Metro Area Personal Computer Club

Meet: 3rd Tuesday at Apple Barrel, So. 24th St. 7P.M. Co. Bluffs



Volume No. 39 Club Motto: "Pass it on" October 2020

POSTED - NO PHISHING

So have you heard of the Phishing email that didn't get away? Universal Health Services got hit with a serious (even death causing) ransomware attack that is believed to have been started by somebody in the company simply clicking on an attachment in an email that was malicious! Quickly shutting down their ability to use their computers across the enterprise.

They had to send ambulances to other health care facilities which in at least one case added 20 minutes of travel time, ultimately making it too late for the person needing urgent care.

So be careful with your email at home and at work. Some think that their company is too small to be attacked but they would be very wrong! I've heard of small offices getting hit by ransomware, locking them out of all their files, having to close their business doors as they could not afford to pay the ransom, nor could they afford to start over.

Since the cost of email is nearly free, it is trivial for the ransomware folks to send phishing emails to nearly every person with an email account. Getting your email address is also quite easy, especially when somebody sends out emails to lots of friends/family and instead of sending as BCC: (blind carbon copy), they send as TO: or as CC: which means anybody with a compromised computer can have those email addresses gleaned by an attacker quite easily and usually without your knowledge if your computer is compromised.

What can you do? Well, several things. If you send notices to a group of people, send to yourself in the TO: section and put everybody else in the BCC: section. Don't open ANY attachments unless you knew that an attachment was supposed to be coming and you trust that the sender's system hasn't been compromised. Make sure you have a good anti-virus and anti-malware program and that it is up-to-date.

Another excellent way to greatly reduce the risk of a successful attack is to set your cable-modem router (WiFi router) and/or computer to use 1.1.1.2 and/or 1.1.1.3 for it's DNS server instead of Cox or CenturyLink's default! 1.1.1.2 blocks hundreds of known malware DNS requests; and 1.1.1.3 not only does this for malware, but also most known porn sites. If you don't know how to set the DNS server IP to 1.1.1.2 and/or 1.1.1.3 on your router or computer system, please ask somebody that does know so they can help you get set up.

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 with restrictions on gatherings:

We will also not be having the October 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 September 15, 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 09/15/2020

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