



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

May 2026 Page 1

[Events Calendar](#)

Charlotte Bytes

Editor: Fran Robitaille

Next Monthly Meeting May 4, 2026

Presentation:
All about the YMCA

Family Services Center
21500 Gibralter 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 April 6th meeting. Josh Sheffler of Waste Management made a informative presentation on what his company does. Following his talk, lots of Q & A transpired within our group. See page 5 for more detail.

Our office hours for May will be Tuesday – Wednesday – Thursday from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Please call the office at 941-585-0356 or email cccgcoffice@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, May 4th 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 YMCA of Southwest Florida, Matthew Beard. He will discuss what the YMCA offers including classes, equipment, personal trainers, etc. I hope you can join us!

A future heads-up notice: The Monthly General Meeting for Monday, July 6th and Monday, September 7th are cancelled due to the holidays. There are no meetings in these 2 months.

Classes for May will be Thursday May 7th – Maintenance and Backup and on Thursday, May 21st will be Windows 11 – Q&A. On our cccgc.info web page, click on [Events](#) – our monthly calendar will show – click on the class to get information. If you would like to attend, click the RSVP and fill out the form and click Submit or call the office 941-575-0356 to reserve a spot.

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 cccgcoffice@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 with the high demand of need. There is more information concerning donations later in this newsletter, so please read because there are some changes concerning what we accept. se heading out of town for the summer, may you have safe travels and a nice summer!

Thank You

Jane McDonald, President

Inside This Issue

President's Message	1
New Members	2
Board Members	2
Recycling Info.	3
Volunteers Needed	4
April Presentation	5
Drawing Winners	6
Future Events	7
Tech Info	8-11
Final Thoughts	12-13
Tech Sites	14

April Showers Bring May Flowers - Some rain would be nice.



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

May 2026 Page 2

Events Calendar

Charlotte Bytes

Editor: Fran Robitaille

Welcome New Members

Lisa White	Janis Davis	Carol Dreier
Mike Farrelly	Mary Beth Farrelly	Maria Elena Perez
Richard Mathis		

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.



Charlotte Bytes

Editor: Fran Robitaille

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



May 2026 Page 4

Events Calendar

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



May 2026 Page 5

[Events Calendar](#)

Charlotte Bytes

Editor: Fran Robitaille

April 6, 2026 Monthly Meeting Presentation



April's monthly meeting featured a presentation by Josh Sheffler of Waste Management. Waste Management handles trash collection for both residential and commercial customers in Charlotte County. Josh spent a lot of time talking about recycling and what people are doing wrong with recycling through Waste Management.

Here's a link to Waste Management's Recycling information.



Recycling 101

Recycling is all about the fundamentals. Find out which common materials are recyclable and which aren't, plus learn three simple rules to help you recycle the right way, every day.

[Learn Recycling 101](#)



May 2026 Page 6

Events Calendar

Charlotte Bytes

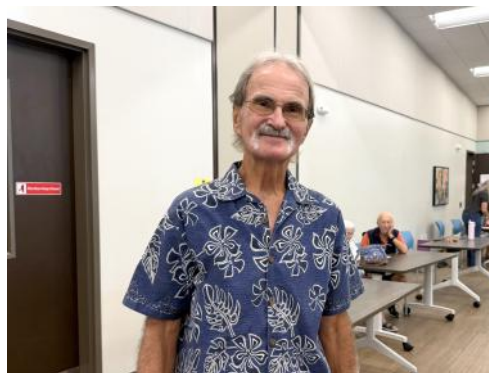
Editor: Fran Robitaille

April 6, 2026 Monthly Meeting

Drawings

Attendance at the April 2026 meeting were 34 members and guests.

Sam Walters won the Amex Card



Nora Haston won the 50/50 - \$34





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

May 2026 Page 7

Events Calendar

Charlotte Bytes

Editor: Fran Robitaille

Future Events & Presentations

[May 2026 CCCGC Classes & Programs](#)

May 4 Family Services Center
3:00 PM Annual Meeting,

[General Meeting Zoom Link](#)

May 7 Maintenance & Backup
2-4 PM
Lydia Rist

May 21 Windows 11 Q&A
2-4 PM
Fran Robitaille

May 28 Board of Directors Meeting
2PM
[Board Meeting Zoom Link](#)



May 28

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.



Charlotte Bytes

Editor: Fran Robitaille

Computer Tech by Fran Robitaille

Tech Info - OneDrive

What is it? OneDrive is a cloud storage service provided by [Microsoft](https://www.microsoft.com) that allows users to store, share, and access their files from any device. It functions as a virtual hard drive, syncing files and folders between your computer and the cloud, ensuring your data is accessible wherever you have an internet connection.

By default Microsoft gives anyone signed in with a Microsoft account, 5GB (gigabytes) of free space. More space is available for an additional cost or by subscribing to Microsoft 365. By comparison, if you have a Google account (Gmail account), Google gives you 15GB of free space.

So, what's the problem? In many cases, 5GB of space isn't all that much. If you've been accumulating pictures, music, and videos for many years, you could very easily be over 5GB.



Charlotte Bytes

Editor: Fran Robitaille

Computer Tech by Fran Robitaille

OneDrive Continued

Microsoft would love to have us back up our computers on OneDrive but there are two problems I see with that. First is the space issue, 5GB won't go very far. Second, backing up on OneDrive works if all you're backing up are files like pictures, documents, music etc. If you want a full system backup, you need to use something else. Full system backup is my preference. If my system crashes, I can restore the entire hard drive from the backup. With OneDrive it would be necessary to reinstall Windows and any programs that were previously on the computer and then you could restore your files to the computer from OneDrive.

Microsoft knows that 5GB isn't enough storage for backing up most users but by encouraging you to back up to OneDrive, they are also encouraging you to buy more storage from them. They know what they're doing.



May 2026 Page 10

Events Calendar

Charlotte Bytes

Editor: Fran Robitaille

Computer Tech by Fran Robitaille

OneDrive Continued

Here are a couple of YouTube videos that do a good job of explaining how One Drive works.

OneDrive Basics: <https://tinyurl.com/4d5phwms>

Storing Files on Your Computer and not on OneDrive:

<https://tinyurl.com/4twyx7nc>

Unfortunately, Microsoft has made it pretty confusing. Is a file saved on the computer, in the cloud, or both? It can be either or both. Where you have to be careful is if you delete a file from OneDrive but still want to keep a copy, you better make sure it's saved in a folder that isn't on OneDrive. Otherwise you may accidently delete it completely from both the cloud and the computer. It could be lost. The second video above looks at where files are or are not saved. If you need help changing your OneDrive settings, call and make an appointment for someone to help you.

I noticed in one of Leo's videos above that he stopped his computer from backing up his Documents folder and noticed afterwards that OneDrive had not copied the files back to his non-OneDrive Documents folder. They weren't gone but needed to be copied back manually. Like I said, make an appointment if you want help.



Charlotte Bytes

Editor: Fran Robitaille

Computer Tech by Fran Robitaille

Tech Info

Google Messages

At the April 6, 2026 monthly meeting, a question was asked about the Samsung Messages app. It turns out Samsung is discontinuing the use of their own app in favor of Google's Messaging app. Newer Samsung phones come with Google Messages pre-installed but older devices may need to have the Google app installed manually.

Text messages between iPhones have been encrypted, end-to-end for a long time, maybe forever. Text messages on Android devices such as Samsung phones have not been. That also means that messages sent from an Android phone to an Apple iPhone might not be encrypted or as secure. Text a picture of your tax return on an Android phone might mean that it could be intercepted and viewed by a third party.

Google is taking steps to make messaging between Android devices more secure. It will also make messages between Android and iPhones more secure with a possible few loopholes.

Steps to Enable and Activate Google Messages

Download & Install: Download the Google Messages app from the Google Play Store.

Set as Default: Upon opening, follow the prompt to set it as your default SMS app.

Manual Setup: If it did not prompt you, go to your phone's **Settings > Apps > Default apps > SMS app** and select **Messages**.

Enable RCS Chats (Advanced Features): To enable features like typing indicators and high-quality image sharing:

1. Open the Messages app
2. Tap your profile picture/icon in the top right
3. Tap **Messages Settings**
4. Tap **RCS chats** (or "Chat features" on some versions)
5. Turn on "**Turn on RCS chats**"



May 2026 Page 12

Events Calendar

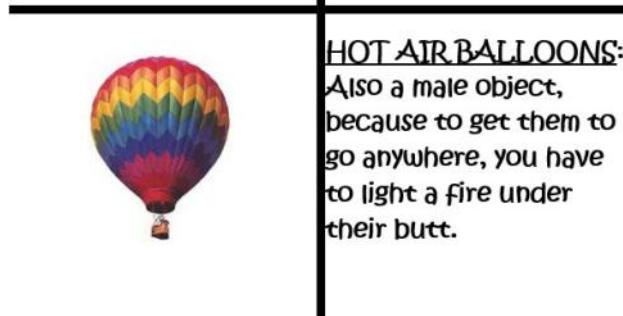
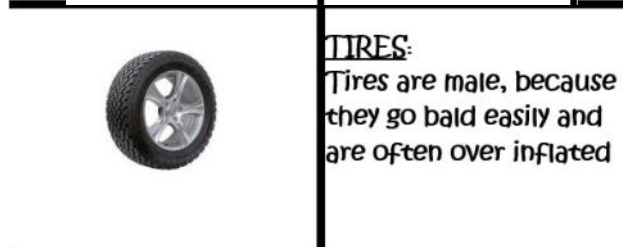
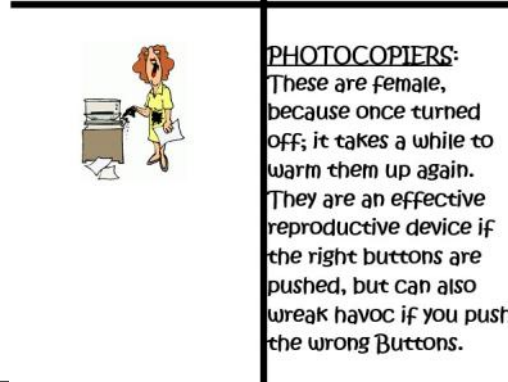
Charlotte Bytes

Editor: Fran Robitaille

Computer Tech by Fran Robitaille

Final Thoughts

Male or Female? You might not have known this, but a lot of non-living objects are actually either male or female. Here are some examples:





Charlotte Bytes

Editor: Fran Robitaille

Computer Tech by Fran Robitaille

Final Thoughts

Female or Female? Continued



SPONGES:
 These are female, because they are soft, squeezable and retain water.



HAMMERS:
 Male, because in the last 5000 years, they've hardly changed at all, and are occasionally handy to have around.



WEB PAGES:
 Female, because they're constantly being looked at and frequently getting hit on.



THE REMOTE CONTROL:
 Female. Ha! You probably thought it would be male, but consider this: It easily gives a man pleasure, he'd be lost without it, and while he doesn't always know which buttons to push, he just keeps trying



TRAINS:
 Definitely male, because they always use the same old lines for picking up people..



EGG TIMERS:
 Egg timers are female because, over time, all the weight shifts to the bottom.



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

May 2026 Page 14

[Events Calendar](#)

Charlotte Bytes

Editor: Fran Robitaille

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

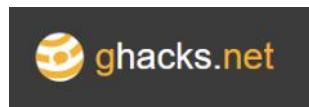
We're on the Web
www.cccgc.info



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