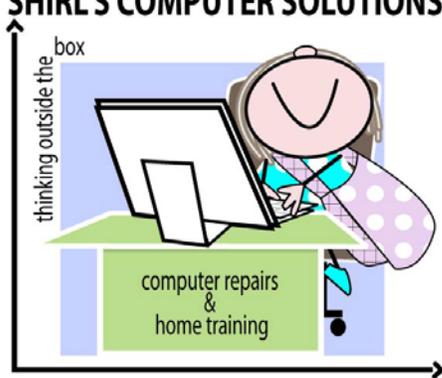


**SHIRL'S COMPUTER SOLUTIONS**



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## Newsletter September 2012

Where did the summer go? Yesterday I was in Staples and it was packed with parents picking up all the bargains for back to school. I was there to return my ink cartridges and got a great deal on ink. Do you save your old ink cartridges and recycle them? If not you should. Staples will take just about any cartridge and give you \$2 each in rewards. Office Max is very picky and will not take all brands. Those rewards add up quickly for you to apply towards the new ink cartridges that you need to purchase. 😊

As many of you know, our son lives in Prague, Czech Republic and he was home for a few days this summer. The visits are few and far between, but we do keep in touch with **Skype**. I was thinking about how many people have family all over the country or even on other continents, and wondered how many of you have used this “free” program. It’s very simple to setup. All that’s required on your machine is Skype and a webcam, and that the other person also has to have a webcam and Skype installed on their computer. (Many of you already have a built in webcam with your laptops or Monitors.) This way you can talk to each other and “See” each other, without having to pay for out of country phone calls. Even though many of you have

free long distance calling, wouldn't it be nice to see the person you're speaking with? ☺

[http://download.cnet.com/Skype/3000-2349\\_4-10225260.html?tag=mncol;6](http://download.cnet.com/Skype/3000-2349_4-10225260.html?tag=mncol;6)

Do you have an iPhone, iPad or iTouch? Hackers have grabbed 12 Million Apple ID's , and you should check to make sure that you're not one of them!

**UPDATE:** If you own an Apple mobile device and are wondering if it got caught up in the UDID dump, [TheNextWeb has set up a web tool](#) that lets you type in part of your device number to check. They also promise to not store your identifier. [Here's](#) how you can look it up in iTunes.

Do you know that in the past year more than 30 million types of Malware have been reported? McAfee recently released this information, so make sure you run those scans! And what is malware? This is a good description from Wikipedia.

**Malware**, [short for malicious software](#), is software used or created to disrupt computer operation, gather sensitive information, or gain access to private computer systems. It can appear in the form of [code](#), [scripts](#), active content, and other software.<sup>[1]</sup> 'Malware' is a general term used to refer to a variety of forms of hostile, intrusive, or annoying software.<sup>[2]</sup>

Malware includes [computer viruses](#), [worms](#), [trojan horses](#), [spyware](#), [adware](#), and other malicious programs. In [law](#), malware is sometimes known as a **computer contaminant**, as in the legal codes of several [U.S.](#) states.<sup>[3][4]</sup> Malware is not the same as defective software, which is software that

has a legitimate purpose but contains harmful [bugs](#) that were not noticed before release.

Here's a question I get all the time. Do I need to defrag my hard drive and what does it do? If your computer is running slow, this just might be the key to getting things running more smoothly. Take a look at this short video.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mofdSLhAFpk&feature=youtu.be>

Here's one that my husband, John, told me to add this month. He's right...this has been a big problem for a lot of people. When you receive an email from someone you know and all you see is a link to click on in the email without a message, be very careful. The link is dangerous and should NOT be opened. One way to check it out is to look at the senders name and see if it's really their address. People are stealing email addresses and sending these out. Not Good!

To lighten the mood, here are a few free things that might interest you.

Make great Panarama photos with this app..

<http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/dmd-panorama/id441183050?mt=8>

And this one from my cousin Lucy.... If you're into your family history, you'll love this one!

<http://www.archives.nysed.gov/aindex.shtml>

If you're like me you never can find a manual for that camera or appliance. Take a look here to see if you can find what you need. <http://www.manualsonline.com/>

I'll close by saying this has been a very hard month for us. We had to put our beloved Missy to sleep on August 24<sup>th</sup> after having her in our lives for 16 years. She was always giving us unconditional love and brought us more joy than we could have ever imagined. We know she waits at Rainbow Bridge until we can see her again one day. ♥



Have a good month,  
Shirl

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