

## Do I Have to Update?

*By Donna Bishop*

I'm the proud owner of a Dell Computer updated to Windows 10. I'm also the frustrated owner of a Dell Computer updated to Windows 10. I love my computer. I can compose documents, correct spelling and grammar, delete and rearrange paragraphs to my heart's content. I can save my work and even print a hard copy. A few more maneuvers and I can send my document by e-mail to everyone in my address book! All is well in this land of technology. Well, till it isn't! Every so often I forget to attach my document. The result is a flood of e-mails reminding me of the missing attachment. It's back to the keyboard to redo the job.

In the paragraph above I used a delightful piece of technology known as Echo. Echo is a voice activated device developed by Amazon. It is computerized to perform dozens of activities. I use the female voice Alexa to tell me the time, weather, movies playing locally, the distance from Denver to Chicago, and select music to play. But mostly I rely on her to spell words that I have so misspelled that my computer spell check says "no suggestions." I do find that Alexa spells what she hears. If I do not pronounce a word clearly the results are often humorous. Sometimes when the computer is still red lining my word and Alexa is spelling a word I don't intend, I'm forced to put my techie devices aside and pull out my Webster's Dictionary. If that fails I use another word!

My frustration with technology occurs when I have finally learned the steps to produce the results I want and then the software is updated. It feels like changes are made just for the sake of change. I know there must be endless ways of performing computerized functions but it is really hard on me to keep adapting to new methods especially without guidelines.

I mustered up my courage and updated to Windows 10. My first attempt to download didn't work. With a fair amount of hesitation I tried the download again and it did work. Hallelujah! All is well in this land of technology. Well, till it isn't!

I spent a lot of time getting into Yahoo which had a total new formatting. It took me several hours to locate and manipulate files I use all the time. I experienced moments of panic when I couldn't locate my contact list! Likewise when my music, documents, and downloads could not be accessed. The e-mail format had changed and I had to relearn the process. I still can't find how to send a document in PDF format.

Today I discovered a CD doesn't automatically start playing. All the guides on You Tube are so complex I finally gave up and decided maybe I did have a thing or two to say about today's writing topic. All is well in the land of technology till it isn't!