Metro Area Personal Computer Club

Meet: 3rd Tuesday at Godfather's Pizza — 30th & Bdwy. 7P.M. Co. Bluffs



Volume No. 33 Club Motto: "Pass It On" June 2014

What does "50/50" mean?

Well, '50/50' could stand for lots of things, but in this case it refers to the fact that the MAPCC is offering a chance for you to **win \$100.00** ... '50' for YOU, and '50' for our treasury. Tickets are only \$5.00. Not bad dividends, eh? Buy your ticket at the June 17th meeting from Mary Alice, our illustrious but over-worked Treasurer.

One hundred dollar drawing 50/50

ALSO, "50/50" reminds us that we are FIFTY PERCENT through this 'new' year of 2014. Hard to believe, but it's true! We have half a year left to continue increasing our membership so we can greet 2015 with a larger group than what we have now. **Got your 'new member' yet?**

Club Computer Makeover

That's right, it's not only TV shows that offer 'Makeovers', but also the MAPCC. Joe 3rd, (your new Vice President), and I, ('old Joe', or 'Grandpa Joe', as Cheryle named me), have been giving your club laptop computer a thorough going over and tune-up.



We've trimmed down the 8+ years of baggage it has accumulated, eliminated a **great deal** of 'Pups', (*potentially uninvited programs*), three serious Trojan virus', and several 're-direct toolbars, browser extensions, and/or viruses', plus a literal ton of unnecessary data that was using-up valuable disk space. We also added "Add Blocker Plus" to the browsers and purchased good antivirus software..

Why Stick With This Old Computer?

We're trying to get along with the existing computer (as long as it holds out for us), in order to maintain a healthier cash amount in our treasury. At least, at the time of this writing, it's functioning great again, considering its' vintage, and meantime the "50/50" drawing is helping to grow our bottom line. Oh, the hard drive is now (almost) "50/50" too...50% Free, 50% used.

I was surprised to learn XP sought-out and INSTALLED several needed security updates, even though XP support has been officially discontinued. We also added the latest **IE security patch**, so we're good in that area too. We purchased '**Advanced System Care Pro** (Ultimate') antivirus utility for one year, \$29.99. There have been occasional indications pointing to what may be video card problems, but after spending over a solid two-weeks of constant running and testing it, I have been unable to get it to act-up again so we'll just take it day (or meeting) at a time and see how long it will hold up. (Shall we all cross our fingers?)... Joe





Minutes of the May 20th Meeting

Minutes recorded by Secretary, Lynn Fehr

President Joe Cavallaro called the meeting to order at 7:P.M. at Godfather's Pizza on West Broadway with 13 members present.

Pizza Winner

Guest, David Holcomb drew the winning name for the \$10.00 pizza certificate. Winner was Kevin Holloway.

Minutes & Treasury Report

The Minutes were read by our new O.M.R. (Official Minutes Reader), Taylor Cavallaro, followed by Treasurer, Mary Alice Fehr reading the financial report. Both were accepted as read.

P.R. Officer

The club discussed Public Relations for the club, headed by our P.R. Officer, Jerry Bell. Jerry posted our Club Ad on at least ten web sites. Joe encouraged members to take advantage of any space available in stores or businesses where we can post our ad.

Club Picnic & Auction

Secretary Lynn Fehr made a motion that we hold an auction this year, combined with our Summer Picnic. The motion carried, and Lynn was to check with D.N.R. to see if there is a charge for the shelters at Lake Manawa. Picnic date is pending at this time. Joe encouraged members to get busy and begin collecting gift certificates or donations we can use for our Club Auction, in addition to items donated for the auction.

Election Month

The officers nominated at the April meeting were confirmed for the years 2014-2015. Slate of officers remained the same except Joe Cavallaro 3rd becoming our new Vice President.

Club Computer & Drawing

Discussion took place concerning the club's laptop. Both Joe's have been working on it over the past weeks and we will use it at the June meeting. Advanced System Care (ASC) antivirus program was purchased and installed on it. Cost was \$29.99.

Several more \$5.00 tickets were sold for the \$100.00 drawing.

Demo

Joe 3rd presented the evening's demo, showing a Virtual Reality Program and installed Ubunto (Linux) on it. It's all available to download free. Interesting Demo Joe. With no demo scheduled for the June meeting we may delve into the Club's web site testing our 'overhauled' club computer and other sites of interest to members.

Stick-Around Drawing

Cheryle Pennington did the drawing for the Stick-Around drawing. Winner: Cheryle Pennington, who split \$15.00 with our Treasury, \$7.50 each. (Hmmmm?:o)

Meeting Adjourned

With no further business to conduct, Joe adjourned the meeting at 8:46 P.M.

Undeliverable Parcel Notification

Have you received email with similar wording as this excerpt (below)? They ask you to "click here to print label". Best policy—DON'T. **Simply DELETE it**. The Post Office will leave a note at your home, saying they could not deliver your package, they don't send an email (unless specifically requested.)

Here is what Snopes.com has to say about it:

Parcel Notifications HOAX:

"Origins: **Notices** about supposedly undeliverable shipments from parcel delivery companies are always an effective lure for phishing schemes, especially with "Click Here to print your label", etc...

...not be delivered to them and were being held at the local Fedex office, or post office and those messages attempted to lure recipients into clicking on (etc. etc. etc....)"

From Tim Fisher — Windows 8.1 Update 1

Windows 8.1 Update 1, which I first blogged about in late January, is a relatively small update to Windows 8.1, which itself is the major update to Windows 8 that was released <u>last October</u>. [Confused yet?]

Anyway, the latest gossip is out on this update, and it looks even more certain that we'll see this update included in Patch Tuesday on April 8, 2104. (Ed: It is NOW available on www.microsoft.com). Most of the changes in Windows 8.1 Update 1 (which, by the way, is now officially the name of this update) continue refining the pro-keyboard-and-mouse-user changes seen in Windows 8.1

Sony & Panasonic's Archival Disc

By Math Smith

Sony and Panasonic announce the Archival Disc, a new optical disc standard for long-term storage. Aiming to offer a long-term storage option in disc form, Sony and Panasonic have announced the new Archival Disc format that will store between 300GB and 1TB per disc. The companies are 'bigging up' the non-HDD form factor for its hardiness to temperature and humidity. They're also promising "inter-generational compatibility" between different formats as the standard matures -- but we'll believe it when we see it. While the initial team-up was signed back in July last year, the current roadmap suggests we'll see the first 300GB discs from Summer 2015. Storage upgrades will follow, in line with signal processing improvements, with high linear density processing (which all *sounds* good) supposedly set to offer up to a magical one terabyte of space per disc. We'll just go ahead and throw away all these Blu-rays.

Source: http://www.engadget.com/2014/03/10/sony-panasonic-archival-disc/

Why? Why? Why?

Why do they use sterilized needles for death by lethal injection?

Why doesn't Tarzan have a beard?

Why does Superman stop bullets with his chest, but ducks when you throw a revolver at him?

Why is it that no matter what color bubble bath you use the bubbles are always white?

Why do people constantly return to the refrigerator with hopes that something new to eat will have materialized?

Why do people keep running over a string a dozen times with their vacuum cleaner, then reach down, pick it up, examine it, then put it down to give the vacuum one more chance?

Why is it that no plastic bag will open from the end on your first try?

How do those dead bugs get into those enclosed light fixtures?

Why is it that whenever you attempt to catch something that's falling off the table you always manage to knock something else over?

In winter why do we try to keep the house as warm as it was in summer when we complained about the heat? If man evolved from Apes, why are there still apes? Why, why, why?



A History Tidbit -- (Remember Melissa?)



A courtroom photo of David L. Smith, the alleged creator of the Melissa virus. Daniel Hulshizer/AFP/Getty Images

In the spring of 1999, a man named David L. Smith created a computer virus based on a Microsoft Word macro. He built the virus so that it could spread through e-mail messages. Smith named the virus "Melissa," saying that he named it after an exotic dancer from Florida [source: CNN].

Rather than shaking its moneymaker, the Melissa computer virus tempts recipients into opening a document with an e-mail message like "Here is that document you asked for, don't show it to anybody else." Once activated, the virus replicates itself and sends itself out to the top 50 people in the recipient's e-mail address book.

The virus spread rapidly after Smith unleashed it on the world. The United States federal government became very interested in Smith's work -- according to statements made by FBI officials to Congress, the Melissa virus "wreaked havoc on government and private sector networks" [source: FBI]. The increase in e-mail traffic forced some companies to discontinue e-mail programs until the virus was contained.

After a lengthy trial process, Smith lost his case and received a 20-month jail sentence. The court also fined Smith \$5,000 and forbade him from accessing computer networks without court authorization [source: BBC]. Ultimately, the Melissa virus didn't cripple the Internet, but it was one of the first computer viruses to get the public's attention.

Club Picnic and Auction

The members voted unanimously at the May meeting to add our 'Action Auction' again and to hold it at the same time as our summer picnic, as we've done over past years.

Our Action Auction has always been a fun and exciting event and it was missed by many last year.

Now, in order to make it a successful event again, it's going to take action by EACH member to get to work and obtain Gift Certificates, Donations, and interesting items we can offer at the auction. It won't just happen on its own... we ALL need to take part and add the items we'll be auctioning-off. As was discussed at the meeting, it's not just a job for the officers. It's something we all enjoy, so we should all be charged-up and willing to do our part to make this the greatest auction we've ever held. Get busy NOW and don't wait till the last moment. It can be FUN!