Updates and Backups – Are You Doing Them?

For years, we've been reminding our fellow club members to keep their computers up-to-date on patches for their operating system and make routine backups (ideally just before the updates – just in case). But are you doing them? It can be devastating if you don't!

Updating the operating system is NOT enough! You MUST update your internet browser as well to help be safer when accessing the internet!

Microsoft has majorly updated their browser named Edge recently. I hear that even those using Windows 7 got this updated browser. Firefox, Opera, and Chrome will either pop messages or display an icon to let you know when an update is available, if not, your browser may not be set to watch for new updates – this feature should be turned on! Usually there is an option to have it just automatically download AND install the latest – that is usually the safest way to go.

Backups – How many times have you heard me say, or read in the newsletter, that you NEED to be doing backups of your data or complete systems on a routine basis! Well, unless you don't care about ANY information that's on your computer that is.

Backups are best when you alternate between two or more copies. For example, if you backup once a week, switch between backup devices every other week. I would also recommend that you perform a third backup to a device that you store away from your home. In fact, get a "backup buddy" and keep each other's off-site backup at the other person's house. This can also help remind the other to perform the backups. If you're concerned about them looking at your data, simply encrypt the backup first. Most external hard drives come with drive encryption software/hardware that makes it easy to do.

If nothing else, you can backup to the cloud, but that is so much slower than using an external hard drive. Still, for backing up just a handful of files that change often, this can be a great way to have a backup of those files, and have it off-site.

Oh, and don't forget the computer your carry with you everyday too! Yes, your cell phone!

Be Safe! Social Distance! Wear a mask when near others just in case! Love each other and appreciate the wonderful things that each person brings to the world. God Bless us all!

Presidents Corner

Hello fellow club members,

Due to the current COVID-19 issues going on world-wide and locally and restrictions on gatherings:

We will also not be having the August 2020 meeting.

Please check back often at
https://www.mapcc.com
For updates as we have them for when we will have our next club meeting.

Thank you for your support.

~~**Meetings - January-November**~~
~~**Apple Barrel (at Sapp Bros.)**~~
~~**2608 S. 24th St.**~~
~~**Council Bluffs, Iowa**~~
~~**MEETING BEGINS: 7 PM**~~ ~~(NOT in December)~~

Minutes of July 21, 2020 ~~Meeting~~

Meeting was called off due to the continued health concerns of having crowds of people, etc.

First Drawing

The $10 drawing was won by N/A.

Minutes and Treasury Report

Minutes and treasury report will be read at next meeting. (we hope)

Old Business

No old business due to no meeting.

New Business

No new business due to no meeting.

Demo

The "demo" was not shown, but hopefully we will be able to sometime in 2020.

Stick-Around Drawing

The stick around drawing ($0.00) was not done for June.

Adjourned

No meeting!

Minutes recorded by Bruce 07/21/2020

M.A.P.C.C.

Established 1982

The Metro Area Personal Computer Club Newsletter is published monthly and posted on the club website: http://www.mapcc.com

Meetings:

3rd Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. (*WHEN ALLOWED TO*)

Apple Barrel (party room)

2608 S. 24th St.

Council Bluffs, IA 51501

Elected Officers:

President: David Ladd

Vice President: Kevin Holloway

Secretary: Bruce

Treasurer: Kevin Holloway

Appointed Officers:

Newsletter Editor: Bruce

Annual Membership Dues:

Individual: $15.00 Family: $20.00

Club Motto:

"*Pass It On*"

Contact: (531) 600-8847