



April, 2005

Volume 9, Issue 4

TAPPING THE

K . E . G . S .

KOMPUTER ENTHUSIASTS OF GREATER SEATTLE

Prez Says:

Ron Cowger

It's April and spring is in the air. In fact, spring has been in the air for at least a month now. I hope that none of you got caught by any "April Fool" jokes or tricks. Some of them are fun but sometimes they can be a little cruel.

Speaking of cruel tricks, the vendor's presentation at the April General Meeting of KEGS is our annual update on security issues from Microsoft. I guess one could think of all of those viruses, worms, Trojan Horses, adware file and spyware files out there in the wild as forms of cruel tricks. They are all threats against which we must guard our computers. I was surprised recently to learn that one of my acquaintances had been using his computer on a broadband connection for over a year and had neither a firewall nor an anti-virus program installed. He said that his computer was beginning to run so slowly that he had to go out and buy a new one. I wonder if just cleaning all of the junk off of his old one might have solved most of his problems. I'll never know since he disposed of his old computer before I could test it for contamination by viruses or other bad files.

Anyway, Mark Miller will be giving our group some insight into the latest threats and some advice on how to protect our computers against security threats. I think all of us will find his information both timely and useful, as we all need to be proactive in this area. It's better to protect your equipment against the various threats than try to clean up the mess once it's infected. Obviously, in one of the worse cases, someone could obtain passwords or private information off of your computer that might cost you a lot of money if he/she used that information to access your finances. Come to the meeting and update your knowledge about this important subject.

There are still quite a few folks who were members of KEGS during 2004 but who have not renewed their dues for this year. If any of you know any of these folks, please encourage them to renew and tell them how to do so by opening the Membership Form on the KEGS web site, filling out the form, printing it out and then sending it to our Bellevue address with his/her check. If your friend says that he/she is not going to renew,



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Prez Says: continued

please ask him/her to send a short email to president@kegs.org telling me why he/she has decided to drop his/her membership. If the Board of Directors can get some feedback about why folks don't renew, I'm sure we would find it useful in improving the way KEGS serves its members.

The Board of Directors is still shopping for a good digital projector that is within our budget. We are getting close to making a decision and should have a new, better projector for use by the SIGs within a couple of months. Our current projector has served us well but there are many times when we need a projector that has a higher resolution. We hope to have one soon.

Again, I want to remind you that Joe Story and Gary Skelton have worked out a new day for Gary to hold his monthly Internet SIG. This SIG will now meet on the first Wednesday of each month. I encourage you to attend and learn lots of new things about how to use the Internet more efficiently and more effectively. Gary is very knowledgeable in this area and I'm sure that you'll learn something new just by attending.

It's almost time to start looking for all of those KEGaBuck\$ that you've got stuck away in an envelope or lying around loose somewhere in your office. The KEGaBuck\$ Auction is coming in June! Also, if you have a piece of software or hardware that you obtained but have never installed and will probably never use, please consider giving it to Sally Ann for use in our Auction. Your donation may find a good home with someone who will put it to good use.

That's about it for this month. I look forward to seeing all of you at the General Meeting or at a SIG meeting in the near future. Happy and safe computing!

Respectfully,

Ron Cowger
President

KEGS General Meeting

And Associated SIGs

KEGS T-shirts

Remember, you score extra KEGABUCK\$ when you wear your KEGS shirts to SIGs and the General Meetings! We still have a few left of various sizes. Then we will order more. So why wait? Pick yours up at the next general meeting.

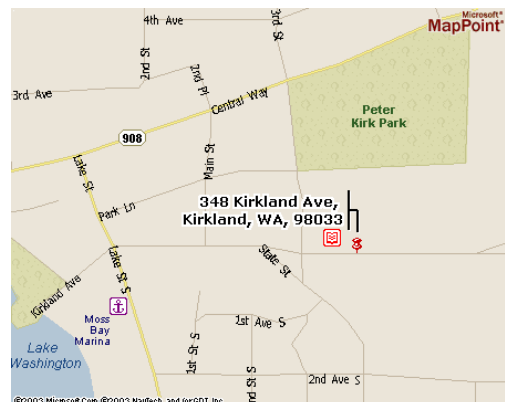
General Meetings at the Kirkland Teen Union Building - 348 Kirkland Ave., Kirkland, WA 98033

Day of Month	Time	Location	SIG / Email contact	SIG Leader
2nd Monday	6 PM - 7 PM	Kirkland Teen Union Building	Technology Corner betacode@hotmail.com	Steve Fondren
2nd Monday	7 PM - 9 PM	Kirkland Teen Union Building	KEGS General Meeting	
2nd Monday	9:30 PM - ? PM	Outback Steakhouse 12120 NE 85 th, Kirkland	Pig SIG sallyannmowrey@msn.com	Sally Ann Mowrey 206-996-5635

DRIVING INSTRUCTIONS: From I-405, take the N.E. 85th ST. exit (exit number 18) toward KIRKLAND (headed West). Immediately move to the center lane and take a left at the first light onto Kirkland Way (If you went right you would be on 114th Ave NE). Just stay on Kirkland Way and it will turn into Kirkland Ave.

The Kirkland Teen Union Building is part of a string of connected buildings. Right at the street is Kirkland's Performing Arts Center, then comes the Kirkland Senior Center and farthest from the street is The Kirkland Teen Union Building.

There is a parking area to the West of this building but you can also park in the Kirkland Library's covered parking area just a little farther to the West (1/4 block past the Performing Arts Center).



KEGS SIG Meetings:

NEW SIG CHART

Notice that our SIG chart no longer lists actual dates. Please check your calendars for the date of the upcoming meeting that you want to attend.

Contact the SIG leaders to find out what presentations that they have planned for their upcoming meetings.

KEGS T-shirts

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Meetings at the North Bellevue Community / Senior Center - 4063 148th Ave NE, Bellevue, WA

Day of Month	Time	Location	SIG / Email contact	SIG Leader
1st Tuesday	7 PM - 9 PM	Computer Lab	NBCSC Computer Lab Support j_m_mraz@hotmail.com	Joe Mraz 425-747-2433
1st Wednesday	7 PM - 9 PM	Computer Lab	Seattle Internet User Group gary@zipcon.net	Gary Skelton
2nd Tuesday	7 PM - 9 PM	Computer Lab	Quick Books sarah@abcsupport.com	Sarah Gunderson 425-485-3437
2nd Tuesday	7 PM - 9 PM	Conf. room D	WIN 95/98/XP?? daviddodge1@compuserve.com	David Dodge
2nd Wednesday	7 PM - 9 PM	Conf. room D	Laptop SIG ctheprof@aol.com	Carl Von Papp 425-643-1398
3rd Tuesday	7 PM - 9 PM	Computer Lab	Computer Support SIG - N. Bellevue j_m_mraz@hotmail.com (Computer repair & maintenance)	Joe Mraz 425-747-2433
3rd Wednesday	7 PM - 9 PM	Conf. room D	Small Office / Home Office r_cowger@prodigy.net	Ron Cowger
4th Tuesday	7 PM - 9 PM	Computer Lab	Digital Imaging SIG sallyannmowrey@msn.com	Sally Ann Mowrey 206-996-5635
4th Wednesday	7 PM - 9 PM	Conf. room D	HTML SIG jack@webwitch.com	Jack Beslanwich 206-723-9960

SIG Meetings at Kirkland Teen Union Building - 348 Kirkland Ave., Kirkland, WA 98033

Day of Month	Time	Location	SIG / Email contact	SIG Leader
3rd Monday (Only on the ODD Months)	7:00 PM - 9 PM	Kirkland's Teen Union Bldg. Computer Lab	Computer Support SIG - Kirkland j_m_mraz@hotmail.com (Computer repair & maintenance)	Joe Mraz 425-747-2433

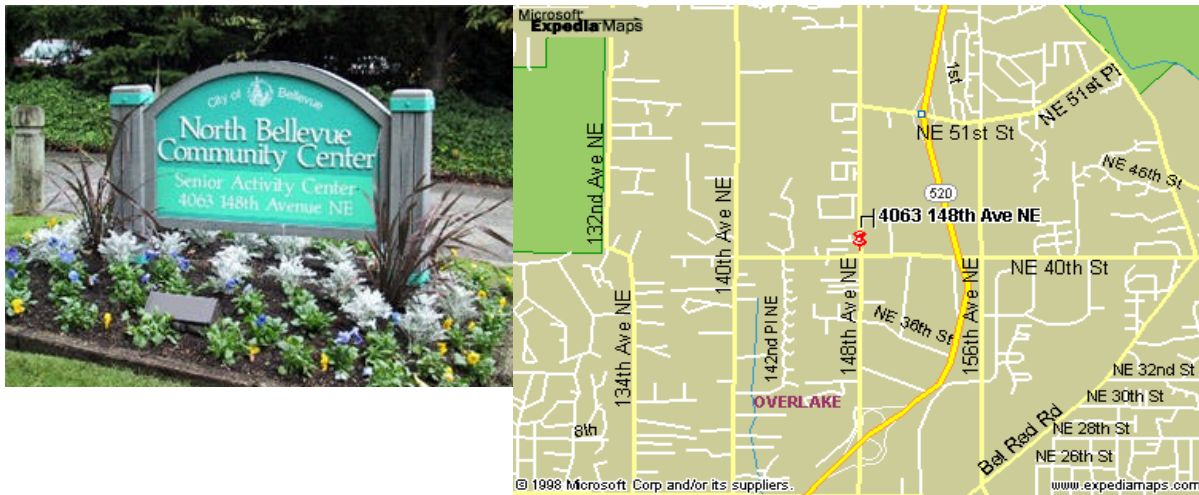
SIG Meeting Locations:

Please note that the KEGS Board meetings are not held at our General Meeting or SIG meeting locations

- KEGS Board Meetings are currently held at Executive Real Estate's Bellevue office at 20 Lake Bellevue, Bellevue, WA. (Board meetings are public and open to anyone who wants to attend.)

Finding our primary SIG meeting location

DRIVING INSTRUCTIONS: Thanks to the improvements to SR 520, you may now use the new NE 40th St exit. If you are driving towards Redmond, exit and turn left to go over the overpass. If you are coming from Redmond, exit and turn right. Go to 148th Ave NE, and turn right. In very short order, you will see the North Bellevue Community / Senior Center sign on the left side of the roadway.



History & Contact info:

KEGS was formed in late 1996 to meet the needs of personal computer users in the Greater Seattle Area. KEGS is a nonprofit organization that holds its general meetings on the second Monday of each month.

In addition, KEGS sponsors a number of special interest groups (SIGs) that meet regularly to share common interests, learn new techniques, and resolve questions about the use of personal computer hardware, accessories, or software.

For a detailed listing of our SIG's, updated information about KEGS activities, and more, please see our web site at:

<http://www.kegs.org>.

Contact us at:
2616 171st Ave SE
Bellevue WA 98008
425-747-2433
info@kegs.org

To submit articles or software reviews for incorporation into this Newsletter, please send them to: newsletter@kegs.org