



# Central Kentucky Computer Society

CKCS Resource Center, 106 Moore Drive, Suite 107, Lexington, KY 40503. [www.ckcs.org](http://www.ckcs.org) (859) 383-1000

December 2014

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Vol. 22 No. 12

## December Tech Night and CKCS Holiday Party

December 8 at 7 p.m.

Learn about the latest malware, virus, and how to solve those problems

Presenters

**Joey Police and Craig Mayfield**

Join us at December's Tech Night for the CKCS Holiday Party. Bring an appetizer or dessert to share. We will provide the soft drinks and coffee.



Most of us have been there. Our computer starts slowing down and then it starts acting a little funny. We think we have a good security program. We have done scans and nothing is showing up. We are hoping against all hope we don't have a virus. We are in denial.

Craig Mayfield, an Independent Technology Consultant for various businesses in Central Kentucky, and Joey Police, Chief Technology Officer of Greer Companies in Lexington, will help us understand malware, scare-ware and

viruses at December's Tech Night.

Both presenters are members of CKCS and will be giving a presentation on Internet Security for the third time at Tech Night. The evening promises to be both entertaining and informative.

### Directors' Prize

This month's Directors' prize is for a seven months extension to the winner's CKCS membership. Remember that you have to be present to win! Jo Stratton's name was drawn and unfortunately, this was one of the few Tech Nights she has missed. Come in December and you might be the lucky winner!

CKCS

# See what is in your newsletter this month

Click on your topic of interest

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## Central Kentucky Computer Society

Incorporated

CKCS Resource Center  
160 Moore Drive Suite 107  
Lexington, Kentucky 40503  
(859)-373-1000

### OFFICERS

*Tenure end June 30, 2015*

President: Brooke Thomas  
Vice-President: Joe Dietz  
Secretary: Larry Trivette  
Treasurer: Jim McCormick

### DIRECTORS

*Tenure end June 30, 2015*

Rebecca Brothers  
Bob Brown  
Janet Cartmell  
Larry Mitchum  
Julia Steanson

*Tenure end June 30, 2016*

Boone Baldwin  
Jan Landers-Lyman  
Darlene Mosley  
Mike Seiler  
Ben Rice

Webmaster B. Brown & W. Curtis  
Office coordinator Jan Landers-Lyman  
Office supervisors Bill Alverson, Bob Brown, Wendell Curtis, Jan Landers-Lyman, Mike Seiler, Julia Steanson, Brooke Thomas, Larry Trivette, Dottie Vanwinkle, Debbie Giannini.  
Alternate supervisors Lilly Crawley, Dwight Auvenshine, Jenny Brown, Nancy Bowling, Joe Dietz, Debbi Giannini, Gayle Greer, Marci Miller, John Plumlee, Helen Pope, Eugene Potter.  
Calendar Wendell Curtis  
Mail Chimp Mgr Larry Mitchum  
Refreshment Center Jim Hughes  
Newsletter Editor Jerry Heaton  
Proofreaders Tom Douglas, Bob Flynn, Frankie Harvener, Carl Peter, Mike Seiler

Contact;

[newsletter@ckcs.org](mailto:newsletter@ckcs.org)



# President's Comments

By Brooke Thomas, CKCS President

[president@ckcs.org](mailto:president@ckcs.org)

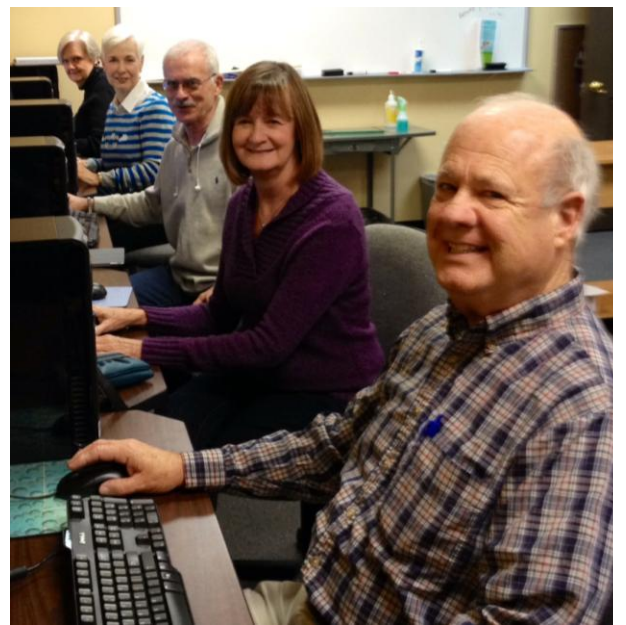


Thank-you for your fabulous support during the GoodGiving Guide Challenge. We have encouraged you to donate during the special match challenges, but don't feel restricted to those dates. The challenge continues until December 12. The next and last big match Challenge is the \$100,000 Buzzer Beater Challenge and it kicks off at 11:59 a.m. on December 11 and will run until the end of the Challenge, Thursday, December 11 at 11:59 p.m. or until the \$100,000 pool is exhausted. Again, it is a 50 percent match.

There are other special challenges that you can find in the Good Giving Guide (an insert in the *Herald-Leader*) or periodically check our FaceBook page. One event that is coming up soon is for GoodGiving Guide Challenge donors who donate \$100 or more between Monday, November 24 at 9 a.m. and Sunday, November 30 at 11:59 p.m. Donors will be eligible to win a dinner party for eight at Mulberry and Lime. Catering will be by Dupree Catering and wine by Wines on Vine.

The Banker's Challenge was held on November 13 at 11 a.m. and some of our members got together after the Photo Coffee SIG to make a donation. (Pictured at right) Unfortunately, the Good Giving Challenge site was overwhelmed and this group did not get their donations processed. The Blue Grass Community Foundation was apologetic and had not had that problem during the past years' challenges. They are working on the problem and hope that the next big challenge will go without a glitch. This group of members will try again on Dec 11 from their homes.

But even with the problems, some CKCS donors did get their donations to go through. We earned \$750 in match during the Banker's Challenge.



*Photo by James Osborne*

***Waiting to donate during the Banker's Challenge at the magic 11 a.m. hour are from back to front: Jan Landers-Lyman, Pennie Redmond, Joe Dietz, Brooke Thomas, and Boone Baldwin. Regardless of their organized efforts to get matching challenge money, a problem with the challenge's computer program prevented these matching donations from taking place. Only a few other members' donations, sent from their homes, did work.***

The screenshot shows the BGGives.org interface for the Central Kentucky Computer Society. At the top, there are navigation links: 'Meet Our Nonprofits', 'How does it work?', 'Leaderboard', 'Challenges', and 'About'. The main header features the organization's name 'CENTRAL KENTUCKY COMPUTER SOCIETY' and a prominent green 'DONATE' button. Below this is a large image of several people gathered around a computer monitor, with one person pointing at the screen. To the right of the image, a statistics box displays 'DONORS 13' and 'TOTAL RAISED \$2,330'. Below the statistics is a 'SHARE' button and a 'Favorite' link. A 'DONATION AMOUNT' input field and a 'DONATE NOW' button are also visible. On the left side, there are sections titled 'What We Do' and 'Why We're Great'. On the right side, there is contact information including 'Year Founded: 1985', 'Budget: \$31,968', 'Phone: 859-373-1000', and 'Website'. At the bottom right, a 'MATCHING GRANT \$500' is highlighted.

You can see our status as of the middle of November in this graphic at left. You can follow our process at BGGives.org. Click to “view all” of the Leader Board. Then click on Central Kentucky Computer Society.

If you haven't been able to donate yet, please feel free to donate any time between now and the end of the Challenge which ends at 11:59 p.m. on December 11.

Join several of us when we will be trying to make The Buzzer Beater Match that starts at 11:59 a.m. on December 11 so that hopefully we get a chunk of that \$100,000 matching money.

## Computer Mystery Workshop

Workshop leader: Bob Brown

## Windows 10



The Computer Mystery Workshop on Wednesday, December 03 at 1:30 p.m., will be an Introduction to Windows 10.

Technically, it will feature the pre-release free version of Windows 10 that has been available for downloading for the past several weeks. Microsoft insists that this is a preliminary version and the official version will be released later in 2015.

Our primary speaker and demonstrator will be Joe Isaac, who has been testing and using Windows 10 since its public release back in October. Joe will show some of the new features and the inevitable changes that have been made to old features.

At the meeting, we will also review our CMW model investment portfolio and check on the progress of SQRL website login. There will be time for questions, problem solving and more.

The Computer Mystery Workshop meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 1:30 p.m. Attendees are invited to bring their laptops, tablets, smart phones, etc. and follow along when appropriate. In January, the Computer Mystery Workshop will be on Wednesday, January 7.



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# TECH TALK

By Joe Isaac  
Windows SIG Leader

## Suggestions For Your New Windows 8.1 Computer.

Windows 10 may be out mid 2015

(The speed of your new computer is going to be a lot faster than your old one.)

**Processor:** Latest generation Intel core i3, i5, i7 processor or AMD equivalent.

**Memory:** 4 to 8GB **DDR3**

**Ports:** Should have both USB3 and USB2 Ports (USB3 is 10 times faster than USB2)

**Hard Drive:** 500GB or 1TB

In addition to the above, a **256GB Solid-State Hard Drive: (SSD)** This is an expensive option but it has lightning speed.

**Webcam:** if a Laptop.

**LCD Monitor:** 15.6" or 17" for a Laptop, for a Desktop 24".

**DVD-RW Drive:** To burn CD's or DVD's.

**Digital Media Reader:** For your Digital Camera memory stick.

**Windows Defender Antivirus program:** comes with Windows 8.1 so you don't need Norton or McAfee. Windows Defender is a great Antivirus program.

As soon as you get online with your new computer go to Control Panel and click on **Windows Update**. This will update your antivirus and all Microsoft Programs

Please go to: <http://www.ckcs.org/joetips.pdf>  
and click on **WINDOWS 8.1 & Windows 10 TIPS**

If you have a question please email Joe at: [joeisaac@twc.com](mailto:joeisaac@twc.com) or call 299-6464.



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amazon.com



Ask all your family and friends to do their ordering through the Amazon link on the [www.CKCS.org](http://www.CKCS.org) website. They don't have to be members, and they don't even have to live here. All they have to do is click on the Amazon link located in the bottom left hand corner on the website. There is no additional fee to the person placing order. CKCS will receive a percentage of the amount spent. So call your friends and family wherever they live and encourage them to give us a helping hand.

## The future is now – Apple Pay becomes reality today

*Apple's electronic system alters the way you pay for goods at dozens of stores, banks and restaurants*



**By Kurt Jefferson,  
SIG Leader and Instructor for Mac & iPad topics**

“For years, tech companies have dreamed of a future in which people ditch their wallets and pay for things with their smartphones. And for years, that has not happened. But Apple may be on to something.”

– *The New York Times in **Apple Pay gives glimpse of mainstream appeal for mobile payments***

“According to a *New York Times* report over the weekend, Whole Foods say more than 150,000 Apple Pay transactions across its 384 stores in the first three weeks following the service’s launch in October.”

– *Digital Trends writes in **People are using Apple Pay a lot, according to retailers***

“Walgreens says its mobile wallet payments have doubled since Apple Pay came out, without specifying exact payment numbers...McDonald’s says Apple Pay now accounts for 50 percent of its tap-to-pay transactions...Once NFC payments (and thus, Apple Pay) are available in more quick-shopping locations like gas pumps, it’ll really take off and customers will begin using it even more. Then, in early 2015 when the Apple Watch launches, it’ll be even easier to use Apple Pay, because it’ll be right on users’ wrists.”

– *From TechRepublic in **Apple Pay rollouts continue, stores seeing growth in mobile transactions***



**Kurt Jefferson**

In mid-November, Eddy Cue went on a shopping spree, accompanied by a news reporter and photographer from a southern California TV station.



**Apple Pay shown on an iPhone and a soon-to-be released Apple Watch. Apple Pay is an electronic mobile payment and digital wallet service introduced in October 2014.**

Photo: Wikipedia.org

Cue used an app on his iPhone to preorder a meal at Panera Bread (when he arrived the food was ready to eat), bought sunglasses at Bloomingdale’s, and went holiday shopping at a Disney Store where he bought two dolls from the movie “Frozen.”

At no time did he pull any dollar bills out of his wallet, flash a credit card or dig into his pocket to retrieve his checkbook.



Instead, at each stop, he paid for the items by holding up his iPhone 6 Plus to a wireless payment terminal near the cash register, then pressing the iPhone's Touch ID to complete the purchase.

Cue is Apple's SVP of Internet Software and Services. He joined reporter Rich DeMuro of KTLA, who produces *The Tech Report* for the TV station.

The point of the visit was to show how Apple Pay is changing the way many of us pay for the items we purchase. After the visit to Panera Bread, Bloomingdale's and the Disney Store, Cue stopped by a local Apple Store to talk more about how Apple Pay works.

As Macworld reports, "The beauty of Apple Pay is that you don't even need to wake up your iPhone or launch Passbook — your phone wakes automatically when it gets in range of the terminal and initiates the payment process."

(Passbook is an iOS app that lets the user store coupons, boarding passes, event tickets, store cards, credit cards, and debit cards using Apple Pay.)

AppleInsider reports, "Since rolling out as part of iOS 8.1, Apple Pay has seen relatively strong adoption rates compared to previous touchless payment systems introduced by Google and others. In October, Apple CEO Tim Cook announced that more than one million users had activated cards through Apple Pay in its first 72 hours of service, while a more recent report noted major retailers as seeing a spike in mobile payment transactions over the past month."

#### More:

- **TUAW** – [An in-depth look at what's behind the secure payment system](#)
- **Kirk Lennon** – [How Apple Pay really works and why you should begin using it immediately](#)
- **Gigaom** – [Apple Pay setup step by step: It's unsurprisingly easy and fast](#)
- **Slashgear** – [Apple Pay today widens the door opened by Google Wallet](#)
- **Welivesecurity** – [Apple Pay and security – what you need to know](#)
- **Engadget** – [Early Apple Pay stats point to a modest but promising start](#)
- **TidBits** – [The real reason some merchants are blocking Apple Pay...for now](#)

## What is NFC?

NFC sounds as if it might be a new American football or soccer league. Nope. It stands for "Near Field Communications" and has been around for years.

It's the technology that allows users to make payments by tapping their smartphones.

Stores, banks, restaurants, and other shops have to update their terminals to utilize NFC.

Digital Trends says, "For in store purchases where NFC terminals are in use people can tap their iPhone 6 or swipe their Apple Watch to pay. If they want an extra layer of security, instead of a PIN it will authenticate the user by asking for a fingerprint scan via Touch ID. It's a secure and convenient system that should speed up the process. It also means that you aren't giving your card number to the merchant because Apple is handling the transaction."

For more MAC article pages click link here  Kurt Jefferson MAC and iPad column CONTINUED



# News to use

## Kroger rebates to CKCS are important

A few months ago, Kroger quit using the 'gift card' system to provide rebates to CKCS based on how much money our members put on those gift cards. They switched to using the "Kroger Plus" card which most all their customers carry, but the only catch is that each member needs to designate to whom they want the rebate money to go. If you identify no charitable organization, Kroger keeps the money.

The Kroger rebates each month are important to CKCS as in the past they almost funded our operations here for a full month each year. We plead with each of you who are Kroger customers to take the time to designate CKCS as your charity. All this is explained in detail on page 15 of this issue. Please do this today, if you have not already done so.

## CKCS offices to be closed for the holidays.

Our office supervisors will have the holidays off from December 22 to January 2. Even during this period, the phone answering machine will be periodically monitored for messages. See the announcement on the next page.

## New member, board of directors

In accordance to the Constitution and Bylaws, the CKCS board of directors has elected Janet Cartmell to fill the unexpired term of Debbie Settles who moved out of state recently. Janet will serve on the board through June 30, 2015.

Debbie had been on the board of directors since July 2013. She additionally served as an instructor on Apple products such as the iPad and iPhone for CKCS. The society is very appreciative of her dedicated service while here in Lexington and sends her our best wishes.



## Our videos

About the middle of each newsletter, your editor places a selection of the best videos our members send that they find on web sites the visit such as YouTube. If you don't take the time to preview each of these videos, you are missing something special. To get there, just click on the video link on the contents page (page 2).

If, while you visit various web sites, or when someone sends you an usually good video, please be sure to forward it to our newsletter editor, using this email address: [newsletter@ckcs.org](mailto:newsletter@ckcs.org) and all our members will thank you. We credit the person who sends us the video unless he/she requests it be anonymous. If more than one person sends the same video, the first one that does so is the one we credit.



## Passing of Julianna La Fleche

On October 23, CKCS lost Julianna La Fleche, a long-time member who was very active in the organization. Until she became ill, she was a regular worker as an office supervisor, answering the phone and receiving visitors. She was a regular attendee of the Saturday financial investments SIG for a number of years and also came to the Mac SIG (before the iPad had been announced). More recently, from home, she served as one of the proofreaders of this monthly newsletter. Julianna will be missed by the members with whom she worked and many of our members and of course her family and friends.



The CKCS Office will be closed from Monday, December 22nd to Friday, January 2nd to give our hard working, reliable Office Supervisors time off. Check with the individual SIG Leaders to find out if they will be holding meetings during this time.

# Herald-Leader chief photographer spoke to the November Digital Photography SIG

Attendees at the November Digital Photography SIG had a special treat when Charles Bertram, chief photographer for the Lexington Herald Leader came to share many of his 'favorite' photos. He explained how each one was taken and the steps that he took to make that photo extraordinary. He gave an overview of what a day is like working for a newspaper. Of course he has some regular



**Charles Bertram spoke to the Photography SIG in November while telling stories about his favorite photos to the main screen. Joe Dietz the SIG leader is at right.** Photo by Brooke Thomas

assignments but he is always alert to current events that suddenly might develop during his day. His goal is to always look for that special human interest photo or something he might see, but most don't really see. Something unexpected.

Bertram has been a Herald-Leader photograph for 34 years. He works basically from his car and he electronically sends his photos to the paper and seldom goes to the office. He stays out looking for that special, unusual photo. He monitors police/fire scanners seeking those breaking news photos.

Bertram is a man of patience, which was illustrated by a photo he showed of a mother duck crossing Richmond Road with a row of ducklings following while traffic came to a stop. Bertram had heard that this occurred occasionally, so one day he went to the area where the crossing had occurred in the past. He waited over six hours and finally took numerous pictures of the crossing event. It made a spectacular photo that the editors and the public just loved. It was a picture that took lots of patience, something which most photographers would have given up and missed.

The duck picture was just one of dozens of Bertram's spectacular photos shown. With each, he had a story to tell. Our members also had all sorts of questions, which he answered expertly.

Bertram's presentation lasted about 90 minutes and he announced he had gone too long, even though he had one more photo he had forgotten to show. The group would not let him stop because of their enthusiastic interest in his presentation. One member said he thought it was the best SIG presentation ever.

The monthly photo contest winners were announced at the conclusion of the presentation. The winning photos are on the next page.

The Digital photography SIG will not meet in December due to the holidays.

Information for this article furnished by Jerry Markussen



# Digital Photography Monthly Photo Contest Winners

November's Category: **Shadows/silhouettes**



First Place - Kevin MacNaughton

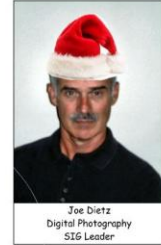


Second Place - Jan Landers-Lyman





## Digital Photography SIG



*There will be no  
Digital Photography Special  
Interest Group in December.  
Take this time to spend with family  
and friends and enjoy the season!*



*See ya in January!*

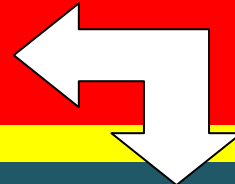
*Joe*

CKCS

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# Not a member ? We invite you to join CKCS

Here is how: It is simple as 1 – 2 – 3



**1**

Click on this link <http://www.ckcs.org/join/> and fill out the form  
(if that doesn't work, go to [www.ckcs.org](http://www.ckcs.org) and click on JOIN NOW) -- **or**

**2**

Call (859) 373-1000 and a friendly office supervisor will be glad to help you -- **or**

**3**

Stop by the CKCS Resource Center at 160 Moore Drive, Lexington 40503  
Office hours Monday through Friday, 10 A.M. to 4 P.M.

**We need you and will welcome you as a full-fledged member!**

**Members are eligible to attend all Special Interest Group sessions**

**Members receive a discount on all classes, workshops and seminars**

## Review of November's Tech Night

# 3D Printing with Ben Broeck

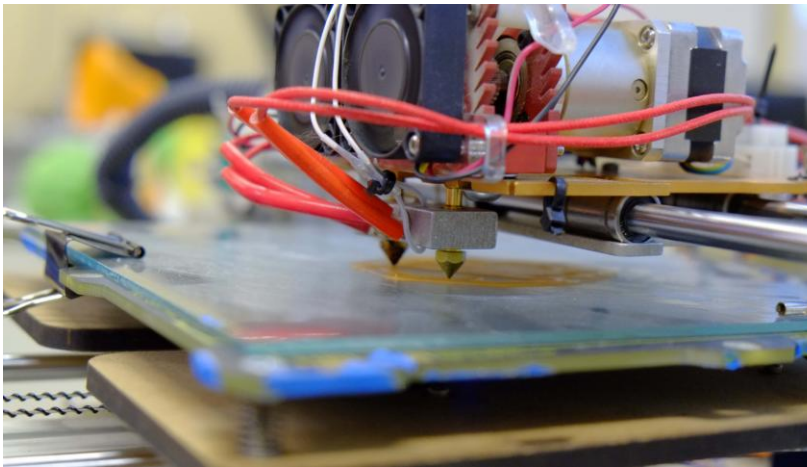
“Best Tech Night ever!”

“Who knew we had such advanced technology in Lexington.”

“3D technology is amazing.”

“Ben is young, enthusiastic and knows his stuff.”

These were just a few of the comments overheard after the CKCS November 10 Tech Night.

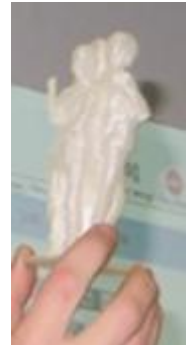


The printer melts the resin and send it through the orange tubes adding a layer each rotation. Many of the parts of the 3D printer were made by another 3D printer.

Photos by Boone Baldwin

The audience got an up close and personal view of 3D printing. **Ben Broeck of ArtLab** brought two 3D printers and a full body scanner to show how he does 3D printing. He actually printed a 3D image so we could see how it is done and discussed the printer and materials he uses to make the 3D objects. The crowd was amazed that some of the objects he brought had movable parts right out of the printer. Other items were printed and then assembled.

As we watched Ben do his work with 3D printing, he predicted



that it will change our lives in the future. They are already making prosthesis for children who need replacements as they grow. 3D printing allows for low-cost replacements. Homeowners can use the technology to replicate items needed around the house. He is using it to build some of the displays in his shop. Ben uses plastics and some bronze in his work, but there are industrial printers that use metals and in China they are experimenting with concrete printers to build houses. He showed some miniature statues he made.

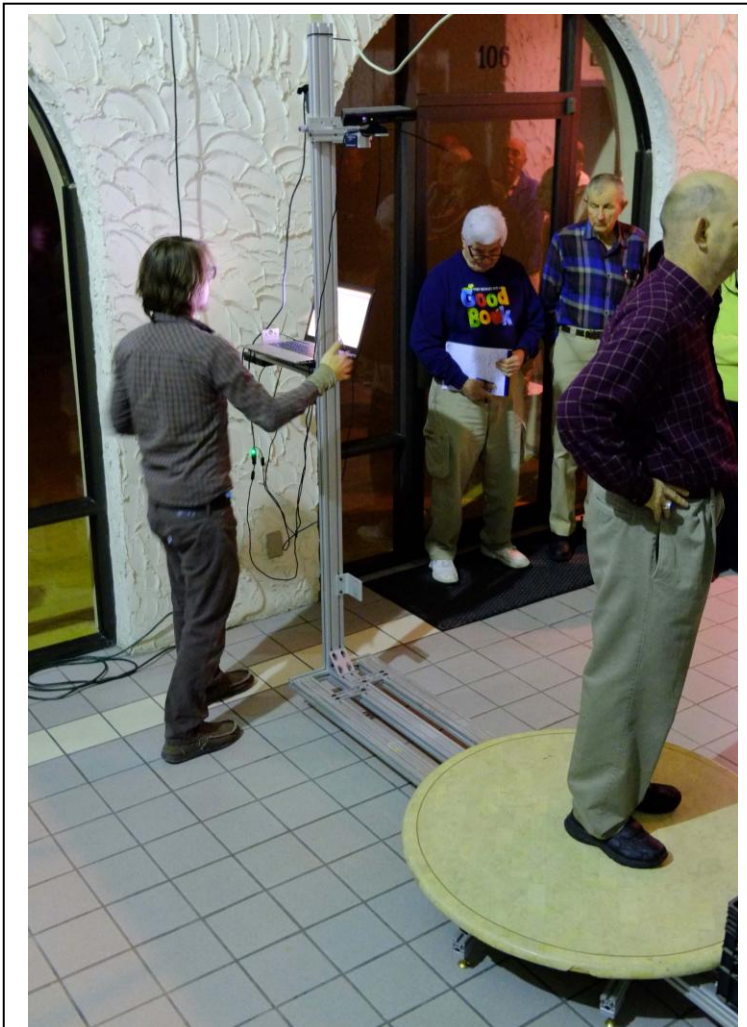


Members were invited to see the 3D printing process up close during the break

ArtLab is located at Kre8Now Makerspace at 903 Manchester Street. It's currently open on Saturday afternoons. An open house is scheduled for December 6 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The poster here provides more information.

His surprise at the end of the evening was to show Google glass – anyone who wanted got to try them, had that chance this evening.

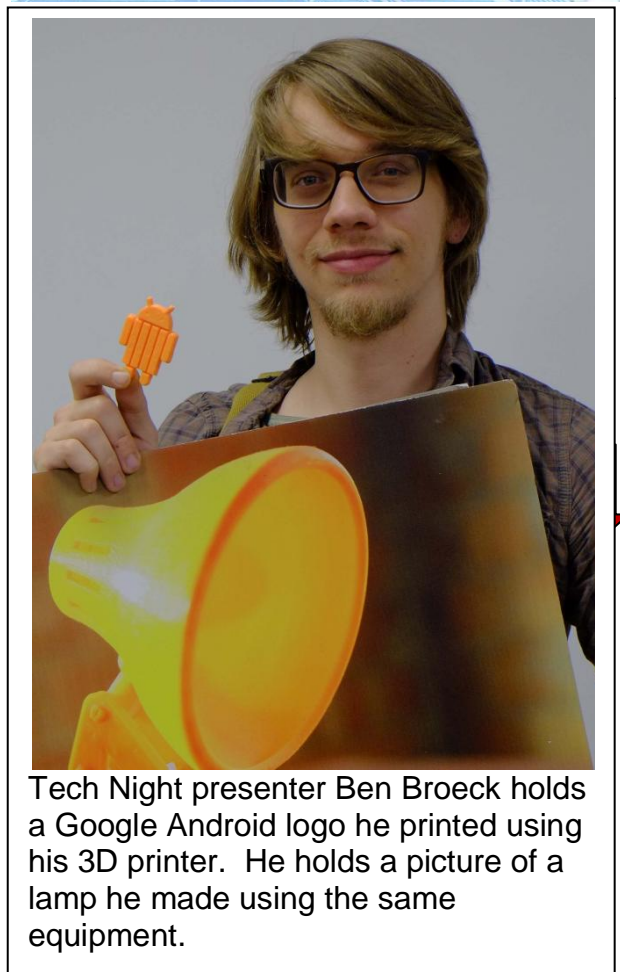
All photos by Boone Baldwin



Ben demonstrated a full body scanner with which he can make sculptures of people. A volunteer stood on the platform and the machine has to make three complete rotations around the person: top, middle, and bottom.



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Tech Night presenter Ben Broeck holds a Google Android logo he printed using his 3D printer. He holds a picture of a lamp he made using the same equipment.

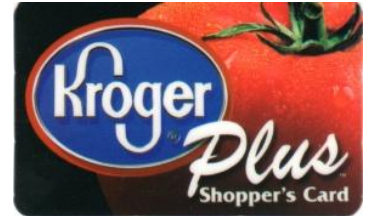


# Changes to Kroger Card Program

To all CKCS Members and Friends:

We appreciate your participation in the Kroger Community Rewards program. The donations from Kroger have enabled several improvements in our organization without dues increases.

However, beginning in September, Kroger made changes in the way the reward program works. The old white gift cards will no longer be part of the new system. That program is gone. The new program is based on the familiar KROGER PLUS card which has been around for years. →

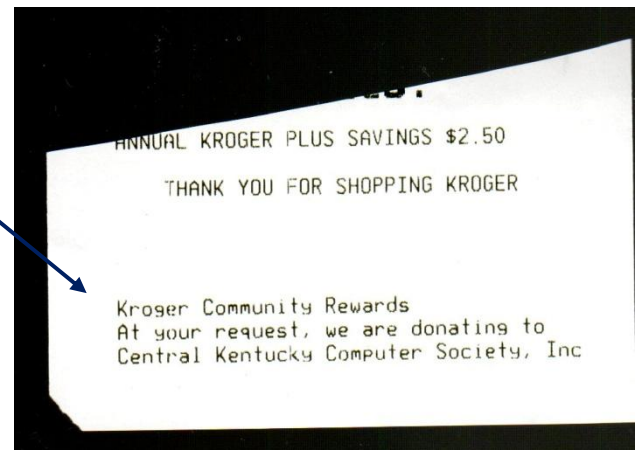


We now ask that you do two things if you wish to have your spending at Kroger generate automatic donations to CKCS:

1. If you have a card that looks like this picture, great! Most Kroger shoppers do have one because it provides discounts on numerous products. If you need a card, you can get one by going to the Kroger service desk and asking for one.
2. Use the Kroger website to register your Plus Card number and choose "Central Kentucky Computer Society" as your organization.
3. Here are detailed instructions for Step 2:
  - a. Go to <https://www.kroger.com>
  - b. Click on Community Rewards
  - c. Click on "Create an Account" to enroll
  - d. Enter your information: including email address and a new password for this account
  - e. Click Create Account
  - f. Enter your Kroger Plus card number - it is on both the wallet card and the key ring card
  - g. Click "Enroll now for Community Rewards"
  - h. Enter our organization name **Central Kentucky Computer Society** or the CKCS number which is **11119**

Once you have done all this, if all is right, the next time you shop at Kroger you should see a comment on the bottom of your receipt that looks like this:

Your existing white Kroger Gift card can still be used to buy groceries until all the money you put on it has been used. Once it is empty, we understand you won't be able to 'load' it with more money. If that is correct, at that point the white card is basically useless.



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# New Members and Renewals

During the period from 10/26/2014 to 11/25/2014

We welcome the following new members.

**Dennis J. Burrows  
Richard and Kae Schennberg**

We thank the following members who renewed their memberships during this reporting period.

**Arthur Adams  
Herman B. Butler  
Nancy & Allen Dawson  
Richard Gehlbach  
R. Jackson Haga  
W. Rush Mathews, Jr.  
Mark H. And Sandra S. Neville  
James Osborne  
Lee Van Sant  
John & Jackie Van Willigen  
David G. Warner  
Judy Woods**

*Information furnished by CKCS Board of Directors member Ben Rice*


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## [CKCS December 2014 SIG Schedule](#)

This special SIG calendar prepared for this newsletter by Larry Trivette

**Print this page for your refrigerator or bulletin board**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>01 Dec</b>	<b>02 Dec</b>	<b>03 Dec</b>	<b>04 Dec</b>	<b>05 Dec</b>	<b>06 Dec</b>
	<p><b>1:30 PM Only!</b>  <a href="#">Word Processing</a>                      LARRY TRIVETTE</p>	<p>1:30 PM  <b>Mystery Workshop</b>                      BOB BROWN</p>	<p>9:00 AM                      Photo Coffee Clicks</p> <hr/> <p>7:00 PM  <b>Board of Directors</b></p>		<p>10:00 AM - NOON  <b>Dr. Fixit</b>                      BOB BROWN - BEN RICE - MIKE SEILER - JAMES OSBORNE                      Bring in your problem PC and we'll try to help</p>
<b>08 Dec</b>	<b>09 Dec</b>	<b>10 Dec</b>	<b>11 Dec</b>	<b>12 Dec</b>	<b>13 Dec</b>
<p>7:00 PM  <b>Tech Night</b>                      Holiday Party &amp; Virus Protection:                      Joey Police &amp; Craig Mayfield</p>	<p>7:00 PM  <a href="#">Windows 7-8.1-10</a>                      JOE ISAAC</p>		<p>9:00 AM                      Photo Coffee Clicks</p> <hr/> <p>7:00 PM  <a href="#">Mac &amp; iPad</a>                      KURT JEFFERSON</p>		
<b>15 Dec</b>	<b>16 Dec</b>	<b>17 Dec</b>	<b>18 Dec</b>	<b>19 Dec</b>	<b>20 Dec</b>
			<p>9:00 AM                      Photo Coffee Clicks</p> <hr/> <p>7:00 PM  <a href="#">Microsoft Access</a>                      STUART ZAHALKA</p>		
<b>22 Dec</b>	<b>23 Dec</b>	<b>24 Dec</b>	<b>25 Dec</b>	<b>26 Dec</b>	<b>27 Dec</b>
<p>7:00 PM  <b>Database</b>                      GARLAND SMITH</p>	<p>7:00 PM  <a href="#">Digital Photography</a>                      JOE DIETZ</p>	<p><b>Christmas Eve</b></p>	<p><b>Christmas</b></p>		
<b>29 Dec</b>	<b>30 Dec</b>	<b>31 Dec</b>	<b>01 Jan</b>	<b>02 Jan</b>	<b>03 Jan</b>
			<p><b>New Year's Day</b></p>		

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# This Month's Best Videos / Shows

**INSTRUCTIONS:** If you use GOOGLE CHROME. Hold down the control key before you click on the link below. It creates a NEW TAB at the top. Once you view the video, simply close that tab to return to this page.  
If you use INTERNET EXPLORER, we recommend you copy and paste the links below into a new search bar rather than clicking the links below. This will allow the newsletter to remain open in the background while you view the video.  
Using this system, you should not have to go through several steps to get back to this page .

---

*Compassion still exists*

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/btiDHCuWyBA?rel=0>

Furnished by Carl Peter

---

*Willie Nelson has a card trick*

<https://www.youtube.com/v/KJ0ncVqrd8M&rel=0&fs=1&autoplay=1>

Furnished by Ted Mellinger

---

*The amazing USS John C. Stennis carrier*

<http://www.dump.com/aircraftcarrier/>

Furnished by Carl Peter

---

*A German trapeze couple who are somewhat different*

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=717211468307619&set=vb.234538950336&type=2&theater>

Furnished by Carl Peter

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*Five star dining at a homeless shelter*

<http://devour.com/video/prank-it-fwd/>

Furnished by Ted Mellinger

---

*A new generation from which we pick our leadership*

[Politically-Challenged: Texas Tech Edition - YouTube](#)

Furnished by Harvey Shackelford

---

*The best Christmas commercial you might see this year*

<http://ftp.relevantmagazine.com/slices/wwi-christmas-ad-best-commercial-youll-see-today>

Furnished by Carl Peter

---

*Street Singer* \*

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=10201870505357473> [1]

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---

*A lecture about getting old*

*long but worth your time*

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/LR2qZ0A8vic?rel=0>

Furnished by Carl Peter and Mike Seiler

---

*The Ross Sisters performed in 1944*

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/61cY1ILv60k?rel=0&autoplay=1>

Furnished by Carl Peter

---

*This job is not for everyone*

<https://www.youtube-nocookie.com/embed/VxIKZereog0?rel=0>

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\* This is truly beautiful. What is wonderful about this is that people will walk past an older person as though they don't exist, and I am sure that many, as have I, have had that happen countless times. I sometimes think that in the eyes of the young, we become invisible as we age, especially in these days of all-absorbing portable technology that so entrances the young! This wonderful older gentleman made them stop and pay attention; and they did!

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# A Few Funny Pages

## HEAVEN AND HELL

While walking down the street one day a corrupt senator was tragically hit by a car and died. His soul arrives in heaven and is met by St. Peter at the entrance.

"Welcome to heaven," says St. Peter. "Before you settle in, it seems there is a problem. We seldom see a high official around these parts, you see, so we're not sure what to do with you."

"No problem, just let me in," says the senator.

"Well, I'd like to, but I have orders from the higher ups. What we'll do is have you spend one day in hell and one in heaven. Then you can choose where to spend eternity."

"Really? I've made up my mind. I want to be in heaven," says the senator.

"I'm sorry, but we have our rules."

And with that, St. Peter escorts him to the elevator and he goes down, down, down to hell.

The doors open and he finds himself in the middle of a green golf course. In the distance is a clubhouse and standing in front of it are all his friends and other politicians who had worked with him.

Everyone is very happy and in evening dress. They run to greet him, shake his hand, and reminisce about the good times they had while getting rich at the expense of the people.

They played a friendly game of golf and then dine on lobster, caviar and the finest champagne.

Also present is the devil, who really is a very friendly guy who is having a good time dancing and telling jokes.

They are all having such a good time that before the senator realizes it, it is time to go.

Everyone gives him a hearty farewell and waves while the elevator rises.

The elevator goes up, up, up and the door reopens in heaven where St. Peter is waiting for him, "Now it's time to visit heaven..."

So, 24 hours passed with the senator joining a group of contented souls moving from cloud to cloud, playing the harp and singing. They have a good time and, before he realizes it, the 24 hours have gone by and St. Peter returns.

"Well, then, you've spent a day in hell and another in heaven. Now choose your eternity."

The senator reflects for a minute, then he answers: "Well, I would never have said it before, I mean heaven has been delightful, but I think I would be better off in hell."

So St. Peter escorts him to the elevator and he goes down, down, down to hell...

Now the doors of the elevator open and he's in the middle of a barren land covered with waste and garbage. He sees all his friends, dressed in rags, picking up the trash and putting it in black bags as more trash falls from above

The devil comes over to him and puts his arm around his shoulders.

"I don't understand," stammers the senator. "Yesterday I was here and there was a golf course and clubhouse, and we ate lobster and caviar, drank champagne, and danced and had a great time. Now there's just a wasteland full of garbage and my friends look miserable. What happened?"

The devil smiles at him and says,

"Yesterday we were campaigning. Today, you voted."

Furnished by Bob McKee

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## **Actual Airline Announcements:**

United Flight Attendant announced,

'People, people we're not picking out furniture here, find a seat and get in it!'

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On landing, the stewardess said, 'Please be sure to take all of your belongings.. If you're going to leave anything, please make sure it's something we'd like to have. '

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'There may be 50 ways to leave your lover, but there are only 4 ways out of this airplane'

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An airline pilot wrote that on this particular flight he had hammered his ship into the runway really hard. The airline had a policy which required the first officer to stand at the door while the passengers exited, smile, and give them a 'Thanks for flying our airline.' He said that, in light of his bad landing, he had a hard time looking the passengers in the eye, thinking that someone would have a smart comment. Finally, everyone had gotten off except for a little old lady walking with a cane.

She said, 'Sir, do you mind if I ask you a question?'

'Why, no, Ma'am,' said the pilot. 'What is it?'

The little old lady said, 'Did we land, or were we shot down?'

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As the plane landed and was coming to a stop at Ronald Reagan, a lone voice came over the loudspeaker: 'Whoa, big fella, WHOA!' ;

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After a particularly rough landing during thunderstorms in Memphis, a flight attendant on a Northwest flight announced, 'Please take care when opening the overhead compartments because sure as hell everything has shifted after a landing like that.'

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Another flight attendant's comment on a less than perfect landing: 'We ask you to please remain seated as Captain Kangaroo bounces us to the terminal.'

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Overheard on an American Airlines flight into Amarillo, Texas, on a particularly windy and bumpy day: During the final approach, the Captain was really having to fight it. After an extremely hard landing, the flight attendant said, 'Ladies and Gentlemen, welcome to Amarillo .. Please remain in your seats with your seat belts fastened while the Captain taxis what's left of our airplane to the gate!'

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'Your seat cushions can be used for flotation; and, in the event of an emergency water landing, please paddle to shore and take them with our compliments. '

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'As you exit the plane, make sure to gather all of your belongings. Anything left behind will be distributed evenly among the flight attendants. Please do not leave children or spouses...except for that gentleman over there.'

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Heard on Southwest Airlines just after a very hard landing in Salt Lake City. The flight attendant came on the intercom and said, 'That was quite a bump, and I know what y'all are thinking. I'm here to tell you it wasn't the airline's fault, it wasn't the pilot's fault, it wasn't the flight attendant's fault, it was the asphalt.'

---

After a real crusher of a landing in Phoenix, the attendant came on with, 'Ladies and Gentlemen, please remain in your seats until Capt. Crash and the Crew have brought the aircraft to a screeching halt against the gate. And, once the tire smoke has cleared and the warning bells are silenced, we'll open the door and you can pick your way through the wreckage to the terminal.'

---

Part of a flight attendant's arrival announcement: 'We'd like to thank you folks for flying with us today. And, the next time you get the insane urge to go blasting through the skies in a pressurized metal tube, we hope you'll think of US Airways..'

---

Heard on a Southwest Airline flight - 'Ladies and gentlemen, if you wish to smoke, the smoking section on this airplane is on the wing and if you can light 'em, you can smoke 'em.'

---

A plane was taking off from Kennedy Airport . After it reached a comfortable cruising altitude, the captain made an announcement over the intercom; 'Ladies and gentlemen, this is your captain speaking. Welcome to Flight Number 293, nonstop from New York to Los Angeles . The weather ahead is good and, therefore, we should have a smooth and uneventful flight. Now sit back and relax.... OH, MY GOD!'

Silence followed, and after a few minutes, the captain came back on the intercom and said, 'Ladies and Gentlemen, I am so sorry if I scared you earlier. While I was talking to you, the flight attendant accidentally spilled a cup of hot coffee in my lap. You should see the front of my pants!'

A passenger in coach yelled, 'That's nothing. You should see the back of mine!'

---

A man boarded a plane with six kids. After they got settled in their seats a woman sitting across the aisle from him leaned over to him and asked, "Are all of those children yours?" He replied, "*No. I work for a condom company. These are customer complaints.* "

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Furnished by Carl Peter



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# KyTrade Remote Helpdesk Over the Internet



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# CKCS List of Special Interest Groups

Each month the Central Kentucky Computer Society offers nine Special Interest Groups (SIGs) which may be attended by members and their guests. Below is a summary of what takes place at each SIG. Information is provided by the SIG leader. Visitors are cordially invited to become active CKCS members. Starting times of SIGs are as indicated in the listing.

**SPECIAL NOTE; Always check the “Monthly Schedule” and the “Newsletter” link on the CKCS home page for any schedule change [www.ckcs.org](http://www.ckcs.org)**

## COMPUTER MYSTERY SIG

**Meets monthly on the first Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. –  
Leader Bob Brown**

Meeting topics will be about Internet websites, operating system tips and tricks, application software, new hardware devices or any other ideas from the world of personal computers. At each meeting, two or three things are presented that you might want to do with your computer but may not know exactly how

## DATABASE SIG

**Meets monthly on the fourth Monday at 7 p.m. –  
Leader Garland Smith**

## DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY SIG

**Meets monthly on the fourth Tuesday at 7 p.m. –  
Leader Joe Dietz**

The Digital Photography Special Interest Group is a forum to provide and share information about digital imaging. The SIG frequently has guest speakers to cover a wide range of topics that are related to digital imaging. Some of our past topics have been on digital archiving (AKA Backup), getting the best out of your point and shoot camera, effective lighting when taking pictures, restoring old photos and many others. The goal of this SIG is to help attendees to better understand digital imaging, learning how to get the best out of their cameras and how to improve their images with digital imaging software such as Corel's Paint Shop Pro, Photoshop CS/Elements, Gimp or other program. Each meeting starts with a photo contest with a variety of different categories.

## DR. FIXIT SIG

**Meets monthly on the first Saturday at 10 a.m. –  
Leaders: Bob Brown, Ben Rice Harry Ellison, and  
Mike Seiler.**

CKCS members are eligible to bring in sick computers for evaluation. Our 'experts' will diagnose the problem and if possible make simple repairs. All you need to bring is the CPU. Our leaders will use a mouse and monitor on hand. This is a free service for members only. One may join in membership to avail themselves of this special service.

## MAC AND IPAD SIG

**Meets monthly on the second Thursday at 7 p.m. –  
Leader Kurt Jefferson**

The Mac and iPad SIG tackles issues to help make both Apple's Mac computers and its iPad tablet easier to use and more enjoyable. We deal with a variety of topics ranging from Mac OS X (pronounced "10") to iOS, the operating system

running Apple's iPad. We share tips at every meeting and provide insights to empower users to get more out of their Macs and their iPads. Users are encouraged to bring their Mac laptops and iPad tablets to experience first hand the tips provided at each meeting. Whether you're a beginner to the Mac or iPad, of you've been using both devices for several years, you'll walk away with plenty of tips, tricks, and advice to make your computing experience more enjoyable.

## MICROSOFT ACCESS SIG

**Meets monthly on the third Thursday at 7 p.m. –  
Leader Stuart Zahalka**

## WINDOWS SIG

**Meets monthly on the second Tuesday at 7 p.m. –  
Leader Joe Isaac**

The Windows SIG or Workshop for Windows 7 & 8.1 meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m.. Topics covered may be: Windows, Internet Explorer, Google Chrome, Windows Live Mail, Windows Live Photo Gallery, Control Panel, System Restore, Defrag, Desktop, Taskbar, Disk Cleanup, etc. To see which topic will be covered next go to <http://joescomputertips.blogspot.com/>  
To see a year's worth of email Tips and Reviews go to: <http://www.ckcs.org/joetips.pdf>

## WORD PROCESSING SIG

**Meets monthly on the first Tuesday at 1:30 p.m.  
Leader Larry Trivette**

The Word Processing SIG starts with questions from classmates where the SIG leader and all attending help provide solutions and answers. In fact, many of the topics presented during each session come from questions received by email during the month. Topics are presented so that new as well as advanced computer users will benefit by attending. This workshop uses several Microsoft Word versions during the SIG.

## UNIX / LINUX SIG

**Meets monthly on the fourth Thursday at 7 p.m. –  
Leader Lewis Gardner**

The Linux SIG handles a wide range of technical topics. Linux is based on Unix which is the granddaddy of modern networking. We spend a considerable amount of time on servers, networks, routers, access points and general network configuration. These operating systems are at the heart of many devices in our increasingly connected world. Come out and we will try to get your questions answered, your problems troubleshot or devices configured.

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## What do you need in order to use Apple Pay?

To pay for *purchases in stores and restaurants*, you need either:

- iPhone 6
- iPhone 6 Plus

or

- Apple Watch (when it's available in early 2015)

To pay for purchases using *an app downloaded from the App Store*, you'll need either:

- iPhone 6
- iPhone 6 Plus

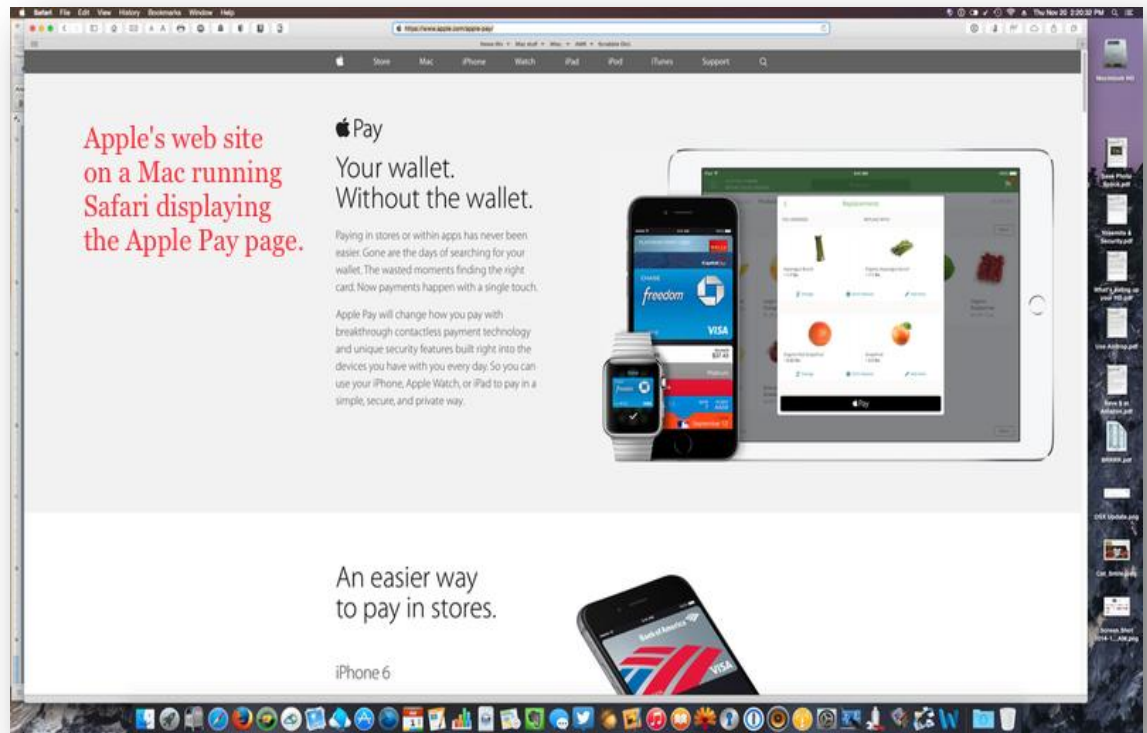
or

- iPad Air 2
- iPad mini 3

[Macworld adds](#) that you can use Touch ID to complete the purchase. “Depending on the app, you may have to toggle on a setting to allow the apple to access Apple Pay, or to set Apple Pay as your default method of payment.”

If you already have a credit card that you're using to make purchases from the App Store (either iOS or Mac App Store) or from iTunes, you can choose to keep using that card with Apple Pay if it's one of the confirmed banks, credit unions, or credit card companies:

- America First Credit Union
- American Express



- Bank of America
- Barclaycard
- CapitalOne
- Chase
- Citi
- J.P. Morgan
- M&T Bank
- MasterCard
- Merrill Lynch
- Navy Federal Credit Union
- PNC
- Regions
- U.S. Bank
- U.S. Trust
- USAA
- Visa
- Wells Fargo

Mind you, this list is growing daily.

More than 220,000 retail locations are now using Apple Pay, including Meijer, Macy's, Staples, Office Depot, Walgreens, ToysRUs, Petco, and dozens of others.

### How do I set up my iPhone 6 or iPhone 6 Plus to use Apple Pay?

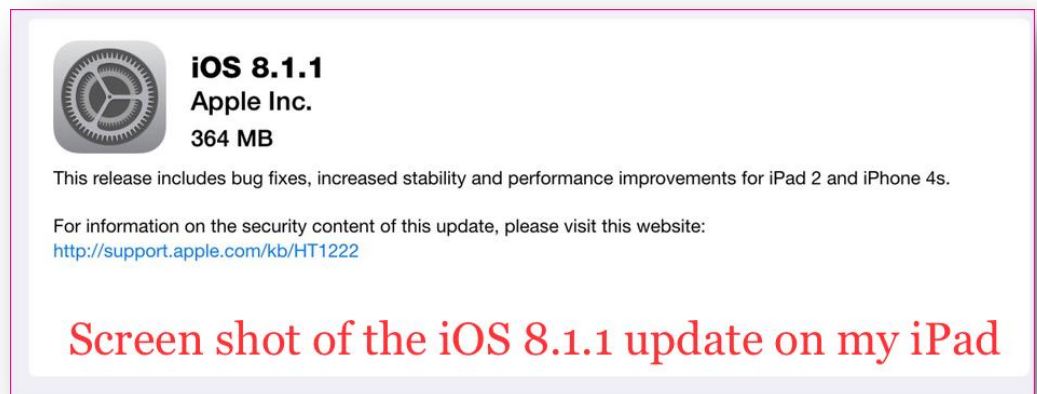
MacRumors provides an [excellent article](#) describing how to set up and use Apple Pay. In addition, iMore offers what it calls "[The ultimate guide](#)" to using Apple Pay. Apple provides its own Apple Pay web site labeled, "[Your wallet. Without the wallet.](#)"

**What about security?** MacRumors writes, "Apple has placed a heavy emphasis on security when advertising Apple Pay, to assure iPhone owners that their payment information is safe, and, in fact, safer on an iPhone than inside of a wallet. According to former credit card executive Tom Noyes, the way Apple Pay has been designed to work makes it "the most secure payments scheme on the planet."

## Apple updates iOS and OS X: Bug fixes, Wi-Fi fix and more

Ken Hess wrote in his column for ZDNet: "I questioned my sanity after upgrading to Yosemite a few days ago because of the extremely sluggish

performance. Today I updated to 10.10.1 and am happy again." Hess was discouraged after installing Yosemite on his Mac and he says the performance slowed considerably. After installing the upgrade,



“It worked. My awesome Mac mini is awesome again. I went from slogging through mud to ice skating again. I’m very happy with the 10.10.1 update.”

When I upgraded by nearly four-year-old Mac mini to Yosemite, I did not experience the slowdown reported by Hess. But, then again, I never install a new Mac operating system upgrade over an older version. I erase the hard drive and then install the new version of OS X on an empty hard drive.

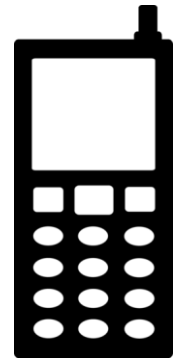
That may seem like overkill to some, but it works very well for me. I started doing that years ago while upgrading the Mac minis in the CKCS classroom to a new version of OS X. The minis worked much better once their hard drives had been erased and the new operating system installed.

What about the iOS upgrade to 8.1.1? The Verge reports, “Aside from the usual promise of bug fixes and security updates, Apple says the latest release should speed things up on iPad 2 and iPhone 4S, two of the company’s aging devices. We’ve seen it several times: installing major new versions of iOS on old hardware can often result in degraded performance, making the user experience slower and worse than it had been before.”

- Apple’s page about the [iOS 8.1.1 update](#)
- Apple’s page about the [OS X Yosemite 10.10.1 update](#)

## **AT&T Mobility says it has stopped using ‘perma-cookies’**

Following negative news reports, the nation’s second largest wireless phone company says it has stopped tracking the web sites customers visit on their iPhones, iPads, Android phones, and other cellular devices. The point of the tracking?



AT&T Mobility says the ‘Relevant Advertising’ program was designed to deliver targeted advertising. The phone company says this was an experimental program, which has apparently ended. AT&T told the Associated Press that it no longer is injecting hidden Internet tracking codes on data transmitted from users’ smartphones.

The AP reported that this practice “made it nearly impossible to shield it subscribers’ identities online.”

Verizon Wireless, the nation’s largest wireless phone service, says it still uses this type of tracking.

The AP quoted Verizon spokeswoman Debra Lewis, “As with any program, we’re constantly evaluating, and this is no different.”

She added that customers can ask that their codes not be used for advertising purposes. “This is more like a license plate for your brain,” Jacob Hoffman-Andrews, a senior staffer with the Electronic Frontier Foundation, told the AP.

The EFF is a civil liberties organization that opposes tracking cell phone users’ use of the web. He added, “Everything you wonder about, and read, and ask the Internet about gets this header attached to it. And there are ad agencies out there that try to associate that browsing history with anything that identifies you.”

The Associated Press noted that there has been no evidence that either T-Mobile or Sprint used



similar tracking codes.

**AP: AT&T stops adding Web tracking codes on cellphones**

<http://bigstory.ap.org/article/54128f63044541279214c96a702546a9/att-stops-adding-web-tracking-codes-cellphones>

**Wired: Verizon’s ‘Perma-Cookie’ is a privacy-killing machine**

<http://www.wired.com/2014/10/verizons-perma-cookie/>

## Find out what’s filling your Mac’s hard drive

As hard drives grow bigger and bigger (and are often replaced by svelte solid state drives on laptops and what Apple calls Fusion Drive on iMacs and Mac minis), do you really know what’s hogging all that space? Five utilities can tell you. Macworld reviews the apps and can tell you which ones might fit the bill. The five are:



**Disk App** (\$1) “It’s not nearly as comprehensive as some of the other apps I tested, but Disk App does an admirable job of quickly clearing out space, even sorting through your documents to find the largest ones, in case you want to shuffle them off to an external drive.”

**Disk Inspector** (\$8) “Even if your hard drive is packed with files that pre-date OS X, Disk Inspector will dutifully keep its eyes on all of them for you.”

**Disk Graph** (\$2) “I found Disk Graph to be a bit more forensic with its scanning, as it catalogued every nook and cranny, right down to the files tucked away in the hidden library folder.”

**HD Cleaner** (\$5) “No matter how you use your Mac, you’ll find that most of your space-cleaning sessions focus on the same cluster of files, mostly located in your Home folder. With HD Cleaner, you can quickly access the folders where they’re hiding without needing to forage through the fountain of files you probably want to keep.”

**Daisy Disk** (\$10) “Don’t be fooled by the wimpy name: Daisy Disk is one of the most powerful utilities you’re likely to find.”

**Macworld:** What’s eating up your hard drive? These 5 utilities tell all

<http://www.macworld.com/article/2846014/whats-eating-up-your-hard-drive-these-5-utilities-tell-all.html>



# The rebirth of the Mac: it's a \$24 billion business yearly

Venerable tech writer Walt Mossberg reflects on the rebirth of the Macintosh

*"If you just look around you, at least in the U.S., it's hard to miss the fact that the Mac has been on the rise for years. Whether at the office, at a coffee shop, a college campus, an airport, or a conference, Macs seem to be everywhere today." - Walt*



## *Mossberg in his re/code tech commentary*

When Apple released its latest sales figures in October, folks who keep a close watch on the tech world were shaking their heads. Sales of Macintosh computers were smashing records. News outlets headlined articles, *The Mac is back* and *Return of the Mac*.

Former *Wall Street Journal* tech writer Walt Mossberg, who now writes for the re/code Web site reacted this way: "...For those of us who were around tech in the late 1990's, that's pretty remarkable."

Mossberg writes how the Mac seemed doomed back then and had plummeted far behind Windows machines, especially in software.

Move forward the hands on the clock and it's a different story. Mossberg writes about the Mac in a pre-Thanksgiving commentary: "Now I believe it's the best line of computers on the market, and I consider one model in particular – the thin, light and rugged MacBook Air – to be the best consumer laptop every made."

Of course, Macs cost more than Windows machines. Far fewer Macs are sold every year than Windows machines. Mac sales are also eclipsed by the iPhone, Apple's best-selling product.

Still, Phil Schiller, Apple's senior vice president of Worldwide Marketing remarked, "The Mac is still really important to us. Yes, we care about iPhones and iPads, and the new Apple Watch. But we care about the Mac just as much."



Mossberg cites three primary factors why he believes the Mac is prospering:

- Steve Jobs
- The Internet
- Microsoft blunders

Jobs, the late Apple CEO, terminated many different Mac models. (I remember the confusing models of the Mac Performa line that made no sense to me when I was shopping for a new computer back in the 1990's.)

Mossberg says Jobs concentrated on building one good desktop and laptop for consumers; one good desktop and laptop for “pro” users, such as graphic designers.

He adds that Jobs replaced the Mac's aging operating system with a modern and powerful platform called OS X (which power's today's Macs.) Jobs overhauled hardware and introduced the iMac and MacBook models.

In addition, he moved the Mac to Intel processors, opened very successful Apple Stores, and made the Mac more compatible with Microsoft Windows, the dominant computer operating system. Jobs also introduced Boot Camp, which allows Mac users to run the Windows operating system on their machines.

The Internet, says Mossberg, also played a major role in the Mac's revival: “After years of neglect and falling sales, many third-party software vendors had stopped making programs for the Mac and focused exclusively on Windows. But as users turned increasingly to the Web as their main activity on computers, the Mac suddenly became an equal. Apple introduced its own browser, Safari; and Google's popular Chrome browser, and others, run great on Macs.

Microsoft also takes part of the credit. Mossberg says Microsoft never thought the Mac would be much of a threat to its business. Years ago, Bill Gates actually provided money to help keep Apple afloat and affirmed that it would continue producing a Mac version of the popular Microsoft Office suite.

Finally, “Much more importantly, two of its last three versions of Windows — Vista and the current Windows 8 — have proved unpopular with consumers, making the Mac a more attractive alternative. In fact, Windows 8, which works best with costly touchscreens, has helped push the price of the sleekest Windows laptops into Mac territory, erasing some of the Windows PC's price advantage,” writes Mossberg.

While the Mac will never be as popular overall as Windows machines, Mossberg says “it has been pulling off a resurrection few would have expected in the dark days of the late '90s.”

[Re/code – The Mac's second act: From obscurity to ubiquity](#)



## Goodbye, Yahoo! Mail it's been nice knowing you

After using Yahoo! Mail for years, I've decided it's time to sever my ties with the mail service. Outages have plagued the service for some time. A quick check of the web site down [detector.com](http://detector.com), reveals numerous reports of Yahoo! Mail problems in recent weeks.

You get the drift. The three biggest issues appear to be the inability of users to log into their accounts, inability to actually read email (it's not available), and problems receiving email messages.

As I write this, a similar service, [downrightnow.com](http://downrightnow.com), shows the last widespread Yahoo! Mail service disruption occurred ten hours ago. And the trail of outages continue from that point.

After the latest problem, InvestorPlace reported on the Yahoo! Mail outage, "The company said it's aware of mail outages being experienced by users Tuesday..." Our engineering team is working hard to resolve the issue," spokeswoman Anne Yeh said. "We apologize for the inconvenience."

Late last year, ZDNet headlined a story about yet another Yahoo! Mail outage: *Yahoo forced to acknowledge Yahoo Mail problems in worst failure yet.*

ZDNet added: "At every instance, Yahoo is determined to describe the outage in minimizing terms, and appears intent to mark the issue as "COMPLETED" on its own blog post promising to restore mail service to its users - again, a promise in which it has not been successful in keeping."

Folks who rely on this email service to keep their business running must be exasperated beyond the point of no return.

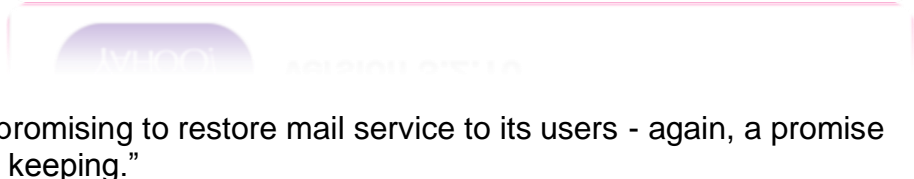
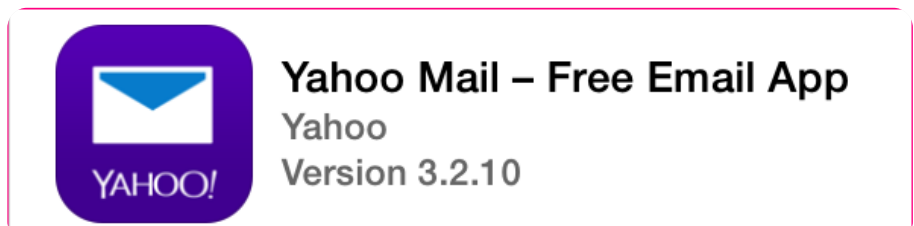
To be fair, every email provider on the planet has had outages at one time or another. Gmail (Google's email service), iCloud (Apple's email component of its backup/storage system), Outlook.com (Microsoft's free web-based email service, formerly MSN Hotmail), AOL, and others have all experienced equipment failures, software issues, and other troubles.

But when it comes to outages, Yahoo! Mail appears to be in a category of its own.

In February of this year, the *L.A. Times* headlined its story: *Yahoo mail down again, users outraged.*

The article said, "The email service is experiencing a widespread outage, with users unable to access their accounts... This is just the latest hiccup for Yahoo Mail. In December, the service experienced a five-day-long outage that infuriated an untold number of its 100 million users, causing many to abandon their emails for competing services. Then in January, Yahoo announced that its email service had fallen victim to a coordinated cyberattack. We emailed Yahoo for comment on the latest outage but haven't heard back yet..."

In December 2013, the *L.A. Times* carried another story: *Yahoo mail exec reportedly jokes users won't leave; users now leaving.*





The gist of the article is about Jeff Bonforte, the head of Yahoo! Mail, joking at an employee meeting that users needed to be kicked hard before switching email providers.

It would appear that plenty of Yahoo! Mail users have been kicked just hard enough by ongoing outages, unpopular redesigns to Yahoo! Mail's web site, and the removal of tabs on the mail's service.

Twitter users were quoted as saying: "Leaving @Yahoo as soon as it's up! I haven't been able to get mail for 2 days!!!" and "Yahoo mail keeps getting worse, I'm finally done regardless of how big a pain it is to switch."

I had used Yahoo! Mail when making purchases, when giving out an email address in public, and to pay bills online. Once I notify all of the libraries, utilities and others of my new address, it's goodbye Yahoo! Mail, been nice knowing you.

## IBM to start new web-based email service

Now that I'm leaving Yahoo! Mail, maybe I should seriously eye IBM's start-up service called Verse. *The Wall Street Journal* reports, "The company is offering the cloud-based software free to individuals and small businesses, and also hopes to sell a commercial version to businesses."



News reports say Verse will be delivered through Web browsers and quotes Jeff Schick, general manager of IBM's social solutions business, as saying the email service will also be available in apps for smartphones and tablets.

*The Wall Street Journal* reports that IBM does not intend to seek advertising and will not scan email boxes, as Google does with the free version of its Gmail email service.

*The Commerce Times* reports that Verse will integrate "the many ways people communicate with each other every day – email, meetings, calendars, file sharing, instant messaging, social media, video chats and more..."

At the end of the day, *Information Week* asked "IBM Verse: Can it trump Google Inbox?", noting that Microsoft Clutter and Google Inbox are its main rivals in the enterprise – or business environment.

Matt Mullen, a senior analyst of social business at 451 Research, told *Information Week*, "The big problem with email is not clutter. Microsoft Clutter and Google Inbox may be very useful, but IBM is going a level deeper, to look at the things that users are planning and who they are planning them with, which is something that IBM Connections has a better handle on, than, say Google."



# Microsoft Office for Apple's iOS devices now free

Now that Microsoft is providing its Office suite free for the iPad, iPhone, and iPod touch, should you install it? That depends. As so often is the case – the devil is in the details.

If you've barely got enough storage room for all of those photos, song titles, and other files, maybe not. In fact, folks with 16GB iPads might want to wait until they own a tablet with a bigger drive.

I have no plans to install Office since Pages, Numbers, and Keynote (Apple's apps are sometimes collectively referred to as iWork) are the primary apps I go to when I need to get work done.

In fact, I probably save more files in PDF format today than in Microsoft Word format.

As savvy iPad users know, Pages documents can easily be exported into Word format and then quickly emailed to anyone requiring Word files.

My point is that Microsoft Office is no longer as important to me as it used to be. I've been using Pages as my primary word processor and desktop publishing app for so long that it's become my "go-to" app.

If I need to open a Pages document on my iPad, iPod touch or one of the Macs, I know that it's easily accessible in iCloud — no matter what device created it.

As *Information Week* reported, "While waiting the long four years it took Microsoft to release Office for iPad, smartphone and tablet users were forced to turn to a variety of alternatives for mobile productivity, led by Google Apps and Apple iWork. Suddenly, many users found themselves in a world in which Office was no longer a prerequisite because these rising free competitors did the job adequately. The shift might have started as a consumer movement, but thanks to BYOD it has trickled into the workplace."

The article adds that consumer sales of Microsoft Office (on Windows machines and the Mac) are down so that Microsoft's "bow to free iOS and Android apps was inevitable."

At first, Microsoft crippled the free version of Office for the iPad so that documents could only be viewed using Office.

I never understood that concept since Word documents open just fine using Pages. If someone emails me a Word document and I open it on the iPad, Pages is the default app, which automatically opens the file.



To get the full-blown version of Office, Microsoft had required folks to buy an Office 365 subscription so those documents could be saved in Microsoft's cloud storage system.

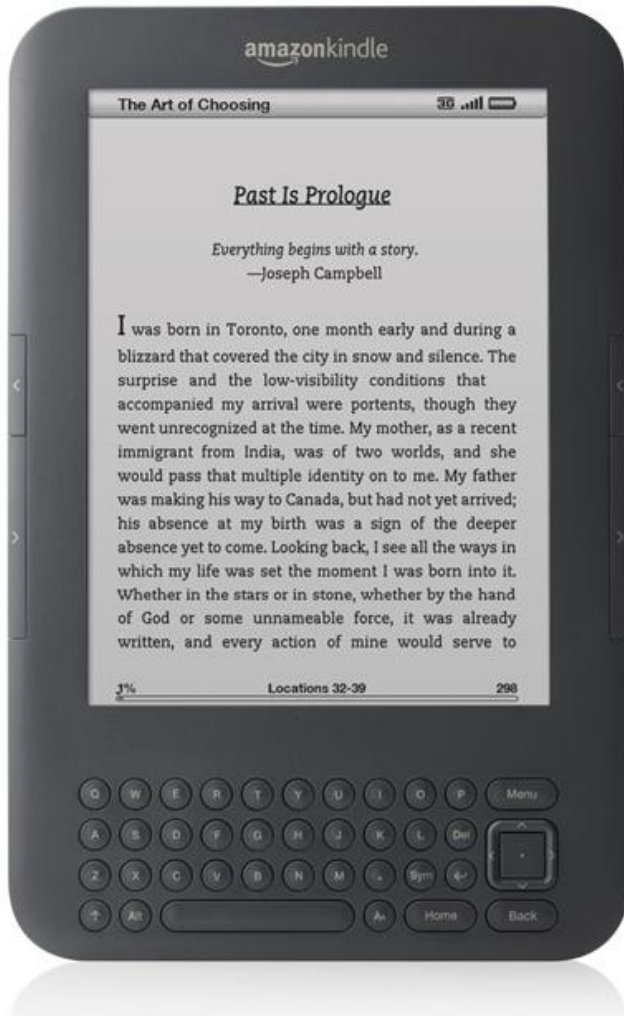
Finally, the free version of Office for iOS doesn't offer all of the tools available:

"If you're thinking there has to be a catch to the free apps, there is. You still need an Office 365 subscription to enable some tools, such as Word's Track Changes. This means many business users will still need to pay. Still, the free apps do a lot more than the old offerings, and are sure to please both consumer and business users who can do without some of Office's tools," adds *Information Week*.

**Information Week** – [Microsoft Office Mobile: Right for you?](#)

## My trusty old Amazon Kindle is wearing out...

Back in November 2010, I bought my first and only Amazon Kindle. It was, and still is, a remarkable device.



The Kindle 'Typewriter' model, as it's called, showed me why so many folks had been bitten by the eBook bug.

Remarkable. I could read book after book on the screen of this six-inch tablet device.

Who knew?

All good things must come to an end...and that apparently includes my Kindle.

It reboots in the middle of books. It doesn't always remember bookmarks so I'm forced to fast-forward through pages that I've already read.

The feature to quickly visit the last read page isn't working. It won't always power on even though it's fully charged.

I've read all kinds of troubleshooting tips on the web, and tried many of them.

What's really neat about books viewed on the Kindle is that they can also be viewed on the iPad or the Mac by using the Kindle App (available for free in the App Store.)



Amazon stores Kindle books on its cloud system, so your books immediately become available when you log into your Amazon account using the Kindle app. Sweet.

Since my Kindle's condition is getting worse, I am reading more and more books on the iPad or my laptop or desktop Mac by utilizing the Kindle app.

I haven't decided whether or not to spend the money on a new Kindle. It's hard enough to say goodbye to a tablet that has made me laugh, cry, and display every emotion in between.

Goodbye old friend.

## Apple starts pushing Adobe Flash updates to Mac users

Ask me my opinion of Adobe Flash and I'll tell you that it's a royal pain. Hackers love it. Computer users whom I've spoken to generally hate it.

There's a reason Apple doesn't make it available on the iPad, iPhone or iPod touch.

Apple decided those devices would be much more secure without Flash since it's one of the primary ways bad guys are able to infiltrate computers.

I suspect more than a few computer users in central Kentucky are running outdated versions of Flash, thereby making their computers vulnerable to hacker attacks.



Apple is now using a different strategy to try and safeguard Mac users who have failed to upgrade their machines. Visit a web site requiring Flash on a Mac with an outdated Adobe Flash plug-in and you're likely to a message on the screen urging you to update Flash.

In the past, Apple has blocked Flash when the current version becomes insecure, which is a very common occurrence. If a Mac user hasn't used Adobe Flash in the past 30 days, it's routinely blocked. Flash is also blocked on older machines, which cannot update to a secure version (since Adobe no longer makes Flash for older Macintoshes.)

CKCS

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