



Bearly Bytes Newsletter

President's Message *from Bill Treadwell*

Hello Everyone,

There is nothing much new to share at this time, the club is still in hibernation. However, I did receive one email last month from a club member who stated, "...liked the 3-pg newsletter better than multiple pages before. Thank you.!"

Well as a follow-up, I too liked the short newsletter; it is much easier to produce. So in that line of reasoning, and for the time being, I will continue with a short newsletters.

Next month the club leaders will meet and see what kind of venues we can come up and offer this year. If you have any thoughts to share here's my contact info:

treadwell@bigbearcc.org



Shamrocks, saint and shillelaghs

St. Patrick's Day, celebrated on March 17, honors Ireland's patron saint who died on that day in 461. Icons of the Irish holiday and the history of St. Patrick:

Shamrock

■ Small, three-leafed herb appears on United Kingdom's coat of arms with English rose, Scottish thistle

Irish flag

■ Green stands for Catholics; orange for Protestants; white for wish for harmony

Leprechauns

■ Fairies who work day and night mending shoes of other fairies

Shillelagh (shi-lay'-lee)

■ Walking stick; word is Irish for stout oak club or cudgel; also name of a forest that once stood in County Wicklow



Patrick: Saint and legend

387: Born in Britain to a Roman family; his father served as a magistrate; his original name was Maewyn

Early 400s: Taken to Ireland as a slave; after six years, he escaped to France where he studied for priesthood

432: Sent to Ireland as a Christian missionary by Pope Celestine I, who named him Patricius, which means noble in Latin; he introduced Roman alphabet, Latin literature; Christianized land

Familiar legend

He drove the snakes from Ireland by beating a drum

Source: "Shamrocks, Harps and Shillelaghs" by Edna Barth, "All About American Holidays," World Book

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When is your Computer Operating System Expiring?

MICROSOFT WINDOWS 7 SUPPORT EXPIRING 2020

Traditionally, Microsoft Corp. released a new Windows operating system version every 3 years and supported each version for 10 years. The very popular Windows 7 release will reach the end of extended support on January 14, 2020 (next year!). Although many PC users have switched to Windows 10, over a third of PC users are still running Windows 7. If you still have Windows 7 and do not want to purchase a new computer, you could upgrade to Windows 10 for a fee (~ \$139), but you also need to consider your PC capability. I have found that you need something newer than a Core Duo processor and 4 GB of RAM if you want an acceptable speed.

Resource: Open Source Lab • The End is Near (for Windows® 7) What about Linux? • By Cal Esneault, former President of and leader of many Open Source workshops • February 2019 issue, CCCC Computer News • www.clickers.org • tsa70785 (at) gmail.com

Which Releases of macOS Are Supported With Security Updates?

Apple **doesn't have a written policy** that guarantees how long it supports each release of macOS with security updates. But you can quickly check to see which versions of macOS Apple is still updating, and they tend to support the most recent three versions.

Apple doesn't provide a written statement that guarantees how long it will support each release of macOS with security updates. Apple doesn't even publicly say when an operating system is "end of life" and is no longer receiving updates. They just stop releasing updates for old versions of macOS with no announcement, and you're on your own.

How to see what is currently supported

The [Apple Security Updates](#) page is the only page on Apple's website that gives you this information. It contains a list of security updates Apple has recently released for all its devices, including Macs running macOS. Look for the most recent macOS update and check which versions of macOS it was released for. If a version of macOS isn't receiving new updates, it isn't supported anymore.

Resource: <https://www.howtogeek.com/350901/which-releases-of-macos-are-supported-with-security-updates/>

5G NETWORKS ARE ARRIVING

MOBILE PHONE COMMUNICATION MOVING TO 5G NETWORKING

5G (from "5th Generation") is the latest generation of cellular mobile communications. It succeeds the 4G (LTE-A, WiMax), 3G (UMTS, LTE) and 2G (GSM) systems. 5G performance targets high data rate, reduced latency, energy saving, cost reduction, higher system capacity, and massive device connectivity. The first phase of 5G specifications in Release-15 will be completed by April 2019 to accommodate the early commercial deployment. The second phase in Release-16 is due to be completed by April 2020 for submission to the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) as a candidate of IMT-2020 technology.

Editorial Note: In the brave new 5G world, you will definitely need to buy a new phone if you want to access 5G networks. Still your current mobile phone will work and not become obsolete overnight. You will still be tied to the G2 or G3 network your phone operates.

Here is any interesting read: *The Truth About 5G: What's Coming (and What's Not) in 2019*. Here is the link: <https://www.tomsguide.com/us/5g-release-date,review-5063.html>

AND OF COURSE THERE IS THE HEALTH ISSUE ANGLE ABOUT THE HIGH FREQUENCY IMPACT ON US...

Last year (May 29, 2018) CBS This Morning ran this story:
5G service is coming – and so are health concerns over the towers that support it

And here are a couple of excerpts...

- 5G uses high-frequency waves that support faster speeds but don't travel as far as current wireless frequencies. So instead of relying on large cellphone towers spread far apart, they need "small cell" sites that are much closer together.
- 5G requires the installation of new equipment across the U.S. Every wireless company is working to build its own 5G network.
- Wireless companies in the U.S. say they'll have to install about 300,000 new antennas
- "The cell towers are called small cell towers, but they are not so small when they are in your front yard," said Donna Baron. She is protesting plans to convert light poles in her Montgomery County, Maryland, neighborhood into small cell sites.
- "This will cause cancer," Baron said. She was one of several people who raised health concerns about the radiation emitted by the equipment at a government hearing last month. Cell phone equipment does emit radiation but research on its health effects has been inconsistent. According to the National Cancer Institute, "A limited number of studies have shown some evidence of statistical association of cell phone use and brain tumor risks... but most studies have found no association."

Here is the link to the CBS Video and written story: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/5g-network-cell-towers-raise-health-concerns-for-some-residents/>