



May, 2005

Volume 9, Issue 5

TAPPING THE

K.E.G.S.

KOMPUTER ENTHUSIASTS OF GREATER SEATTLE

Prez Says:

Ron Cowger

May is going to be a very busy month for many of us in KEGS. Sally Ann is working very hard in her effort to collect even more items for the KEGaBuck\$ Auction that will take place on June 13th. She says she has about four boxes of goodies so far. Remember to gather up all of those KEGaBuck\$ that you have earned by attending the General Meetings and those that you had left over from the Auction last year. Also, collect all of the special green \$50 KEGaBuck\$ bills that you have received during the year as it's almost time to turn those in for your bonus if you have attended at least nine General Meetings since we started good-attendance program.

During the most recent Board of Directors meeting we received and discussed the report from the Auction Review Committee. The members of the Board agreed to adopt most of the findings of the Committee and I will discuss a few of them here. The first one in which we will be seeking some help is with regard to the auctioneer. The members of the Committee recommended that there be a clearer separation between when the auctioneer was conducting the auction and when that person withdrew from those duties and became a bidder. The best way that we can incorporate this recommendation is to find a person to act as the auctioneer who has no interest in bidding on any of the items offered. Therefore, we are looking for someone who fits this criterion. If you are not going to bid on items in the auction and would be willing to act as the auctioneer, please contact either Sally Ann Mowery or me. Our email addresses are on the KEGS web site.

A second major concern expressed by the members of the Committee related to the length of time that it took to conduct the Auction. In order to speed up the Auction, we are going to implement a number of recommendations. First, we are going to ask the attendees to minimize the amount of side-chatter during the auction. Other members found this very distracting. We are also going to post the list of items that will be offered on the KEGS web site so that the bidders can do some research before the Auction and there will be less time wasted describing each item as it is offered for bid. This will require each of you to do your own research before you come to the Auction so that you will be familiar with each of the items offered. Very little explanation of the items up for bid will be provided during the Auction.

The last major concern that I will cite here is that members supposedly don't know how KEGaBuck\$ are distributed to our members and are unsure that the process is "fair." I want to assure all members that our goal is to make this process as transparent as possible. I plan to discuss this in more detail at the next General Meeting. Let me generalize in this message by stating that the more a member is involved in KEGS, the more KEGaBuck\$ he or she will earn. I find it ironic that we have a very difficult time finding folks who will run for membership on the Board each year. At the same time, others find that those who do step forward and support the organization are being awarded "unfairly." The KEGaBuck\$ program is designed to recognize those who participate and support the group. It's that simple. The more you support the



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Prez Says: continued

group through your presence at meetings and SIGs and through your volunteering to support the group in other ways, the more KEGaBuck\$ you earn.

The members of the Board have agreed to purchase a new digital projector for use by the SIGs that meet at North Bellevue Community Center. We have selected the model of NEC projector that John Tate got for us to try at a couple of SIGs in April. All of the members who saw the unit were impressed with its brightness, color, contrast and higher resolution than our current unit. We should have the new projector for use by the SIGs by mid or late May.

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, 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.

Again, the Auction is coming in June! Remember, 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.

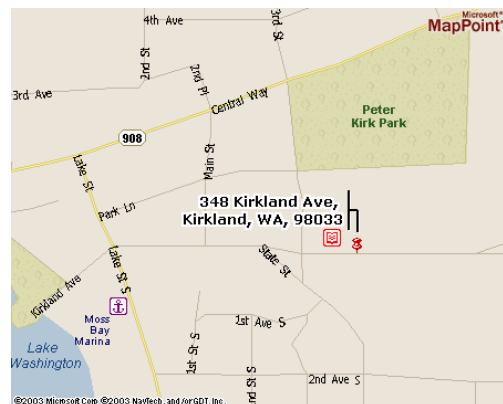
General Meetings at the Kirkland Teen Union Building - 348 Kirkland Ave., Kirkland, WA 98033

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

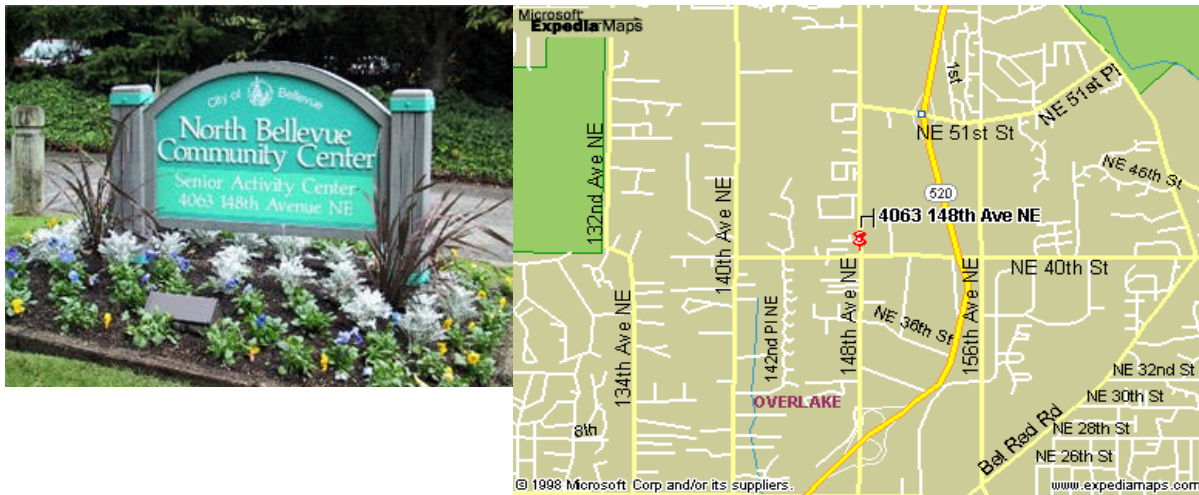
SIG Meeting Locations:

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