

May 2016

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“JOIN US FOR FUN AND LEARNING AT CROSSVILLE’S COMPUTER CLUB”

Volume 22, Issue 5

This Month’s Meetings
Photo Editing Workshop
Thursday, May 12 at 1:00 P.M.
At FFG Library Bldg.

General Meeting
Monday, May 16 at 6:00 P.M.
At Christ Lutheran Church FFG
Note Summer Hours

Plateau Photography Club
Thursday May 19 at 1:00 P.M.
At FFG Library Bldg.

The May Program at
FFG Christ Lutheran Church

Carl Nordeen will present information
on doing backups.

Protecting Your System.

Today’s computers and storage devices do not cost much to buy or replace, but the information stored on them—from documents to photos, video and music are priceless.

Carl will talk and show about coverage on the following necessities in tonight’s informative demonstration.

1. Why backup?
2. What to backup?
3. Types of backup.
4. How to backup.
5. Free and paid backup software.



Memorial Day Monday, May 30th.

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Summer Hours starts at 6:00 P.M. (April through September)

New location: Christ Lutheran Church
481 Snead Drive, Fairfield Glade

“FREE” Table

We have set up a table at our member meetings to share our “extra” goodies with other club members. If you have something to give away, bring it in and put it on the FREE table. It’s first come, first served. If you see something you want, help yourself.

Join the Club!

Anyone interested to attend the general meeting or any of the SIG meetings as a guest will be charged \$3.00 per person for any or all meetings in that month. Afterwards, you are encouraged to become a member of the Plateau PC Users Group. Our Club cannot exist without you, the members.

Membership Dues

Our annual dues are now payable July 1st of each year. Annual dues are \$24 per single person / \$30 per family starting July 1, 2014, with partial years dues as follows:

Join Date	Apr. 1, 2016	July 1, 2016 Annual Dues	Oct. 1, 2016	Jan. 1, 2017
Single:	\$6	\$24	\$18	\$12
Families:	\$7	\$30	\$22	\$15

Student memberships (21 and under) are \$10 annually. Corporate memberships are \$30 a year for the first two memberships and \$10 a year for each additional membership from the same company. Contact the PPCUG Treasurer (931) 707-3677 for pro-rated dues of these types of memberships.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS DISCLAIMER

All members of the Plateau PC Users Group are willing to help one another in the area of advice and tutorial instruction over the phone. If you should require more involved services or instruction, we have a few members who are very knowledgeable in several areas. As a responsible consumer, it is up to you to discuss, before retaining a member, any and ALL charges for repair services and time consuming tutorial activities.

It is not the desire of this Board of Directors to set fees for individuals for services rendered, nor the responsibility to intervene between members who enter into a contract among themselves

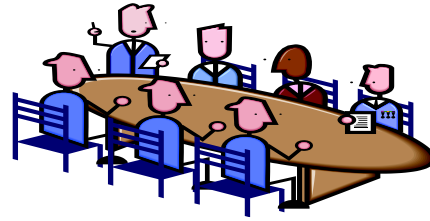
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2015-

2016



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SIG Leaders		
Photo Editing Workshop	Ed Thornblade	(931) 456-6020
Plateau Photography Club	Jim Mansfield	(931) 484-6920

Up Coming Meeting June 2016

Note: Summer Hours & New Location

The next General Meeting of the
PLATEAU PC USERS GROUP
Will be on June 20 at **6:00 P.M.**
at Christ Lutheran Church
481 Snead Drive FFG
(corner of Snead & Lake View)

Classes

Please send ideas for new classes to Alan Baker
(ambaker@citlink.net)

Cool Tips & Sites

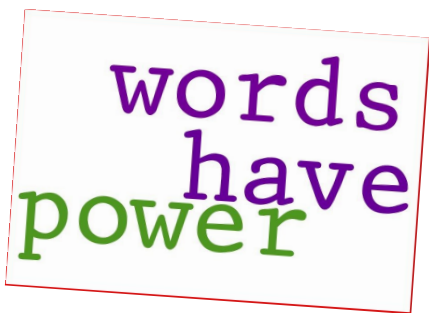
Insert Screenshots into Word

One of our favorite new features in Word 2010 is the ability to glue screen grabs right into the document we're working on. Just use the Print Screen key as normal to grab an image, and then go to Insert > Illustrations > Screenshot

Use the Built-In Thesaurus

You don't need to hop online to use a thesaurus, the folks in Redmond had the good sense to bundle one in Word. To use it, highlight an entry and press Shift+F7.

Pretty simple, right? Or maybe we should say it's trouble-free, straightforward, effortless, uncomplicated, or painless.



PPCUG ISP

We wish to thank the following for providing
ISP connections:

Frontier for DSL at the :
127 Senior Center, Crossville, TN

News of the Special Interest Groups

The PPCUG sponsors several Special Interest Groups (SIGs) tailored to meet the varied needs of our many members. Each SIG is a small group whose leader prepares material for presentation and encourages open discussion and questions. We urge you to attend the SIGs and hope you will find one or more of interest to you. Ideas for additional groups are welcome, as are volunteers to form and lead new SIGs.

Plateau Photography Clubs

A photo editing workshop is held at 1:00 PM at the Fairfield Glade Library Bldg. on the second Thursday of each month. Members meet to discuss & demonstrate various editing software programs available to enhance their photographs. The SIG leader is Ed Thornblade.

The Photography Club, a PPCUG SIG, meets the Third Thursday of each month at the Fairfield Glade Library Bldg. at 1:00PM. Topics vary each month but we show and discuss member's photos each month. The SIG leader is Jim Mansfield.

The Photo Club/SIG website

The Photo Club/SIG website is now up. Access to it is through the PPCUG website, using the "Photo Club" navigation link at the top of each PPCUG page. I think that this is a big improvement, and could not have been done without the work of Dallas Richards.

PPCUG Website

Visit our website at www.PPCUGinc.com. The Learning Center class schedule and Gazette are all available on our web site.

Send your comments and suggestions to the
Webmaster, Alan Baker
Webmaster@ppcuginc.com (931) 788-2201

PPCUG FFG General Meeting Minutes April 18, 2016

Presentations by:

Bob Willis, Carl Nordeen, Ed Thornblade and Jim Mansfield

The first general meeting of the PPCUG Computer Club held in Fairfield Glade in many years by the number and enthusiasm of those attending was a success. Please remember that this is the first of an ongoing trial period of three meetings in FFG designed to serve as a basis for determining the location of future general meetings.

Steve Rosenstein, President, began the meeting with an introduction of the Board of Directors. He also introduced the Photo Club Special Interest Group (SIG). Steve briefly described the association with the national PC users group APCUG.

Bob Willis then took the stage to introduce his presentation of Internet security. At the same time of introducing his intended presentation, Bob also added that this presentation is available on the ppcuginc.com website. Bob referenced recent news stories stating the vulnerability of all devices regardless of phone, pc, tablet or laptop. They are all vulnerable to a point. What do we mean when we say malicious cyber activity or being “hacked” or we have a “virus” or “locked out?” There are many types of problems that may be aimed at your device. There are viruses, malware, ransomware, key loggers, potentially unwanted programs (PUPs), worms, trojans and others. Generally speaking, we small individual users are not prime targets but we are vulnerable and could be caught up in an attack on a company or financial institution with whom we are doing business, banking, or credit card companies could be a prime target as an example.

The collection of different types of problem software could be referred to as malware. It is an umbrella term used to describe all manner of programs designed to do harm directly or indirectly to your utilization of a device. These programs can steal information such as banking, credit card, health records and any other data you might have used or entrusted to your devices. Key loggers do just what the name implies. They monitor your keystrokes so that as you are entering vital information they are able to copy what you are doing. Ransomware is also well named. It takes over your data or computer and encrypts the information holding it hostage and demanding payment to allow you to retrieve your computer information. Of course, in this case even if you follow their instructions there is little you can do as in some cases they will not release or decode but just disappear. Once they have stolen the information they have been known to apply for loans using your data, or obtained credit cards in your name.

What can I do to prevent this from happening to me? As we have seen on the news recently, given enough time and determination almost anything can be hacked. Why do you lock your car? If you do, can it still be stolen? Obviously it can be stolen, it just takes more effort and maybe more time but if a thief wants it he will more than likely take it. It is much the same with our computer data. We can and should take every precaution to make our device less desirable than someone else's. We do this with good passwords, using only secure network connection, encryption, antivirus, antimalware, antispyware and any of several other programs to make our device less inviting for attack. Most devices come preloaded with some kind of password. That password is something only designed to allow you to change it immediately. Do change your password to a strong password using upper and lower case letters with numbers and any of the characters on the keyboard. Do not use complete words and use at least 8 and less than 16 characters. Free versions of some effective security software are, SuperAntiSpyware, Malwarebytes Anti-malware, CCleaner, JRT (junkware removal tool) and AdwCleaner. All of these can be downloaded from bleepingcomputer.com website. There are free versions of these programs and there are also more full featured versions which may be purchased. Bob also suggests setting up user accounts on your device and keeping the administrator account separate to be used only for management of programs and the device, with its' own admin password. This will help prevent an inadvertent download without the administrator's concurrence.

One of the best ways of avoiding undesirable malware from attacking your machine is to be very careful when dealing with email messages especially ones with attachments even if they appear to be from someone you know or from a company you are familiar with. If there is any doubt about a message don't open it or any attachment

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without verifying with the sender, assuming it is someone you trust, that the message is legitimate. Don't just "reply" to the message to ask, or you may just be asking the culprit for the answer. Compose a new message using your contacts for the address. Often the malware is hidden in the attachment and opening the attachment is the mechanism for the infection to imbed in your machine and possibly even spread to others through your messages. You can also be infected by using an infected flash drive or going to a malicious website. It is important to keep your machine current on updates. Many updates are security updates designed to keep up with the newest attempts at malware. Caution,, Windows XP is no longer supported by Microsoft and therefore use of an XP machine for internet connection is very hazardous. XP can be used safely for any use which does not involve access to the internet or open networks. Even if you see a screen that says your machine is up to date, it is necessary to actually go to the windows update site and search for updates. Not all updates are installed automatically.

For further information on this segment go to the website of www.PPCUGinc.com and review Bob's presentation.

The next portion of the meeting was conducted by Jim Mansfield of the Photo Club special interest group (SIG) affiliate of the PPCUG Club. Jim gave a brief description of the function and practice of the portion of their membership mostly interested in taking pictures as they see the subject. Ed Thornblade leads another portion of their membership who go another step in their pursuit of photography and delve into editing and enhancing the photos beyond just accepting whatever appears initially in their pictures. The Photo Club also belongs to the Camera Club Council of Tennessee, a statewide group of camera clubs. Through these connections, members have access to additional information, resources, competitions and benefits.

Ed Thornblade made a brief presentation illustrating some of the capabilities of the editing section of the Photo Club. Ed mentioned that over time the group has evolved from Photoshop Elements software to many other more capable software programs with specific features. Newer programs such as, Topaz or Light Room which is one of Ed's favorites. Ed then proceeded to illustrate the capability of the editing software by showing several before and after photos with remarkable results. It was obvious from the audience response that they were impressed.

The Photo Club editing group, led by Ed Thornblade, meet at the FFG Library Bldg. in room C on the second Thursday of each month. The Photography Club lead by Jim Mansfield, meet in the same location on the third Thursday to show and discuss member's photos. See the calendar and information on the PPCUG website along with links to the Club newsletter, The Gazette.

It was pointed out that the membership for any of the PPCUG Club groups is inclusive for all of the Club groups. Membership forms are included in the Gazette Newsletter as well as the website. Our membership year is from July 1 to June 30.

The next portion of the meeting was presented by Carl Nordeen on the newest Windows operating system Windows 10. Carl has been working with the new OS for many months as a beta user and contributor during its' development. Windows 10 is the follow-on to Windows 8.0 and 8.1, which were radically different than previous versions of Window OS. Carl who wasn't favorably impressed with 8, remained cautious in his appraisal of 10 for some time, now states that Windows 10 is a big improvement over the earlier versions but is still a work in progress. Microsoft is continually making changes and improvements and adding features. Initially it would not allow third party add-ons to its' Edge browser but now is beginning to allow a few. The Edge browser looks different than any other. At first glance it is not intuitive to most people. Carl's recommendation is to begin by going to the upper right toolbar and click on the three dots in a horizontal row and then select the settings menu. Change settings as desired.

If you would like to use Internet Explorer as a search engine, it can be found by using the Windows key or clicking on the flag symbol at the lower left toolbar. Look for "All apps" and scroll down to Windows accessories. Right click on Internet Explorer and you will have an option to place it on the start menu for easy access or to pin to taskbar.

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Carl was questioned about the selection of an email program in Windows 10. Carl uses Thunderbird but was quick to say that there are many choices available and will work on Windows 10.

For those who would like to use "Movie Maker" it is available for free download from Microsoft as is Photo Gallery.

For those who have not yet upgraded their computers to Windows 10, Carl reminded them that up until July 28th the upgrade is free to compatible machines. After that date, unless Microsoft extends the offer, upgrading will require purchase of the product. He further recommends insuring that you go to the website of the machine manufacturer and making sure that all updates are current before upgrading to Windows 10. This is necessary even if the MS compatibility check says the machine is compatible.

Steve Rosenstein, president of PPCUG made a short statement, introducing the survey which has been handed to attendees at this meeting for input to the Club on subject matter which you feel would be of interest. Future Fairfield Glade meetings will be developed from input you make on the survey. Please let us know what you want to know more about.

The Club is scheduled to publish a slate of officers for the new fiscal year. The position of Secretary is open at this time and we are looking for a volunteer to take over that position. We also have some openings for directors at large. The new officer candidates will be voted at the June general meeting and take office July 1st. Please contact any of the current board members listed on the website if you would be interested in becoming involved as an officer or director.

Submitted by:

Dick Del Frate
Secretary

PPCUG Officers Election is in June 2016

(For the period July 2016 through June 2017)

Candidates slated for PPCUG Board include:

President:	Steve Rosenstein
Vice President & Compliance:	Jim Buxton
Treasurer:	John Krueger
Secretary:	(Open Position)
Past President:	Carl Nordeen

Directors at Large

Alan Baker
Gordon Botting
Dolores Crabtree
Barbara Duncan
Bob Willis
Linda Yates



June 20th Meeting

808 Thump Bluetooth Speaker

Review by George Harding, Treasurer, Tucson Computer Society, AZ

September 2015 issue, TCS eJournal

www.aztcs.org

[georgehardingsbd \(at\) earthlink.net](mailto:georgehardingsbd@earthlink.net)

This is an amazingly small Bluetooth external speaker. It's only 2 ½" tall and 2 ½" in diameter! But what a sound!

First of all, like all the external speakers I've tested, it uses Bluetooth wireless technology to transmit signals from your MP3 player, tablet or cell phone to the unit. In order to use this, you "pair" one with the other. The speaker emits a signal which your playing device recognizes. The name of the speaker shows up in the list of Bluetooth devices and when you click on it, the two devices can communicate with each other.

Bluetooth has a nominal range of about 30 feet, but objects in between sending and receiving devices may limit the range somewhat.

Thump provides surprisingly good sound from its small size. I tested high and low frequencies and found that there is no distortion I could notice at high frequencies. This may be because my hearing is impaired and probably couldn't hear any distortion! I did notice some distortion at very low frequencies at high volume.

The product comes with the speaker, a charging cable (micro-USB to USB) and a small *Quick Start Guide*.

Charging takes a couple of hours, which provides up to six hours of playing time.

The back of the speaker has two connectors and two LEDs. One LED shows the status of the Bluetooth connection. The other lights when charging is in process. When charge is complete, it turns off.

One of the connectors is Aux In, used when you want to use a different source than Bluetooth.

The base has two buttons, one for On/Off and one to initiate pairing. Pairing is started automatically when you first start up the speaker. You would only need to initiate pairing if you wanted to pair with a different or additional device.

This is a great, compact external speaker, available at a very reasonable price.

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About: 808 Thump Bluetooth Speaker

Manufacturer: 808 Audio

<http://www.808audio.com/speakers/thump/>



Should I upgrade to Windows 10?



Created by Andre Da Costa June 6, 2015
MVP Insider
Community Moderator
Wiki Author

With the launch of Windows 10; the big decision is in front of you. Should you upgrade? I have already made mine and yes, I will upgrade all my computers to Windows 10. I am able to make this decision because of a number of factors. This article weighs the pro's and cons of upgrading and provides alternative ideas you can use to help make your decision easier.

Details

I have been evaluating Windows 10 since October 1st 2014. I have managed to see the operating system go through its ups and downs during that time. The experience has afforded me the ability to have an intimate experience with this platform. I have been testing pre-release versions of Windows for a long while now, as far back as Windows Server 2003 (Microsoft's Network Operating System). Throughout that time, I have built up years of experience and strategy with each new revision, the do's and don'ts. For the average user who probably just started learning about Windows 10 a couple months ago, a few days ago or even a few months from now, this will be a critical decision to make.

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Start menu



The first thing persons asking this question should think about, what are the benefits? Software over the years, no matter if its Windows, Linux or OS X have matured incredibly. The fact that Windows XP (2001), a version of Windows four generations behind is still in heavy use is a testament to how much the platform that is 'Windows' has reached a very good enough point in many persons computing lives. 2009's Windows 7 is the most popular release to date, running on nearly 1 billion systems worldwide. Even when Windows 10 launched, both it and Windows 8.1 will continue to be supported at the end of the decade.

Why is Windows 10 free, is there some catch?

No, it's not a catch. We are computing in different times. Windows 10 is free so app developers can standardize on one platform and reduce the fragmented market of different versions and editions of Windows that have been an issue in the past. When everybody is on the same platform, it means better quality apps, a healthier ecosystem and more advances in hardware.

What are some of the new improvements in Windows 10?

Windows 10 is the most familiar release of Windows 10 if you are coming from Windows 7. There are many changes, but it's not an extreme learning curve as it was going from Windows 7 to Windows 8.0. Below, are some of the out of box improvements users will find in the new operating system.

- Integration with Microsoft's digital assistant - Cortana, can be used for finding and retrieving information on the Internet and your PC, such as files. You can also use it to control applications such as the Music Player and prepare an email message or track a package.
- Task View for managing applications using multiple desktops.
- Modern apps can now be windowed and behave just like desktop apps.
- Notification Center for centralized management of notifications and quick access to PC settings.
- Universal applications that work not only on your Windows 10 PC, but also your mobile phone running Windows 10 and also XBOX One.
- XBOX App for Streaming of live games to a PC or Tablet
- Touch optimized Office applications (Word, Excel, Outlook, OneNote and PowerPoint). Providing the power of Office on devices with touch support. Users can edit, prepare documents, spreadsheets and presentations with full document fidelity regardless of device.
- Continuum Mode - if you own a 2 in 1 form factor that works both as a laptop and tablet, you can easily let Windows 10 decide the best environment for you. Once detached into Tablet mode for instance, you can work in a more touch optimized user interface. Users will also be able to remotely use Windows 10 Mobile apps on their Windows PCs.

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- Microsoft Edge - Windows 10 will include a next generation web browser called Edge that support advances in Windows 10 such as Cortana for finding information on the web, Annotation, PDF support, superior reading experience.
- Music and playlist integration in OneDrive.
- Unified messaging using Skype Integration
- Windows Hello and Passport for personalized authentication without the use of passwords.
- Device Guard for protecting devices against malicious applications.
- Support for media formats such as FLAC and MKV

If these features look enticing to you, then you are already a candidate for Windows 10.

Which features will be removed when I upgrade from a previous version of Windows?

- Windows Media Center
- DVD playback
- Desktop gadgets
- Preinstalled games
- Floppy drive support - obtain update through Windows Update or manufacturers website if it's a USB floppy drive.
- Windows Live Essentials (Windows Essentials) - can be reinstalled.
- Windows Updates - Windows 10 replaces your previous version of Windows by moving it to the Windows.old folder. Windows 10 becomes the default operating system.
- Windows Virtual PC with Windows XP Mode - you will have to use Hyper-V which includes setting up and reinstalling Windows XP. You will also need to provide your own Windows XP license.

Is Media Center supported in Windows 10?

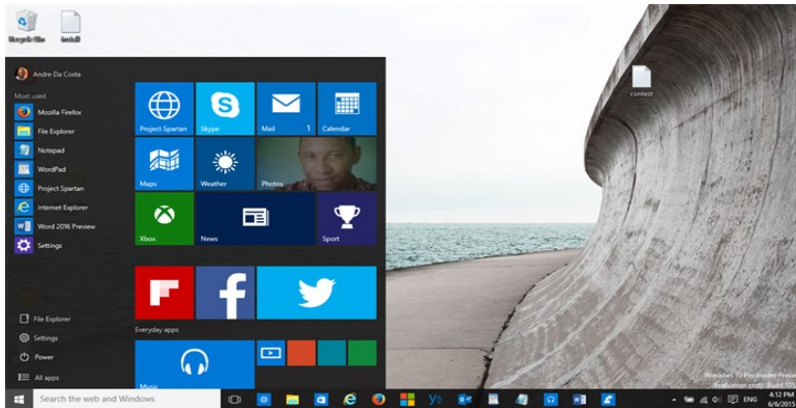
No. Persons who need to use Media Center should consider carefully before upgrading from their previous version of Windows. The Windows 10 upgrade will automatically remove any installations of Media Center. So what are the alternatives if I need Media Center? Your best option is to continue running your existing version of Windows with Media Center. Windows Media Center is not part of Windows 10 and won't be available after upgrading to Windows 10. If you use Windows Media Center, we will alert you during upgrade that Windows Media Center is not available on Windows 10. Some users use Windows Media Center to play DVDs, and we (Microsoft) are providing a free DVD playback app in Windows 10 for Windows Media Center users.



If you don't upgrade, nothing will happen to your current version of Windows, Windows 7 will continue to be supported and receive updates until January 2020, Windows 8.1 until January 2023. Even after that they will continue to function just fine.

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What is the best way to get Windows 10?

Apart from the free upgrade offer. The best way is to get Windows 10 preinstalled on a new computer. This way, you have nothing to install or worry about. Just setup a user account, install your apps and you are good to go. It also more expensive. Windows 10 is a significant upgrade. It is described as the last major version of Windows. This does not mean Microsoft will stop developing newer revisions, it simply means, upgrading to Windows 10 will be less disruptive. New, smaller, focused features will be delivered when they are ready.

So, should you upgrade?

Windows 10 is a solid release. Its familiar, improved and easier to use.

Downloading Vs. Streaming – What’s the Difference?

By Phil Sorrentino, Contributing Writer, The Computer Club, Florida
<http://sccccomputerclub.org>
Philsorr.wordpress.com
[philsorr \(at\) yahoo.com](mailto:philsorr@yahoo.com)

Downloading is something most of us do, almost without thinking about it. Streaming is something we rarely do, unless we watch a lot of movies from YouTube or another such video streaming service. Downloading refers to receiving data from a remote computer. The data comes “down” to you from another system. The received data is typically a data file of some specific type, like a picture or a video, which is then stored on the local computer, for use in the near or distant future. The received file is called a download. The downloading process will progress as fast as the server computer can send the data to your computer.

That process will be affected by (1) your computer’s capability, (2) the communications equipment between the server and your computer, and (3) how busy the server computer is at that specific time. The download really comes in many pieces, and the network protocol software in your machine reconnects all the pieces so the received file is identical to the original.

Downloading is done for many reasons. New software is typically acquired by downloading. (I’m sure you already have Google Earth or Picasa on your computer. Both of these were acquired by a download.) Email attachments are obtained by downloading. (Isn’t it nice to have those pictures of grandchildren and pets?)

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Documents are transferred by downloading. (Remember the User's Manual you downloaded when you bought your camera?)

Just as a little aside, here. Downloading and Streaming are both supported by network software included as part of the Operating System. There are many network protocols used on the internet, two of which are HTTP (Hypertext Transfer Protocol) and FTP (File Transfer Protocol). HTTP is the predominant protocol used on the internet and really defines the World Wide Web. Most of our computing activities are on the WWW, so it is HTTP that allows our computers (clients) to connect to web server computers in order to accomplish things like checking our email, making hotel reservations, purchasing something on line, downloading a picture or video file, or streaming a movie. FTP is used mostly to transfer computer files from one computer to another, and most of us will rarely, if ever, use it.

So, now we know that downloading is the acquisition of a file, from a remote server computer, for future use. You may be thinking; if downloading is receiving a file, is there a way to send a file? Well, you guessed it, as you might have thought, it is called uploading. Until recently, the only uploading most of us may have done was to attach a document or picture to an email.

The act of "attaching" was actually uploading a file (the attachment) to the email server, so it could be sent with the body of your email. But now with Cloud Servers like OneDrive, Google Drive, and Dropbox, the way you get your files to the cloud is by uploading them. Uploading your pictures and videos, or any file that you want to share with others, is probably the first thing you will do after you have set up an account with one of these Cloud services. (By the way, if you haven't tried a Cloud Service yet, give one a try. OneDrive and GoogleDrive will give you at least 15GB of storage space, free. OneDrive is hosted by Microsoft, and you guessed it, GoogleDrive is hosted by Google.)

Downloading is receiving a file from a remote server for future use. (In fact, the file cannot be used until the complete file is received and stored.) Streaming is similar, in that it is the transfer of a file from a remote server to your local computer. But the difference is that the file pieces, as they are received, are immediately used and typically are not stored for future use.

So, as you can imagine, the software to handle streaming is different in that it must process the pieces of the file, in real-time as they are received, and do it fast enough so no pieces of the file are lost. So, streaming is the process of receiving sequential pieces of a file and using those pieces immediately as they are received while the transmission continues its progress to the end of the file. Streaming data is provided by video and audio file streaming services. YouTube is an example of such a video streaming service, as is Netflix and Vimeo. (By the way, you can upload your favorite videos to YouTube and Vimeo for sharing.)

So, streaming is used to view, in real-time, a video file, like a movie, or listen to music in real-time from a music source. In video streaming, each of the file pieces is a frame of the video and the frames are sequentially displayed on the computer monitor, thereby providing motion to the picture on the monitor. Video frames may have to be displayed at rate of 60 frames per second, so the streaming software has to get all of its work done within 1/60th of a second so it can be ready for the next frame. If the hardware and software cannot process the frames fast enough, frames may be dropped and the resultant picture will stutter or jump. Audio streams are slower than video streams but they too have to produce the audio sound from each file piece before the next piece arrives. (Pandora is an example of an audio streaming service.)

So, now you can see the difference. Downloading is receiving a complete data file and storing it for future use, while Streaming is receiving a file and processing the contents, piece by piece, sequentially from the beginning to the end of the file transmission. Now to experience them, first hand, try both a download and a streaming video or audio. Try downloading Synctoy from Microsoft, a utility that will help you handle your data backup (<http://www.microsoft.com/en-us/download/details.aspx?id=15155>), and Stream something from YouTube to help you with setting up your data backup (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GiNZPzFxoSc>).

Choosing the Right Computer

By Melanie Birnbom, Webmaster, Century Village Computer Club, FL
September 2015 mid-month newsletter issue
<http://cvccpp.tripod.com/>
mbirnbom@hotmail.com

Choosing a computer can be a daunting task, especially with the large range available in the modern market. In this article I will try to narrow down your choices, making it easier to find a product that will best suit your needs.

The computer's specifications are key when buying a computer, particularly when you want to get the best performance for your money.

One of the main parts of a computer is RAM, it helps with multitasking and ease of use. If you're looking for a computer that you will only use for the most basic purposes-such as browsing the internet or typing documents-then you could probably make do with only 4gbs or RAM, two if you're lucky. However if you want to use your computer for anything more than that,-Image editing, gaming or video development- you'll probably need at least 8gbs, if not more.

If performance is what you're looking for, costs are going to increase dramatically, to the point where you may start paying \$1500+ for a computer. There are also many more things you must look for when trying to buy, lest your precious money be spent on what is effectively an overpriced brick. Firstly, a graphics card is integral to high performance computers, they allow you to edit high quality images or render demanding games, as well as being a huge help when using two monitors; go for something with 2gbs+ memory.

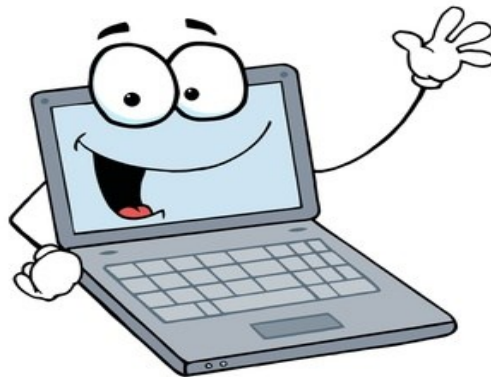
A processor is the brain of the computer, and is the most important (and thus complicated) part. Explaining how to choose one based on your inspection alone would take hours, so I recommend simply searching the processor you are looking at on Google and see what other people think of it.

Reviews

These are particularly handy if you don't want to spend much time obsessing over the technical side of your computer. Simply type the computer's name followed by the word "review" into Google and dozens of in-depth reviews of the computer will be right at your fingertips.

I cannot overstate the importance of reading reviews of a computer before you buy it, something can look great on paper, but break easily in use.

Research is the key to finding the best computer for your needs.



Favorite Smartphone and Tablet Features

By Julie Mahaffey, Member, ICON Computer Users Group, MO

Teacher: Beginning iPhone / Favorite Devices (Android & iPhone/iPad) classes, Mercy Seniors Service

January 2016 issue, The ICON Newsletter

<http://www.iconusersgroup.org/>

newsletters (at) iconusersgroup.org

I recently asked my smartphone and tablet-using friends what their favorite features are for their devices. Following is what they shared.

1. Navigation

- Smartphone is always with you.
- Smartphones use maps stored on remote servers so the maps are always current.
- Integration with contacts on your smartphone for entering destination.
- Works for driving and walking tours.
- Useful in town as well as on trips.

2. Calendar

- Calendar view can be set up as a list, year view, month view, or day view.
- Can be synced with all devices.
- Settings allow inclusion of holidays and birthdays from contacts.

3. Alarm

The clock on a smartphone can be used as an alarm, timer, stopwatch, or world clock.

4. Weather Channel App

Provides current temps, local forecasts, radar maps, storm tracking, and alerts.

5. Microphone for Speaking Text

- With dictation you can use your voice instead of typing text when sending email or text messages. Look for the microphone on the keyboard.
- Dictation understands basic text-related commands such as “all caps,” “new paragraph,” and “new line.” When you say “period,” “comma,” “question mark,” or “exclamation point,” Dictation adds that punctuation.

Insert emoticons into a text field by saying “smiley face” or “frowny face.”

6. Lists

- iPhones come with the Reminders App. With this app you can make grocery lists, packing lists, and set the app to remind you of a task on a specific day and time.
- Items can be added to the lists by Siri also.

7. Pre-selected text for 2nd caller

iPhone iOS 6 users have the “Reply With Message” function which allows a response to be sent to the caller with a pre-written text message.

8. White Pages App

Look up name, numbers, and addresses.

9. Fingerprint Touch ID

Touch ID lets you unlock your phone and make purchases with Apple Pay simply by using your finger print. It uses highly sophisticated algorithms to recognize and securely match your finger print. And the improved Touch ID sensor detects your fingerprint even faster than the previous generation.

10. Lock Screen Shows Current Temperature, Time, and Date

11. Increase Font Size and Screen Size

Double tap the screen to stretch the screen for easier reading.

12. Screen Shots

Pressing the Home and Sleep/Wake button to Snap a picture of your smartphone screen. Once a screen shot is captured, it will be automatically saved to your camera roll.

Plateau PC Users Group, Inc. Application for Membership

_____ New Member _____ Renewing Member

Return this application, with check for annual dues payable to "PLATEAU PC USERS GROUP." Return to the club Treasurer during our meeting or mail to PPCUG Treasurer, P.O. Box 3787, Crossville, TN 38557. Our annual dues are now payable no later than July 1 of each year. Annual dues are \$24.00 per single person / \$30.00 per family starting July 1, 2014. with partial dues as follows.

Join Date	Apr. 1, 2016	July 1, 2016 Annual Dues	Oct. 1 2016s	Jan. 1, 2017
Single:	\$6	\$24	\$18	\$12
Families:	\$7	\$30	\$22	\$15

_____ Date

Last Name First Name Family Members (if family Membership)

_____ Address:

City State Zip Code Phone Number

_____ E-Mail address

I have used PCs since (year): _____ I have belonged to a Computer Club before. Yes ___ No ___

I have knowledge in the following areas that I would be willing to share with club members:

I would like more information about the following areas:

4/1/2016



June 2016



<u>Sun</u>	<u>Mon</u>	<u>Tue</u>	<u>Wed</u>	<u>Thu</u>	<u>Fri</u>	<u>Sat</u>
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9 1:00 P.M. Photo Editing Workshop Mtg.	10	11
12	13	14	15	16 1:00 P.M. Plateau Photog- raphy Club Mtg.	17	18
19	20 6:00 P.M. General Mtg. Presentation Followed by Q & A Session Note Time & Location in FFG	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

Note: Please see page #15 for the Plateau PC Users Group, Inc. Application for Membership form.