BVCC General Meeting
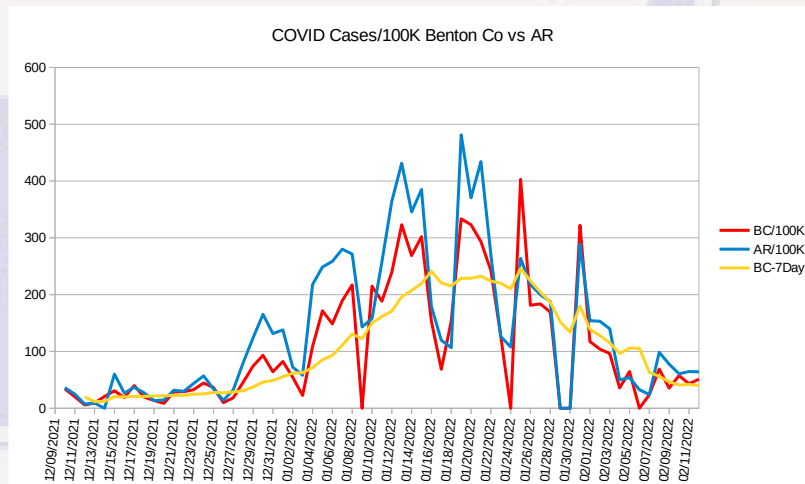
February 14, 2022

Complete Robocall Defense

an APCUG Workshop presentation by John Krout

Good News

COVID Cases/100K Benton Co vs AR

Based on the daily numbers reported in NW Arkansas Democrat-Gazette (days with 0 are reporting artifacts)

The COVID-19 Omicron surge appears to be over in Arkansas, although the residual valley is still higher than pre-Omicron.

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Complete Robocall Defense

- **An October 13, 2021 APCUG Workshop presentation given by John Krout of Potomac Area Technology and Computer Society of the Metropolitan Washington DC area**
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RSkBMQBglOY **(main presentation 0:11:19 – 1:13:45)**
- **Primarily deals with mobile phones. Two strategies:**
  - **Using contacts list as white list, letting others default to voice mail without ringing. Allows known callers through, others to leave voice mail until they are added to your contacts list.**
  - **Constructing a voice mail message starting with the "disconnected" SIT (Special Information Tone) to get robocallers to remove you from their list, followed by a "not really" voice message which robocallers won't understand. Be aware this could cause you to miss some auto-calls for appointment reminders or weather alerts; so use with caution, or try to get robocalls you want to receive switched to text messages.**
- **There are some strange black rectangular artifacts that show up at times on some of the slides – If watching from Zoom, it isn't your computer doing strange things.**
- **A link to the full presentation will be put on the website under Information → Presentations**

There is a rather long preamble on the APCUG video that can be skipped. The actual topic presentation begins at 11:19 (11 minutes +). The actual topic presentation ends at about 1:13:45, followed by lengthy Q & A and post-topic discussion, some of which is off-topic.

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SIT tones WAV file

- **Original audio file was posted on the web as a free download**
- **John Krout cleaned it up to remove audio noise**
- **At https://bit.ly/3Bked11**

This link is in the presentation, but may take some time to re-find it if you didn't record it in some way.