## — The DataBus —

Monthly New/letter of

## The Dayton Microcompter Association

## Volume XI (New Series) Nº 6 (June 2021)



#### -Contents-

About DMA	<u>2</u>
June Meeting	<u>3</u>
May Trustees' Minutes	<u>4</u>
May Trustees' Minutes Nominations for the Board of Trustees	<u>7</u>
QR Codes & More	
DMA Summer Picnic Resumes after the Epidemic!	<u>12</u>
What Does Your Vacuum Cleaner Know about You?	<u>13</u>
The Roybi Robot	<u>15</u>
DMA Calendar	<u>16</u>
History of DMA	<u>17</u>
Membership Form (New and Renewals)	<u>18</u>

SAVE A TREE (or at least a branch)! If you prefer to print your DATABUS rather than read it directly from a monitor, don't print page 18 unless you must renew your membership.

#### The DataBu*i*

#### June 2021



Post Office Box 4005 Dayton, Ohio 45401 (937) 777-DMA1 (777-3621)

## Visit us at: DMA1.org

*Your* 2020/21 Officers:

President Ken PHELPS Vice-President Peter HESS Secretary Glady CAMPION Treasurer Pat FLYNN Officers need not be Trustees.

## Trustees:

Martin ARBAGI Glady CAMPION Edwin DAVIDSON Patrick FLYNN Peter HESS Chester HOWES Ken PHELPS Ed SKUYA

## Webmasters:

Mark CAMDEN & Brent KERLIN

Webmaster Emeritus: Dave LUNDY, †4/13/20 E STABLISHED IN 1976, DMA is a group of Dayton-area professionals and enthusiasts in the field of computing and digital information technology. General Membership Meetings are usually held on the last Tuesday of each month. DMA has a number of Special Interest Groups (SIGs) in areas ranging from digital investing and genealogy to the Linux operating system. Each SIG meets according to its own schedule. DMA is a member of the Association of Personal Computer Users' Groups (APCUG) and the Affiliated Societies' Council (ASC). Click on any of the logos—including our own (top left)—to go to that organization's Web site.



Association of Technology & Computer User Groups



## Submissions ...

**T**HE DATABUS welcomes compliments, complaints, suggestions, and especially articles. We can accept articles in ASCII, or as attachments in plain text, Microsoft Word, Open or Libre Office Writer, or, yes, even in WordStar (a word-processing program that goes back to about 1980!). Send articles to:

#### Editor@DMA1.org

All articles are subject to editing for spelling, grammar, usage, and space. Retain a copy of your work, as THE DATABUS cannot be responsible for loss. When articles are of roughly equal quality and importance, those by paid-up DMA members receive preference.

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#### The DataBu/

#### Page 3

## June Meeting: 7:00 P.M., Tuesday, the 29th <u>No Driving—No Parking—No Charge</u>\*

\* This is a "hybrid" meeting: via ZOOM, but also in person. Come at 6 P.M. if you wish to join us in person for dinner at T. J. Chump's Restaurant in Huber Heights, next door to the Meijer's Supermarket. Click *here* for a map. The restaurant has free parking, and is also accessible via RTA bus routes 18 and 19, but there is a short walk from the Meijer's parking lot to the restaurant.

# Mark CAMDEN:

## Windows 10 (+1!)

## If you come in person, join us at 6:00 P.M. for dinner. The Main Meeting starts at 7 via ZOOM.

W E ALL HEARD THE MESSAGE BACK IN 2015, "Windows 10 is the last version of Windows"... Well... By the time we hold our June meeting, the news will be out. Microsoft has already announced that it will stop supporting Windows 10 in 2025, and it will have unveiled "the next generation of Windows" on June 24<sup>th</sup>.

Windows is currently the dominant operating system for personal computers. Microsoft has pushed two updates each year to the Windows 10 operating system since it first became available in 2015. The company has been working on an update to Windows with the code name Sun Valley that includes a more modern look. Live tiles are gone, the Start Menu is centered on the screen and the corners of components have been rounded off. Icons on the task bar have also been centered on the screen. (See front cover for a sample desktop. Much of this information is available because of an early leak.)

Microsoft will make the big announcement on Thursday, June 24, 11:00 A.M. ET. If you want to watch it as it happens:

#### https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/event

Mark will also review and discuss how to navigate the DMA Website and DMA videos on YouTube. He will cover the resource and how-to videos he has added to the DMA YouTube channel. He will address any questions you may have.

**Mark CAMDEN** is one of our most involved club members. His is Webmaster for <u>www.DMA1.org</u> and a frequent DMA presenter. His many interests include robotics, drones, RC aircraft, model yachts, Raspberry Pi, and video photography.

Our meeting starts at 7:00 P.M. DMA members will receive an invitation by e-mail for Zoom. Others may request the invitation by using <u>http://www.dma1.org/contact-us/</u>

Or ... join us in person at TJ CHUMPS, 7050 Executive Blvd, Huber Heights OH. Click here for a map.

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Please see the bottom of *page 11* for a message from John KENNEDY, our Regional Advisor for the Association of Personal Computer Users' Groups (APCUG). John includes links to a couple of YouTube videos that will supplement and expand Mark's presentation.

#### The DataBu*i*

May Board meeting must be approved by the Trustees at the *following month's* meeting — in this case, early June. The corrected and approved May Minutes would thus appear in the June DATABUS (this issue), published toward the end of the month.

Trustees' meetings are on the *first Monday of each month,* except when that day is a legal holiday, for example, Labor Day in September. **In light of the ongoing epidemic, Trustees are holding their meetings using ZOOM.** They begin at the same time: 7:00 P.M. Request ZOOM credentials (that's a fancy way of saying "an invitation") from Vice-President PETER HESS or Secretary GLADY CAMPION at the June General Membership meeting.

## DMA Board of Trustees

## DMA Board of Trustees — Meeting of Monday, May 3, 2021 CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 8:10 P.M. by Peter Hess, via Zoom.

Trustees present: Martin Arbagi, Glady Campion, Edwin Davidson, Pat Flynn, Peter Hess, Ken Phelps, and Ed Skuya. Absent: Chester Howes. Guests: Mark Camden, Brent Kerlin.

#### OFFICERS' REPORTS

President - Ken Phelps

No report.

#### Vice President – Peter Hess

Last month's presentation on ARM processors for Mac computers went well. Rick Cartwright from The Mac Group provided plenty of good information.

There was some conversation about improving our Internet connection from T.J. Chump's restaurant. Even though the presenter was not affected, the line dropped several times for those at the restaurant.

#### Secretary – Glady Campion

Glady presented Minutes for the previous board meeting. Edwin Davidson moved the Minutes be accepted. Pat Flynn seconded and the motion passed with Glady abstaining.

#### Treasurer – Pat Flynn

Pat presented a report for the past month.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Audit – Glady Campion

In progress.

Fundraising – Peter Hess In progress.



<b>Account Balances</b>	51
FifthThird Checking \$	2,359.49
FifthThird Savings	2,681.54
WPCU Share	38.70
WPCU Checking	2,394.72
WPCU Money Mrkt	15,060.55
Pay Pal	281.78
TIÁA CD	5,438.71
Dayton Foundation +	<u>109,048.15</u>
<b>Total:</b> \$	137,303.64

(Continued on page 5)

### Page 4

#### The DataBu/

#### (MAY MINUTES—Continued from page 4)

Marketing - Edwin Davidson, Pat Flynn, Peter Hess, Debra McFall

Peter posted the meeting notice on Meetup and sent out news releases.

Mark posted the notice on our website.

#### Membership – Glady Campion

At last month's General Membership meeting, we had 44 Regular, 4 Associate, 0 Student, and 5 Life members for a total of 53. Attendance was 22, including 10 who attended in person at T.J. Chumps, which is a post-epidemic record.

Ed Skuya picked up the WD My Passport 1T External USB 3.0 Hard Drive. Mark Camden won the Sandisk Ultra Dual Drive Luxe 128GB USB 3.1 type A / type C Flash Drive. From the Lundy collection, Mike Stock picked out the Encore Electronics 5 port Gigabit Switch. Peter Hess took home a pair of coupons: 9 free meals from Hello Fresh and a \$100 voucher from Naked Wines. Congrats to all!

Net Administration Team – Ken Phelps, Gary Turner, Pat Flynn, Brent Kerlin, Mark Camden

Brent talked with Dreamhost about our record. He asked about a workaround for problems we are having in using a Dreamhost alias address as a distribution list. The target addresses are being rejected.

Mark Camden noted that the main page of our Web site needs to be updated to reflect current meeting arrangements. Mark also created a DMA-needs Web page. It is available for trustees for review, but not currently linked to the Web site.

#### Programs – Peter Hess

Thanks to Rick Cartwright from The Mac Group (TMG) for his presentation about the M1 processor and the switch ARM processors in Mac computers. He provided lots of great information. Thanks Rick!

May – TBD, possibly State of Ohio Data Center, Windows 10 expanded support for Linux

Other suggested topics: Virtualization, Deep Fakes, Streaming video, Car hacking, Chromebooks, Bitcoin and Block chain, InitiativeQ.com, Data.ohio.gov, the Apple M1 chip, converting laptop to Chrome

#### Publications – Martin Arbagi

The April DATABUS issue was posted to the Website.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Wright State Archives – Martin Arbagi, Glady Campion

Still in progress.

#### Next Board Meeting

The next Board Meeting will be 7:00 P.M. on Monday, May 7, 2021 via Zoom.

#### List of DMA Accounts - Glady Campion

Glady is continuing work on a list of all accounts currently held by DMA, when they were established, who has access, and the procedure for maintaining the account. This effort is to prevent us from accidently being locked out if a member leaves DMA.

## Have a business card? Are you a DMA member?

ANY PAID-UP MEMBER of the Dayton Microcomputer Association is entitled to a free business card-sized advertisement in THE DATABUS. Send a good-quality image (600 dpi or better) to <u>Editor@DMA1.org</u>, or give your business card to **Martin Arbagi**, the Editor, at any DMA meeting. We can embed a link to your Web site (if you have one) within the image of your card. Under weird IRS regulations, your Web site may not include discount coupons for DMA members, although discount offers may be included in the advertisement *itself*. See the example just below, which includes a member discount. But the advertiser (Steve Davis) could <u>not</u> have posted that discount on his Web site. It appears *exclusively* in THE DATABUS.



(::)

Lock Nest Mobile Locksmith

Steve Davis

P.O. Box 753 Vandalia, OH 45377 937.890.1936

Locknestmobile@gmail.com www.locknestmobilelocksmith.com 10% Discount to DMA members!

(::)

## Help DMA by using Amazon's SMILE program!

AMAZON, the Internet's largest retailer (if you haven't noticed, Amazon isn't just for books any more!) has a "Smile" feature whereby Amazon donates a percentage of almost any purchase you make to a selected nonprofit organization. There is *no* extra cost to you. Click <u>here</u> to learn more or <u>here</u> to go directly to the sign-up page. Be sure to put DMA down as the beneficiary of your purchases.

#### (MAY MINUTES—Continued from page 5)

#### Summer Picnic – Glady Campion

Our picnic is set for Saturday, August 28, at Shellabarger Park in Riverside. Our reservation is from Noon until 5:00 P.M.. This will be a "bring your own" brown bag lunch event, with lunch at 1:00 P.M. and a raffle at 2:00 P.M. There is electricity and there are plans to bring a hotspot. Glady is handling the details.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

—None—

#### ADJOURNMENT

Ed Skuya moved to adjourn at 9:50 P.M.. Edwin Davidson seconded and the motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted, Glady Campion, Secretary



#### The DataBu/

#### June 2021

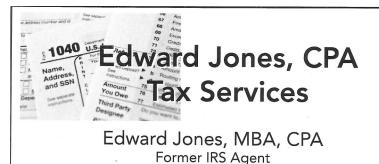
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#### The DataBus

## —QR Codes and More—

Barcodes containing useful information now show up in videos and presentations. Learn how to use those barcodes.

*By* John KROUT, Writer/Presenter, Potomac Area Technology and Computer Society <u>www.patacs.org</u> krout75 (at) yahoo.com

A QR CODE IS A SQUARE 2-DIMENSIONAL BAR CODE that provides useful information such as a Web page address (URL). QR codes can also contain e-mail addresses, contact information, or just about any text. It is not the only square bar code out there. QR codes can be recognized by the square target blocks in the top two and bottom left corners.

**Illustration 1** shows a QR code example. This particular QR code provides a Web page address for a site where short user-created videos can be downloaded for free. You have probably seen square QR code barcodes many other times in recent years.

My presentations for PATACS frequently include Web page addresses. In this pandemic era of virtual meetings, I have decided to include not only the actual URL but also the QR code containing the URL.

Those in the audience who want to copy the URL from the presentation immediately can do so simply by using their smartphones. Chances are that you won't even need to install a barcode reader application on your phone. In recent iPhones and Android 10 phones, the camera app has been augmented to act as a QR code reader.

I tried my Samsung Galaxy S10 camera app. I pointed it at the computer screen where a QR code was visible in one corner of a presentation. The camera app immediately displayed the Web page URL contained in the QR code, as you can see in **Illustration 2.** I did not even have to snap a photo of the QR code. The app gave me the option of tapping the address to open that Web page. Opening the Web page is ideal for quickly saving the URL for later bookmarking. Many retailers post QR codes enabling you to learn more about products. **MUNZEES** 

There is an outdoor game based on QR codes printed on small stickers posted outdoors. The name of the game is *Munzees*. I have not tried the game, though I know a few of my geocaching friends also play Munzees, and occasionally I see the small Munzees QR code stickers outdoors. Any small QR code in a place where it does not







Illustration 2: Android 10 camera app reading QR code

#### Continued on page 10

#### The DataBus

#### (QR CODES—Continued from page 9)

seem to identify any product or other specific object is quite possibly a Munzees QR code.

The Munzees game has its own Web site, <u>www.playmunzee.com</u>, and its own free phone application for communicating found Munzee QR codes to the Web site. That URL is encoded in **Illustration 3**.

#### Creating QR Codes

I found that my Galaxy 10 Contacts app will generate a QR code for any record in my Contacts list. When I create a contact QR code, it appears on the phone screen. At that point, I can save the QR code as a graphics image file, or attach it to an e-mail or a text message.

There is a Web site, <u>https://www.qrcode-monkey.com/</u>, which creates QR codes containing the information you provide. It provides some interesting features, such as multi-color QR codes and placement of a recognizable logo in a QR code. You can download, save, print, and share any QR code you generate on that site. The site provides this service for free. That URL is encoded in **Illustration 4**. **Other Types of Bar Codes** 

There are several types of bar codes in wide use.

✓ The Uniform Product Code (UPC) bar code on products, which enables rapid checkout and helps the retailer manage inventory, encodes information in several parallel vertical bars. That is an example of a 1dimensional (1D) bar code. There are phone apps designed to scan UPC codes and tell you if the same product can be found for a lower price elsewhere.

 $\checkmark$  If you have a **driver's license**, it contains both a 1D barcode and a 2dimensional (2D) barcode. That 2D barcode is a type called PDF-417, and it includes all the text information on your license as well as some

other information identifying your license record in the Virginia computer system. The American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators (AAMVA) created a standard for contents of the driver's license 2D barcode and updates the standard every few years. That standard is available online as a PDF document. You can read the field definitions in section D.12.5 of the PDF posted at the following URL, which is encoded in Illustration 5.

https://www.aamva.org/aamva2020dlidcarddesignstandard/

 $\checkmark$  The 2D bar code on the driver's license is now scanned by Safeway at checkout if you buy alcohol. That means the Safeway computer system may capture a great deal of information other than your date of birth. Does the company save *all* that additional information about you? Doing so





Illustration 4: QR code monkey URL



(Continued on page 11)

#### June 2021

#### (QR CODES—Continued from page 10)

centrally would use up a gigantic amount of storage space. Possibly the stores store the information locally, on a store server. That localized information could be valuable if a company store is audited by Virginia ABC for underage sales.

✓ Bar codes also typically show up on shipment box labels. United Parcel Service uses a 1D bar code type for machine-readable package tracking numbers. If you have received UPS parcels in person, you have probably seen the UPS driver use a bar code scanner to scan the tracking number barcode and confirm the date and time of delivery of the parcel.

While the phone camera apps will read only QR codes, other free apps can be used to read a variety of bar codes. I downloaded one Android app with the rather generic name Barcode Scanner to read the Virginia driver's license bar code. The same app reads QR codes, UPC codes, PDF-417 codes, CODE 39 (1D bar code type, which appeared above the address in correspondence I received from the Arlington County Government), Data Matrix (another square 2D bar code type), and some other types. I used that app to read the PDF-417 bar code on my Virginia driver's license.

**ABOUT THE AUTHOR:** JOHN KROUT has been writing about creative uses of personal computers since the early 1980s. Until April 2020 he was a software documentation writer, contracted to support a major federal government computer system. Now he lives on his IRA and writes whatever he wants to. He resides in Arlington Virginia with his son, many computers and cameras, and too many cats.

**John KENNEDY,** our APCUG Regional Advisor, sent this supplement to **Mark CAMDEN's** presentation in a recent (18 June 2021) e-mail:

There have been lots of rumors about what's coming for Windows 10. We should know next week [remember, John's message is dated 18 June], but here are some links to videos that might clear things up (or make the situation even more cloudy!) ...

Windows 11 Leaked - Let's Explore It! (Build 21996.1 Overview & Demo) - YouTube

And Bill James sent me this video: (1) Windows 11 Build 21996 - New Start, Taskbar, Widgets, Tablet Improvements, Sounds + MORE - YouTube

(signed) **John KENNEDY,** APCUG Board of Advisors *Region 3* (IN,KY,MI,OH,TN) *Region 6* (IL,IA,MN,ND,NE,SD,WI) YOUR COMMUNICATION LINK WITH APCUG **Proud Member of the** <u>APCUG Speakers' Bureau</u> APCUG VTC Zoom Host/Moderator

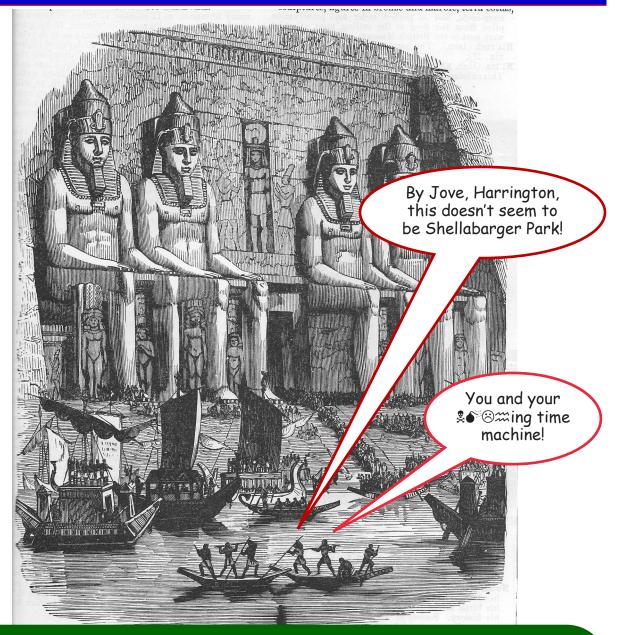


Association of Technology & Computer User Groups



#### The DataBu/

#### June 2021



### 2021 DMA SUMMER PICNIC

Don't be like Harrington and his friend! Click <u>here</u> for directions to our new location: Shellabarger Park in ritzy suburban Riverside. This will be a "brown bag" picnic (bring *your own* food) on Saturday, 28 August, from Noon to 5 P.M. Electricity will be available, and we'll try to supply a hot spot. No alcoholic beverages or glass bottles!! **\$5.00 — Cheap! See Glady Campion for tickets.** 

#### The DataBus

## WHAT DOES MY IROBOT KNOW ABOUT ME?

*By* <u>Emma McGowan</u>, 4 May 2021

# In addition to learning how to keep your home clean, here's what your "smart" vacuum does with your data ...

H, ROBOT MOP! Let me count the ways that I love thee. You keep my home free of pet dander. You clean while I'm away. You simultaneously scare and fascinate my kitty. Plus, you



have very beautiful eyes.

All odes aside — I love my iRobot (which is the same brand as Roomba) mop. It's a "smart" device that's actually smart, knowing when to avoid things like stairs and carpets and controllable with my phone. Maybe it's because robot vacuums and mops have been around longer than a lot of other IoT devices or maybe it's easier to engineer but whatever the reason: I'm an iRobot stan.

Which, of course, made me nervous to look closer at the <u>potential</u> <u>security and privacy risks of iRobot/Roomba</u>. In the back of my mind, I felt like maybe I'd heard something bad about it in my Time Before Writing About Online Security. So, with trepidation, for this installment of <u>What Does the Internet Know About Me?</u>, I took a look at iRobot/Roomba.

First things first: What do iRobot employees and management know about *me*? According to their Privacy Policy, they know all of the things you'd expect: name, e-mail address, user name and password, shipping address, billing information, and phone number. They needed all of that to set up my account and send me my 'bot, so all of that's legit. They also know stuff about my robot, including its serial number and product code.

They also say that if I'd signed up with a third party app like Facebook or Google (I didn't — and don't, as a rule), then they would exchange information with that company. They also say that they share information with other companies that are "owned by or under common ownership" with iRobot, service providers, third parties if requested by the user (me), and law enforcement.

There's also info that the robot itself collects, including how much dirt it detects, how strong my Wi-Fi is, and the layout of my apartment, so the robot knows where to go. It also stores the name I gave it (it's Jim — because our cat's name is Dwight and the robot loves to antagonize him) and the names of any rooms or other designated zones.

Finally, there's an option to connect the iRobot app with "iRobot smart home partners," which would let it scan my phone for other smart home apps with which it could connect. I didn't opt

(Continued on page 14)

#### (SMART VACUUM—Continued from page 13)

into this service, but it's good to know it's an option.

If I lived in Europe, I'd have all of the rights granted under the GDPR, which basically boil down to any and all information I might want about my data and how it's used; the right to correct it if it's wrong; and in some cases, even the right to delete it, or the right to not have collected in the first place.

#### What could iRobot figure out about me?

iRobot has a map of my home, so it theoretically could figure out a lot about me, right? How big my apartment is, at least, and maybe some information about my furniture. But I'm not sure there'd ever be a reason for it to want to access that data.

#### What does iRobot do with my data?

As far as my digging — and the digging done by the team over at Mozilla in their <u>Privacy Not</u> <u>Included Guide</u> — could tell, the iRobot people pretty much just use it to ... well ... help me keep my apartment clean! They don't sell data and I can choose to not send them any data at all. Plus, I can delete it if or when I ever decide to break up with my robot helper. (Not gonna happen. We're in this for life.)

#### What am I getting in exchange for my data? What are the tradeoffs?

I think by now it's pretty clear what I'm getting from my robot. My partner is allergic to my kitty and I live in a fairly large loft. That means lots of floor space — and lots of corners for cat hair and dander to get stuck in. My iRobot mop makes it easier for all three of us to cohabitate *and* breathe without sniffling, even if it does drive the kitty a little crazy.

Considering the company seems to be pretty good about collecting only data it actually needs and giving users the right to opt out and delete, I'd say the iRobot is worth it both from a consumer and a privacy perspective. ... **TDB** 

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** This whimsical, light-hearted article is part of a series on security for the "smart" home *(i.e.,* a residence with one or more devices connected to the Internet), put out by the Avast Corporation, publishers of Avast and AVG digital security products, and of CCleaner, a popular computer utility. Although the article is humorous in tone, it shows the potential dangers of putting even so humble an item as a vacuum cleaner (or mop!) on line. Ms. McGowan lives modestly. However, one can see the advantage the floor plan of an affluent dwelling (such as a mansion or penthouse apartment) would provide to a professional burglar via a "hacked" vacuum cleaner. The Internet-connected device takes the place of the more traditional bribed butler or chambermaid from the 19<sup>TH</sup> or early 20<sup>TH</sup> Centuries.

#### The DataBu/

#### Page 15

## Roybi Robot

*By* George HARDING, Treasurer, Tucson Computer Society <u>www.aztcs.org</u> actuary110 (at) yahoo.com

THIS IS MORE THAN JUST A CHILD'S TOY, although it is designed to be for a child. In fact, it is an educational companion powered by AI (artificial intelligence).



It tutors young children in languages, with over 500 lessons, 70 categories and a 70,000 word vocabulary in Chinese and English.

In the company's words, "Through play, children can learn a second language, practice language arts, explore scientific subjects and develop communication and analytical thinking skills." The categories include sessions in technology, math, science and language arts. Here are some of them:

Alphabet	Senses
Continents	Science
Places	Biology
Math	Nouns
	1 1 0 •

The categories and content are updated from time to time.

(Continued on page 16)

#### (ROYBI—Continued from page 15)

The robot includes voice recognition (understands your child's responses), has a 1080p camera, a durable body to withstand drops and other physical abuse, is made with material that is safe for children, and has an 8 hour battery.

It is powered by connection to a USB port by the included cable.

Mandarin-Chinese and English are currently supported, but French, Spanish, German, and Russian versions are being planned.

Ages 2 to 8 are recommended for English use, but for learning a new language, there is no age limit.

An Android application is available for parent use for scheduling or directed learning.

Roybi Robot

https://roybirobot.com/

Original List Price \$300, currently \$150 (4/3/21)

.... TDB

	SIG meeting,	ation to the Ir please e-mail: bagi (at) Gmai				
	DMA	Events fo	or Jun 20	– Jul 24	, 2021	
Sunday Jun 20	Monday Jun 21	Tuesday Jun 22	Wednesday Jun 23	Thursday Jun 24	Friday Jun 25	Saturday Jun 26
Happy Q Father's Jun 27 Day	Juli 21	5011 22	5011 25	5011 24	Python Self-Study Noon, Online	Jun 20
Jun 27	Jun 28	Jun 29	Jun 30	Jul 1	Jul 2	Jul 3
		MAIN MEETING 7:00pm Online -AND- TJ Chumps 7050 E tecutive Blvd Huber Heights		Genealogy SIG CANCELLED	Python Self-Study Noon, Online	Classic Computers 3:00pm By phone
Jul 4 Independence Day	Jul 5	Jul 6	Jul 7	Jul 8	Jul 9 <b>Python Self-Study</b> Noon, Online	Jul 10
Jul 11	Jul 12	Jul 13	Jul 14	Jul 15	Jul 16	Jul 17
	DMA Trustees 7:00pm Online	Investment SIG 7:00pm Online	Dayton Dynamic Languages 7:00pm Online	Linux SIG 7:00pm Online	Python Self-Study Noon, Online	Classic Computers 3:00pm By phone
Jul 18	Jul 19 Apple Dayton SIG CANCELLED	Jul 20	Jul 21	Jul 22	Jul 23 <b>Python Self-Study</b> Noon, Online	Jul 24

#### The DataBus

#### June 2021

## About The Dayton Microcomputer Association, Inc. (DMA)

By Peter HESS, DMA President, 2018-2020

A BOUT FORTY-FIVE YEARS AGO, a small group of computer enthusiasts from the Dayton, Ohio area gathered around a kitchen table looking at, and playing with, an early personal computer called the Altair 680 that one of them had purchased. This computer had been featured earlier on the cover of the January 1975 issue of *Popular Electronics* magazine. Paul Allen had shown the selfsame article about the Altair to Bill Gates, and later, they wrote software together for that computer. Still later — and still together — Allen and Gates founded the Microsoft Corporation.

Shortly thereafter, those Dayton-area computer enthusiasts joined together with many others to form THE DAYTON MICROCOMPUTER ASSOCIA-TION (DMA), now one of the oldest (if not *the* oldest) continuously-operating computer user



groups in the world. Typically, computer user groups, and the newer iteration, technology user groups, are volunteer-run operations. The DMA is an all-volunteer led, organized, and run 501(c) (3) non-profit organization.

Now, there are hundreds of computer (or technology) user groups in the world, all of which continue to foster improved communication between technological equipment and software publishers, and users of their products. User groups (both computer and technology) provide an environment where more experienced technology users introduce additional and advanced techniques to novices.

DMA offers both monthly General Membership Meetings, which cover new and innovative topics including a wide range of generic technological topics, and its Special Interest Groups (SIGs) which address concerns about specific technology interests. There are eight different SIGs sponsored by the DMA, covering such topics as the Linux operating system, various programming languages such as Python, the use of technology to investigate genealogy, and digital aids to investing. Neither SIG members nor attendees at DMA General Meetings need be members of the parent organization, though they are encouraged to join so DMA can continue providing its services to the public.

Annual dues for DMA membership, which have not been raised for decades, are \$25 for Regular Members, and \$12.50 for Family/Associate Members (someone living at living at the same address as a Regular Member). Nonvoting Student Memberships are *free* to students through age 22. Door prizes at General Meetings, picnics, banquets, and other DMA events, and both product and service discounts are available to all DMA members. ....**TDB** 

## **Dayton Microcomputer Association Membership Form**

		Today's date	_//		
🗖 NEW	Please credit the DMA member who recruited me				
C RENEW	Contact information below is new 🗖 Y 🛛 N				
	TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP				
🗖 REGULAR					
Name		Home / Work (	_)·		
Email		Mobile Phone (	_)·		
□ ASSOCIATE Family Associate membership is for a family member living at the same address as a Regular member. Name of Regular member:					
Name		Home / Work (	_)·		
Email		Mobile Phone (	_)		
<b>STUDENT</b> Free Student membership is available to those under 22 years of age, enrolled full-time in a program of higher education. Name of School:					
Name		Home / Work (	_)·		
Email		Mobile Phone (	_)·		
Home Address					
INTERCHANGE Skills & interests you might share with DMA What you hope DMA will provide					
□ SHELL ACCOUNT A shell account on the DMA web server provides file storage, hosting of a personal non-commercial website, @dma1.org email alias (forwarding address), all for a one-time fee of \$10. A username must be 8 alpha characters. The usual default is last name and first initial, no caps or punctuation. DMA reserves the right of final decision on all usernames: 1 <sup>st</sup> choice 2 <sup>nd</sup> choice					
DUES AND FEES					
Regular membersh	ip	\$25.00 x 🗖 1yr 🗖	2yr 🗖 3y	yr \$	
Family Associate m	rembership	\$12.50 x 🗖 1yr 🗖	2yr 🗖 3y	yr \$	
Student membersh	ip	FREE		\$0.00	

Total ..... \*Note: \$10.00 fee will be charged for any returned checks

Make your check payable to: Mail check and application to:

One-time setup fee for Shell account

Dayton Microcomputer Association, Inc PO Box 4005 Dayton OH 45401-4005

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\$10.00

Or use Paypal to send your payment to	members	ship@dma1.org
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Member#Exp/	[]Cash []Check# []Paypal	Proc by
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