

Heritage Class Notes 3-2-2018

By Dick Evans

There are many browsers available to use. Microsoft is pushing Edge very hard, even with pop ups. I use Google Chrome. There seems to be a confusion among many about the two. A browser is a program that take the cryptic code off the Internet and translates it into the graphic displays we are used to on our screens. Here are some popular browsers: Google Chrome, Firefox, Opera, Internet Explorer (soon to be retired), Edge, Dogpile, and more. A search engine is a program that runs in any browser to search for something on the web. Here are some popular search engines: Google, Bing, MSN, Ask, Yahoo, and more.

Passwords are a necessity and a pain because we have so many. Instead of having to keep a long list why not have one your will never forget? Let's create a password for Amazon.com.

Start with a uppercase A

Add the first three letter of your fathers name

Add a special character (perhaps a \$)

Add the first three letters of your mothers name

Add the last to numbers of your birthdate (I will use 36 as an example)

Add the last letter of Amazon, lowercase

It looks like this now: Afff\$mmm36n

So a password for Comcast would be Cfff\$mmm36t

For your Microsoft account it would be Mfff\$mmm36t

All you have to remember is the middle portion and you know every password you need.

As we said even last month where I talked about the importance of backing up your data and even your entire hard drive. Backup. Backup. Backup. And the software is free. We recommend EaseUS and Macrium Reflect as good image backup programs.

Here is an article I wrote on backups:

<http://tinyurl.com/y CSLGOC6>

Backups are only necessary after you have a hard disk crash or lose an important file. It is like car insurance. You need it after the accident but you can't purchase it then. You have to be proactive and get it just in case. Same with your computer. Back it up regularly. I suggest once a week or at least once a month. Some might do it every night as the last action before bed. Then you have a fresh copy of everything every day. If the hard drive crashes, and it is just a matter of time, you can rebuild to the point of that last backup. The club recommends either Macrium Reflect or EaseUS. Both are free and available on the [Computer Club website](#) as a

link. Detail instructions for Reflect is on the club home page as well. These program create an image of your hard drive so if your hard drive fails you can purchase a new one and restore your computer back to the date of the most recent backup.

Here is a link to a good article on the subject:

<http://tinyurl.com/y9lvp4dx>

Keep your computer clean on the inside and that means running proper software to do so. No need to pay for virus checking software that your local computer salesman insists you must have. The Windows Defender program does the job and it comes free with Windows 10.

Never say yes to those pesky driver update programs that pop up. And never call one of those 800 numbers that want to help clean up your computer no matter who they say they represent. Microsoft will not call you or pop up a message, neither will Google.

Here is a slide show on the maintenance programs I use and how to use them:

<http://tinyurl.com/yc4u3svb>

And a detailed "how to" on installing and using them:

<http://tinyurl.com/ycng9vxs>