

Technology Corner, by George Champine

Last issue we talked about ways to get online with the Internet. This time we will talk about ways to find interesting information on the Internet. First, however, one clarification. I said last time that DSL high speed internet service was not available in Quail Run. This is not true. DSL service is not available if your phone number is of the form 978-567-xxxx. However, if your phone number is of the form of either:

- 978-562-xxxx
- 978-568-xxxx

you can get DSL service. You can check your number at: <http://www.verizon.com>

Interesting places to get information on the Internet.

The Internet gives access to much of the structured information in the world, but you need to find where it is. A good place to start is with a search engine such as google <http://www.google.com> (my favorite) or yahoo <http://www.yahoo.com>. You can find amazing things through the search engines. Beyond that, there are sites for specific information such as (all preceded by <http://>):

www.switchboard.com	to find the address and phone number of anyone in the U.S.
www.quicken.com	for financial information including stock quotes
www.amazon.com	for purchases through Internet
www.orbitz.com	for travel and hotel reservations
www.ebay.com	for auctions of almost anything you can think of
www.accuweather.com	for weather information
www.cookingbynumbers.com/	input ingredients on hand and get back a recipe for dinner
www.askjeeves.com	for answers to questions
www.consumerwebwatch.com	reports on product quality/features by Consumer Union
www.refdesk.com	current hot news
www.movies.com	what movies are playing, where, and show times
www.tvparty.com	TV videos from the golden age of TV in the '50s and '60s
www.medlineplus.gov	comprehensive medical information from U.S. government
www.charitynavigator.org	comprehensive information about charities
www.quackwatch.org	truth about medical scams, quackery, and health fraud
www.hometime.com	home improvements
www.tvtome.com	comprehensive information on TV shows
www.irs.gov	federal tax forms and tax information
www.state.ma.us	Commonwealth of Massachusetts home page

and thousands more but this should get you started. Every organization now has a web site. By the way, the ending “.com” refers to commercial organization, “.gov” refers to government, “.org” refers to non-profit organizations, “.net” refers to network organizations, and “.edu” refers to educational institutions. The web addresses such as above are called “Universal Resource Locators” or URLs. If you find any of these web addresses useful, you can store them in your “favorites” list for easy access.