

## Bits & Pieces #30

This is from COL Bob Dickinson, who writes a Person Affairs report for the Charlotte Harbor chapter newsletter, the Muster. (Chap. President CDR Gary Harrell USN-Ret., Editor LT James Dundas)

He's writing about his email account being hacked into and how he stopped it. I took some snippets from his article. To read the whole thing, email Jim Dundas at [sadnubull@embarqmail.com](mailto:sadnubull@embarqmail.com) and ask him to email you a copy of the Sept. 2012 Muster.

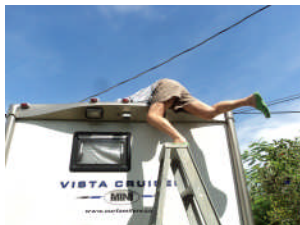
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Some thieves broke into my email account because somehow they'd been able to steal my password. They then sent out emails to a whole bunch of people – some friends and family, some acquaintances, some I'd never heard of. The email told the recipient to check out this hot real estate deal and [Click Here](#). The senders were identity thieves trying to steal personal information from anyone who did "click here". Fortunately one of the early recipients called me to tell me about the hack. I checked with my email provider, who advised me simply to change my password, which I did the very day of the first hack. So far that seems to have worked, because there's been no recurrence. Since then a friend of mine in the financial services, and the wife of a MOAA member have had their email accounts hacked.

The bottom line is, you can't be too careful. If you have any doubt, don't "click", don't answer the suspect email, until you can verify with certainty the legitimacy of the email. How do you do that? If it's from a family member, friend, or acquaintance, then a phone call should probably be sufficient. However, it's not always easy.

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Bits and Pieces is a collection of odd items that I mostly glean from chapter newsletters. The idea is to pass those items along to other chapters, trading our useful bits and pieces around for everyone's benefit. If you have something your chapter has done that you think others might be able to use, please contact me at [dccalusa@comcast.net](mailto:dccalusa@comcast.net) or (239) 542-5627 and I'll pass it along.



Cleaning the top of our camper. Jim is wielding the camera instead of a rag.

Dottie Conner, a.k.a. Dewey Cheatam & Howe, Household Accounts Manager for your Florida Council of Chapters President, Jim.