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# The Memory Map

Canton Alliance Massillon Computer Users Group



Volume 43, Issue 2

February 2023

## Next CAMUG Meeting, February 20, 2023 Both Zoom and In Person!

- Join us in person at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 7707 Market Ave. in North Canton, Ohio.
- OR use the Zoom link that Dennis will email.

### Program

**6:15 PM:** Chit-Chat

**6:30 PM:** Carol Joliat will show "How You Can Get Photos Off Your Phone and What to Do with Them."

**7:00 PM:** Five-minute break

**7:05 PM Meeting:** Dennis Smith will present "Photo Editing with Photoshop Elements"

## Power Basics

By Dick Maybach, Brookdale Computer User Group

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Electrical power is remarkably reliable, especially considering that much of the system is exposed to the elements and sometimes wildlife. On the rare occasions when it does fail, it will be helpful if you know a bit about it. Troubleshooting by candlelight is seldom quick, and ignorance won't make it faster.

You may have noticed that electric power enters your home on three wires. Two of these, which we'll call "Phase 1" and "Phase 2," carry 110-V AC, and the third is neutral. Figure 1 shows the waveforms on the "hot" wires; the voltage on the neutral wire is always close to zero.

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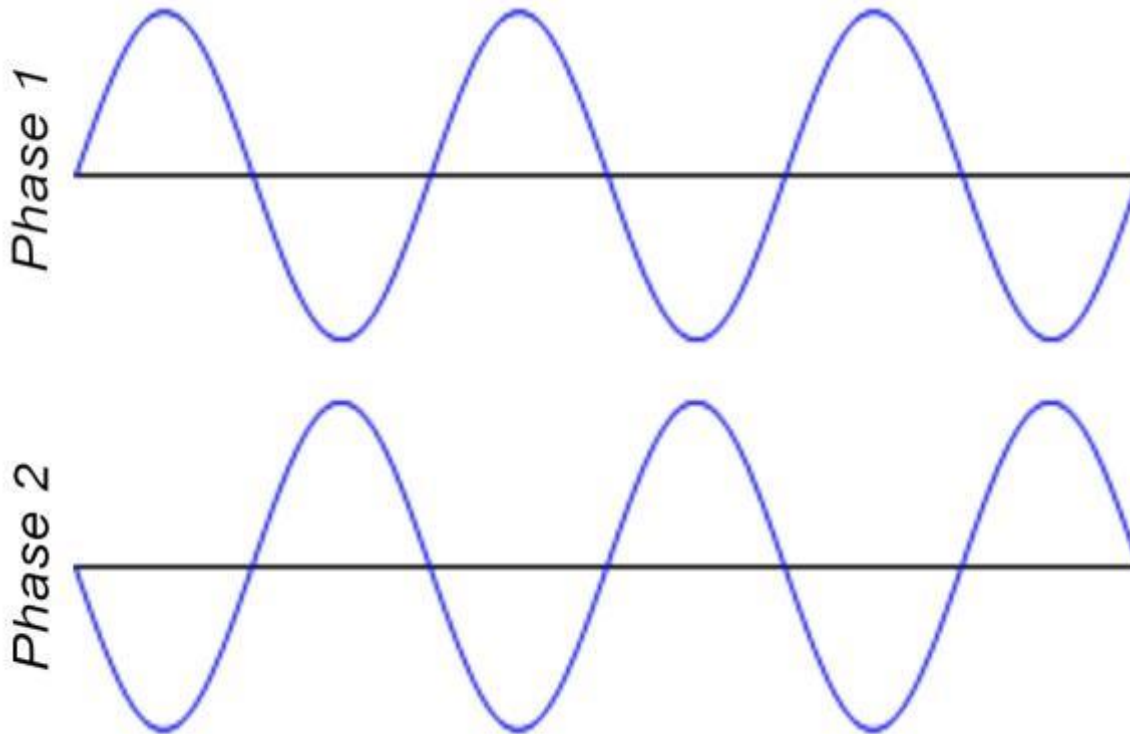


Figure 1. A-C Power Waveforms.

A 110-volt outlet connects to either phase 1 and neutral or phase 2 and neutral. For example, an appliance needing 220 volts connects to both phase 1 and phase 2. Since phase 2 is the negative of phase 1, such a connection applies twice the voltage to the appliance as that between one of the phases and neutral. Thus, although some devices may need 220 volts, the maximum voltage in your house is 110. By the way, if you measure the voltage, you will find it's about 125. When electric power was first developed, it was 110 volts, but that label is no longer accurate.

Figure 2 shows a portion of a home breaker box, which is the interface between your outlets and devices and the power company. At the top is the master breaker through which all the individual circuits connect. Turn this off to remove all the power in your house. Below are the breakers for the individual circuits. If your home is new, there is probably a sheet on the breaker box cover that lists what each breaker controls. In older houses, this sheet is often out-of-date or even missing. Note that the two top individual breakers are actually two individual ones; these are for 220-volt service. As you go from top to bottom, alternate breakers connect to phase 1 and phase 2. Thus, as breakers are added, the loads on phase 1 and phase 2 remain approximately equal, and adjacent breakers can control 220-volt circuits.

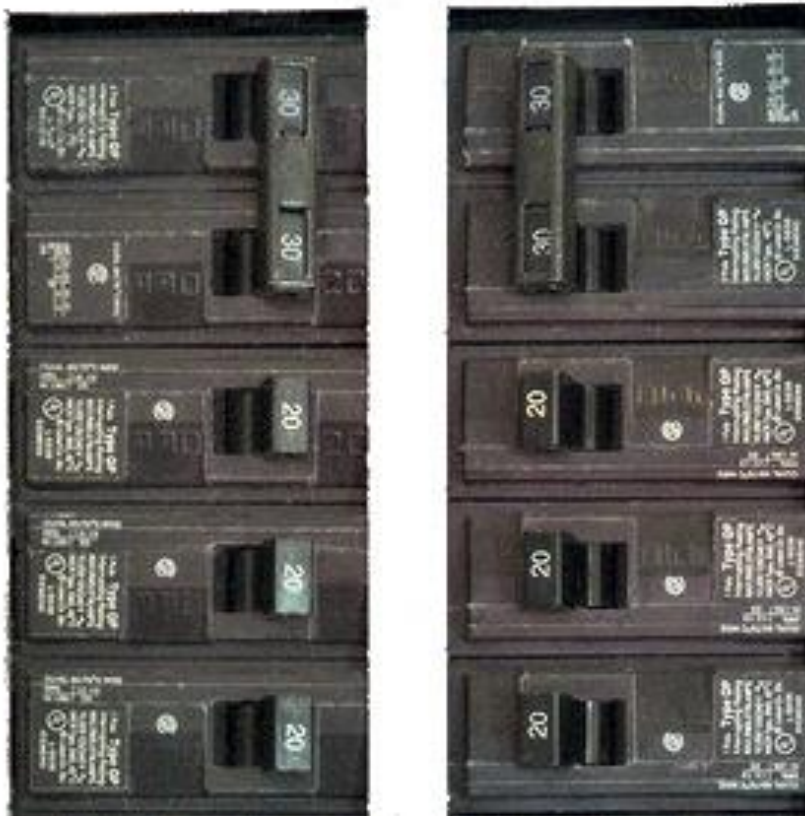


Figure 2. Residential Breaker Box.

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There are two types of 110-volt outlets in the U.S., as shown in Figure 3, but the two-wire one is usually found only in older houses.

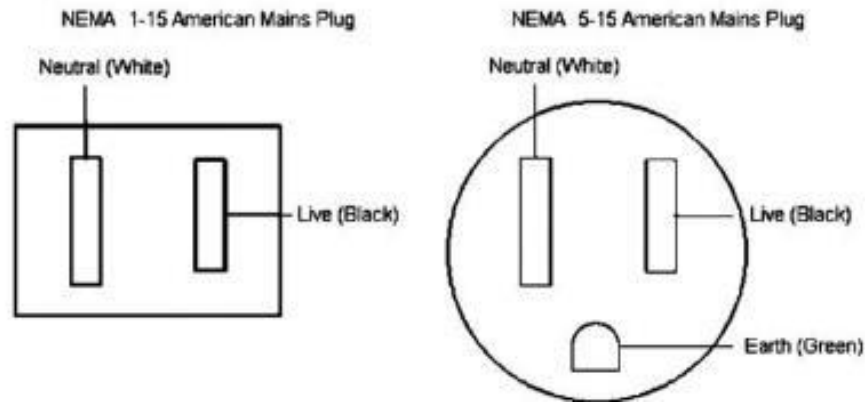


Figure 3. U.S. 110-volt Power Outlets.

The live slot connects to either phase 1 or phase 2 of the incoming power, and neutral connects to neutral. Ground does not connect to the power company but to a good earth ground in your home, typically the incoming water pipe.

You need an adapter between a 3-wire plug and a 2-wire outlet. If you use one, be sure to connect its ground wire to the screw that secures the outlet cover plate. If you have any doubts about your wiring, testers such as the one in Figure 4 are inexpensive insurance. As you can see from its label, the indicator lamp's pattern shows the outlet's state. It's also helpful during the first step of PC troubleshooting, ensuring it has electrical power.



Figure 4. AC Outlet Tester.

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You can also use an inexpensive multi-meter to check the voltage at an outlet, but be careful when you insert the probes into the slot; touching 110 volts is always unpleasant and can be lethal. Non-contact testers avoid this hazard, but user reports indicate they aren't reliable.

If a circuit breaker trips repeatedly, either it's defective or the circuit is drawing too much current. Never replace it with one with a higher rating, as the wires in your house are sized to carry currents only up to the breaker rating. In Figure 2, for example, the wires in the 30-ampere circuits are thicker than those in the 20-ampere ones. If you exceed these currents, the voltage at the outlet will drop, and the temperature of the wires in the walls will rise, perhaps enough to degrade the insulation or even to start a fire. Therefore, any electrical work should be done only by a licensed electrician.

In newer homes, some outlets are protected by a Ground Fault Interrupter (GFI), most often in kitchens, bathrooms, and outside the house. Some, particularly those in kitchens and bathrooms, have a distinctive connector, Figure 5.



Figure 5. GFI Outlet.

If a GFI detects any current flowing to ground, it trips the breaker. Note the two rectangular buttons in the center; "Test" checks the operation by tripping the breaker, and "Reset" restores power. Usually, each GFI outlet connects to two or three others that don't have distinctive buttons but are also protected. It may be worthwhile to press

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each test button to see what other outlets are affected. Not all GFI-protected circuits have distinctive outlets. Figure 6 shows a portion of a residential breaker box.



Figure 6. Breaker Box Equipped with GFI Breakers.

Note the green squares labeled "Test" on five of them. These are GFI breakers, but all their outlets are normal, with no test or reset buttons. This is probably because the outlets are near the floor and can be obscured by furniture, making them difficult to access.

It would be worthwhile to become familiar with your home electrical power system while it's working.

- Check which lights and outlets each breaker controls and update the sheet on the breaker box cover if needed.
- If you have an older home, use a tester like the one shown in Figure 4 to be sure the outlets are wired correctly. Use the test button on your GFI outlets to find which are on each circuit.
- If you don't have GFI sockets, consider hiring a licensed electrical contractor to install them, at least in your bathrooms and kitchen.

The most frequent power problem is storm damage, usually repaired within a few hours. Gasoline-powered emergency generators are a common solution here but don't

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use them near your house because of the carbon monoxide they also generate. It's not uncommon for GFI breakers to trip, which is an excellent reason to become familiar with the circuits they control. I've had standard breakers fail, especially when they are old; in such cases, call an electrician.



**CAMUG Meeting, January 16, 2023**

## **CAMUG January 2023 Meeting Minutes**

The meeting was held in person at Holy Cross Lutheran Church; it was also held on Zoom. We used a Zoom account provided by APCUG. Dennis Smith was host and also presided over the 472<sup>nd</sup> meeting of CAMUG on Monday, January 16, 2023, starting at 6:15 PM with general chit-chat.

### **Computer 101:**

About 6:30 a "Show and Tell" and "Favorite Web Sites" discussion began.

- Several people described their holiday tech acquisitions. Included were a smart watch, a new Kindle with keyboard, a smart picture frame, Bose noise cancelling headphones, a Bluetooth speaker, and a 1T hard drive with case given as a gift which was out done by another person giving a 2T hard drive.

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- Carol Joliat showed a quarterly newsletter from the Stark County District Library describing their services including many tech courses. Gerald Schaefer mentioned an event coming up on March 9 at the library. Dennis Smith talked about genealogical help and tech help at the Stark Library
  - Dennis mentioned the December sale at Ohio Tech Works and the good deals. Their web site is OhioTechWorks.com.
  - Jan Bredon gets good deals at SlickDeals.net.
  - Gerald Schaefer talked about getting electric or gas from Clean Choice Energy in order to get better pricing.
  - Dennis Smith described his favorite web sites: ninite.com for downloading or updating free software and belarc.com for Belarc Advisor that gives a detailed profile of your computer.

### Regular Meeting:



After a short break, Dennis started the main meeting about 7:30. There were 13 people present representing 11 memberships. One person attended via Zoom. Since this is more than 15% of the membership, the meeting was declared valid.

In addition to the 13 members present, Dennis introduced two visitors: Jill Cline and Janet Dorety. They learned about our group from the Senior Forum newsletter.

Dennis also introduced Board members and reminded the group about the renewal credit of \$5 for each new member you bring in.

For the On Time Drawing, Gerald Schaefer's number was drawn; he was present wearing his badge, so he was awarded the prize.

### Program:

Eric Gunn presented the program about TABLO, which is a DVR for antenna users. TABLO enables users to use an antenna to view on-the-air programs and to record programs to watch later.

- Eric has been using TABLO for about 4 years. Until this year, he used a window antenna but has since upgraded to a large outside antenna.
- In addition to an antenna, you need a TABLO box.
  - There are several models. Some TABLO boxes have an HDMI port and connect directly to one TV. The HDMI port goes to a single TV with its own remote, so no Roku or Amazon firestick needed. But you can still access that unit with Roku or firestick on multiple TVs if you connect the Ethernet port directly to your router. It doesn't have WIFI, and remember



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- you must have the TABLO box close to the tv to connect the HDMI cable.
- Other TABLO boxes connect to the TV through Wi-Fi or ethernet cable and can be accessed by multiple TVs. They don't have to be near the TV.
  - Both types come in 2 channel and 4 channel models.
  - Eric's recommendation is to connect any TABLO directly to the router via the Ethernet connection. Don't use Wi-Fi unless you have a very good signal. If your current streaming devices never buffer, then you can try Wi-Fi if you want, but remember that multiple streams may be going at the same time using up your bandwidth. Eric suggests just hard wiring the TABLO box directly to the router with an Ethernet cable.
  - Eric has the Tablo Dual Lite and the HDMI Quad. Both are connected directly to the router via an Ethernet cable. He used Wi-Fi for months on the Tablo Dual Lite without any issues except he would get a buffering symbol once in a while. Since he changed to an Ethernet connection, it hasn't buffered at all.
- Also needed is a USB hard drive – up to 8 T for storing programs. The hard drive is connected to the TABLO box with a USB cable. (A few TABLO models have a built-in hard drive.) Eric showed several models available on Amazon.
  - A smart TV or a Roku or Fire stick is also needed. (Eric feels the Roku works slightly better than the Fire stick.)
  - TABLO is accessed through the TABLO app downloaded to the smart TV, Roku, or Fire stick.
  - An internet connection is required.
  - A program guide is included. The free version gives 24 hours of programs. The paid version has 14 days of programs with many other features. The cost is \$4.99 per month.
  - The TABLO website is [tablotv.com](http://tablotv.com)
  - The group discussed how to tell what on-air channels are available at your home. Two websites were mentioned: [TVfool.com](http://TVfool.com) and [rabbitears.info](http://rabbitears.info). Most TV stations have multiple channels, and these websites will identify them.

**Adjournment:** Liz Milford moved to adjourn the meeting. Jim Albright seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 PM.

Submitted pending Board approval,  
Liz Milford, Secretary

## CAMUG Board Meeting 1/24/2023

President Dennis Smith called the CAMUG Board meeting to order about 7:10 PM on Tuesday, January 24, 2023, via Zoom. All Board members were present; therefore, the meeting was declared valid. Eric Gunn and Carol Joliat were also present.

President	Present	Dennis Smith	<a href="mailto:president@camug.com">president@camug.com</a>
Secretary	Present	Liz Milford	<a href="mailto:secretary@camug.com">secretary@camug.com</a>
Treasurer	Present	Tim Elder	<a href="mailto:treasurer@camug.com">treasurer@camug.com</a>
Senior Director	Present	Bruce Klipec	<a href="mailto:directors@camug.com">directors@camug.com</a>
Director	Present	Jan Bredon	
Director	Present	Alice Lungociu	
Director at Large	Present	Jim Albright	
Web Page	Present	Dennis Smith	<a href="mailto:webmaster@camug.com">webmaster@camug.com</a>
Software and Book Review	Present	Jan Bredon	
Membership	Present	Carol Joliat	<a href="mailto:membership@camug.com">membership@camug.com</a>
Newsletter	Present	Liz Milford	<a href="mailto:newsletter@camug.com">newsletter@camug.com</a>
Computer 101	Present	Carol Joliat	
Ways and Means	Present	Jan Bredon	
Others Present	Present	Eric Gunn	
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### Approval of Minutes:

**December Regular Meeting:** Jim Albright moved to accept the December 19, 2022, Regular Meeting Minutes as printed in the January newsletter. Alice Lungociu seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved.

**January Regular Meeting:** Jan Bredon moved to accept the January 16, 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes as emailed. Tim Elder seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved.

**December Board Meeting:** Tim Elder moved to accept the December 19, 2022, Board Meeting Minutes as printed in the January newsletter. Jim Albright seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved.

### Reports:

**Treasurer's Report:** Liz Milford moved to accept the December Treasurer's Report as emailed to Board members. Alice Lungociu seconded the motion, and the report was approved.

**Membership Report:** Carol Joliat reported that we have 21 family memberships; two members have not renewed. Linda Middleton has joined the group. Bruce Klipec renewed his membership using Zelle to pay. Pauline Persons attended, the

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first time since summer. Two visitors attended the regular meeting; they found out about our club through the Senior Forum newsletter.

**February meeting topic:**

**February 20<sup>th</sup> meeting will be held in-person and on Zoom.**

**6:15 PM:** Chit-Chat

**6:30 PM:** Carol Joliat will show “How You Can Get Photos Off Your Phone and What to Do with Them.”

**7:00 PM:** Five-minute break

**7:05 PM Meeting:** Dennis Smith will present “Photo Editing with Photoshop Elements.”

**New Business:**

The group again discussed the **need for new members**. Several Board members have posted on NextDoor for their area but have received no replies. Jan has had our information published in the Senior Forum newsletter and our two visitors at the last meeting found us from that. Jan mentioned that he has been having trouble finding copies of the Senior Forum. Bruce suggested advertising that people can attend our meetings using Zoom.

Alice has volunteered to conduct the **audit**, and Tim will get the materials to her.

**Motion to Adjourn:**

At 8:20 PM Liz Milford moved to adjourn. Jim Albright seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted pending Board approval,  
Liz Milford, Secretary

## **Lines from Liz**

**By Liz Milford**

Has anyone in our group used ChatGPT? Here's the link: <https://chat.openai.com/chat>. What is it? Basically it's a computer program, accessed on the web, that generates answers to users' questions or requests. Here is how ChatGPT explained what it is in simple terms. (Until I added “in simple terms” to my request, the answer was too complicated.)

ChatGPT is a computer program designed to generate text based on the input it receives. It uses machine learning techniques, specifically a type of neural network called Transformer, to generate human-like responses to questions and prompts. The goal of ChatGPT is to mimic human conversation, allowing it to carry out conversation on a variety of topics and in a way that feels natural to the user.

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It seems to be very popular now, and the website is sometimes very busy. I just got this message when I tried to access it: **We're experiencing exceptionally high demand. Please hang tight as we work on scaling our systems.**

I am planning to experiment with different requests and see what text ChatGPT generates. I will write more about it later. Let me know how you have experimented with it.

## About CAMUG

Our club is open to anyone with an interest in computers and technology. A household membership is only \$20 per year, and a visitor can attend two meetings free without any obligation.

Normally, monthly meetings are held the third Monday of the month at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 7707 Market Ave. in North Canton, Ohio and also on Zoom. Computer 101 begins at 6:30 PM and the regular meeting begins at 7:05 PM. At every meeting, we cover topics ranging from cell phones to computers and from software to the internet and networking. Board meetings are held the fourth Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM using Zoom. Members are encouraged to attend the Board meeting although only Board members can vote; members can email Dennis Smith ([denniss@camug.com](mailto:denniss@camug.com)) to get the Zoom link to the Board meeting.

The club mailing address is CAMUG, PO Box 80192, Canton, OH 44708. The web site is at <http://www.camug.com>. CAMUG has a Facebook page called CAMUG Users Group at <https://www.facebook.com/CAMUG-Users-Group-100732168306718>. CAMUG also has a blog at <https://camugoh.blogspot.com>.

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CAMUG is a member of the Association of Personal Computer User Groups. APCUG is a worldwide organization that helps groups devoted to the world of technology by facilitating communications between member groups and industry. It offers the Virtual Technology Conferences and Wednesday Workshops, provides newsletter articles, and has a list of speakers for club programs. Explore the APCUG website at <https://www.apcug2.org>, and the APCUG Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/APCUG>.

## January 2022

by Carol Joliat



Total Family Memberships – 21



### CAMUG Monthly Summary

**Tim W. Elder, Treasurer 1/16/23**

	Cash	Checking	Total
<b>Start Balances</b>	\$55.00	\$719.55	\$774.55
Total Income	\$12.00	\$20.00	\$32.00
Total Expenses	\$5.00	\$25.00	\$30.00
Transfer	<u>-\$2.00</u>	<u>\$2.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>
<b>End Balances</b>	\$60.00	\$716.55	\$776.55

### CAMUG Officers

President: Dennis Smith 330-477-5893

Secretary: Liz Milford 330-620-5178

Treasurer: Tim Elder 330-875-2323

Senior. Director: Bruce Klipec

Director Jan Bredon: 234-564-0045

Director: Alice Lungociu

Director at Large: Jim Albright

Membership: Carol Joliat

Asst. Membership: Alice Lungociu

Web Page:

Newsletter: Liz Milford 330-620-5178

Tim Elder 330-875-2323

Computer 101: Carol Joliat

Ways and Means: Jan Bredon

## List of Members

Name	E-Mail
Albright, Jim	jima
Bredon, Jan	janb
Brugger, Bruce	bruceb
Doyle, Michael	michaeld
Elder, Tim	time
Girt, Jesse	jesseg
Gunn, Eric	ericg
Joliat, Carol	carolj
Klipec, Bruce	brucek
Kramer, Cecelia	ceceliak
Krantz, Cheryl	cherylk
Lungociu, Alice	alichel
McCoy, Myra	myram
Milford, Elizabeth	elizabethm
Parker, Cherie	cheriep
Persons, Pauline	paulinep
Ponzani, Doris	dorisp
Schaefer, Gerald	geralds
Smith, Dennis	denniss

To email members, use the email name above followed by @camug.com

### Visit our Home Page:

<http://www.camug.com>

### Our Facebook Page:

CAMUG Users Group

### Our Blog:

<https://camugoh.blogspot.com>

**Need help  
with your electronic gadgets?**



Canton Alliance Massillon Users Group  
Computer Users Group

## **Assistance for users of all ages and skill levels**

When: 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday each month

Where: Holy Cross Lutheran Church

7707 Market Ave. N

North Canton, OH

*Currently, we are also meeting via Zoom*

Email us for a Zoom invitation!

Time     **6:15 PM:** Chit-Chat

**6:30 PM:** Computer 101

**7:00 PM:** Five-minute break

**7:05 PM Meeting**

Ongoing topics include:

Computers    Tablets    Digital Photography

Smart Phones    eBooks    Toys & Gadgets

[info@camug.com](mailto:info@camug.com)

[www.camug.com](http://www.camug.com)