

Metro Area Personal Computer Club

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Monthly Newsletter

M.A.P.C.C.

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IS 'WINDOWS 7' REALLY SECURE?

A few months back we reported on a potential issue with Windows 7: an easily exploitable flaw in the new User Account Control (UAC). And so the controversy continues, as recent reports suggest that 7's UAC is still not secure.

But is this really a problem, or much ado about nothing? PC Magazine says it's the latter: Windows 7 UAC Isn't Inherently Insecure; Users Are. Here's an excerpt:

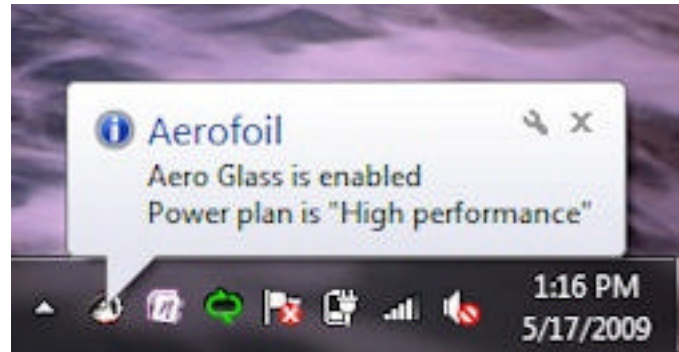
Here's why [the controversy is], at best, overblown: You have to be running as administrator for [the UAC breach] to work. This means that you have to run a malicious program while logged in as administrator. UAC was never meant to be a secure barrier against this. It did work a lot of the time in Vista and (as [original report author] Davidson points out) it does in Windows 7 if you change the UAC setting to the default Vista level. But in fact there are other ways to get around UAC in Vista as well. It blocks certain operations but, as Microsoft techies have pointed out for a long time, it's not a security barrier.

Well, then, what is it? Much as we like the concept behind UAC -- anything that prevents unauthorized changes to a system is A-OK in our book -- we can't help wondering if Microsoft shouldn't have cut it out of Windows 7 altogether. After all, it's the poster child for why people hate Vista. Surely Microsoft could have renamed it or focused on other methods of security?

Guess we'll have to wait and see if it becomes as big a thorn in Windows 7's side as it was in Vista's. In the meantime, don't get sucked in by rampant "Windows 7 is insecure!" headlines. Only after the OS spends some real time "in the wild" will we learn if it's secure or not.

Posted by Simplify PC Solutions Blog Team

Boost Notebook Battery Life with AeroFoil

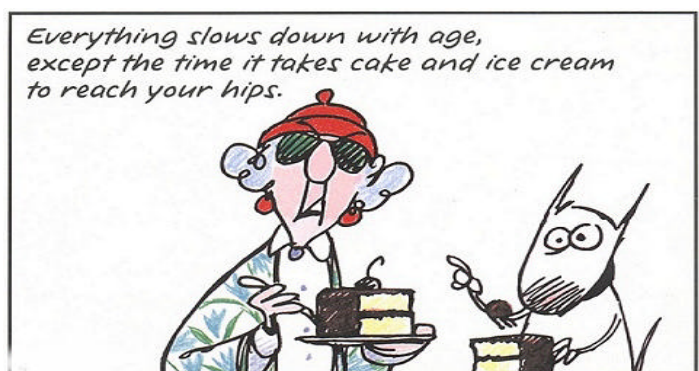


Remember the Vista Battery Saver? It's a freeware utility that performs clever power-management tricks, like turning off Aero Glass when your notebook is running on battery power.

Just one problem: Vista Battery Saver requires the Microsoft .NET Framework, and as such it might be trickier to deploy on your users' systems.

Enter AeroFoil, a tiny (384K!) System Tray utility that performs the same key task as VBS: It turns off power-sapping Aero features when you unplug your notebook from the wall.

And when you plug it back in again, AeroFoil restores Aero to its former luster. Because there's no .NET Framework required, you should be able to deploy this anywhere and everywhere without any added configuration hassles. This is definitely a worthwhile little app for road warriors, who always need more juice than their battery can provide.





Minutes of the May 19th Meeting



Submitted by Dee Hindman, Club Secretary

The meeting opened at 7:40 with 12 members present. Mary Alice was sick and was not able to attend. Her hubby, Lynn read the Treasury report. Joe read the past Minutes for Dee, since she had a raw throat. Both accepted as read.

Lem was 'voiceless' when he arrived but was dedicated enough to bring and donate a rubber keyboard to the club for auction, with the proceeds going to the club. He was unable to stay since he was feeling pretty rough, but that was a nice gesture Lem... thanks! We auctioned the keyboard off and Ann Mailander was the lucky person who stole it for \$8.00.

The winner of the drawing for \$16.00 was Pat Cumpston and she split it with the Treasury, \$8.00 each. Tonight was Election night. Joe made a motion which was seconded and accepted, that the present officers be retained for the coming year. The officers reassigned to their positions are:

President: Wm. Pennington, Lynn Fehr, Vice President, Mary Alice Fehr, Treasurer and Dee Hindman, Secretary. Lem McIntosh is Library 'Appointee' and we hope he will continue his good job, too. Welcome back y'all! (Looks like you're stuck with the job for yet another year!)

Fred Veleba purchased a new Sony still camera and volunteered to demonstrate it at the June 16th meeting. Lynn Fehr brought a couple of Stereoscopes and printed photos to view and passed them around. Brought back some old memories to many who used to visit the Public Library to view stereo photos.

We finally agreed on a date for the Summer Picnic/Auction. **It will be held at Hayworth Park, Bellevue, on Sunday, September 27 from 1-5 P.M.** Please keep that date open so you and your family and friends will be able to attend. It can be a fun event, with lots in attendance. Begin now to gather your items you'll be donating for the auction.

Fred Veleba offered the Demo, delving into the Club's "Pre-Test" DVD on computer basics. The group only earned a 65% score. Not so good people... we need to brush up some more! Thanks Fred... good job presenting the demo.

Dee won the Good Dollar for the Stick-Around drawing and the meeting closed at 9:15 P.M.

See you on June 16th.

How to still buy Windows XP

Published 6/30/2008 in Windows XP News by Steve Sinchak

Monday, June 30th is the last day to buy the retail version of Windows XP. Microsoft will continue to support Windows XP until 2014 but users will no longer be able to purchase it with a new computer or in a retail store.

A little known loophole exists that allows end users to still buy Windows XP. Only the retail version has been discontinued. The OEM version sold to system builders will still be available for purchase and can be purchased by anyone that knows where. **Editor's Note: One such place is D.I.T. Computers in Omaha**

From Jessie's Kitchen

Recipes supplied by our Senior "Mom", Jessie Brant



ITALIAN TURKEY BURGERS

- 1 pound ground turkey breast
- 1/3 cup chopped onion
- 2 tsp minced garlic
- 2 tsp fennel seed (optional if you don't like licorice flavor)
- 1/8 tsp salt
- 1/4 tsp ground black pepper
- Olive oil cooking spray
- 1- sliced tomato
- 1-cup fresh basil leaves
- 4 whole grain hamburger buns

Yield: 4 servings

Nutrition analysis per serving:

Patty only:		Patty with bun:
calories	160	275
fat	8,g	7,g
saturated fat	2.5g	0.5g
carbohydrate	22g	1g
cholesterol	66 mg	66 mg
sodium	130 mg	360 mg

1. Coat a grill or pan with cooking spray and preheat
2. In a large mixing bowl combine turkey, onion, garlic (optional fennel seed), salt and pepper. Form into 4-1/2 inch thick patties. Coat burgers and inside of buns with cooking spray
3. Grill burgers for about 5 minutes. Flip burgers and grill about 5 minutes more. Meanwhile place buns face down on the grill to toast until golden brown, about 1-2 minutes
4. To serve, top grilled buns with tomato slices and burgers.



Garnish with basil for extra flavor. Rub the toasted bun with a cut garlic clove as it comes off the grill

OUR ANNUAL AUCTION

The time is near for our annual auction/picnic. Our numbers in the club have dwindled down to a dangerously low level, meaning there are fewer of us to do the same job.

If we want a successful, fun auction like we've had each year, it's imperative that we ALL, each and every one of us, gets busy NOW collecting items worthy of offering for the event. September 27th is not all that far away. Time can have a way of slipping away from us, then we're caught unprepared. Let's not let that happen by waiting 'till the last minute. I have a few items ready and plan to add more but this year I won't be bringing the 'lion's share' of items, as in past years. It's time for each member to 'take hold' and support our group with pride. Get to work now with contributions, items, etc. so we can enjoy another great fun event this year!

Joe Cavallaro, Editor



MUSLIM ADAM AND EVE



From the Office of the President

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What is a database?

A database is a collection of information that is organized so that it can easily be accessed, managed, and updated. In one view, databases can be classified according to types of content: bibliographic, full-text, numeric, and images.

Many companies and people use databases to keep track of their business, and accounts.

I use a program that the Omaha World Herald paper wrote for Office Excel and it can also be run in the Open Office program.

This program takes care of the number of customers and the number of papers that you need to deliver.

The program looks like this:

DRAW:

5/26/2009 21:16

Daily SAT SUN HOL

33 0 0 0

Daily SAT SUN HOL Address

Instructions

Another database that I use is the Recipe database that keeps up with all the recipes that I have collected through the years, the ingredients, how many people you will serve, etc. Also with this recipe database you can change the number of servings by how many people that you want to serve. I remember that you usually can double the recipe with ease but usually not more than that because some of the ingredients can make the recipe salty, peppery, bitter, too sweet or too sour.

Hope to see all of you at the next meeting.

Your President,

WILLIAM PENNINGTON