

KOMPUTER KORNER

BY STAN PALEN
SPALEN@CROSSLINK
.NET 540.538.1200

Scammers are getting better and better at spoofing you. Emails that look genuine are not. They look perfect and have proper looking email source and links to click on. If you do not absolutely know the source, do not click on anything. If it looks legit, go to their website (not from the message) and try to see what they are talking about.

There is also pop ups that come up warning about pending doom if you do

not do something right away. Obvious ones are from a bank that you do not use. But there are folks that do get that message that do use that bank and could lose everything they have in that bank should they inadvertently reveal their logon information and password.

Another fun one is the message that a charge of \$399 has been processed on your PayPal or credit card account. When in doubt, go to the bank or to PayPal to check. It is possible that you are being monitored to see your input. You should be using a Virtual Private Network when doing this.

Temu.com or temumail.com are offering products at ridiculously low prices. Some folks get a product and some not. It appears that it may be a Chinese company that is collecting credit card information. I have seen discussions about it. I have no way to verify if that is correct or not.

Canon has issued an alert about their WiFi enabled printers. The printers keep your WiFi info that could be used to get into your system and it can probably be used remotely. They recommend that you reset the printer to factory settings before recycling the printer or even just trashing it.

If you are a Windows user, have you signed up for Microsoft Rewards? You can get points by browsing on Edge, playing games and other stuff. Edge can also open pdf files as well as a host of new stuff. Security has been boosted some more. (I still use a VFN.) Another neat thing when shopping with Edge as your browser, is that it will test all the available coupons for that site.

Did you know that that iPhones have the ability to connect by satellite? It has to be turned on. I think it is part of the crash or fall alert system and can be used to send

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texts to 911. That is how some of the folks on Maui got a message out to rescuers during the massive fire. Using satellite technology gives you world wide coverage. It is probably not available on Android systems.

While on the subject of mobile phones, is it time to replace yours? One thing that may help you decide is how your battery is doing.

The measure some folks use is that if your battery has more than 80% life left in it, should be good. Most phones have some way to check it, usually under "About" in your phone's settings. Some will say everything is ok if it is above 90% and not give you a value. Below that it might give you a number. The other indicator would be if the battery runs out of charge in an obviously noticeably short time. The specification for some batteries is that it must be above 80% after 500 full cycles. A full cycle can be over more than one day. For example, 3 days of charging your phone from 67% to full charge is one cycle. Hopefully you are not charging from dead to full charge each day.

Do you know people with very poor or no internet? Starlink is available everywhere in the US but it does not seem to be very widely known. It costs about \$120 a month for 200 Mbps. It does however, have a one time equipment cost of \$600 or so.

If you have questions about computers, I may be able to help you. Some of my sources of information are AskWoody.com and DavesComputerTips.com.