

Bristol Village Computer Club Newsletter

February-March , 2018

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Next BVCC Meeting

Windows 10 Solitaire Games, and other fun stuff presented by Len Nasman

March 12, 2018 - 6:30 Glenn Center
Also on BVTV

If you are reading this with a **PDF** viewer or online, you can click [Quick Index](#) to jump to the issue index.

Why Is It Colder In February?

By Len

February in Waverly, Ohio and it's colder than it was last August. Why is this? What causes the seasons anyway? And, by the way, what is the winter solstice? If you have wondered about any of these things, the Internet can help you find the answers.

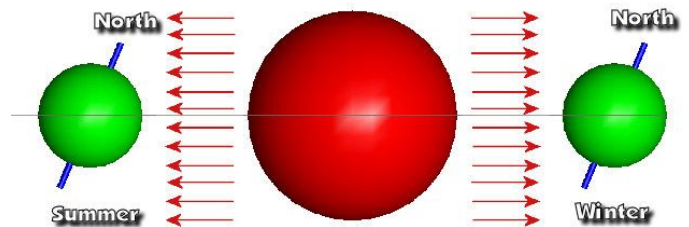
First of all, here is Bill Nye (the science guy) to explain the seasons.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KUU7Iyfr34o>

It all has to do with the axis of the earth being at an angle to its path around the sun.

In the summer (in our area) the sun shines more on the north than the south. When the earth travels around to the other side of the sun, the sun shines less on the north and it gets colder. This point is what we know as the winter solstice.



When the earth is half way around the sun (this happens twice, once coming and the other going) it is called the equinox.

Here are the dates for the equinox and solstice.

Vernal Equinox	Summer Solstice	Autumn Equinox	Winter Solstice
March 20	June 21	September 23	December 21

From this, you might expect the hottest days of the year to be in June, but most years it is hotter in July or August. This is because it takes a while for the ground to warm up. This is known as the thermal fly-wheel effect. When you turn on your furnace or air conditioner, you do not get instant heating or cooling. And when the day is the longest, it does not heat the earth instantly.

I wrote about this stuff once in an article I titled 'Black Tape on the South Porch Wall.' Here is a link to the article.

http://lenshamn.com/Stories_14/black_tape.html

Black Tape on the South Porch Wall

by: Leonard Oliver Nasman



This article describes my observation of the sun shadow on the wall of the porch of our former weekend retreat. Thinking about how the noontime shadow changes from winter to summer led to topics such as railroad train crashes and sun clocks..

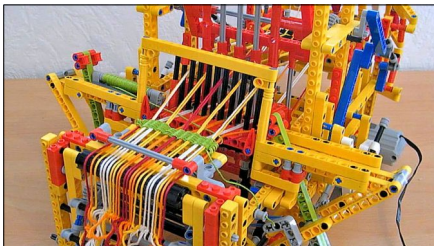
Amazing Lego Machines

By Len



Lego Clock

Have you ever played with Lego blocks? Or have you helped or watched your kids or grandkids playing with them? If so, you might appreciate some amazing things folks have created with these apparently simple toys.



Lego Loom

Would you believe a [cookie decorating machine](#) made from Legos? How about a Lego placing robot that can actually make scanned pictures from Legos?



Lego cookie printer.

These Lego creations and more can be seen on this YouTube video.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3_q8O8xQnIQ

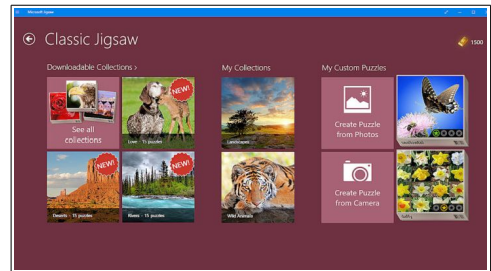
Have You Been Puzzled?

By Len

In the January issue I described the free solitaire games that are now available in Windows 10.



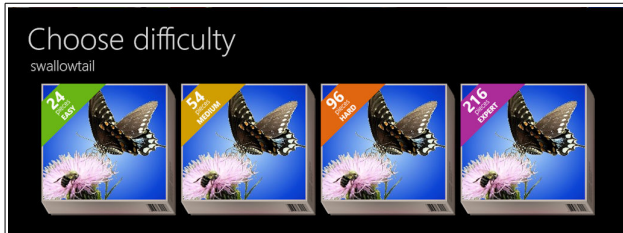
Games available in Windows 10 include Microsoft Jigsaw. The opening



screen provides several options. The first is Classic Jigsaw. Here you can choose from downloadable

collections of puzzles. There is also an option for creating puzzles from your own image files.

When you select a puzzle, you can then choose a puzzle difficulty that is based on the number of pieces in the puzzle.



Here is a 24 piece version of a puzzle made from one of my photos.



The panel on the right side of the display provides options for zooming the display, arranging the pieces, or adjusting puzzle settings.

If you are a jigsaw puzzle fan, you will find the Windows 10 puzzle app a good way to burn time off of your clock.

Web Surfing Fun

By Len

Some folks have contributed tricks that then have found useful around the house. You might find these useful, or at least amusing.

40 SIMPLE TRICKS



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HKkb5d19LoE>

Time Lapse Videos

By Len

Here are a few YouTube time lapse videos for your viewing pleasure.

Norway

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Scxs7L0vhZ4>

Iceland

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_vhf0RZg0fg

Blooming Flowers

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LjCzPp-MK48>

Building the World Trade Center

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NbA89YbWoL8>

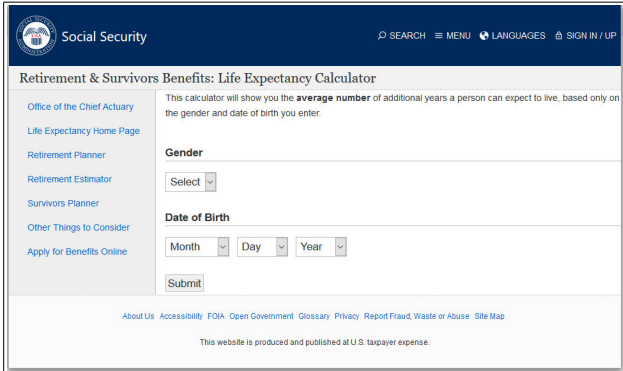
Here is one with music to help you sleep.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hs86eBCT4dI>

Life Expectancy

By Len

The reported average life expectancy in the US is 81 years for women, and 76 years for men. If you have already lived that long, or are getting close, do not despair. The statisticians at Social Security have a different set of numbers based on your current age. They have a life expectancy calculator that makes an estimate based on your birthday.



<https://www.ssa.gov/OACT/population/longevity.html>

So, live long and prosper.



This is the 97th issue of the Newsletter edited by Len since 2007. Article contributions or editing help would be appreciated.

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