

WINDOWS X SIG (Second Thursday)

Thursday, May 10, 2018 from 1:30 to 3:30 PM

John will cover:

1. Microsoft Edge: controlling syncing and resetting and repairing Edge

Syncing Edge

- a. Edge will sync with Edge on other devices using the same Microsoft account logon.
- b. This is not controlled by Start /Settings / Accounts / Sync your settings. It is controlled in Edge settings.
- c. Edge / Elipsis menu ... / Settings scroll down to Account. Below is **Sync On/Off**.
- d. Sometimes syncing causes Favorites to get corrupted. If this happens, turn syncing off in Edge.

Resetting and Repairing Edge

- a. Start / Settings / Apps / Apps & features / Microsoft Edge / Advanced options
 - Note that Move and Uninstall are greyed out – you can't do these to Edge.
- b. Scroll down to **Reset section**.
- c. Try **Repair** first, and if that doesn't do the job, try **Reset**.
 - It says Edge **Settings are preserved**, but I found that I had to re-do my Home URL and my choice of Google for searching on the address line, etc. in Win 10 1709.
 - **Favorites were preserved** (but that's not a blessing if they are corrupted).
 - Note Uninstall is still greyed out as an option below Reset.

2. Where are my Edge Favorites? They aren't in the Favorites folder like Internet Explorer.

a. The old Favorites folder is for Internet Explorer Favorites, not Edge.

C: / Users / Username / Favorites

- Note that Favorites do not show up in File Explorer under This PC with Documents, etc. any more.

b. The Edge Favorites are at:

C:\Users\Username\AppData\Local\Packages\Microsoft.MicrosoftEdge_8wekyb3d8bbwe\AC\MicrosoftEdge\User\Default**DataStore**\Data\nouser1\120712-0049**DBStore**

- The folder 120712-0049 name may have different first 6 digits on your computer.
- The Favorites folder below DataStore was used for html Favorites only in the first release of Edge in 2015. Now, it's unused and empty.
- The Favorites are in spartan.edb (spartan was the development name for Edge).
- The Favorites folder below DBStore holds only the icons for Favorites web sites.

c. The syncing files that allow other devices to sync the Favorites are in:

C:\Users\Username\AppData\Local\Packages\Microsoft.MicrosoftEdge_8wekyb3d8bbwe\RomingState

- There will be hundreds of files which carry the additions, deletions, renaming and other changes to the database.

3. **Exporting and Importing Edge Favorites.**

- a. Start Edge / Elipsis menu ... / Settings / Import from another browser
 - Don't ask me why this is under Import from another browser instead of just Import and Export, but it is.
- b. Select either
 1. Import from file
 2. Export to file
- c. This allows backing up your Favorites by Exporting them as an html file.
- d. Edge now backs up the spartan.edb file automatically every day you use your computer.

C:\Users\Username\MicrosoftEdgeBackups\Backups\DatastoreBackup

 - This is used when you repair or reset Edge and is not meant as a user backup.
 - Since it is copied daily, any errors will be in the backup unless you found and corrected them the same day.
 - Use the html export feature in Edge instead to save your Favorites!

4. **We all log onto many Wi-Fi networks** if we carry a computer around. You can cleanup the list of networks easily and discard old connections that you won't be using again. The list of networks that you logged onto is shown at:

Start button / Settings / Network & Internet / Wi-Fi / Manage Known Networks

- Click any network to see:
 1. Forget – this will delete the network
 2. Properties
 - Turn “Connect automatically” on or off depending on what you prefer.
 - Turn “Metered connection” on if you have to pay for use of the network by the amount of data you transfer.

Ernie (impersonated by John) will cover:

- What happened to the March Windows 10 Creators Update? Why wasn't it released?

Microsoft discovered when the update was first released that it was causing too many computers to crash. In some cases, the crash left the computers unbootable so that a clean install of Windows 10 was required to get them operational again. At that point, Microsoft stopped distributing the update until the problem was corrected.
- What is the Windows 10 April 2018 Update which was released on April 30?

The update re-released on April 30 is the same one released earlier with the installation problem corrected. It is still Version 1803. It is referred to as the 2018 April Feature Update to Windows 10 instead of a cute name such as Creator or Anniversary update.
- What's different about the update process now compared to earlier updates?

First, it doesn't crash your computer. Second, it is faster than previous updates. I found it took around half as long to complete as last fall's feature update. The process now looks

just about the same as the regular Cumulative updates for Windows. The screens starting with Hi! with rolling colors that marked the end of the earlier feature updates are gone.

- The new features in Windows 10 April 2108 Feature Update are described in the Tips app that is installed with the 1803 version.

Start button / Scroll down the list of installed apps to Tips / Click the Tips app to open it.

For more information on the new version, Google: Windows 10 1803 features. There are lots of articles to look at. Here's one fairly complete description:

<https://pureinfotech.com/windows-10-redstone-4-version-1803-new-features/>

This article from Microsoft lists features removed in the 1803 version:

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/deployment/planning/windows-10-1803-removed-features>

Questions & Answers Session

During the Q & A session, I was asked about the EdgeManage app for editing Edge favorites if the editing features built into Edge are not sufficient for what you want to do.

Here are two references to this free app.

1. A Microsoft Support article described the app even though it is not a Microsoft product:

https://answers.microsoft.com/en-us/edge/forum/edge_other-edge_win10/new-tool-to-manage-edge-favorites/04db0843-71fe-417c-9381-2eae727ed424

2. You can download the app from the author here:

<http://www.emmet-gray.com/Articles/EdgeManage.html>

The download button is green and on the right side of the web page near the top.

If you scroll down, the user's manual is at the end of the web page. You can copy just the manual and paste it into a word processor so that you can print it out. It's only a few pages.

If you are interested in EdgeManage, **I have attached the User Manual in PDF form** which you can read on screen or print out. In the manual, there is a link to the EdgeManage web site as the second line on page one of the manual. On the last page of the manual, there are several other links that could be of interest if you decide to use EdgeManage.