

## **Beneath the Surface**

We have all said it: *Don't judge a book by its cover*. We use this phrase to teach children to see past skin color, social status, and even to explain that people sometimes develop an exterior that belies their true character. The message is simple enough – things, especially people, are often not exactly as they seem, and it's detrimental to rush to judgment.

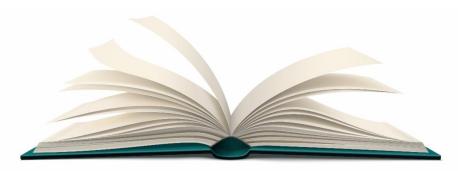
Yet, without realizing it, as adults, we do allow those "book covers" to dictate our relationships. By relying too heavily on LinkedIn profiles or company websites, our relationships are built on cultivated, published, often promotional information. Often, we do not look further.

In my experience, the effort it takes to make a phone call, ask about family, express interest in someone's education and background is returned ten-fold through stronger relationships. This applies to coworkers and teammates. Once those bonds are established, the approach to new opportunities, unexpected challenges, and everything in between shifts – work is less daunting and much more fun.

Working as we do in an almost exclusively virtual environment, conversations are replaced with posts, and inter-personal interaction is limited to written text, whether email or instant message. It's not a revelation to state that those types of communication lack context and tone. Words are often misunderstood or misinterpreted, impacting entire working relationships. Business may not be personal, but the people who make them are, and they desire to be known and appreciated.

I encourage each of you to dig deeper than your partner's company website and find the work that inspires their growth and excellence. Ask your coworker who seems to keep unusual hours, how things are going, and if there is a better way to work within their schedule. A small adjustment often generates an enduring relationship – and a much better story.

## -Troy Walter, Vice President







TekSynap's 2022 Winter Sock Drive to benefit disadvantaged individuals in the Greater New Orleans area



# Now Through December 2nd



ALL SIZES/STYLES NEEDED
ONLY NEW UNWORN SOCKS



The temperature is inching toward the colder end of the thermostat and many of our neighbors will need help keeping warm this winter.

Help us make a large donation of cozy socks to the New Orleans

Mission!

All styles and sizes of new socks will be GREATLY appreciated.

PREFER TO SHOP ONLINE? Click here for the Amazon wishlist.

If you choose to use the Amazon Wishlist, make sure you select TekSynap C/O Sara Thompson's Gift Registry Address at checkout.

# Great Gatsby Gala

TekSynap will be hosting a roaring holiday party on December 10th!

Invitations were emailed to your TekSynap email.

If you are not able to attend, please fill out the Holiday Party RSVP link to submit your size information for the Holiday Gift. All gifts will be shipped to your home address in ADP.

Holiday Gift / RSVP



For more information reach out to Events@TekSynap.com.

Our **AFNCR Team**, comprised of TekSynap and Leidos employees, enjoyed a Capitals Hockey Game in the TekSynap Suite. It was great to see this team demonstrate how much fun sharing success can be!





## AHF Player of the Week for 14U B

Randy Tisler's daughter, Genna was chosen as the AHF Player of the Week. She spends about 35 hours focused on hockey each week in addition to her high school academics.

Go, Genna!

TekSynap is a sponsor of this year's AFCEA Winter Gala which will be held in Washington DC on December 15<sup>th</sup>. We are proud to join with AFCEA to support the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve and their mission to spread the joy of the season to children whose parents cannot afford to buy them gifts for Christmas.

If you would like to support this great cause, please make a donation by scanning the provided QR code or *clicking here*. Both will take you to an Amazon registry page



where you can select a gift and send it to the included registry address.

Please do not forget to put TekSynap on the gift note!





**Clark Zoubek** received kudos for his phenomenal IT Support.

**Shante Anderson** was recognized as a hard worker and very knowledgeable in her position.

**Rachel Holliday** was given kudos for her superb response time and excellent customer service.

**Lester Dunn** was praised for being very helpful by providing assistance to employees in the DELFI setup process for the GIT training.

Francesca Rigatti was recognized for going above and beyond.

Sandra Wright and Jessie Ragsdale received kudos from a customer.

**Kay Kennett** and **David Johnson** were described as invaluable members to DTRA! They are always there, and they always know how to fix the many fires that get thrown at them at once.

**Rob LeMay** was given high praise for his detail-oriented demeanor, hard work, and customer focused attitude.

**Nykia Potts** was lauded for her exceptional work. She approaches every task with professionalism, always delivering a quality result.

**Sara Thompson** received kudos for her valuable timing and skill set that she provided for the proposal draft.

Antwan Glover received JSP ETM "Engineer of the Quarter!"

DISA's Deputy Program Manager for SATCOM Gateways acknowledged **Mark Chapman, Chris Danvers,** and **Kareen Moore** for being an outstanding team and for their professionalism.

**James Connors** was given multiple customer commendations.

**John Alfaro** was praised for going the extra distance.

Martha Wadsworth was thanked for being very helpful.

The Deputy Program Manager recognized **Roderick Moton** for his efforts and his excellent level of customer service that led to success.

Shout out to **LaTonya Love** for taking on Production Support.

**TraNiece McElvaine** received kudos from the customer for her great work on an install and TTU project.

Kudos were given to **Jennifer Li** for being a great help, and being key to making processes go smoothly.

**Kyle White** and **Kevin McAllister** were recognized for going above and beyond every day.

Toni Fisher and Mark Sikorski would like to thank **Grace Jinnah** her great contributions to the design and development of our marketing strategies.

**Mackenzie Fisher** received a shout-out from the capture team for her excellent work assisting with the upcoming JSP ETM pursuit.

Don't forget to let your Quality team know about all the good things going on at TekSynap by submitting your Kudos on the *Employee Portal*. We use these to recognize TekSynap greatness in the monthly Newsletter.

## **White House Certificate of Appreciation**

**Rick Krauss** received a certificate of appreciation yesterday from the White House. We had a POTUS visit to Kirtland

AFB Thursday that required Rick's assistance in making comm preparations for his arrival. Rick along with 3 other C4 contractors coordinated with the White House Communications Agency and were essential in making sure that all requirements were in place prior to Air Force One's arrival at the installation. For his efforts, Rick was provided a Certificate of Appreciation from the White House recognizing his contribution.



## **Call for Entries – Corporate Culture**

Calling all employees to record themselves filling in the blank "TekSynap Is...". We want to represent our people in a video during the holiday party and other marketing campaigns. Whether you are working from home, in the office, or hybrid, all employees are welcome to submit a video. Click *here* to see an example.

#### **Details**

- The recording is easy simply use a device of your choosing, (phones are easiest) and make sure you are in a well-lit room
- Record yourself filling in the blank "TekSynap Is..."
- The prompt is open-ended so answer as you see fit
- Please email your submission to *Marketing@TekSynap.com* to participate.
- Employees who participate will receive 25 Tekdollars to use in the company store!!!

The deadline is Monday, December 5<sup>th</sup> by COB!

## **Tiny Team TekSynap**

**Bria Harris** (DTRA TO4) and Carlos Chaney recently welcomed Ace Chaney to their family!







## **TekPets**

## Look at little Todd!



**Tricia Mcarthy's** dog, Todd Peterson is a 5 month old Shichon who loves to sleep all day and people watch from the car window.

## **Happy Halloween Peanut!**

**Arielle Gick's** 8-month chihuahua puppy, Peanut, in her spooky bat costume for Halloween!



## **Baby Boba is growing fast!**

This is Beaux, but his friends call him "Boba". **Grace Jinnah** picked him up at a Gin Distillery adoption event during the beginning of the pandemic. She knew she couldn't leave without him and ended up gaining a best friend that day. Boba is funny, kind, and smart but very shy when he first meets people. He is becoming more social now that the pandemic is over.







Feature your pets in the next newsletter!
Send pictures of your companions to news@teksynap.com



## **Certification Corner**

**Evan Hoppens**CWT

**Ahsan Qureshi** 

SPLUNK Admin

**Chris Witt** 

**CAPM** 

**Roderick Moton** 

**CCNA** 

**Timothy Bailey** 

Security+

**Nathan Reid** 

AZ -700 Azure Network Engineer Associate AWS Certified Cloud Practitioner



## **Employee Learning Program**

Employees are encouraged to use the Employee Learning Program (ELP) Benefit. *Click Here* to access the form.

If you have earned a new certification please add it to your ADP profile. Remember to include the effective date.

ADP > Myself > My Information > Profile
And email a copy to HR@teksynap.com

Updating your certifications in ADP will help us identify you for career advancement opportunities.

## **Open Positions**

### AFNCR - Arlington, Virginia

NMCC -ACAS/HBSS Systems Administrator

NMCC - Information System Security Officer

NMCC - Security Impact Assessment (SIA) -

Journeyman

### AFNCR – AFB Maryland

IT Battle Captain

**FAA** – Washington, DC

Cloud System Administrator

### **DARPA – Arlington, Virginia**

Senior Network Engineer

Firewall – Ft. Belvoir, VA, New Cumberland, PA, or Columbus, OH Firewall Administrator

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## AV/VTC 2 – New Cumberland, PA

VTC Administrator

#### **ESD II**

Computer Operator – Multiple Locations



Senior Computer Operator – Guam

#### **DTRA**

Systems Administrator Lead VMware Engineer VMware Admin Helpdesk Specialist Senior Systems Administrator Network Engineer ISSM ISSO

#### INSCOM

Splunk Architect

#### **NGA**

Jr Helpdesk Specialist

#### **CCDC-DAC**

Principal Application Administrator

Please email your referral resumes to careers@teksynap.com



## **SECURITY**

Working remotely has become a massive component of corporations. The benefits of an indefinite range of efficiency consist of being able to work from multiple locations; expanding productivity across the workplace. However, this opens sensitive data moving outside the boundaries of the office across multiple devices. The Challenges that are faced demand that businesses pay serious attention to the technology and security they use.

Some security issues with remote working that employees must be mindful of are Reduced Security on BOYD and Mobile devices. When employees work remotely, this usually involves using their public Wi-Fi networks which can open their important data to various exposures. It is important to ensure employees increase awareness and always use the best practices for safeguarding.

Tracking and Managing Assets on Cloud. Protecting and managing all assets should be a major priority for any business. Asset management is simpler in a limited workplace, but when data moves across a global network of devices outside the foundations of an office, asset management becomes more of a vulnerability.

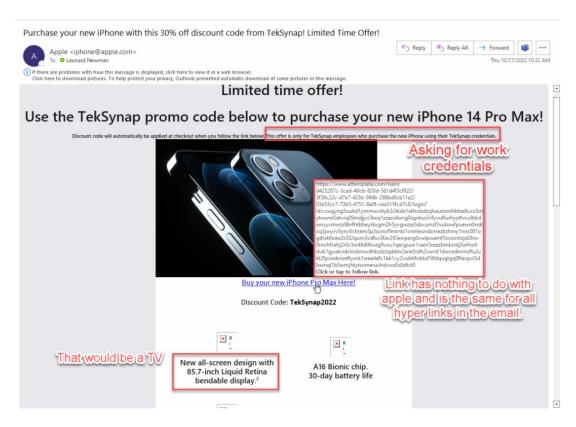
Various other security issues consist of Inadequate Backup and recovery Systems, GSPR Compliance, and Sensitizing Remote Teams to Follow Data-Security Protocols. If you would like more information on this topic, the article is linked in the title.

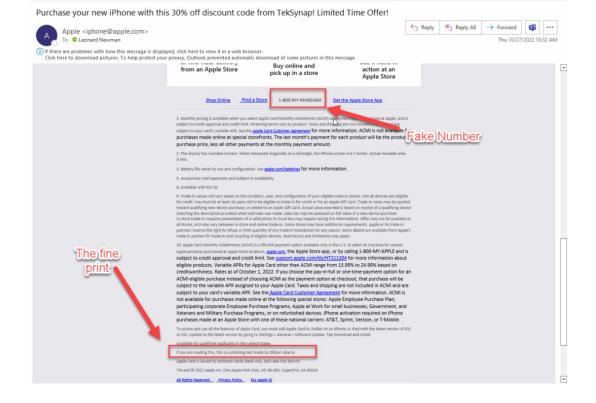


TekSynap's IT Team would like to thank everyone for participating in our monthly phishing tests. This exercise is essential to our compliance as a company and provides much needed practice for our users on how to recognize these threats. Below is a quick list of what you should have noticed in last month's phishing exercise.

**Email Subject**: Purchase your new iPhone with this 30% off discount code from TekSynap! Limited Time Offer!

- The email starts with a time-sensitive request to provide your credentials. This is one of the biggest signs of a phishing scam.
  - Limited Time Offer!
  - "This offer is only for employees who purchase the new iPhone using their TekSynap credentials.
- All hyperlinks in the email point to the same place and the link has nothing to do with Apple.
- Bad formatting of the picture.
- It states the iPhone has an **85.7 inch** display.
- There is a fake number in the email (1-800-MY-MANZANA)
- The biggest hint is in the fine print at the very bottom.
  - If you are reading this, this is a phishing test made by Dillyan Abarca.









Congratulations to **Trent Tackett** and **Scott Bertran** for reaching 5 years with TekSynap!

Your \$5,000 vacation is right around the corner



## **Anniversaries**

### **Twelve Years**

Robert Ritch

### **Seven Years**

Raymond Caruso

### **Five Years**

Trent Tackett Scott Bertran

#### **Four Years**

Chris Damato

## Welcome, New Employees!

Nicole Ambrose-Jones

Antonio Zaleski

Tyler King

Samson Worku

Efren Cortez

Aaron Cabahug

Alexis Scott

Kemi Enigboken

William Shoenhut

Samuel Kim

Jaylen Foskey

John Manilli

Tyrell Bryant Jeremiah Nance Candice Coalson Kalahari Valentine MJ Helveston

#### **Three Years**

Zoe Carnes-Douglas Christopher Hartley Scott Tierney Mark Sikorski Omar Flores Matthew Rosov

Alex Boston
Antonio Erwin
Lon Mangan
Matthew Kirkman

### **Two Years**

RaShaun Long Margaret Manders Rupi Stepniczka Ken Farber Lisa Crouse

#### **One Year**

Rommel Miguel Michael Shelton

Richard Branagh

Michael Ireland

Jacob Miller

**Troy Murphy** 

Noah Hasek

Garrett Weiskirch

Matthew Aikey

Scott Wyatt

Ryan DeBarr

Lynn Harris

Matthew Hampton

**Brandon Kreiser** 

Joshua King

Frank Picanso

**Evan Hoppens** 

Stephanie Porter

Lee Shippy

Ricko Blaylock

Pelagio Perez

Austin Fischenich

Sherry Kneitz

Timothy Neal

Andrew Anderson

Marshaun Webster

Jeffrey Montano

Cheryl Ault

Kirstin Fink
Darron Eubanks
Stefon Elliott
Louise Blanc
India Etheridge
James Beamon
Aiden Alfrey
Daniel Wilson
James Scott Jr.
Peter Nguyen
Ian Dennis
Barry Blackwell
Scott Moser

Samuella Mansaray

Gregory Gant
Noah McGinley
Christopher Rohrer
Stephen Arthur



**Bryant Davis** Ryan Daniels Andrew Hughes





