

# Willow Valley Computer Club

January 2024 | Newsletter | Volume 25, Issue 1

Programs are at 2:00 pm the first Thursday of the month (except July-August) in the Cultural Center unless otherwise noted.

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## Computer Club Leadership

- President: Al Williams
- Vice President: Susan Culbertson
- Secretary: Gary Staton
- Treasurer: Lee Wermuth
- Previous President: Sid Paskowitz

## Committee Chairpersons

- Apple SIG: Dick Beidleman
- Computer Room: Lee Wermuth
- Newsletter: Susan Culbertson
- Publicity: Ann Willets
- SmartLife: Al Fulvio
- Training: Bill Skelly
- Webmaster: Sid Paskowitz

## Director

- CCTC: Cathy Thorn

## Advisors

- Bruce Mawson
- Tony Poulos
- Bob Scala

## President's Pen by Al Williams

Welcome to the Computer Club's January Newsletter!

We encourage you to use the Computer Club's website to find training classes and monthly presentations. Also, there's a Get Help section that lists our volunteers who can help you. Would you like software application advice? It's there. Want help with your printer or computer? There's more. Go to [wvcomputerclub.org](http://wvcomputerclub.org). Check out its multiple features! Do you have feedback? Please contact us at [wvcomputerclub@gmail.com](mailto:wvcomputerclub@gmail.com).

In this issue of the Newsletter, you'll find an article about Patch My PC Updater. It provides an easy way to keep most of your software apps up to date. It's free, easy to install, easy to use, and easy to understand. It will save you time spent updating apps!

~Al Williams



## Windows 11:

*What's new, what's changed, what's no longer included?*

**Bill James**

**WVCC Monthly Program**

**January 4 @ 2:00 pm**

**Cultural Center Theater**

# Patch My PC

by Al Williams

## *Simplify third-party patching on your home PC*®

It's good to keep all software up to date, for two reasons. The first is that updated software frequently has new features but more importantly updates may fix broken features. The second is, in my opinion, the most important. Updates also fix vulnerabilities in software that hackers might use to extract data from computers.

For most of us there's a lot of software on our computers to keep up to date. Each operating system, Windows, Linux, macOS, iOS, or Android, has a way to update software. I'm going to focus on Windows in this article.

Microsoft provides updates for Windows and all other Microsoft software such as the Microsoft Office products, including Word and Excel. Microsoft's update service makes it easy to keep their products up to date.

Some software apps, like Firefox and Chrome, will automatically update the next time you start that browser if an update is pending. Others, like Signal and Bitwarden, will inform you that an update is pending when you open the app and ask your permission to install it.

Opening each software app on your computer to cause an automatic update to occur or to give permission to install an update is time consuming. There is a way to greatly reduce that time. There is a free software updater that keeps track of the update status of over 300 software applications. It's called Patch My PC Home Updater.

The Patch My PC company makes software to help businesses keep their software up to date. They also make a free updater called Home Updater. You'll find it at <https://patchmypc/home-updater>. They provide a YouTube video explaining usage at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y5WWiWbO6v0> but that five-year-old video is out of date.

I'm going to give Home Updater the name Patch My PC Updater in this article because the shortcut that is automatically created by the downloaded app is named Patch My PC Updater.

After downloading and double-clicking on the downloaded app, the Patch My PC Updater window will appear and the shortcut icon will be created. Figure 1: Patch My PC Updater window shows the window. This window shows that when I took the screenshot, 9 apps needed to be installed. The word Installed is Patch My PC Updater's name for updates.

To start the update, click on the bottom right-hand button. In this case, the button has the caption Perform 9 Updates.

Updates almost always are successful. However, if Patch My PC Updater displays a successful install statement and an Exit Code, or states that an update is unsuccessful, that app will have to be updated manually.

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That’s how to use Patch My PC Updater. It’s easy. Every time you start Patch My PC Updater, it will automatically scan your computer’s apps and report which apps need updating. Patch My PC Updater does have options but the majority of us need only the default settings.

It’s possible that you have a software app that Patch My PC Updater won’t update. An example of such software is Zoom. You must update Zoom manually. You can compare the list of software that Patch My PC Updater will update against the list of software on your computer to determine which software you must manually update.

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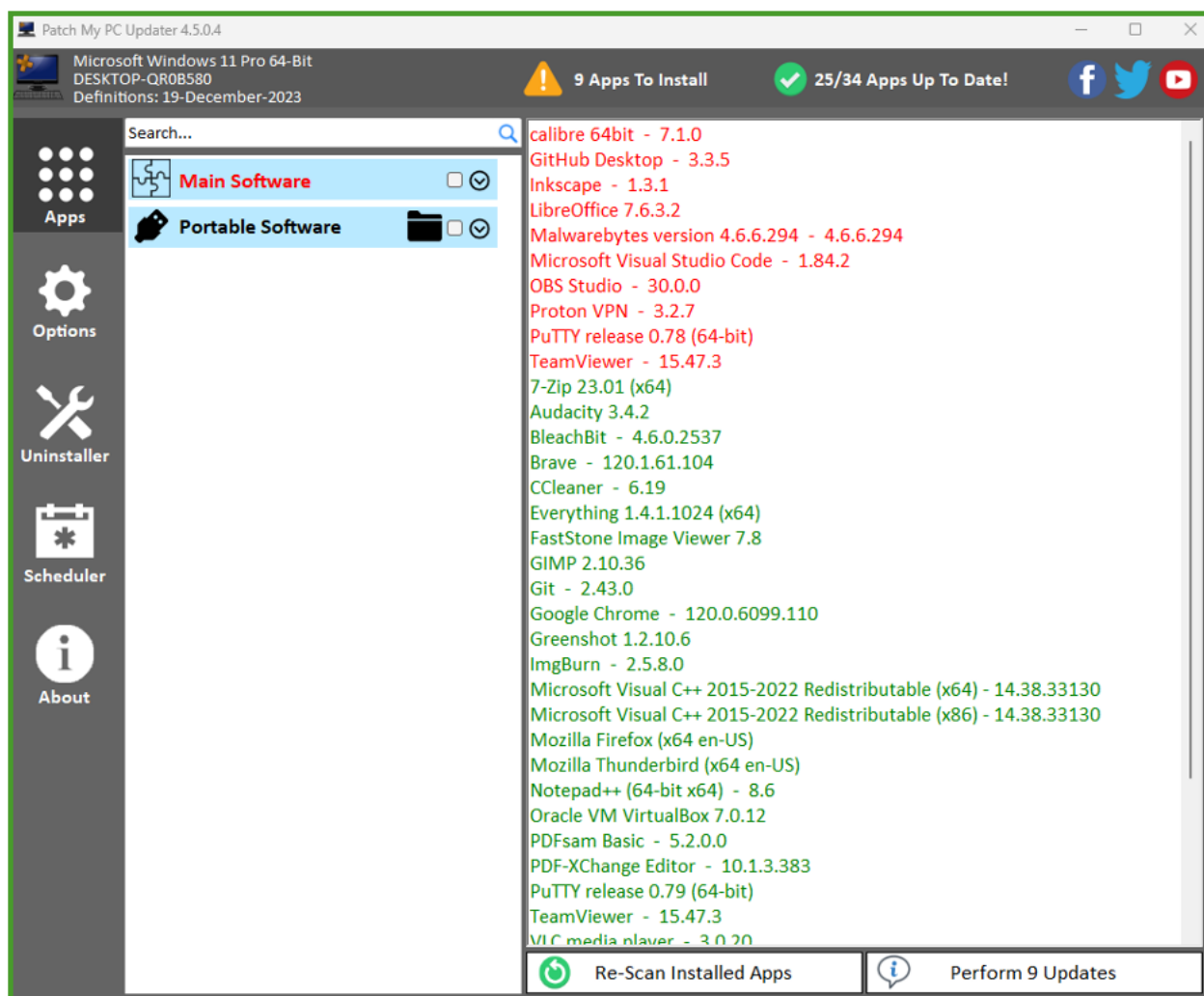


Figure 1: Patch My PC Updater window

**WVCC mission:**  
"to provide the means to educate beginners or interested non-users on how to use a computer"

**WVCC mission:**  
"to provide a forum for interchange of computer information among members"

**WVCC mission:** "to arrange for speakers to talk about subjects of interest to those with some background and experience in computer use"