



# One Call PC Solutions



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Bits and Bytes...

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It's time again for our newsletter! In this issue: Virus alerts, Spoofed Sites, Entertainment and Our Special News ...

## **Virus and Spam Alerts...**

If you receive an email that in the subject line says something like: You've received a greeting postcard from a mate! Or You've received a greeting postcard from a school friend! Please do not open these it will install a virus like program. If you receive an email with a subject like this please just delete it and do not attempt to open the email. There are also several other emails going around that have PDF's attached these also contain a virus like program. The best thing to do is if you get an email that look like either of these please just delete the emails. If you think you might have a virus on your computer please give us a call and we will get it fixed.

## **How to recognize "spoofed" Web sites...**

According to the May 29 issue of Computerworld, the number of spoofed Web sites--fake Web sites that look like legitimate sites but are designed to steal your personal information--nearly tripled between March and April. The best way to help protect yourself? Verify that the site you're visiting is secure and authentic. Some malicious individuals use phishing scams to set up convincing spoofs of legitimate Web sites. They then try to trick you into visiting these Web sites and disclosing personal information, such your credit card number.

## **Looking for entertainment on the web...**

Looking for something fun to do on the web? Prepare to be amazed by the artificial intelligence demonstrated by the website 20Q.net. This website version of the classic digital red egg offers several variations on the 18 year old theme of reading your mind. The different games dive into specific categories to allow your imagination to really test the machine. There is a disclaimer posted that the newer games have not had time to mature and may guess wrong, as was the case when I had it try and guess my name (Do I look like a Ralph to you?) If you wish to be truly amazed give the original 20Q a try.

Are your kids driving you crazy looking for cellular ringtones? Often times downloading new ringtones can cost \$2 or more depending on the service carrier. The cellular carriers are starting to block using USB cables forcing you to use their expensive service. Myxertones.com seeks to change that. They will send tones to your phone for free, or almost free anyway. There is a slight catch, each tone they send you counts as a text message. Some plans now include unlimited TXT messaging so that may not apply to you. In addition to premium ringtones available for purchase, and a huge free catalogue they also make it easy to create free ringtones from MP3 files on your computer.

## **Signs of spyware: Are you being watched?**

If your computer starts to behave strangely or displays any of the symptoms listed below, you may have spyware or other unwanted software installed on your computer: I see pop-up advertisements all the time. My settings have changed and I can't change them back to the way they were. My Web browser contains additional components that I don't remember downloading. My computer seems sluggish. If you notice a sudden increase in the number of times a certain program crashes, or if your computer is slower than normal at performing routine tasks, you may have spyware or other unwanted software on your machine.

## **Final Bit...**

We had our sonogram at the end of June and we are having a little girl. Her name is going to be Elizabeth Grace and we are going to call her Gracie. We are both super excited and seeing pink.

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