Ubuntu MD Meeting Notes – June 22, 2019

This was an open meeting where we had a general discussion on the following topics.

1. Where do you get your Linux related news
    *   http://phoronix.com
    *   Linux Journal
    *   YouTub – Linus Tech Tips, Jazytwocents (hardware reviews), level2techs
    *   Full Circle Magazine and weekly podcast. May 2019 issue contained an article about Gramps genealogy program.
    *   Google Ubuntu and Linux daily news updates
    *   Ubuntu Weekly news which also contains frequently asked questions response section
2. New Pinebook Pro laptop that runs Linux and cost $199.00 is due to be released soon. It was not clear which Linux distro will be preloaded.
3. All new Chromebooks will have fully functioning Linux support and may offer a reasonably priced alternative with sale prices starting at $149.
4. Canonical announced the end of 32 bit support with 19.10 release. You will not be able to upgrade 32 bit 18.04 to next LT release in 20.04, however support for 18.04 will continue to 2023.
5. Discussed Linux distro alternatives for 32 bit machines and recommendations included Dam Small Linux, Puppy Linux, Kali and LinuxLite to name a few.
6. IBM acquisition of RedHat for $34B is scheduled to be completed in a few months. It was hoped that RedHat will continue to thrive under it's new corporate owners given the encouraging words by IBM CEO at the recent RedHat Developers conference.
7. South Korea announced that the government computers will be switching from Windows 7 to Linux.
8. Deepin and Elementary OS are two distros with very nice interfaces. Deepin uses Debian 9.9 as its base and Elementary OS uses Ubuntu. They both have Mac OS like user interfaces and are very attractive. Deepin is developed by a Chinese based company that some may not be comfortable with.
9. The Linux version of the Winnti Malware program was recently used to attack a large pharmaceutical company. It's another example of how hackers are rewriting Windows malware to attack Linux systems.
10. Linux Kernel 5.1 is being released with support for more hardware types and other nice features.