

# WAUCTALK

Wisconsin All-computer Users Club

<https://wauc.apcug.org>

Main@WAUC.Groups.io



VOLUME 42 Issue #12

DECEMBER 2024



Jackson Park Lutheran Church

4535 W. Oklahoma Avenue

January 2nd

January 9th

January 16th

January 22nd

January 23rd

January 28th

January 30th

General Meeting

Tutorial SIG

Q & A SIG

Investment SIG

Smartphone SIG\*\*

WAUC Lunch\*

One-on-One Event

ALL SIGS ARE HELD ON ZOOM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2624168210?>

\*The Brass Key

4952 W. Forest Home Ave.

Milwaukee, WI

\*\*On Zoom for January



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## UPCOMING PRESENTATIONS

January—Chris Taylor, “FUN WITH FONTS”

February—Bill James, “UNDERSTANDING GOOGLE DRIVE”

March—J.J. Johnson—“AI DISINFORMATION”

April—

May—PICNIC

June—Bill James—“SPYING ON PRESENTATION”

June 12th—Waukesha County Sheriff’s Department,  
“THE LATEST IN DRONES”

July—Francis Chao, “TETHERING YOUR CELL  
PHONE”

## DECEMBER 2024 PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE



Dear Members of the Wisconsin All-Computer Users Club,  
Happy Holidays! We had a GREAT 2024 for our club!! **Please help us have a great 2025!!**

We had an outstanding Holiday Event for our December General Meeting. Thanks to Suzanne and all the others that helped! Thanks for Marilyn leading us and playing the keyboard, Barbara for calling Bingo and Don Gardner for setting up the Bingo. Kudos to Suzanne and daughter Kim for quick thinking and saving the day.

The CLUB totally appreciates all of the members that work all year to make this club exciting and vibrant!

Remember on December 26<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM, we will be having a ZOOM Bingo event, Watch for the invitation!

Membership dues, SPECIAL, **pay your membership dues before December 31** and pay only \$25!! Please contact Bob Banerian email ([banerian@milwpc.com](mailto:banerian@milwpc.com)) if you are unsure if you paid your dues!

PLEASE ask us what we can do to help you, please rejoin our club, and please have a great rest of the year!!

Don Skarda

YOUR WAUC President,  
262-416-8210

WAUC2019@gmail.com

Wisconsin All-Computer Users Club



## NOVEMBER 2024 TUTORIAL SIG

Those attending included Jim Hempel, John Schwarzmeyer, Terry Harvey, Louise Bozek, Louise Dahms, Don Skarda, Julia Rice, J.J. Johnson, Richard Durand, Bill Vlach, Rita Bruce, and Margaret Cortez.

Julia is having trouble using the Zoom invitation link Don Skarda sends out from Groups.io. She is having to enter all the numbers manually. Don will work with her to see what is the issue. Groups link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2624168210?pwd=OTZYTWcveEI1TjZjV2I1M0ZWVis2UT09>



Windows 10 will no longer offer security updates after October 14, 2025. They will not offer any technical assistance nor security fixes. Your PC will continue to work, just not be supported in any way. Microsoft recommends moving to Windows 11.

Terry has been having trouble with her

**YouMail:**

YouMail app since changing carriers from Verizon to Spectrum Mobile. Spectrum Mobile uses Verizon towers so what is the problem? After checking the internet to see which carriers support YouMail, Spectrum was listed as a supported carrier. She contacted Spectrum Mobile Technical Support and was told they didn't really know anything about the app and advised her to contact Samsung. A call to Samsung also proved of no help. She emailed technical support at YouMail. They were very committed to help



and offered a number of suggestions. None of them worked. After 3 weeks of struggling with the app, 3 more calls to Spectrum, 10 emails between YouMail, and many hours of frustration, success! The problem was she had to have Spectrum change the IMEI. Whoever would have thought that the problem? *Editor's note: A separate article regarding YouMail can be found in this issue.*

Keep in mind, if you have Spectrum internet, Spectrum Mobile is offering free cell service for a year.

Bring your own device if it's on their list of accepted devices. <https://www.spectrum.com/mobile/byod-eligibility-check>

Louise D has thousands of emails in her Gmail inbox.



She has only been able to delete one screen of emails at a time which is proving to be very tedious. Is there a way to delete all of them at once? Jim directed her to choose an email she would have multiples of. She chose an email from Joanne Fabrics. She entered Joanne Fabrics in the SEARCH box. Once they were all grouped together the SELECT ALL box appeared and Louise was able to click on that and DELETE all the emails. Jim then directed her to TRASH, EMPTY TRASH and her problem was solved.



Louise B needed a plumber to work on her Grohe faucet. After calling 3 plumbers she found not all plumbers work on this brand faucet. On one of the calls, she was having a conversation with someone she came to finally realize was AI! She said it was so realistic and appropriate she had no idea it was AI.

Jim took us to the Medi-

**Medicare.gov**

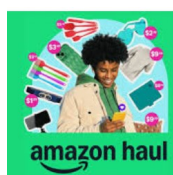
care.gov website. Seniors must decide on any changes they want to make to their Medicare coverage by December 7<sup>th</sup>. This website includes information on health and drug plans, hospitals, nursing homes, State Health Insurance Assistance Programs, how to get help with prescription drug costs, Medicare coverage, benefits, plan details, print your Medicare card, and more. There is a treasure trove of information here for anyone on Medicare.

As often happens towards the tail-end of a SIG, Jim has some interesting websites to visit. The first site was: <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2024/10/22/popular-baby-names->



[2024-babycenter/75790230007/](https://2024-babycenter/75790230007/). This took us to an article in USA Today about the most popular baby names in 2024. Are you curious? Top girl's names are Olivia, Amelia, Emma, Sophia, and Charlotte. Top boy's names are Noah, Liam, Oliver, Elijah, and Mateo.

The next site was: [https://www.cnbc.com/2024/11/13/amazon-haul-discount-storefront-debuts-to-take-on-temu-and-shein.html?utm\\_campaign=mb&utm\\_medium=newsletter&utm\\_source=morning\\_brew](https://www.cnbc.com/2024/11/13/amazon-haul-discount-storefront-debuts-to-take-on-temu-and-shein.html?utm_campaign=mb&utm_medium=newsletter&utm_source=morning_brew). This article from CNBC informed us about a new Amazon discount website



called, "Amazon Haul." This website is a different shopping experience than the regular Amazon. This site has a separate search, cart and checkout. All items are

priced \$20 or less and will ship free on orders over \$25. In addition, there is a 5% off incentive on orders over \$50 and 10% off on orders of \$75 or more. To reach the site search "Haul" in the Amazon Shopping app or go to: <http://www.amazon.com/haul>. Here you will have to scan a QR code as Haul is a mobile-only experience. All items in Amazon Haul are covered by Amazon's A-Z Guarantee, however delivery may take a week or two.

Terry L Harvey

## NOVEMBER 2024 SMARTPHONE SIG

Those attending were Jim Hempel, Terry Harvey, Don Skarda, John Schwarzmeier, Don Gardner, Richard Durand, Karen Fenny, Bill Vlach, Louise Dahms, Marilyn Schroeder, Margaret Cortez, JJ Johnson, and Louis Bozek.

Jan asked about digital gift cards. What are they and how do they work? Almost all retailers offer consumers gift cards as a way to shop or give money to friends and family. There are two types of gift cards—physical and digital (e-gift cards)—and each comes with a wide range of features and benefits.



Gift cards usually refer to a plastic card while digital gift cards have no physical form. Instead, you're assigned a unique gift code number that you can use to redeem at online retailers when making purchases. Physical gift cards are the most popular type, in part because gift-card givers perceive them as being more like actual money or credit cards.



You can also store codes for digital gift cards inside a mobile wallet app, such as Apple Pay or PayPal's Venmo. Then, when you're ready to check out, you can select your digital gift card as your preferred method of payment. All stores have to prevent gift cards from expiring for up to five years after their activation date. Watch for inactivity fees if left unused too long.

Karen could be in the market for a new phone and asked about the purchase process. Richard had some similar questions. When purchasing a new phone, you have several options. This includes to buy it directly from a mobile carrier, purchase an unlocked phone online, buy from a retailer like an electronics store, use a phone payment plan through your carrier, trade-in your old phone for a discount, or opt for a refurbished phone to save money.



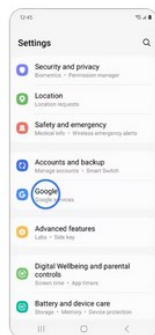
There are pros and cons to each of these. For example, buying a phone directly from your carrier used to be expensive due to hidden costs, but now prices are more transparent, and financing plans are often interest-free. The downside of buying from your carrier is that the phone will be locked to that carrier, limiting your options for switching to a different carrier. Be aware many carriers love including unnecessary apps on phones. While some manufacturers are also guilty of this, we don't need carriers pre-installing even more smartphone apps. Most of these are useless, and they often can't be uninstalled.

When you purchase a new phone, you probably want to move all your data to the new phone. This can vary by manufacturer. Here is a general way for Android users.

To move data from your old phone to a new phone, use your Google account to back up your

data on the old phone, then sign into the same Google account on your new phone during setup to restore the backup, allowing you to transfer contacts, photos, calendar events, and app data; depending on your phone manufacturer, there may also be a dedicated data transfer tool available to facilitate the process. iPhone users would follow *similar* steps using their backup in their cloud storage.

After this process is completed, check your new phone carefully to make sure all the items you selected to transfer have been copied over to the new phone. Doing this does not remove your own personal information from your old phone. Make sure you take the additional steps to reset your old phone to Factory Default. This is typically found in Settings, General Management, Reset. Then follow the steps to perform this action.



Samsung has created a method for their phones that makes this very easy. All you have to do is make sure your devices are close together and that you have a stable internet connection. Open the Smart

Switch app on your new device and tap Start, then follow the onscreen instructions. You will have the option to choose which data you wish to transfer.

## INTERNET SPEED TEST

Somehow, we got onto the subject of the internet speed, both download and upload speeds. A simple way to do this is to open a browser and type in speed test. This will result in a new screen coming up that lets you check the internet by clicking a button labeled Run Speed Test. In response, you will be given the number of megabits per second that can be downloaded and a second number for the upload speed.

Downloading is usually quite a bit faster. It is generally recommended to have at 25 Mbps in order to stream a movie without a lot of buffering. A wired connection is always faster and more reliable but often due to the location of various pieces of equipment, the wireless connection will be the preferred choice. It WILL be slower if you choose wireless.



Then we talked about all the Black Friday specials.

Typically, there are a lot of televisions, ear buds, laptops, appliances and other hardware items. But also included in these specials, you are likely to find some streaming special prices.



Here are a few of these streaming specials I found for Black Friday 2024.

Hulu: \$1 per month for a year, or \$3 per month for a bundle with Disney+. Ad-supported plans only. You can also add Starz for an extra \$1 per month for a year.



Peacock: \$20 for a year, or \$2 per month for six months. You can also use the code REALDEAL to save on an ad-free annual plan, or REALDEALMONTHLY to save on an ad-free monthly plan.



Max: Six months for \$3 per month.

NFL Sunday Ticket: \$89 for the remaining season.

Paramount+: Two months ad-free with Showtime for \$3 per month. (For ad-supported plans, still gets you three months free)



Karen noted that Spectrum is now providing Paramount+ in its package. Paramount+\* is now included with Spectrum TV Select plans and Mi Plan Latino. You can now activate your Paramount+ subscription and dive in with over 40,000 episodes and movies, originals like Tulsa King and live sports, including the NFL on CBS and so much more! More about this in the link.



<https://www.thewrap.com/peacock-free-on-spectrum-charter-nbcuniversal-deal/>

Browser apps was next on our list of topics. When it came to popularity, we found this graph:



The on-line marketplace has seen the rise in popularity of an app called Temu. It offers very low prices but has

longer lead times since its merchandise comes directly from China to the purchaser. In order to maintain its share of the consumer market, Amazon has introduced their app called Amazon Haul

We also learned that for a limited time, Amazon is discounting all purchase by 50%. Delivery is more like two weeks instead of two days.

Terry asked about "hotspot" and how they are used. A hotspot is a location where people can access the internet wirelessly with a mobile device. Most hotspots work by using cellular data to connect devices to the internet via Wi-Fi. Many modern smartphones come with built-in hotspot features that can be turned on easily in the "settings" menu. Also known as "phone tethering," setting up a cell phone hotspot enables you to share your phone's cellular data with other devices, such as laptops and tablets.



While using your cell phone as a mobile hotspot is generally simple, the exact steps you'll need to take can vary depending on the operating system it uses:



iOS: To set up a hotspot on an iOS device, go to the "cellular" section of the settings menu and switch the "personal hotspot" slider to on. Then, tap the "allow others to join" slider if you'd like to allow other devices to connect.



Android: To set up a hotspot on an Android device, first go to the settings menu and hold down the "mobile hotspot" icon to turn it on. Then, view the Wi-Fi options in your device's settings, and find your phone's hotspot name.

To utilize these features on your phone, you'll need to make sure your cellular data plan supports personal hotspots.

Before we finished up for the evening, the discussion took a turn again to Black Friday deals noting that this may be a good time to look into streaming devices such as Roku, Amazon Firestick and others.

Jim Hempel

## DECEMBER 2024 LEADERSHIP MINUTES

Those in attendance were, Don Skarda, Jim Hempel, Terry Harvey, Jan Mlagan, Richard Durand, and Bob Banerian

The meeting opened with a discussion about a new projector for the club. This discussion would continue later in the meeting.

## Certificate of Deposit (CD)

Terry suggested that we put some of the club's money into an interest-bearing CD. We need to research if a non-profit organization can have a CD and where we could make the most money. A possible committee will be Terry, Bob Harvey, Don and Bob B.

Please mark your calendars for the June 12, 2025 Drone demonstration. It will be held at the Waukesha County Sheriff's department, in Waukesha, and will replace the SIG for that night. We will try to coordinate rides for those uncomfortable driving the distance.



The January presentation will be "Fun with Fonts" by Chris Taylor. Chris is a new presenter for us and was recommended by Bill James.

Jim and Don will set up the 2025 calendar.



There was a discussion about the food for Christmas Party. Marilyn Schrader has graciously consented to play her keyboard and lead us for a Christmas Sing-a-long.

The club will have a day After Christmas Bingo event on December 26<sup>th</sup>. Terry will purchase online Bingo cards. Don Gardner will purchase gift cards and will send them out to the winners. Good Luck!

BINGO							
3	29	45	56	68			
1	19	43	50	72			
11	25	31	49	61			
9	23	31	58	63			
4	27	42	54	71			

Jan looked into placing an ad in a local church bulletin for WAUC. It turned out to be very cost prohibitive, to the amount of \$617 for the year.



Terry brought up that we should put a notice about the club on Facebook. She lives in Muskego and there is a Facebook site called Muskego Area Information Network (MAIN). There may be other city sites we could also advertise on. She will create an ad which can be posted, and reposted, each week.

If you have any other marketing suggestions, please let the leadership committee know.

And so, the projector discussion continued. Bob B. suggested to check reviews on projectors and what their return policies are. In the past we have



used Jim's projector and there was a notable difference from the clubs present projector.

After more discussions and research on the web, the committee agreed to purchase a refurbished Epson 1080 projector. We look forward to using it at the January General Meeting.



**Don't forget, If you pay your dues before the end of the year they are only \$25.**

The next Leadership Committee Meeting will be December 30<sup>th</sup> at 7:00.

Jan Mlagan

## YouMail

**Provides smarter visual voicemail with free voice to text and an awesome voicemail app.**

*By Jasmine Blue D'Katz*

You Mail is a feature-rich email client that offers a compelling alternative to traditional webmail and desktop email apps. The app's clean, intuitive interface makes it easy to manage your inbox, with a focus on productivity and organization.

One of the standout features of You Mail is its powerful search capabilities. The app's search engine allows you to quickly find emails based on a variety of criteria, including sender, subject, date, and attachment type. This is particularly useful for users who receive a high volume of emails and need to quickly surface important messages.

The app's email composition tools are also top-notch. You Mail includes a robust set of formatting options, allowing you to easily create visually appealing emails with custom fonts, colors, and layouts. The app's AI-powered smart reply feature is also a welcome addition, providing intelligent suggestions for responses based on the context of the email.

In terms of organization, You Mail shines. The app includes robust folder and label management tools, making it easy to sort and prioritize your emails. You can also create custom views to quickly surface messages related to specific projects or clients. The

app's calendar integration is also a nice touch, allowing you to view email-related events and appointments alongside your messages.

Security and privacy are also a focus for You Mail. The app includes end-to-end encryption for all messages, ensuring that your communications remain confidential. Additionally, the app's two-factor authentication and remote wipe features provide an extra layer of protection for your account.

One area where You Mail falls short is its mobile experience. While the app's web and desktop interfaces are excellent, the mobile app feels a bit lacking in functionality and polish. The app can also be resource-intensive, particularly on older devices, which may be a concern for some users.

Overall, You Mail is a powerful and feature-rich email client that offers a compelling alternative to traditional email solutions. Its focus on productivity, organization, and security makes it a strong choice for users who want to take control of their inbox. While the mobile experience could use some improvement, the app's robust set of tools and capabilities make it a standout option in the email app landscape.

## December 2024 Annual WAUC Christmas Party



*November 2024 WAUC Lunch*



*December 2024 Annual Christmas Party*







**WAUC: Wisconsin All-computer Users Club,** WAUC was established to provide an educational forum for people interested in learning about computers and related devices. WAUC provides educational programs and publications for its members, as well as providing social and charitable opportunities for the membership. While WAUC is a private club and doesn't share any member information outside the club, we encourage members to interact with other members and to facilitate this we publish a membership directory, an email, and promote via a public Facebook group where we often add pictures of group events and our public website.

**WAUCtalk** is a publication of the Wisconsin All-computer Users Club. WAUC is a computer club dedicated to promoting and instructing the use of computers by WAUC members. WAUCtalk is emailed to all WAUC membership. Free advertising is available to all WAUC members. We are not responsible for omissions or errors.

**WAUC Application for Membership / Renewal**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**email** \_\_\_\_\_

**City** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip** \_\_\_\_\_

**What do you want to do with your computer?** \_\_\_\_\_

*To join WAUC, please send a completed form along with a check for \$30 (\$15 after July 1st) to cover dues from January 1st through December 31st, 2024.*

**WAUC**  
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# First Class

