



## Microsoft Windows 10 20H2 Updates

Are you on the "latest" version of Windows 10 20H2? Even though I ran Windows Update on my computer at work and it says: "You're up to date", it appears that doesn't mean I have the latest (*optional*) version of Windows 10 installed. Looking just below the "Check for updates" button it says: "Optional quality update available" and "2021-04 Cumulative Update Preview for Windows 10 Version 20H2 for x64-based Systems (KB5001391)". Well, next time I have a few hours, maybe I'll check it out. I did glance through the info in this Microsoft article on it here: <https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/topic/april-28-2021-kb5001391-os-builds-19041-964-and-19042-964-preview-fc8959e2-f2a0-4223-b56b-0ad8d9b4f96c> Based on some reports of Windows updates failing and then having to revert back, I'm a little "gun shy" doing Microsoft updates these days. Make sure you backup first, have the time for going without your computer for a few hours, and make a System Restore Point first: <https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/create-a-system-restore-point-77e02e2a-3298-c869-9974-ef5658ea3be9> I've read where Microsoft has greatly reduced their update validation testers.

## Monitor S.M.A.R.T. on your hard drive / solid-state drive

Hard drives are mechanical and so we know they'll fail eventually. Half the time, the old spinning hard drives will start to "act-up" as they start to fail, giving you a chance for a fresh backup before it bites the dust. SSDs (Solid-State Drives) on the other hand are not mechanical, but they still die eventually and usually die without any notice. Well thanks to the storage industry adding S.M.A.R.T. (Self-Monitoring, Analysis and Reporting Technology) (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/S.M.A.R.T.>) to hard drives and solid-state drives, we can keep an eye on things and have a better idea when our drives might be starting to fail.

There are several utilities you can use with Microsoft Windows, and I found one called *CrystalDiskInfo*. Which you can download from here: <https://crystalmark.info/en/download/> This is from the same folks that brought us the famous *CrystalDiskMark* app that shows the speed results of storage drives.

I'm not endorsing these products as I have not even used them myself as I usually use the S.M.A.R.T. tools available in Linux/BSD/Macintosh systems. But I had recently seen this tool used by somebody else and thought I'd at least mention that there are S.M.A.R.T. tools available for those using MS Windows.

I would encourage you to read more about S.M.A.R.T. and how to use a S.M.A.R.T. monitoring tool so that you have a better idea of the health of your storage drive(s).

*Be Safe! Social Distance! Wear a mask when near others just in case! The shot only makes it so YOU don't die – not others! 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 May 2021 meeting...  
However, we are looking into the possibility of meeting as early as June of 2021 if things progress with the vaccine distributions and lower case counts. Otherwise, we may look at using ZOOM.US or jit.si for having virtual meetings. Let us know your thoughts!**

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 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 mid-late 2021.

## **Stick-Around Drawing**

The stick around drawing (\$0.00) was not done due to not meeting.

## **Adjourned**

No meeting!

*Minutes recorded by Bruce 04/20/2021*

# **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