



Cyber Sentinel

e-Letter®

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Welcome Back

By Charles E. Whitaker

I am pleased to present the *Cyber Sentinel e-Letter* in its new format which is called Portable Document Format or PDF. It's much more secure, maintains the integrity of the data and provides tool bars and buttons to review the report in different ways. I hope that you like the new look. I trust that life with all of you is for the most part meeting your expectations because of the effort that you're putting forth to make it happen. Which ever way you look at it, you get out what you put in; that's just how it goes. I'm still toying with the idea of publishing the *Cyber Sentinel e-Letter* more often than just periodically, because there is so much to discuss!

We've added a new department called "**Perspectives**" that conveys the viewpoints of technical and non-technical professionals who bring a different perspective on technology or society in general. Lately, I've had the opportunity to work with various types of technology in performing different projects. Some of the platforms and devices consisted of Wi-Fi, LAN/WAN Networks, PC Workstations, Laptop and Notebook Computers, iPads, Tablets, Kindles, Nooks and Smartphones. To sum it up, different people are using technology in many different ways to accomplish their goals and to be more productive.

I've mentioned in past issues that I would be making a **SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT** soon, which I'm sure you've been wondering about. There are a few new developments, affiliations and business ventures that we're expecting to get involved in very soon. More to come!

The following excerpt was gleaned from the Net-Temps Crossroads Jobseeker News letter at www.net-temp.com dated March 27, 2012. This is one of the most important aspects of interviewing; here's where many fall down because they weren't prepared for this type of question.

[More Employers Are Asking Hard](#)

John was a well seasoned engineer looking for a new job. He entered the interview feeling confident that his resume was strong enough to land him the job. Then the interview began, and the panel's first question was: "Tell us about your most impressive contribution that you've made at your current company." John simply froze. He couldn't think of a good example in those few seconds and realized he'd lost the job by not being better prepared. Here are some examples of these types of questions and some guidelines on how to successfully respond.

[[read more](#)]. **Here's where you get to deal with the Strength aspect of SWOT analysis (i.e., Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunity and Threats).** It is at this juncture when you can articulate your strong suits in detail and with confidence in order to make a solid impression.

Let me reiterate that in my view, I believe this web site offers some of the most realistic and timely career related information around. It's a useful tool when it comes to plotting your next career move; the information they provide is priceless. ■

Leveling the Playing Field

By Jim Rogerson



This article stems from something that was written in the previous edition of the *Cyber Sentinel e-Letter* in the “Did You Know...?” column regarding the power of Smartphones and their impact on computing in the present day. Which brings me to a practice called Tethering. What is tethering? "Tethering" is the use of your cell phone or other Internet-enabled mobile device as a modem for another device, usually a notebook or PDA. The connection is made either with a cable (USB or serial) or wirelessly through [bluetooth](#) (or, in the good old days, via infrared or IrDA).

Benefits of Tethering

Tethering enables users to go online from their laptops or PDAs in situations where there's no other means of Internet access: when there's no [wi-fi hotspot](#) around, for example, or your cable modem goes on the fritz, or you're on a dirt road in the middle of nowhere and need an online map quick ... you get the idea. If you're already paying for data service on your cell phone and your cellular provider doesn't require any extra fees for using your cell phone as a modem for your laptop, tethering can also save you money, since you won't have to pay for separate [mobile broadband service](#) or buy additional hardware just to get your laptop connected.

You can also surf the web more securely using a tethered cell phone, because your information is being sent directly through the phone versus, for example, over a public open wireless hotspot.

This definition was provided by [mobileoffice.about.com](#) Mobile Office Technology.

Recently I've found that this method is being used quite often especially since Wi-Fi -hotspots are not as prevalent as one might think. In those instances where Wi-Fi is unavailable, tethering is a great way to use your computer regardless of where you are. This is another example of how technology is being used in this mobile environment. '

Visit the web site at the link cited above to get a more in depth overview of what tethering is all about.

There is another method. Clear 4G High-Speed Internet service is fast becoming very much in demand. Connecting through USB modems, it gives you the capability of having a hot spot where ever you happen to be. Many computer users swear by it, because if WiFi is down, Clear 4G is active. It's touted as being better than Cable and better than DSL because Clear 4G spans cities, which of course are vast areas to cover. You're probably using tethering or a Clear 4G plan depending upon the computer environment(s) in which you find yourself, whichever is more reliable. ■

Perspectives

By Shadow Cat

Shadow Cat is a “hands on” technician in the true sense of the word. He has a penchant for working with **Operating Systems, Open Source Code** applications and tools, which includes anti-virus programs and spyware. His preference is to work in computer environments that consist of Unix hardware with Advanced Micro Devices (AMD) microprocessors which typifies the Sun Microsystems platform now under the aegis of Oracle Database Systems. One of his forte's is his ability for Problem Isolation and Identification, troubleshooting and debugging and moreover the resolution when such problems occur. His extensive knowledge and usage of commands and PF (Program Function) keys are a big plus when nothing else will work.



He's a hard worker and believes in continuing education to enhance his technical knowledge. Hardware configuration and software installation are mere routine tasks. I asked him to contribute a few words to this department on the subjects of open source software and operating systems. Here's what he had to say:

Open Source Software

Open Source software can leverage proprietary software in terms of quality and capabilities. There are many benefits to taking this route with open source code. The license makes it free to modify, redistribute and inspect the source code. Above all, it allows you to use many software tools to be productive, while saving for the future.

Operating Systems

Even though these are modern times, it's important to consider which operating system appeals to you. The going trend seems to dismiss its importance and gravitate towards applications. Well, those applications and your precious data needs a secure, reliable and capable operating system to manage your information. This is where I invite you to a *nix based operating system; a multitasking operating system comprised of a command shell and a modular kernel. May I say, an operating system with it's own programming language. What does that mean?

An operating system that you can customize and configure with many possibilities. You might argue that this can be done with most operating systems; well, *nix can accomplish this without the inclusion of additional software.

OK, not a programmer, what are the advantages for a beginner?

A system that requires less maintenance. Unix-like operating systems feature a more advanced file system. Defragging will be next to 'nil, sending error reports will be a thing of the past and fighting viruses will be rendered a trivial issue.

In *nix systems, security was part of its foundation from its inception, not an after-thought. Anti-virus is more of an option, because Unix provides you with the tools and controls to gauge and audit your system better against attackers. Blue screens will also be a thing of the past.

You need a money management database to host your website's pricing exchange software?

With Unix, welcome to the world of open source software. You will have the tools you need to operate your business for free, even though I would suggest sending a donation of appreciation.

Shadow Cat penetrates the technological status quo to bring about awareness and alternatives to what is presently in vogue. His methods and approach to managing hardware and software has brought many benefits and satisfaction to those numerous computer users to whom he provides technical services. ■

Cyber-Links

In this column, I usually like to discuss events taking place on the Internet. Web browsers other than Microsoft's **Internet Explorer** are now becoming more common in their use and have been often overlooked or there is simply a lack of awareness. If you were to ask computer users, you will find that the reasons vary. Sometimes they coincide with why they may also use a certain type of technology, vendor or manufacturer. There are likes and dislikes, some of it anecdotal and some of it based on fact. I guess one must weigh the advantages, disadvantages and the risks, if any. There may be justification for the change. In any event, do your homework, don't just accept someone else's opinion; do your own due diligence and see for yourself. ■

Career Corner

Nowadays, it seems that the more versatile a job seeker is the better their chances at landing that most sought after position. The use of social media networks such as RSS, Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn are another way to expose your **BRAND** to the multitudes. No longer used for just chatting, it's extremely useful in getting your business exposed to a huge market at very low cost. Jobseekers are also using them for that same purpose; that is to get their brand recognized. That means that now even when it comes to a career, one must have a brand. This concept is not new however, more emphasis is being placed on it. There is a caveat; when you look at branding, you should be discreet as to how you go about it. I'm sure that you're familiar with some of what happens when people want their information erased from a particular social media network, oftentimes it's not so easy. In essence, don't post information about yourself that you may regret later. Be sure to think it through and be thorough. ■

Did You Know...?

That based upon some anecdotes attesting to the usage of the iPad, that it has much more capability than just listening to music or reading e-books. Technology has produced many devices that are extremely useful when running a business (refer to the technology and devices cited on page 1). What is your passion? What do you want to do with your future? As you ponder these questions and if you find yourself becoming more mobile, consider some of these devices and capabilities that you would use for your business. ■

Logging Off...

...until next time; remember to send your inquiries, comments or suggestions to: cybersentinel0717@yahoo.com. I look forward to hearing from you. ■

*** *Be Well* ***

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