

# KILOBYTES

The Quarterly Newsletter of the  
Computer Club of Rossmoor

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June 2015

## President's Message



Greetings to the membership. May this summer bring us not only sunny days but a wish for many rainy ones as well. I trust we are all helping in many ways to support the tragic prolonged drought we are experiencing.

As of this issue of the Kilobytes, the uncertainty of the continuation of adult education with Acalanes School District is yet to be known. We are still in the dark as to future funding. It is now June and still no definite status.

*Muriel Wyro*

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## Help at the Gateway Computer Center

Franka Depaoli is a new volunteer at the Center who will help residents with questions about Androids, Tablets and Smart phones, every Monday from 10:00-12:00,

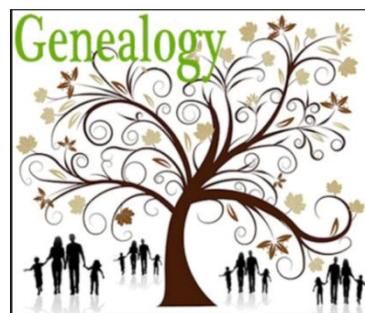
Bill Hammond offers tech support from 10:00 - 12:00 every Tuesday.

The Gateway Computer center is open Monday through Fridays from 10 Am to 12:30 PM and 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM. Their phone # is 925-947-4528.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## Another two-part free seminar

A talk by the President of the Genealogy Club Stan Wells is reserved in the Fireside room at Gateway, scheduled for **Wednesday July 15<sup>th</sup>** from 2:00 p.m. to approximately 3:00 p.m. Prior to the talk a prize will be raffled off. After the talk there will be an intermission and another raffle. Refreshments will be served.



For the second half of our program, Professor Bill Hammond, member of the Computer Club will present tips for the computer, first aid, and trouble shooting. Membership applications will be available with the cost of \$10 for the remainder of the year. At the closure of the presentations the last prize will be raffled off.

**This event is open to all.**



Our annual picnic is planned for Thursday, **August 6<sup>th</sup>**. **5 p.m. – 7p.m.** at the Sportsman Park, Hillside Clubhouse. BBQ by the Back Forty, wine bar, great entertainment and raffle prizes. \$25 for members, \$30 for guests.

**October** is the month we plan a luncheon for our volunteers. Arrangements are forthcoming and will be announced in our September issue and also on our website.



## Our Most Needed Support

The Club is currently publicizing and reaching out not only to Club members but also other computer-literate residents who would be interested in becoming volunteers in our Computer Center office in Gateway, as well as being on our house call team.

- Only two hours a week Monday through Friday
- 10 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. or 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- If you need more information, please visit our Center.

### CALLS ON THE HELP LINE

Customer: Hi, good afternoon, this is Martha, I can't print. Every time I try, it says 'can't' find printer. I've even lifted the printer and placed it in front of the monitor, but the computer still says it can't find it.



Customer: I have a huge problem. A friend of mine placed a screen saver on my computer, but every time I move the mouse, it disappears.

A customer called the Canon help desk with a problem with her printer.

Tech support: Are you running it under Windows?

Customer: "No, my desk is next to the door, but that's a good point. The man sitting next to me is under a window, and his printer is working fine."

# Windows 10

Bill Hammond

Chances are, most of you who are using Windows 7 or Windows 8.1 have received a message in your taskbar suggesting that you “Get Windows 10”. If you click on it you will be asked to reserve your free upgrade to this new OS and prep your PC to download it so you can install on July 29. A free upgrade from Microsoft. Marvelous! Or is it?

Upgrading a perfectly good Windows PC to a new version of the OS may cause problems. It may not work. And if it does work, you may be confused by how it works.

So should you install Windows 10 on July 29? If you’re seriously wondering whether Windows 10 is good enough, stable enough, or reliable enough to install on day one, then please wait. Let’s give Microsoft a chance to fix any serious issues that didn’t come up during testing. Which, by the way, happens every single time Microsoft releases a new version of Windows. There is no hurry to upgrade. Windows 7 and Windows 8 users will be able to get a free upgrade any time over the next year.

Why should I want to upgrade to Windows 10? Every new Windows version comes with some advantages over its predecessors in the form of functional improvements, support for new hardware, more and better built-in

apps, or whatever. In the case of Windows 10, the big bang underlying platform improvements



came in Windows 8, but that version of course ruined the interaction model for over one billion users, so Windows 10 fixes the biggest issues in the form of a new Start menu and modern (universal) apps that can now run in windowed form side-by-side with other applications on the desktop. For Windows 7 users, the upgrade is slightly less compelling. But Windows 8.1 users in particular should seriously consider upgrading as soon as they are comfortable doing so.

You don’t have to upgrade. Windows 7 with SP1 is fully supported by Microsoft for over four more years, and if you’re using a Windows 7-based PC, you’ll likely want to upgrade to a new PC by then anyway. For Windows 8.1, support goes out even further, and of course these PCs are newer and more modern, and Windows 8.1 works pretty well in my opinion, especially if you have added a third party application like Classic Shell to help manage the interface.

You can always reserve the Windows 10 upgrade and the defer updating. If you want to make sure your PC is registered with Microsoft so that you can

get the free upgrade and then just install it at some later date. You do not have to install Windows 10 just because you said yes to the Get Windows 10 utility.

Windows 10 will only get better. Windows 10 will never really be done, and Microsoft plans to update it regularly for years to come. The version of Windows 10 you install in September, or December, or in July 2016 will be significantly better than the version you could get this July. There is no harm in waiting.

### **Other interesting questions**

What happened to Windows 9?

There was never a Windows 9, Microsoft skipped this number and went to 10 instead. Company officials decided to choose 10 because they believe this release is a 'Perfect 10' and to also signify this is the LAST MAJOR release of Windows. Another theory is matching Apple's OS X. My favorite is 7 ate 9 (say it out loud)

### **Does that mean there will never be another version of Windows?**

There will still be revisions of Windows 10, just don't expect there to be a Windows 11, Windows 12 etc.

### **Can I reserve even if I didn't get a notification?**

Yes. You can reserve your upgrade at any time on any compatible PC by clicking on the Get Windows 10 app or the Windows Update control panel.

### **Which versions of Microsoft Office work on Windows 10?**

The following versions of Microsoft Office with the latest Service Packs have been confirmed to be compatible with Windows 10:

Office 2016 Preview

Office 2013/Office 365

Office 2010

Office 2007

Older versions of Office such as Office 2003 and Office XP are not certified compatible with Windows 10 but might work using compatibility mode.

### **How will I know if my computer can run Windows 10?**

System requirements:

Latest OS: Make sure you are running the latest version either Windows 7 SP1 or Windows 8.1 Update.

Processor: 1 gigahertz (GHz) or faster processor or SoC

RAM: 1 gigabyte (GB) for 32-bit or 2 GB for 64-bit

Hard disk space: 16 GB for 32-bit OS  
20 GB for 64-bit OS

Graphics card: DirectX 9 or later with WDDM 1.0 driver

Display: 1024x600



## Windows vs Ford

For all of us who feel only the deepest love and affection for the way computers have enhanced our lives, read on.



At a recent computer expo (COMDEX), Bill Gates reportedly compared the computer industry with the auto industry and stated, "If Ford had kept up with technology like the computer industry has, we would all be driving \$25 cars that got 1,000 miles to the gallon."

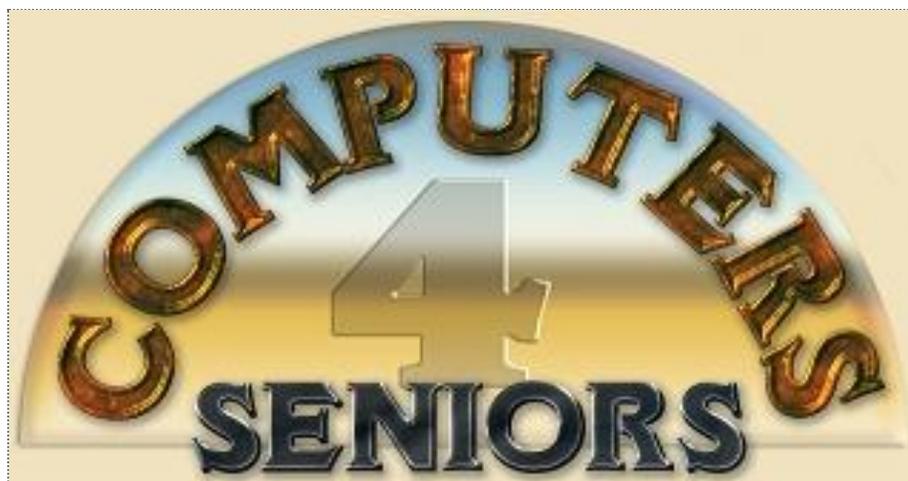
In response to Bill's comments, Ford issued a press release stating:

If Ford had developed technology like Microsoft, we would all be driving cars with the following characteristics (and I just love this part):

1. For no reason whatsoever, your car would crash.....twice a day.
2. Every time they repainted the lines in the road, you would have to buy a new car.
3. Occasionally your car would die on the freeway for no reason. You would have to pull to the side of the road, close all of the windows, shut off the car, restart it, and reopen the windows before you could continue. For some reason you would simply accept this.
4. Occasionally, executing a maneuver such as a left turn would cause your car to shut down and refuse to restart, in which case you would have to reinstall the engine.
5. Macintosh would make a car that was powered by the sun, was reliable, five times as fast and twice as easy to drive - but would run on only five percent of the roads.
6. The oil, water temperature, and alternator warning lights would all be replaced by a single "This Car Has Performed An Illegal Operation" warning light.
7. The airbag system would ask, "Are you sure?" before deploying.
8. Occasionally, for no reason whatsoever, your car would lock you out and refuse to let you in until you simultaneously lifted the door handle, turned the key and grabbed hold of the radio antenna.
9. Every time a new car was introduced car buyers would have to learn how to drive all over again because none of the controls would operate in the same manner as the old car
10. You'd have to press the "Start" button to turn the engine off.

PS - I'd like to add that when all else fails, you could call "customer service" in some foreign country and be instructed in some foreign language how to fix your car yourself!!!!

Do you hate your computer or love your Ford?



## Computer Club of Rossmoor

<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Officers:</u></b></p> <p><b>President</b> Muriel Wyro</p> <p><b>Vice President</b> Teresa Brock</p> <p><b>Secretary</b> Kathy Stephens</p> <p><b>Treasurer</b> Sandy Helmus</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Board of Directors:</u></b></p> <p>Jim Bradley</p> <p>Teresa Brock</p> <p>Jan Barnes</p> <p>Leonard Krauss</p> <p>Monte Hall</p> <p>Bill Hammond</p> <p>Sandy Helmus</p> <p>Jan Hjorth</p> <p>Jeanette Massery</p> <p>Kathy Stephens</p> <p>Muriel Wyro</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Web Master</b> Jan Barnes</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Past Presidents:</u></b></p> <p>Al Halpern</p> <p>Barney Teich</p> <p>Homer Myers</p> <p>Leonard Krauss</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Kilobytes Staff:</u></b></p> <p><b>Production</b> Roxana Khachadourian</p> <p><b>Distribution</b> Bill Hammond</p>