

Dave (Doc) Dockery speaking on Tuesday, Jan 19, 7 pm, to the FV CUG meeting:

Congratulations to the Fairway Computer User Group on building membership while other CUGs across the nation are losing membership and/or going out of business.

His organization, Tampa Bay Computer Society, has 1200 members, 80 of whom are from Fairway Village. TBCS is expanding again, renting another large unit of space in the Clearwater Professional Suite. They will have room to hold their meetings there, rather than at the Largo Cultural Center. TBCS is having an Open House on Saturday, Jan. 30, to celebrate from 9 am to 2 pm with free computer repair, free food, and several interesting seminars.

### **Doc's Technology Talk:**

The Science of Networking holds that every person on the globe is only 6 relationships apart. "Social Networking" is taking over our world—Twitter, MySpace, Facebook, Wikipedia, and others are all used and understood by the 30 and under crowd and can be assimilated by those of us over 30 with a bit of effort. For an initial investment of \$150-\$500 for a Verizon 'Droid phone, a Blackberry, an Iphone, or similar new devices, anyone can text, photograph, speak, tweet, research, friend, follow, and connect with most all others in the world.

### **Three Main Trends:**

**Convergence:** All functions are moving together to be available on one device easily carried in the pocket or purse. Cell phones now text, photograph, video, GPS, email, send photos, play MP3 music and videos, amplify, tweet, research, etc.

**Collaboration:** All users of these advanced technology devices can send messages to change the maps, information, programs, etc. so that applications are kept up to date. Users also suggest innovative new uses for the programs and devices.

**Connectivity:** With *Twitter*, you can "tweet" all aspects of your life to friends and acquaintances, and you can keep up with everything that they wish to share moment by moment. Limit 140 characters per tweet, so you have to be concise.

With *Facebook*, you can "friend" your children, your grandchildren, even your spouse, and find out much more about what's new in their lives, see photos, etc.

With *Wikipedia* and *Google* and *GPS* you can find any information, any instructions, or any directions you may want or need.

Doc said to look up the Google 411 number so you never have to pay Directory Assistance charges for businesses or institutions again. That phone number is 1-800-466-4411.

Doc said there are thousands of applications for the new multi-use cell phone devices, and most of those applications are free. "We are affected by everyone in our world."