

PASSWORDS

Do you ever struggle with passwords? This is the Age of Passwords – to your email account; to every place you ever go to buy something; to your new, ever-so-friendly Social Security account (for those of us who are OLD); to sensitive stuff like your bank account; to un-sensitive places like news sites.

Do you try to keep track of your passwords? Do you have a list hidden somewhere in your house,

like maybe a fireproof vault that itself requires a password to get into? So if you forget its password, you maybe can't get in because you have the password on the list that is locked inside. Or if you were smart enough to think of that ahead of time, you keep the password to your passwords – uh, where?

They tell you that you should change your passwords regularly. And that it's ok because your computer offers to save it for you, so you don't have to worry about remembering the new password. Uh-huh. Nevertheless, I don't trust it so I keep my passwords recorded in a highly secret spot that I will NEVER tell you. And besides, if a hacker who is trying to steal your information can break into the database of a huge outfit like Target or even the IRS, why would it not be a piece of cake for him/her to get it from your computer?

Trying to come up with a suitable password can be quite the chore, especially if the computer or website argues with your choice and requires you to go back to square one and pick something new.

When that happens, I sit there with a blank stare, trying to figure out what to use THIS time. Shouldn't use the same one that you use for others. Shouldn't use your home address or street name. Probably shouldn't use your dog's name (I confess I do that a lot!). Absolutely must NOT use your social security number or any portion of it.

I finally come up with something I like, enter it, and then I'm told by *Linda, now that you told the world, you have to change all those passwords with your pet's names in them. -- Editor

the computer, "This is not acceptable. Click below for password rules (you idiot, is implied)." You're lucky if there is an explanation of the rules for this or that website. "Must include one capital letter, one number, one special symbol, and be 8 characters long." Funny – have you ever noticed that the special symbols (#\$%&@!) strangely resemble the word you feel like saying just then? I think it's most appropriate.

Then you have to reenter the password to be sure you entered what you intended to enter! Aaaargh! If it doesn't match, you have to do it all over again! Listen, computer, what about ***** doesn't match ***** anyway??

Be glad! Relief is on the way: in recent months, I have noticed that more and more there is an eyeball symbol on the password line, so you can look at what you entered. Isn't that amazing?

Have you ever let the computer auto-generate a password? Now be sure you remember this one: a4E962*rTx%307SLiue:69Yqe14 @(&). And dutifully write it on your list that's in the vault. Oh, no, it's ok, don't worry, because Google will remember it for you and auto-enter it each time. OoooooKaye!

I find it most irritating to encounter the demand that you change your password every so often. You're in a hurry – you have work to do – quick go to the computer and enter that whatever-it-is! And all you get is, "Your password is expired. Please create a new one.

Old password _____.
New password _____.
Reenter new password _____."
Beeep! Incorrect entry. Try again." And on and on. Do you find yourself arguing with the idiot computer? I confess: I'm guilty.

My favorite instance of password changing came a few days ago. Our wholesaler (the one I love to hate – UNFI) requires password changes every 3 months, and supposedly each user can simply respond and change his/her own password. Not! When that message appears, I have to get involved



since I'm the (stand at attention with a full salute, please) -- "OWNER" and so I can change stuff. I have to go to User Administration, find the user, get an auto-generated password, log in as that person, immediately change the password to something practical, log out the user, turn the account back to the user, and log in as me again. Sheesh!

So I was trying to create a password for Ken Klaus, the Grocery Manager. This site's rules require a capital letter, lowercase letters, numbers, and must be 8 characters long. The new password may not repeat an old one in whole or in part. It may not include a word related to you, your position, or the business.

After several attempts to enter a password which somehow flunked their requirements, in frustration I entered 41303Stupid, meaning I thought the whole process was stupid. However, the computer deliberately misunderstood me and said, "Password not accepted. Matches one of your attributes." I laughed out loud. How could the computer know Ken Klaus is stupid? Well, smart alec computer, he isn't, so there! Except sometimes.

So what the heck difference does all this make? Not much, except that I really wanted to avoid talking about viruses or riots, and I wanted to tell the "Ken is Stupid" story. All this just to tell that little story!

One last word about passwords. If you read this commentary at all regularly, you know that I cannot resist relating the commentary subject to God's Spirit somehow. This time, I was thinking, "At least Heaven doesn't have a password." But think about it. It really does, and it's very simple. One three-letter word is all it takes, and it's the same for everyone, and you never have to change it. In fact, you'd better not change it.

That word is "YES!" Yes to the offer of eternal life with our Father.

Yes to the requirement that we commit our entire lives to Him. Yes that we give up the driver's seat and let Him have control. YES! That we will follow where he leads.

Yes, it really is that simple. What a relief! YES!!

Linda Gummel

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

Contributed. From the Web.

"Lexophile" describes those that have a love of words, especially in word games, such as "you can tune a piano, but you can't tuna fish" or "To write with a broken pencil is pointless."

An annual competition is held to see who can create the best original lexophile, here are some:

I changed my iPod's name to Titanic. It's syncing now.

England has no kidney bank, but it does have a Liverpool.

Haunted French pancakes give me the crepes.

This girl today said she recognized me from the Vegetarians Club, but I'd swear I've never met her.

I know a guy who's addicted to drinking brake fluid, but he says he can stop any time.

A thief who stole a calendar got twelve months.

When the smog lifts in Los Angeles U.C.L.A.

I got some batteries that were given out free of charge.

A will is a dead giveaway.

With her marriage, she got a new name and a dress.

Police were summoned to a daycare center where a three-year-old was resisting a rest.

A bicycle can't stand alone; it's just two tired.

The guy who fell onto an upholstery machine last week is now fully recovered.

He had a photographic memory but it was never fully developed.

When she saw her first strands of gray hair she thought she'd dye.

Acupuncture is a jab well done. That's the point of it.

Did you hear about the crossed-eyed teacher who lost her job because she couldn't control her pupils?

When you get a bladder infection, urine trouble.

When chemists die, they barium.

I stayed up all night to see where the sun went, and then it dawned on me.

I'm reading a book about anti-gravity. I just can't put it down.

Those who get too big for their pants will be totally exposed in the end.

"When opportunity knocks, the grumbler complains about the noise."

SERVICES AT CROSSROADS CENTER

LUCERNE VALLEY MARKET & HARDWARE 248-7311

WASH N SHOP COIN LAUNDRY 248-7311

FIRST FOUNDATION BANK 248-2717

DR. ASHOK MELVANI M.D. 248-1070

ECHO RECYCLING 760-220-4232

AT THE SERVICE COUNTER In the store

• COPIES • FAX SERVICE
• PACKAGE EXPRESS -- UPS only
• PAYMENT STATION SCE, Frontier & Verizon

PRESCRIPTION DELIVERY 242-4900

Rancho Drugs – Tues. 11AM, Wed. & Fri. 2PM

ST. MARY HEALTH VAN 760-946-4240

Will not come out until further notice.

- Lucerne Valley Market
- "Do it Best" Hardware
- Wash n Shop
- Crossroads Center

e-mail address: Market.Hardware@lucernevalleymarket.com

website: lucernevalleymarket.com

Proud to be a member of Lucerne Valley Chamber of Commerce

LIMITS & MULTIPLE PRICING

Please, unless otherwise indicated, ON AD ITEMS NO MORE THAN 6 TOTAL (including all flavors or varieties) OF ANY ITEM, PER FAMILY, DURING THE AD PERIOD, AT THE SALE PRICE, except in produce and meat, which are limited to normal retail quantities, or which carry limits specifically stated. Sorry, we must reserve the right to further limit or refuse sales.

ON MULTIPLE PRICING, when purchasing items in quantities more or less than the multiple stated, the register is built automatically to charge the "each" price times the quantity. (Example: Price of item is 3/\$1. The price of: one = 34¢, two = 68¢, three = \$1, four = \$1.34, five = \$1.68, six = \$2.00).

ECHO RECYCLING
760-220-4232

On the Northeast side of the parking lot.

Open Mon. - Sat. 9AM - 4PM

Closed for Lunch Noon to 1PM.

Closed Sunday

Aluminum CRV **\$1.64/lb**

#1 Plastic CRV **\$1.28/lb**

Pricing good thru August 12, 2020

TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THOSE WHO SPONSOR THIS STORE; SEE <http://thenewlight.net>