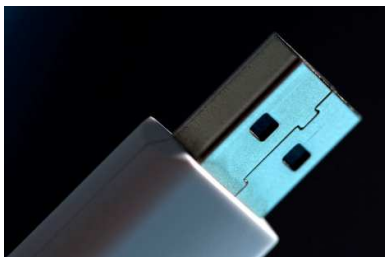




How Safe is Your Flash Drive?



Computer users pass around USB sticks like silicon business cards. Although we know they often carry malware infections, we depend on antivirus scans and the oc-

casional reformatting to keep our thumb drives from becoming the carrier for the next digital epidemic. But the security problems with USB devices run deeper than you think: Their risk isn't just in what they carry, it's built into the core of how they work.

That's the takeaway from findings security researchers Karsten Nohl and Jakob Lell plan to present, demonstrating a collection of proof-of-concept malicious software that highlights how the security of USB devices has long been fundamentally broken. The malware they created, called BadUSB, can be installed on a USB device to completely take over a PC, invisibly alter files installed from the memory stick, or even redirect the user's internet traffic. Because BadUSB resides not in the flash memory storage of USB devices, but in the firmware that controls their basic functions, the attack code can remain hidden long after the contents of the device's memory would appear to the average user to be deleted. And the two researchers say there's no easy fix: The kind of compromise they're demonstrating is nearly impossible to counter without banning the sharing of USB devices or filling your port with superglue.

"These problems can't be patched," says Nohl, who will join Lell in presenting the research at the Black Hat security conference in Las Vegas. "We're exploiting the very way that USB is designed."

'In this new way of thinking, you have to consider a USB infected and throw it away as soon as it touches a non-trusted computer.'

(For complete article see: <http://www.wired.com/2014/07/usb-security/>)

Ready for Picnic/Auction?

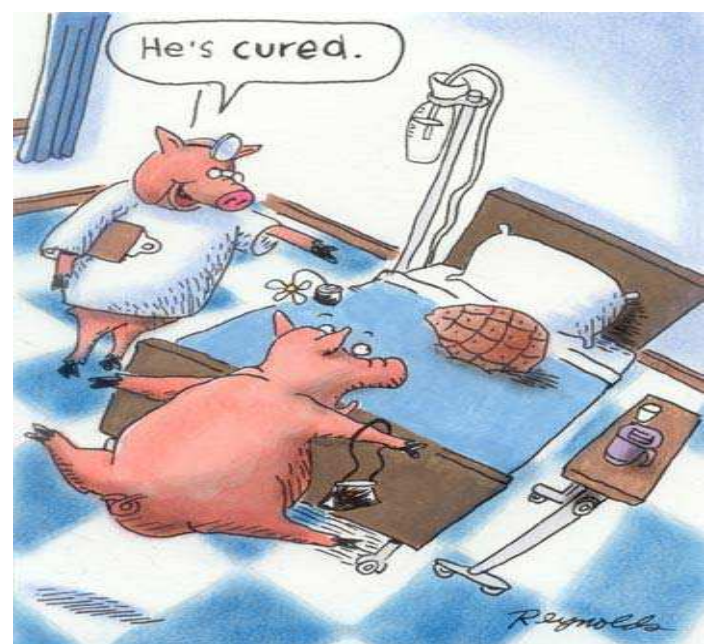
The 21st of this month

Lake Manawa—Shelter #5—1-5 P.M.

Yes, time creeps-up on us, doesn't it. The Picnic and Auction activity is THIS MONTH! The 21st of this month is 'D-Day', so if you have any last minute things to attend to, now is the time to get busy. **Hopefully you have invited guests to attend?** If not, there is still time. The more folks who attend an auction, the more successful it can be.

Then there is the FREE FOOD you can tempt them with... that's always a plus. Let's strive, each one of us, to make this event a successful one. It takes more than just voting in favor of having an auction. We all need to support it by donating whatever items we can to make it work. This is the last appeal to you via our monthly newsletter, hoping it will spur you into high gear so we can boast, when it's all past history, "**THAT was really a great auction and a very big success!**" Wouldn't that be great?

We have about twelve 'active' members, and that's why it's so important for each and every one of us to do our part to make saying the above statement... a true fact!



Minutes of August 19th Meeting

President, Joe Cavallaro called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. at Godfather's Pizza on West Broadway, with 10 members present. He proceeded to read the past month's Minutes, followed by Treasurer, Mary Alice Fehr reading the Treasury Report. Both accepted as read, by 10 members present.

\$10.00 GIFT Drawing

Secretary, Lynn Fehr drew the winning name and winner, Dee Hindman was presented with a ten dollar check. Congratulations, Dee! (*NOTE: Since Godfather's have been negligent in arranging 'Gift Cards' for their customers, we have adopted the GIFT process instead, whereby the winner is presented ten dollars to spend where and how they choose. Sorry, Godfather's!)

A sign-up sheet was passed around for members to list what food(s) they will be bringing to the September 21st Picnic.

\$100.00 Drawing

Joe reminded members to take part in the 4th one-hundred dollar drawing that was begun at the July meeting. Less than half of the 20 tickets were sold by meeting's end. The proceeds will be split 50/50 between the winner and our treasury. (To date, this activity has netted our treasury a total of \$150.00).

Laptop Problems?

Mary Alice informed us that the club laptop refused to accept any USB device. Joe took the computer home to check-out the problem. Discussion followed as to how much to spend, if a new computer is necessary. All agreed to try to hold it under the \$500.00 mark.

Demo

No demo was offered at this meeting. Wm. Pennington will offer the Demo at the September 16th meeting, showing the NCH program, "Wave Pad", a program he uses at his church to record (audio) activities including the sermon and songs sung during the service.

If time permits, Joe 3rd will do a quick coverage of Microsoft Office featuring WORD.

Stick-Around Drawing

Lem McIntosh was the happy winner of the 'Stick-Around' drawing and split TEN Dollars with our Treasury, five dollars each.

Meeting Adjourned

With no further business to conduct, Joe closed the meeting at 7:41 P.M. (Shortest meeting ever!)

Can't decide which FOOD to bring to the Pot Luck Picnic? CHICKEN is always a popular choice and easy to quickly pick-up from the store or fast-food places such as Pop-eye's or Kentucky Fried. Just a suggestion.....

Latest Microsoft Windows 9 Information



Windows 9 is the likely name for the next Microsoft Windows operating system.

The internal Microsoft codename for Windows 9 is *Threshold*.

Windows 9 is likely to introduce an updated Start Menu and support for virtual desktops. *Cortana* may also be available as an app in Windows 9. It's also rumored that Microsoft will remove the Charms Bar, first introduced in Windows 8.

Windows 9 Release Dates

While no official release date has been announced by Microsoft, Windows 9 is rumored to be released on or close to April, 2015.

Windows 9, once released, will be the successor to Windows 8, Microsoft's most current version of Windows.

It's very likely that Windows 9 will be released in three phases, similar to how Windows 8 was released. First will probably be a *Windows 9 Developer/Technology Preview*, which is a beta release for software and hardware makers. Current rumors are that this early version of Windows 9 will be available on September 30, 2014.



Getting ready for the Picnic and Auction?
Hope you make the meeting on the 16th

Your article could
have gone here...

but since you
didn't send one
I'll use it to re-
mind you about
the Picnic &
Auction!