



THE BUSSLINE

(BUSSLINE is the term for the complex multi-functional circuitry on a computer motherboard, a PC's heart.)

Vol. 115 No. 4

Newsletter of the Central Florida Computer Society, Inc. [Non-Profit, 501(c)3]

June 2015

FACUG, Where are you?

Editor's Note: If your user group is or was a member of FACUG, please read the rest of this article and let us know if you have had any recent contact with the group, or if you know any further details about the issues raised below. Send to editor@cfcs.org

Where, Oh Where, is FACUG?

As a member of the Florida Association of Computer User Groups (FACUG) we have in past years, enjoyed the many functions led by the FACUG but nowadays something seems to have gone wrong! In years past we have attended some really well run and informative conferences sponsored by FACUG. In these meetings there were training sessions, representatives of various software/hardware manufacturers and even Microsoft! Professional and amateur instructors provided generalized training in many areas of computer applications and specialized software.

Now, however, the group seems to have expanded into a travel agency for cruise lines where very little, if any, computer training is involved. A check of the FACUG web page indicates another cruise will take place and in this case it is simply treated as a fund raiser as a part of a "Fun Fundraising Event for all 501c3 Non-Profits" apparently run by the cruise line itself. While the Charter and By-Laws if any, seem to require two meetings a year, the only one other than a Board of Directors meeting seems to have taken place at another resort(?) where two (yes two) tech sessions were completed. Whether it was a multi-day conference or not wasn't clear.

There seems to be a general lack of accountability. Looking at the FACUG website, the last Board of Direc-

tors minutes were for the meeting held July 6, 2010! The last Annual meeting minutes refer to the February 25, 2013 meeting. There has been almost no reporting of financial condition.

Our organization, The Central Florida Computer Society (CFCS) has become concerned and we desired information so that we could evaluate FACUG services and offer any help or recommendation which would be appropriate for discussion. Accordingly the CFCS Board of Directors formulated a letter in October 2014 asking for information that would normally be available to member groups. See below, on page 2.

The Inside Stories:

3. Special Interest Groups
4. Future Sunday Speakers
4. Recycle Bin
4. Android SIG
4. Membership Renewal
5. CFCS Details
6. Win Big Bucks!; Computer Givaway
6. What Websites do with your personal info.
10. Best Virus Protection
11. Google Maps Mobile, you need to know....
14. Dealing with Tech Support
16. Helpline Listings
18. Windows 10: Free for All (Almost)
24. **Directions to the monthly general meeting**
23. Calendar for the next few months

September, 2014

Florida Association of Computer User Groups
3312 Sheehan Drive
Land O' Lakes, FL 34638

Central Florida Computer Society
P.O.Box 520084
Longwood, FL 32752

Fellow Member and Board of Directors,

As you are aware, the Central Florida Computer Society (CFCS) has been a fully operative member of FACUG over the years. Of late we have been lax in our support and involvement of the overall good works the Organization is planning and operating.

As a part of our own revitalization we will attempt to become more aware of the plans, programs and capabilities of FACUG. Accordingly as a part of seeing what capabilities exist and to track efforts that have in recent past been undergone, we are asking for:

Those reports that have been submitted to the State of Florida under Title XXXVI, Chapter 617 to include General Balance sheets with full Profit/Loss statements.

The required yearly audit statement with tracking data as signed by the volunteer audit team

A simple Balance Sheet to include Profit/Loss and any contract data.

An inventory of any hardware/software assets currently available

We look forward to increasing our support of FACUG and a much closer working relationship with all officers and board members.

Very Sincerely,

Jack Pearson,
President,
Central Florida Computer Society

This letter only resulted in a telephone call asking what we wanted, which should have been clear from the content of the original letter. In order to be absolutely sure of what CFCS was hoping to receive another letter with a specific point of contact was forwarded in December with a tracer copy sent in January. To date no response has been received! We hope that further information will be forthcoming and will plan on helping when we can, however the Charter for the 501c3 of FACUG (not available) or by-laws (if any) do not seem to be available, but we would feel sure that they would call for service to member groups.

How many groups avail themselves of the FACUG and Cruise Club, we have no idea.

How many members are still dues paying(?) members, we have no idea.

How many computer sessions are planned for the upcoming cruise, we have no idea.

Where, Oh Where, is FACUG?

Our next CFCS meeting

is on Sunday, June 14:

The Main Meeting is at 2:30, and will feature Jannie Fonts who is the Sales Manager of a local T-Mobile store. She will be discussing how to keep your various devices synced with one another: smartphone, tablet and PC.

All "flavors" will be included: iOS, Android and Windows.

Bring your devices and your questions.

Earlier on the same day of each presentation, the WINDOWS Special Interest Group (SIG) meeting is held. The WinSIG now meets at 1:15 pm, and is hosted by Hewie Poplock, former president of both CFCS and FACUG, and author of Hewie's Views and Reviews. Hewie, who has led the Central Florida Computer Society WinSIG for over 15 years, will start a little more than an hour before the CFCS General Meeting.

Windows 10 is coming on July 29, 2015. See it in action

at the CFCS Windows SIG meeting on Sunday, June 14 at 1:15 PM at the Maitland Library or online at <https://cfcs.adobeconnect.com/winsig14june/> . Hewie Poplock



will be demonstrating Windows 10 from a computer that has the latest pre-release of the new operating system and will show some of the many features of the latest updates that will be available for your computer at the end of next month. A graphic is attached, although it is similar to one in the Ira Wilsker article about Windows 10.

If you use or plan to use Windows, these discussions, demonstrations, and Q&A sessions will be of immense value to you. Geared to intermediate level Windows users, tips, tricks, and information on all versions of Windows are discussed. An e-newsletter is sent periodically with meeting information and links discussed at the meeting. You need not attend both meetings, but many members do. Non members are always welcome. Sign up for the free e-newsletter at cfcs.org .

If you cannot make it to the Meeting, join us on line.

Meeting Name: WinSIG14apr

Invited By: Hewie Poplock

To join the meeting:

<https://cfcs.adobeconnect.com/winsig14apr/>

This month's Windows SIG Meeting scheduled topics will be available later in the week on Hewie.net/winsig

If you have never attended an Adobe Connect meeting before:

Test your connection: https://cfcs.adobeconnect.com/common/help/en/support/meeting_test.htm

Get a quick overview: http://www.adobe.com/go/connectpro_overview

Adobe, the Adobe logo and Adobe Connect are either trademarks or registered trademarks of Adobe Systems Incorporated in the United States and/or other countries.

Hewie's Blog and many useful articles (including the meeting notes) can be found at <http://hewie.net/>

While you are checking out blogs, don't forget Mike Ungerman's excellent one at:

<http://musings-from-mike.blogspot.com/>

The CFCS website is at <http://www.cfcs.org> . Be sure to check it out for up-to-date information.

Bring your questions about Windows or any computer questions to be fielded by a room full of computer enthusiasts. The questions will be answered during the Windows SIG or during the "Askit Basket" portion of the main meeting. We even have a few lurking Mac owners, and when we turn off the lights to better view the presentations, you may notice the glow of numerous iPods in the crowd. CFCS was the first to put the 'YOU' in USER-friendly!

OUR OTHER SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS (SIG)

The TECH DISCUSSION SIG meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month from 7 to 9 pm at Dennys on 436 and Oxford Rd. SIG leader is Vice President Stan Wallner.

This SIG is a non-structured, open conversational group for CFCS members, that has no specific topic or speaker, but is simply a round table discussion. It is not an advanced group, but a place for people to come and discuss various tech subjects, such as new products and technologies, hardware, software, web-related, etc.

Bring in articles from magazines, newsletters, unusual problems/situations that have arisen, questions, etc. Also, new or ailing devices or notebook pc's are welcome, either for "show and tell" or discussion or demo of situations.

A screen and projector are available, but not always

there. If you want it to demo something, please E-mail: tech-sig@cfcs.org a day or 2 ahead.

Another feature of this SIG is the Tech-SIG Yahoo Group mail. We now have 64 people communicating through this, with tips and tricks, "Ask-It Basket" type questions, etc. Also, a second, on-line VIRTUAL meeting of the TechSIG is being experimented with on the second Tuesday of each month. Co-hosted by Mike Ungerman and Stan Wallner, it may attract a long distance audience. Stay tuned to the e-Blast for times and details - it is not yet permanently scheduled, but will be announced in the e-BLAST and on the Tech-SIG Yahoo Group mail. If you are not on that list and want to be, please E-mail: tech-sig@cfcs.org

The iSIG meets on the third Monday of each month at 7:00 PM at Florida United Safety Council, 1505 East Colonial Drive, Orlando FL 32803. This building is located across from the Publix on Colonial Drive in the Colonialtown section of downtown Orlando. They have secured WiFi, and vending machines are available. The iSIG meetings cover the products that use the iOS, which includes the iPhone, iPad, and iPod Touch. This is a combined effort of the Central Florida Computer Society [http:// www.cfcs.org](http://www.cfcs.org) and the Florida Macintosh Users Group [http:// www.flmug.com](http://www.flmug.com). Other groups are invited to participate. Attendees are consumers, developers, consultants, and publishers, who find common interests and discuss how to handle topics from both the consumer & the developer perspectives. The SIG leader is Sean Kane, Certified Apple Technical Coordinator, long-time Mac and iOS user, and a technologist and consultant to [The Walt Disney Company](#).

Android SIG

The new Android SIG is held at the Dennys on 436 in Casselberry, on the second Tuesday of each month, at 7 pm. Each attendee is asked to prepare a five minute spiel about an Android discovery they have made. Suggestions include favorite apps, how-to-use residents apps, tricks and tips, etc.

FUTURE SUNDAY MEETING SPEAKERS

Your hard working Board of Directors has not obtained a speaker for July, so please return the email Jack Pearson sent out to Tech-SIG asking for speaker suggestions. Only two have come in as of this writing.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Membership renewal invoices will be e-mailed from treasurer@cfcs.org approximately thirty (30) days prior to your membership expiration. Invoices will be snail mailed to members for whom there is no e-mail address in the membership database and to those members whose e-mail was returned to treasurer@cfcs.org for any reason. Please help us by adding this address to your contacts list and setting your spam filter to let our message get to your inbox. We do not share your e-mail address with others (We hate that too!), but it is necessary for full participation in the Society, including receiving your newsletter.

Members will be requested to renew their membership by paying dues on time. Dues may be paid by cash or check at the meeting, by PayPal at <http://www.cfcs.org/membership/membership.php> or by mailing a check to:

CFCS

Address: PO Box 520084,
Longwood, FL 32752

If you do not receive a renewal invoice, lose it or have questions about your dues and or membership status, please inquire at the sign-in table or send an e-mail to: treasurer@cfcs.org.

Membership Cards: A new membership postcard with the membership card included for the next year will be distributed at the meeting following your renewal. The Cards will be mailed to those members who request same by e-mail to treasurer@cfcs.org.

The board needs to appoint a program chairperson, but so far no one has volunteered to take the position. Perhaps YOU could volunteer for the job. The duties would be to contact potential speakers proposed by any members, and remind said speaker several times before the meeting, so they can prepare and be there at the right time and date.

Even if you are not able to serve as Chairperson, every member is encouraged and empowered to suggest a speaker, and to ask anyone you happen to meet, to become one. If they seem interested, get their business card or contact info and email such to your CFCS presi-

(Continued on page 6)

Be a smart guy. You could pay your yearly dues to CFCS simply by making computer related purchases at Smart Guys or Refresh Computers. Buy a laptop, or less, get free dues with the money you save

THE CENTRAL FLORIDA COMPUTER SOCIETY is a charitable, scientific and educational, nonprofit organization, founded in 1976 and incorporated in 1982 to encourage interest in the operation and development of computers through meetings with free exchange of information and educational endeavors.

Newsletter: The CFCS Newsletter © 2008 is the official newsletter of the Central Florida Computer Society, Inc. It is published every month by CFCS for the purpose of keeping members and others informed of computer-related news and activities of the Society. Circulation: 25,000.

THE CFCS Mailing Address:

CFCS
PO Box 520084, Longwood, FL 32752

Membership: CFCS membership includes participation in the Society's activities and subscription to this Newsletter.

Annual Dues Schedule:

Individual\$ 25
Extra family member 15
Student (Full time)..... 15
Corporate membership..... 100*

*Includes free business card ad

Members are responsible for sending a change-of-address notification (including e-mail) to:
membership@cfcs.org.

Gifts to CFCS are welcome, and because of the Society's nonprofit tax status, are tax deductible.

Meetings: CFCS meets each month on the 3rd Sunday at 2:00 p.m. at the location described on page 24.. Guests and the general public are invited to attend. Special Interest Groups (SIGs) within the Society meet regularly. See Special Interest Groups listings on pages 6 & 7.

CFCS Web site: www.cfcs.org

Editorial: Articles for publication in the CFCS Newsletter should be emailed to the Editor at: editor@cfcs.org. Please use Microsoft Word format, Times New Roman font, 12 point, if possible. The deadline for submitting articles is the first of each month.

Articles by authors other than directors of CFCS and the Newsletter staff do not necessarily reflect the policies or sanction of the Society. Unless otherwise indicated, articles in the CFCS Newsletter may be reprinted in newsletters of other nonprofit organizations, without permission, provided credit is given.

This issue was created using Microsoft Office 2003 and MS Publisher 2013 Edition. ☐

Board of Directors

President	Jack Pearson	407-880-7339	president@cfcs.org
Vice Pres.	Stan Wallner	407-862-2669	vicepresident@cfcs.org
Secretary	Bess MacConnell	407-252-5624	secretary@cfcs.org
Treasurer	Betty Ann Ogus		treasurer@cfcs.org
Director 1	Tom Ault	407-247-9165	dir1@cfcs.org
Director 2	Ted Goodwin	407-894-1180	dir2@cfcs.org
Director 3	Forrest Cheek	407/629-4139	dir3@cfcs.org
Newsletter Editor	Robert Black	407-421-4213	editor@cfcs.org
President Emeritus	Arvin Meyer	407-327-3810	presidentemeritus@cfcs.org
SIG Chair	Ken Larrabee	407-365-2660	sigs@cfcs.org

Chairpersons and Coordinators

Special Interest Groups	Ken Larrabee	407-365-2660	sigs@cfcs.org
APCUG	Hewie Poplock		apcug@cfcs.org
Education	(Open)	(e-mail only)	education@cfcs.org
FACUG	Arvin Meyer		facug@cfcs.org
Hardware Manager	Arvin Meyer	407-327-3810	hardware@cfcs.org
Helpline Volunteers	Griff Moore	(e-mail only)	helpline@cfcs.org
Membership	Don VanDemark		membership@cfcs.org
Photographer	Robert Black	407-421-4213	photographer@cfcs.org
Program Coordinator	Hewie Poplock	(e-mail only)	programs@cfcs.org
Reviews (S/W & Books)	Mike Ungerman	(e-mail only)	reviews@cfcs.org
Webmaster	Cheryl Wilson	(e-mail only)	webmaster@cfcs.org

Newsletter Committee

Editor: Robert Black

Associate Editor:

Proofreader: CFCS BoD

CFCS Newsletter Advertising

Computer ready rates, for one time insertion, Electronic Edition:

Full Page \$200.00 Quarter Page \$75.00

Half Page 125.00 Business Card 25.00

Advertising deadline: the first day of month of issue. Electronic copy is required.

All ad copy and correspondence should be sent by email to:

advertising@cfcs.org

*Annual Rates, Paid in Advance, for 12 insertions

Full Page \$1200 Quarter Page \$450

Half Page 750 Business Card 150

Interested in making a difference?

Then volunteer with CFCS! The programs and benefits that members receive would not exist without members also volunteering. There are vacancies for a Program Chair/Coordinator, Education Chair and Advertising Chair. Please contact Jack Pearson, if you have any questions, comments, or suggestions. president@cfcs.org

CFCS is associated with both
International & Florida User Group Associations:



www.apcug.net

dent, who is the de facto acting Program Chairperson Jack Pearson until we get an official one.

The Recycle Bin

by Stan Wallner,
Vice President, CFCS

Stan, a CFCS member since 1984, has served in many offices over the years, and is now Vice President Separately, he is a local IT consultant, "PC Doctors Make House Calls," offering his services on-site, at your office or home, for PC and Laptop Upgrades, WiFi, Networks, Virus & Spyware Removal, and Troubleshooting both hardware & software, at reasonable rates (with discounts for CFCS members!). You can reach him at smwallner@gmail.com or by phone at 407-862-2669.

This is a MOST important issue regarding our environment, and can't be over-emphasized! It is an area that is changing frequently. It will be on the CFCS Website if it is not in the BUSSLINE. It will be here when there are changes, so please do read carefully.

No new recycle info this month, so please go to cfcs.org to read this column. Ed.

CFCS \$25 Dollar Giveaway

There will be a \$25 Giveaway drawing at the next General Meeting.

All paid-up members will be eligible to take part.

Pay your dues this Sunday, if you haven't already done so.

Dues are \$25 a year.

EACH MEMBER MAY WIN THIS GIVE AWAY ONCE DURING YEAR

FREE COMPUTERS WITH SOFTWARE TO MEET NEEDS

The Central Florida Computer Society is establishing a computer donation program!

New computers will be donated to organizations or individuals where a charitable need is established. Sufficient software to meet the established need will be included.

Computers will be delivered and set up free of charge.

A limited number of computers will be available.

All decisions as to number of computers, necessary software and charitable need shall be the responsibility of the CFCS Board of Directors.

All decisions are final!

POC email president@cfcs.org

**Back by popular demand:
"bring a friend day" Sunday**

The screenshot shows the eBay website interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links like 'Hi Iral', 'Daily Deals', 'Gift Cards', 'Sell', and 'Help & Contact'. Below this is the eBay logo and a search bar. The main content area displays the 'User Privacy Notice' page. On the left, there's a 'Browse help' sidebar with links to 'Searching & researching', 'Bidding & buying', 'Selling & seller fees', 'Payment & shipping', 'Feedback', and 'Membership & account'. The main content area has a 'Search the help pages' bar and a 'User Privacy Notice' section. The notice states it was posted on May 1, 2015, and is effective upon acceptance for new users and from June 15, 2015, for all other users. It mentions the TRUSTe Certified Privacy logo. On the right, there's a 'Contact us' section with a 'Have a question? We can help.' prompt and a 'Contact us' button. Below this is an 'Ask eBay members' section and a 'Related help topics' section. A red arrow points to the 'Contact us' button in the 'Contact us' section.

What are Websites Doing With Your Personal Information?

by Ira Wilsker

WEBSITES:

<http://www.govtech.com/data/How-Do-Websites-Use-Your-Data.html>

<https://identity.utexas.edu/privacycheck-for-google-chrome>

<https://identity.utexas.edu/idwise>

<https://identity.utexas.edu/strategic-partners>

<https://chrome.google.com/webstore/detail/privacycheck/poobeppenopkcbjejfjenbiepifcbclg>

<https://www.ghostery.com>

You have likely noticed that the banner ads and other forms of advertisements on many of the web pages visited appear to "coincidentally" be for many of the same items that you have recently searched for online. You may even notice that many of these ads are also from many of the same online sellers whose web pages you have recently visited. In some cases, you may also see online ads for direct competitors of previously visited websites, offering many of the same or similar products that you have looked at on other websites. It should not be surprising that the owners of many websites, as well as many third party advertisers, use a variety of tracking technologies to gather information on you, as an individual, the types of websites that you visit, and the products and services viewed. While many users find this targeted

advertising interesting and useful, and even possibly necessary in order to support "free" web sites and online services, many others consider the gathering of such personal information as a gross violation of personal privacy.

Some of the more common methods of compiling and distributing this personal information and shopping preferences are the placement of "tracking cookies" on the user's device; web bugs or web beacons (small graphic files which transmit information when opened, often 1 pixel in size); and the dissemination (sale) of personal information entered on a website. Cookies are small, alpha-numeric and text based pieces of data which are by default, placed on the hard drive or other storage of the device being used to view a website; while some types of cookies are benign and necessary to compile shopping carts, store passwords and other login information, and save other information that can speed the web process, some other types of cookies may not be so desirable. The most common type of unwanted cookies is often known as "tracking cookies", which are typically placed on the hard drive or other storage medium, just as other cookies, but these cookies can also be read by other third parties as a method of gathering information about the user, mostly for targeted marketing purposes. There are many companies that have a lucrative and highly profitable business selling access to the tracking cookies which they have previously been placed in storage, most often



Skip Wizard

Introduction

Welcome to Ghostery for Chrome version 5.4.3!

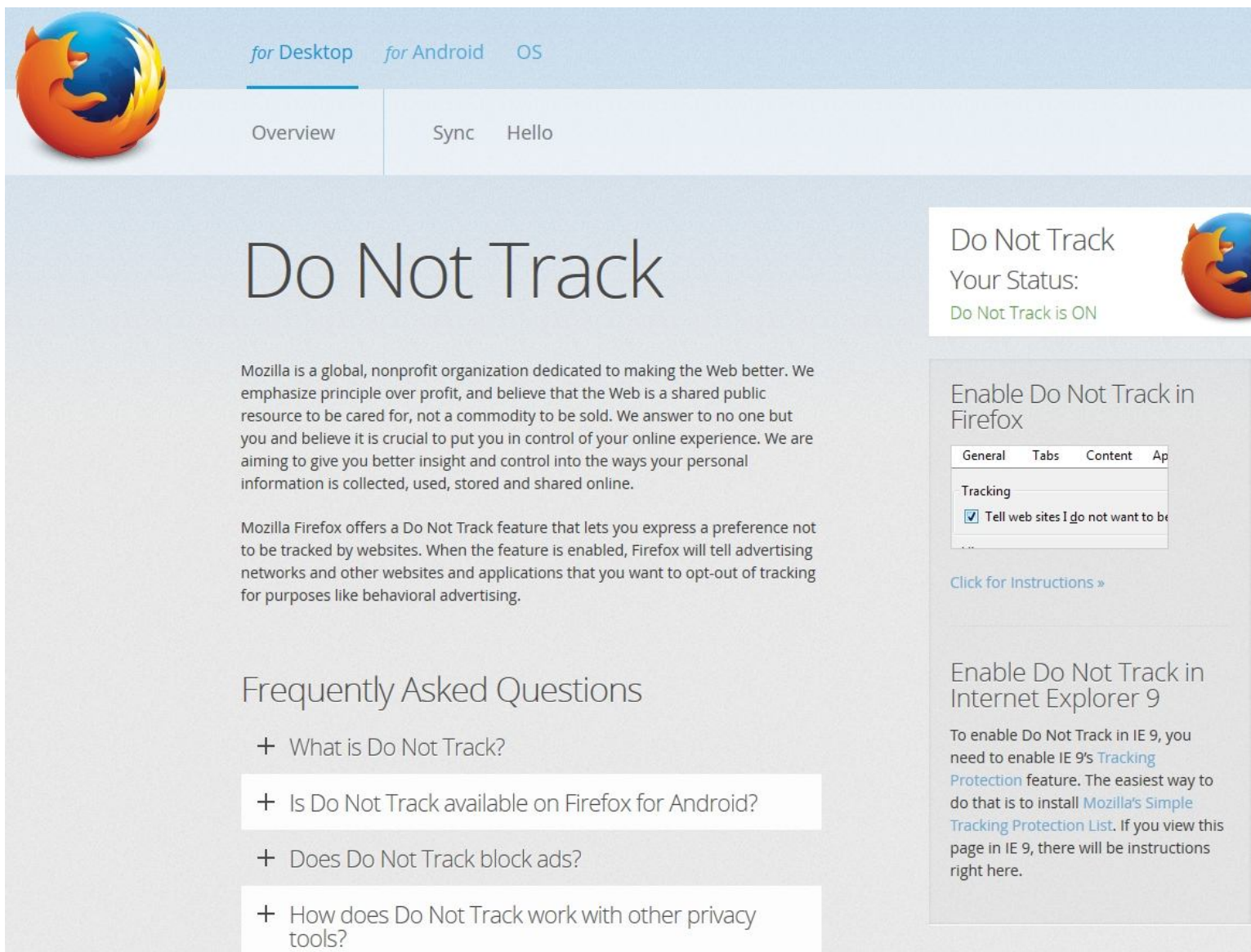
Ghostery looks for third-party page elements (or "trackers") on the web pages you visit. These can be things like social network widgets, advertisements, invisible pixels used for tracking and analytics, and so on. Ghostery notifies you that these things are present, and which companies operate them. You can learn more about these companies, and if you wish, choose to block the trackers they operate.

This quick walkthrough will highlight some of Ghostery's options and give you a chance to set things up straight-away. You can change any of these decisions (and view more options) by visiting the full Ghostery options page at any time. If you have any questions during the process, drop us a line at support@ghostery.com.

by simply visiting a web page. Almost all browsers give the users the option to control which cookies can be saved and accessed, but the default is to accept all cookies. Tracking cookies that are currently saved in the device storage can often be easily and quickly removed by most of the reputable (and often free) security scanners, such as Malwarebytes (malwarebytes.org) and Super-AntiSpyware (superantispyware.com).

What many users might find shocking is that they unknowingly and explicitly allowed many of the websites

that they visit to place tracking cookies and other marketing information on their computers and smart devices. When I mention this to users at some of my security and privacy presentations, some of those present get very agitated, and vehemently deny that they ever gave permission for websites to place such information on their computers and other devices. My typical response is something to the effect of "Did you ever read the privacy statement on those websites when displayed, or simply click on the "I Agree" box when first visiting them?" Most of the honest, but still aggrieved users, ac-



for Desktop for Android OS

Overview Sync Hello

Do Not Track

Mozilla is a global, nonprofit organization dedicated to making the Web better. We emphasize principle over profit, and believe that the Web is a shared public resource to be cared for, not a commodity to be sold. We answer to no one but you and believe it is crucial to put you in control of your online experience. We are aiming to give you better insight and control into the ways your personal information is collected, used, stored and shared online.

Mozilla Firefox offers a Do Not Track feature that lets you express a preference not to be tracked by websites. When the feature is enabled, Firefox will tell advertising networks and other websites and applications that you want to opt-out of tracking for purposes like behavioral advertising.

Frequently Asked Questions

- + What is Do Not Track?
- + Is Do Not Track available on Firefox for Android?
- + Does Do Not Track block ads?
- + How does Do Not Track work with other privacy tools?

Do Not Track
Your Status:
Do Not Track is ON

Enable Do Not Track in Firefox

General	Tabs	Content	Ap
Tracking			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tell web sites I do not want to be			

[Click for Instructions »](#)

Enable Do Not Track in Internet Explorer 9

To enable Do Not Track in IE 9, you need to enable IE 9's [Tracking Protection](#) feature. The easiest way to do that is to install [Mozilla's Simple Tracking Protection List](#). If you view this page in IE 9, there will be instructions right here.

Free in-store diagnostics on your computer

Free telephone tech support

Lowest price name brand computers in the U.S.A.

5% discount for CFCS members

THREE LOCATIONS: [407-478-8200](tel:407-478-8200)

1) near UCF, 2) on 434 near 17/92, 3) in the Villages.

Details at refreshcomputers.net/

10% discount on most non-sale items for CFCS members



knowledge that they never fully read the privacy statements on the websites visited, with the typical response being that the privacy statement is too long to read, or it is written in "legalese" which they cannot readily understand, so they simply "agree" in order to get access to that particular website.

Complex privacy statements, often blindly agreed to, have been a popular tool to legitimize the placement of that website's or other third party commercial tracking information on your computer, smart phone, tablet, or other device. These tracking devices are often a significant source of revenue for the website owner, and are often utilized by some of the largest and most reputable online vendors. In a recent article by Omar L. Gallaga, of the Austin American-Statesman, dated May 11, 2015, and reprinted by "Government Technology", Gallaga wrote, "How Do Websites Use Your Data? A new tool in Google Chrome puts website privacy policy language in plain English, letting you easily know whether your email address is shared or the site has access to your Social Security number, and if it tracks your location."

This free new tool, currently only available for Google's Chrome browser, is "PrivacyCheck", a Chrome browser extension (plug-in) which was developed by the Center for Identity at the University of Texas - at Austin (identity.utexas.edu). According to the Center for Identity, "PrivacyCheck is a browser add-on intended to provide consumers an overview of the ways in which companies use their personal data in a graphical, 'at-a-glance' format. ... PrivacyCheck surpasses existing add-ons, apps, and certifications by using a Data Mining algorithm to access the text of any webpage. The user provides the URL for the company's privacy policy and PrivacyCheck searches the page, returning icons that indicate the level of risk for several types of PII (Personally Identifiable Information)". PrivacyCheck can be downloaded for Chrome from the Chrome web store at chrome.google.com/webstore, and entering "PrivacyCheck" in the search box. The latest version of PrivacyCheck, as I am typing this, is version 1.0.5, dated May 14. It is important to know that federal and state laws require businesses with a web presence to post their privacy policies, and there are often harsh penalties for violating those posted privacy policies.



ABOUT RESEARCH EDUCATION EVENTS LEARN PROTECT INTERACT NEWS

HOME > INTERACT : PRIVACYCHECK FOR GOOGLE CHROME



PrivacyCheck for Google Chrome



Protect Your Privacy with PrivacyCheck

Identity theft costs Americans more than all other property crimes combined. Nearly one in ten American households are victims of identity theft every year, with losses of nearly \$25 billion in 2013 alone. How can you guard against becoming one of them?

To use PrivacyCheck to determine the degree of privacy risk on a particular web site, download and install PrivacyCheck from the Chrome web store (chrome.google.com/webstore). Once installed, open the selected website using the Chrome browser, and locate the privacy statement, often linked at the very bottom of the webpage; open the privacy statement page. On the top right of the Chrome address bar is a small icon which is light brown in color, and has what appears to be a lower case "i" within a brown circle; click on that icon. Once clicked, "Browse to a privacy policy and click Start". Within seconds a series of 10 larger icons will appear, with an easy to comprehend green, yellow, and red coloration, indicating the degree of privacy risks associated with that privacy policy and website.

Moving the cursor over each of the large icons will explain what it represents: the "envelope" icon represents what the website does with the user's email address, red indicating that the

website uses, sells and shares the email address to others; the second icon represents the magnetic stripe on a credit card, and indicates what the site does with credit card information; the three asterisks "****" represent what is done with the user's social security number, green indicating that it is not collected or otherwise used; the "megaphone" indicates the marketing use of your private information, red indicating that the website sells your information to others for marketing purposes; the "compass" icon indicates what the website does with detected location information, red indicating that the website sells the user's location information to third parties; the sixth icon, circular with two eyes, indicates the policy on information gathered from children; the "badge with star" icon indicates the distribution of information to law enforcement, red indicating that the site will provide information to law enforcement without a warrant or subpoena; the "open book" indicates the policy on posting privacy policy changes and giving the opportunity for users to opt-out; the "pie chart" icon indicates whether or not the user can modify his own information; the tenth icon, which looks like a cloud with directional arrows, indicates what the website does with aggregated information, yellow indicating that aggregated information is distributed, but personally identifiable information has been removed.

PrivacyCheck is an excellent method to determine what commercial websites are really doing with your personally identifiable information (PII), but its major weakness is that it (currently) only works with the Chrome web browser. Users of other browsers may find some privacy utilities that provide significant privacy protection while online.

On all of my PCs, as a browser add-on, I have been using a free, popular browser extension called "Ghostery" (www.ghostery.com), which will seamlessly run on computers using any of the major and popular browsers including Firefox, Chrome, Opera, Safari, and Internet Explorer, as well as on mobile devices running the Android and iOS operating systems. According to its website, Ghostery claims to have, "The largest tracker database on the internet, constantly growing; Ghostery has the largest tracker database available on the web. We meticulously select, profile and cull over 2,000 trackers and 2,300 tracking patterns." Ghostery displays the tracking information on almost every web page opened, and gives the user the ability to allow or block trackers as desired.

Our personal privacy should be taken very seriously. Once third parties have access to our personal informa-

tion, it is virtually impossible to get it back. Most of the browsers offer an option or setting to control privacy, which may be called "Do Not Track", "Reject Third Party Cookies", or some similar name. By using Privacy-Tracker, Ghostery, browser privacy settings, and other utilities, our individual privacy may be better protected.

The Best Virus Protection...ever

**By Phil Sorrentino, Member of
The Computer Club, Florida
<http://scccomputerclub.org>
Philsorr.wordpress.com
philsorr@yahoo.com**

Virus Protection isn't really a very popular topic, until you've concluded that your computer has just been infected by one of those nasty viruses. You know the symptoms: strange pop ups, abnormal operations, and/or very slow responses. It seems like computer viruses have been around for a very long time. As it turns out, computer viruses have been around longer than personal computers. Here is just a little computer virus history. The first experimental self-replicating program, called "Creeper", was written in 1971, and was intended to infect Digital Equipment Corp. (DEC) PDP-10 computers running the TENET Operating System. How's that for a bit of history trivia? Fast forward to the personal computer era, when in 1981 a virus called "Elk Cloner" was written for the then very popular Apple II personal computer. Followed, in 1983, by a very early Trojan Horse designed for the IBM PC. This virus deleted all of the files on the computer's diskette (remember 5 1/4" floppy diskettes?), cleared the screen and typed ARF – ARF. (ARF was a reference to the common "Abort, Retry, Fail" message you would get when a PC could not boot properly.) Also, in 1983, the term "virus" was coined, to describe self-replicating computer programs. And in 1984 the operation of these viruses, that of including a copy of itself, was termed "infection". And so computer viruses have been with us, infecting our computers ever since.

The term "Malware, which is short for malicious software, is currently used as an umbrella to describe any software that is used to disrupt computer operation, gather sensitive information, or gain access to private computer systems. (Malware usually does not include software that causes unintentional harm due to some design deficiency; that's just bad design.) Malware does not usually include all those programs that come along

for the ride when you are downloading something of interest. These are typically termed Potentially Unwanted Programs, or PUPs. And, just for completeness, the term “spyware” refers to malware that aids in gathering information about a person or organization without their knowledge and that may send such information to another entity without the owner’s consent.

So, even though we all use virus and spyware protection, most of us, maybe all of us, have been the victim of some type of infection. So, what’s a person to do when all of a sudden the computer seems to be operating strangely or unusually slow? Well, as most of you know there are a few very useful tools that you can try. Tools like MalwareBytes, SuperAntiSpyware, and Panda. Sometimes they may do the job, by eliminating or quarantining the virus, and sometimes they just may not help at all. What happens when they don’t help? I know there are some very capable computer experts out there who have toolboxes full of very capable software tools that could probably fix any type of virus infection, but those experts may not always be available when you need them. And, virus removal by an expert may be a very costly undertaking.

So, we need to have a fall back plan for this eventuality if, or rather when, our computer becomes infected and there seems to be either no easy out, or the cost is too dear. This kind of plan would truly be the best virus protection. One plan of approach is to have a recent Image of the computer System, so that it can be restored to the computer. Yes, I know this will take time, and you will have to reload anything that isn’t included in the recent Image, but this will always work, no matter what type of virus is present (as long as the virus hasn’t been included in the previously saved Image). Note too, this is also a good solution for a crashed disk drive, a hardware problem. This is a good solution only if you have backed up all of your valuable data, but I’m sure you regularly do this.

There are a few ways to get a System Image. The first possibility is that you may have an original Image of your system. It may be a D: partition that may be called a Rescue or Restore partition or something similar, or it may only be labeled with the manufacturer’s name. Restoring this Image will bring your computer operation back to the way it was when you bought it. Unless you’ve had an unusual early disk drive failure or just bad luck to have become infected with a nasty virus, this Image is probably not very “recent”. If the computer has been around for a while, the update process that needs to

follow the restored image will probably take a good amount of time. I’ve restored some computers that needed 12 to 14 hours of updates to get back to current operation. So, though this operation will always work, it may be very time consuming, and take a lot of patience.

The second way of getting a System Image is to use a commercial System Imaging application to create a system image whenever your software system changes (or at least every 6 months). Most of these have a one-time cost, usually between \$40 and \$50, but it will probably be less than an hour or two of an expert’s time needed to try to remove a virus. Some of these applications are Acronis True Image, Paragon Hard Disk Manager, O&O Disk Image, Active@ Disk Image, and Macrium Reflect. If you create an Image every 6 months, your latest Image will always be less than 6 months old and the time to update the restored software system should be reasonable. Always keep the last 2, 3 or 4 images, just in case something unexpected happens to one of them.

The third way of getting a System Image is to use Microsoft’s “Backup and Restore” software included in Windows 7 and 8.

–In Windows 7 you can find “Create a system image” on the Backup and Restore Applet, in Control Panel. Click this and you can select a hard drive or set of DVDs as the destination for the Image. An external hard drive is the best destination, but sometimes it feels good to have a copy on DVDs also. Once the destination is selected, select the C: drive as the Image, and finally click “Start backup”. Make sure you get back to the Backup and Restore screen to “Create a system repair disk”, which is what you will use to boot up the system in order to restore the Image.

–In Windows 8, you will find “Create a recovery drive” on the Recovery Applet, in Control Panel. Click this and click “Yes” at the “User Account Control” window, then uncheck “Copy the recovery partition from the PC to the recovery drive”, click Next, and then choose the destination drive, and finally click “create”.

Creating the Image in either OS is relatively straightforward. Restoring the Image is a little more complicated, but with perseverance and maybe some advice and direction from someone who has previously done it, it will be easy enough to do, and it will become routine. Now, with an Image on an external drive, bring on the viruses.

Things That You May Not Have Known About Google Maps Mobile

by Ira Wilsker

WEBSITES:

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.google.android.apps.maps>

<http://itunes.apple.com/en/app/google-maps/id585027354>

<http://www.google.com/maps/about/>

<https://support.google.com/gmm/answer/6145865>

<https://support.google.com/gmm/answer/2839911>

<https://support.google.com/gmm/android/#topic=3495970>

<https://www.waze.com>

<https://support.google.com/gmm/answer/2839911>

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Almost every Android device came with a version of Google Maps installed. One of the most popular apps in the world, Google Maps has between 1 and 5 billion copies downloaded from the Google Play Store, with millions of other copies downloaded from the Apple iTunes Store.

Most people know that the mobile version of Google Maps can recommend driving routes between points, but it can really do a great deal more, now becoming so powerful and feature rich that it could conceivably threaten the market for the dedicated dashboard GPS devices.

The latest version available for free download from the Google Play Store (as I type this) is dated May 4, 2015, and continues the tradition for adding new features and improving previous features with each major build.

For the past few years, the mobile version of Google maps has had basic, real-time traffic information which labeled most major roads and highways with an easy to understand color code: green roads indicated the traffic was flowing smoothly near the speed limits; yellow indi-

cated that traffic was heavy and congested, but still moving, albeit often moving at speeds significantly below the posted speed limits; and red indicates that traffic is very heavy, and moving very slowly or traffic is at a standstill. In the recent updates and upgrades to Google Maps, Google has started to incorporate the live traffic reporting provided by another Google app, the very popular Waze road routing app (waze.com), which Google purchased a few years ago from the Israeli developers of Waze.

Users who have the Waze app loaded and running are transparently transmitting location and speed data to the

Waze servers, which are now located at Google and interacting with it, providing current data to Google Maps as well as to other Waze users. Waze users can also manually report accidents, road construction, road hazards, speed traps, and other real-time road information which has always been instantly posted on the Waze app when reported, but much of this information is now also instantly incorporated and displayed on Google Maps as well. Many of the road hazards, traffic accidents, and other road conditions now posted on Google Maps shows as "Reported via Waze App." While Waze is generally more "social" in context, displaying other "Wazers" in the field of view of the displayed map, and

offering messaging between "Wazers" and other social services, it would not surprise me if in the future, Goggle actually merges the best features of Waze into Google Maps, combining them into a single outstanding app.

I have seen several others using their Google Maps app, but not utilizing all of its power and capabilities. The other users that I have observed generally only have the most basic street view displayed, without any of the other valuable information displayed. Users may wish to experiment with the mobile version of Google apps by tapping on the menu icon, which is the three parallel lines on the top left corner of the display. The menu offers the user the ability to control what is displayed. The "Your Places" choice on the menu allows the user to easily create and maintain an address book of locations, display previously saved Google Maps which may have also been created on the web based version of Google Maps, and the ability to save portions of Google Maps for offline display which can be utilized if the network is

Fix voice navigation

Try these quick fixes to improve voice-guided navigation in the Google Maps app.

Can't hear voice navigation?

Here are a couple tips if you're using navigation and can't hear the spoken directions:

- [Play voice navigation through your phone speakers](#) ▼
- [Turn off Bluetooth](#) ▼
- [Unmute voice guidance](#) ▼
- [Adjust the audio level](#) ▼

Change the voice

You can choose another language, or voice for navigation:

- [Choose another language](#) ▼
- [Switch to another voice](#) ▲

You may be able to switch to a better sounding voice from your phone's text-to-speech settings.

1. Go to your phone's settings app.
2. Go to Language and input. It may be in the "My device" menu.
3. Touch **Text-to-speech options**.
4. Under "Preferred TTS engine," select another text-to-speech option.
5. Voice navigation will use the voice you selected. This will change the voice in other apps too.

Note: These instructions are for Android devices.

slow or unavailable.

One of the menu choices that I use, sometimes several times a day, is the "Traffic" selection. Activating "Traffic" almost instantly shows the color coded (green, yellow, red) speed and traffic congestion conditions, as well as other information including road construction, road hazards, and traffic accidents. I have become somewhat addicted to this feature, in that I check it every morning just moments before I leave home, checking the traffic conditions on my preferred and alternate routes to get to work; several times in recent weeks, based on the real-time traffic report, I decided to take an alternative route to work bypassing the "red" Eastex Freeway and I-10. Likewise, before leaving my office for the drive home, I also check the Google Maps traffic display, helping me again to decide on the best route home. This information is not just helpful in dealing with and avoiding routine traffic congestion and accidents, but is also invaluable when trying to negotiate the roads and highways during major storms, flooding, and other weather related conditions.

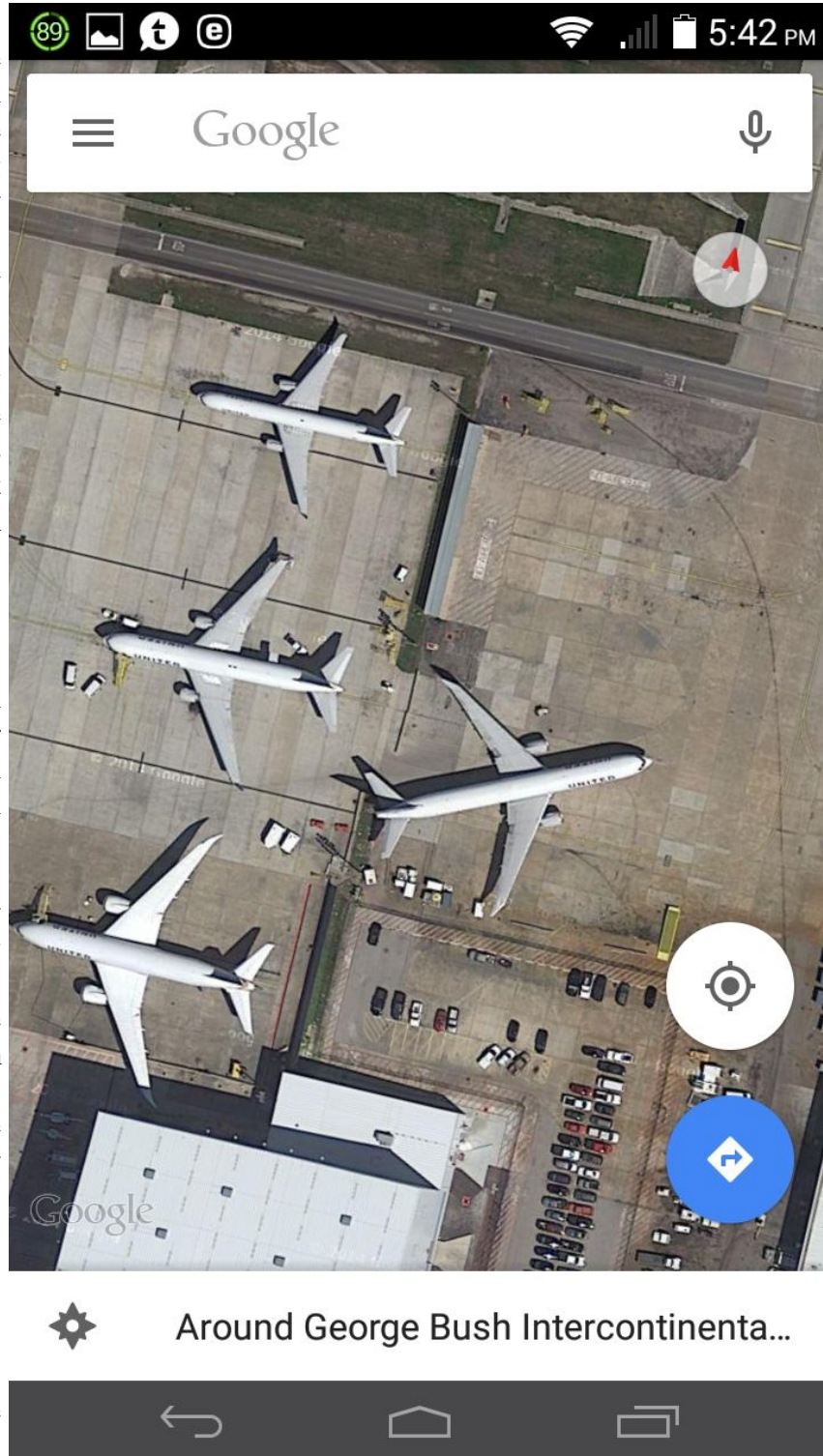
While it takes slightly more data and processing power to display, I almost always select the "Satellite" display from the menu. The high resolution satellite maps, the same as utilized by Google Earth, are especially useful when traveling in unfamiliar territory, as individual buildings and geographic features are clearly displayed, along with the

identification of popular landmarks, such as major retail stores, banks, office buildings, hotels, and other points of interest. As with most other graphical displays on smart devices, the display on Google Maps can be zoomed in and out with the common "pinch", and can be "moved" with a swipe of a finger. If Google Maps has been used to determine a road route, this satellite display, especially when zoomed in ("pinch - open"), clearly shows individual homes, businesses, parking lots, churches, factories, lakes, schools, and other landmarks making it that much easier to get to the correct destination. While not as visually feature rich as the satellite view, the "Terrain" selection from the menu

shows the coloration of the earth along with geographical and topographic characteristics, along with roads and other information.

What a lot of people are apparently unaware of, is that the recent versions of Google Maps may be an effective, even superior, replacement for a dash top dedicated GPS unit. With an abundance of reasonably priced dashboard and other mounts that can hold almost any size smart phone, the smart phone can easily replace the existing GPS device, while offering substantially more functionality than most of the newer dedicated GPS devices currently on the market. Most contemporary smart phones have a larger, brighter, and higher resolution display (screen), and with more control over the display than offered by most GPS units.

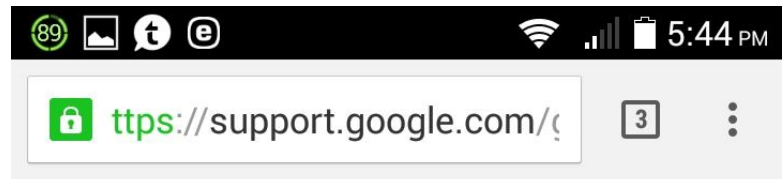
Google Maps (and its sister app Waze) now offers Bluetooth connectivity directly from the



phone to the Bluetooth speaker or other Bluetooth receivers already available in most newer vehicles; all the user needs to do is turn on the phone's Bluetooth, which may likely already be configured to connect to the car's Bluetooth system. Just like the traditional GPS, Google Maps (and Waze) give clearly spoken driving instructions in a user selectable choice of voices and languages, but heard through the better auto sound system (or other Bluetooth speaker). Bluetooth volume is adjustable using the existing volume buttons on the smart phone. Being connected via the "cloud" to Google servers, and having native intelligence, Google Maps (similar to some GPS devices with traffic reporting) will recommend alternative routes to the selected destination in the event of significant traffic delays. In my experience, the traffic congestion display on Google Maps (and Waze) is among the best available, and is often more up to date and comprehensive than that shown on a typical GPS.

Another beneficial feature of Google Maps is the integrated capability to utilize the Google search function to locate points of interest, including hotels, restaurants, and other destinations. In many cases, reservations can be made directly from the Google Maps app; obviously, for safety reasons, the driver of the vehicle should never search, type, or engage in any other distraction while operating the vehicle, and should delegate that task to a passenger or wait until the vehicle is stopped and off the road. In terms of points of interest, many of the GPS makers brag on the number of "POI" that their respective devices offer; these numbers pale in comparison to the number of "POI" and related information (such as restaurant and hotel reviews) that can be gathered by implementing a traditional Google search from within Google Maps. As with the GPS devices, Google Maps can route directly to any selected POI. Google Maps and routes can also be created on a desktop or tablet web based device, and saved to the user's Google account, which will automatically make the saved routes available to the mobile device.

About the only weakness that I have encountered while using Google Maps (and Waze) concurrently with a recently purchased and updated dedicated GPS device, is the greatly reduced functionality when there is no data service available to feed the smart device with current data including highly detailed maps. Since the dedicated GPS device predominately uses its internal data storage, maps, and the satellite GPS signal to maintain its display, they are only minimally impacted when there is a lack of data signal available. About the only functionality lost by a GPS when there is no data signal may be a loss of current traffic information, just as would happen



Tips and tricks

Popular tip: View maps offline

Save an area of the map so you can view it when you aren't connected to the Internet:

1. Search for a place, like "San Francisco."
2. Pull up the place info sheet at the bottom of the screen, and touch the menu  in the top right corner.
3. Select **Save offline map** to save the selected area of the map. (Sign into your Google Account, if you haven't already.)

Learn more about [offline maps](#).

Other useful tips

- [Start turn-by-turn navigation quickly](#)
- [Drop a pin to see Street View and share the location](#)
- [Save your home and work addresses](#)
- [Explore local businesses](#)
- [Find business details](#)



with a smart phone, but the GPC will continue to display its maps and related route information. While not a problem for smart phones when in urban areas and on most major highways, I have frequently lost a useable cellular data signal in rural areas and other lesser travelled areas with a dearth of cell phone service. The competitive free app from Here, and a few others, store detailed maps in the storage of the smart phone, minimizing the need for a data connection, making them very similar to a dedicated GPS, but with the added advantages of a smart phone based app.

Google Maps, its sister app Waze, and strong competitors such as Here, Navigator, and Maps.Me can all effec-

tively replace or supplement that conventional automotive GPS device. I suggest that users experiment with the functionality of the phone based road routing apps, and decide for themselves. I also recommend Google Maps, with the "Traffic" selection turned on, to check current traffic conditions before leaving home or work.

How to deal with Tech Support

**By Melanie Birnbom, Webmaster,
Century Village Computer Club, Florida
March, 2015 - Mid-Month Newsletter
<http://cvccpp.tripod.com/mbirnbom@hotmail.com>**

Outsourcing customer service and tech support to other countries is a fact of life these days. While most of these reps speak pretty good English, (for some it's their first language) it's not necessarily the version of English you are used to speaking. Even within your own country, understanding accents from region-to-region can be a challenge. When you're chatting with a fellow in an Indian call center, it can sound to both of you like you are not even speaking the same language. Here are some tips to make the best of the situation.

Number one - and this applies to all situations in life - please be polite. The person on the other end of the line is probably doing their best. I realize that by the time you call for support, you are probably pretty darned frustrated. That's not the fault of the person on the other end of the line.

Try not to use slang. Often times slang just doesn't translate between countries. Years ago, my husband was trying to connect a router and he told the tech support guy that it was "jacked up." The rep thought there was something wrong with a jack and kept saying that the router didn't have a jack.

Do your best to speak slowly and clearly. To the person on the other end of the line, you're the person with the accent. It's not a bad idea to write out a description of the problem to get your thoughts together before you call. Sometimes we tend to get into giving long narratives about the circumstances leading up to the problem instead of getting to the issue at hand.

Actually, all of these tips would work well for dealing

with customer support anywhere. You may have read a FB post or seen an e-mail that claims, "Come to find out that every American company using overseas operators must transfer you to an American rep. by saying "I want to speak to a representative in America." (Don't take no for an answer on this.) This was confirmed by the American rep. that they must transfer you after that request. I've tried it on a half a dozen major companies including cable, bank, phone and mortgage companies. It works every time and I actually get my issues taken care of.

If accents are proving to be a barrier, you might consider switching to e-mail or chat communication to resolve the problem.

You might be tempted to offer an opinion on the outsourcing of jobs to other countries to the person on the other end of the line. But that's not anything a tech support rep in a cubicle has control over and you'll do better if you concentrate on the tech issue at hand. Also, once a tech support rep realizes you're acting like a jerk, they probably aren't going to want to help you. That's just human nature.

Stay calm. Stay polite. Stay on topic.

You may find more of your calls being answered here in the U.S. While the trend has been to send tech support and call center jobs overseas for many years, more and more of those jobs are actually coming back to the United States. However, the catch is that companies are using their tech support reps in the States for what they consider their high-value customers, while still routing what they consider unprofitable customers overseas. Interestingly enough, many of these U.S. call centers are managed by Indian companies.



Sanford store is located at 1617 WP Ball Blvd. in the Marketplace of Seminole Town Center (407-688-7627). Near Target; between Bright Now Dental & Firehouse Subs

**Open 9-7 Mon.-Sat. Closed Sundays
5% discount on most non-sale items for CFCS members,
and 10% on service for CFCS members**

Glary Utilities

**Reviewed by Joe Lucchesi, Member,
The TUG - MOAA User Group, Hawai'i
March 2015 issue, The TUG newsletter
www.thetug.org
editor@the-tug.org**

Glary Utilities is a full-featured computer cleaner and optimization package, at a very low price consisting of optimization applets to keep your computer running smoothly, faster and safer. Currently there are two versions: Pro and Free.

As you can see from Figure 1 below, there are about three dozen applets within the overall package.

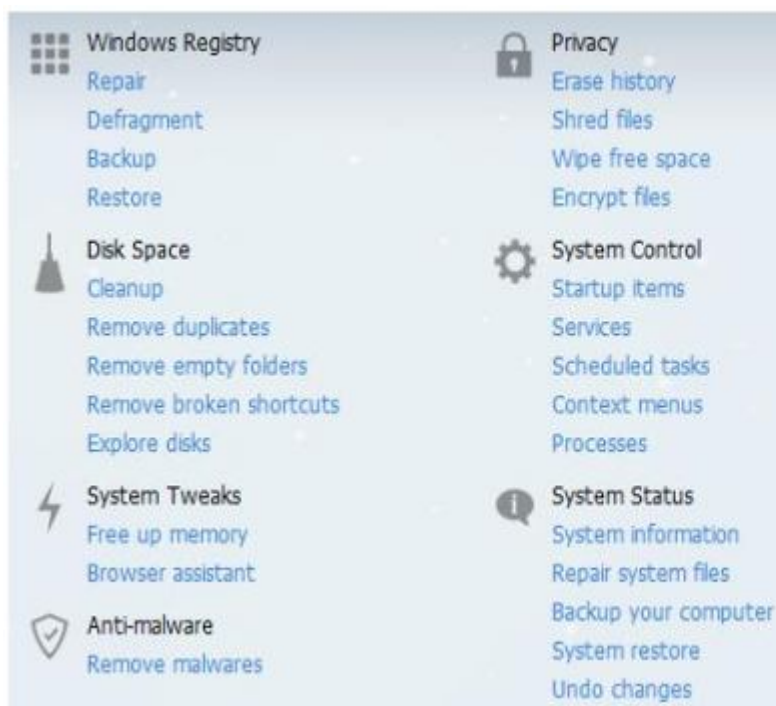


Figure 1

Everything from hard drive defrag to malware remover.

Each of these applets are available in a standalone download, but why would you want to download 30 something software programs when you can get an all-in-one, low cost program? Rhetorical question.

How low is low cost? \$27.96 for a 1-year subscription and can be installed on 3 computers with the same license key. Renewals are \$11.99.

With the software purchase come the following:

Automatic care in background
Enhanced system fixing, Optimizing and more
Auto clean for Privacy Security whenever you log on
Free 24x7 Tech support
Automatic update to the latest version and,
Consent for Commercial use

Download either version at glarysoft.com

Here's one review

"Glarysoft's Glary Utilities is one of the most consistently popular and most frequently recommended system utilities, and why not? It bundles some of the most useful Windows-related tools in one free download. It scans and cleans your PC, cleaning temporary files, removing junk files, fixing broken shortcuts, and resolving a wide range of issues, both major and minor, that most Windows users will have no trouble recognizing. You can configure its One-Click Maintenance option to run just those processes you want with a single click, making regular maintenance just too easy for excuses. You can run any of its many tools individually, too."

CNET Editors' review

Upon startup of your computer, Glary tells you how long it took to boot up in minutes and seconds. You then have the option of disabling stuff that is starting that you don't need at the moment. You can always restart them if needed.

The Registry Repair and Defrag are both fast and provide a listing of what can safely be removed.

The TUG cannot, does not, and will not promote any product or software. However, as an individual user, I highly recommend this one. Download the 60-day trial of the Pro version and see for yourself how good it is.

Have a Blast!

SIGN UP FOR WEEKLY EMAIL!

All meetings and speakers are subject to change, and late alterations are always possible. To keep completely on top of events, log on to CFCS.org and subscribe to our weekly e-mail update, the E-Blast!

The Times they are A-Chargin'

By Greg Skalka, President, Under the Computer Hood User Group, CA
February 2015 issue, Drive Light
www.uchug.org
president@uchug.org

I just want to say one word to you. Batteries.

In the 1967 movie "The Graduate", Dustin Hoffman's character was advised that plastics would be the future hot field. Today, I think the hot field to go into may be batteries. Modern technology is dominated by mobile and cordless electronics, which need batteries to supply their power. Cameras, smart phones, tablets, laptops, quadcopters, cordless tools and electric cars all depend on batteries for their primary power source. We probably don't realize, until the batteries go dead, how many of the products we use every day depend on batteries to run. That television on your wall (try using it for any length of time without a remote control), noise-canceling headphones on your head, wireless mouse in your hand, electronic safe in your closet, electronic safety light on your bike and Fitbit on your wrist all need batteries to run. So many other products, like your alarm clock, electronic thermostat and sprinkler timer, require batteries for backing up settings and timekeeping. We are awash in battery-powered products. Keeping all these batteries charged or changed presents a big challenge. And like plastics, they have the potential for harming our environment if not handled and disposed of properly.

Before we mastered electricity, our devices had to be human, animal, water or combustion-powered. Batteries actually predate the electrical grid; Alessandro Volta invented the first true battery in 1800. Early electrical innovations like the telegraph and electric lights were initially powered by batteries. It wasn't until the early 1900's that widespread commercial electrical power generation and distribution displaced batteries in most uses for electricity. Now with our thirst for mobile electronic devices and need for better energy storage, batteries are making a big comeback.

Battery technology has changed and improved over the years. Volta's zinc-copper voltaic pile has spawned zinc-carbon and alkaline single-use battery technologies, as well as many rechargeable battery types. New materials

have increased the energy density and battery lifetimes for rechargeables. Nickel-cadmium (NiCd), nickel-metal hydride (NiMH), lithium, lithium ion (Li-ion) and lithium ion polymer batteries have allowed our portable devices to shrink in size and increase in capabilities. Batteries now come in many shapes and sizes, from tiny watch batteries to huge electric car battery packs. The standard AAA, AA, C, D and 9V cells have been supplemented with a multitude of custom sizes to suit new product applications, from large, high-capacity removable laptop batteries to super-thin, non-removable smart phone batteries.

Battery charging has become an important part of the life of every technology user. How long it takes dictates the time you and your cell phone must remain tethered to a wall outlet and determines when you may continue your electric car road trip. Higher capacity and the ability to swap batteries can help users, but eventually everyone must recharge. The most popular place in the airport terminal has become the seating next to the wall outlets. Unfortunately, every new electronic device adds another charging cable to your collection. The 5V USB socket has become the new charging standard for many devices. New upscale homes come with USB charging sockets built into the kitchen outlets; plug-in versions, like the Vivitar Home Charging Station, are also available.

No battery lasts forever. After many charge and discharge cycles, every rechargeable battery begins to lose its ability to hold a charge. Eventually it can hold so little energy that it is useless and must be replaced. For many products, battery replacement is very easy. Laptops and digital cameras have batteries that are easy to remove, and replacements are usually easy to find on the Internet. For other devices like tablets, smart phones and electric razors, changing the battery is much more difficult. Opening the device to get to the battery may be difficult and require special tools, and the battery is sometimes soldered in. Special knowledge is usually required to open the device without damaging it. Sometimes the product can continue to be operated by using it with power cord (like my electric razor), or with an external battery (like my wife's iPhone with a Patriot Memory Fuel+ portable charger). Eventually it may get to the point where either the battery or the device must be replaced.

Fortunately, the Internet comes to the rescue again, not only to help locate a replacement battery, but also to provide the knowledge required to make the change. Lots of step by step instructions and how-to videos are available

on YouTube and other sites to help disassemble almost any battery-powered device. Replacing the battery saves the consumer money, avoiding the purchase of a new product, while continued use of the device keeps it out of our landfills.

I recently had the batteries in two of my electronic devices go bad, requiring a change to continue using them. By doing some research on the web and spending around \$20 total on replacement batteries, I gave new life to these items while postponing having to spend the approximately \$120 in total to replace them.

An uninterruptible power supply, or UPS, is an almost essential accessory for a desktop computer. While a laptop's data is protected by a charged battery should line power fail while running with the ac adapter, you can lose data and risk hard drive corruption if a blackout occurs when using a desktop computer. A UPS contains a battery which is charged off the wall output and allows the computer and anything else plugged into it to run for a time if the ac is interrupted. The UPS typically monitors the battery's health and emits a loud tone when the battery is failing.

My desktop computer's UPS recently sounded its battery's death-call, so I shut it down and plugged the computer into a power so I could still run it while working on the UPS. I'd changed the battery before, and planned ahead by placing a label with the battery part number on the outside of the case. I found a replacement battery on Amazon for \$12; a new UPS of this capacity would cost \$40 to \$50. Once I'd received the new battery, I removed a couple screws on the back to release the cover and reveal the battery. The battery is connectorized, so changing it is easy, as long as you observe the polarity of the battery connections. Once it was reassembled, it worked as good as new.

My second battery change was a bit more difficult. My Braun Oral-B electric toothbrush had been having charging difficulties for quite some time. The internal battery had developed a memory from going through repeated short charge-discharge cycles, and no longer held much of a charge. Fully discharging it and recharging helped for a time, but it was finally getting to the point where it was essentially unusable. Since it charges inductively from its wall unit, there was no way to use it in a "corded" manner.

I searched the web and found www.fixit1stop.com had a repair video for my toothbrush. It showed how to disassemble the toothbrush and change the battery. This was

considerably more involved than the UPS. The case had to be opened to expose the plastic frame containing the motor, circuit board, battery and inductive charging coil. The NiCd battery was soldered to the internal circuit board. Fortunately, I am an electrical engineer and have the skills and tools to perform the transplant. For those that don't, this web site not only sells replacement batteries (\$10 for my model's) but also provides a repair service (\$25 for mine). I couldn't find the correct battery anywhere else, so ordered it from this site. When it arrived, I performed the replacement per their web instructions and, after a night of charging, the toothbrush worked great.

Batteries contain hazardous materials and must be recycled or disposed of properly. In many places it may be illegal to send old batteries to the landfill. Once again the Internet can provide information on battery recycling in your area. It turns out rechargeable batteries are accepted for recycling for free at many Best Buy stores, including the ones near me. They have a bin just inside the entrance, where I was able to deposit my two old batteries. There were a lot of recycling options for rechargeable batteries in San Diego, but I didn't find any place that accepted single-use batteries without a fee.

Batteries will continue to be an important part of our technology. To save money and the environment, consider changing the batteries in your electronic devices when they fail, rather than toss out the whole thing, and be sure to dispose of the old batteries properly.

Update on Features and Release Dates for Windows 10

by Ira Wilsker

WEBSITES:

<http://news.microsoft.com/windows10story/>
<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2483522,00.asp?kc=PCRSS03069TX1K0001121>
<http://dealnews.com/features/Heres-Everything-Youll-Get-With-That-Free-Windows-10-Upgrade/1340764.html>
<http://windows.microsoft.com/en-us/windows-10/about>
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Windows Insider Program Before you install How-to

Download Windows 10 Insider Preview ISO

Follow these steps to download Insider Preview:

1. Sign up for the **Windows Insider Program**, if you haven't already.
2. Read the **system requirements**.
3. Click one of the **Download** links on this page to download a special file—it's called an ISO file—that you can use to install the preview.
4. When the download is complete, transfer the ISO file to installation media such as a USB flash drive or DVD.
5. Double-tap or double-click **setup.exe** from the installation media, and then follow the steps.



http://old.seattletimes.com/html/micro-soft/2026216178_microsoftbuldday2xml.html
<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2483522,00.asp>
<http://dealnews.com/features/Microsoft-Will-Offer-Free-Upgrades-to-Windows-10/1261432.html>

<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2483437,00.asp>

The much ballyhooed release of Windows 10 is nearing, as Microsoft polishes its features and adds devices to the list of compatible hardware that can run the new operating system. While Microsoft has not yet publically announced an official release date for its newest operating system, several media sources, including the respected PC Magazine (<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2483522,00.asp>), are reporting that the initial release for personal computers will be this summer,

with other versions of Windows 10 being released for other devices shortly after the original PC release.

Microsoft is intending that Windows 10 will not just be a new operating system for PCs, but that it will also run on countless other devices including smart phones, tablets, Xboxes, the "Internet of Things (IoT)", and other hardware devices. According to PC Magazine, "Redmond has pledged to put the OS on 1 billion devices by 2018 and all this week, the software giant is exhorting developers to help with that effort." Windows 10 is explicitly designed to run on multiple and diverse hardware platforms, allowing the user to easily and seamlessly go from one type of device to another. Windows 10 is also designed to utilize different input methods including voice controls (Microsoft's Cortana application), traditional keyboard and mouse, touch screen, and other forms of input.

Microsoft is still planning to offer the new Windows 10 operating system as a free upgrade for PCs running Windows 7 and Windows 8.1 for the first year after it is released; after the free offer expires, the upgrade to Windows will be commercially available for sale, but the price has not yet been announced. At the official Micro-

up with your email today, and we will send you more information about Windows 10 and the upgrade offer in the coming months."

There have also been published stories that since Microsoft sees Windows 10 as much as a "service" as it does an operating system, Microsoft is rumored to also allow Windows 10 to be installed freely on computers running pirated versions of Windows 7 and 8.1, during its free upgrade period. Microsoft has announced that the free upgrade version of Windows 10 will be supported for the life of the operating system, and free updates and improved features will be provided during its functional lifetime, or the lifetime of the devices on which it is installed. The minimum system requirements for PCs in order for Windows 10 to run satisfactorily is quite low, only requiring a 1 GHz processor speed; 1 GB of RAM (memory) for 32 bit systems, 2 GB RAM for 64 bit systems; an 800x600 graphics display; and 16 GB (32 bit) to 20 GB (64 bit) of hard drive storage. While these minimum system requirements are quite low, with virtually all PCs currently running Windows 7 or 8.1 exceeding these minimum requirements, Microsoft does recommend greater system capabilities in order to have improved performance.

Free Upgrade Offer*

Great news! We will offer a free upgrade to Windows 10 for qualified new or existing Windows 7, Windows 8.1 and Windows Phone 8.1 devices that upgrade in the first year! And even better: once a qualified Windows device is upgraded to Windows 10, we will continue to keep it up to date for the supported lifetime of the device, keeping it more secure, and introducing new features and functionality over time – for no additional charge. Sign up with your email today, and we will send you more information about Windows 10 and the upgrade offer in the coming months.

Sign up for email

soft Windows 10 website at windows.microsoft.com/en-us/windows-10/about, Microsoft has reiterated its offer for a free upgrade to Windows 10 by posting, "Great news! We will offer a free upgrade to Windows 10 for qualified new or existing Windows 7, Windows 8.1 and Windows Phone 8.1 devices that upgrade in the first year! And even better: once a qualified Windows device is upgraded to Windows 10, we will continue to keep it up to date for the supported lifetime of the device, keeping it more secure, and introducing new features and functionality over time – for no additional charge. Sign

Among the many new features that will be incorporated into Windows 10 will be a totally new internet browser replacing the classical Internet Explorer; this new browser Microsoft is now calling "Microsoft Edge", will be compliant with all of the new web standards. This new Microsoft Edge browser is designed to give its users a more reliable and consistent level of web performance. With literally millions of apps (applications) currently available for Android and iOS (Apple) devices, Microsoft is courting those app developers, and provid-

ing them with SDKs (Software Development Kits) to encourage the developers to produce versions of their apps that will run on Windows 10 devices, thus making devices running Windows 10, especially smart phones, more attractive to users. This could be a boon to Windows 10 powered smart phones, as there are only about 300,000 Windows smart phone apps currently available, which is only a small fraction of the apps currently available for Android and iOS devices. Microsoft is also encouraging the app developers to modify and port their apps to desktop computers running Windows 10.

As had been previously announced by Microsoft, the "Cortana" voice operated feature will be available on devices running Windows 10. Cortana is a competitor to the newly released Google speech activated feature, and the heavily promoted Siri voice activated electronic assistant currently available on newer Apple iOS products. Cortana, and the competitive voice recognition apps from Google and Apple's Siri, all can be used to launch apps and other software, perform searches, add events to the calendar, and intelligently respond to voice initiated queries.

For those who may wish to try a "beta" or pre-release version of Windows 10, Microsoft has made the new operating system available as a free download directly from Microsoft at windows.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/preview-iso. Users of this "beta" version must be aware that as a pre-release version, there will likely be bugs in the new operating system, but Microsoft is also offering support and frequent and periodic updates to the "beta" version, these updates also include new and updated features that are in need of widespread testing. According to Microsoft, "Windows Update will be set to automatically install important updates as they become available. You won't be able to turn off automatic updates in Windows 10 Insider Preview."

The free "beta" release of Windows 10 is downloaded as an ISO formatted file, which must be "burned" (not simply copied) to a DVD using ISO disc burning software to create the "image" file that can be installed. Microsoft warns that there is a risk in using this potentially buggy "beta" software on a critical or production computer, or even a primary home PC, so it does not recommend installation on those computers. Microsoft also implores users to perform a full image backup of the hard drive, which will allow a reinstall of the prior operating

system, software, and data from the original software. Again, the three most important words in computing are "Backup, Backup, and Backup !" This image backup will be necessary to restore the computer to the earlier operating system in the event the user desires to remove the Windows 10, and go back to what was previously running. Users should not rely on the "recovery partition" which is usually included, and sometimes hidden on factory built computers, as it is likely that the factory recovery partition will not be available after the installation of Windows 10.

Microsoft has also issued a privacy statement and warning to users who download and install the "beta" of Windows 10. Microsoft states, " Microsoft will collect data about your installation and use of Windows 10 Insider Preview to help us improve our products and services. See our privacy statement to learn more."

I have been a registered beta tester for Microsoft in the past, and have installed and tested several other pre-release versions of Microsoft products. While a few have worked well, most of the others were quite buggy, especially my "beta" versions of the now defunct Windows Vista. While I like to be among the first to implement a new hardware or software product, I will probably not download and install the actual release version of Windows 10 on my primary desktop computer, I may put it on my secondary laptop computer running Windows 7-64. If you want to try Windows 10 prior to its official release, download it from the above Microsoft link, but be absolutely sure that you have a complete external backup of your existing operating system and files, preferably an image backup. Once the free upgrade of the release version is available, I would suggest waiting for a few months to allow any of the inevitable bugs to be worked out of the initial release, prior to the download and installation.

Windows 10 looks very interesting, especially with its cross platform compatibility. I actually look forward to the release of the "official" PC version this summer.

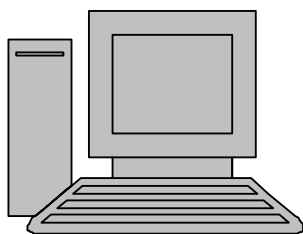
Windows 10 . Do great things.

The Windows you know, only better

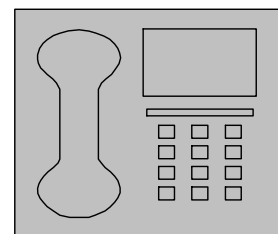
Windows 10 feels familiar so you can get more done from the get-go. The Start menu is back with space to pin your favorite apps. And simple navigation means you don't need to spend much time learning anything new.

Always up-to-date

You won't have to wonder if you have the latest features or security updates. Windows automatically delivers updates, when they're ready, directly to your device.



HelpLine



HelpLine is a **free** service to members of CFCS only. The following volunteers have offered to field questions by **phone or via e-mail** with software and hardware problems listed below. Please be considerate of the volunteer you are calling.

As a **free** service, you should not be asked to pay for help or be solicited for products or services. If anything to the contrary occurs, please contact the HelpLine coordinator immediately. Their names will be removed from the list.

Additional volunteers are needed in some existing categories and for new categories. If you are interested, please contact the **HelpLine** coordinator at e-mail: helpline@cfcs.org

Please Note - This is a service for CFCS MEMBERS ONLY

HelpLine Listings

Digital Photography & Video

Ken Larrabee 407 365-2660 anytime

KLarrabee@cfl.rr.com

DOS

Stan Wallner 407-862-2669 5 pm-7 pm

smwallner@yahoo.com

Kris Hestad 321-459-2755

kris.hestad@surfdogs.com

Hardware

Ken Larrabee 407-365-2660 anytime

Stan Wallner 407-862-2669 5 pm-7 pm

smwallner@yahoo.com

MS ACCESS

Arvin Meyer, MVP 407-327-3810 7 pm - 9 pm

Access-sig@cfcs.org

MS Office Products:

MS Word, Excel, Power Point, Outlook and Access

Doug Gabbard (e-mail only)

Dougga@gmail.com

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Arvin Meyer 407-327-3810

Access-sig@cfcs.org

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SQL-Server

Arvin Meyer 407-327-3810

Access-sig@cfcs.org

Windows

Hewie Poplock 407-362-7824 5 pm-7 pm

hewie@hewie.net

Kris Hestad 321-459-2755

kris.hestad@surfdogs.com

WinZip

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31	Jun 1 BUSSLINE article deadline. .doc file format. Send to: editor@cfcs.org	2	3	4	5	6 June
7	8	9 Android SIG Dennys at Oxford Rd. Casselberry, 7pm	10	11	12	13
14 WinSIG 1:15pm General Meet- ing 2:30pm Maitland Library	15 iPhone SIG iPad, iPod (iAnything) 1505 E. Colonial 7pm	16	17 Board of Directors Meeting, Dennys at Oxford Rd. Casselberry, 7pm	18	19	20
21 Fathers' Day	22	23 Tech-SIG; Tech Show & Tell or Prob- lem Solving; Dennys at Oxford Rd. Cas- selberry, 7pm	24	25	26	27

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28	29	30	Jul 1 BUSSLINE article deadline. .doc file format. Send to: editor@cfcs.org	2	3 Independence Day ob	4 July
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 WinSIG 1:15pm General Meet- ing 2:30pm Maitland Library	13	14 Android SIG Dennys at Oxford Rd. Casselberry, 7pm	15 Board of Directors Meeting, Dennys at Oxford Rd. Casselberry, 7pm	16	17	18
19	20 iPhone SIG iPad, iPod (iAnything) 1505 E. Colonial 7pm	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28 Tech-SIG; Tech Show & Tell or Prob- lem Solving; Dennys at Oxford Rd. Cas- selberry, 7pm	29	30	31	Aug 1 BUSSLINE article deadline. .doc file format. Send to: editor@cfcs.org



Parking:

Parking areas around Maitland Public Library noted in **RED**

Directions: From I-4, take

Maitland Boulevard exit. Head East on Maitland Boulevard until it crosses Maitland Avenue. Turn right on Maitland Avenue. Turn right onto Ventris Avenue after crossing the railroad tracks. The library is located at 501 S. Maitland Ave on the corner of Ventris.

From the Orlando/Winter Park area, take U.S. Hwy. 17-92 North to the intersection of Maitland Avenue. Turn Left. The library is on the left, next to the Maitland Civic Center. Turn Left onto Ventris Avenue to access our parking lot.

