

technical or electronic knowledge, stop by one of our meetings.

You'll be glad you did. ■

\*Same thing if you are still using that VCR!

**Support the businesses which support CFCS. They are:**

Smart Guys Computers at 1617 WP Ball Blvd.; smartguyscomputers.com/ **Discount for cfcs members.**

Refresh Computers at 820 E State Rd 434, Longwood, FL; refreshcomputers.net/ **Discount for cfcs members.**

MacsOrlando at 3712 Howell Branch Rd. Winter Park 32792, <http://macsorlando.com/> Member of CFCS; he sells used Macs & PCs.

## The Tip Corner

By Bill Sheff, Lehigh Valley Computer Group, Pennsylvania

### Your Next Computer

With Windows 10 about to become a reality for most of us sometime this year, perhaps now is the time to consider what you want in a computer.

The first question is desktop or laptop. Both have their strong and weak points, but with laptops getting more and more powerful plus the ability to plug into a larger monitor or even a large TV tips the scale towards the laptop. True you can't add any cards, but today's motherboards usually have everything you need.

Because of its small size, laptops are usually more expensive than desktops, however if you want to save some bucks look around for a

used or refurbished machine. A refurbished computer is a computer that has been returned to the company and has been checked out as good but cannot be sold again as new. All major computer manufacturers have a refurbished section showing all their available refurbished products. Buying one of these computers instead of a new computer can save you hundreds of dollars.

If you plan to buy a used one double check that there is no physical damage and all the ports are in good working order.

Today many computers have the restore disks right in the hard drive, so make sure you do have the capability to make a set of restore disks if the machine did not come with them. With a refurbished machine you usually get the same warranty as with a new machine. But most warranties do not transfer to a new owner when buying a used machine.

I will not comment on whether or not to get a PC or MAC, but be aware that any software for a MAC machine will cost a lot more than the PC, and also there is a lot more freeware to be had with Microsoft.

Make sure the CD drive is able to support at least DVDs. A plus if it comes with Blu Ray. I haven't heard of a device that will not burn or play plus/minus R or RW discs, but insure that it does.

Even if all you plan to do is send emails to the kiddies, memory is most important. Microsoft is a memory hog. They say that you need one to two GB of RAM, I say don't even look at a machine with less than 4 GB. The more memory the faster the machine.

Most users today are using broadband Internet so a cat 5 port is a must for those of you who still think a phone hookup is good enough, but then you have to have a modem. But trust me, pay the extra and get broadband. There are so many downloads available that speed is really a necessity.

Both Intel and AMD are quality processors. Just insure that they are fast enough. Dual and quad core motherboards are getting to be pretty standard now.



Preview THE **FREE!**  
Edition of  
**BUSSLINE**

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

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## Solve the mysteries of computers & other tech at our free monthly meetings

**Aug. 9: The Wonderful Oz Returns for a Reprise of his Always Enthralling Computer Tricks & Tips you can actually use! This meeting is the last one at the Maitland Library**



Oz Rugless has provided many fun-filled, informational, and useful presentations to CFCS members before, and he plans on doing that again. He'll pique your interest with a potpourri of ideas, one of which is sure to be just what you were looking for, including: freeware and shareware you can use, today, that you never knew existed; shortcut techniques for making your computing easier; where to find answers when you're stumped with a computing problem; how to automate routine computing tasks; programming tips for both the experienced programmer and the newbie.

Be there. You'll walk away smiling, with a pocketful of new ideas you can use right away.

P.S. Oz has flown around the world to do this presentation. This is a rare chance to

This is a preview edition of our BUSSLINE newsletter, published by the Central Florida Computer Society (CFCS) for more than 30 years. The full version (24 pages) may be found on our website at [cfcs.org](http://cfcs.org), a few days after our monthly meeting. Our monthly meetings and Special Interest Groups (SIG) are free to visitors. For an easy, relaxed way to keep your computer and other tech stuff running smoothly with the advice and support of hundreds of fellow travelers through the age of technology, join us for a (free of charge) meeting or two. You'll be glad you did.

hear an expert, and it's FREE! Much less than he charges those big corporations!

**Sept. 13: At Seminole Library, a Tech Guru from Staples will present and demonstrate the latest technology at Staples, as well as the benefits of shopping locally.**

**Oct. 11: Mark Schulman will speak at Seminole Library about Internet scams and how to avoid them.** Mark



Schulman is an author, speaker, software designer and technology enthusiast. His topic Sunday is so appropriate in the ever increasing world of more sophisticated scams, particularly on the Internet. Prac-

tice safe computing by attending our free meeting and learning the latest dangers and antidotes from a real expert, whose style of presentation is always enjoyed by both experts and neophytes.

**Nov. 8: Geeks on Tour will present a program at Seminole Library from their vast reservoir of computer knowledge.** Geeks on Tour is well known for their weekly educational broadcast about smartphones and tablets, which takes place at **2pm Eastern time** on any Sunday, or check them out at [geeksontour.org](http://geeksontour.org)

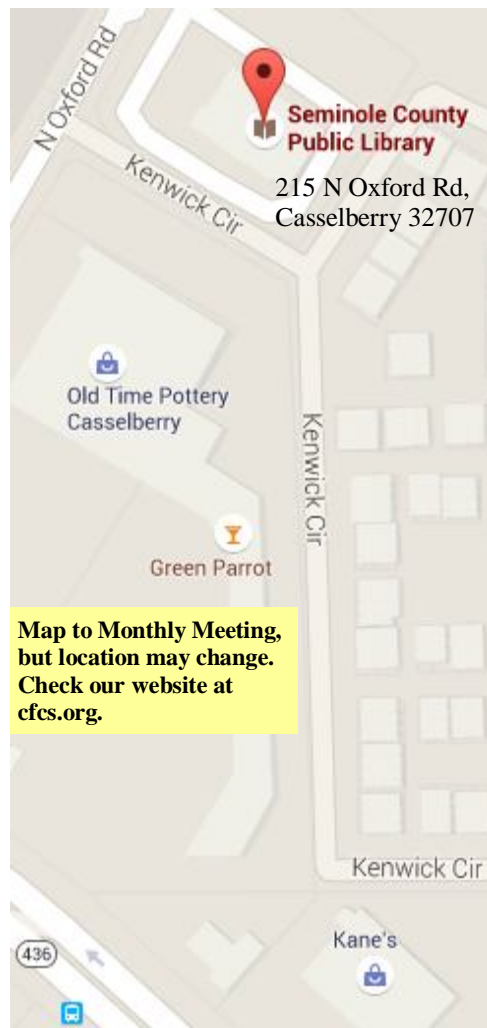
**Dec. 14: Glen Coffield of Smart Guys Computers fame** will make his annual Holiday visit to our elves society **at Seminole Library** and present us with his always potent viewpoint on all things happening in our favorite place, the world of tech.

**Presentations and Meeting Places are subject to change.** The best way to keep up to date is signing up for the CFCS E-Blast e-mail newsletter at [cfcs.org](http://cfcs.org), or just check out [cfcs.org](http://cfcs.org) for updates.

**Monthly Meetings** are held starting at 1:30 pm in the Seminole County Library Community Room. (Aug. 9 will be the last at Maitland Library.) See map in this BUS-SLINE or on pg. 24 of the online edition at [cfcs.org](http://cfcs.org). Meeting place will change on Sept. 13 to the Seminole County Library at 215 N. Oxford Road in Casselberry. For details and maps, consult our website at [cfcs.org](http://cfcs.org).

## SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

**Earlier on the same day of each presentation, the WINDOWS SIG\* meeting is held.** (\*Special Interest Group) The WinSIG always meets at 1:30 pm, and is hosted by Hewie Poplock, just before the CFCS General Meeting at 2:45. If you use or plan to use Windows, these discussions, demon-



strations, 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 online interactive view of our WinSIG is available at <https://cfcs.adobeconnect.com/winsig/>

Our e-newsletter, the **eBlast**, 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 Android SIG** meets on the second Tuesday of each month from 7 to 9 pm at Denny's restaurant on 436 & Oxford Rd. in Casselberry. Hosted by Bob Black, the group dis-

cusses all things Android in round table fashion. Each member gets several minutes to talk about a favorite app, or accessory or ask questions about using and improving the Android experience. [editor@cfcs.org](mailto:editor@cfcs.org)

**The TECH DISCUSSION SIG** meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month from 7 to 9 pm at the World Gourmet Restaurant on 436 near Ronald Reagan Blvd.. This SIG is hosted by Vice President Stan Wallner ([vp@cfcs.org](mailto:vp@cfcs.org)).

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)

**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. The iSIG meetings cover the products that use the iPhoneOS, 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.

### Drupal SIG

Our Drupal SIG meets at **Orlando Public Library 101 E Central Blvd, Orlando, FL 2nd floor - Melrose Center** RSVP at Meetup.com: <http://www.meetup.com/Orlando-Drupal/events/181779882/>

## Attend a CFCS meeting for the time of your computer's life

Has this ever happened to you?

- You bought a computer and don't know how to use it?
- You've had a computer for years but never had the time to learn more about it.
- Your kids know more about computers than you do?
- Your job expects computer knowledge with no training.
- Your kids gave you an iPad but you are worried about cloud storage?
- You've heard about identity theft but don't know what to do about it.
- You'd like your computer to talk to your wife's computer but can't figure out how to do it.

The answer to all these questions is the same: Join the CFCS. Attend our next Sunday meeting (It's free.) Join and learn. We were the first and are still the best!

Many of our members are experts in all types of electronics, from digital video recorders to GPS units, iPhones, iPads, and MP3 players. The list is as infinite as the internet.

Other members are just like you, wanting to learn more without paying for expensive training.

Whatever your technology interest or problem, someone in CFCS will know about it.

Join the fun, join the knowledge, join us at our next meeting. Details elsewhere in this newsletter or on our website at [CFCS.org](http://cfcs.org).

*P.S. If you are the type whose VCR used to flash 12:00 and you couldn't fix it, you are too far gone,\* but for any other*