



PLATEAU PC USERS GROUP, INC GAZETTE



September 2026

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"JOIN US FOR FUN AND LEARNING AT CROSSVILLE'S COMPUTER CLUB"

September 2026 Volume 32 Issue 9

This Month's General Meeting
Tuesday, September 8, 2026
will start at 3:00 P.M. @
FFG Christ Lutheran Church

September 8th Presentation
@ 3:00 P.M.

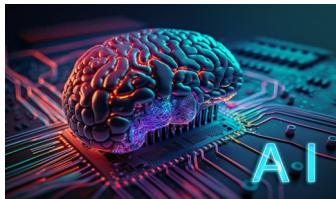
Microsoft OneDrive

George Sengstock will discuss
OneDrive in today's presentation,

**Is your computer suddenly
really slow?**

**Good chance it is Microsoft
OneDrive causing it.**

**Bring your laptops and let's
remove OneDrive or at least
learn to use it the right way for
you.**



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Please Note: All Meetings will now be on the second
Tuesday of each month. Starting at 3:00 P.M.

Location: Christ Lutheran Church
481 Snead Drive, Fairfield Glade TN

Join the Club!

Anyone interested to attend the general meeting or any of the SIG meetings as a guest will be charged \$3.00 per person for any or all meetings in that month. Afterwards, you are encouraged to become a member of the Plateau PC Users Group. Our Club cannot exist without you, the members.

Membership Dues

Our annual dues are now payable July 1st. of each year. Annual dues are \$24 per single person / \$30 per family. Persons/families joining during the fiscal year have dues payable as follows:

<u>Join In</u>	<u>July - Sept</u>	<u>Oct - Dec</u>	<u>Jan - Mar</u>	<u>Apr - June</u>
Single	\$24	\$18	\$12	\$6
Family	\$30	\$22	\$15	\$7

BOARD OF DIRECTORS DISCLAIMER

All members of the Plateau PC Users Group are willing to help one another in the area of advice and tutorial instruction over the phone. If you should require more involved services or instruction, we have a few members who are very knowledgeable in several areas. As a responsible consumer, it is up to you to discuss, before retaining a member, any and ALL charges for repair services and time consuming tutorial activities.

It is not the desire of this Board of Directors to set fees for individuals for services rendered, nor the responsibility to intervene between members who enter into a contract among themselves.

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539 West Ave. Suite 101 Crossville TN 38557

Tip of the Week

Win + V is a clipboard with a memory.

Everyone knows Ctrl + V pastes the last thing you copied.

But press **Windows key + V** and you get your entire clipboard history: the last several things you copied, ready to paste in any order.

You can even pin the ones you use constantly so they stick around.

One catch: it's off by default, and pressing Win + V won't do anything until you switch it on.

Search "**clipboard settings**" in the Start menu (or go to Settings, System, Clipboard) and turn on **Clipboard history**.

After that, Win + V works everywhere.



** Visit the PPCUG Website **

At: www.PPCUGinc.com. Read all about our club activities and scheduled monthly meetings, also current and past issues of the Gazette Newsletter. Links also to the Meeting Handouts on past presentations.
Send your comments and suggestions to the PPCUG Webmaster,
Alan Baker @ jackal33980@gmail.com (931) 239-0877

ChatGPT for Seniors: Quick-Start Handout

Start simple. Ask a normal question, then keep talking until the answer is useful

10 things to try

1. “Give me one-step-at-a-time help connecting my TV to Wi-Fi.”
2. “Explain this letter in plain English.”
3. “Plan a three-day trip and make me a packing list.”
4. “Here is a photo. What am I looking at?”
5. “Turn this recipe for four people into enough for seven.”
6. “Compare these two products and explain the important differences.”
7. “Write a polite email about a billing problem.”
8. “Explain this medical term and give me questions to ask my doctor.”
9. “Does this text message show signs of a scam?”
10. “Teach me how to do this, but give me only one step at a time.”

What it costs (U.S., checked August 2026)

Plan	Price	Best for
Free	\$0/month	Most Beginners; everyday use
Go	\$8/month	More use of popular features
Plus	\$20/month	Frequent users; broader access/higher limits
Pro	\$200/month	Heavy/professional use; unnecessary for most casual users

Suggestion: start with Free. Upgrade only if you use ChatGPT enough to need higher limits.

Five safety rules

1. ChatGPT can be wrong. Verify important medical, legal, tax, financial and safety information.

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2. Never give it passwords, PINs, Social Security numbers or other credentials.
3. Be cautious with private documents. Remove unnecessary identifying information when possible.
4. For suspicious emails or texts, use ChatGPT as a second opinion - not a guarantee that a link is safe.
5. In Settings > Data Controls, you can turn off “Improve the model for everyone.” Memory can also be managed or disabled. Temporary Chat is available for conversations you do not want in normal chat history.

The four most useful phrases

“Explain that more simply.”

“Give me only the first step

OneDrive Issues and Removal

George Sengstock Sept. 2026
Plateau PC Users Group



Please also see the full presentation at ppcuginc.com

What is OneDrive?

OneDrive is part of Microsoft’s “365” initiative. It is the plumbing that makes file sharing, syncing and collaborative editing possible. However, Microsoft has been overly aggressive in deploying the platform and users may not realize how intrusive (being kind) it really is.

Issues

If you have purchased a new Windows machine (or upgraded to Windows 11) in the last 2 years OneDrive is likely active. If you weren’t paying attention during the 1st time startup, many of the “default” options involved how OneDrive would behave. Many people have full synchronization active (MS wrongly calls it “backup”) and don’t realize it.

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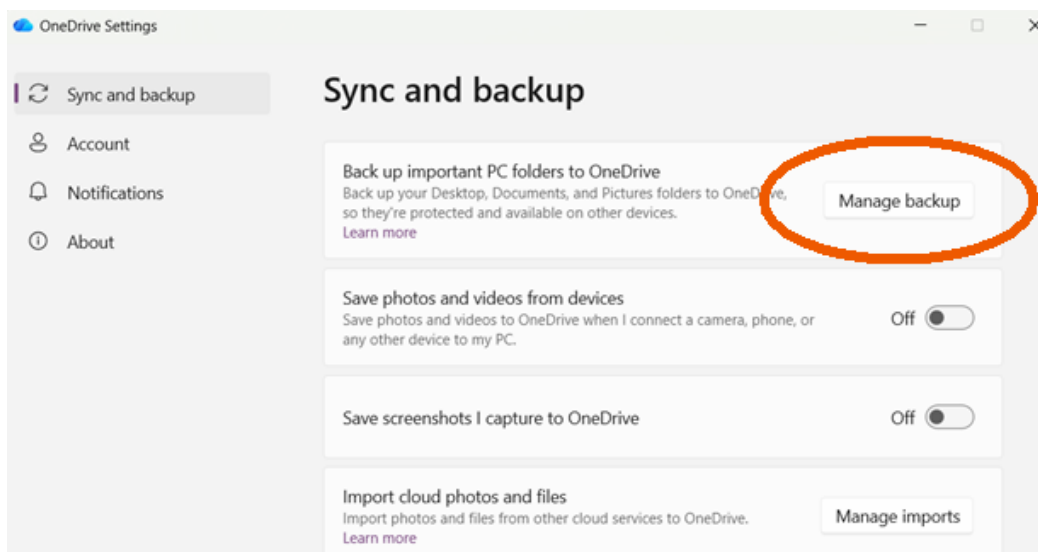
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Your machine can be very slow, annoying messages about running out of space, upgrades required, etc. result. So unless you fully understand how to use OneDrive properly, you may simply want to remove it!

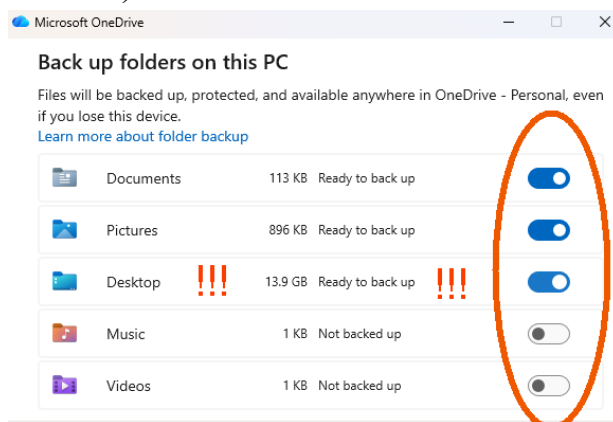
Removal

To restore your Windows system folders (like Desktop, Documents, and Pictures) from OneDrive back to their original local paths, stop the OneDrive folder backup feature and use the default location settings.

1. Open OneDrive settings from your system tray, go to the **Sync and backup** tab, and click **Manage backup**.



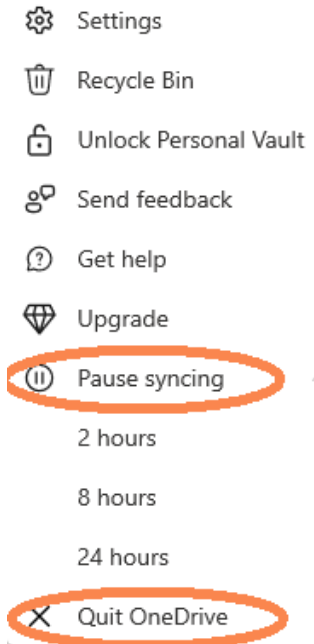
2. Turn off the toggle for the folders you want to revert (Desktop, Documents, or Pictures).



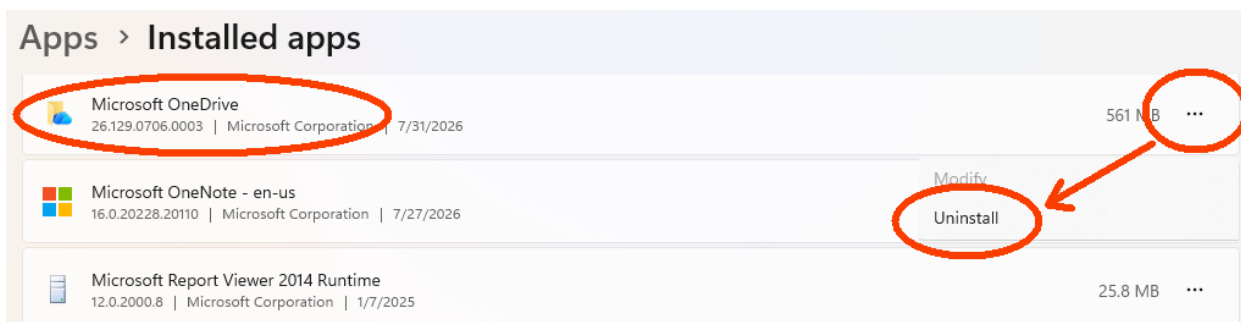
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3. Choose the option **This computer only** when prompted to move files back to your local PC.
4. If paths remain redirected, open File Explorer, right-click the folder (e.g., Documents), select **Properties**, go to the **Location** tab, and click **Restore Default**.
5. On taskbar Onedrive icon , right-click, select Pause. A drop-down will appear, select “Quit OneDrive”.



6. For good measure, un-install OneDrive completely using “Add or Remove Programs”.



Complete Windows Sandbox Guide: How to Use Windows Sandbox in Windows 11

- by John Edward



If you have ever wanted to test an unfamiliar program, open a suspicious file, or try a Windows setting without risking your main computer, **Windows Sandbox** can be a very useful tool.

Windows Sandbox gives you a temporary, isolated Windows environment that runs separately from your regular Windows 11 installation.

You can use it to experiment with applications, test files, browse potentially risky websites, or simply explore Windows without worrying about permanently changing your main system.

The best part is that you do not need to create a traditional virtual machine with a separate operating system installation. Windows Sandbox is designed to be lightweight and temporary, making it particularly convenient for quick testing.

In this complete Windows Sandbox guide, we will explain what Windows Sandbox is, what you need to use it, how to enable it in Windows 11, how to launch and use it, and what beginners should know before getting started.

What Is Windows Sandbox?

Windows Sandbox is an isolated desktop environment built into supported editions of Windows. Think of it as a temporary Windows computer running inside your existing Windows 11 PC.

When you launch Sandbox, Windows creates a clean environment for you. You can install a program, open a file, change settings, or perform other tests without making those changes directly to your normal Windows installation.

When you close Windows Sandbox, the environment is discarded. The temporary files, installed applications, and other changes made inside the Sandbox are removed.

This makes Windows Sandbox particularly useful when you want a clean environment for a quick experiment.

For example, imagine that you downloaded a utility from the internet but are not completely sure whether you trust it. Instead of immediately installing it on your main Windows installation, you could first test it inside Windows Sandbox.

Why Should You Use Windows Sandbox?

There are several reasons Windows 11 users may find Sandbox useful.

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1. Test Unfamiliar Software

If you regularly download utilities or applications for testing, Sandbox gives you an isolated environment where you can experiment before installing software on your main system.

2. Open Suspicious Files More Carefully

Sandbox can provide an additional layer of isolation when examining potentially unsafe files. However, it should **not** be treated as a replacement for antivirus software or general security practices.

3. Test Windows Settings

Want to see what happens when you change a particular Windows setting? You can experiment inside Sandbox instead of changing your primary installation.

4. Try Software Without Keeping It

One of the biggest advantages is that Sandbox is temporary. After you finish your testing session and close it, the environment is reset.

5. Get a Clean Windows Environment

Because Sandbox starts with a clean environment, it can be useful when you want to test software without interference from applications, settings, or files already present on your computer.

Windows Sandbox Requirements

Before trying to enable Windows Sandbox, make sure your Windows 11 PC supports it. Windows Sandbox is available in supported editions of Windows 11, such as **Pro, Enterprise, and Education**. It is generally not included in Windows Home editions.

Your computer also needs hardware virtualization support. On many modern computers, virtualization is available through technologies such as Intel VT-x or AMD-V.

You should also have enough system resources available. Running an isolated Windows environment requires additional memory, processor resources, and storage.

If Windows Sandbox is unavailable on your PC, check your Windows edition and confirm that hardware virtualization is enabled in your computer's firmware/UEFI settings.

How to Enable Windows Sandbox in Windows 11

Enabling Windows Sandbox is relatively straightforward.

Step 1: Open Windows Features

Press **Windows + R** to open the Run dialog.

Type:

optional features

Then press **Enter**.

This opens the **Windows Features** window

.

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Step 2: Find Windows Sandbox

Scroll through the list until you find **Windows Sandbox**.

Select the checkbox next to it.

Click **OK**.

Windows will search for the required files and components. You may need to restart your computer to complete the installation.

Step 3: Restart Windows 11

If Windows asks you to restart your PC, save your work and restart.

After Windows starts again, Windows Sandbox should be available from the Start menu.

How to Start Windows Sandbox

Once the feature is enabled, starting Sandbox is simple.

Open the **Start menu** and search for:

Windows Sandbox

Select the application from the search results.

Windows may take a few moments to create the environment. When it starts, you will see a Windows desktop inside a separate window.

This desktop may look similar to your normal Windows 11 desktop, but it is a separate temporary environment.

How to Use Windows Sandbox

Using Sandbox feels similar to using a regular Windows computer.

You can open File Explorer, launch applications, browse the web, and work with files inside the Sandbox.

For example, suppose you have downloaded an application installer to your normal Downloads folder. You can copy the installer into the Sandbox and test it there.

Once inside Sandbox, you can install the application and see how it behaves.

If you do not like the application or something goes wrong, you can simply close Sandbox.

Windows will warn you that closing Sandbox will permanently discard its contents.

This is important: **do not store anything inside Sandbox that you want to keep.**

How to Copy Files Into Windows Sandbox

One of the easiest ways to move a file into Sandbox is to copy and paste it.

For example:

1. Locate the file on your normal Windows 11 desktop.

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2. Right-click the file and select **Copy**.
3. Open Windows Sandbox.
4. Right-click inside the Sandbox desktop or a folder.
5. Select **Paste**.

The file will then be available inside the Sandbox environment.

You can also use other methods for transferring files, depending on your testing requirements. Remember that files created inside Sandbox will disappear when the Sandbox session is closed.

Does Windows Sandbox Keep Changes?

No. Windows Sandbox is designed to be temporary.

When you close the Sandbox window, the temporary environment is deleted.

That means applications you installed, files you downloaded, and system changes you made during the session will normally disappear.

This temporary nature is one of the main reasons people use Sandbox for testing.

It also means you should not think of Windows Sandbox as a replacement for your everyday Windows installation or a permanent virtual machine.

Windows Sandbox vs. Virtual Machine

Windows Sandbox and traditional virtual machines are related concepts, but they serve different purposes.

A traditional virtual machine can be configured and used as a persistent environment. You can install an operating system, save files, install applications, and return to the same virtual machine later.

Windows Sandbox is designed more for short-term testing.

If you want a disposable environment for a quick experiment, Sandbox can be much more convenient.

If you need a permanent virtual computer with customized settings and applications, a traditional virtual machine may be a better choice.

Is Windows Sandbox Safe?

Windows Sandbox provides isolation from your primary Windows environment, which makes it useful for testing potentially risky applications and files.

However, you should not assume that Sandbox makes every activity completely risk-free.

Security vulnerabilities can exist in operating systems and virtualization technologies. You should continue using antivirus protection, keep Windows 11 updated, and avoid intentionally executing highly dangerous or malicious content simply because you have Sandbox enabled.

For everyday testing and experimentation, though, Windows Sandbox can be a valuable additional layer of protection.

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Common Windows Sandbox Problems

Sometimes Sandbox may not start as expected.

One common reason is that hardware virtualization is disabled. Check your computer's UEFI/BIOS settings and make sure CPU virtualization is enabled.

Another possibility is that your Windows edition does not support the feature.

You should also make sure Windows 11 is properly updated and that your computer has enough available resources.

If Sandbox was previously working and suddenly stops, restarting Windows and checking Windows Features can be useful first troubleshooting steps.

Tips for Windows Sandbox Beginners

If you are using Windows Sandbox for the first time, keep these tips in mind:

Do not save important files inside Sandbox. Everything in the environment is temporary.

Keep Windows updated. Sandbox is part of Windows, so maintaining your operating system is important.

Use antivirus protection. Sandbox adds isolation, but it should not replace your security software.

Test one thing at a time. A clean environment makes troubleshooting much easier.

Remember that Sandbox resets when closed. If you need to keep a configuration or environment permanently, consider using a full virtual machine instead.

Windows Sandbox is one of the most useful built-in features available to Windows 11 users who need a quick and disposable testing environment.

For beginners, the concept is simple: **open Sandbox, perform your test, and close it when you are finished.** The temporary environment is then discarded.

Whether you want to test an unfamiliar application, experiment with Windows settings, or work with files in a cleaner environment, Windows Sandbox can save you from making unnecessary changes to your primary Windows installation.

It is not designed to replace a full virtual machine, and it should not be considered a guarantee against malware.

But when used alongside normal security practices, it can be an excellent tool for safe experimentation.

If you have Windows 11 Pro, Enterprise, or Education and your hardware supports virtualization, Windows Sandbox is certainly worth exploring.

Once you understand how it works, you may find yourself using it whenever you want to test something without cluttering or changing your main Windows environment

How to Fix Windows 11 File Explorer Not Responding: Easy Solutions That Work

• by John Edward



Few Windows problems are as frustrating as clicking File Explorer and getting nothing but a frozen window. You may see the familiar “Not Responding” message, the folders may stop loading, or File Explorer may open and then become completely unresponsive. Sometimes the desktop and other Windows features continue working normally, which makes the problem even more confusing.

The good news is that **Windows 11 File Explorer not responding** is usually caused by a software issue rather than a serious hardware failure. Common causes include temporary system glitches, corrupted system files, problematic startup applications, outdated Windows components, overloaded File Explorer history, or issues with connected drives.

In this guide, we’ll go through practical solutions from the quickest fixes to more advanced troubleshooting steps. You do not need to try everything at once. Start with the first method and move down the list if File Explorer continues to freeze.

Why Is File Explorer Not Responding in Windows 11?

Before fixing the problem, it helps to understand what might be causing it.

File Explorer is responsible for much more than opening folders. It manages access to your files, drives, desktop folders, network locations, and many parts of the Windows interface. Because it is deeply integrated into Windows, a relatively small problem can make it appear frozen.

Some common causes include:

- A temporary File Explorer process glitch
- Too many files or folders being loaded at once
- Corrupted system files
- A problematic Quick Access or Recent Files entry
- Outdated Windows updates
- Third-party software or shell extensions
- Problems with external USB drives
- Insufficient available system resources
- Damaged Windows user profile settings
- Issues with hard drives or other storage devices

Now let’s look at how to fix the problem.

1. Restart Windows File Explorer

The easiest solution is often to restart the File Explorer process. This can clear a temporary glitch without requiring you to restart the entire computer.

Press **Ctrl + Shift + Esc** to open Task Manager. If Task Manager opens in its simplified view, select **More details**.

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Find **Windows Explorer** in the list of processes. Right-click it and select **Restart**.

Your taskbar and desktop may briefly disappear and then return. This is normal.

Once Windows Explorer restarts, try opening File Explorer again. If it works normally, the problem was likely a temporary process issue.

2. Restart Your Computer

It sounds simple, but restarting Windows can solve problems that a File Explorer restart cannot.

A computer that has been running for a long time can accumulate background processes, temporary files, and memory usage that may interfere with normal Windows operations.

Select **Start > Power > Restart** and allow Windows 11 to reboot completely.

After restarting, open File Explorer and check whether the problem has disappeared.

If File Explorer becomes unresponsive immediately after every restart, however, you may need to look at the more specific solutions below.

3. Check Your External Drives

Sometimes File Explorer itself is not the real problem. A connected device may be causing it to hang while Windows tries to read its contents.

Think about what is connected to your computer. This could include:

- USB flash drives
- External hard drives
- SD card readers
- Smartphones
- Cameras
- Network drives

Safely disconnect unnecessary external devices and then restart File Explorer.

If File Explorer suddenly works normally, reconnect the devices one at a time. This can help you identify which device is causing the issue.

If one particular drive consistently makes File Explorer freeze, check that drive for errors and make sure important files are backed up.

4. Clear File Explorer History

File Explorer keeps information about recently accessed locations. In some situations, corrupted or problematic history data can contribute to slow loading or freezing.

To clear File Explorer history, open **File Explorer Options**. You can search for “File Explorer Options” from the Windows search box.

Under the **General** tab, look for the **Privacy** section. Click **Clear** to remove File Explorer history.

You can also change the File Explorer opening location from **Home** to **This PC** and see whether that improves performance.

After applying the changes, close File Explorer and open it again.

5. Turn Off Unnecessary Startup Applications

Third-party applications can sometimes interfere with File Explorer. Programs that add options to the right-click menu or integrate themselves into File Explorer are particularly worth investigating.

Open **Task Manager** by pressing **Ctrl + Shift + Esc** and select the **Startup apps** section.

Look through the list and identify applications you do not need to start automatically. Disable unnecessary startup programs, then restart Windows.

Be careful not to disable Windows system components or software you rely on for essential hardware functions.

If File Explorer starts working correctly after disabling a particular application, that application may be contributing to the problem



Plateau PC Users Group, Inc.

Application for Membership for 2025-2026

----- New Member

----- Renewing Member

Return this application with a check for annual dues payable to "PLATEAU PC USERS GROUP"
Return to the club Treasurer during our meeting or mail to
"PPCUG Treasurer. 221 Tomlon Road, Crossville TN 38555"

Our annual dues are now payable July 1st. of each fiscal year.

Persons// families joining during the fiscal year have dues payable as follows:

<u>Join In</u>	<u>July - Sept</u>	<u>Oct - Dec</u>	<u>Jan - Mar</u>	<u>Apr - June</u>
Single	\$24	\$18	\$12	\$6
Family	\$30	\$22	\$15	\$7

Date: _____ Amount Paid: \$ _____ by Cash _____, or Check (# _____)

Last Name *First Name* *Family Member (if family membership)*

Address:

City *State* *Zip Code* (*Phone Number*)

E-Mail address: -----
Please Print

I have belonged to a Computer Club before: Yes _____ No _____

I have used PC's since (year): _____

I have knowledge in the following areas that I would be willing to share with club members:



October 2026



<u>Sun</u>	<u>Mon</u>	<u>Tue</u>	<u>Wed</u>	<u>Thu</u>	<u>Fri</u>	<u>Sat</u>
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7 10:00 A.M. PPCUG Board Mtg.	8	9	10
11	12 	13 3:00 P.M. General Mtg. Presentation. Followed by Q&A Session	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31 