The new year has arrived! Here’s hoping you and all your loved ones enjoyed the Christmas Holiday and are now ready for a happy, healthy new year. This year, the Metro Area Personal Computer Club begins its’ THIRTY-FOURTH YEAR of existence. That’s quite a long time for a club of this type. A multitude of ‘rival’ clubs have come and gone during all those years.

There have been many exciting changes over these years. We’ve seen a fascinating industry grow-up from infancy to all the new, speedy and efficient means of operating today! In 1982 when we first began, there was no World Wide Web access for the ‘little guy’, no ‘Social Sites’ as we have today, no Video Chatting, no ‘Smart Phones’, etc. but nevertheless we still had fun, didn’t we? How things have changed! It’s true, what the old saying expresses:, “The only constant is change.” And we’ve seen a lot of it. It’s exciting just pondering what new and different changes 2015 will boast about, and it’s great just being a small part of that exciting evolution, isn’t it?

New Year Resolution? No way! (We rarely keep them very long anyway!) But…. I would like to make just one suggestion to each and every member as a goal to achieve during this new year: GAIN A MEMBER! If each of us attracted just one new member to our ranks, think how active (and full) that party room at Godfather’s could be. We’re a computer club; We’re a Social Club; We’re a group of friends who simply enjoy sharing a common interest. Can WE continue to evolve as our field of interest has? That remains to be seen. So that’s my challenge to you; Gain a Member this year. Looking forward to seeing a large turnout at our first meeting of the year on January 20th.

NEED DEMO’S

We can use your input. Each of us has an interest or specific ‘field’ we use the computer for. Why not share your activity with the members in the form of a simple Demo? Games, Spreadsheet, Sewing, whatever your interest is.. It’s fun to share!

“What fits your busy schedule better, exercising one hour a day or being dead 24 hours a day?”

“It’s a taser. It’s for your snoring.”
Minutes of December 16th Meeting

President, Joe Cavallaro called the meeting to order at 7 P.M. and read the Minutes of the November meeting, followed by Treasurer, Mary Alice Fehr reading the Treasury Report. Both seconded and carried.

Drawings

The $10.00 pizza drawing was won by Kevin Holloway. The ‘Stick-Around’ drawing was also won by Kevin. It was obviously Kevin’s night! (Yes, there WERE a few other members there besides Kevin!)

Late Christmas Party (Winter Holiday Event)

We discussed the February 1st party to be held at New Horizon Church hall. The club will supply fried chicken. We will sell $1.00 tickets for a drawing… total amount to the winner. We’ll play Pokeno.

Demo’s

The scheduled demo for the December meeting was cancelled due to such a light member turnout. It was to be the photo editing program, ‘Fotor’, and may be offered as a later demo.

January 20th, 2015 Demo will be offered by Bruce, giving us an insight to what ‘servers’ are all about. Joe may show ‘Fotor’ at the February demo if there are no other volunteers for that date.

Problem Discussion

Since members chose to skip the demo, we enjoyed an interesting ‘Bull Session’. Various problems were discussed, different software programs and other topics of interest to the few attending members.

Adjourned

With no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 P.M.

(Minutes recorded by Club Secretary, Lynn Fehr, 12/16/2014)
Ready to kick off a healthy new year?

These activities let the whole family share fun and fitness, for a perfect start to your happiest, healthiest year yet.

1. Take a First Day Hike.
State parks across the United States offer guided hikes, walks, and other special events on January 1, so you can walk off some holiday excess in a beautiful setting. If there are no First Day Hike events near you, remember that most parks and trails are open today (when many indoor venues aren't), so you can easily get in some outdoor activity even without an official event. If kids need a little extra incentive, add letterboxing or geocaching to your plans. More »

2. Run a 5K.
If your resolution is to run more in the coming year, a 5K event is a great place to start. Lifetime Fitness offers a Commitment Day series of runs and events each New Year's weekend, and many other running clubs, fitness and community centers host non-competitive, family-friendly New Year run/walks. If you haven't trained for a 5K this year, walk the route and resolve to run it next time!

3. Play in the snow.
If you're lucky enough to be somewhere with snow on the ground, now's the time to get out and play in it before school starts again. You can build, slide, create, run, jump, and more with the white stuff.

4. Declare a winner.
No school, no work, lots of new toys to play with: Time for a family tournament! Choose active video games, Ping Pong, bowling, street hockey, or whatever you all enjoy. The important part is to keep the competition fun (you can even sneak in some subtle lessons on sportsmanship). More »

5. Join a gym.
Many gyms and fitness centers have special New Year's Day deals. Do your research ahead of time and jump in for the savings opportunities, then pack everyone up for your very first family visit. More »

6. Take the plunge.
If you're really feeling ambitious, you could sign up for a Polar Bear Plunge (meaning you'll jump into freezing cold water, outside, to raise money for a good cause). But there's no shame in preferring your pools toasty warm. Hit a water park or indoor pool for plenty of active play. Check out local hotels or community centers for day passes if you don't otherwise have access to a swimming pool.

7. Play touch football.
It's not just for Thanksgiving—after all, college bowl games are all over your TV all weekend long at New Year's. So before or after you watch your favorite teams, throw the ball around yourself outside.

8. Spin a hoop.
In many cultures, round foods are considered good luck at the New Year, because they symbolize the full circle of year, marking both a beginning and an ending. For an active twist on this tradition, get out some hula hoops and spin away! More »

Black-Eyed Peas Before You Go
To start off your adventurous New Year's Day, eat a healthy, lucky meal. In the Southern U.S., the custom is to make black-eyed peas the first meal of the day for good fortune in the new year. It's also good luck (and great nutrition!) to eat greens, such as kale, cabbage, or spinach, to bring money in the new year. The recipe here is a meatless version with less fat and fewer calories than traditional preparations. Give these snow play essentials a try and you'll be prepared for anything. More »

Source: http://familyfitness.about.com/od/Winter/tp/Healthy-New-Year-Fun.htm?
January Demo

WHAT IS A SERVER? HAVE YOU SEEN ONE? DO YOU UNDERSTAND THEIR FUNCTION?

Bruce will be offering the January 20th demo, giving us a brief insight into ‘SERVERS’. You can always depend on Bruce to give a thorough and complete demonstration, no matter what the topic. The main thing that encourages one to offer a demo is knowing your audience is interested enough to remain after the business portion of the meeting to enjoy the demo. Most demonstrations don’t ‘just happen’. With most demo’s there is a lot of ‘behind the scenes’ preparation taking place to offer you a 30 to 60 minute demonstration. Let’s make it worth the person’s time and effort, who is offering such a demo and show our appreciation by remaining and taking advantage of their presentation. Ask questions. Show it if you are interested.

I’m betting after this demo, you will be able to answer those questions and more.

Future Demo’s

Be considering what you would like to see as a future demo. What are your computer interests? What are your OTHER interests? Can (will) YOU offer a demo, showing some of your activities on the computer?

Example: My interests center in and around Photography, and the computer is a great aid in this field. As a demo, discuss any recent software you’ve obtained.

Do you use the computer to assist you in your other interests? Why not share it with your fellow members as a demo? Need help getting your demo together? ASK! Let’s work together to make this a truly Happy (and even more successful) New Year!
THANKS TO OUR OFFICERS

I would like to utilize this space to offer a huge THANK YOU to the officers, who help to keep our club running so successfully. Of course, without our members, we’d have no club, so thanks to each of you, but to those officers who, when no one else would volunteer for the job you did, and have done a great job at filling your position, I offer a very sincere ‘thank you’ to each of you:

Vice President: Joe Cavallaro 3rd
Treasurer: Mary Alice Fehr
Secretary: Lynn Fehr
Librarian: Lem McIntosh
A-Team Mom: Dee Hindman
PR-Person: Jerry Bell
Ticket Dispenser: Cheryle Pennington

You are all so very much appreciated!

.... Joe