



## CLECAT Club

*Exploring the technology that touches your life*



**Spring 2025 meeting dates:**  
**February 3, 17, (31 no class)**  
**March 3, 17**  
**April 7**



## CLECAT Club

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# Smart Devices in the Home (The Internet of Things)

Monday, February 3, 2025  
Presenter: Rick Hearn

This session will survey  
the wide variety of  
smart devices now  
found in our homes.

# What are some home Smart Devices?

- ▶ Thermostat
- ▶ Video Doorbell
- ▶ Security Cameras
- ▶ Video Streaming
- ▶ Home Assistant
- ▶ Solar Electric Monitor

# Thermostat

- ▶ Example: Google Nest
- ▶ You can control it from anywhere with an App on your phone.
- ▶ You can set a schedule of days and times to heat or cool to particular temperatures.
- ▶ Alternatively, it can learn your preferences by observation.
- ▶ You get a monthly report of your energy usage.

# Video Doorbell

- ▶ Example: Ring
- ▶ You can control it from anywhere with an App on your phone.
- ▶ You can see, listen, and speak from anywhere.
- ▶ It can be triggered by pressing the doorbell button or by sensing motion.

# Security Camera

- ▶ You can control it from anywhere with an App on your phone.
- ▶ You can see (and optionally listen) from anywhere.
- ▶ It can be triggered by sensing motion.
- ▶ It can be integrated with a motion sensing light

# Video Streaming

- ▶ Example: Apple TV
- ▶ You can control it with its remote or with an App on your phone.
- ▶ Sample streaming services include Netflix, Prime Video, YouTube TV, and many others. (Monthly fees vary.)
- ▶ Many people have dropped Cable TV or Satellite TV in favor of streaming.
- ▶ You can watch your phone or iPad apps on your TV.
- ▶ You may want to upgrade your internet speed if you stream a lot.
- ▶ Data caps can be an issue.



# Home Assistant

- ▶ Example: Alexa
- ▶ You can control it by voice or with an App on your phone.
- ▶ It can play music or (optionally) video.
- ▶ What you can do with it depends on what compatible devices you've purchased and installed.
- ▶ Examples of things you can control include lights and appliances. (These can also be independently controlled.)

# Solar Electric Monitor

- ▶ Example: Enphase Enlighten
- ▶ You can control it with an App on your phone.
- ▶ You can see daily, monthly or yearly production (and optionally consumption).
- ▶ It can notify you when trouble has occurred.

# What are some Smart Devices that you use?

# Questions and Comments?