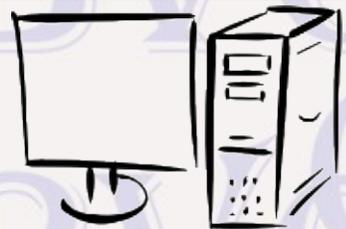


Bits & Bytes

Arkansas' Premier Computer Club



June 2025

The Bella Vista Computer Club - John Ruehle Center

Highlands Crossing Center, 1801 Forest Hills Blvd Suite 208 (lower level), Bella Vista, AR 72715

Website: <http://BVComputerClub.org>

Email: BVCCeditor@bvcomputerclub.org

MEETINGS

Board Meeting: June 9, 2pm, in John Ruehle Training Center, Highlands Crossing Center.

General Meeting: June 9, 3pm. Program: "Linux Mint, Another Choice", presenter Woody Ogden. Don't have a computer that can support Windows 11? Can't justify buying a new computer? Perhaps a viable option is converting to Linux Mint.

We will meet in-person in **John Ruehle Training Center**, Highlands Crossing Center, lower level, 1801 Forest Hills Blvd, Bella Vista, or you may attend the meeting on-line via Zoom. Zoom access information is published on our website.

Visitors or Guests are welcome.

Consider attending by Zoom if you are unable to attend in-person.

HELP CLINICS

June 7, 9am - noon at John Ruehle center

June 18, 9am - noon at John Ruehle center

Members may request Remote Help on our website at <https://bvcomputerclub.org> at menu path

Member Benefits ► Remote Help .

MEMBERSHIP

Single membership is \$30; \$15 for each additional family member in the same household.

Join on our website at <https://bvcomputerclub.org> at menu path Get Involved ► Join/Renew, by mailing an application (from the web site) with check, or complete an application and pay in person at any meeting.

CLASSES

(At BVCC Training Center)

"Why, When and How to Backup Your C Drive", Thursday, June 19, 1pm - 3pm, with Joel Ewing.

Advance sign up required for each listed class: For reservations: email to

bvccedu@bvcomputerclub.org, or sign up at the General Meeting. Classes are free to Computer Club members.

Check the monthly calendar and announcements for any last minute schedule changes at

<https://bvcomputerclub.org> .

NEW OR RETURNING BVCC MEMBERS

We are pleased to welcome the following new members or members returning as BVCC members after an absence:

Greg Irick	Linton Swenson	Fred Olson
Genise Hallisey	Jim Hallisey	Barbara Clark
Rafael Gutierrez	Donna Schmidt	Paul Schmidt, Sr
Debbie Henrichsen	Van Henrichsen	

DEFAULT APPS: WHERE AND WHAT ARE THEY?

By Phil Sorrentino, Secretary & Newsletter Contributor
Sun City Center Computer Club
<https://sccccomputerclub.org/>
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Default Apps is a choice in the Apps section of Settings. To get there, click the Start button, then click "Settings," then "Apps," and finally, "Default apps." This is where you can choose what Apps will be used for certain types of files. Windows 10 and Windows 11 both have this feature, but the screens look a bit different. It looks like Windows 10 scratches the surface of this feature, and Windows 11 expands on it. But as an example, let's first look at the more straightforward Windows 10 screens. Let's look at one of these choices, probably familiar to most computer users, "photo viewer" (the fourth item on my list). Below the choice "photo viewer" is the icon and the name of an App. In my case, it is "Photo Gallery." By default, this App will be used when the user attempts to open a photo file type, like a .jpg file.



Microsoft Photos Gallery Icon

Just a bit of background. Many file types (extensions - the letters in the file name after the period) have been defined, and many are commonly used daily. FileInfo.com maintains a searchable database that contains over 10,000 file extensions. They are used for documents, databases, graphic images, disk images, presentation software, email, virtual environments, file encoding, and other purposes.

Many of these file types are defined and used by specific software and are not often encountered by the average computer user. However, we usually use a few categories of file types in our daily computing lives so frequently that operating systems have identified some categories and provided specific folders for their use, such as documents, pictures, videos, and music. In this same order, you can think of these categories as Text-based, Image, Video, and Audio files. So, now that some basic categories have been defined, we can see what file types might fit into these categories. Some common file types like .docx, .xlsx, .pdf, .html, .odt, .pptx, .zip, and .txt are document file types. .jpg, .jpeg, .jpe, .png, .tiff, .gif, .heic, and .raw are image file types. .mp4, .wmv, .avi, .mov, .flv, and .mkv are video file types. And finally, mp3, .ogg, .wma, .wav, .aac, and .flac are music file types. (If this doesn't make sense, you may not see the file type extension part of your file names. Windows defaults not to show extensions. To change this, in File Explorer, click "View" and then check the "file name extensions" checkbox.)

Additionally, there are categories for file types for specific uses like email, maps, and web browsers, which Windows puts into categories for convenience. For example, .msg, .pst, .edb, .ost, and .eml are email file types. .shp, .shx, .kml, .kmz, and .gpx are map-oriented file types. .html, .xps, .css, .asp, and .php are web browser-oriented file types.

So Windows provides control over the Application (or App) that will be called upon to open and/or process a file. When you attempt to open a file by double-clicking it, the "Default" App associated with the double-clicked file type will be used. For example, if you try to open a Photo document (.jpg file type, for example), the Default App (in my situation) Microsoft Photos Gallery will be used. There may be other Apps on your computer that can also do the job. If you want to see what Apps could do the job and maybe even change the Default App, click the current Default App, in my case, the "Photo Gallery" Icon, and you will see a list of the other Apps on your computer that can be used. When I clicked the "Photo Gallery" Icon, I was presented with a "Choose an App" list that included "Photos," "Faststone Image Viewer," "Microsoft Office Picture Manager," "Movie Maker," "Paint," "Paint 3D" "Photoshop Elements 13 Editor", "Snip & Sketch," and "Look for an app in the Microsoft store." (Microsoft is always anxious to provide or even sell solutions.) This list indicates the apps that could be set as the default apps for photo files. The list on your computer may be shorter or longer depending on the Apps you have installed on your computer. To change the Default App to an App in the list, click the Name of the App and the Default will be changed. Notice that below the Default Apps choice is an option to "Choose default apps by file type." Clicking this allows you to set default Apps for every file type on your computer. My computer's list of file types is quite long, totaling around 500, going from .386 to .zpl. Changing these entries is probably unnecessary, at least not for the average computer user. However, if you have specific and maybe expensive software you want to use for certain file types, this would be the place to make that choice.

Windows 11 "Default Apps" is similar but a little different. When you select Default Apps (under Settings-Apps) instead of a list of a few categories, like "mail," "maps," or "photo viewer," there is a list of all of the Apps on your computer. If you select an app, you will see a list of all the file types associated with the App chosen. At this point, you can change the "Default App" used for the selected file type. This is similar to the "Choose default apps by file type" in Windows 10. As such, in either version of the OS, there is an attempt to give the user complete control over what App is used by default when attempting to open a specific file type.

EXAMPLES OF RECENT FRAUD EMAILS

An Attempt to Impersonate Our HR Department

The "red flags" are many:

- The email sent to an organizational email account doesn't come from an email account of that organization
- Hovering over the supplied link shows it goes to ipfs.io/, which is unrelated to our organization

- Since we are an all volunteer organization with no paid staff, we have no HR Department
- Looking at the headers in the raw email source text shows the email originated from a computer whose IP Address is in New Zealand



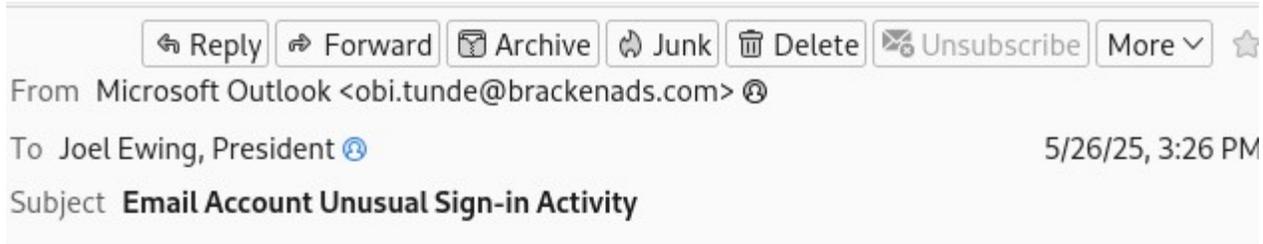
Fake Email Account Problems

This is typical example.

- Some immediate action required to keep or return your email to functional status
- The From address has nothing to do with your actual email provider. In this case they even throw in a faked From name of MS Outlook, which is unrelated to our email provider or the tools used to access email. Interestingly, the email account used to send the Email is identical to the previous fraud attempt. Received at least five more different fraud attempts all sent from the same email account obi.tunde@brackenads.com, all sent from the same New Zealand IP address -- most likely the same fraudster trying out multiple scams under the hope they will be viewed in a manner that shows the faked

"name" of the account but does not by default show the actual email account. The same email From account wouldn't be associated with different unrelated companies.

- The links they supply to resolve the problem do not go to your email provider (go to ipfs.io)
- They are so inept that their details in the email Body don't even have a syntactically valid IP address. From the email headers, the scam email was also sent from IP Address 124.198.131.144, in New Zealand.



Your email will be suspended.

We detected something unusual about a recent sign-in to the email account president@bvcomputerclub.org

Sign-in details

Country/region: Palestine

IP address: 998.64.352.16.73

Date: 27/05/2025 2:23:34 a.m. (GMT)

Platform: Windows 10

Browser: Microsoft Edge

Please go to your recent activity page to let us know whether or not this was you. If this wasn't you, we'll help you secure your account. If this was you, we'll trust similar activity in the future.

Fake Financial Transactions

Over the last month we have also received the usual assortment of fake payments receipts claiming to have received online payments from our organization, with contact phone numbers or links that will no doubt attempt to steal financial credentials under the guise of resolving the bogus payment.

If you have any concern that an actual unauthorized transfer of funds might have occurred, you should never follow contact information provided in an email, but just use your normal method of direct online access to any credit card account or other financial accounts from which a payment could have been made to verify that no such transaction has occurred.