

Personal Cyber-Security – please stay safe

Baltimore area meetings members have been experiencing some concerning behaviors by unknown persons who have chosen to use our contact information inappropriately. To address these concerns, we have some suggestions:

- a) Please do not post your last name nor phone number as part of your “Name” when you present your profile in a Zoom meeting. We realize that many of us have our Zoom accounts to double-duty – using it for work during the day and accessing OA meetings at night or during the weekend. In other words, I would place “Karen B” on my picture and not “Karen Bxxx ###-###-####”).
- b) If you receive a call from a member that you do not know, don’t assume that they are your friend. Don’t agree to meet them anywhere except at a local face to face meeting. Do not join them for a private one-on-one Zoom meeting. We’d suggest not using Face-Time or other video call options either.
- c) Please consider allowing unknown callers to be directed to voice mail in order for you to screen their calls.
- d) Individuals can report unwanted/unsolicited harassment to the police.
- e) You can block future calls if needed.
- f) We will be contacting the contact persons for each of the meetings affiliated with Baltimore Area OA Intergroup and making sure that the contact number is a cellular number so that their address information is protected.

This is not to prevent anyone from performing outreach and support of members. However, the anonymity provided by the internet is not always as safe a place as one would wish. Please take responsibility and care.