# THE GIGABYTE GAZETTE

The Monthly Newsletter

of the

## Sun City Summerlin Computer Club

**August, 2017**

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# President's Message

## by Howard Verne

**Dear Computer Club and friends**

August is always a tough month for club activities in Sun City. Many folks, including our presenters, are out of town seeking cooler temperatures. Even the ones who stay in town tend to avoid going out, except maybe to the local casino buffets. One notable thing about computers and the Internet is that you can go so many places and see and do so many things while staying in the safe, air-conditioned comfort of your own home.

Keep an eye on the Gigabyte Gazette newsletter and the club calendar. We still will have many seminars, classes and SIGs this month. We will also continue to have our Tuesday Hardware Sigs and our open Labs.  See our website http://www.scscc.club/ for our latest schedule

**There will be NO General Meeting in August.** Our next General meeting will be held at 7 PM on Thursday, September 7th, 2017 in Desert Vista Room 5. At the September 7th General meeting, a vote will be conducted on whether to retain the Club's current non-resident guest visit policy of two visits per year.

A nominating committee will be established in September to nominate officers and board members for 2018.

Your computer club board is arranging our **November appreciation dinner** for all our great volunteers. To earn an invitation, you only need to volunteer 15 hours of your time to help make our club a success. Call any board member and we will find the right spot for your volunteer service.

Enjoy the rest of your summer!


*Howard Verne, President*
*(702) 527-4056  pres.scscc@gmail.com*

## Issue Contributors

| Tom Burt | Kathy Kirby |
|----------|-------------|
| David Kretchmar | Pat Lemay |
| Howard Verne | |

## Submissions Welcome

We are always looking for new information to share with our club members.  If you have computer or technical information you would like to share with members of the club, send your articles to Tom Burt at tomburt89134@cox.net. Thank you to everyone for your contributions.

## SCSCC Board of Directors Actions

**There was no Computer Club Board of Directors meeting in July.**

# General Membership Meeting

*There will be NO General Meeting in August 2017. Our next General meeting will be held at 7 PM on Thursday, September 7th, 2017 in Desert Vista Room 5.*

*Notice:* At the September 7th General meeting, a vote will be conducted on whether to retain the Club's current non-resident guest visit policy of two visits per year.

Regular club educational activities (SIGs, Q&As, Seminars, Classes and the Repair Lab) will continue throughout the summer.

For Club information go to **www.scscc.club**, contact Howard Verne, President at 702-527-4056 or email him at **pres.scscc@gmail.com**.

# Welcome New Members

The following new members joined the Computer Club between June 28th and July 28th.

| | |
|---|---|
| **Stephen Joyce** | **Sally Mai** |
| **Susan Joyce** | |

# August 2017 Calendars

To view this month's classroom and lab calendars, click the following hyperlink:

**http://www.scscc.club/Calendars/scscc_calendar_2017-08Aug.pdf**

# Special Interest Groups

Special Interest Groups (SIGs) provide a forum for general discussion on a specific computer related subject. Admission to all SIGs is on a first-come, first-seated basis and is subject to the maximum allowed by fire code regulations. All of the following meetings are held in the Classroom. <W> or <M> or <H> indicate whether a SIG would be of interest to a Windows, Macintosh or Hand-held Device (i-thing or Android) user.

**Genealogy <W> Dark Aug**
*2nd Thursday, 10:00 a.m.* Sep., 2016 to May 2017
Karen Ristic (702-749-6489)

Genealogy is one of America's most popular and rewarding hobbies. With billions of records now available online, researching your family tree has never been easier–if you know where to look and which key words you'll need to use to create an accurate family tree from start to finish. Check out Karen's new series of workshops in the lab on the *second Tuesday of the month*.

**GMail <W/M> Dark Aug**
*1st Thursday, 10:00 a.m.*
Pat Lemay (702-254-1499)
This SIG covers Gmail as well as other Google applications.  All members are welcome.  This is your place to learn about all things Google.

**Hardware / Software Repair Lab <W >**
*Every Tuesday, 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.*
Chuck Wolff (702-233-6634) and
Chuck Hagen (702-418-2614)
The Repair Lab provides **CLUB MEMBERS ONLY** with no cost assistance for those having upgrades and / or hardware and software problems with their computers. Bring in only your PC tower and your problems. Our TECH team will give you our best effort. *Be sure to mark your cables so you can re-connect when you get home*.

**Internet Investing <W/M>**
*3rd Thursday, 9:00 a.m. in even months*
*Next meeting: August 17.*
Tom Burt (702-341-7095)
The Internet Investing SIG provides a forum for members interested in using Internet resources for researching and managing investments to meet, discuss, and learn more about the topic. The SIG's target audience is members with intermediate computer skills and investment experience, but all members are welcome.

**iPad <iPod, iPhone, iPad> Dark Aug**
*4th Wednesday, 9 a.m.*
Zane Clark (702-562-3684)
This SIG will be your forum for learning about and discussing the Apple iPhone, iPod and iPad tablet devices.  It's for Apple hand-held device owners of all experience levels.

**Macintosh Users' Group Dark Aug**
*2nd and 4th Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.*
Kathy Yeko (818-414-6110)
This SIG is for Macintosh users of all experience levels. We will have Q&A, so bring your questions and/or problems.

**Photoshop Elements<W>**
*4th Mondays, 1:00 p.m.*
Mary Miles
This SIG covers many of the basic and advanced elements found in Adobe Photoshop Elements, especially layers. If you wish to make the most of your photographs, this SIG will be very helpful. This SIG's target audience is intermediate digital imaging users, but all members are welcome.

**Beginner's Digital Photography <W>**
*Dark Jul - Sep*
*3rd Mondays, 1:00 p.m.*
Stu Gershon (702-255-3309)
Picasa is still a viable, reliable photo editor for beginners, but this year we will also take a look at Google Photos and other FREE editing programs. You're invited to bring your equipment (Laptops or Cameras) so that you can have that "hands on" experience!

This SIG's target audience is beginner to intermediate digital photography users, but all members are welcome.

**Windows 10<W>**
*First and Third Saturdays at 9:30 am*
Bill Wilkinson (702-233-4977)
Each session will be devoted to assisting new Windows 10 owners in becoming familiar and comfortable with Microsoft's newest operating system for desktop and laptop computers. Assistance will be given individually or in small groups as circumstances warrant. Bill's notes are available by clicking HERE.

# Kaffee Klatches

Kaffee Klatches provide a forum for general discussion on all computer-related subjects. Admission to all Kaffee Klatches is on a first-come, first-seated basis and is subject to the maximum allowed by fire code regulations. All of the following meetings are held in the Classroom. **<W> or <M> or <H> indicate whether a SIG would be of interest to a Windows, Macintosh or Hand-held Device (i-thing or Android) user.**

### Windows 10 Q&A / Kaffee Klatch <W>
*First and Third Saturdays, 9:30 a.m.*
Bill Wilkinson (702-233-4977)

If you are a novice or near-beginner computer user, or if you just want some refresher information together with a refreshing cup of coffee, then jump-start or recharge your computing knowledge by attending these Win 10 KK sessions.  At each session, attendees will explore from one to four topics of particular interest to beginners and near-beginners. The topics are always announced a couple of days in advance via e-mail to SCSCC members who have subscribed to the club's message board.  Each topic is presented in a step-by-step manner and is supported by "how to" notes that can be easily and conveniently downloaded from the SCSCCBKK.org web page.  Following each "up front" presentation of one or more topics (approximately 60 minutes in duration), an informal open-ended Question and Answer period takes place for those who wish to participate, listen, reflect, or inquire.

### Kaffee Klatch <W/M/H>
*Every Tuesday, 8:30 a.m.*
Sandy Mintz (702-838-2525)

This KK is for all users, from beginning to advanced. The KK discussions are not restricted to any one subject, computer platform or computer-knowledge level but should be computer or technology related.  We will try to answer your questions, help you keep your systems updated and provide some useful "tips and tricks."  If you have a tip or information you would like to share, we encourage you to bring it in and share since the SCSCC is built on "neighbor helping neighbor."  The fellowship is great, the coffee is good, and the education received from the KK attendees is priceless. Stop by on Tuesday morning and have a cup of coffee with us.

# August 2017 Classes

## Announcing a BRAND NEW Windows 10 Hands-on Class!

## GET PERSONAL: Seventy-Five Ways to Give Your Windows 10 Computer Your Personal Touch

**Presented by Bill Wilkinson,
with Support from His Great Team of Coaches**

**August 21, 22, and 24 (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday)**

**9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon**

**Enrollment limited to 12 Participants**

| Prerequisites: |
| :---: |
| **2017 membership in the Computer Club** |
| **Currently using Windows 10 or will be by the first day of class** |

### Just a sample of the topics to be covered:

| | |
| --- | --- |
| Remove multiple shortcuts from the desktop in one motion. | Customize the taskbar. |
| Place your favorite website on the desktop for easy access. | Use the taskbar's calendar to record important events. |
| Find the secret desktop button. | Show important system icons on the taskbar. |
| Choose the primary folders you want to appear on the Start menu. | Give your computer a new name. |
| Don't let Adobe Reader or Flash spoil your day. | Set which Quick Action icons appear on the Action Center. |
| Find the fast way to search and find an available app. | Have Notifications advise you of important issues. |
| Access 20 special controls with just two keystrokes. | Don't let the Search box or Task View add to the clutter. |
| Place the hidden Control Panel icon where you can find it. | Create quick access to your data files that matter most. |
| Pin a favorite website to the apps menu. | Easily change or delete your password(s) for your local accounts. |
| Personalize both the Desktop's background and theme. | Avoid both a Lock Screen and a login screen when you sign-in. |
| Add a splash of color to Start, the Taskbar, and the Action Center. | Stop background apps from running. |
| Add a "slide to shutdown" icon to your desktop. | Use the new Dynamic Theme app. |

**To express your interest and pre-register, send an email message to
Bill Wilkinson at wilkinlv5@cox.net.**

**It is essential that your email message include the following information:**

*Subject of Your Message:* **Get Personal**

*Body of Message:* **Your Full Name and Email Address**

*All inquiries will be acknowledged!*

# Windows 10
# Conquering the Basics and Beyond

## Making the Easy Transition from Earlier Editions of Windows
## A Nine-Hour Hands-On Course
## Limited to 12 Participants

*No Classes in August*
**Lead Instructor: Bill Wilkinson**

**Prerequisites: Club Membership for 2017 ($10); Comfortable with using a mouse; some basic knowledge of an earlier edition of MS Windows (XP, Vista, 7 or 8/8.1).**

**Place Your Name on the Pre-Registration List for an upcoming three-Session Class**

If you are interested in placing your name on a high-priority reservation list for the next available class, simply send an email message to: **WILKINLV5@COX.NET** and include the following information:

- Include "**Windows 10 Class**" in the Subject Title
- Your first and last name
- Your 8-digit Sun City Summerlin Association number
- Your telephone number
- Your email address

Your message will be promptly acknowledged by return email. No telephone inquiries please. Please note: All hands-on classes are limited to 12 participants. This class fills very quickly.



## The Genealogy Computer Lab Workshop

**Presenter: Karen Ristic**
**Location: SCSCC Lab**

**Dark Aug**

In this workshop, using the lab student computers, we will explore some of the many genealogy web sites, such as *FamilySearch.org, One-step Webpages, Ellis Island,* and more.

# BOOT CAMP CLASS
## for Windows Win7, Win8.1 and Win10 Users

*No classes in August*
**Each Session Meets from 9 am - noon.**
**Lead instructor: Bill Wilkinson**

**Place Your Name on the Registration List**
**for the Next Three-Session Class**
*(Dates to be Determined as Interest Dictates)*

**Course Description:**

Boot Camp is an introductory course designed for residents who are novice users of the Microsoft Windows operating system. **It also serves as an excellent review for intermediate users who want to fill some gaps in their computer knowledge.**

This hands-on class has a **limited enrollment of 12** with each participant working at an individual computer station in the Computer Lab. A team of lead instructor and four coaches will provide step-by-step instruction that will include demonstrations, guided practice and individual coaching assistance.

**These strategies will be covered:**

- Secrets for using the mouse and the keyboard effectively
- Basic vocabulary needed for an understanding of Windows (Vista, Win 7, and Win 8.1)
- Managing and organizing your personal data files (documents, pictures, videos, and music)
- Protecting your computer from viruses and other malware
- Safely downloading and installing applications from the Internet
- Efficient and safe use of an Internet browser and search engine.

**Course Fee:  $10 for current club members; $20 for non-members**

**Materials include: a step-by-step user's manual and a flash drive**

**Registration Details:**

If you are interested in placing your name on a reservation list for the next available class, simply send an email message to: **WILKINLV5@COX.NET** and include the following information:

- Include "**Boot Camp Class**" in the Subject Title
- Your first and last name
- Your 8-digit Sun City Summerlin Association number
- Your telephone number
- Your email address

# August 2017 Seminars, Q&As and Workshops

**For Computer Club seminars, there is no requirement for advanced registration unless explicitly stated. Seating is first-come, first-seated.**

## Facebook Q&A Lab

**Thursday, August 24th at 1 PM**
**Presenter: Kaynella Williams**
**Location: SCSCC Classroom**

Facebook has more than one billion members online. Chances are your family and friends are already using Facebook – which means it's time for you to join in, too!

This session is planned as a hands-on question and answer event. It will be held in the **classroom.**

A few experienced Facebook users and I will offer help on your specific Facebook questions such as setting up a new account, how to do something on Facebook, and privacy concerns. We encourage you to bring your own laptop or tablet.

## Managing & Organizing Your Digital Photos

**Saturday, August 26th 10 AM**
**Presenter: Gail Weiss**
**Location: SCSCC Classroom**

Chances are, you have too many digital photos on your computer and smartphone and the thought of managing, or even organizing them, seems daunting to impossible. Let me share some easy tips and tricks for managing, organizing, and even touching up your massive digital photo collection.

I come to Sun City as a recent resident with over twenty years of computer training experience in conducting classes from basic to advanced features in all MS Office applications (Outlook, Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Access). Whether you are looking for a new job that requires knowledge of MS Office applications or just want to know more about using these applications for personal use, please email me your ideas for future classes at: gweiss5@cox.net.

## Building a Personal Website with WordPress

**Wednesday, August 30th at 9:30 AM**
**Presenter: Tom Burt**
**Location: SCSCC Classroom**

Building and managing a personal or business website can be a challenge, even for experienced computer users.

**WordPress.com** offers an alternative that allows you to set up and manage a professional-looking website in the form of a Web Log (BLOG). Even better – it's **FREE**!  WordPress currently hosts many thousands of business and personal websites.

This two-hour session will walk through the steps to set up a free account at WordPress.com and then to use the WordPress.com web-based authoring tools to create an interesting, great-looking custom personal website. We'll cover how to do simple text posts and then add pictures, additional pages and other media. We'll look at how to customize the look and feel of your site using themes. We'll review some of the WordPress tools that help you manage your site. Finally, we'll look at some guidelines to help make your website easy to use.

You can find the seminar notes at: **http://www.scscc.club/smnr/wordpress_web_logs.pdf**.
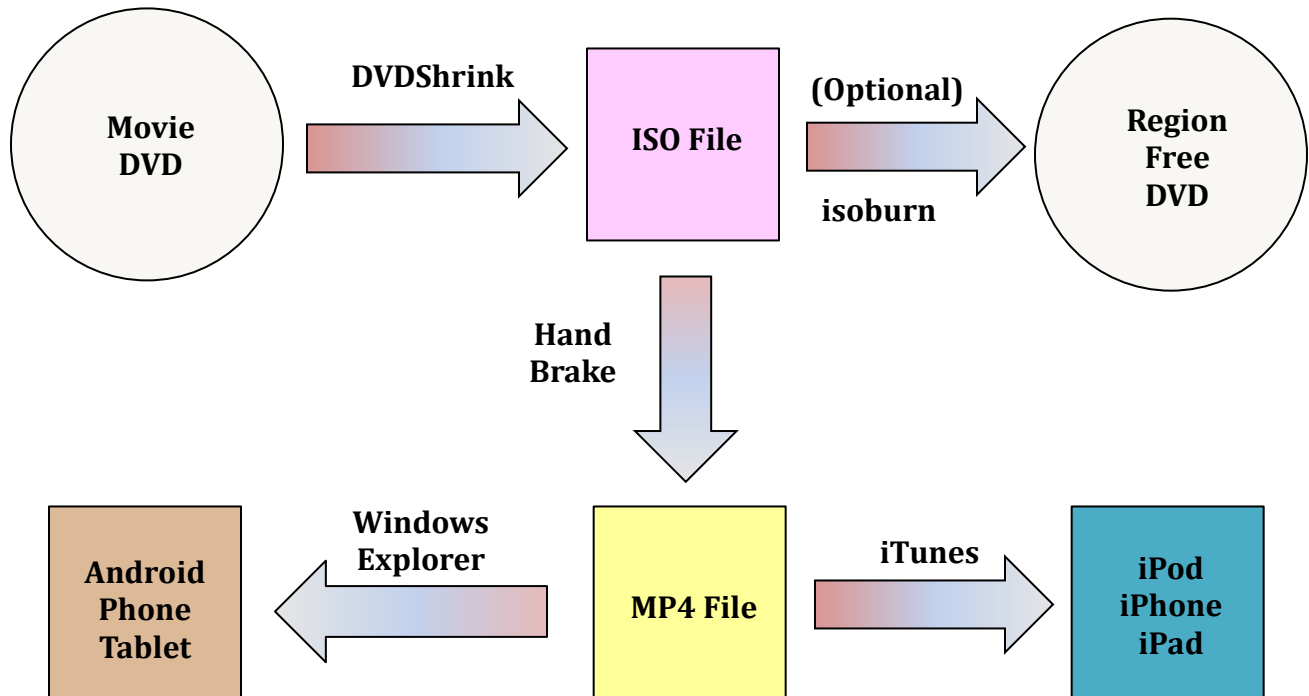
# Tom's Tech-Notes

## Converting DVD Movies to MP4 Files

### Tom Burt, SCSCC Vice-President

I last discussed this topic in a 2013 seminar. With so many of us now using mobile devices, I thought it would be good to do an update on how to convert DVD movies into the MP4 format so that they can be downloaded to your tablet or smart phone or be uploaded to a cloud storage service. If you are using a PC as part of your entertainment system, you may want to store the MP4 files on it to make a convenient video library.

Also, Windows 10's release has made it necessary to verify that my favorite conversion tools still exist and work on Windows 10. As of this writing, they do exist, they install and they work.

## Process Diagram

## Required Software Tools

- **DVDShrink**

  - **Version 3.2.0.15**

  - http://www.softpedia.com/get/CD-DVD-Tools/CD-DVD-Rip-Other-Tools/DVD-Shrink.shtml

  - DVDShrink "converts" a copy-protected DVD to a "region free" (plays anywhere) .ISO (DVD image) file. If you wish, you can burn that image file to a DVD to make a "plays anywhere" DVD.

- **HandBrake**

  - **Version 1.0.7**

  - http://handbrake.fr

  - Handbrake is a general purpose video conversion tool. Among its various conversion options is one to read a region-free DVD and convert it to an Mpeg 4 video file. The conversion includes options for screen resolution and compression. This makes it possible to downsize a 4 GB DVD movie to about a 1 GB MP4 file with very little loss in video quality.

- **Apple iTunes**

  - **Version 11.0.4**

  - http://www.apple.com/itunes/download

  - iTunes doesn't directly perform any video conversions. However, it is needed to download an output MP4 file to your iPad, iPhone or iPod. iTunes can also be used to play MP4 movie files.

- **VideoLan VLC Media Player**

  - VLC Media Player is a free general purpose audio and video player. It also can perform media file conversions. It is a useful tool for testing the final video files you produce.
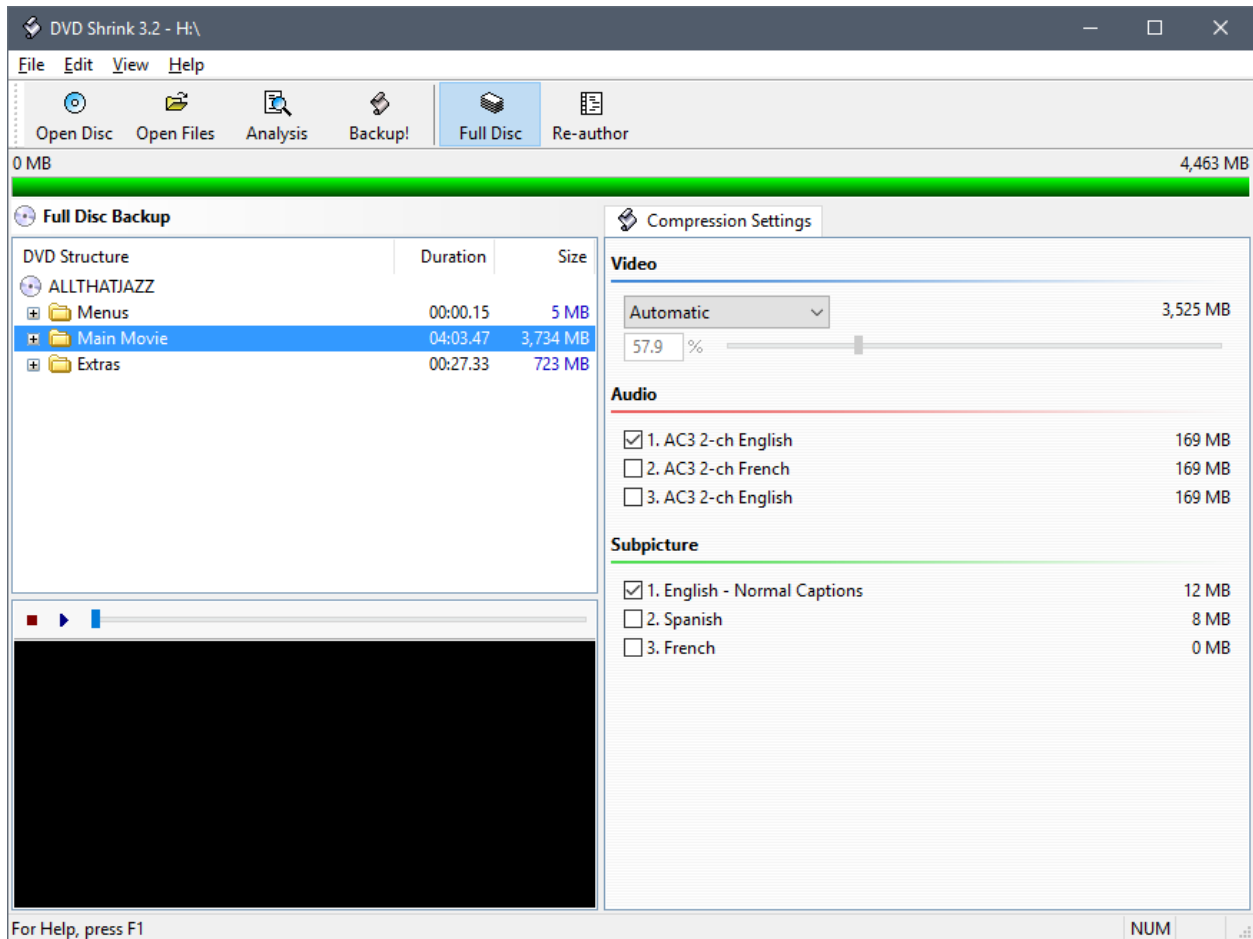
In the following pages, we'll describe the detailed steps to use DVDShrink to convert a DVD to a regsion-free ISO image file and then the steps to use Handbrake to convert the region-free ISO image file to a Mpeg 4 (MP4) video file that can be played on a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone, Android tablet or phone or uploaded to a cloud service such as YouTube or Facebook.

For material on how to copy the finished MP4 file to your iPad, iPhone, Android tablet or Android phone, check out my seminar handouts at:

http://www.scscc.club/sigs/Converting_DVD_to_MP4.pdf

Be mindful that US copyright laws do not permit sharing of copyrighted material to public websites or social media forums.

# DVDShrink – Convert a Video DVD to an ISO Image File



**DVDShrink Main Screen – Full Disc Mode**

Start DVDShrink.

Insert the movie DVD into the DVD drive. Windows may try to launch a software player toplay the movie. If so, cancel the player.

In DVDShrink, on the tool bar, click Open Disk to open the movie DVD.

DVDShrink will quickly scan the entire movie to calculate compression factors.
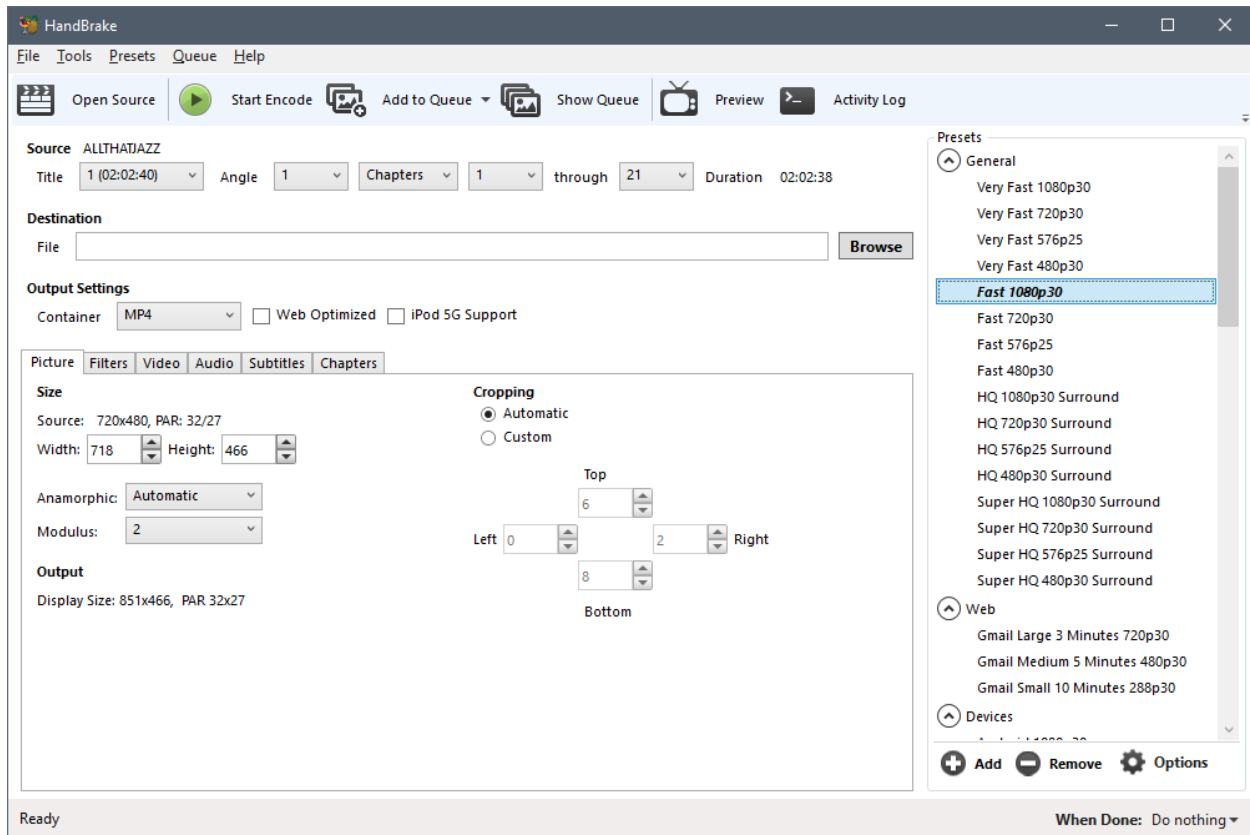
After DVDShrink has finished the scan:

If the converted movie image file will be too big to fit on a 4.3GB DVD, choose Re-Author mode to remove un-needed elements like foreign language sound tracks, trailers, added features. By making the movie smaller, less video compression is needed and the final result will have higher video quality.

Do this by dragging just the desired elements from the right-hand pane to the lefthandn empty DVD pane.

For most DVDs, this will not be necessary. You can just use the Full mode.

When ready, click the "Backup" button to save the new movie to an ".iso" image file. DVDShrink will run for 15 to 20 minutes to produce the ISO image file.

# Handbrake - Convert a Region-Free ISO Image File too a MP4 Video File



**Handbrake Main Screen – Full Disc Mode**

Start the Handbrake program.

If converting directly from a region-free DVD, place the movie in the DVD tray. Windows may start playing the DVD. If so, stop and close the player.

Click the "Open Source" button on the tool bar. A source selection panel will display.

If converting from a DVD, click on DVD Video and wait a moment.

If converting from an .iso file made by DVDShrink, click "File" and then browse to the location of the .iso file.

Choose one of the Preset form factors in the right-hand pane. The default is **Fast 1080p 30**. The selection should match the device you plan to play the movie on.

Click the Browse button to specify the output folder and final name for the MP4 video.

Now click the "Start Encode" button on the tool bar and watch the conversion.

Handbrake will make two passes to re-render the movie into the desired MP4 file format. This will take 10 to 20 minutes, depending on the length of the movie and the selected output resolution.

The final MP4 file will be placed in your "default" video output folder, as specified in Tools > Options.

# Kretchmar's Korner

**By David Kretchmar, Computer Hardware Technician**

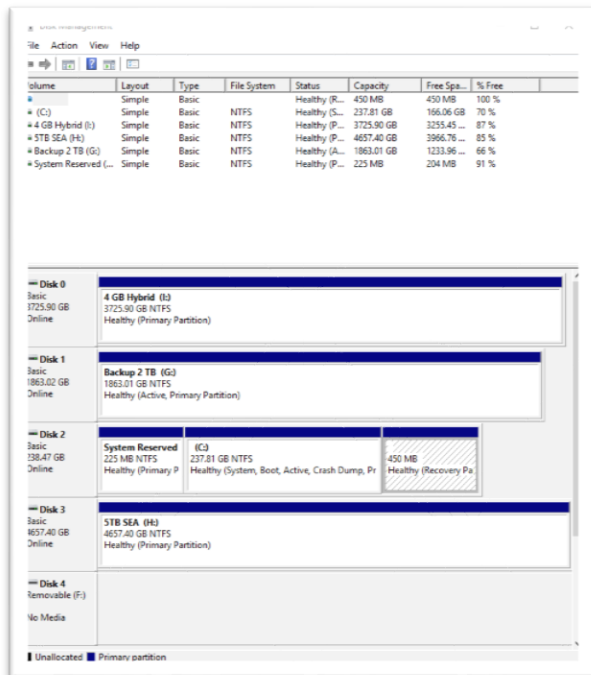## How to Retrieve Individual Files
## from a Windows Backup

In Windows 10 Microsoft has included the old Backup and Restore feature from Windows 7. This was weakened in Windows 8 and completely removed in Windows 8.1, but it is back in Windows 10, even if it is a bit depreciated.  It's now called "Backup and Restore (Windows7)".

Microsoft's File History is a is a great tool designed to back up your individual files, and Microsoft seems to be pushing users to utilize this feature, rather than relying on entire system backups.  To this end, Microsoft states that you cannot restore individual files from a system image.
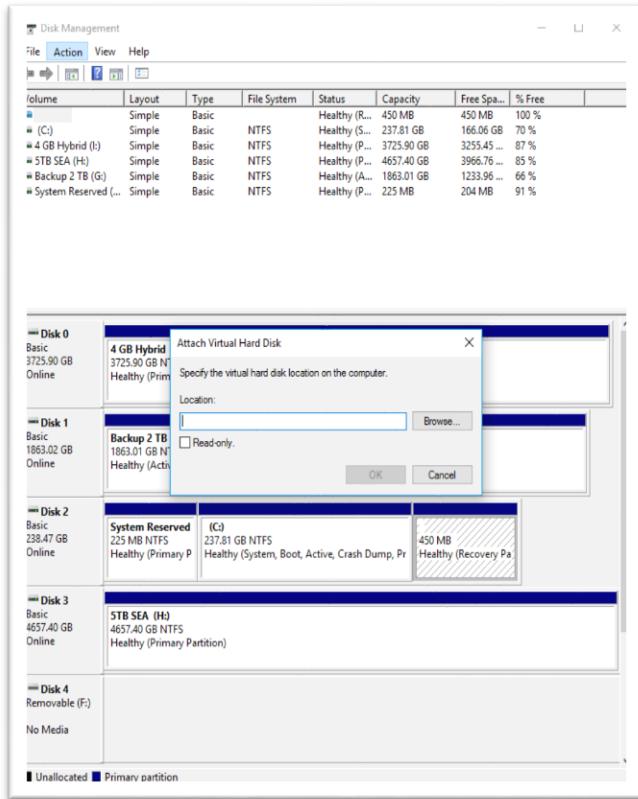
Microsoft is being untruthful when it states that you cannot restore individual files from a system image. This might represent a twist on the old joke that when you get information from Microsoft it is completely accurate, but useless.  I'm not sure it is an improvement for Microsoft to provide inaccurate information to push users to utilize File History.  Using File History to back up your data fits more neatly into Microsoft's long-term strategy of moving users to The Cloud, and maybe that's how they justify this mendacity.

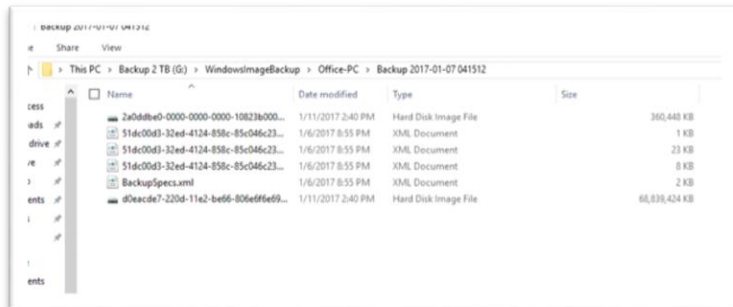## Create an image then use Disk Manager

Obviously, you must create a Windows system backup before you can pull individual files from the backup image.  This can be accomplished in different ways; one way is to go into the Control Panel (Category View), System Security, Then Backup and Restore (Windows 7).
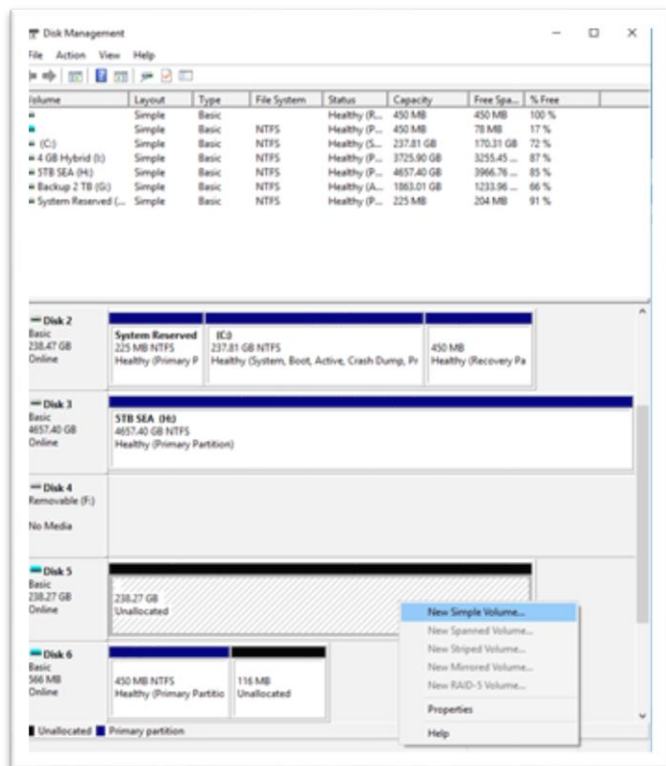


Once you have created the image, execute Disk Management by right clicking on the Start window and left clicking on Disk Management.

Click on Action then select "Attach VHD" (Virtual Hard Drive). Note this window Shows physical hard drives (Disk 0, Disk 1, etc.) as well as logical drives (C:, D:, etc.). Now browse to the location of you image.



Your image is contained in a folder named WindowsImageBackup. Drill down to your image file. There is more than one file in a folder named "Backup (date of backup)". The one ginormous file is the one we want to attach.

Go back to the Disk Management window and you will see a new hard drive (the virtual drive you just created). Note it is the same size as the C: drive that was imaged. Right click on the representation of this drive and proceed to add a logical drive letter to this drive, if one is not already assigned.

## Copy your files

Now use File Explorer to access to access any of your files in the virtual drive you have just created. It's that simple! You can copy and paste any files you like from the image to any other location you can access. This is not as simple as a restore from File Backup, but it works.

Remember you have created a virtual drive, also known as a logical drive, every bit as "real" as your own C: drive, lacking only the graphical user interface. You can even execute programs on your virtual drive, if you can locate its executable or application file.

## Clean up

When you are done gleaning the data you want from the virtual drive, Right click on its representation in the Disk Management window, and delete the partition(s). Do not delete the image file on your backup drive or it will be gone forever.

Just reboot and your system will be back minus the virtualization.

# August Lab Monitor Schedule

Open Lab sessions are held twice per week: 9 am to noon on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

| AUGUST | Monitor Schedule |
|---|---|
| Jeff Southwell | WEDNESDAY |
| Susie Scott | August 2, 2017 |
| Marcy Ishum | SATURDAY |
| Donna Bailey | August 5, 2017 |
| Linda McMullin | WEDNESDAY |
| Susie Scott | August 9, 2017 |
| Linda McMullin | SATURDAY |
| Mary Hedin | August 12, 2017 |
| Blanche York | WEDNESDAY |
| Susie Scott | August 16, 2017 |
| John Zuzich | SATURDAY |
| Kathy Kirby | August 19,2017 |
| Joyce Davidson | WEDNESDAY |
| Susie Scott | August 23,2017 |
| Mary Hedin | SATURDAY |
| John Zuzich | August 26, 2017 |
| Marilyn Gramms | WEDNESDAY |
| Susie Scott | August 30, 2017 |