# **Technology Times**



"Insider Tips To Make Your Business Run Faster, Easier, And More Profitably"

**June 2014** 

"As a business owner, I know you don't have time to waste on technical and operational issues. That's where we *shine*! Call us and put an end to your IT problems finally and forever!"

**David Downs,** Owner Pro Computer Solutions

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## Never, Ever Give Up Lessons in Life and Business from Diana Nyad

Each year, I attend a boot camp for IT business owners across the country. We meet in Nashville and receive our annual "kick in the butt" to get our businesses headed in the right direction. This year, we were lucky to have the professional swimmer Diana Nyad come speak to our group. Diana made a splash in the news last year when she became the first person on record to swim from Cuba to Florida without a shark cage.



David Downs and record-breaking long-distance swimmer, Diana Nyad.

At boot camp, Diana talked about **finding your one big goal**. For Diana, her goal turned out to be swimming the 110-mile stretch of water between Cuba and Florida. The first seeds of inspiration were planted when, at age 5, her father opened the dictionary and showed her that her last name means "champion swimmer." As a child, the Cuban Revolution forced many Cubans into her home state of Florida. One day, her mother pointed out across the water toward Cuba and noted that *you could almost swim there*. Flash forward and at 28, Diana attempted the swim from Cuba to Florida for the first time. She failed and retired from competitive swimming the next year. For 30 years, Diana did not take a single stroke. Her mother's death in 2007 inspired Diana to use her time left on Earth to achieve her lifelong dream. She failed three more times before finally, with the aid of her team of experts, she completed the treacherous journey. At age 64, she swam the shark– and jellyfish-infested waters for 53 hours before reaching the shore—exhausted, 29 pounds lighter, but ultimately victorious.

Diana's story taught me a few things. The first is to find your one big goal, and ask yourself each day how you are working toward it. Don't forget about your support system; standing behind each victor is a team that worked toward a common goal. In striving for that goal, you must never, ever give up. Even if you encounter failure, find a way to eventually reach success. It may take many years to reach your goal, but Diana is a living testament that you are never too old to chase your dreams. Finally, to find that ultimate success, you must put everything into what you do and live without regrets. Imagine what we could achieve if we applied these lessons to our businesses! Even more importantly, what would happen if we applied them to our whole lives?

Find your one big goal, and go for it.

- David

### 7 Ways To Keep Your Tablet Secure

### 1. Don't leave it lying around

Although this is common sense, you've probably violated this rule more than once. Tablets are easy targets for thieves, so don't let it out of your sight when in a public place – and don't leave it in plain view in your car or you might end up with a broken window in addition to a stolen tablet.

### 2. Use a passcode

Although it's not 100% hacker-proof, it will block unauthorized users from accessing your information.

### 3. Consider enabling automatic data erasing

You can configure your iPad to erase your data after 10 failed pass-code attempts. Clearly this is not a good solution for anyone who constantly forgets a password or for those who have kids trying to log in repeatedly. However, if you have a Microsoft Exchange account connected to your mobile device, your IT guy can remotely wipe your mobile device as soon as you report that it has been lost.

### 4. Encrypt your hard drive

On your iPad, simply enabling the password will turn on encryption. All iOS devices also come with a second layer of encryption (called data protection) that protects your e-mails and attachments. This protection can't be broken, even if the passcode is stripped. On Android tablets, you need to enable hard-drive encryption in the security settings.

#### 5. Enable iCloud Find My Phone or Android Device Manager

These are valuable tools to use when you misplace your tablet. Both of these services allow you to log in and find your tablet or even wipe it if you have sensitive data on it.

### 6. **Install software updates**

As with all software, make sure you have the latest security updates and patches installed to protect against hackers and viruses.

#### 7. Only connect to trusted WiFi networks

Public WiFis are open territory for hackers and identity thieves. Whenever you connect, make sure it's a legitimate, secure connection.



### Have You Installed Microsoft Office On Your iPad Yet?

After years of rumors, Microsoft finally unveiled Office for iPad in late March. This is a huge addition to the iPad, as demonstrated by the more than 12 million downloads of the product in the first week it was released.

#### The iPad Just Got More Business-Friendly

One of the biggest business complaints about the iPad has been that it's great as a personal device and for catching up on e-mail, but you really couldn't do real work on it. You can now use the core 3 of Word, Excel and Powerpoint on your iPad fairly seamlessly. Microsoft has integrated Office for iPad into their Office 365 suite of products with an annual fee of only \$100, which includes online file storage (or you can simply view files in Office for iPad, but not work on them, for free).

#### **A Familiar Interface And Functionality**

Just about everything you're used to within the Office Suite is here on the iPad, optimized for touch screens. These three apps are feature-rich, powerful business tools. And while a menu item or two might be out of place, you'll soon quickly adapt to the user interface. If you've used an iPad and you've used Office on your desktop, you'll be just fine. Advanced features such as change tracking, find and replace are all there, and while there still may be a few things you need to do on your desktop, we're hard-pressed to find many of them.

## Shiny New Gadget Of The Month



### Laser Projection Virtual Keyboard

## Put the future at your fingertips with a virtual laser keyboard.

This revolutionary little gadget uses a state-of-the-art laser to project a virtual keyboard onto any flat surface. It tracks your fingers like magic using advanced optics and connects via Bluetooth to any Apple or Android device – it can even connect to your laptop!

### You touch, it types.

Transform any flat surface into an instant workstation and type up a storm any time and virtually anywhere you may want. The Bluetooth technology allows a quick and easy pairing with your tablets, your smartphones and most laptops, and this little device comes with a USB cord for easy charging. It can last up to two hours of continuous typing.

### Revolutionize the way vou work.

It's the future of technology – find your own laser keyboard at <a href="https://www.Brookstone.com">www.Brookstone.com</a> and show it off. It packs plenty of punch for \$120.

### How Much Has Technology Changed In The Last 9 Years?

Technology changes faster and faster than ever. Consider how much technology has changed since this time in 2005, just a few short years ago...

### Can You Believe That These Technologies Didn't Even Exist in 2005?

We lived in a world without smartphones, tablets, e-readers, Facebook, inhome WiFi and Netflix. What did we do with all of that extra free time?!

- E-readers such as the Kindle and Nook did not exist yet and now 40% of consumers own at least one.
- Smartphones did not exist. Now 62% of consumers have one.
- Tablets/iPads were nonexistent. Now over 40% of consumers own one.
- Netflix was merely a service to order DVDs in the mail.
- We were still connected to a wall since in-home WiFi had yet to arrive.
- Facebook was a small social networking service on the campus of Harvard.

### **Dying Technology**

In 2005, most consumers owned VCRs and mobile phones. How much longer will it be before we only see these items in a museum?

#### Are These Technologies Here For The Long Haul?

Even with all of the technological advancements, the possession of many of these electronic devices has hardly changed:

- Cable TV Even with streaming services such as Netflix, Hulu and many other apps, the percentage of consumers with cable TV has remained exactly the same (68%).
- DVD/Blu-ray Players Ownership down only 3% over the last 9 years.
- Desktop Computers Down only 8% (interestingly, the ownership of laptop computers has more than doubled during this period).



### Computers Should Just Work! Now Available for Order

Just released—the ultimate small business owner's guidebook for IT solutions, written by Pro Computer Solutions CEO David Downs. In this book, David reveals the top tips and secrets to turning technology into a competitive advantage for your company.

Order your copy today: **www.procomputersolutions.com/book** <u>Free copies available to select readers</u>. Visit our page to learn more.



### The Lighter Side The Month of June



- Did you know it is Candy Month? Go ahead and satisfy your sweet tooth – you're supposed to!
- Also, the polar opposite: it is also Fresh Fruits and Vegetables Month.
- Aside from that, June is National Turkey Lovers' Month. Americans consume more than 353 million pounds of turkey during National Turkey Lovers' Month.
- On June 19th, 1997, *Cats* became the longest-running show in the history of Broadway.
- The American War of Independence began in June of 1775 with the battle of Bunker Hill outside of Boston.
- The very **first baseball game** was played on June 19th, 1845, across the Hudson River in Hoboken, New Jersey.
- June 1st also marks the start of Atlantic Hurricane Season – be careful!
- And, of course, we can't forget the **holidays** in June Flag Day is the 14th, Father's Day is the 15th, and the first day of summer is June 21st!

### 10th Anniversary: Employee Spotlight

As part of our anniversary celebration, we would like to spotlight the employees who are such an integral part of our company. This month marks one year since Cynthia Downs joined the PCSi team as our Marketing Manager. Cynthia wears many hats in her position, acting as copywriter, book editor, website and social media manager, graphic designer, and much more.



Cynthia and her husband, Tyler, are excitedly awaiting the birth of their first child in late September. They recently found out that they are having a boy. In April, the couple went on a "babymoon" in Bermuda to get in some relaxation before their bun-

dle of joy arrives.

When she's not working or preparing for baby, Cynthia enjoys exercising, redecorating her house, cooking, and creating art out of LEGO bricks.

Thank you, Cynthia, for being an important part of the PCSi team!



### Refer Us And Receive Up To \$75!

- Send in your referral information by either calling our office at 816-229-2290, emailing us at referral@pcsiweb.com, or visiting our page, www.pcsiweb.com/referral.
- We will pay you \$25 for anyone that you refer to us with whom we get an appointment.
- If your referral becomes a client, we will pay you an additional \$50 AND we will give your referral \$100 off their purchase.
- So, if you have a friend or an associate in need, please contact us and we will reach out to them.

### Who Else Wants To Win A \$25 Gift Card?

The Grand Prize Winner of last month's Trivia Challenge Quiz is **Crystal Pettite** from **Beatty Fullerton**, **CPAs!** She was the first person to correctly answer my quiz question from last month: Which of the following green gemstones is the birthstone for the month of May?

The correct answer was D) Emerald. Now, here's this month's trivia question. The winner will receive a gift card to Scooter's:

Norma Jeane Mortenson, born on June 1st, 1926, went by what stage name? A) Greta Garbo B) Marilyn Monroe C) Doris Day D) Audrey Hepburn

Call us right now with your answer! 816-229-2290



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