



July, 2008

Volume 12, Issue 7

TAPPING THE

K . E . G . S .

KOMPUTER ENTHUSIASTS OF GREATER SEATTLE

Prez Says:

Ron Cowger

Hi Everyone,

Welcome to summer! My family and I just returned from a long-weekend visit to Portland and had a really hot time in the city. Yes, we hit there on a record-setting day for hottest June 28th on record and spent the whole day walking around the Oregon Zoo. Visiting the zoo was fun but suffering through the heat with our daughter and the grandkids made it an uncomfortable and challenging day. It was not surprising that many of the zoo animals were smart enough to stay in the shaded areas of their enclosures where the public could not see them as they were “beating the heat.” I think the human animals should have found a shady spot too and sat there enjoying some cold drinks.

Speaking of hot events, I hope that you agreed with me that the KEGaBuck\$ Auction last month was a big success. I want to thank all of the folks that worked hard to pull the event together and those members that donated items that made up the many items that were available for bid. I especially want to thank Sally Ann Mowery for taking on many of the tasks normally handled by the Program Chairman, Joe Mraz and Joseph Nowak for being our auctioneers, Judy Panjeti and Barbara Marasco for organizing the bid items and getting them to the auctioneers as needed, Henry Hollwedel for obtaining donations from vendors, Bob Baxter and David Dodge for collecting and cataloging the bid items and all of the other folks who worked on the event. Everybody worked well as a team to ensure that the event ran smoothly and was a great success. All of the KEGS members owe each of these folks a big “Thank you.”

The members of the Board plan to establish some guidelines to manage the contributed bid items a little better next year. As most of you know, we had quite a few items that were so old that they did not work with current operating systems and therefore did not draw any bids. Additionally, with new, stricter rules on disposing of electronic items that contain toxic materials, it is a problem for your user group to dispose of some of these items that were left over after the auction as a result of receiving no bids. I am sure that you understand that it is necessary to have some guidelines in the future to guard the user group from incurring expenses in disposal of this donated, out-of-date equipment.



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Prez Says: continued

The presentation at the July General Meeting will be on the history, function and use of GPS. I'm sure that some of you have GPS systems either in your cars or for use when hiking through the beautiful back country in our area. However, I hope that you will agree that we need to know more about these systems and how they work. Barbara Marasco has arranged for two experts from the Mountaineers organization to give KEGS members an interesting presentation on GPS at the July meeting. Thanks, Barbara.

We had one membership renewal during the month of June. While I am pleased that our membership is about the same as last year, I think we can do better. Having just had our annual auction, I hope that you can cite this unique benefit when you talk to potential members about joining our group. As I have mentioned in previous columns, I hope that you will each try to recruit someone new to join KEGS this year. I encourage you to talk to your friends, family members, business associates and acquaintances about KEGS. Almost everyone uses a computer, PDA or digital camera these days and would benefit from the information and services that KEGS provides. Currently, our membership is about sixty-four folks. As I'm sure that you can understand, when we are trying to encourage vendors to speak to our organization, they almost always ask how many members we have. It would be a lot easier to entice companies to send speakers to our meetings if we had one hundred members than it is with our current membership level. Please help our organization by bringing in at least one new member this year.

We don't have any firm updates from the folks at NBCC about when they plan to close the computer lab and set up a portable training facility for their future computer classes. KEGS members have recently given them some estimated costs and suggested configuration ideas that were well received. However, it looks like it will still be several months before the City officials make any final decisions and commit money to the project. In the meantime, we will continue to use the lab for our SIGs as we have for several years.

That's it for now. I will be out of town on the July General Meeting date but I hope to see each of you at a SIG in the near future. 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

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 meeting.

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 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

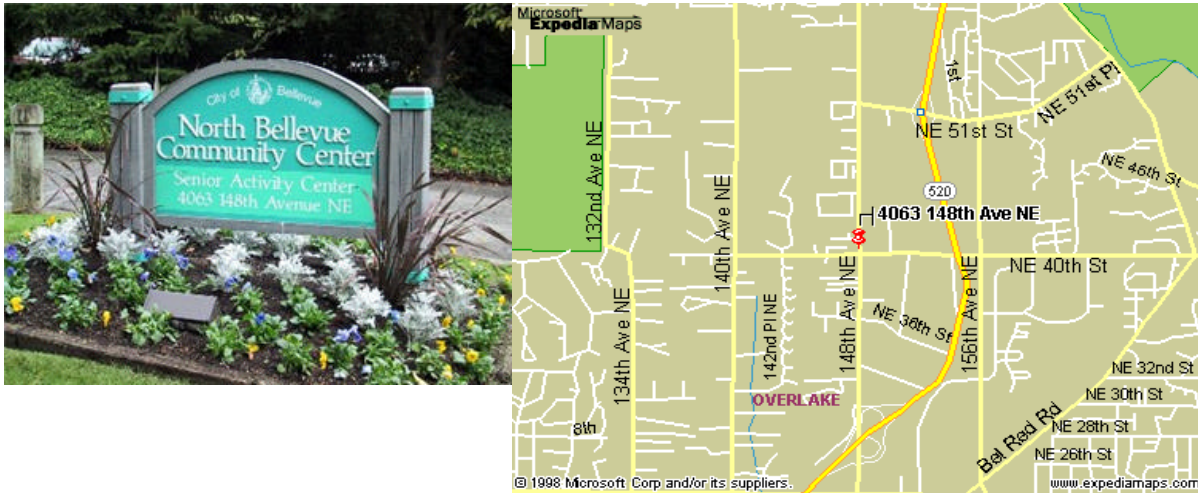
SIG Meeting Locations:

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