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[Events Calendar](#)

Charlotte Bytes

Editor: Fran Robitaille

Next Monthly Meeting April 6, 2026

**Presentation:
Waste Management
Recycling Program**

**Family Services Center
21500 Gibraltar Drive
Port Charlotte, FL 33952**

[Click Here For Directions](#)

**3:00 PM Q&A Session
4:00 PM Presentation**

[General Meeting Zoom Link](#)

[Board Meeting Zoom Link](#)

President's Message Jane McDonald

Dear Members:

We had a nice turnout for our March 2nd meeting. The presentation and discussions were with Leah Valenti, Charlotte County Supervisor of Elections. She gave a great presentation followed by lots of Q & A within our group.

Our office hours for April will be Tuesday – Wednesday – Thursday from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Please call office 941-585-0356 or email cccgoffice@gmail.com to schedule an appointment with one of our technical support volunteers (time slots are on the hour for an hour: 10, 11, 12, or 1). Please specify the assistance you need.

The next CCCGC Meeting will be held on Monday, April 6th from 3:00 to 5:00. We will hold a Q&A session from 3:00 to 4:00, and our presentation will be given by a representative of Waste Management, Josh Sheffler. He will discuss recycling and Waste Management's involvement. He will also speak about e-waste. I hope you can join us!

Classes for April will be Thursday, April 2nd – Maintenance and Backup and on Thursday, April 16th will be Windows 11 – Q&A. On our www.cccgc.info web page, click on Events – our monthly calendar will show – click on the class to get information and if you would like to attend, click the RSVP and fill out the form and Submit or call the office 941-575-0356.

We had much interest in the Linux class that Allen Taylor gave on Thursday, February 19th. If anyone has an interest in Allen giving another Linux overview class, please email the club at cccgoffice@gmail.com or call 941-585-0356.

We need donations of laptops and desktops, so we can refurbish them to give out to students and non-profits. We are running quite low given the high demand and need. There is more information concerning donations later in this newsletter, so please read it because there are some changes concerning what we accept.

As a final note, if any member is aware of another member who is ill or has passed, please let us know so we can send the person or a significant other a card. To let us know, email the club at cccgoffice@gmail.com or call 941-585-0356.

Our winter season is coming to an end. I hope you enjoyed it and had a good time with family and friends. Happy Easter and Happy Passover!!!

Jane McDonald, President

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April Showers Bring May Flowers



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Welcome New Members

Sheila Terry Catherine Rachanow Darlene Johnson

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.

2026 Officers & Directors



President
Jane McDonald
 cccgcpresident@gmail.com



Vice President
Fran Robitaille
 cccgcvp@gmail.com



Secretary
Stephanie Eller
 cccgcsecretary@gmail.com



Treasurer
Lydia Rist
 cccgctreasurer@gmail.com



Mary Fleenor



Mark Krider



Vera Hendricks



CJ Metcalf



Gus Rivero

It is a pleasure to serve you in 2026 thru classes, presentations and individual assistance.

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



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Important Notice - Changes in Recycling

The board of directors has voted to implement the following changes.

Due to many factors including a lack of space, lack of volunteers and more specifically, low prices for scrap materials, the CCCGC has decided to reduce the amount of recycling that we do. This means that we won't be able to take everything members would like to give us.

Effective immediately, we will continue to accept all computer related equipment, monitors, mice, keyboards, laptops, and desktops. We will also accept computer speakers and cables. Computers should be less than 10 years old. No Windows XP machines, they're too old. For now, we will continue to accept printers.

Things we won't take include iPads, home phones, cordless and corded, cell phones, appliances, light bulbs, televisions and radios.

Staples has a wonderful recycling service. If you are a rewards member with them, you can get points to use for purchases. Here's a list of what they will take. <https://www.staples.com/stores/recycling#rec>

Charlotte County E-Waste: Contact Waste Management 2 days ahead of your regular pickup day to schedule a pick up of your electronics. Their phone number is: 941-629-1106 or 941-697-0012

Also, many police departments will take old cell phones. They likely want them reset and unlocked.

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



Charlotte Bytes

Editor: Fran Robitaille

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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March 2, 2026 Monthly Meeting Presentation

Leah Valenti

Charlotte County Supervisor of Election

March's presentation was by Leah Valenti, Charlotte County Supervisor of Elections. Leah made a great presentation on what's done to keep our elections safe. She spoke about how the system works to prevent dead people from voting or residents of other cities (snowbirds?) from voting in both locations. The presentation was very informative.

Here's a link to her website: <https://www.soecharlottecountyfl.gov/>





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March 2, 2026 Monthly Meeting

Drawings

Attendance at the March 2026 meeting was about 35 members and guests.

Rob Moore won the Amex Card



Mary DePouw won the 50/50 - \$30





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Future Events & Presentations

[April 2026 CCCGC Classes & Programs](#)

April 2 Maintenance & Backup
 2-4 PM
 Lydia Rist

April 6 Family Services Center
 3:00 PM Annual Meeting,

[General Meeting Zoom Link](#)

April 16 Windows 11 Q&A
 2-4 PM
 Lydia Rist

April 30 Board of Directors Meeting
 2PM
[Board Meeting Zoom Link](#)



April 30 Board of Director Meeting
 2:00 pm
 514 E Grace St, Punta Gorda
[CCCGC Board Meeting Zoom Link](#)



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

Please register for a class by first clicking on this link.

[Events](#)

Next, click on the desired class on the date you wish to attend. Finally, click on and complete the RSVP form.



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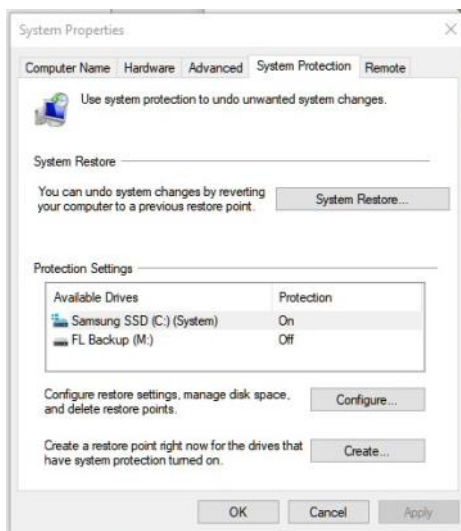
Computer Tech by Fran Robitaille

Tech Info

Restore Point

Windows has the ability to create Restore Points or a sort of safety net for your computer. Should your computer crash or begin to act strangely, you might be able to save it by using a Restore Point to bring it back to the state it was in before the problem came up.

So, where are the Restore Point settings? The best way to find the settings is to search for Create a Restore Point in the search box on the task bar. This is what you get when you click on the link.



See the box that says Protection Settings? This must be turned on.

Here's a video showing how to create a Restore Point and how to restore a computer using a restore point.

<https://tinyurl.com/y326eh8w>



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Tech Info

March is Backup Month

According to Wikipedia, March 31st is **World Backup Day**. It is a commemorative date celebrated annually by the backup industry all over the world. It highlights the importance of protecting data and keeping systems and computers secure.

I know it's April now but the message is the same, you should be backing up your computers. I have referenced in the past a free program called Hasleo Backup Suite Free. It's a good piece of software and you can't beat the price.

Here's a link to the website. <https://tinyurl.com/7t87x5zz>

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

<https://tinyurl.com/yc8r3kyt>

<https://tinyurl.com/mwr6df24>

In March, the APCUG (Association of Personal Computer User Groups) ran many presentations during their Wednesday Workshops on different backup techniques and strategies. They subscribe to the "free is better" philosophy where possible.

On March 12th, 2025, the APCUG Wednesday Workshop was a presentation by Chris Taylor of the Ottawa PC Users Group, (OPCUG). He went over different methods and strategies to back up data and keep it safe.

Here's a link to the video of the presentation. It's worth watching.

<https://tinyurl.com/2ed9fvtv>



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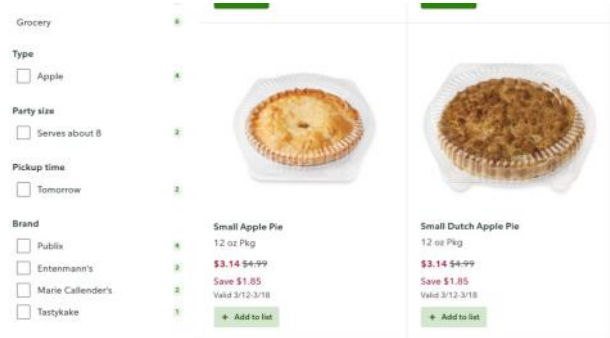
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Final Thoughts

Remember Pi Day? Yes, March 14th was Pi day. As I promised, Publix was selling pies for \$3.14. It's almost funny because the pies were discounted by \$1.85. Those are Publix, small pies, normally selling for \$4.99. As I kid I used to get TableTalk pies, about the same size, for a quarter, \$0.25. My how times have changed.



Pi day: Here's a video demonstrating how to remember Pi out to 300 decimal places. Next month we'll have a quiz. <https://tinyurl.com/35fmdt6x>





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More Final Thoughts

My Next Life by Woody Allen

In my next life I want to live backwards.
You start out dead and get that out of the way.

Then you wake up in an old people's home
feeling better every day.

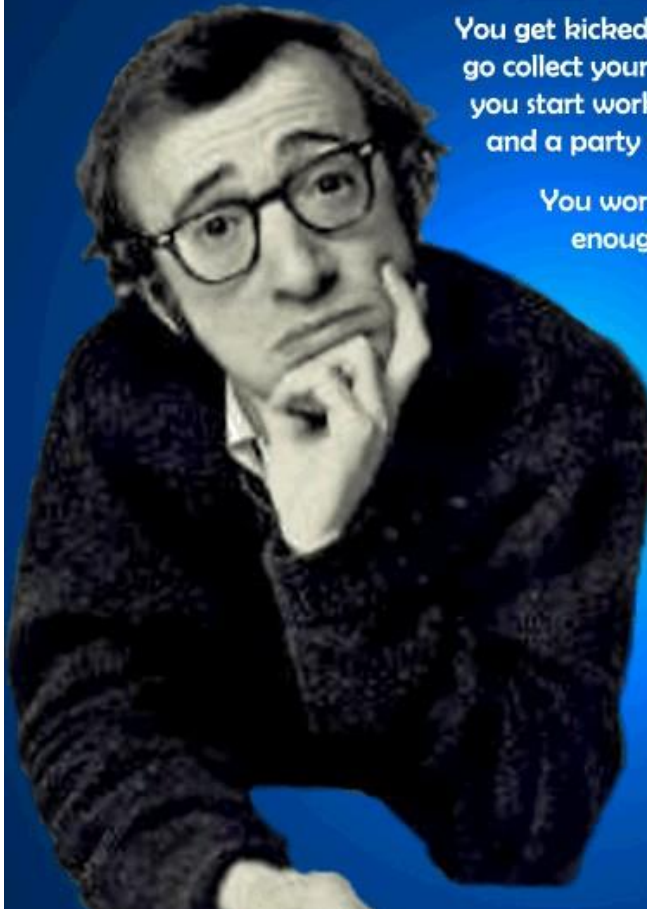
You get kicked out for being too healthy,
go collect your pension, and then when
you start work, you get a gold watch
and a party on your first day.

You work for 40 years until you're young
enough to enjoy your retirement.

You party, drink alcohol, and are
generally promiscuous, then you
are ready for high school.

You then go to primary school,
you become a kid, you play.
You have no responsibilities,
you become a baby until you
are born. And then you spend
your last 9 months floating in
luxurious spa like conditions with
central heating and room service
on tap, larger quarters every day
and then, Voila!
You finish off as an orgasm!

I rest my case.





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Please register for a class by first clicking on this link.

[Events](#)

Next, click on the desired class on the date you wish to attend. Finally, click on and complete the RSVP form.

For more information

www.cccgc.info

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

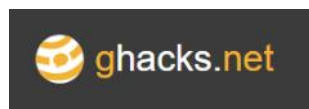
We're on the Web
www.cccgc.info



An International Association of Technology and Computer User Groups



Digital Citizen



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