Prez Says:

Ron Cowger

Prez Says Column for September 2009

Ah, fall is in the air but the seasonal rains have not yet arrived. This is my favorite time of the year here in the Puget Sound region. The weather isn't so hot that a person has trouble sleeping at night but most of the days are very nice and one can still spend a lot of time outside. We must enjoy these opportunities while we can as we all know that the "indoor season" is coming soon. When the wet weather arrives many of us will spend more time in front of our monitors for entertainment. The presentation at the September General Meeting will make those hours both more enjoyable and productive. More on that below…

I hope that those of you who attended the August General Meeting found the presentations interesting. I thought that the mini-webinar with Gene Barlow was interesting both from the value of the information that he provided and from the aspect of the technology that we used to see and hear him. Before the meeting, I had not yet learned how to send an image of one's desktop to the person that you are communicating with on Skype. I can see where this function could be very useful. I don't know how many of you use Skype but I find it very useful for contacting friends through video calls. You can't beat the price as Skype to Skype calls are free. I suspect that we will use Skype again in the future for other presentations from Gene Barlow.

I also found the information that David Dodge presented very interesting. I could tell that he generated a lot of interest in the subject of USB3 based on the many questions that were asked. I hope to implement that new technology as soon as it's available and I have some peripherals that will use it. I also found the information about solid state hard drives very interesting. My thanks to David for taking time from his busy schedule to compile all of that great information on several advances in technology for his presentation.

The presentation for September will be on advanced search techniques that we can use to get better, more relevant results when we search for information on the Internet. Bob Baxter has arranged for an acquaintance of his, Jocelyn "Toolie" Garner, to speak to us on more effective searches using Google, Bing and Yahoo Search. Jocelyn has worked with computers for twenty-five years including ten years at Microsoft as a programmer, tester,

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technical writer and program manager. Since leaving Microsoft in 2003, she has been working with entrepreneurs, small businesses, and associations to find cost-effective solutions to providing information online through websites, blogs, and social media. Through her speaking, consulting, live training classes, and online webinars, Toolie helps businesses get the most of the web presence they already have, and make smart choices when it's time to expand their Internet presence. If you are like me, you often get poor, ineffective results from your searches. I'm confident that we will all be more efficient in our searches after listening to the presentation this month.

Again, I will mention KEGS membership. Our group membership is now up to sixty-three computer enthusiasts so we are still one short of the level at which we finished last year. However, with four more months in which to recruit new members, I genuinely hope that we can continue to grow as the year goes on. 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.

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
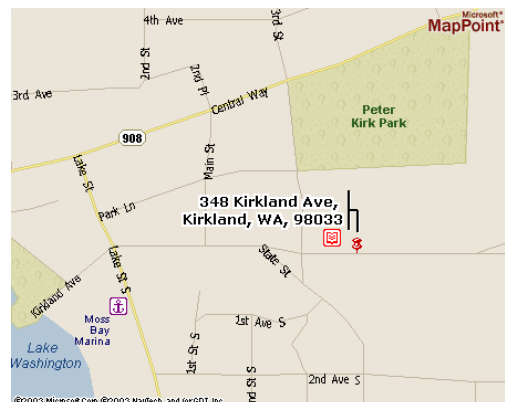President

KEGS General Meeting
And Associated SIGs

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 KIRK-LAND (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.

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

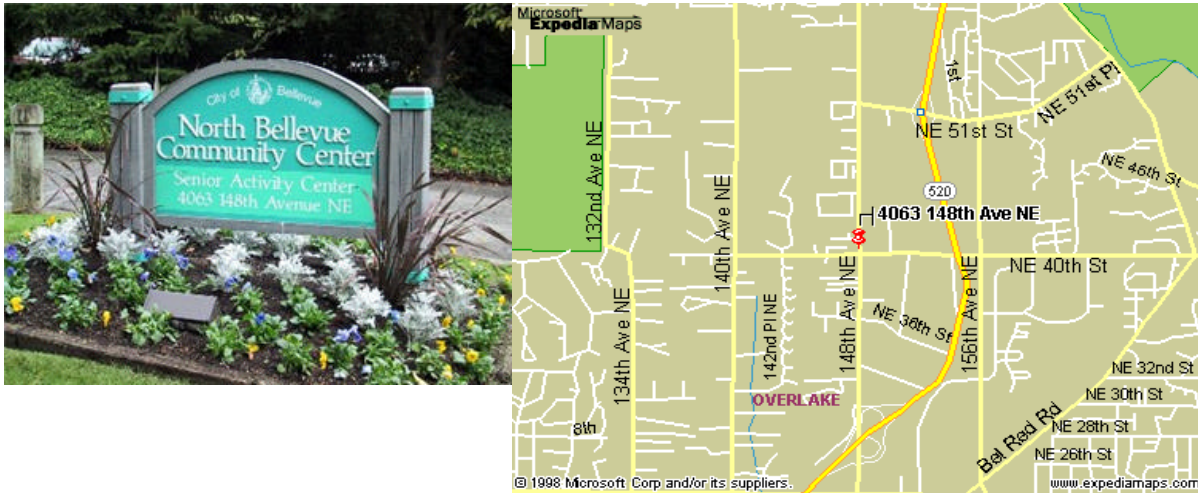| Day of Month	Time	Location	SIG / Email contact	SIG Leader
1st Tuesday	7 PM - 9 PM	Computer Lab	NBCSC Computer Lab Support j_m_mraz@hotmail.com	Joe Mraz 425-747-2433
1st Wednesday	7 PM - 9 PM	Computer Lab	Seattle Internet User Group seasigi@kegs.org	Marianne Wilkins
2nd Tuesday	7 PM - 9 PM	Conf. room 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