Winn Schwartau's Excellent Adventure

by M. E. Kabay, PhD, CISSP-ISSMP
Professor of Computer Information Systems
School of Business & Management
Norwich University, Northfield VT

Winn Schwartau< http://www.allamericanspeakers.com/celebritytalentbios/Winn-Schwartau > has been an inspiration to me for over twenty years. The man is brilliant, tireless, articulate, productive, innovative, and kind. We met through the National Computer Security Association in the early 1990s and he influenced me enormously with his book *Information Warfare,* now available in its Second Edition as a Kindle e-book.< http://www.amazon.com/Information-Warfare-ebook/dp/B00428LB4U > When I organized the First International Conference on Information Warfare in 1993, he was our keynote speaker. He remains a dear friend to this day.

Winn has founded so many successful organizations that his LinkedIn profile< http://www.linkedin.com/in/winnschwartau > looks like several people's careers have been crammed together. The man simply won't stop!

To my knowledge, Winn was the first security expert explicitly to refer to a "digital Pearl Harbor," sometime in the early 1990s – a term that has caused considerable controversy in recent times (just look up the phrase in quotation marks in a search engine).

Searching for "Schwartau" in *NetworkWorld's* published materials< http://www.networkworld.com/search/index.html?cx=014839440456418836424%3Amzedprvnwmy&cof=FORID%3A9&ie=UTF-8&q=schwartau&x=0&y=0 > brings up over half a million hits. His writing is challenging and incisive and his articles are fun to read even decades after he published them.

In 1991, he published the novel *Terminal Compromise,*< http://www.amazon.com/Terminal-Compromise-Computer-Terrorism-Networked/dp/0962870005/ > which still ranks as one of my all-time favourite science-fiction novels.

Another excellent book of his is the 2001 *Cybershock: Surviving Hackers, Phreakers, Identity Thieves, Internet Terrorists and Weapons of Mass Disruption.*< http://www.amazon.com/Cybershock-Surviving-Phreakers-Terrorists-Disruption/dp/156025307X > He reviewed the criminal-hacker culture, cyber-scams, denial of service, cyber-defence methods, and possible future developments.

One of the themes that he has pursued with enthusiasm and commitment is providing educational materials for children and parents about safe use of computers and networks ("cybersafety"). Building on his extensive experience as an industry security evangelist< http://www.thesecurityawarenesscompany.com/about/winn.html >, he wrote *Internet & Computer Ethics for Kids: (and Parents & Teachers Who Haven't Got a Clue)*< http://www.amazon.com/Internet-Computer-Ethics-Kids-Teachers/dp/0962870056 > in 2001.

Now he wants to update it.

Winn and his family (the kids are incredibly talented) are planning updates to maintain the tone of the first edition:

"*Cyber Safety and Ethics and Stuff* is an easy to read, colorful and visually appealing book, written for the entire family and K-12 schools. The goal is for families to talk; for teachers to use these ideas in classrooms and discuss the important safety, privacy and security challenges everyone from 8 to 80 faces online today."

Key topics include

- Hacking,
- Internet Scams
- Facebook Privacy
- Cyber Bullying
- Plagiarism
- PC Security Basics for Home
- iPhone, iPad and Mobile safety
- Phishing attacks
- Adult materials
- Stealing
- Personal online responsibility

Using the crowd-sourcing tool *Kickstarter,*< http://www.kickstarter.com/projects/winnschwartau/cyber-safety-and-ethics-and-stuff > he is appealing for funds to make sure that 50,000 to 1,000,000 free copies can be distributed to schools and the children, teachers and parents who can benefit from the up-to-date information and non-moralistic tone of the work. I just donated a modest amount and I hope that you will contribute!

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M. E. Kabay,< mailto:mekabay@gmail.com > PhD, CISSP-ISSMP, specializes in security and operations management consulting services and teaching. He Professor of Computer Information Systems in the School of Business and Management at Norwich University. Visit his Website for white papers and course materials.< http://www.mekabay.com/ >

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