

# Bowie Seniors Computer Club

## Meeting Minutes for February 16, 2017

The meeting was opened at 12:35 by President Carl Bulger. Carl's nose showed the effects of recent surgery due to melanoma. (No guest speaker for this meeting.)

Carl told of his problem with his computer boot-up failure due to a hard drive problem. Carl initially took his computer to Geek Squad but is having it repaired (hard drive replacement with recovery of old drive's files) by Annapolis Geeks which was recommended to him by his wife based on Internet reviews of local repair services. Carl uses his computer primarily for playing solitaire. This led to a discussion on boot failure diagnostics. Tom McCabe recommended that hard drives be frequently checked for condition using the app "Hard Drive Sentinel" which can detect a hard drive's condition and will report if failure is imminent. Bill Long noted that computer boot failure can result from other reasons than a failed hard drive and questioned Carl as to if he had attempted to enter the BIOS setup. Bill also noted that when attempting to diagnose a boot failure one should see if the computer will boot-up using a LINUX operating system boot disk. Vic and Tom noted that beeps and motherboard lights will identify POST failure (failure of the BIOS "Power On Self Test").

A member asked for advice regarding inability to run the Chrome browser apparently due to a browser plug-in incompatibility. No one else has experienced this problem. Dennis Evans' opinion is that Chrome is the most stable and reliable of the popular browsers. Barry Hammond remarked that anti-malware applications can interfere with browsers and recommended Defender, but, Dennis Evans stated that Defender is the anti-malware app that malware developers are most likely concentrating their efforts on defeating.

Dave Hackenberg had difficulty trying to set-up a laptop to display on the wall board display due to an issue with the VGA cable connection to the HDMI converter. After the problem was solved Dave spoke about the usefulness of Excel and the center's plan to begin a course next month. Dave noted that Excel is widely used to create graphs and charts. Charts and graphs exported from Excel are exported in PDF format which Terry Babb said are simply images. Terry then presented additional information about Adobe Acrobat Pro application.

Some #920 ink cartridges which had been installed in an Officejet 6580 but not used were offered. George Vincent spoke of his desire to synchronize folders to use the same icons.

It was noted that there will be a "Lasting Impressions" tribute to Sam Atcherson. On March 4<sup>th</sup> 2-4pm.

Dan Lee, Dennis Evans and others advised of the hazard of unsubscribing from spam email that has an unsubscribe link that asks for one's email address.

The proliferation of the stranded traveler phish and the bank notification phishes noted.