Using Open PGP Encryption

(using the gpg4win-2.3.3 installation)

(as of 020317 bkv)

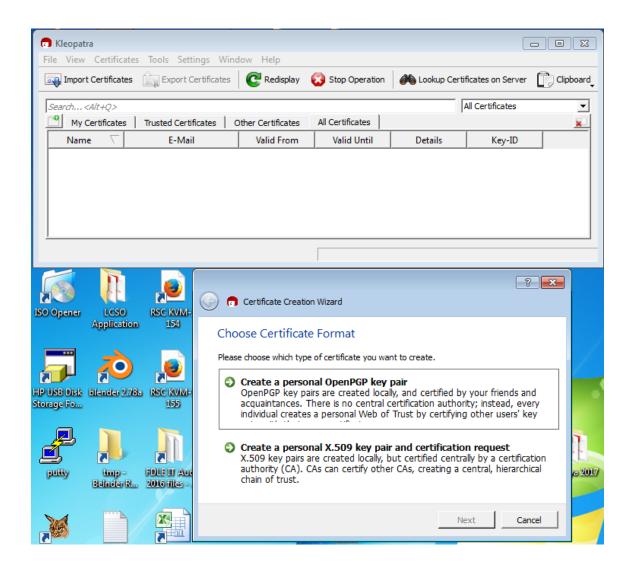
Overview

Upon installation of the software, you will need to 1) create a private certificate for yourself, and 2) export your public certificate so that others can communicate with you. To decrypt a file sent to you by someone else, you will need to have imported their public certificate. Then you can encrypt files (using their public key) and decrypt (using your private key).

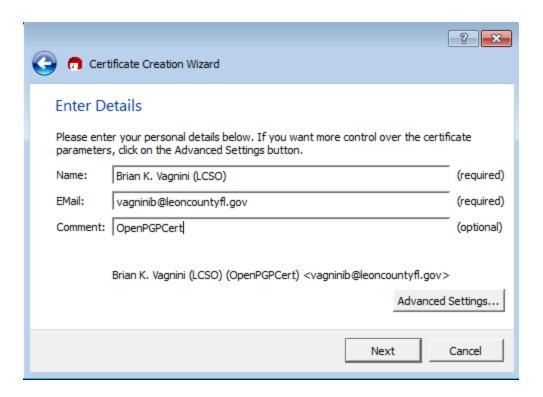
Creating a Certificate

Click on File > New Certificate.

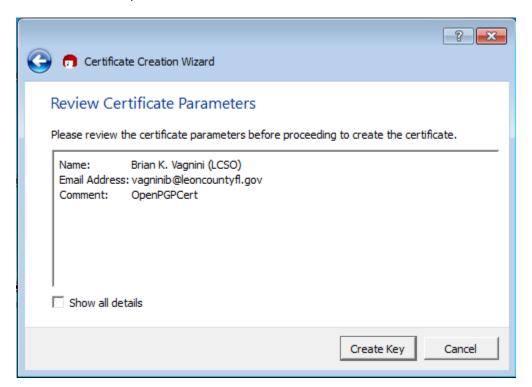
Choose "Create a personal OpenPGP key pair".



Enter your details and click on "Next".



Click on "Create Key".



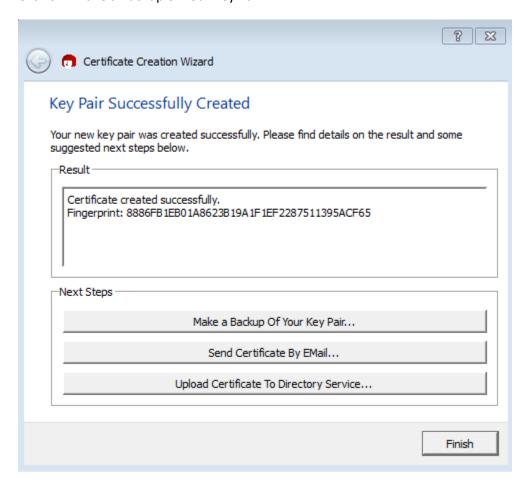
Enter your passphrase. It will prompt you for it a second time once you click OK. The passphrase should be long enough to ensure security, yet short enough/memorable enough to be able to enter it each and

every time you have to decrypt a file. Usual rules apply regarding UPPER case, lower case, numb3rs, and Spec!@l characters.

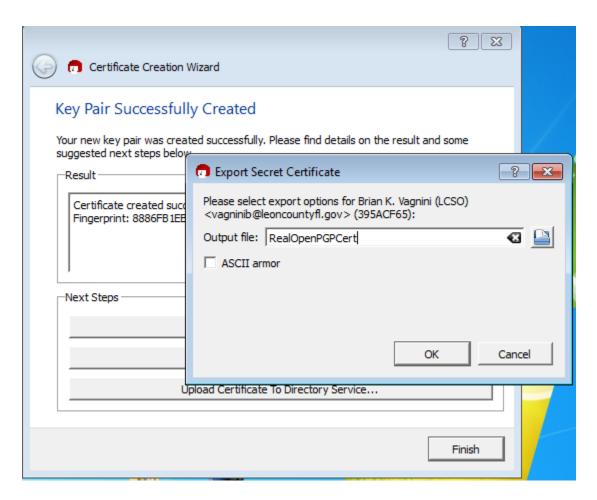


Your key pairs are created (via the passphrase and moving your mouse around in a random pattern.)

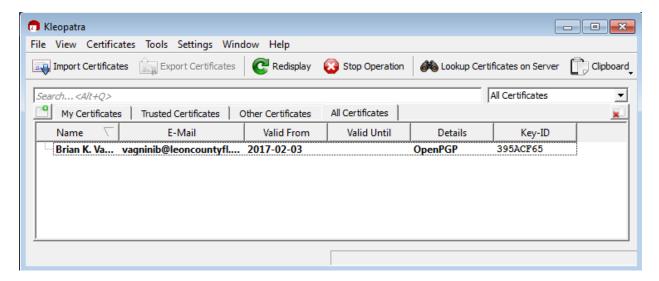
Click on "Make a Backup of Your Key Pair".



(This needs some work...Couldn't find where this file lives. It should be ideally stored on removable media and then deleted from the computer, as it contains your Private Key.)



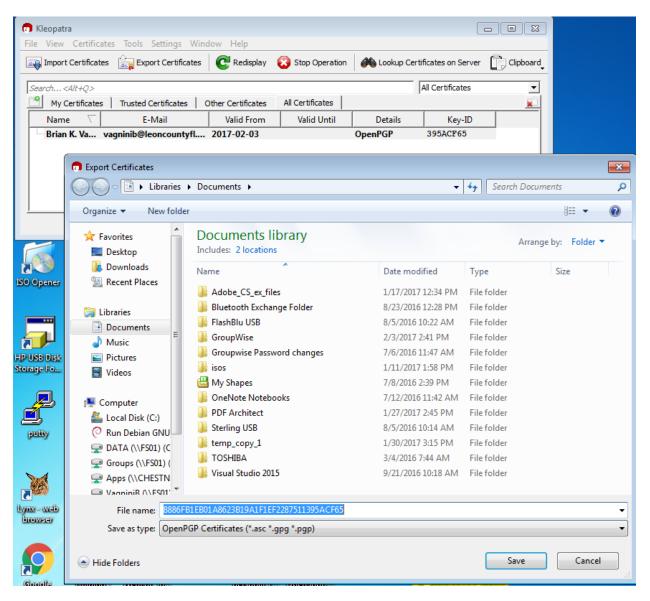
The Kleopatra app (which manages your keys for you), now shows your new OpenPGP certificate.



Exporting Your Public Key

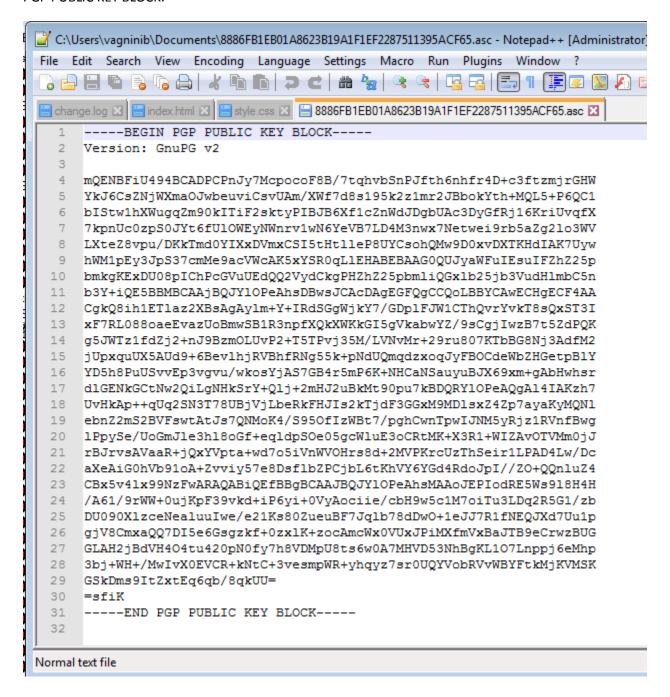
Next, you need to export your public key. This can be shared via e-mail, or a text file on a USB drive, or a file share.

Right Click on your Certificate in Kleopatra and choose "Export Certificates". The name and location can be anything. My advice would be to name it something that you will recognize later, when you need to send your certificate to someone else down the road.



If you choose to email the public key to the person you wish to encrypt/decrypt files with, open your exported certificate in a text editor. It should look similar to the picture below. IMPORTANT!!

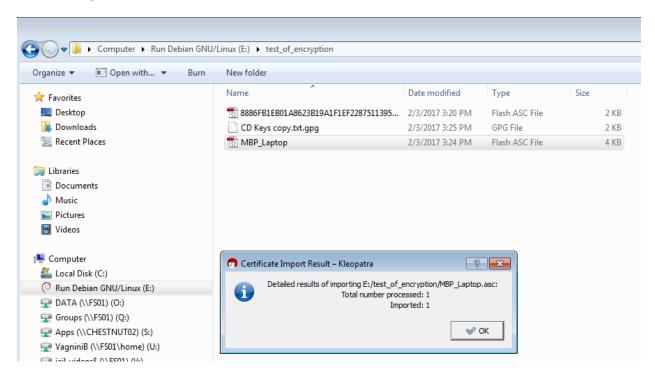
Copy and paste EVERY single part of the text, including the ---BEGIN PGP PUBLIC KEY BLOCK and ---END PGP PUBLIC KEY BLOCK.



Importing a Public Key

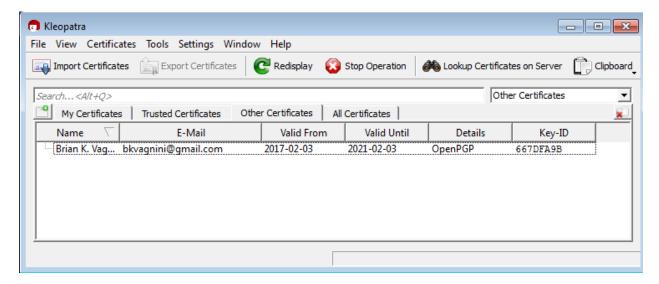
The person at the other end will be doing the same steps (more or less), and thus, will send you THEIR public key to be imported.

To import a public key, right click the file and select "More GpgEx Options > Import Keys". It should show the following:



If they emailed their public key, select all the text (in the key- see above re: exporting) and click on "Clipboard" > "Certificate Import". (This might be a little wonky here.)

If you refresh your view of Kleopatra, it should show an entry under "Other Certificates".

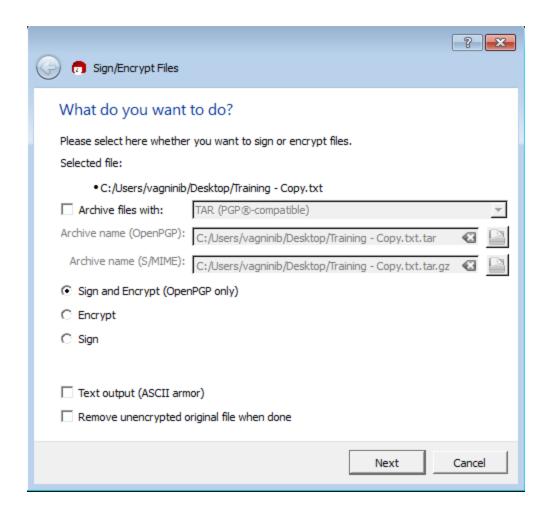


YAY! Your initial setup/configuration is complete!

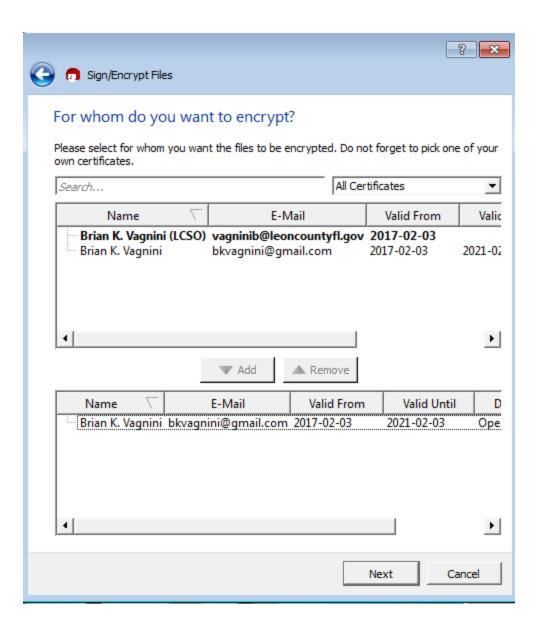
Usage of the OpenPGP system

Encrypting a file

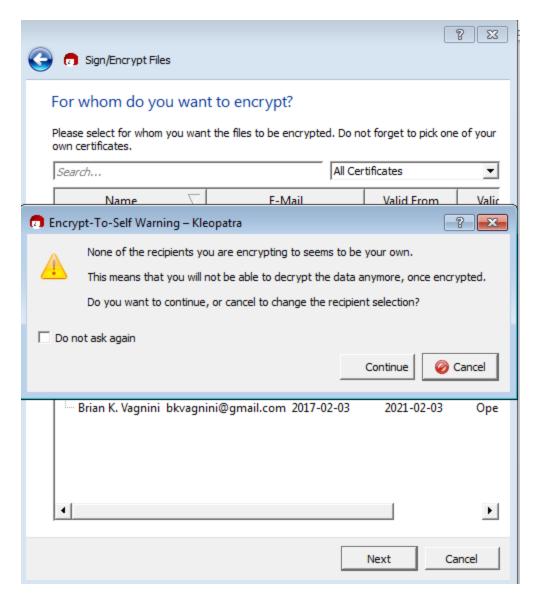
Right Click on a COPY of the file that you want to encrypt and select "Sign and Encrypt", then choose "Sign and Encrypt". Click "Next".



Choose the recipient's Public Key. Click on "Add", then Next.

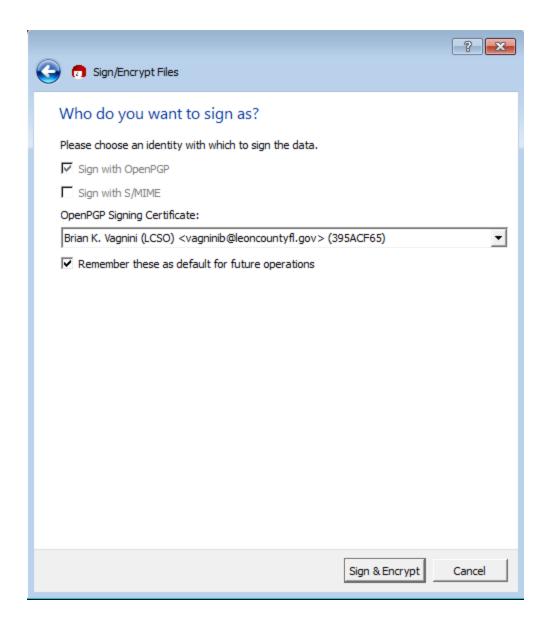


It will throw a warning about not being able to decrypt this file. THIS IS WHY WE MADE A COPY FIRST.

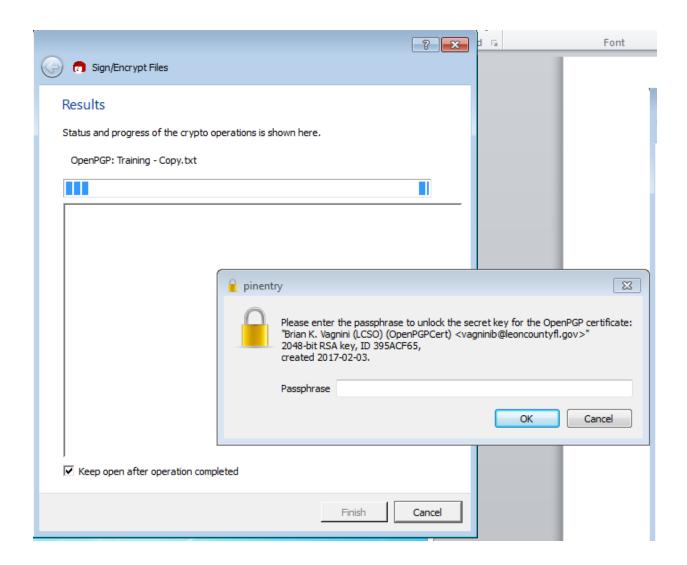


Click on "Continue".

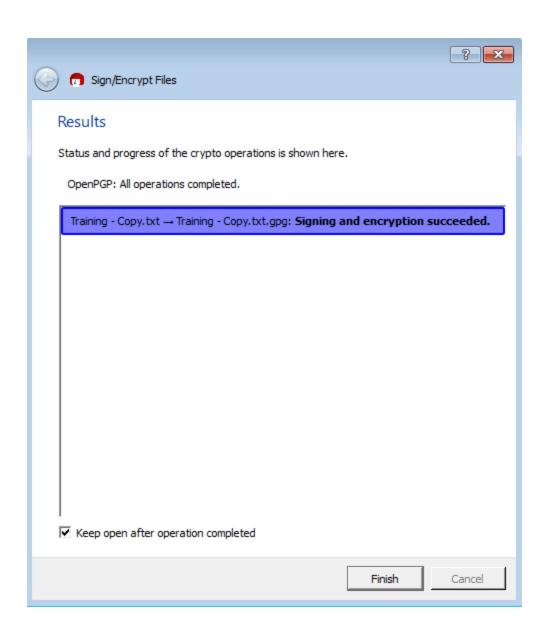
Next, it will ask you to choose a signing certificate. Choose YOUR certificate.



Then it will prompt you for your Secret (Private) Key passphrase. This is why I said to keep it short enough that typing it wasn't an issue.



Encryption of your file is complete. Click on "Finish".



The encrypted file will look this once it's down (without decryption, that is..."

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Eltest_of_encryption\CD Keys copy.bd.gpg - Notepad++ [Administrator]

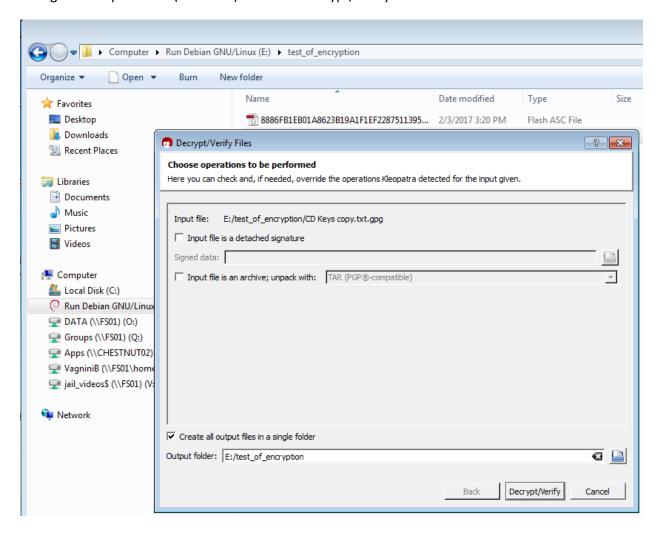
File Edit Search View Encoding Language Settings Macro Run Plugins Window ?

| Changelog X2 | Index.html X2 | Index.html
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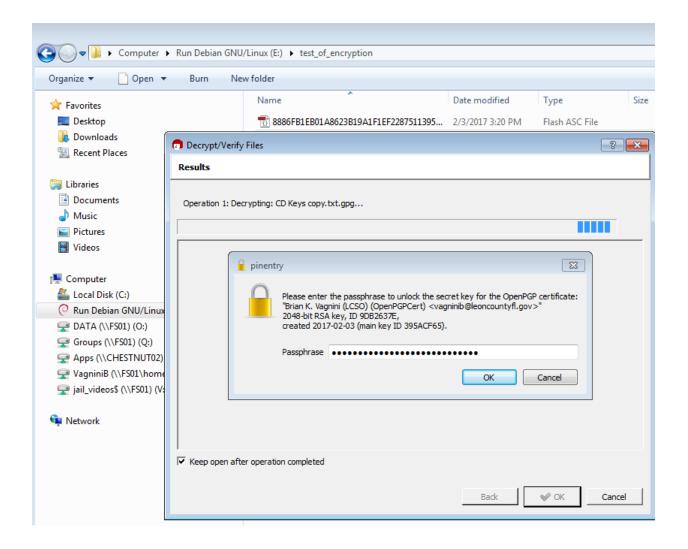
Decrypting a file

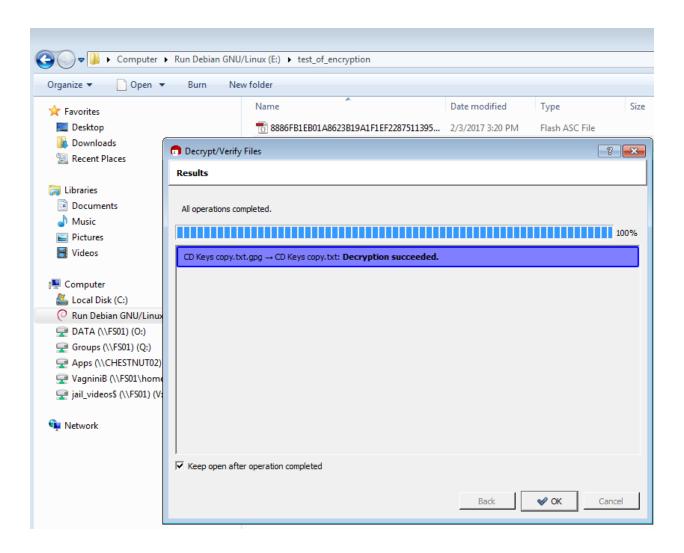
Once you retrieve your encrypted files from the other person, you will need to decrypt them. They will have used YOUR Public key to encrypt, and you will use your PRIVATE key to decrypt.

Right Click the file to decrypt. Choose "Decrypt and Verify". It will show the following choices below. Change the output folder (if desired) and click "Decrypt/Verify".



Then it will prompt you for your Secret (Private) Key passphrase. This is why I said to keep it short enough that typing it wasn't an issue.





This is what your decrypted file looks like. (Actual CD Keys removed for security reasons. You get the idea...)

