The Data Byte

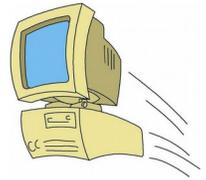**Official Newsletter of the Computer Users Group of Lincolnton**

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My Opinion

With all the TV, Radio, internet commercials about computer repair software, I am worried that more people are going to get scammed by these snake oil salesmen for a lot of money. Lately, I saw ads for PC Matic and Clean My PC, and long ago there was Doublemyspeed.com. Doing google searches on these products turned up mostly Negative reviews, The few positive reviews were from the owning companies or from paid reviewers or naive people.

The type of software that these products are putting on your computer is a Registry Cleaner. Many computer techs do not believe Registry Cleaner software even work. The software you load will search your computer for registry errors and other things and then report to you in an alarming tone that you have all these problems, then the software offers to repair these problems for a fee. Once you pay your fee and input the license code, the software says it works. But most users find that the software actually lies about what errors it finds and fixes.

All the other features of these Scam soft-wares are built in to the Windows operating systems: defragging, disk cleanup, anti-spyware, program uninstallers. Commercials for PC Matic says it has anti-virus properties and been certified by anti-malware testing labs, which both are proven Lies.

If you have a slow computer, you need to address problems that a registry cleaner will not help. Slow computer syndrome is actually cause by multiple problems with your computer: lack of System RAM, slow operating system, infected with malware, running too many programs in background and using a single core CPU.

If you insist you need a registry cleaner program, try CCleaner from Piriform. It is Free to use for non-commercial uses, does not require you to buy license at any time to work, and has a great reputation online. Comes with an Program Uninstaller, Temp File cleaner, hard drive space wiper, and other features. Get it from Piriform or find it carefully from other trusted software download websites. www.piriform.com   They also have some other freeware that you can use.

Just remember don't believe what you hear on these commercials and Do not use these Paid products from Clean My PC or PC Matic. If you have a Slow computer , take it to a trustworthy computer repair tech or learn to fix those problems yourself. Be aware that Registry Cleaners can cause other problems with your computer, if you are not careful with use.