Promoting Computer Literacy and Education in Charlotte County. The largest gathering of computer knowledge in Charlotte County.

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Events Calendar

Charlotte Bytes

Editor: A Yvette Pilch

May 3, 2022

**Military Heritage Museum
Auditorium, 1st Floor
900 W Marion St.
Punta Gorda, FL**

6:00 pm—Open Forum

7:00 pm— Member Mtg

**To Zoom—click link
General Member Mtg**

CCCGC President's Message
Mary Fleenor, President April, 2022

Members:

I hope everyone had a wonderful Easter. I know many of you will be headed north soon, but we're glad you are here now. We hope you will keep coming to our meetings via Zoom until you return next season. We've had a number of requests to access the 6PM Open Forum via Zoom, in addition to the 7PM General Meeting, so we will start providing Zoom access to the earlier session for those who cannot attend in person.

This month's program will be presented by Mark Krider on Network Attached Storage (NAS). NAS can provide additional storage space to archive data that is accessed infrequently, be an effective way to backup your computer in realtime to provide better data protection, enable you to have a your own private cloud storage or host a media server to access your music, movies or photo library from any of you connected devices.

For Favorite of the Month, I have found two free online photo editing tools that do an amazing job and are easy to use: Remove.bg and Bunnypic. I will give a brief overview of the tools in the meeting and will go into further depth on their capabilities in my Open Forum Tech class (2nd Tuesday of each month) on May 10th. This class will be held in office and via Zoom (**https://bit.ly/CCCGCFleenorTechClass**).

Next month, Gary Skillicorn will present a video on "How Wearable Technology Will Improve Your Health" by Ron Brown, MD, host of TechforSenior.com. There are many wearable devices, including monitors, smartwatches and even clothing, that alert us, medical professionals or emergency services when a medical anomaly is detected so that we can receive immediate attention or identify a potential health risk.

Remember, all members are invited to attend board meetings in person or via Zoom . The next board meeting will be at 2PM on Friday, April 29, 2022. Please join us.

Our next general member meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 3, 2022, at the Military Heritage Museum (900 W Marion Av) in Punta Gorda. Open forum at 6PM, followed by presentation at 7PM. The Zoom link is on the home page at **http://cccgc.info/**.

We still need volunteers! Yvette Pilch has volunteered to be the Bytes Newsletter Editor on a temporary basis, but we need someone to fill this position permanently. We continue to need volunteers in the office for the front desk, technical support and computer repair and refurbishing.

Please check the Events Calendar for the course offerings and click the links to register. Remember all classes are free to members! Please notify the instructor if you have questions you would like answered in the scheduled session. Let us know if you have special knowledge you would like to share with us as an instructor or presenter.

Know anyone who needs a little sunshine due to illness, injury or loss of a loved one? Contact the office and let us know.

Looking forward to getting your input: **cccgcoffice@gmail.com**, **941-585-0356** or click on the **Suggestion Box** on **http://cccgc.info/**.

Remember, all
Stay Safe and Healthy,
Mary Fleenor, President

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Welcome New Members

Michelle VanVranken

Nancy Kirkpatrick

Linda Poll

Marilyn Burysz

The Executive Board of Directors and Members of CCCGC welcome each of you to the group. We're here to help. Membership has its privileges.

If you have any questions, concerns or need computer help, please contact us at the office, by telephone or via the website. We will endeavor to help you any way we can.

2022 OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

President
Mary Fleenor
cccgcpresident@gmail.com
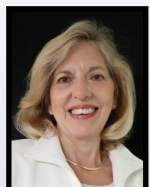
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cccgcvp@gmail.com

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Lydia Rist
cccgctreasurer@gmail.com

Debbie Krider

Sheri Lenora

Maureen Rand

Fran Robitaille

Gary Skillicorn

It is a pleasure to serve you in 2022 thru classes, presentations and individual assistance.

Please help to spread the word about CCCGC to your friends and neighbors.

Stay safe, enjoy the holidays and hope to see you throughout the new year.

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April Member Meeting Report

On April 5, 2022 CCCGC held its member meeting at the Military Heritage Museum Auditorium.

6:06 PM   Open Forum Issues Discussed: Back ups: EaseUs and secondary optionsRecovery or restore points, Carbonit Backup program, How to turn off a phone, Building a computer & file serverRemote Access, Club classesZoom – why only at the 7 pm meeting – Mark Krider appointed as new "Zoom Czar"
Suggestions for the club – use cccgcoffice@gmail.com or the website to forward itemsNotice to snowbirds getting ready to leave – get your machines checked before you leave and when you returnRefurbishing machines, Office hours, Android lock issues, Bluetooth earphones, Microsoft 365

7:00 PM   Member Meeting   Present: 53   Zoom: 3

Pledge of Allegiance

M Fleenor welcomed to 5 guests and new members

M Fleenor announced that the Board of Directors approved a donation of $600 being given to the Military Heritage Museum as a thank you for all they do to assist CCCGC begin able to have our monthly meetings in their theater and for their technical support given. The check was accepted by Gary Butler, the museum's Executive Director M Fleenor reported on some of the stats for the month of March such as number of volunteer requests, membership benefits, browser updates and Ninite program update download options. She then shared a few funny quotes from Gracie Allen.
G Kopenec presented the Favorites of the Month: **you.regettingold.com** a website that will give some interesting historical facts for any date entered. Do you think time is catching up with you? Perhaps it's already overtaken you and left you in the dust. Do the years seem to be going ridiculously quickly now? There's a reason for it. You're getting old.Presentation:
F Robitaille gave a two-part talk. The first highlighted some interesting info on 2-Factor Authentication (2FA) noting that many programs are now requiring us to us 2FA for security reasons. Secondly, he shared information found on the web about the "teachings of Dick Evans" noting that many of Dick's talks and writings from the past 5-8 years are still live on the internet. Fran shared that he was downloading as much as he can for the club but that members could also find such information themselves by going to: **dickevanstraining.blogspot.com**. He was not sure how long these will continue to be available online.

Cheryl Bogacki is the Volunteer of the Month

Giveaway Winners

$25 Winn Dixie Gift Cards   **50/50**   **AIO Computer**
George Kopenec   Buck Bader   Cheryl Bogacki   Garry Ketts   Beverly Jones   Bob Mueller

The meeting closed at 8 PM

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▶ Events Calendar

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Future Events & Presentations

April 2022 CCCGC Classes & Programs

May 3   Member Meeting
Military Heritage Musuem Auditorium
900 W Marion St, Punta Gorda
6-7 PM Open Forum
6–8 PM General Member Meeting
General Member Mtg

5   Macrium Reflect
2-4 PM, Office
Lydia Rist

10   Open Forum
2-4 PM, Office + Zoom
Mary Fleenor
Fleenor Zoom Class

18   Intro to Windows 11
2-4 PM, Zoom
Mark Krider

19   Maintenance Programs
2-4 PM, Office
Lydia Rist

20   Backup Options
2-4 PM, Office
Mark Krider

Apr 27 Board of Director Meeting
2:00 pm
514 E Grace St, Punta Gorda
CCCGC BdMtg

apcug   An International Association of Technology and
                              Computer User Groups

As members of CCCGC, you are automatically members of Association of Personal Computer User group (APCUG) who offer free ZOOM classes and presentations to members. However, you must register with them to attend. Check the website for course options and registration: https://apcug2.org/

APCUG past presentations can be viewed on YouTube. These are handy links for review if you attended them or had to miss the original presentation. Click the link below to see all the options.

https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=apcug

May Presentation by Mark Krider:
"Network Attached Storage-NAS"

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Computer/Tech Information

Don't Pay for Microsoft Word!

5 Reasons to Use Office Online Instead

BY BEN STEGNER

UPDATED MAR 13, 2022

Microsoft Office Online offers free web versions of Word, Excel, and PowerPoint.

Here's why you should give it a try instead of paying for Office.

Microsoft Office is the world's de facto productivity suite, but did you know that most people don't need to pay for Microsoft Word and other apps? Thanks to Microsoft Office Online, you can access simplified versions of the most popular Office apps for free.

For the majority of users, these stripped-down versions of Office work just fine. Let's look at some of the reasons to use Word Online, Excel Online, and the other free offerings.

1. Office Online Is Free

The biggest benefit of Office Online is that you can use it without paying. This is the easiest way to get Microsoft Word for free and legally.
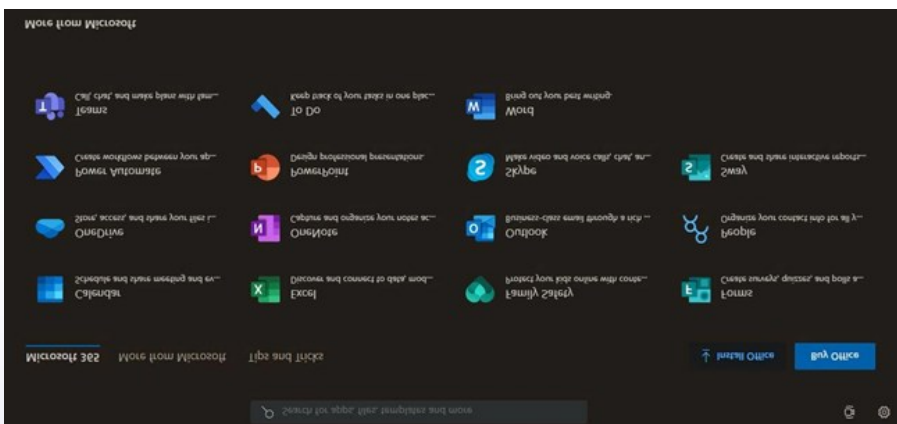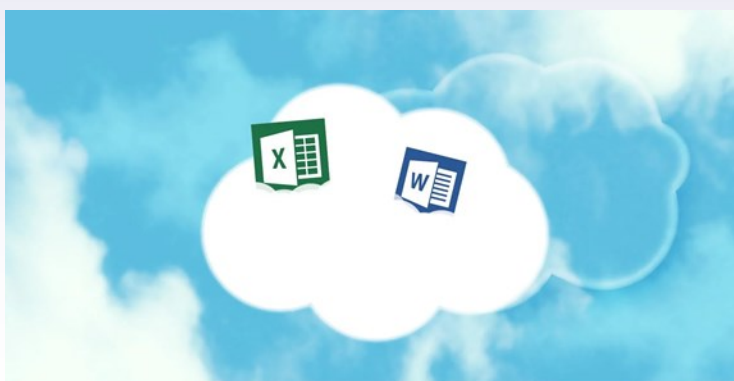
Traditionally, you had to pay upfront for a standalone copy of the latest version of Office (like Office 2021 or Office 2019), which could cost $100 or more. Nowadays, Microsoft wants you to subscribe to Microsoft 365. This is more affordable at $7 or so per month, but the subscription still adds up over time.

With Office Online, you gain access to online versions of Word, Excel, PowerPoint, OneNote, Teams, and Outlook at no cost. Lesser-used apps like Microsoft Teams, Forms, and Sway are included in the list of Office Online offerings too. There are no online versions for Access and Publisher, however.

To try it, sign in to your Microsoft account on Office.com, then visit your Office apps page. Here you'll see everything that's available and can jump to any app you like.

2. Access Documents Anywhere With Cloud Storage

Having your files saved only to one computer can cause problems when you need them on another device. While the option of saving to the cloud is available in modern desktop versions of Office today, it's enabled by default and easy to use in Office Online.

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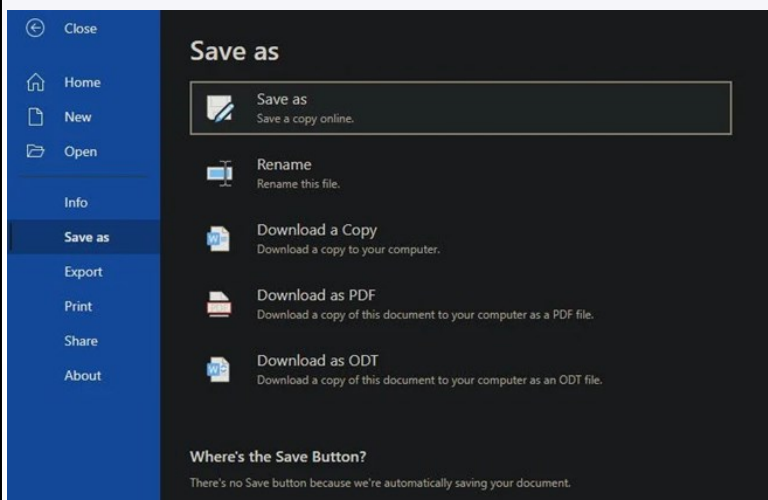
⏎ Events Calendar

Charlotte Bytes

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Computer/Tech Information cont.

Everyone gets 5GB of free storage in OneDrive with their Microsoft account, which is plenty for storing personal documents, spreadsheets, and presentations. When you work in Office Online, all changes save to your OneDrive account as you go. This means you won't lose hours of progress if something crashes and you haven't manually saved for a while.

With the OneDrive app on your phone, you can easily pull up your documents anywhere. And if you need to edit them in a pinch, you can simply sign in to Office Online on any computer.

Even better, Office Online is device-agnostic. You can access it on any device with a web browser, including Linux and Mac machines. Free Office apps for Android and iPhone let you access Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and more with similar functionality on mobile.

3. Easy Sharing and Collaboration

A lot of people share desktop Office documents with others via email. While this is fine in moderation, it becomes cumbersome to constantly send a document back and forth. With Office Online, you can easily click Share on a file to send a link to anyone. This menu lets you choose if anyone who has the link can access it, or only people you specify. You can also choose whether others have editing permissions.

Office Online also makes collaborating on documents a cinch.

Whether you want to edit a large paper together or both work in a spreadsheet, doing so only requires both parties to have the document open. While a similar function is available in desktop Office with OneDrive, there are more barriers to entry when using the desktop edition.
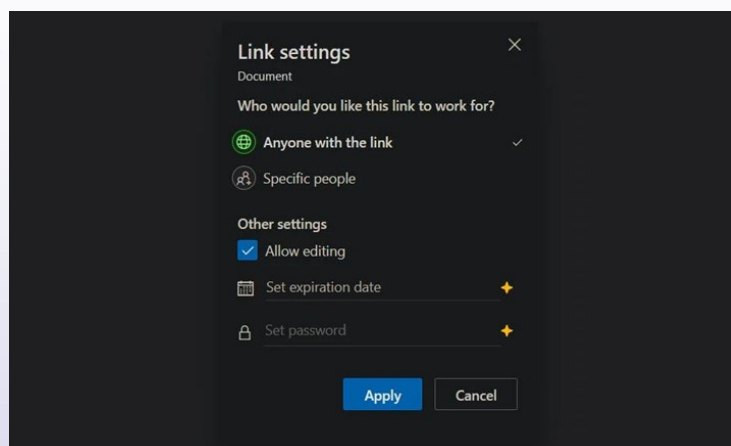
4. Office Online Offers a Simplified Workflow

The online versions of Office apps aren't as full-featured as their desktop counterparts. They don't include the most powerful tools, such as Word's advanced formatting and Excel's detailed graphs or macros.

While this can make Office Online unsuitable for professional purposes, these apps are still more than capable for personal use.

However, Office Online lacking features aimed at power users can actually be a benefit for some. You might feel overwhelmed by the number of tools on the Ribbon and options to tweak in desktop Office. If that's the case, perhaps you'll love the slimmed-down approach of Office Online.

Storing all Office files in OneDrive also means they aren't mixed in with everything else on your system. Each app shows recently edited and pinned files of their type (spreadsheets, presentations, etc.) so you can open them from there instead of hunting around a bunch of folders.
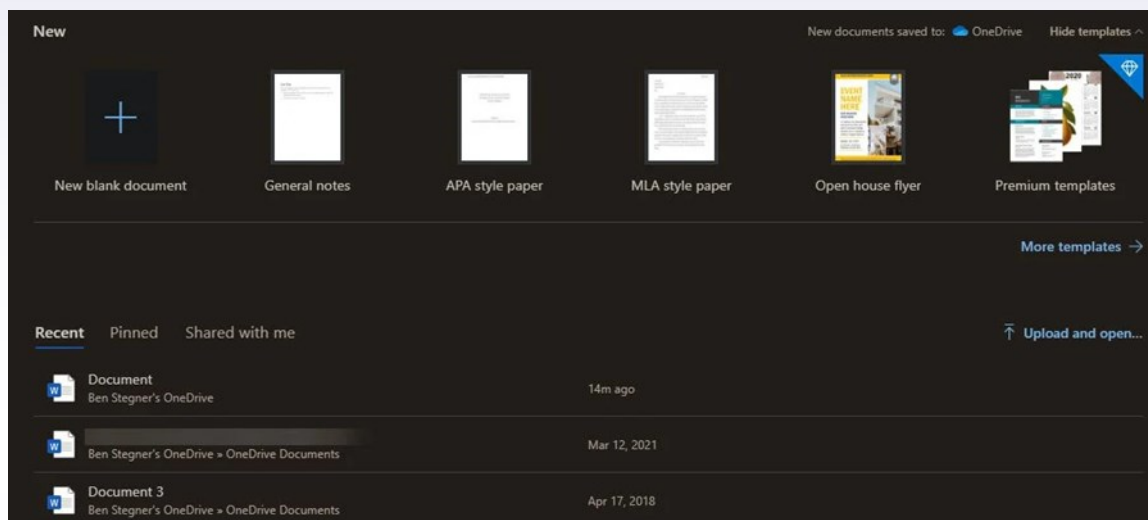
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Computer/Tech Information cont.

Finally, using Office Online lets you save documents in the standard Office file formats, such as DOCX and XLSX. Because so many people use Office, this is important for compatibility with others. Many free Microsoft Office alternatives don't work perfectly with these formats, which scores another point for Office Online.

5. Office Online Receives Feature Updates

If you aren't interested in Microsoft 365, you might consider buying a standalone version of Office, like Office 2021. However, in general, we don't recommend buying these one-off versions of Office.

The company brings new features to Microsoft 365 first, and every few years, it releases a new standalone version of Office with the latest features from the past few years. But these versions only receive security updates; they don't get new features as Microsoft develops them.

While Office Online doesn't receive every new feature added to Microsoft 365, the web versions do get new features more often than the standalone Office releases do. If the web versions do what you need, why not stick with them for free and get new features, rather than locking yourself into a desktop version that doesn't get any new functionality?

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Please register using the link on a calendar date or sign-up form on the website if you are planning to attend a class: www.cccgc.info

For more information

www.cccgc.info

Forms, Supplements, Membership, Classes, Bytes, etc.

The Charlotte County Computer Group Corporation

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Donations, gifts, bequests, legacies, devices and transfers are deductible under federal laws.

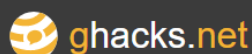**Articles in the Bytes are courtesy of these Tech Sites**

We're on the Web www.cccgc.info

apcug

An International Association of Technology and Computer User Groups

dotTech

TechRegar
just tech stuff

Digital Citizen

ghacks.net

The How-To Geek Daily Article
Daily Computer Help from your Friendly How-To Geek

MUO
makeuseof

DavesComputerTips

INTO WINDOWS

AskWoody
News, tips, advice, support for Windows, Office, PCs & more. Tech help. No bull.
We're community supported by donations from our Plus Members, and proud of it