Metro Area Personal Computer Club

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

Summer Picnic?

Let's begin considering this question: **Do we want to hold our Summer Picnic?** If so, <u>when, where and how?</u> An event such as our picnic doesn't just happen … it takes considerable input from our members and of course, the most important ingredient…. ATTENDEES. That's YOU+Guests!

Remember to bring the subject up at the April meeting and we can begin to discuss plans, if you choose to go ahead with this annual event. It's your choice.

Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella at January's Windows 10 event.

I'm ready to love Windows again

by Steve Kovach

I was a Windows user for most of my life. My family's first computer, which we got in 1991, ran Windows 3.0 and didn't come with a modem. (I remember helping my dad install one a few months later. We signed up for a Prodigy account, and I spent countless hours playing MadMaze after that.)

From then on we were a Windows family. In 1995 we bought a PC with Windows 95 and AOL. In 2000 we got a Dell that we'd eventually upgrade to Windows XP.

It wasn't until I joined the school paper my sophomore year in high school that I tried a Mac for the first time. I didn't look back after that. I declared myself a Mac user for life. *(continued on Page 4)*

APRIL=NOMINATION MONTH …. MAY=VOTING MONTH

Give serious thought toward selecting your officers. All nominations must be completed by the end of the April meeting. If you would like to run for office, speak-up and make sure your name is placed on the nominee's list. Elective offices are: President/Vice President (same ticket), Treasurer and Secretary.

Joe's Corner ⌐

When I learned, 'You are what you eat', I realized I was **nuts**.

THERAPY

HAPPY SPRING! Spring always seems to be so far off when we're plodding/slipping around on snow and ice, but spring has rolled 'round again and I am so happy to welcome this season back… how about you? I begin getting more enthused about dusting my camera off and capturing some of the beauty we're blessed with. Fishing also triggers my emotion a bit. We didn't do so well last year. Maybe this year it will be better. What are some of your 'fair weather' interests? How about talking about them when you create your article for our **"Member Bio"** section, if you don't have it there already. It would be great seeing every member represented on that portion of our club website wouldn't it? Also, if you would like to change or update your existing blurb, feel free to do so. Either a 'txt' or 'doc' file submitted to me will get the job done, (jcavallaro@cox.net) See you April 21st at Godfather's …. Joe

Minutes of March 17, 2015 Meeting

Pres. Joe Cavallaro called the meeting to order at 7 P.M. at Godfather's Pizza on West Broadway. Secretary, Lynn Fehr read the past Minutes followed by Treasurer, Mary Alice Fehr reading the Treasury Report. Both approved and accepted as read.

$10.00 Gift Card Drawing & $100.00 Drawing

As the meeting began, the winner of the Godfather's ten dollar gift card was David Ladd. Joe announced that only three tickets remained to be sold to complete the ongoing $100.00 drawing. The tickets were then sold and the drawing followed. The lucky , (but absent) winner was Dee Hindman. (Shame on you, Dee, but congratulations on the win!) $50.00 goes to Dee and $50.00 into our treasury. A show of hands vote took place to decide if we should begin another hundred-dollar drawing and it passed almost unanimously. Twenty tickets were available at the time of this writing.

April Demo

The April demo will be given by Bruce, showing benefits and characteristics of **Solid State Drives**.

After considerable discussion and depending on <u>if</u> the technicalities involved can be accomplished to remotely access her home computer from Godfather's, Mary Alice will offer the MAY demo showing the popular accounting program "Quicken". No alternate demo was suggested.

Nomination Month

April is Nomination Month, when officers are nominated and names of volunteers for office are placed on the ballot for the MAY voting. According to our by-laws, all nominations must be concluded by the end of the April meeting.

Still no wireless Internet

Joe announced that he spoke with Chas. Garcia, the present Godfather's Manager about the lack of wireless Internet. Garcia stated, "It might be as much as a couple of months!". Kevin Holloway was gracious enough to allow us to tap into his phone connection to the Internet. Very much appreciated, but we don't want to use-up Kevin's allotted allowance by extensive use.

Tonight's Demo

After a short break Joe 3rd offered the demo, exposing us to many of the features Microsoft Excel offers as he set-up a basic expense sheet. Several members joined-in with various suggestions on how they use Excel. It was an educational and helpful demonstration. Good job Joe!

Stick-Around Drawing

Interesting turn of events: David Ladd pulled the winning name for the Godfather's $10.00 gift card, and David won. For the Stick-Around drawing Secretary, Lynn Fehr drew the name. Winner? Lynn Fehr, who split $10.00 with our treasury, 50/50.   Hmmmm….

Meeting Adjourned

With pizza all gone and with no further business to conduct the meeting was adjourned at 8:36 P.M.

Minutes recorded by Secretary, Lynn Fehr—March 17, 2015

Invasion of Privacy?

By Selena Larson (Google+) on February 28, 2015

Picture yourself in your kitchen on the third floor of an apartment building, when suddenly a drone flies by, with a GoPro camera capturing footage of the neighborhood. You run to shut your curtains, but the camera has passed, and snapped a photo of your open window in the process.

This is the kind of surveillance technology that frightens many people. While drones are great for filming volcanoes or snow storms, maintaining our privacy in a world increasingly full of them is a very real concern. Enter Cyborg Unplug. The Berlin-based startup created a device to ensure no unwanted wireless surveillance captures data from anywhere it's not supposed to be.

Photo via Cyborg Unplug

The Cyborg Unplug connects to your wireless network and plugs into an outlet in your home or business. It scans wireless signals coming from different devices, and if it detects a signal from a device you haven't authorized on your network, it shuts down the video, audio, or other information the device is capturing. Samim Winiger of Cyborg Unplug explained that there are two different types of defenses, Territory mode and All Out mode. With Territory mode, the device connects directly to your own network and will boot off any devices you don't approve of. This mode is best for both your home network and open networks at places like schools or businesses.

All Out mode, which Winiger demonstrated in a YouTube video, disables any wireless surveillance technologies in the Cyborg Unplug's range on any network—and it might not be legal in all areas. It turns off wireless surveillance in both modes by sending deauthentication packets to the unwanted device.
"The landscape has been evolving much faster than any response mechanism," Winiger said in an interview with the Daily Dot. "Now we're in a situation where for €100 [$112], anyone can become an agent-like character that sets up secret smoke detectors, drones, and so forth."

To disable any wireless surveillance technology, users simply plug in the Cyborg Unplug and select which devices they want banned from the network. The ban list includes everything from Google Glass to GoPros to smoke detectors.

The Cyborg Unplug can determine what technologies are trying to connect to your network because each piece of hardware has a unique wireless signature. Winiger said the company is looking into ways of whitelisting certain devices, so users will be able to ban all GoPros except the ones they're using.
In the drone scenario, the Cyborg Unplug isn't shutting down the drone itself, rather the camera that's attached to it.

"We have no interest crashing drones," Winiger said. "We have a problem with unsolicited surveillance."
In addition to shutting off wireless surveillance feeds, the Cyborg Unplug is connected to a mobile application available for iOS and Android. The app alerts users via email and push notifications that a new device is on the network and will be disabled. The company started making the Cyborg Unplug in August, and the first devices are expected to be available in the next few months. It's available for pre-order for $66 on the company's website.

The range varies from location to location, and depending on how many corners and rooms you want covered by the anti-surveillance technology, the required number of Cyborg Unplug devices will change. But Winiger said that initial tests show two devices are enough to protect a residential area.

Did you know? When the smog lifts in Los Angeles U.C.L.A.

Ready to Love Windows Again (continued)

This was shortly after Apple released OS X, the same operating system Macs still use today. It looked better than Windows. It didn't get hammered with viruses and malware like Windows. The programs were more powerful for designing and publishing our school paper. The first thing I did with the truckload of money I got for graduation was buy a PowerBook for college.

Over the past 11 years or so, I barely paid attention to Windows in my personal life. I reviewed a bunch of Windows laptops, but none of them thrilled me. And Windows seemed to be getting clunkier and more complicated, while OS X kept getting cleaner and easier to use.

Windows Vista was a disaster. Windows 7 was better, but it wasn't good enough to make me want to switch. Windows 8 was a mess, and I'd argue that it was a mistake for Microsoft to release it.

But Microsoft's new version of Windows, Windows 10, is different, and I think it's the beginning of a fresh start for Microsoft's flagship operating system.

I've been using a very early version of Windows 10 on a Surface Pro 3 for the past few days. (The version I'm using is called a technical preview, and it doesn't have all the features Microsoft announced at its big event the other day. Plus, Microsoft will likely announce some new surprise features before the final version ships later this year. But it's really stable and a good taste of what's to come.)

It's early, but I can already tell Microsoft is cooking up a winner.

The most important feature in Windows 10 is that it pays attention to the desktop again. Windows 8 forced you to use a touch-friendly menu for all your apps. It was fine for tablets, but a pain in the butt if your were using a regular laptop or desktop computer.

Windows 10 moves forward by looking back to what made Windows great in the first place. The familiar desktop mode is now the default. The classic Start button is back. You can resize app windows instead of being forced to run them in full screen.

And the Surface, which I still think needs a lot more refining before it can really become a laptop *and* a tablet replacement, is starting to make more sense. When you have the keyboard attached to the Surface, it defaults to the desktop. When you detach the keyboard, you have the option to switch to tablet mode, for all your tablet-y apps.

There are other nifty features like the digital assistant Cortana (which is better and more useful than Apple's Siri) and the option to stream games from your Xbox.

But that's just gravy. The core of Windows 10, that consistent and comfortable user interface, is what will matter the most.

Even though we're months away from the final version, Windows 10 already feels seamless, friendly, familiar, and actually kind of fun to use.   **I'm ready to love Windows again.**

Read more: http://www.businessinsider.com/im-ready-to-love-windows-again-2015-1#ixzz3V1wYWG2A

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