**October 4th 2015 Second Session Review review *by John Waller***

The 2:30 presentation was on using Chromecast to cast files from your hard drive to the television. For your PC there is an app in the Chrome app store that allows you to cast files from your PC to the television, Videostream. When you install it you set it up with the folders on your drives   that have compatible files, generally video.  If you are like me you will have a library of videos that you have ripped from DVDs/Blu-Rays that you OWN. This is crucial; starting with ripping mp3 audio files the rule has been that you can rip files for your own use, and for backups.  As long as you keep them on your own system and do not give them away, lend them, or sell them you should be fine.  If you have little children, or grandchildren, you know the risk of letting them handle your pristine DVD/Blu-Ray.  Chromecast allows you to view these files if you do not have a Home Theater PC.  But, Chromecast goes well beyond this.  Netflix, Youtube, apps for different networks like CBS, HBO, etc. and many other video sources.  This is on your PC, for iOS and Android your app store will have VideoStream Chromecast Mobile. This app will allow you to use your smartphone or tablet to cast to the television, which means you do not need your PC in the same room as your TV.  Netflix, HBO, CBS, et al, can be cast from your mobile device.

One problem I had with Chromecast was with subtitles. If you have subtitles in a separate file, then the VideoStreamer can handle it.  All of the movies that I have with subtitles have them within the movie, and I have not found a way to display them L  For me this is not good.  My biggest problem seems to be with my Wi-Fi.  One day I can cast movies with no problem, another day it will pause every 3 minutes to buffer the movie. I do not know the problem whether something occasionally interacts, or whether I am getting radio interference. Anyway, when it works for me it works great, and it is nice to view my videos in the family room instead of over my computer monitor.  One point, Videostream seems to be at the resolution of your TV.  Whether the Chromecast stick adapts it or something else it going on, I do not know.

If you do not have any way to get your video files to your TV, then Chromecast is a good way to go.

**John Waller**