Bits and Bytes   April 2014

Arkansas' Premier Computer Club

Bella Vista Computer Club - John Ruehle Center

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ALERT: Google Drive Phishing Scam

A new phishing scam is circulating one of the more populated regions of the web: Google Drive File Sharing.

Drive Scam Play-by-Play

The scam is initiated by the standard email request to view a shared document on Drive, with a subject line: Documents.

Opening the email reveals a link to what is said to be a "very important document."

Clicking on the link leads users to a fake Google log-in page, which is essentially identical to the real one.

The fake log-in page is even hosted on Google and contains SSL certification.

Users who enter their information and "Sign in" are redirected to an actual Google Doc containing irrelevant information. At the same time, and in the background, the user's Google log-in credentials are sent to the scammer's web server.

How to Avoid the Drive Scam
Delete any unsolicited invitations to share Google Documents.
Do not click on links you receive from people you don't know.

Avoid logging in to Google through emailed links; instead, go to the real Google.com and proceed from there.
Stop and think: If you use Gmail and are already logged on to your Google Account, you shouldn't need to log on again to access Drive. - See more at: http://blog.emsisoft.com/2014/03/14/alert-google-drive-phishing-scam/?ref=ticker140319&utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=newsetter&utm_content=onlineversion&utm_campaign=ticker140319#sthash.MsG2KCDx.dpuf

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Open houses for Computer Repair & Help

Apr. 16th (10 am—1 pm) (Wednesday)

May 3rd (10 am —1 pm) (Saturday)

May 7th (1 pm — 4 pm) (Wednesday)

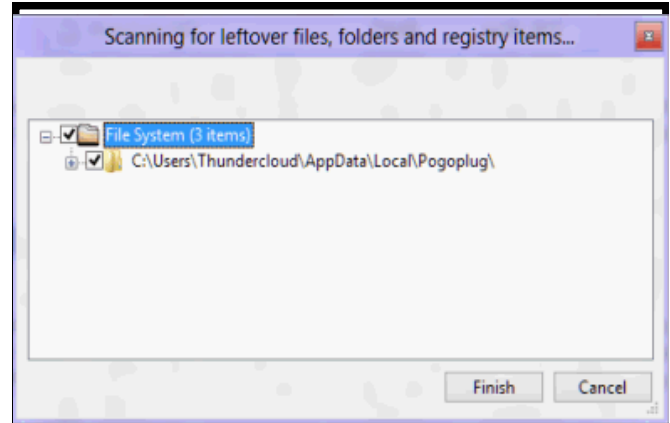**Marge wants to know how to use Geek Uninstaller**
Would someone explain to me how to use the Geek Uninstaller? I have looked at their home page and support page, but I'm still at a loss. Also, where would it be located on my computer...Programs, Desktop..? On their screenshots I get the first page, but don't know how to get to the second part. I am usually not this dumb about how to use a program, but I am on this one...lol

Thank you for any help you can offer and all the help you have provided through my years with you all..

Our answer
Thanks Marge. Geek Uninstaller couldn't be simpler to use. You don't even install it. All you need to do is download it, open the zip file, and click on Geek.exe. If you have trouble finding your downloaded files, try looking in C:\documents and settings\your user name\downloads or if you're using Internet Explorer click on "Tools" "Downloads" "Open containing folder" (or similar - depending on your version of IE). It's a zip file, you can open it with Windows XP without a third-party program. After you open it, right click on Geek.exe and choose "Send to" and choose "Desktop (create shortcut)".

Many times, actually trying a program is easier than looking at someone else's screen shots. Geek is so simple to use. You click on its exe file or shortcut, a window opens and displays every program installed on your computer. Double-click the program you want to uninstall and (normally) the program's uninstaller opens. The program's own uninstaller uninstalls the program. When it's done, a Geek uninstaller window opens "scanning for leftover files..." - when it's done a list of leftover files is displayed (if any) and all you have to do is click "Finish" and the leftover files are removed.

Of all the programs we have used, Geek Uninstaller has to be one of the simplest programs ever. Perhaps if you tried the program rather than trying to read their support page, you'd see how easy it is to use. It's very intuitive. Sometimes we all tend to make things more complicated than they need to be :-)

One more thing we like about Geek is it's "Forced uninstall". Let say you have a problem uninstalling a program because some of its uninstall components are missing. Open Geek, find the program in the list of programs, right-click on it, choose Force Uninstall and let Geek get rid of all its components and registry entries. Normally you won't need to use Forced Uninstall, but it comes in handy when the program you want to remove is missing its uninstaller or parts of it. *copyright 2008 by Cloudeight Internet, http://thundercloud.net/infoave/index.htmt*

NEXT MONTH'S MEETING PROGRAM

May   "Antivirus, Malware and Registry Cleaners"

NO GENEOLOGY SIG SCHEDULED APRIL 19TH

ANOTHER WAY TO SAVE YOUR-SELF SOME TROUBLE Custom Install

(Recommended for advanced users)

All Windows users

When you're installing software, and you find that you have an option to choose between "Express install" or "Custom install"- which do you normally choose? We're betting most of you choose "Express Install" basically because Custom Install is usually annotated with the words: "For advanced users". Most of you probably don't consider yourself an advanced user, so "Express Install" is probably always your choice.

But did you know that 99% of the time there are no "advanced" customizations anyway, and most of the time the "custom install" just allows you to choose a different folder and nothing else. But, more often than not, the custom install hides the malware to be installed and hidden there are check boxes so you can uncheck the malware so it won't install. Developers know that most users will steer clear of anything for "advanced users". And it's in the custom install dialog they often hide the malware installations and options that allow you to avoid installing it. We can remember back in mid-1990s, being new on the Internet and finding ourselves avoiding anything that said "for advanced users"...we haven't forgotten those days, so we can understand most of your trepidation about clicking anything that says "Advanced". But most often, during a software installation, Advanced can often mean "we've hidden things in here we don't want you to see".

So the next time you see an Express Install and a Custom Install (recommended for advanced users), choose the custom install - whether you're an advanced user or not, and you may be doing yourself a favor by preventing one or more malware programs from being installed on your computer without your knowledge.

FINDING FREE MOVIES ON YOU TUBE MADE EASY

With the internet, there's no shortage of free media out there if you can find it. So much, in fact, that if you're ever looking for inspiration, you should be able to find it. Zero Dollar Movies is just another source of free entertainment for movie buffs. Zero Dollar Movies are available on You Tube for free. These are full length movies and there are no trailers or partial uploads.

Of course, since the site searches what's available on YouTube and less-than-official versions of movies sometimes end up on there for a while before they get taken down, big name movies occasionally slip through the cracks. However, largely the site's library is legitimate and impressive for not spending a dollar.

Zero Dollar Movies is a collection of 15,000 movies that are available on YouTube for free. The site indexes only full-length films and no trailers, rentals or partial uploads.

Instant movie search is provided since the movies are organized by their year of release but you can also use the instant search feature to quickly know if a particular title is available for viewing on YouTube. If you like watching movies and you don't like paying for movies, then Zero Dollar Movies is for you. Check out http://zerodollarmovies.com/

A LITTLE TASKBAR MAGIC

Windows 7, Windows 8 / 8.1

Here is a neat way to cycle through and open windows in your Task Bar using your Windows Key: Hold the Windows Key down and click the number that corresponds with the window you want to open, and it will open!

Let me explain by example! Lets say you have 5 programs showing in your Task Bar to include Windows Explorer, Media Player, Internet Explorer, Snipping Tool and Notepad. If you hold the Windows Key down and click the number 4, your Snipping Tool will open as it is the 4th one on the list. Hold Windows Key down and click 5, and Notepad, which is 5th on the list, will open. And so on.

You can even take it a step further. Lets say you have several Internet Explorer browser pages open. You can hold the Windows Key down while repeatedly clicking "3? and it will cycle through all the open browser windows and open them.

This works for both open programs and programs you have pinned to the Taskbar. In my Windows 7 example, I have Internet Explorer and Notepad open; the other three items showing in my Taskbar are not open, but pinned links. In my Windows 8 example, I have no programs running -- but each program on the taskbar can be opened by pressing the Windows Key + the number of the icon (from left to right - not including the start button).
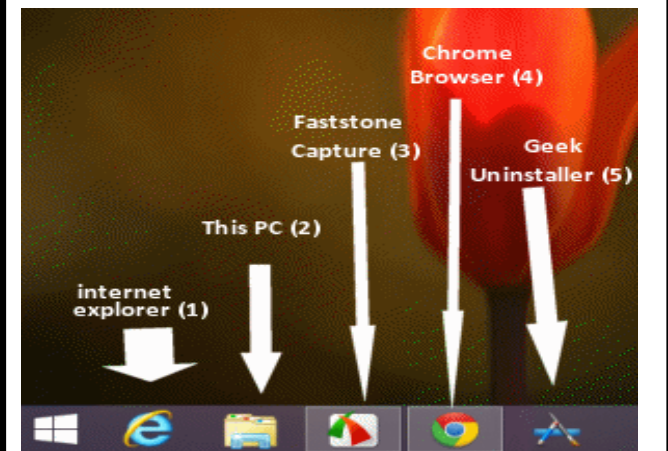
(continue next column with screen shots) *copyright 2008 by Cloudeight Internet, http://thundercloud.net/*

Internet Explorer 8, the most recent version available for Windows XP, is already several generations old and will no longer receive security patches after April 8, 2014. Google Chrome will continue supporting Windows XP **until at least April 2015**. Most recommended antivirus programs like Avast and Emsisoft will still continue supporting Windows XP until April 2015 and maybe until 2016. Remember Office 2003 will not receive support after April 8,2014.

A Windows 7 Screenshot

A Windows 8 screen shot

Computer Club Classes

Digital Photography, Part 1 "The Camera"   Apr 15, 9 am to noon

Setting Up Windows 7, — Apr 15, 1 pm to 3 pm

Microsoft Word (4 hrs) — May 6, May 8,   10 am to noon

Wiondows Live Mail 2012 (4 hrs)— May 6, May 8, 1 to 3 pm

PC Maintenance, Part 1 "Cleaning"— May 7,   9 am to noon

Pre-registration is required for all classes and are free to all Computer Club members. Call Marie Herr (273-2558) for more information and to pre-register. 5 members are required for each class.