. StoryGraph will show you a graph revealing the number of books you've read, the number of pages, "moods" of books, how fast you read the book, and other interesting facts.

9to5Mac's Lauren Rosenberg began using StoryGraph after she was frustrated with the Goodreads App and its limited functionality:

As a devoted reader and someone who has been a member of the Goodreads community since 2013, I have found myself consistently frustrated with the app, especially in recent years, for everything that Goodreads doesn't do and doesn't offer. Aside from the fact that the app has barely updated since its inception – making for an antiquated user experience – there are palpable misses that would help me to better understand what kind of reader I am and, perhaps, what kind of reader I want to be. It's within this space that The StoryGraph shines.

Rosenberg adds:

In addition to taking its user wants into the app's development, The StoryGraph also gives much-needed space to independent authors. Cofounder Rob Frelow:

If today you're interested in a dark murder mystery set deep in the woods featuring a kidnapping, and tomorrow you're in the mood for an emotional but funny romantic comedy set in a big city, you can find that on The StoryGraph. You aren't stuck by your old ratings or past preferences. You won't see any 'promoted' books, which indie authors can typically never afford. You have full control.

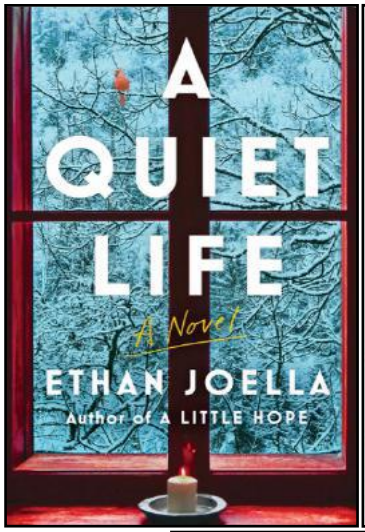
She adds that StoryGraph allows you to:

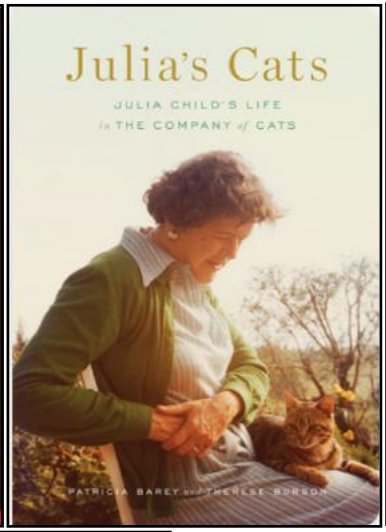
- Rate, review and track books
- Engage in a "Buddy Read" with someone in your community
- Keep a reading journal
- Enter book giveaways
- Set by reading goals by the number of books, pages, or hours
- Browse book recommendations by mood, pace, type, or page number
- View personalized analytics

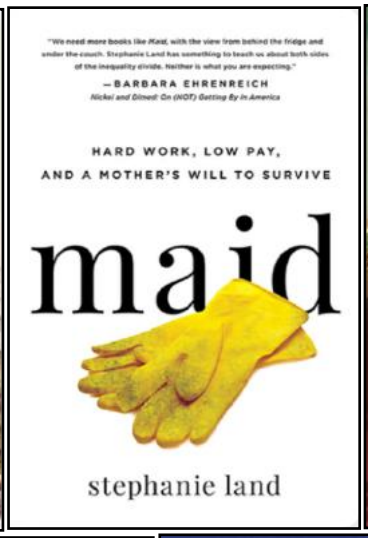
StoryGraph helps you find books that you really want to read.

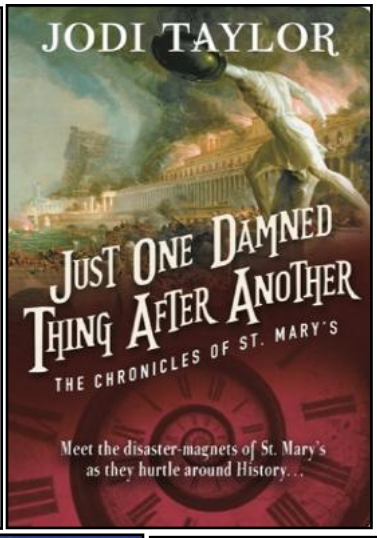
Read the full 9to5Mac article:
https://9to5mac.com/2022/11/21/finally-a-formidable-response-to-amazon-owned-goodreads-introducing-the-storygraph/

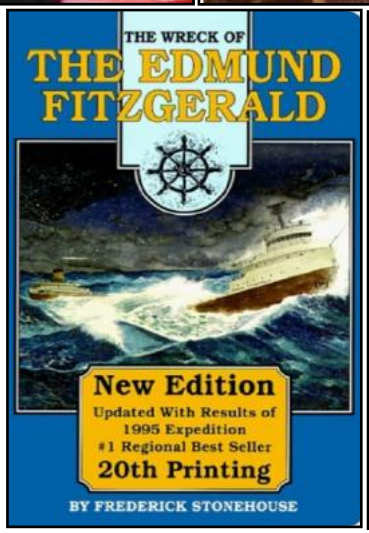
Put These Titles on Your Holiday Reading List

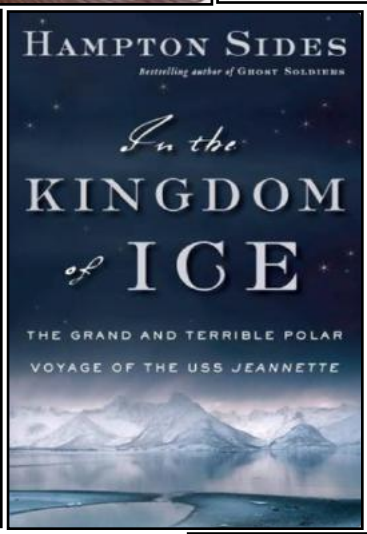


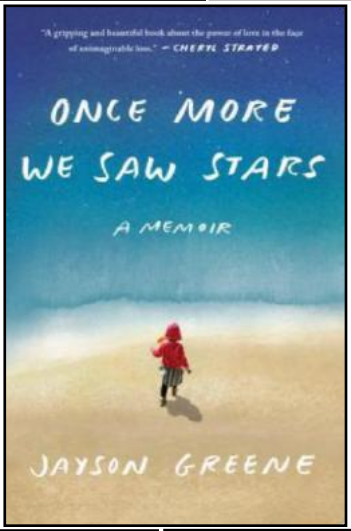


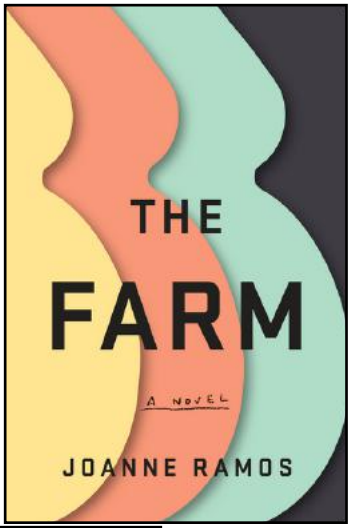


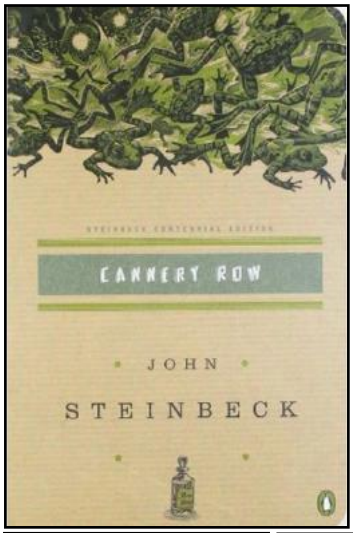


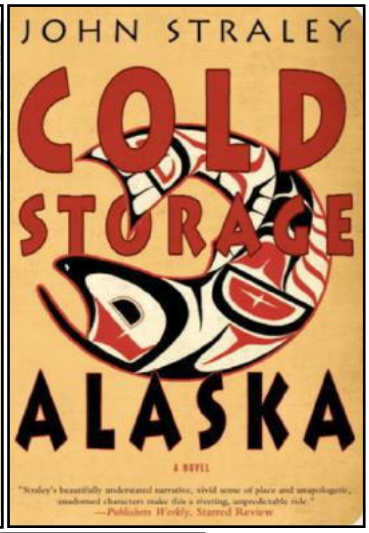


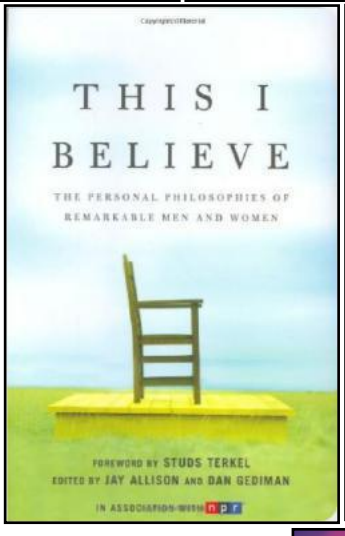


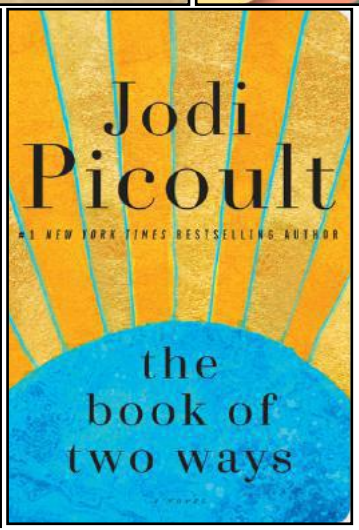




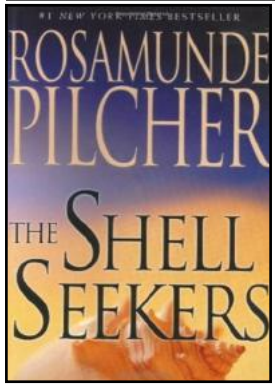


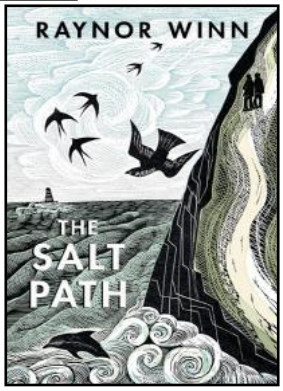


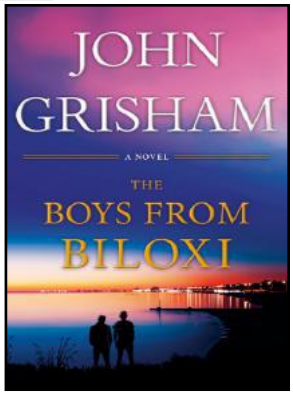


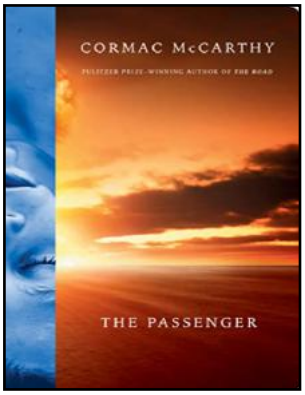


Book Covers are from Goodreads.com

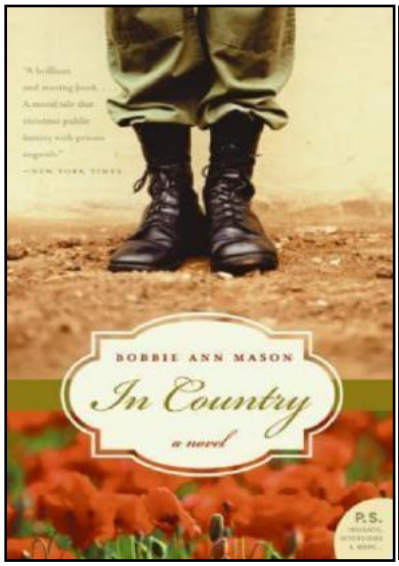


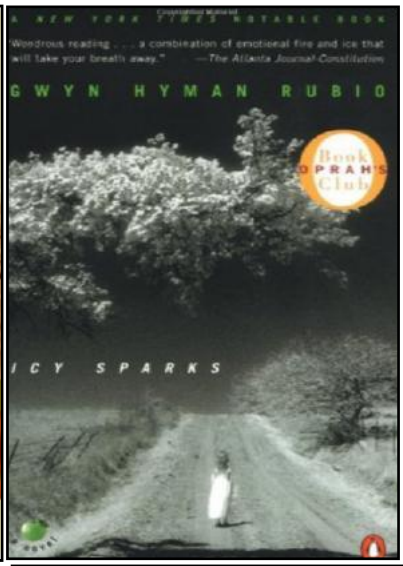


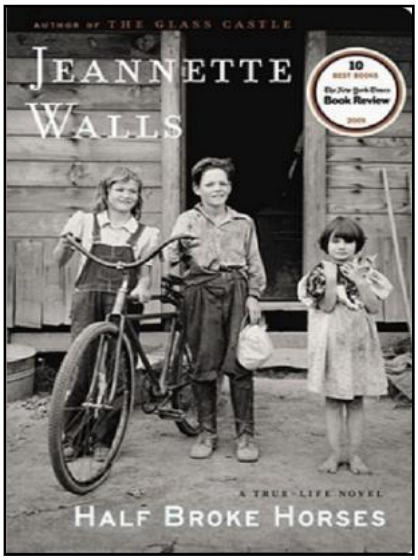


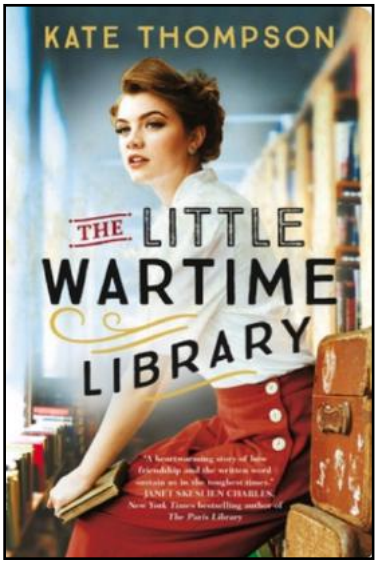


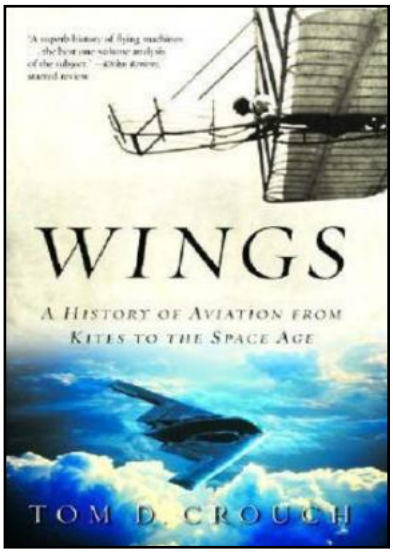
More Titles To Check Out This Holiday Season

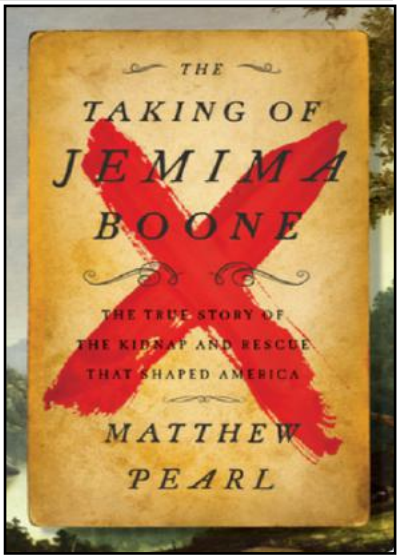


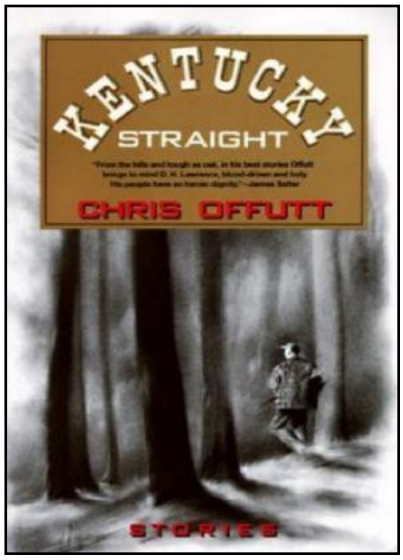


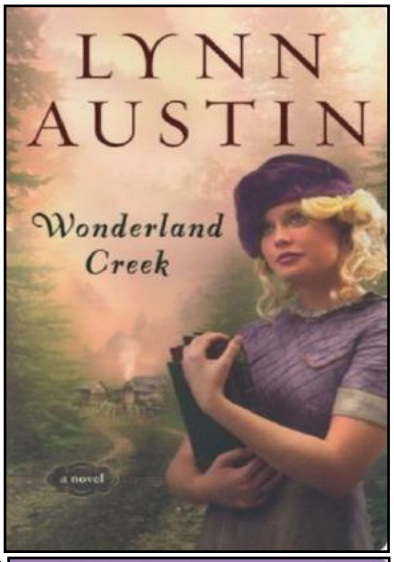


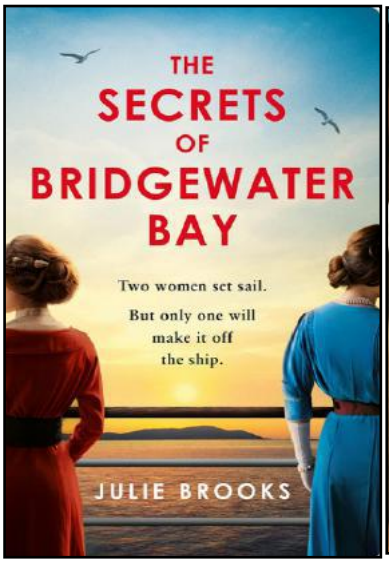


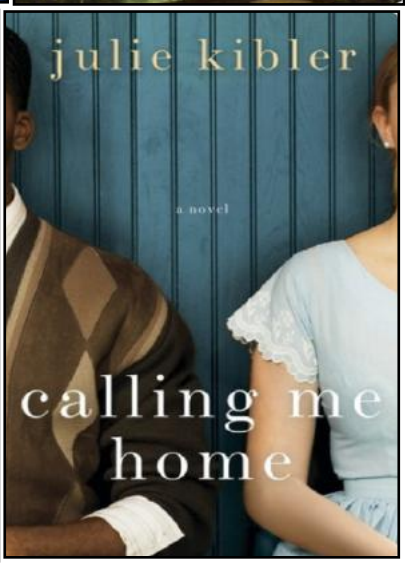


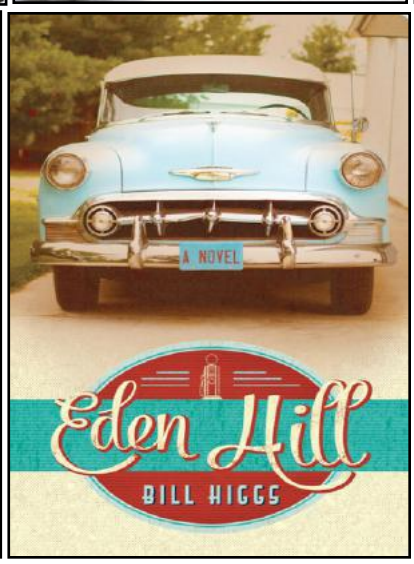


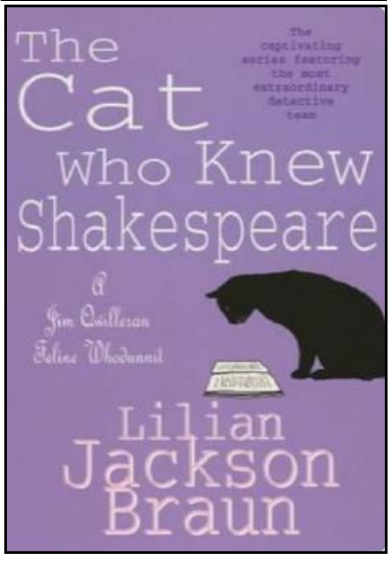


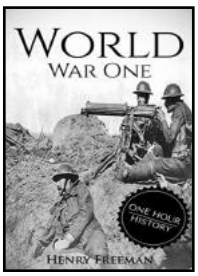


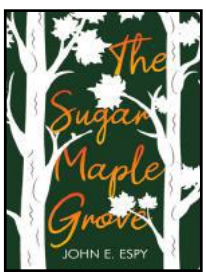


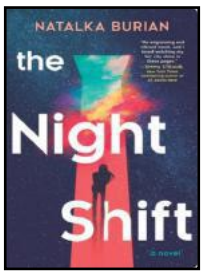


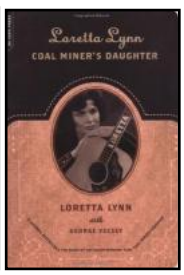












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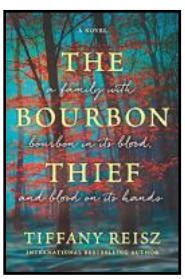
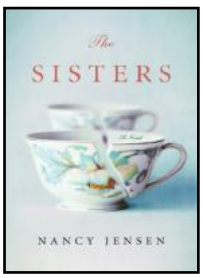
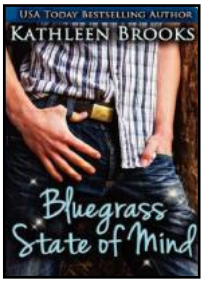
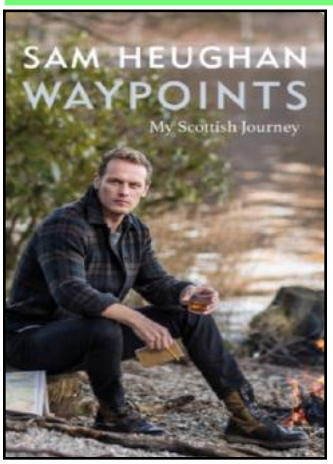
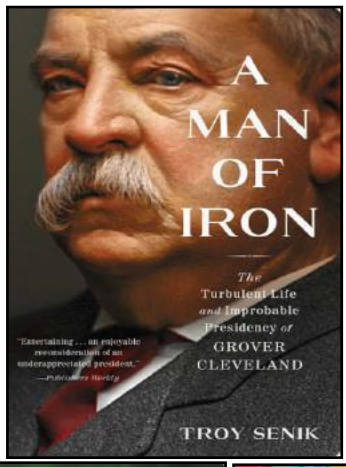


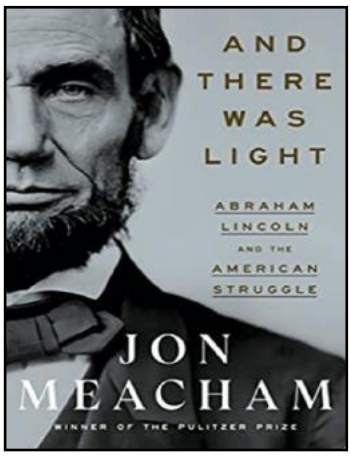


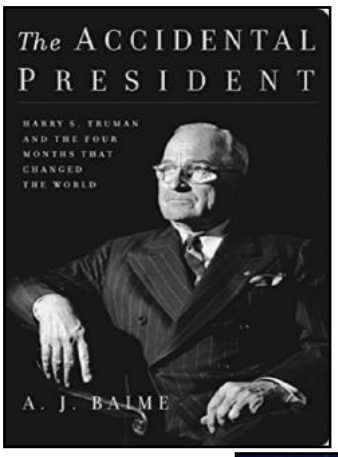


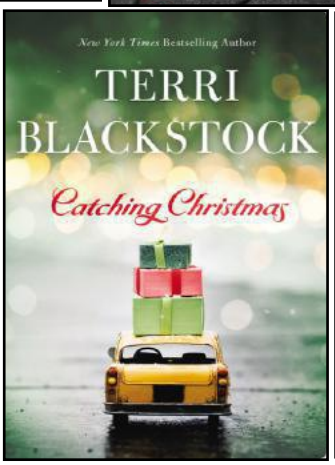
A Third Page of Holiday Reading Delights

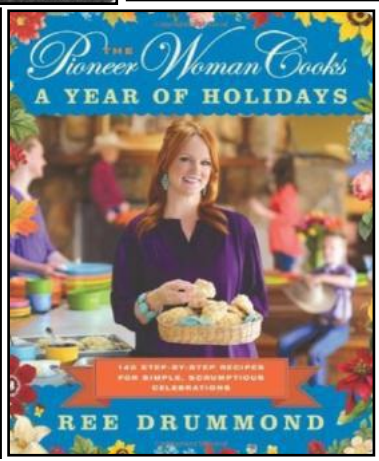


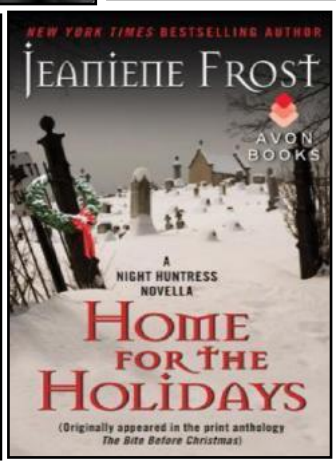


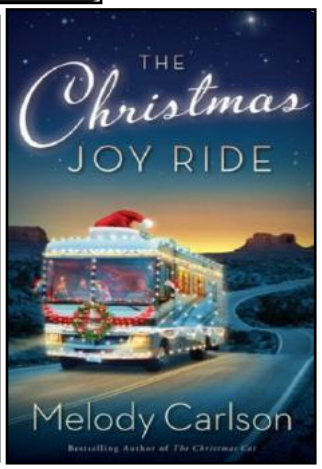


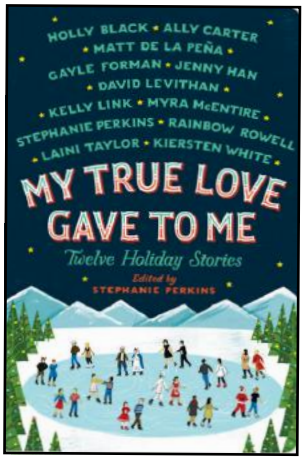


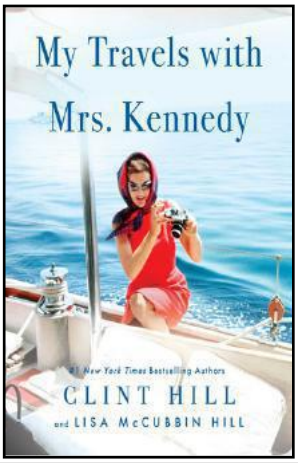


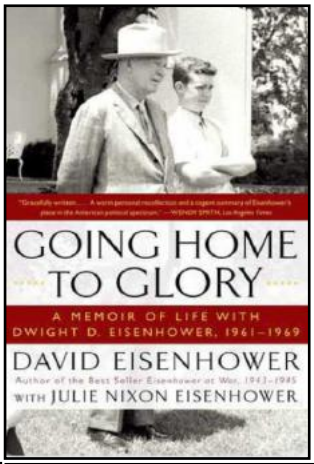


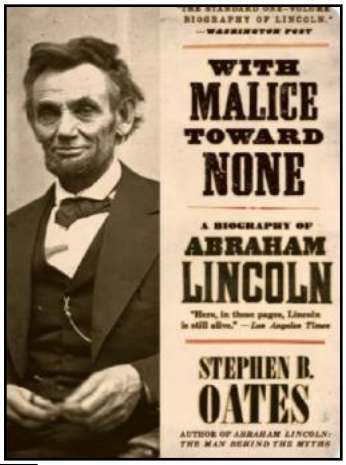


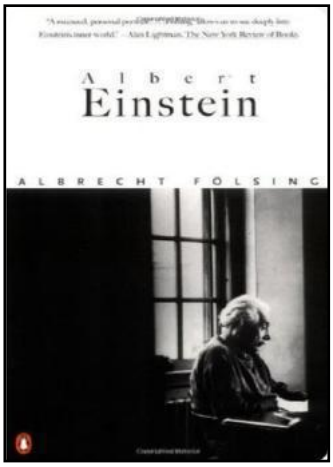


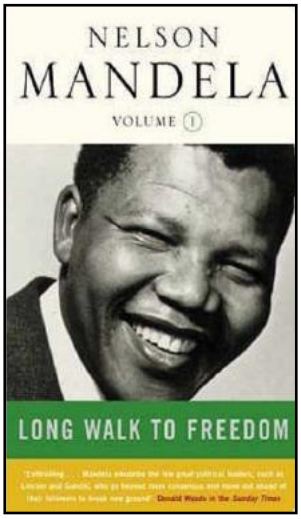


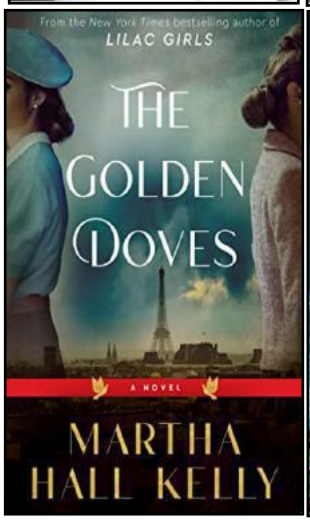


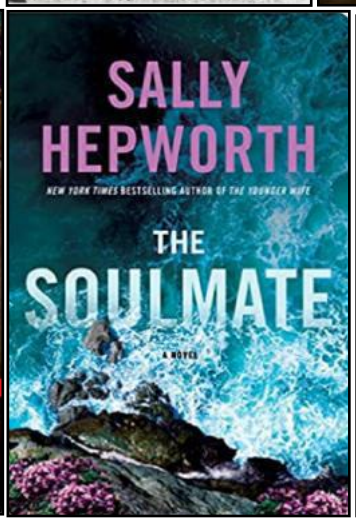


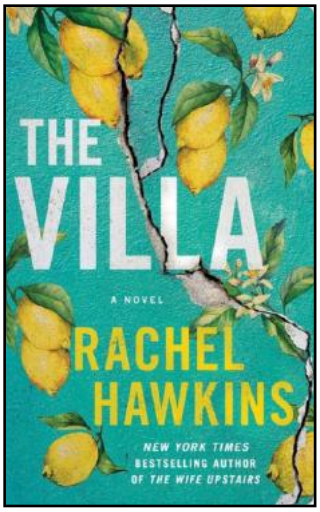


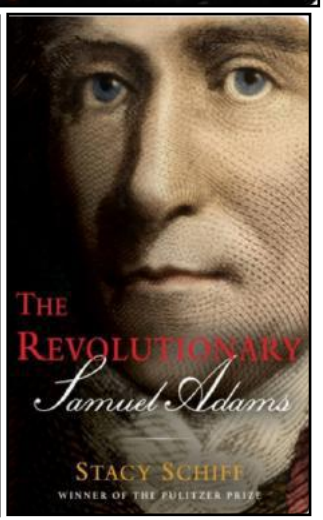












Book covers provided by Goodreads.com

Need Tech Help?

Give us a try. Dr. Fixit and iHelp are available the first Saturday of the month from 10 A.M. to Noon at CKCS.

Videos and More

Remember – these are hyperlinks. Click on the website links to go to that YouTube video.

12 Hours of Beautiful Christmas Music
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8WuKQfCaUb4

A Good Hour of Good Old Classic Christmas Songs
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LE9Q4JN-Yek

Vintage Feel Jazz Christmas Instrumental Playlist
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eIlkRU0rsDo

Beautiful Holiday Music (Instrumentals)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zy0RvnliKLc

Christmas Instrumental Music and Fireplace
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FSfIJ0skTV4

Classical Christmas
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PrFCdi7apV8

A Choral Christmas
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HIc5LUdZOE4

The Christmas Song – Patti Page
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8q7PoiSUjvQ

Oh Holy NIght - HomeTown
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pUh7xDO-8bE

Oh Holy Night – Nat King Cole
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N-QcYDP7SDU

White Christmas (1947 version) – Bing Crosby
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EwKc05_6ItY

Feliz Navidad – José Feliciano
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N8NcQzMQN_U

Merry Christmas, Darling – The Carpenters
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PB5c-KmxqQw

Silent Night – Josh Groban
https://www.youtube.com/watch?
v=OA2i_Ujidoc&list=PL6YkvtyrpMh1sGwa3urxTaiRRz35x7Uad

Silent Night – Bing Crosby
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6GUnfLPpjLs

Oh Holy NIght – Johnny Mathis
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JHAFT2i5h5w

Top 100 Christmas Songs of All Time For Three Hours
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dfTCObc5BuE

Merry Christmas From the Crooners
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MziefZOqmxo

Christmas Canon – Tri-Siberian Orchestra
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4cP26ndrmtg

A Christmas Celebration – Celtic Woman
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bDki7Vj0oIA

Christmas with Mozart
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=44mz1Z0GAMo

The Best Relaxing Classical – Vivaldi
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R3jicOG1_jk

Eye In the Sky – Alan Parsons Project
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i1Xg7W4JCpQ

Soft Rock Ballads from the 70s
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kZEc-Rt1bfQ

Merry Christmas Everyone – Shakin' Stevens
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N-PyWfVkjZc

Happy Christmas – John Lennon
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R99F5y_Tqa4

Peace on Earth/Little Drummer Boy –
Bing Crosby & David Bowie
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lCpXMy5GaII

Last Christmas – Wham!
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E8gmARGvPlI

For What It's Worth – Buffalo Springfield
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gp5JCrSXkJY

Southern Cross – Crosby, Stills & Nash
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bw9gLjEGJrw

The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald – Gordon Lightfoot
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PH0K6ojmGZA

Christmas Truce of World War – Joyuex Noel, 2005
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-cSrqRdlFeo

The Christmas Truce (WWI) – 1914
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NaBJhmkDKmc

The Christmas Truce (WW1) – History
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UGO9Q1vl-iM

Apple Picks Best Apps of 2022

by Kurt Jefferson

Check out any of Apple's App Stores, and you might just be overcome by the sheer number of apps available. There are just so many apps from which to choose. But some are the best of the best – according to Apple – and deserve to be selected as the App Store Award winners of the year. So just days after Thanksgiving, Apple announced its award winners which topped the lists in these categories:

- User experience
- Technical innovations
- Design

9to5Mac lists the winners:

Courtesy: BeReal on The App Store

iPhone Best App of the Year: BeReal

BeReal is a photo-sharing app allowing you to share photos once a day with friends. BeReal urges users to click natural photos each day at a different time of the day. BeReal describes the app: "BeReal is the simplest photo sharing app to share once a day your real life in photo with friends. Every day at a different time, everyone captures a photo within 2 minutes. Capture and post in time to discover what your Friends are up to." It is free, and ranks #5 in the App Store for iPhoto. BeReal has a 4.8 out of 5 rating in the App Store. One user writes, "Instagram but without the toxicity."

https://apps.apple.com/us/app/bereal-your-friends-for-real/id1459645446

Courtesy: Synium Software Germany, makers of MacFamilyTree 10

Mac Best App of the Year: MacFamilyTree 10

This app offers users one of the most versatile ways to display their genealogy searches of any app available today. As MacFamilyTree 10 writes on its website: "Display your relationships in reports, visually appealing charts, or the innovative Virtual Tree 3D view, or invite other users to contribute to your family tree in real time by using the free "CloudTree Sync&Share" feature." It's a native Mac app and lets users import data directly from GEDCOM. There's also a version for iPhone and iPad called MobileFamilyTree 10. Has a 4.6 out of 5 rating in the Mac App Store. One user writes, "This program FAR exceeded my expectations." Normally, $69.99, but 50% off through Dec. 4. at the Mac App Store.

https://www.syniumsoftware.com/macfamilytree

iPad Best App of the Year: GoodNotes 5

Courtesy: Time Base Technology Limited

GoodNotes 5 is available for the iPad, Mac and iPhone, but it took top honors for its popular iPad app. The Apple Editor's Choice description provides an overview: "GoodNotes 5 is a combination digital notepad and PDF markup tool. And it's very good at both. As a notepad, GoodNotes covers all the bases. Create notes with your keyboard or handwrite them with Apple Pencil. The app transforms your hand-drawn shapes into geometrically perfect ones. It's also capable of recognizing your handwriting (even when you can't)…" The GoodNotes website urges users to "write outside the lines."

https://www.goodnotes.com/

Courtesy: Gentler Stories LLC, developer of Gentler Streak, on The App Store

Apple Watch Best App of the Year: Gentler Streak Workout Tracker

This app is described as an "exercise and fitness tracker with a twist: it always puts your well-being first." Gentler Streak is different than other exercise apps in that it helps the user find a balance between fitness and rest. "Stay energized, not overtrained, by knowing your limits." In a February article, 9to5Mac wrote: "Gentler Streak is also working to provide support for non-conventional sports, such as ice skating, roller skating, wake and windsurfing, stand up paddling, CrossFit, recumbent bicycling, and even fun additions such as shoveling and dog walking… Even though the Fitness app on the iPhone gives some handful pieces of information about your Apple Watch exercises, I do believe Gentler Streak goes beyond, especially regarding your heart rate and activity levels."

Instead of chasing 10,000 daily steps, Rings…"you keep the streak going by responding to your readiness: be it a rest, mild activity, or an intense one," is how the App Store describes Gentler Streak. It has a 4.7 out of 5 rating in the App Store and one user writes, "I don't feel so guilty if I don't over-achieve."

https://apps.apple.com/us/app/gentler-streak-workout-tracker/id1576857102

9to5 Mac: Gentler Streak For Apple Watch Brings Compassion to Fitness Goals

Courtesy: ViX on The App Store

Apple TV App of the Year: ViX

ViX is a free streaming service focusing on Spanish-language content available on Apple TV. ViX provides more than 100 TV channels, thousands of movies, TV series and soap operas, soccer action, as well as 24/7 news services. For content without ads, users may subscribe to ViX+.

https://tvnewscheck.com/digital/article/vix-televisaunivisions-streamer-named-apple-tv-app-of-the-year/

From the Editor: As We Approach Year's End, Just Look How Far We've Come

By Kurt Jefferson

Who knew CKCS would be around nearly four decades after its teachers and SIG leaders began teaching folks how to use DOS, a new computer called a Macintosh that used icons, spreadsheets, the Eudora email app, and a variety of word processors ranging from WordPerfect to Ami Pro to ClarisWorks?

And that's just the beginning.

Check out the list of classes and workshops in this newsletter and you'll see just how far we've come from those early days of CKCS in 1984.

A tablet called the iPad has changed computing for millions. Smartphones, including the iPhone and Android phones, have revolutionized communications. For many, texting has replaced phone calls. Still, I'm amazed by the number of folks who have no voice mail activated on their phones. So there's no way to leave a voice message. While there are many more ways to reach people, in some ways, it's tougher to get ahold of them.

Technology has brought plenty of positive impacts over the years. Laptops and desktop computers have gotten much more powerful. Solid state drives have replaced hard drives in many devices. Smartphones are today's electronic Swiss army knives, with built-in flashlights, weather stations, email, and much more. No one could have imagined that a pocket computer called the smartphone would let you connect in more places than ever before.

Streaming TV shows and movies are now more popular that cable TV. That's a major reason cable companies are now heavily promoting their cell phone service rather than cable TV, which is slowly dying.

On the other hand, scam emails, text messages, bogus computer "services," and other attempts to separate you from your money have exploded in the nearly 40 years since CKCS became a reality. The website, Consumer Affairs, reports that older Americans are swindled out of more than $3 billion each year. Seniors targeted by hackers and online thieves suffer an average loss of $34,200.

So don't let your guard down as you're buying gifts online, answering emails, and paying bills this holiday season.

Finally, I want to say thanks to all of you who support CKCS. Your memberships, your registrations for classes and workshops, and your visits to SIG meetings as well as Dr. Fixit and iHelp make all the difference.

We look forward to seeing you in 2023 and your ongoing support in the new year!

Thanks again for reading
this newsletter and supporting CKCS.

Kurt Jefferson