



April, 2009

Volume 13, Issue 4

TAPPING THE

K . E . G . S .

KOMPUTER ENTHUSIASTS OF GREATER SEATTLE

Prez Says:

Ron Cowger

!April is here. The weather is ever so slightly warmer and I have started doing a lot of work in the yard. It needs a lot of attention to recover from what was a fairly destructive winter at our house. We are going to have to replace a number of major plants that have survived eleven winters up until this winter but didn't survive this one. However, before I can devote very much of my time to the yard, I must continue to use my handy PC to finalize our income taxes. Yes, I know they should be completed by now but I have a lot of research to do and it takes me a long time to find everything that I need. Once all of the data is available, good ole Turbo Tax completes the forms in short order. I wonder how many of our members do their own taxes using a computer-based program. Hmmmm.

For those of you that drove all the way to the Kirkland Teen Union Building for the March meeting and then found that it was closed, I want to apologize. We didn't get the notification that Kirkland officials were going to close the building due to forecast bad weather until about 3:00 that afternoon. We tried to get notices out to members as quickly as we could but I'm sure that some of you didn't get a chance to read your email prior to heading off to the meeting site. I hope that you had a safe, if however useless, trip. The roads in my area were not bad and I was disappointed that they had made the decision to close. I think that all of us could have gotten to the meeting and home safely. Again, I'm sorry about any inconvenience.

While I was at CES, I met a very nice fellow who was demonstrating Windows 7 Beta at the Microsoft display area. I took advantage of the opportunity and asked him if he could help me arrange a similar presentation for KEGS and he said that he thought he could. Anyway, Sean Gilmour has agreed to be our speaker at the April General Meeting. He will talk about Windows 7 and I think you will find it quite interesting. Some of the things that I saw at CES that impressed me included the following. It has a greatly improved Taskbar and helpful thumbnails of your open programs. The new way that recently used files are organized is very efficient. Microsoft has put a lot of attention into how a user handles the multiple windows that he/she might have open at any particular time. One of the things that impressed me was how one could easily position two windows on the desktop so that one could compare them and work between them very easily. Lastly, I was also impressed with the effort they put into the OS to make it easier for a home user to setup and manage a wireless home network. I'm sure that Sean will talk about these features



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and others that I can't even remember. I'm certain that you will find the presentation very interesting and impressive.

Again, I will mention KEGS membership. Last month I sent emails to all of the 2008 members who had not yet renewed their memberships for 2009. I haven't gotten the statistics yet but I hope that most of those former members have renewed by now. I strongly encourage you to invite friends or family members to attend a KEGS meeting or two to see if they are interested in joining. I'm convinced that we have something to offer any computer enthusiast. Remember, the more members that we have the better it is for all of us.

We are seeking donations for the KEGS Auction that will be held in June. Please look around your house, garage, basement or wherever you keep those items that you put aside for possible use later. Perhaps you have a program or piece of hardware that you don't need and are willing to donate to the Auction. You may give those items to Bob Baxter, David Dodge, Sally Ann Mowrey or to me. We will ensure that they make it to the Auction. The following guidelines apply to donated items:

Software that runs on operating systems older than Windows 98SE will not be accepted. (We are considering changing the oldest acceptable Windows version to Windows 2000.)

No computer add-in cards that plug into an ISA bus will be accepted.

Donated items need to be complete enough to be easily used by the buyer. Each item should be in the original box if possible. If necessary, a substitute box may be used. Items that came with installation software and documentation should have those items in the box with the item.

Items that do not receive bids during the Auction will not be held over to the next Auction. Members who donate items are requested to put their names on the items and to take any items not receiving bids home with them at the end of the Auction.

Any PCs that are donated should be based on at least a Pentium III with a speed of 1 GHz or higher.

Printers must have drivers for Windows 98SE or newer operating systems.

Also, ink or toner cartridges must still be available for purchase. A USB connection to the PC/laptop is preferred but not mandatory.

We have received notification that there will be some major construction/repair work done on the parking lots at the North Bellevue Community Center starting on March



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23rd. During much of the construction period, one of the two entry drives will be closed and the other one will become a two-way drive. Also, due to work on the parking lots, there will be fewer parking spots available. During some of the work, access to the front door will be closed. Folks will have to enter the Center through the Craft Room, Billiards Room and/or the Multipurpose Room exterior doors. I encourage you to be flexible, follow the construction detour signs carefully and be patient. The work is scheduled to take a minimum of twenty days but may take longer due to weather or other problems. You may want to carpool when you attend SIGs at NBCC during the construction.

I am writing this column quite early this month as my wife and I are leaving on a trip to Arizona for two weeks. If something important comes up at the Board meeting next week, one of the other members of the Board will probably modify the column to include the new information.

That's it for now. I hope to see each of you at the General Meeting and at your favorite SIG soon. Happy and safe computing!

Ron Cowger
President

KEGS General Meeting And Associated SIGs

KEGS T-shirts

Remember, you score extra KEGABUCKS when you wear your KEGS shirts to SIGS and the General Meetings! (NOTE: This extra credit is not honored at the PIG SIG.)

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 this SIG chart no longer lists actual dates. Please check our KEGS calendar (at <http://www.kegs.org/Calendar.html>) for actual dates AND POSSIBLE CANCELLATIONS 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 seasigi@kegs.org	Judy Panjeti & Marianne Wilkins
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

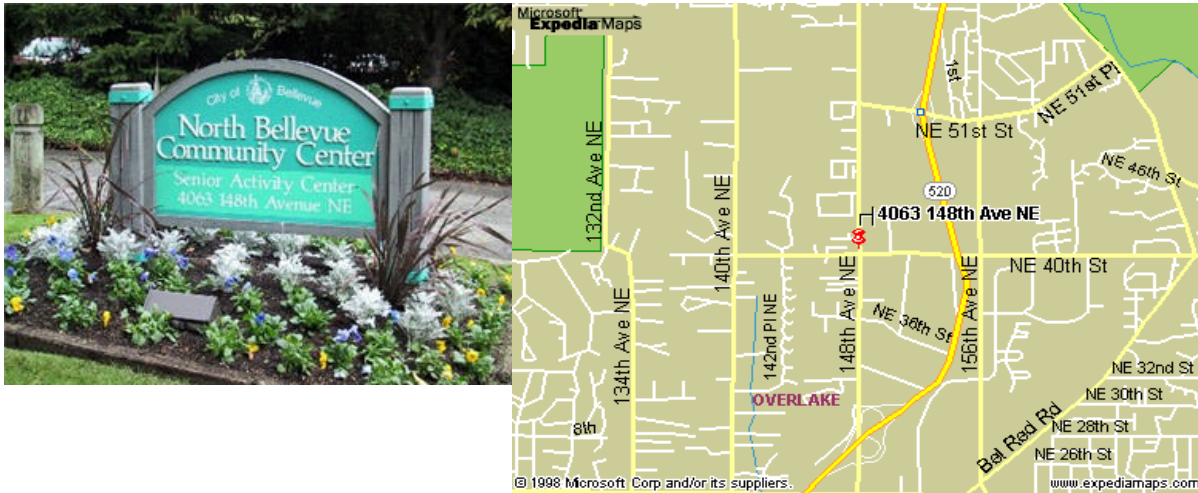
SIG Meeting Locations:

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