



M.A.P.C.C.



Metro Area Personal Computer Club

Meetings: 3rd Tuesday of each month – 7 P.M. (except December)

Godfather's Pizza – 30th & Broadway – Co. Bluffs

Pres. Wm. Pennington – Email: will7759@yahoo.com

Our Motto: "Pass It On"

Vice Pres. Lynn Fehr – Email: Lmafehr@cox.net

Andy tells us how to deal with those unwanted telemarketers' phone calls and also how to stop the junk mail from coming to your mail box!

Junk Mail! It is as easy as 1,2 ,3

(#1) Say 'Hold On, Please...'

Saying this, while putting down your phone and walking off (instead of hanging-up immediately) would make each telemarketing call so much more time-consuming that boiler room sales would grind to a halt. Then when you eventually hear the phone company's 'beep-beep-beep' tone, you know it's time to go back and hang up your handset, which has efficiently completed its task. Those three little words will help eliminate telephone soliciting.

(#2) Do you ever get those annoying phone calls with no one on the other end?

This is a telemarketing technique where a machine makes phone calls and records the time of day when a person answers the phone. This technique is used to determine the best time of day for a 'real' sales person to call back and get someone at home. What you can do after answering, if you notice there is no one there, is to immediately start hitting your # button on the phone, 6 or 7 times, as quickly as possible. This confuses the machine that dialed the call and it kicks your number out of their system. Gosh, what a shame not to have your name in their system any longer !!!

(#3) Junk Mail Help: When you get 'ads' enclosed with your bills, return these 'ads' with your payment. Let the sending companies throw their own junk mail away. When you get those 'pre-approved' letters in the mail for everything from credit cards to 2nd mortgages and similar type junk, do not throw away the return envelope. Most of these come with postage-paid return envelopes, right? It costs them more than the regular 44 cents postage 'IF' and when they receive them back.. It costs them nothing if you throw them away! The postage is according to the weight.. In that case, why not get rid of some of your other junk mail and put it in these cool little, postage-paid return envelopes. If you want to remain anonymous, just make sure your name isn't on anything you send them. You can even send the envelope back empty if you want to just to keep them guessing! It still costs them 44 cents. This will also help keep the U.S. Postal Service busy. The USP is saying that e-mail is cutting into their business profits, and that's why they need to increase postage costs again. You get the idea !
If enough people follow these tips, it will work ---- I have been doing this for years, and I get very little junk mail anymore..... 'Andy'.



Dee Hindman

Minutes of March 15th meeting

Submitted by Secretary, Dee Hindman



Pres. Bill Pennington opened the meeting at 7:P.M. with 12 members present

Members not present

Members not in attendance were: Jessie Brant, Joe Cavallaro 3rd, Tammy Cooper, Dean and Pat Cumpston and Fred Veleba, and of course, our 'out of town'ers', the Wardens. We sure can't blame the weather... it was a beautiful evening!

Minutes and Treasury Reports

Dee read the minutes from the previous meeting followed by Mary Alice reading the treasury report. Both accepted as read and approved.

He came – He visited --- He Won!

Jerry Bell dropped-in to see what our club is all about. Jerry learned of us on the Internet, from our club web site. The Club provided Jerry with a complimentary drawing ticket.... **Guess who won?** Yes, Jerry split \$10.00 with our treasury, \$5.00 each. To add 'salt on the wound', we allowed Jerry to do the drawing☺

Discussion

Several topics were discussed including what computers seem to be evolving into, such as smaller laptops, touch-screens, tablets, etc. More portable and less bulky is the trend.

Stick-Around Drawing

The 'stick-around' drawing was won by Dee Hindman, who won the Gold Dollar.

Demo

The demo included discussion concerning a problem Roland Lynch was having with getting his computer to boot-up. Also, Kevin Holloway shared a web site displaying the devastation from the earthquakes and the tsunami that took place in Japan in March. The site shows satellite shots of the affected areas, before and after the damage.

April Demo?

No volunteers for the April Demo

Meeting Closed

The meeting closed at 8:30

Sound Off!

OK... I got your point! As a result of last month's invitation to all our members to join in on this new section called "Sound Off!!"... I will now list ALL the responses I received from you, in the space below:

Thanks,
Your Newsletter Editor, Joe



From the Office of the President

Frustrated with A Slow Running Computer?

Wm. Pennington

It's really easy for anyone to get frustrated if your computer is running really slow. You work with your memory to see if that will help. Sometimes it does help and sometimes it does not. Then you might have too much on your hard drive and you might have to defrag it to get more speed. You may have too much junk on your hard drive and you have to remove it like old files that you do not use, back up files, files that you downloaded and unzipped, which can all slow the computer down. You also can clean up windows by using the cleanup in windows to clean it up to get it to go faster. Eliminating the junk that you do not want on your computer can help you get more speed.

Hope to see you all at the meeting,

Sound Off!

OK, since I received nothing from our members to put into this proposed section called, “**Sound Off!**”, I guess I'll do a little ‘sounding off’ myself in this space that otherwise would have remained blank.

Many things irritate me but if I listed them all here, we would probably have a ten page newsletter. (Hmm, come to think of it.....no, don't worry, I won't!) Maybe it will give you an idea or inspiration to do something similar for next month's newsletter. I hope so because I get bored re-reading my own writing:o)

Illegal Aliens

Well, don't get me started on that subject! I resent illegal aliens coming into our country from ANY country and reaping harvests they don't deserve, such as free hospitalization, food stamps, help with rent or lodging, child birth, jobs etc. The list goes on and on but you get the idea. It seems most who hear the term, ‘Illegal Alien’ first think of people illegally entering the U.S. from Mexico. It's true, most ‘illegals’ ARE no doubt from Mexico simply because they're so close to our country with such lax borders, but there are many who are also here from other countries.

I get very irritated to learn there are U.S. Citizens who cannot get some of the same assistance that is being extended to these illegals! Really seems unfair to me. There are those who say, “Well, they will do jobs here that OUR citizens won't do.” The point is, if they were not here, there would be legal citizens who would take those jobs – especially the way our job situation seems to be these days. Your thoughts?

“Computerized Cashiers”

Another of my ‘irritants’ is the ignorant, unthinking group of young people we're raising. I detest it when I get checked-out at a store and am handed my change and receipt all wadded-up together, instead of being counted out to make sure it's correct. Why is this? I think it's because the computer cash register says give them this amount, and they do it without even thinking or counting. **Ever been in a store when the power went off?** Boy, is it fun to watch these kids scratch their heads then! Pencil and paper? What's that? (Far from done... just ran out of space!.....Joe)