

MC³ Newsletter

October 2017

VOLUME 34 NUMBER 9

The October meeting of the McHenry County Computer Club is **October 14th**, at the Salvation Army Building, 290 W. Crystal Lake Ave., in Crystal Lake.

Meeting Agenda

- Introductions & Reports
- "Team Viewer" - John Katkus
- Q & A

Upcoming Demos - Subject to Change

- October 2017: "Team Viewer" - John Katkus

September Q & A

The questions and answers from September were not recorded.



IMPORTANT NOTE!!

The November and December 2017 meetings will be held at **Senior Services Associates**
110 W. Woodstock Street
Crystal Lake, IL

This is due to the Salvation Army's holiday Red Kettle program.

2018 Elections

We are fast approaching the end of another successful MC³ year, which means that the election of officers' time is upon us. According to the club's By-Laws, the elections are to take place at the regularly scheduled club meeting in December.

That means that all nominations for any of the positions on the ballot need to be in by the November meeting. Nominations will be closed for this term at the end of the November meeting. Your last chance to be one of the officers of the club will be at the November meeting when I will go through the list of positions and solicit nominations from the floor for the last time this year.

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Our membership is \$26.00 a year.

NOTE: This fee offsets the running of the club; membership benefits include help with computer problems. Please pay Lyle Giese, our treasurer, or the designated Board Member in his absence.

MC³ OFFICIALS

President:

Larry Freeman

lpfreeman@hotmail.com

Vice President:

Bob Wagner

rmwagner@ameritech.net

Secretary:

Bruce Eckersberg

Treasurer:

Lyle Giese

lyle@lcrcomputer.com

Database Manager:

Lem Erita

Newsletter:

info@Mc3ComputerClub.org
(for articles & suggestions)

Past President:

John Katkus

Webmaster:

Cindi Carrigan

Board Members:

Jack Luff, Dave Lutes,
Jim Beierle, Al Edlund,
Ken Schuring

Below is the list of positions available on the Executive Committee. If you would like to take on any of the following positions, please let Bob Wagner know before the November meeting.

At this time, we have 2 Director Positions Open

Bob Wagner

2018 Nominating Committee Chairman (again)

Branson's Virgin Group invests in Hyperloop One - BBC News

Hyperloop One recently tested a prototype pod in the Nevada desert, which reached a speed of 310km/h (192mph) within a 500m (1,600ft) low air-pressured tube.

Its eventual goal is to reach 1,046km/h (650mph).

The system uses magnetic levitation and electric propulsion to cause pods to glide, and is pitched as a more eco-friendly mode of transportation than many of today's alternatives.



The firm says it is working on several projects to bring the technology to the Middle East, Europe, India, Canada and the US.

In a press release, Virgin suggested the system could eventually cut journey times from Edinburgh to London to 50 minutes. Hyperloop's inventor, Elon Musk, has previously signaled his intention to build a separate Hyperloop system via his tunnel-digging Boring Company.

"The combination of our proven technology and Virgin's expertise in transportation, operations, safety and passenger experience will accelerate the commercialization phase of our company's development," said Hyperloop One's co-founder Josh Giegel in a written statement.

Virgin already has investments in rail companies, cruise liners, airlines and a nascent space tourism operation.

However, Prof David Bailey, from Aston Business School, questioned its potential.

"I remain skeptical about using Hyperloop technology in places where there are high land values or dense population," he explained.

"But it may be more appropriate in places like the United Arab Emirates.

"It's a complicated technology and there's a long way to go."

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Facebook's VR headset Oculus Go doesn't require a phone or PC

Facebook (FB, Tech30) CEO Mark Zuckerberg announced on Wednesday the new headset, called the Oculus Go, during its VR developer conference in San Jose.

The goal, according to Zuckerberg, is to get one billion people to use virtual reality. But to do so, the company has worked on affordability and quality.

Oculus Go is Facebook's effort to get closer to that goal.

It will cost \$199 and ship early next year.

There are two types of headsets available on the market: those like Samsung Gear VR and Google Daydream View, which require a smartphone to operate, or rigs like Oculus Rift that work with expensive PCs. Oculus Go, which doesn't require you to be tethered to a computer or pop in a smartphone, wants to fit somewhere in between with its all-in-one headset.

Facebook hopes that by eliminating the need for a costly PC, the Go can bring VR to a wider audience. To make headsets more compelling, it'll have a more breathable mesh fabric, improved lenses and display. It will ship with integrated audio so you don't have to use headphones with the device.

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Pi-Top Turns a Raspberry Pi into an Inventor's Laptop - PC Mag

The Raspberry Pi \$35 single-board computer offers a great way for anyone to start learning to code, make robots, or simply get a cheap computer to use. But it is just a board and you need to buy a number of other things to make it work. That's where pi-top comes in.

The London-based company took all the other things you need, such as a display, keyboard, and power source, and turned the Raspberry Pi into a modular laptop called the pi-top. Today, the second version of the pi-top launched with an included Inventor's Kit.

The goal of pi-top is to offer a platform for learning built on top of the Raspberry Pi \$35.10 at Amazon board. This new pi-top laptop includes a 14-inch 1080p display housed inside a bright green casing, a sliding keyboard, trackpad, modular rail for accessories, battery offering up to eight hours of use between charges, an 8GB Class 10 SD card, and a power adaptor. The price is set at \$319.99 including a Raspberry Pi 3, or \$284.99 without.



Out the box, you have a usable laptop (once you've built it). The laptop runs on pi-topOS, which is

based on the very popular Raspbian OS many Raspberry Pi users choose. pi-topOS adds a coding environment, space exploration game, a new interface, and online classroom management software to help with teaching.

The sliding keyboard is necessary to access to the modular rail inside. It allows for a range of pi-top accessories to be installed and experimented with. This isn't just a laptop, it's a hardware testbed. The Inventor's Kit that ships with the pi-top contains 20 parts and allows for the creation of a robot, music maker, game, or whatever else you can think of.

The pi-top is set to start shipping before the end of October worldwide. In the US, Adafruit, Best Buy, Micro Center, Sparkfun, and Troxell are just a few of the retailers planning to stock it.

If a laptop isn't for you, or the price tag is too high, then consider the pi-topCEED instead. It's a Raspberry Pi desktop PC with a 14-inch (1366-by-768) display for just \$149.99.

Equifax Website Hacked to Serve Malware - Joel Hruska, Extreme Tech

Karl Marx once famously remarked that history was known to speak twice, "first as tragedy, the second time as farce." It's one of his most famous quotations, and it's ridiculously applicable to the latest events in the blazing dumpster fire that is Equifax. Earlier today, we reported that Equifax acknowledged losing 11 million US driver's licenses and leaking data on some 15 million citizens in the UK. Now we've hit another "milestone"—a US security researcher reports being served malware multiple times from the Equifax website.

To summarize: The company that caused the worse data breach in US (and possibly global) history, whose blatant security malpractice led to the firing of its CEO, CIO, and CSO, has now been serving malware, courtesy of what appears to be a compromised advertising partner.

The report said security researcher Randy Abrams visited the site, hoping to correct some false information in his credit report. Once there, he was hit by several redirects, followed by a Flash player install. This sort of attack is the kind of lowest-common-denominator that focuses on non-technical users. But given how many non-technical users were impacted by Equifax's terrible life choices, it's not crazy to think some of them will wind up fooled.

The attack in question is called Adware.Eorezo, and it's listed as attacking Internet Explorer (the attacks shown in the video above happen on Edge). But while Adware.Eorezo has been out in the wild since 2012, it's clearly been upgraded for this particular push. Abrams reports that he was served the malware repeatedly when he reloaded the website, and that only a few of the online virus scanners could detect he was being handed malware at all.

Equifax sent an update to Ars, writing:

We are aware of the situation identified on the equifax.com website in the credit report assistance link. Our IT and Security teams are looking into this matter, and out of an abundance of caution have temporarily taken this page offline. When it becomes available or we have more information to share, we will.

Tragedy and farce indeed.

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