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: Fran Robitaille

Next Monthly Meeting
February 3, 2025

Family Services Center
21500 Gibralter Drive
Port Charlotte, FL 33952

Click Here For Directions

3:00-4:00 Q&A Session
4:00-5:00 Presentation

Click Here For Zoom

President's Message
Mark Krider

Hope everyone is having a great start to the new year!

Just a couple items to go over. First off, the Linux class we were planning to run had to be cancelled due to a family emergency. For those interested in Linux we plan to present "Replacing Windows with Linux" again in February. Keep an eye on the Events Calendar for the date and register by calling the office or using the "New Class Sign Up" link on the CCCGC.INFO website. Speaking of websites, the revamp of our website CCCGC.INFO is progressing well. The team hopes to bring a fresh new look in the coming weeks.

It is that time of year – Taxes! So just in time, the presentation for February will be "Demystifying Tax Preparation: Online and In-Person resources". Vera Hendricks will cover basic tax law topics and compare available software packages for Tax Return Preparation. She'll also go over FREE In-Person return and filing options available through VITA and AARP Tax-Aide in our area.

See you at the monthly meeting February 3rd!

Mark Krider, President

Winter in Florida

Brrrrrrr!

Pictures Courtesy of   Kireyonok Yuliya on Freepik

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Charlotte Bytes

Welcome New Members

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.

2025 Officers & Directors

President	Vice President	Secretary	Treasurer
Mark Krider	Jane McDonald	Ron Muschong	Lydia Rist
cccgcpresident@gmail.com	cccgcvp@gmail.com	cccgcsecretary@gmail.com	cccgctreasurer@gmail.com

Rosemary Sexton	Shirley Hammond	Vera Hendricks	Janice Krumwiede	Fran Robitaille
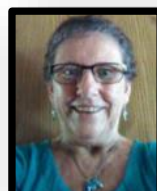
It is a pleasure to serve you in 2025 thru classes, presentations and individual assistance.

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

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Charlotte County Computer Group (CCCGC) Needs Volunteers!

If you love technology, we need your help in any of these areas: teaching, presenting, troubleshooting, hardware, software and leadership of the organization. General office help is also needed. We can use your help.

CCCGC is a nonprofit with the mission to promote computer literacy. We are an all-volunteer run agency that refurbishes computers that are then distributed to non-profits, to students, and Veterans. Members can drop off their computers for repair and they can stop by our office if they have a computer challenge. Monthly, we provide computer classes and technical presentations.

Please call CCCGC for more information at 941-585-0356

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January 6, 2024 General Meeting

Regular Session

January's Presentation

January's presentation was made by Mark Krider. It was titled, **Smishing, Phishing, and Vishing. And let's not forget Pig Butchering.** In it Mark talks about how people get scammed and what to look out for. Be careful what you click on. If you don't recognize the source, don't click on it. Try to look at the email address of the person who sent you the message. If it's from someone at gmail.com, you know it's not from your bank. If in doubt, you're better off calling the company that supposedly wants you to click on something, directly. Ask them if they sent the email. If not, delete it. If they did then you can probably resolve the issue without clicking on the email links.

Finally, if you get flashing screens telling you that you've been hacked and that you need to call Microsoft, don't do it. It's a scam. There's a chance your computer is okay but your browser (Chrome, Firefox or Edge etc.) has been hijacked. **Don't click on anything and don't call them**. Bring the machine into the office and let us look at it. You may also be able to turn off the machine by holding the power button until it quits.

Here's Mark's presentation: https://tinyurl.com/y6wduk2b

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Charlotte Bytes

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January 6, 2024 General Meeting

Regular Session

More Scam Information

How AI (Artificial Intelligence) is revolutionizing scams.

Click the link for more information: https://tinyurl.com/59mud4ac

10 Common Internet Scams. Click here: https://tinyurl.com/ydwjsu7u

6 Ways to Protect Yourself. Click here: https://tinyurl.com/2ddp2f7w

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Member Drawings

January 6, 2025

Harold Howard was the lucky winner of the 50/50 raffle. He won $25.

Marie Mayberry was the lucky winner of the $25 American Express gift card.

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Future Events & Presentations

February 2025 CCCGC Classes & Programs

February   3 **Family Services Center**
                 Monthly Meeting
                 3-5 PM
                 Zoom Link

February   6 **Maintenance & Backup**
                 2-4PM
                 Lydia Rist

February   13 **Windows Open Forum**
                 2-4 PM
                 Mark Krider

February   17 **Presidents Day**
                 Office closed

February   20 **Maintenance & Backup**
                 2-4PM
                 Lydia Rist

February   28 **Board of Directors Meeting**
                 2PM
                 Zoom Link

February 28   **Board of Director Meeting**
                     2:00 pm
                     514 E Grace St, Punta Gorda
                     CCCGC Board Meeting Zoom Link

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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 <u>must</u> 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

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Charlotte Bytes

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Computer Tech by Fran Robitaille

Backing Up With Macrium?

Are you backing up your computer with Macrium? I am. Everyone should be aware that the free version of Macrium is no longer supported by the company. It still works but that's the issue. I can see a scenario where the software continues to backup as expected but in a worst case scenario where your computer crashes, you might not be able to recover your system. Why? Because the free version of the software hasn't changed in a couple of years while the operating systems, Windows 10 and 11 have.

The point is we should all probably start looking for a replacement. To that end, here's a piece of free software that may be a suitable replacement. Hasleo Software makes free backup and cloning tools for Windows.

Here are a couple of videos showing how to use it.

https://tinyurl.com/yc8r3kyt   https://tinyurl.com/mwr6df24

Here's a link to the Hasleo website should you want to try it out or play with it. Keep running Macrium for the time being but maybe try out and learn a possible replacement.

Hasleo.com   https://tinyurl.com/yzeun2k2

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Final Thoughts

For anyone contemplating Surgery

Click Here

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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

Is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization as classified by the Internal Revenue Service.

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

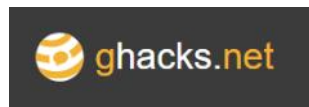**Articles in the Bytes are courtesy of these Tech Sites**

We're on the Web
www.cccgc.info

apcug

An International Association of Technology and Computer User Groups

TechRegar
just tech stuff

dotTech

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