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Technical Projects and Notes

20190416

bind mount to get web server link to files outside *Documentroot* device

Wanting to give access at home to some files of use for home activities, I set up a web server (I tried both nginx and apache2). However, a symlink to the files of interest pointed outside the current device. I was able to point to files in my home directory from a symlink in `/var/www/html` without difficulty. (`/home` is on same device as `/var/www`)

I tried a number of configuration settings in the `.conf` files, including “alias” and various `FollowSymLinks` tries, without success.

At the April 4 linux-ottawa meeting, Alex Pilon suggested a bind mount, and this works.

My example:

Directory `/var/www/html/` contains files and symlinks There is a directory `tto18` with 755 permissions and root ownership.

The command

```
sudo mount -o bind /media/john/Rebecca /var/www/html/tto18
```

allows local users (on local router, and therefore hopefully inside the firewall) to access my machine as “john-j6-18.local” and see this directory, which points to a disk that is attached.

To get this set up when my machine boots, I tried adding the command “`/home/john/bin/bmreb`” to the Startup Items in the Linux Mint Control Centre. “`bmreb`” is a file with contents

```
#!/bin/bash
# bmreb -- bind mount rebecca
mount -o bind /media/john/Rebecca /var/www/html/tto18
```

It is owned by root and has 755 permissions. Rebooting, I found that the bind mount was not active. In Linux Mint 19.1, it is now necessary to use `systemd` to start such items as indicated in <https://forums.linuxmint.com/viewtopic.php?t=275464> which gives a tutorial. I followed this and have a working startup.

* OCLUG live distro

- [Planning outline for OCLUG live USB distro](#)
- [Investigation of EFI boot \(S Murphy\) 2017](#)
- [Attempts to configure graphical interface \(J Nash\) 2017](#)
- [New tries to prepare custom iso - March 2019](#)

* viewing Comment information in a JPG file browser

- This investigation was prompted by a need to quickly check the captions saved in JPG files. After some exchange on the linux_at_ oclug.on.ca list, I recorded what I found, including a nice simple tool built on the **feh** package. See

scanjpgwoes.pdf

. Because the Irfanview program for Windows (32 bit particularly) is useful for both Linux and Windows, documentation of how to use it to view JPG Comments in full-screen mode is presented separately as

viewjpgcmt.pdf

* removing restrictions on pdf files

- TD seems in 2017 to have started to put restrictions on pdf statement files. It is useful to be able to delete boilerplate and add in payment records using **pdfshuffler**. Here is a recipe.

fixpdfrestrictions.pdf

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