



# THE BUSSLINE

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

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

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## E-books and the Virtual Library System

**October 16:** Crank up your iPods, Fire up your Kindles, Nooks & Crannies, review all of Mike Ungerman's posts about the best Android Tablet for reading! Sara Brown, of the Orange Country Library System will speak on E-books and the Virtual Library System at Sunday's go-to-computer meeting.

Ms. Brown certainly has a plethora of information to relay to us, judging from the OCLS website's Virtual Library page, which we have reproduced for you on page 6. Look it over and formulate any questions you may have about any of the categories. Your preparation may fool her into thinking she is addressing a crowd of deep thinkers. <http://www.ocls.info/virtual/>

As a history buff, I (Ed.) have read some about Orlando's early history. The Virtual Library page shows me that OCLS has come a long way since the days when the big reference desk question was "how do I keep the gators from eating my plow horse?"

**November 20:** Our very own Sheila Bigel will wow us with a timely presentation on the differences between doing things on a laptop versus doing the same things on a tablet. We have all been following the surge of tablets into our computer world. Those of you who are still using DOS must be especially confused. Be sure to attend November's meeting and find out what has been happening since the last century.

**Windows SIG: 12.30pm** before the General Meeting

Hewie Poplock leads this group with information about using the Windows Operating System. This

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includes all versions of Windows, including XP, Vista, Win7, and soon, Win8! (Windows 2.1, 98, ME, not so much).

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 Baskit" 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!

**General Meetings** are held at 2 pm in the Jackson Hewitt office on Lee Rd. and Turner Rd. See map on pg. 24. Jan. Feb. and Mar. presentations will be at another location TBA. Subscribe to the weekly E-Blast for details. For details and maps, consult our website at [cfcs.org](http://cfcs.org).

## SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS (SIG)

**Earlier on the same day of each presentation, the WINDOWS Special Interest Group (SIG) meeting is held.** The WinSIG always meets at 12:30 pm, and is hosted by VP Hewie Poplock, just before the CFCS General Meeting. 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](http://cfcs.org).

**The ACCESS, MS OFFICE, and SECURITY SIGs** meet conjointly on the second Wednesday of each month from 7 to 9 pm at the New Horizons Learning Center at 1221 Lee Rd. Arvin Meyer, a Microsoft MVP (Most Valuable Professional), (and current CFCS president), leads the SIG. <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cfcs-access> This

is a combination of three separate SIGs which now meet alternately for the duration of Arvin's presidency. They will resume separate meetings when he leaves office and/or publishes his upcoming book.

**The GRAPHICS/PHOTO SIG** lead has been assumed by Hewie Poplock and will be presented in an open online forum on an announced schedule. (Sign up for the free e-newsletter at [cfcs.org](http://cfcs.org).) E-mail: [graphic-sig@cfcs.org](mailto:graphic-sig@cfcs.org)

**The TECH DISCUSSION SIG** meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month from 7 to 9 pm at the Casselberry Denny's at 436 and Oxford Rd. SIG leader is Stan Wallner, President Emeritus.

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 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. E-mail: [tech-sig@cfcs.org](mailto:tech-sig@cfcs.org). 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. See story on page 4.

**The iSIG** meets on the third Monday of each month at 7:00 PM at *Denny's on Lee Rd & I-4*. The iSIG meetings cover the products that use the iPhone OS, which includes the iPhone, iPad, and iPod. This is a combined effort of the Central Florida Computer Society <http://www.cfcs.org> and the Florida Macintosh Users Group <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 iPhone user, and a technologist and consultant to Walt Disney Feature Animation Florida.

**Please note that the iSIG meets at the Denny's on Lee Rd in Orlando. The Tech-SIG and the Board of Directors**

*meetings continue to meet at Denny's on 436 & Oxford Rd in Casselberry.*

## The Recycle Bin

by Stan Wallner,  
President Emeritus, CFCS



*Stan, a CFCS member since 1984, has served in many offices over the years, and is now on the BOD as President Emeritus. 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, Troubleshooting both hardware & software, at reasonable rates (discounts for CFCS members!). You can contact him at smwallner@yahoo.com or 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, so please keep reading this column regularly!

Regarding your bringing items to either the General Meeting or my own SIG - if you have a few items for Orlando Recycles, let me know. If I know well in advance so there aren't too many items on any one day, I'll take them from there. I DO need to know in advance, AND, I do plan to do a lot less of this now that there are more options.

**Category "A" - For Monitors, Printers, Scanners that still work, and PC's that are repairable)**

**# 1 Orlando Recycles, Inc** is now the CFCS PREFERRED and RECOMMENDED Recycler!

WHY? We have worked out what should prove to be a win-win situation for both of us, with absolutely no risk involved for either of us! They are willing to PAY for us what we recycle with them! It will be variable, based on what we drop off, but no one else has offered to do this, and the BOD has authorized me to pursue this. AND, they will do the same for items that DO NOT work, so they do truly fit in both **Category "A" AND "B!!"**

They are at located at 5014 Forsyth Commerce Road,

#4, Orlando, FL, 32807, just off Forsyth, about 1/2 mile east of 436 and Colonial. Their hours are from 9:00 to 5:30. You do not need to call them. If you are near them, and want to take things on your own - just go there and ask for Tracy, their Operations Manager. Say you are involved with CFCS, and she will make sure that whatever you drop off gets tagged, and entered towards CFCS's credit into a spreadsheet. Then, whether monthly (or quarterly if amounts are small and take a while to build up), the value they assign to what you dropped off will be mailed to CFCS!! What could be easier! Why not help CFCS? Yes, Missionary PC's, Goodwill and others are worthwhile, but not very helpful to CFCS, Best Buy, Staples and others will even charge you! Why not use **Orlando Recycles**- CFCS will gain!

The other cool thing about this arrangement is that Dave Archard, their Procurement Manager (who decides the value of what is left there and how many \$\$ will be sent to us), just happens to live near ME, and does not mind coming to my house to get stuff in his van or pickup truck! So this means you can bring items to one of our meetings (with coordination as mentioned before), we put it MY van, and he'll come get it from me - MUCH easier for everyone! (And, I have frankly gotten tired of doing this on my own.)

**#2 Southeastern Data**, at 142 Park Road, Oviedo, FL 32765 (Off Alafaya Trail, just north of E. McCulloch Road); phone 407-971-4654.

They've been very helpful in allowing CFCS members to drop off most recyclables with no service charge for quite some time; greatly appreciated! (There ARE places that do have fees to recycle all items - I am not going to include them in this column) **SE Data** offers free recycling to CFCS members with the exception of CRT monitors, terminals, and some TVs. CRTs and terminals are \$3.00 each. TVs need to be evaluated, but most are free. It is best to call before you take items there to be sure you don't arrive at a bad time, Also, do let them know you are involved with CFCS. Southeastern Data is also a great place to pick up parts and accessories, and they accept trade-ins against purchases. In some cases they will even outright purchase your components. Their hours are 8:00 am til 5:00 pm, Monday thru Friday, with other hours available by appointment.

**#3 Goodwill.** They have recently changed their policy, and WILL now accept WORKING Monitors including CRT's if not too old, Printers, Scanners, PC's, DVD, CD or Hard Drives at all of their locations, including the manned Trucks around town.

**#4 Salvation Army.** They also accept WORKING Monitors including CRT's if not too old, Printers, Scanners, PC's, DVD, CD and/or Hard Drives at all of their locations.

They do not sell them in their stores, but Auction them off at their W. Colonial location, every Mon, Wed, and Fri, at 9:00 am, along with other various items that either did not sell or are damaged..."

**#5 Vietnam Vets.** They also accept WORKING Monitors including CRT's if not too old, Printers, Scanners, PC's, DVD, CD and/or Hard Drives at all of their locations. They do sell them in their stores.

**Category "B" - Scrap - For Monitors, Printers, Scanners that DON'T work, and PC's that are too old, and/or NOT repairable)**

**#1 Best Buy Stores.** All local stores; no need to contact them first. All items above; all at NO CHARGE, limited to three items per visit. The only exceptions are CRT Monitors or TV's. First, there is a maximum size of 32", and there will be a fee of \$10.00 each. However, they do immediately return the \$10.00 to you in the form of a Cash Card! You can go to [www.bestbuy.com/recycling](http://www.bestbuy.com/recycling) for more info, or CALL '24/7' 1-888- BEST BUY (1-888-237-8289)!

**#2 Recycling Directory:** [http:// earth911.com/](http://earth911.com/) Earth911 is a directory containing information for recycling over 240 different products that are free for consumers. There are over 127,000 locations and programs that people can search to find local recycling and disposal resources. Thanks to Mike Ungerman and Hewie Poplock for sending this to me - includes County places, and for example - Staples, many others, by ZIP. It is thorough! (What is not mentioned on this site, again, for example, is that Staples CHARGES \$10 EACH for any PC, Printer, CRT or LCD, even Hard Drive! Only small items,

such as mice and keyboards are free. So I would say —caveat emptor — applies! Call or go first, as I did! We will be adding to this list. There are many additional places, and we want as many listed here as is possible for our members" convenience! If you have suggestions or comments, send an email to [presidentemeritus@cfcs.org](mailto:presidentemeritus@cfcs.org).

My suggestion is that you consider the new #1 in Category A, **Orlando Recycles, Inc** and that you work through me as suggested above - that is the ONLY way that CFCS benefits!

#### MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Membership renewal invoices will be e-mailed from [treasurer@cfcs.org](mailto: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](mailto: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

**204 Larkwood Drive Ste 100  
Sanford, FL 32771-3643**

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](mailto: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](mailto:treasurer@cfcs.org).

**BUY YOUR INK at :  
[cfcs.InkRaiser.com](http://cfcs.InkRaiser.com)**

**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.

**Mailing Address:**  
 CFCS  
 204 Larkwood Dr., Suite 100  
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**Membership:** CFCS membership includes participation in the Society's activities and subscription to this Newsletter.

**Annual Dues Schedule:**

Individual .....	\$ 40
Extra family member .....	24
Student (Full time).....	24
Corporate membership.....	132*

\*Includes free business card ad

Members are responsible for sending a change-of-address notification (including e-mail) to: [membership@cfcs.org](mailto: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 **Jackson Hewitt Training Center, 2221 Lee Rd. Winter Park, FL**. The Jan. Feb. and Mar. meetings are held at another location. 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](http://www.cfcs.org)

**Editorial:** Articles for publication in the CFCS Newsletter should be *emailed* to the Editor at: [editor@cfcs.org](mailto: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.

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 Half Page 750 Business Card 150  
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**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 Stan Wallner, if you have any questions, comments, or suggestions. [president@cfcs.org](mailto:president@cfcs.org)

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




[www.apcug.net](http://www.apcug.net)



 <p><b>Online Databases</b> Find your family history, check your stocks, read articles, learn a language, and so much more.</p>	 <p><b>Virtual Galleries</b> Virtual Galleries are collections of library resources, Web sites, programs and events, and other information topped with interactive fun.</p>
 <p><b>Resources by Interest</b> If you have a hobby or special interest, the library can feed your passion. We've put everything you need right at your fingertips! Interests include being a business owner, genealogist, or student.</p>	 <p><b>Government Services</b> Get assistance finding the right government service or find specific local, state, and federal information with our Government portals.</p>
 <p><b>eGuides</b> Find out how to get started, what databases to use and how to utilize our extensive collection and records in a variety of topics including business, financial, health, and more!</p>	 <p><b>Ask A Question</b> For any question, including information on reserving or renewing an item, verifying your new library card, getting location information or to ask a reference question chat, or send us an e-mail via Ask A Question.</p>
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 <p><b>InfoPaths</b> InfoPaths are helpful guides, developed by Librarians, to resources on various subjects.</p>	 <p><b>Orlando Memory</b> Orlando Memory is a community based digital archive. This is your opportunity to share your personal history of Orlando with the community.</p>
 <p><b>NetLinks</b> Netlinks provides a variety of Web sites selected by Library staff on topics such as telephone directories, tax forms, local weather, and nutrition.</p>	 <p><b>Fast Facts</b> Fast Facts is a database of hard to find facts and frequently asked Florida-related questions that have been answered by OCLS librarians.</p>
 <p><b>Technology @ OCLS</b> Find information about our public access network, public computers, PC reservation system, website, catalog, and more.</p>	 <p><b>Wi-Fi @ OCLS</b> Learn about our wi-fi network and how to connect your devices to the network.</p>

On your left is a page from the Orange County Library's website. Our speaker for Oct. 16, Sara Brown, will speak about many of these topics, including E-books and the OCLS Virtual Library. The URL is: <http://www.ocls.info/virtual/>

**In Memoriam**

**Stev's Jobs** had more influence on all of us than many of us will ever realize. Although you may feel inundated with all the articles about his passing, we received an interesting e-mail containing opinions he expressed throughout his career. As our tribute, we will intersperse some of them throughout this issue. Read and remember.

**Requiescat in Pace**

## Commentary: President's Corner

by Greg Skalka, President,  
Under the Computer Hood UG, CA  
An End to the "Tablet Takeover?"  
September 2011 issue, Drive Light  
[www.uchug.org](http://www.uchug.org)  
[president@uchug.org](mailto:president@uchug.org)

August was an interesting month for computer news. First we celebrated the 30th anniversary of the introduction of the IBM PC. Though "personal" computers were already available, when the IBM PC came on the market on August 12, 1981, it started the adoption of this technology by business and individuals. A week after the PC anniversary, HP announced it was discontinuing its TouchPad tablet and apparently abandoning the tablet market. Sales of the \$499 device touted as an "iPad killer" were slow until they were given a close-out price of \$99, at which point they flew off the store shelves. Finally, the mastermind behind the iPad, as well as iPod, iPhone, iTunes and most things "i", Steve Jobs, stepped down as Apple iPhone, iTunes and most things "i", Steve Jobs, stepped down as Apple CEO for medical reasons. Apple's ailing founder will remain on the board, with his recommended successor, Tim Cook, at the helm.

All these events make me think the predictions of the death of the PC and the takeover by tablets are at least premature and possibly downright wrong. Traditional computer manufacturers have seen a slip in sales and have been working on their own tablets, but I think a device that has lasted 30 years in the market is not ready to be replaced yet. Tablets bring a lot of great features to the table, but they appear to be more of a niche performer. The current tablet craze may well turn out to be similar to that of the netbook a few years ago, introducing a new kind of computing tool that adds to the arsenal, but cannot supplant the traditional laptop and desktop.

I do believe the tablet computer concept is a good one, so much so that I bought one. Though I call my Velocity Micro Cruz Reader a poor man's iPad, it is really just an e-reader that can surf the web, get email and display color pictures and video. At only \$120, it is certainly not a substitute for a laptop PC, but to me, neither is a \$500 iPad nor other manufac-

turer's similar Android tablets. The 12.1" Asus eeeSlate tablet PC, which has an Intel Core i5 processor and runs Windows 7 might be a substitute for a traditional PC (with the tablet's external keyboard), but it also costs \$1000. To take a bigger chunk out of the PC market, tablets will have to be lower in price. To take over the PC market, they will have to be as capable as a laptop or desktop, a tall order for a device based so much on portability.

Right now, the notebook computer or laptop is the king of computer value. The current back to school advertisements show a lot of capable laptops (even with Intel Core i5 processors) for around \$500. There used to be a premium paid for the mobility of a laptop as compared to a desktop PC, but now a similar desktop setup costs more. Since 2005 there have been more laptops than desktops sold in the U.S., and at our Microsoft Store tour last year their staff reported laptop sales at 80% of the total computer sales. Those economies of scale in manufacturing have no doubt allowed laptop prices to be reduced below desktop prices.

At \$500 for a decent laptop, a \$500 tablet computer does not make much sense, either as a substitute or complement to the notebook PC. This was certainly proven out by the HP TouchPad being discontinued. HP had problems selling them at \$500, but one can only wonder how many could have been sold for \$99, were they willing to manufacture more at a loss. The correct price point to me for tablets would seem to be no more than \$250; that is where the Barnes & Noble Nook Color (Reader Tablet) is priced. Amazon would do well to keep that in mind if the rumors of a future emailing and web surfing Kindle are true.

How does Apple sell so many iPads for \$500 or more? I think there must be a lot of people out there with more expendable income than I have. I admit I've never used an iPad, and don't know anyone that has one, but based on experience with those I know that own the iPhone, the iPad is probably quite good as products go.

Apple's products are usually innovative and ahead of their time, and remind me of hybrid and electric vehicles. They are technically advanced and forward thinking, copied by their competitors and carry a premium price, but often don't make economic sense initially when compared to existing products. There will soon be a lot of electric and hybrid cars on the

market, but they are all so expensive that unless gas gets well over \$5 a gallon, a conventional gasoline-powered economy car is still a better overall value.

I was able to participate in a GM-sponsored event this month in the Qualcomm Stadium parking lot, where I got to drive a lot of different new cars (with no sales pressure). The Corvette and Camero were fun to drive, but the most interesting ride was undoubtedly the Chevy Volt. In my opinion it blows all the existing and near-term hybrid and plug-in electric vehicles away. The Volt is a plug-in electric car (wheels driven by electric motors which are powered by a battery charged by external 110 or 220 VAC), but it also has a gasoline-powered generator to provide electricity for driving when the battery is low. Unlike the Nissan Leaf, a plug-in electric with no gas engine, the Volt can be driven across the country like a gasoline-powered car if there is no time or place to plug in. Unlike the Toyota Prius hybrid which can't be recharged from external power, it can operate on battery alone at all speeds for trips within its battery's range. The Volt is the future for electric cars. No matter how much I like it, however, I'd never own one, because they cost \$40K. They can call me when they get the price down to \$25K.

Apple can call me when they offer the iPad for \$250.

The tablet's strength is in bringing portability to web access and graphical media. Without a real keyboard, however, I can't imagine using any tablet as my primary computer. Writing this column on a touchscreen would be a big pain; the times I wrote it in a car on a laptop were painful enough. I admit I once thought a laptop keyboard was a lot harder to type on than a full desktop keyboard (and I don't do touch typing). Now of course a lot of businesspeople use a laptop as their primary computer. I know typing a lot on my netbook is a pain, and its smaller display screen makes for difficult reading by older eyes; a tablet computer display would be similar. While I suppose I could perform graphical tasks like photo and video editing, create large documents or file my tax return on my netbook, I wouldn't want to if a computer with a larger display was available.

In my view, the tablet PC is good for consumption of media (photos, videos, music, web pages), but its

smaller screen size and lack of a keyboard make it less useful for the creation of such material. A tablet might be acceptable for email, but it wouldn't be so great for creating an important document like a resume. The market for tablets will thus be limited to content consumers, while content creators will still prefer traditional PCs.

The final problem with the tablet's takeover is its competition from the smartphone. While portability is the tablet's big advantage over all forms of the traditional PC, the smartphone has it beat there. You can carry an iPhone in your pocket, but you need a case or bag to take an iPad.

While I'm hoping the tablet continues to develop and evolve as an alternative computing platform, especially if it can come down in price, I don't see a way that it can take the place of the laptop or desktop computer in general business or personal usage anytime soon.

And I'd like to remind those of you out there with Apple stock that the company did not do so well between 1985 and 1996, while Steve Jobs was absent. His shoes will be hard to fill.

**Review:**

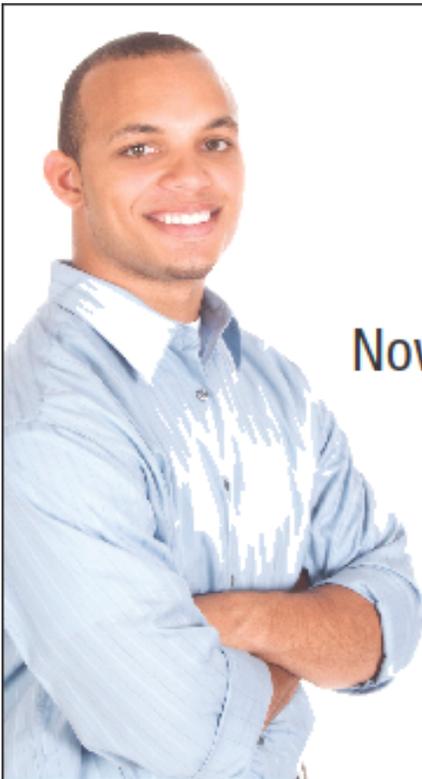
## **Digital Photography Composition for Dummies**

**Donna Kamper, Member,  
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September 2011 issue, TCS eJournal  
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What's the difference between an amateurish snapshot and a gallery-quality photograph? There are lots of variables, but the right "composition" makes the viewer's eye snap to the essential element that tells the story.

If there were only one way to tell a story photographically, it'd be easy. It used to be. Plop the subject in the middle and click. But does that really "tell the story?"

This book, by a professional photographer, breaks down and explains the subject of composition ele-



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ment by element. Contrast, distance and patterns as well as lines, shapes and forms are introduced and their relevance to your photography is pointed out

A minimal amount of space is spent on the equipment (camera, lenses, tripod, etc .) and the basics (aperture, focal point, ISO, etc .). I felt it was enough space/time for the subject, and the author states it's expected that the reader has a basic understanding of their equipment.

The subject of composition itself is then addressed, which covers how to use points of interest, framing and even color as an essential element.

The concept of "leading the eye" or "drawing the eye" is referenced frequently. Multiple techniques are demonstrated and illustrated.

This became particularly helpful when the subject was lighting.

The names and descriptions of lighting methods (Paramount, Rembrandt, Broad lighting) are all very well, but actually showing how the light falls on a subject allows the novice (reader) to actually under-

stand (and remember) its effect.

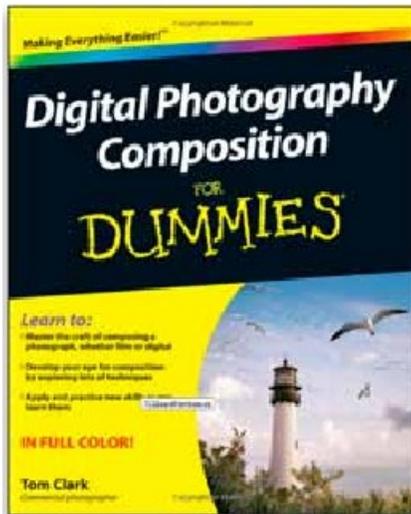
This is a copiously illustrated book, as one about photography should be. The best part is not simply that there are a lot of photos, mostly in color, but that they're relevant and helped me to understand certain points.

A broad range of subject matter is covered, which I also found particularly helpful. There are a lot of large, intimidating (expensive) books out there focused solely on "landscape" or "portrait" or "still life" photography. This small and inexpensive volume covers all those subjects and more quite nicely. Each subject does differ, and there are concise descriptions not only of those differences but the methods for adapting to them.

Because Dummies books are written by different authors, I feel like it's a bit of a gamble delving into one. This one is a big winner. It's obvious the author knows his subject in a way only someone doing the work does, but he's also one of the *avis rara* who can also explain it well.

About: Digital Photography Composition for Dummies  
Author: Tom Clark

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**"We did not enter the search business. [Google] entered the phone business. Make no mistake they want to kill the iPhone. We won't let them." Steve Jobs**

## **“Facebook Changes - Why”**

**By Gregory West**

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**[www.alternatecloud.com](http://www.alternatecloud.com)**

**[Gregory@alternatecloud.com](mailto:Gregory@alternatecloud.com)**

Cyberspace is alit with flare-ups from all of us using Facebook this past while. People are screaming that they are quitting Facebook and going to Google Plus (many are doing just that) while others have already switched to other social media spots such as Twitter and LinkedIn. I personally believe, even though the Internet is amassed with complaints about Facebook’s new changes, people will stay with Facebook. They will click their way into learning the new Facebook and any other changes they may throw at us. Why?

The adage of “If it ain’t broke, don’t fix it” doesn’t hold water anymore, at least not in the online world where many of us now reside much of the time. Like it or not, we necessitate change online. We demand things work faster, easier and are activated from anywhere, anytime, and by anyone. Plus, these online companies are no different than “brick and mortar” businesses: they all need to make money to survive. Facebook is moving into a new arena where they can make even more money. “The company is expected to bring in \$3.8 billion in worldwide advertising revenue this year and \$5.8 billion in 2012, according to research firm eMarketer.” (Washington Post)

While discussing Facebook, people admit that it is the first website they check when going on the Internet in the morning, even before any news sites or email programs - Facebook is many people’s first choice for keeping up; keeping connected is very important to many of the 800 million users who now use Facebook. The Post says that, “Facebook is a technology company that wants to keep improving its products so that people keep using it and it doesn’t grow stale.”

I remember reading a book in college by Alvin Toffler: “Future Shock” wherein Toffler described how people would not be able to accept the rate of change. Toffler wrote, “too much change in too short a period of time”. I believed this would happen, but it never did. The book was written before the Internet was born, although ironically, Toffler “popularized the phrase information overload” (Wikipedia).

We are a connected society now. One just has to look to the streets, to the malls, along sidewalks and in grocery store lineups. What is it you see? People staring at their smart phones, connected in a “brave new world.” These are the people who are learning to tolerate and navigate through the rough seas of change, be it a computer, a tablet or a smart phone. It is so much part of our lives today that these devices, once called “toys” are now a major necessity. We are, and we will, continue to live with change - I believe deep down we must thrive on change, otherwise Alvin Toffler would have been correct back in 1970.



## Make Your Computer Either Stupid, Useless or a Zombie

By Vinny LaBash, Regular Columnist,  
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September 2011 issue, Sarasota Monitor  
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There are many ways to make your computer useful and reliable: add memory, buy more storage, and be sure to purchase gear and peripherals from reliable vendors. Some people nevertheless, seem determined to find ways to get into trouble. As a TV ad once proclaimed, "We all do dumb things from time to time," but making your computer useless doesn't have to be one of them.

Inadvertently choosing a wrong key combination, clicking OK in an online dialog box designed to deceive you into unknowingly downloading malware or unthinkingly doing something genuinely dumb are all preventable. They are easily avoided if only a small amount of premeditated thought and common sense are applied.

Are you a "Nervous Newbie?" People new to computers are often fearful of damaging their equipment. Don't worry! No matter what crazy combination of keystrokes you activate, the computer will not explode. Short of throwing the thing off a rooftop or beating it with a blunt instrument, it's highly unlikely you could do anything to seriously affect your hardware.

Instead, ask yourself, "What would happen if I lost all my data?" The answer will determine what kind of backup plan you should implement. If all you do is surf the internet, fool around playing games, and spend time on a social network site, you don't need much of a backup plan. If you run a business that depends on data that must be constantly updated, losing it all may mean you will retire much earlier than you anticipated at a reduced standard of living. Your personal situation is probably somewhere between these two examples.

Most people are at least vaguely aware that they should back up their system, but never get around to it because it's too much trouble. System crashes and data loss occur for many reasons. Power surges, lightning strikes, hardware failures, software glitch-

es, and user error are among the common causes of losing information.

Your data is the most important part of your system. You can always reinstall a program, but there is nowhere you can go to buy a copy of your precious data. You must make a copy of your information, and have a recovery plan in place before disaster strikes. You don't have to buy a backup program. Windows 7 has a perfectly good one built-in. You can quickly find it in Control Panel. Use it. You won't be sorry.

Store your backups on a removable disk or flash drive. An increasingly popular alternative is to store data online. Whatever you do, it's important to keep your backups at a location away from your computer to protect against theft of your system or natural disasters. To find the best method for your personal needs there is no better place than your local computer user group. You will find centuries of experience at your disposal.

Losing your data is no fun, but losing your entire system can be much worse. No computer should operate unprotected from electrical surges. The best form of protection is with an Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS). It is internally powered by a battery that ensures a smooth flow of power even if an outage occurs. This gives you sufficient time for an orderly shutdown to avoid not only loss of information, but physical damage to the computer. Most surge suppressors are worse than useless because they give you a false sense of security.

A surge suppressor can protect a system from a voltage spike usually at a cost of severe internal damage to the surge suppressor. There is seldom any visible sign of harm so it's easy to assume you are still protected when you are not. A high quality UPS provides far more safety.

Most of us like a genuine bargain, and a great temptation is to believe free is always better than merely inexpensive. There are many high quality freeware programs, and many of dubious value. Some freeware programs are so sloppily written they can cause your computer to behave erratically or come to a screeching halt. Even if you take care to research and install only the best of the best, too many installs and uninstalls create useless entries in the registry. If not properly removed, these registry orphans can create



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their own problems such as system slowdowns and strange behavior. For good system performance, install only the programs you really need, and keep your installs and uninstalls to a minimum.

Terabyte sized hard drives have made fragmentation less of an issue than with smaller capacity disks, but it can still be a problem if you neglect it too long. Fragmentation will become a non-issue when solid state drives eventually replace standard hard disks. Until that happy day arrives it makes sense to keep your files neatly arranged so the mechanical parts of your drive can take less time accessing programs and information. Files become fragmented through editing documents and other normal usage of computers including surfing the web. Excessive fragmentation forces your hard drive to perform extra work that eventually noticeably slows down your computer.

Windows 7 has an excellent built in defrag tool that you can access through the Systems Tools folder. The tool runs on a schedule, but you can run it manually anytime. The tool will defrag your system drive,

removable storage devices such as USB flash drives, and almost any external storage device where you can store and delete files. Disk Defragmenter runs on an automated schedule, but you can also analyze and defrag your disks and drives manually.

Even if you own a solid state drive that never needs to be defragged, you can still run into trouble by letting it get too full. If you find yourself with a drive that's using more than 90% of its capacity, applications can suddenly exhibit very abnormal behavior. The system has no place to put temporary files, and if a drive runs out of room, it can simply stop leaving you wondering what happened. An easy preventive is to use the Disk Cleanup Tool once or twice a month.

Are you guilty of indiscriminate link clicking? We all know about the danger of downloading attachments that could cause havoc with our systems, but do you click on hyperlinks embedded in emails? This could take you to web sites having implanted ActiveX controls designed to either damage your equip-

ment, spy on you to collect passwords or track your activities to target you for personalized advertising among other nefarious reasons.

Some hackers are eager to install back-door or Trojan horses designed to allow them to control your computer without you being aware of it. Your computer could end up being a remotely controlled Zombie soldier in an army of similar machines to launch Distributed Denial of Service attacks.

Carelessly clicking on links could get you to very inappropriate sites that feature pornography, pirated videos, music or other kinds of software which could cause you personal embarrassment and even your job. People have been known to get in trouble with the law when a simple mouse click brought them to a child pornography site.

Think before you click. Bring your mouse pointer over the link. Often this simple act will reveal the real URL the link may be trying to disguise. If you aren't sure the link isn't going to take you to [www.yourpcistoast.com](http://www.yourpcistoast.com) don't do it.

We've covered a fair amount of territory here, but there is more danger lurking on the web than is dreamed of in your philosophy, Horatio. Choosing weak passwords, surfing the web without a firewall, failing to update anti-virus programs, and creating shared folders that the wrong people can access are among many additional dangers there simply isn't room for in this article.

Don't conclude that the web is too dangerous a place for you. The cautions mentioned here is the web equivalent of telling people to stay away from crime-ridden neighborhoods, and don't step off the curb into oncoming traffic without looking to see if it's safe first. As always, common sense is your first and best defense.

"When I went to school, it was right after the '60s and before this general wave of practical purposefulness had set in... The idealistic wind of the '60s was still at our backs, though, and most of the people I know who are my age have that engrained in them forever." Steve Jobs

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## **Inserting International Letters into Word Documents**

**By Nancy DeMarte, Columnist, Office Talk, Sarasota PCUG, Inc., Florida  
September 2011 issue, Sarasota PC Monitor  
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In our global society, languages have become more blended. English, for example, has adopted many words of different origins, some of which include

special diacritical marks over the letters, as in the French word *passé*. Occasionally words can actually be misunderstood without a special mark over a letter, such as the difference between the "résumé" we provide when looking for a job, and "resume", meaning to begin again. It helps to know how to insert these diacritical marks when using Microsoft Office. Word provides two fairly easy methods to add these marks: the Symbol dialog box and keystroke combinations.

The **Symbol dialog box** (formerly called the Character Map) is easy to find in Word. It can be useful but also a bit tedious when you're in the middle of composing a document. It provides both international characters and other symbols, such as the Euro symbol (€) or Pi (π). To use this dialog box in Word 2007, click the Insert tab, then Symbol to view a few common symbols. Click the one you want to make it appear where your cursor was flashing. Click Symbol, then More Symbols, to open the full dialog box. Click a letter or symbol, then Insert, and it's done. This dialog box contains every symbol and international letter that Office has to offer, but inserting one may involve moving between different tables of fonts and symbol types before you locate the one you need. It is worth spending a few minutes exploring this box, though, if only to see what's available. Once you insert a symbol using the dialog box, it will appear with recently used characters and symbols in a row near the bottom of the box for easy access in the future.

Although the Symbol dialog box method is the best way to insert a symbol, there's an easier method of inserting international letters using a combination of keyboard strokes. This method involves pressing the Control key (Ctrl) on the keyboard at the same time as a punctuation or symbol key, then releasing these keys and pressing the key of the letter that needs the diacritical mark. Let's use the example of the acute é. First be sure your cursor is flashing in the spot where you want the character to appear. Press the Ctrl key and the apostrophe key at the same time. Release them and type the letter "e", which will appear with its acute mark in place, é.

When learning this method, it helps to have a chart of the appropriate keys and corresponding diacritical marks nearby. The system is so logical that before

long you won't need to refer to the chart except for unusual marks. The chart below gives you many of the ones you might need:

**International Character**      **Press these keys, then release and press the letter.**

à, è, ì, ò, ù	Ctrl + ` (grave accent key)
á, é, í, ó, ú, ý	Ctrl + ' (apostrophe key)
â, ê, î, ô, û	Ctrl + Shift + ^ (caret key)
ã, ñ, õ	Ctrl + Shift + ~ (tilde key)
ä, ë, ï, ö, ü, ÿ	Ctrl + Shift + : (colon key)
å	Ctrl + Shift + @
æ or œ	Ctrl + Shift + &
ç	Ctrl + , (comma key)
ð	Ctrl + ' (apostrophe key)
ø	Ctrl + / (forward slash key)
ı	Alt + Ctrl + Shift + ?
ı	Alt + Ctrl + Shift + !
ß	Ctrl + Shift + &

A few tips about this chart: 1. Many of the diacritical marks resemble the keyboard symbols that are used to create them, which makes them easier to remember. 2. Occasionally the Shift key is included in the procedure. This is because the keyboard symbol is the top one on the key and needs the Shift key to select it, as it would if it were a capital letter. 3. To get the upper case version of these letters with their marks, such as É, merely press the Shift key while pressing the letter.

If you find that you type in languages other than English on a regular basis, Word 2007 and 2010 offer quite a bit of help. You can see the list of the languages which have editing tools installed in Word by clicking the Office button (File in 2010) and selecting Word Options. Click Popular in the left pane and select the Language Settings button. I found, for example, that limited editing support is provided for more than 200 languages on my computer, including six dialects of French, five of Chinese, and twenty-one of Spanish.

If you need more tools in another language, you can download free Language Interface Packs or purchase Language Packs for about \$25, both of which provide extra editing tools for the language of your choice. Other options allow you to change the key-

board to a different language layout. To do this, open the Control Panel and put it in Classic view so all the icons are visible. Click the Region and Language icon, and then the Keyboards and Languages tab. English is the default, but you can add other languages from this dialog box. You can also customize formats for specific systems which differ among countries, such as currency and measurement, using the Format tab in that same dialog box.

If you are interested in exploring more about using Word in a language other than English, here is a link to get you started: <http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/support/change-the-default-language-for-office-programs-HA010356057.aspx>. Meantime, clip the chart included in this article to use the next time you need to type an "international" word.

**"The Web is not going to change the world, certainly not in the next 10 years. It's going to augment the world. And once you're in this Web-augmented space, you're going to see that democratization takes place."**  
Steve Jobs

## Mac Tips

**By Ernie Cox, Jr., member of the Computer Club of Green Valley, AZ**  
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### Mac's Own Antivirus App

Mac OS X has a secret built-in antivirus utility. It's Apple's secret because Apple wants people to believe that Macs don't get viruses. In the Finder, press Command - J. In the desktop window that appears, enable the Show Icon Preview option. This engages the hidden antivirus tool, which wipes the virus from your Mac and restores your desktop icons to their previous state. Next time you suspect your Mac is infected, follow the same procedure. It's just as effect as any other antivirus on your Mac.

### Deleting Email from Mail on iPhone

Having trouble deleting emails on your iPhone with speed? Swiping your finger across the email will bring up a delete sign to delete that email without opening. That's not very fast when you have to open 25 emails to read it first before deleting. That could take a long time. You can move groups of mail from one box to another quickly, but no deleting in groups. One of the ways to raise the speed of deleting is to go to your settings. Click on Mail, Contacts, Calendars and set the preview to 4 or 5 lines—5 is better. Now you can read more of the email and know if you want to read further or delete it without opening.

## Microsoft FixIt

**By Ted Wirtz, Member, ORCOPUG (Orange County PC Users' Group), CA**  
July 2011 issue, nibbles & bits  
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My home computer is an HP Pavilion running Vista SP2. It has a memory card reader built into the top faceplate on the front of the computer that is capable of reading many of the common memory cards used in a digital camera. I commonly use it to transfer images from my digital camera which happens to use either SD or SDHC memory cards. (SD cards come in capacities up to 2 GB per card. SDHC cards come in capacities greater than 2 GB.)

Recently I inserted an SDHC card, and instead of seeing pictures, Vista saw it as a blank card and wanted to format it. Not good. Obviously I didn't want to format the card because I knew there were images on it. I ejected it and inserted a SD card. Vista saw images. Reinserted the SDHC card. No images.

I put the SDHC card back in my camera fearing the worst. All the images were there. Whew!

Okay, the card is good, but for some reason, now my system would not recognize SDHC cards. Bummer. Why SD but not SDHC? I didn't have time to mess with it then. I needed to get to my pictures. I con-

nected the camera via a USB port and transferred the images that way. Clumsy but effective.

A couple of weeks ago I decided to attempt a fix for my reader. I opened up Device Manager and looked at the readers. No exclamation marks. Windows doesn't see any problem with the devices. Okay, maybe I need to update the drivers. I asked the system to check, and it reported later drivers were available. I installed the updated drivers and tested the reader. No joy. I still could not read SDHC. Tried an SD card. Oh great, now Vista can't read either type!

I went back to Device Manager, and selected "Roll Back Driver." Vista reported the driver was successfully rolled back. Time to test. Uh Oh. I still can't see any images on either type of card. I've gone from the frying pan into the fire!

Time to Google my problem. Google found something that sounded a lot like my problem. Solution: use Device Manager, delete the devices, reboot, let Vista re-discover the devices and all should be well. Only it didn't solve the problem.

Device Manager found the devices, reinstalled them, no exclamation marks, but they still can't read any of my cards.

Time to search the Microsoft site. I found a somewhat similar problem listed, where somebody was having a Firewire problem. Recommended solution: Use the Microsoft Fix It program.

I downloaded and installed the program. The program opened up showing a series of problems that it could check. I scrolled down until I found "Hardware devices not detected or not working (Figure 1).

I clicked the Run button and crossed my fingers. The program reported it had found hardware changes might not have been detected, and had successfully updated. It also checked that Windows Update was configured to install drivers (Figure 2).

Okay, time to see if my problem was fixed. Yes! I can now read both types of SD cards just like when the machine was new. Problem solved.

I don't know if the Fixit program can solve other problems as easily, but I'm definitely going to keep this program installed on my computer. It's a keeper.

"The people who built Silicon Valley were engineers. They learned business, they learned a lot of different things, but they had a real belief that humans, if they worked hard with other creative, smart people, could solve most of humankind's problems. I believe that very much."

Steve Jobs

## So, Who Needs One?

By Wil Wakely, President, Seniors Computer Group, CA

September 2011 issue, Bits and Bytes

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When I ask someone if they have a computer the infrequent answer is the subject of this article. It's hard to convince them of its value because, until you have used one, you don't know what you are missing. And when yours is broken, then you *really* know what you are missing. I made a list of just a few of the programs that are most useful and ended up with four pages, too many to list here. But here are the most popular programs that are considered essential:

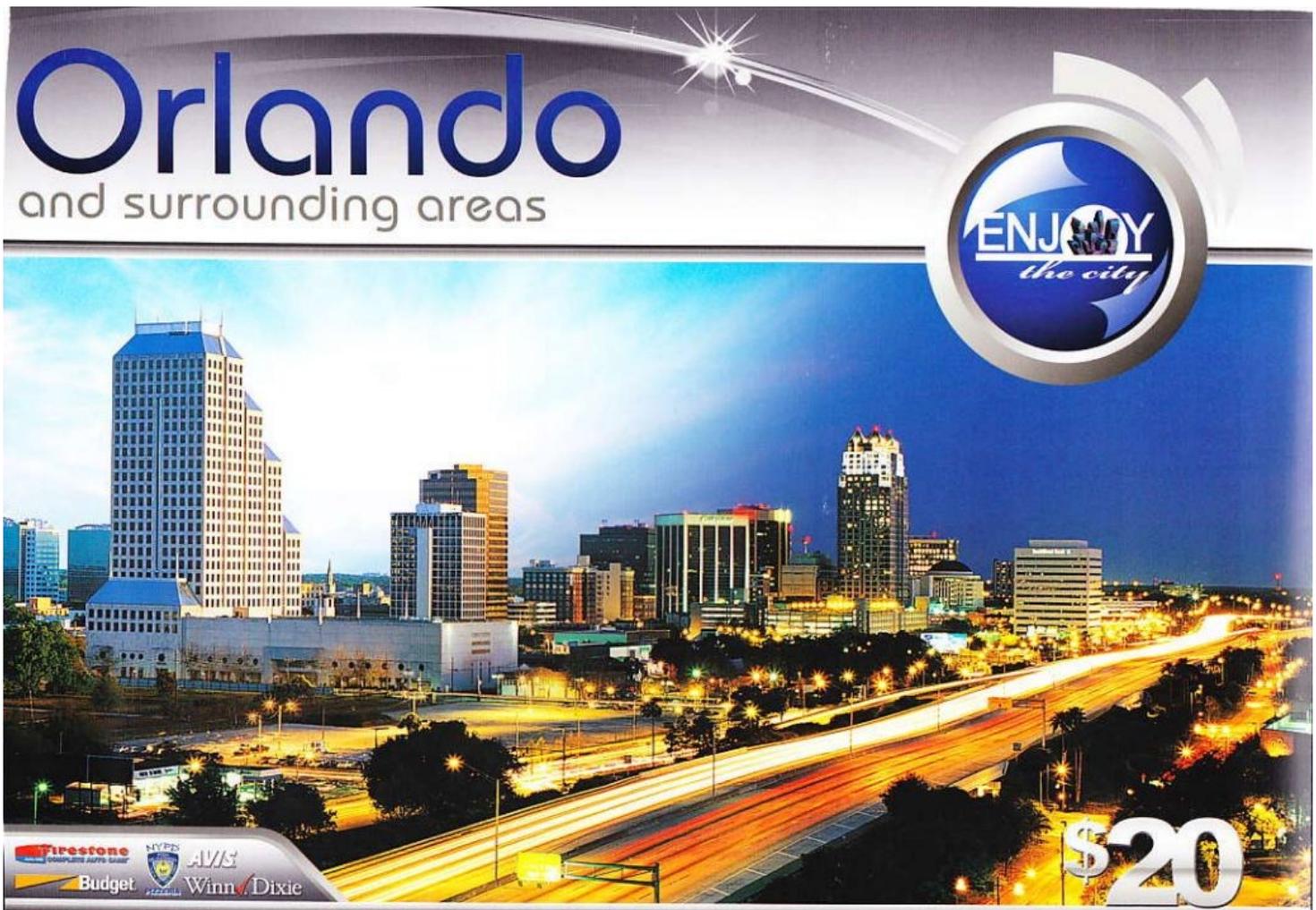
**Web Browsers** – These programs connect you to the Internet, which is an invaluable resource that opens the world to everyone. MS (Microsoft) Internet Explorer (IE) is the most popular browser which is included in all Windows operating systems. Mozilla Firefox is the second most popular, with about a half-dozen other browsers available for free, and each with slightly different features. If for no other reason to own a computer, access to the Internet is at the top of the list and free "Google search" is a gem for the inquisitive. Almost every business today must have a computer and, most likely, a Web site for advertising and support of their products and/or services. Woe to everyone if the Internet ever shuts down for an extended period of time. Many stores close their doors when their computer is 'down'. Most young human

cashiers are mathematically crippled without a computerized cash drawer.

Next in usefulness would be **Email** programs, which have revolutionized our planet's communications – these programs are called 'email clients'. There are two basic types of email: 'resident', meaning stored on your computer, and 'web-based', meaning that the program and emails are stored on the Internet. A few examples of 'resident' client programs are Thunderbird, Outlook, Live Mail and Eudora. AOL, MSN, Yahoo and

Gmail are examples of web-based email programs. Web-based email is more flexible in that it is accessible from any Internet connection anywhere in the world; however, the emails and contacts are not stored on your computer.

Everyone that types needs a **word processor**, which is the most convenient, smartest, easiest to use typewriter in the world. There are three versions of WP (word processors), two of which come with MS Windows. Notepad is the simplest with the fewest features, but for short, quick notes it works fine. Wordpad is a step up in that some formatting features are provided such as change of font size and style. MS Word comes with the MS Office Suite, which must be purchased separately. This is the most powerful of the word processors. However, Open Office Suite (free) has a Word clone included. There are many other word processors available, both free and fee based, that a Google search will uncover. Corel WordPerfect at one time was the leader of the Word Processing world, and is still available. It is not as popular, but it is equally as powerful as Word.



Don't you just hate it when you buy a coupon book for certain coupons, like \$5 off at Publix, a free Firestone oil change, or a BOGO at your favorite restaurants. When these are used up, you've more than gotten your money back, but now it's time for another oil change, and you've used all the good restaurants. Not to worry, we just obtained a special Fall edition of our Enjoy the City book, with all the same great coupons you are missing, but good until the end of June, 2012. Grab one today from any board member. BTW, it's \$5 off at Winn-Dixie, but Publix accepts it!

**Photo processing** is perhaps the third most popular of computer programs. Digital photography, rather than obsolete film, allows your photos to be manipulated with a computer. A host of these programs are available with prices ranging from free to over \$500. (Much, much more if you are a photo professional). Some programs allow you to create albums and scrapbooks. You can store selected photos on a web site and allow designated friends to view them at their leisure. So it is not necessary to email your photos; just inform your friends where to view them on the Web, and provide a password if necessary. Picasa, a program from Google is perhaps the best overall photo manipulating program for the price, which is free. If you are a pro, Photoshop is one of the best programs, but it is quite expensive.

**Spreadsheets**, such as Excel and Paradox are essential if you do any financial or mathematical calculations. If you keep lots of lists by hand, you might find a spreadsheet very useful. Some people use it as an address book and for budgeting. Try it, you might like it, and it is not all that difficult to master.

**Utilities** to maintain your computer in top running order are necessary programs. Anti-virus, email Spam filters, Firewalls, file managers are all essential programs. A Google search on the Internet will list thousands in all price ranges. Many are available for free.

Just a few of the other useful computer programs, in no particular order, are: **Draw/Paint, Legal, Genealogy, Tax preparation, Music, Video, FAX, Labels and Envelopes, Calendar, CAD (computer aided design), and databases.** And I know you can think of many more uses for your computer.

Let your Board of Directors know which of the programs you wish to be presented at your Sunday meetings. You might even volunteer to present your favorite one to the membership. Don't be shy. Happy computing!

"Don't be trapped by dogma -- which is living with the results of other people's thinking."  
Steve Jobs

## Tech Tip: How to Recover Data from a Dead Hard Drive

By Bryan Lambert, Geeks.com  
[www.geeks.com](http://www.geeks.com)

One of the most dreadful feelings that you can have is having a pc computer or laptop die that hasn't been backed up recently; especially if you have valuable pictures, music, videos, documents or other files on it.

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In this Tech Tip we'll take a look at how to recover your valuable pictures from a dead computer.

### Where to start

Computers are complex machines and when they work right, they are fun to use – but when something goes drastically wrong, it can feel as if your world crashed down around you. If your hard drive is still in working order, there is a very good chance that you'll be able to recover your pictures, music, videos and valuable documents (and other data) simply with another computer; a specialized cable, a screwdriver; and a little time.

**To start off**, your best bet it to get a specialized USB cable that can plug directly into your hard drive that you'll recover from the dead computer. There are several types, and I'd recommend getting one that can handle both PATA (IDE) and SATA hard drives (the two most common used in consumer computers) as well as 2.5" (laptop) and 3.5" (desktop) hard drives (Geeks.com sells several that run in the \$13-

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16 range). You can also use a hard drive dock or external drive cases as well - but personally I find the specialized USB cable to be the easiest and most flexible option.

**Next**, remove the hard drive from the dead computer. On desktops it is usually held in with four Philips screwdrivers and on laptops it is usually under an access panel on the bottom of the computer. Remove any cables and caddies that the drive may have – all you need is the bare drive. Then plug in the USB cable into the hard drive (and a power cable if it is a desktop drive – also provided with the USB cable kit) and then plug the other end of the USB cable into a working computer. The computer will then set up the drive as an external storage device and voilà! you'll now have access to the files on that drive (provided that the drive is not encrypted or using some type of security feature).

### **Where to look**

OK, so the drive is now plugged into your computer and seen as an external drive, now what? You have several options. **One option is to simply look for the files on the drive from the dead computer that you plugged into the USB port and copy them onto the working computer. This is my preferred method personally.** I like to “brute force” my way through the drive with Windows Explorer (or a similar file browsing tool) and manually copy/paste the data from one computer to the other. Another option is to follow a Windows dialog box (that usually pops up when you plug in an external drive) and have it help you copy your data from one computer to the other. If you are manually choosing to “brute force it” personal data is usually stored by default in the computers operating systems “home directory” for users.

### **Common Locations**

for home directories (*where <root> takes the place of the drive letter*):

1. **Microsoft Windows 95-Me** <root>\My Documents
  2. **Microsoft Windows 2000/XP/2003** <root>\Documents and Settings\<username>
- Microsoft Windows Vista / Windows 7**  
<root>\Users\<username>

### **Other “What ifs”**

What if the files on the drives are erased? If they are, you can use a free recovery program such as Piriform's Recuva to look for and (hopefully) restore the files. This simple, easy-to-use tool is terrific for recovering pictures from a camera's memory card that have accidentally been erased as well!

What if the hard drive is the reason that the computer died (actual hardware failure)? If the hard drive is the part that caused the computer failure, then you may be out of luck. Yes, there are specialty recovery services that will pull apart the drives data platters and attempt to recover data (and they are usually successful - such services were used, for example, to recover data from the hard drives that were used on computers from the space shuttle Columbia after it broke apart in 2003) but such services are usually very expensive.

### **A word to the wise**

**Backup, backup, backup!** Whether using one of the Internet based cloud services or a separate external hard drive – if you make it a habit of backing up regularly, chances are good that you'll keep the loss of such a failure to a minimum if a computer fails. Of course one of the benefits of using cloud-based backup services is that you can have access to your pictures anywhere you have Internet access.

### **Summing it up**

A computer that dies can be a loss – but don't lose hope that your valuable pictures (and other stuff) are gone forever. With a little work, you can retrieve your data off the hard drives from a dead computer!

**"It's in Apple's DNA that technology alone is not enough -- it's technology married with liberal arts, married with the humanities, that yields us the result that makes our heart sing, and nowhere is that more true than in these post-PC devices."  
Steve Jobs**

## THIS AND THAT – Return of 6°

By Elizabeth B. Wright, Member,  
Computer Club of Oklahoma City  
September 2011 issue, CCOKC eMonitor  
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Using the 6° of Separation rule to apply to computer glitches, here are 6 steps to follow when in trouble. Remember, only four steps lie between you and your goal.

Going on the theory that all programs are written by people who can't remember a time when they didn't know how computers work, their output tends to become difficult for the rest of us to comprehend. But if you apply the 6° rule, then whatever stumps you should be within reach of a solution. But the problem is, where to start? I am not addressing hardware problems here, only software. Hardware is best left to the techs if you really need help. But for your ordinary day-to-day use of your software, there are some steps to follow when things go awry.

Before you do anything, set your software to do an automatic backup every 10 minutes or so. If you are working with numbers and can use a number pad efficiently, then you might want to set the backup for every 5 minutes. You won't be interfering with your work to have this important asset working for you.

Now to the six steps to help you through a problem:

1. Stop where you are. Has something inexplicably changed on the screen or have you for some reason reached a brick wall?
2. Do your best to remember exactly which steps got you into your predicament. It's possible you won't remember, but give it a try.
3. Write down on a piece of paper the nature of the change from what you were expecting to happen to what appears on the screen. Use the exact wording of any error messages that might show up.
4. Save the work if possible, even though it is flawed, so you can get back to it if some trial and error attempts to fix it only make matters worse.
5. "How to" books are only helpful if you have read

them beforehand. They nearly all are written to tell you what a program will do, but not how it does it. In other words, it won't tell you what you have done wrong. But if you get lucky, there will be something in the book that might trigger a possible solution.

6. Finally, for the short term, get help from anyone you know who uses the same software. No good asking someone who uses a different program for the same type of work. If no one can help you, try starting the project over again from scratch, re-enter your data (text, spreadsheet numbers, etc.) being careful not to hit any stray keys, and see if you can get past the problem area in this new document. If the problem persists then it probably is time to get serious about taking a class to learn the ins and outs of the program.

All of us need help from time to time. Don't be afraid to ask for it. Also don't call yourself a "dummy." Think of yourself as an expert in training.

"For the past 33 years, I have looked in the mirror every morning and asked myself: 'If today were the last day of my life, would I want to do what I am about to do today?' And whenever the answer has been 'No' for too many days in a row, I know I need to change something." ...

"My job is to make the whole executive team good enough to be successors, so that's what I try to do." ...

"I want to put a ding in the universe." ...

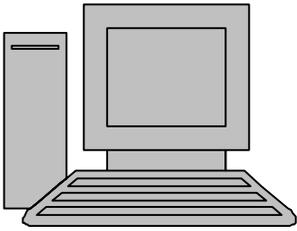
"Being the richest man in the cemetery doesn't matter to me... Going to bed at night saying we've done something wonderful... that's what matters to me." ...

**"I mean, some people say, 'Oh, God, if [Steve Jobs] got run over by a bus, Apple would be in trouble.' And, you know, I think it wouldn't be a party, but there are really capable people at Apple."**

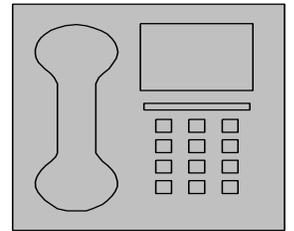
Various quotes from Steve Jobs



Try to remember the kind of September when life was slow and oh, so mellow. Try to remember the kind of September when grass was green and grain was yellow. Try to remember the kind of September when you were a tender and callow fellow.....



# 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](mailto: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](mailto:KLarrabee@cfl.rr.com)

### DOS

Stan Wallner 407-862-2669 5 pm-7 pm  
[smwallner@yahoo.com](mailto:smwallner@yahoo.com)

Kris Hestad 321-459-2755  
[kris.hestad@surfdogs.com](mailto:kris.hestad@surfdogs.com)

### Hardware

Ken Larrabee 407-365-2660 anytime

Stan Wallner 407-862-2669 5 pm-7 pm  
[smwallner@yahoo.com](mailto:smwallner@yahoo.com)

### MS ACCESS

Arvin Meyer, MVP 407-327-3810 7 pm - 9 pm  
[Access-sig@cfcs.org](mailto:Access-sig@cfcs.org)

### MS Office Products:

MS Word, Excel, Power Point, Outlook and Access  
Doug Gabbard (e-mail only)  
[Dougga@gmail.com](mailto:Dougga@gmail.com)

### Security

Arvin Meyer 407-327-3810  
[vp-adm@cfcs.org](mailto:vp-adm@cfcs.org)

### Networking - Home or Office

Doug Gabbard e-mail only  
[Dougga@gmail.com](mailto:Dougga@gmail.com)

### SQL-Server

Arvin Meyer 407-327-3810  
[vp-adm@cfcs.org](mailto:vp-adm@cfcs.org)

### Windows

Hewie Poplock 407-362-7824 5 pm-7 pm  
[hewie@hewie.net](mailto:hewie@hewie.net)

Kris Hestad 321-459-2755  
[kris.hestad@surfdogs.com](mailto:kris.hestad@surfdogs.com)

### WinZip

Arvin Meyer 407-327-3810  
[vp-adm@cfcs.org](mailto:vp-adm@cfcs.org)

### Wireless Routers

Kris Hestad 321-459-2755  
[kris.hestad@surfdogs.com](mailto:kris.hestad@surfdogs.com)

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						1 Newsletter Copy deadline
<b>OCT</b>						
2	3	4	5 CFCS BoD Denny's Casselberry 7 pm	6	7	8
9	10	11	12 Access, Of- fice, Security SIGs: New Hori- zons, 7pm	13	14	15
16 12:30 pm Windows SIG 2pm General Meeting	17 iPhone SIG, Lee Rd. Denny's, 7 pm	18	19 Photo/Video SIG Moved to Cloud. 7pm Ck. E- Blast for details & pg 6	20	21	22
23	24	25 Tech SIG Denny's, Casselberry 7 pm	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>NOV</b>						
		1 Newsletter Copy deadline	2 CFCS BoD Denny's Casselberry 7 pm	3	4	5
6	7	8	9 Access, Of- fice, Security SIGs: New Hori- zons, 7pm Lee Rd. 7 pm	10	11	12
13	14	15	16 Photo/Video SIG Moved to Cloud. 7pm Ck. E- Blast for details & pg 6	17	18	19
20 12:30 pm Windows SIG 2pm General Meeting	21 iPhone SIG, Lee Rd. Denny's, 7 pm	22 Tech SIG Denny's, Casselberry 7 pm	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

**DIRECTIONS TO MONTHLY MEETING**

Our meeting building is at the intersection of Lee Road and Turner Rd. The meeting is in the building behind the one on the corner of Lee and Turner. Turn North on Turner, left into the parking lot, and drive behind the office building in the rear of the parking lot. You will see a sign: **Jackson Hewitt delivery entrance**. Plenty of parking is nearby, and the meeting room is just inside, making it accessible for those with special mobility equipment.

**SPECIFIC DIRECTIONS based on your starting point.**

**From I-4, exit at lee Rd.,** drive East 1/2 mile to Turner Rd. and turn left onto Turner and left again into the first parking lot. Drive to the rear of the rearmost building and look for the Jackson Hewitt delivery entrance.

**From Apopka/436 area,** go south on 441 to

**Lee Rd., Go about 2 miles, past I-4, then turn left onto Turner and left again into the first parking lot. Drive to the rear of the rearmost building and look for the Jackson Hewitt delivery entrance.**

**From the SouthWest,** take John Young to Lee Rd. as above, turn left on Turner and left again into the first parking lot. Drive to the rear of the rearmost building and look for the Jackson Hewitt delivery entrance.

**From Hwy 17-92,** drive to Lee Rd, turn West, then go 8/10ths of a mile to Turner Rd. and turn right. Drive to the rear of the rearmost building and look for the Jackson Hewitt delivery entrance.

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