

December, 2013

Volume 17, Issue 12



TAPPING THE

K.E.G.S.

KOMPUTER ENTHUSIASTS OF GREATER SEATTLE

Prez Says:

Jon Mercer

This month's Prez Says is rather late due to life and work because your President is currently in Georgia.

Hope your Holiday Season has been going well and hope to see you in January, but work might be preventing me from attending again. Only 25 or so more years till I am at retirement age.

Now for the good stuff.

Microsoft and Sony both released their latest game consoles, though game is probably not the right term. They are both more of a multimedia system where you can play games, watch movies, surf the web, link to your computer and show documents and photos, and other options. With the X-box One, you can also interact with it verbally, or with hand motions with the second generation Kinect. Sony's PS4 has a new generation Blu-ray and a better graphics system than the X-Box which would be something to consider if you are going to use it primarily for movies/streaming video. We will have a while to contemplate both since they are pretty much sold out till next year.

The Surface 2 and Surface Pro 2 have been for sale for a couple of months, and the Pro 2 seems to be selling well. The Surface 2 is just an updated version of the Surface RT with the same limitations. The Surface Pro 2 comes with four versions. The 64 and 128 GB versions come with 4 GB of ram, where the 256 and 512 GB systems come with 8 GB of ram. The Pro 2 is using the newer Haswell chipset so there is an increase in battery life over the Pro, and in the spring there will be a new keyboard with a battery built into it to help extend the life of the Surface. It will work with both generations of Surface and Surface Pro. Around the same time as the new keyboard comes out, there will also be the release of a USB dock which will include Ethernet, video, and more USB. It will only be for the Surface Pro series because of the need for USB 3.

Speaking of USB, there is a new USB 3.1 standard in early development which will not require it to be plugged in a certain way like current USB. It will have a large increase in speed over current USB 3.0 but will not be backwards compatible so it might be a while till you see one in your desktop/laptop when they are released to the public.

If you are having issues with Internet Explorer 11 showing your sites, go to the site giving you issues and then click on the gear icon in the upper right corner and go to compatibility mode and select add to add the site to the list. This will permanently cause it to run in compatibility mode. If it still doesn't work, press F12 and a menu will open up on the bottom. Scroll on the left side to the bottom option which looks like a computer and then in the first box that says document mode (edge default) change that to either IE 10 or IE 9 and see if that helps any. This is only temporary; as soon as you close that window on the bottom, it switches back to IE 11 edge default mode.



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If you are in the market to upgrade your storage capability, solid state drives (SSD) are starting to come down to a price that most of us can afford. You can get up to 500 GB for under \$400, while the 256 GB are around the \$150 to \$200 range depending on the type and manufacturer. They do give you a large increase in speed so are good for an operating system drive. Be sure to consider what all you want on your C drive before you purchase so you don't buy one that is too small for your needs.

That is all for this month. Have a good Holiday Season, and see you all next year.

Jon Mercer — President

KEGS GENERAL MEETING AND ASSOCIATED SIGS

KEGS T-shirts/Vests

Remember, you score extra KEGABUCK\$ 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 Peter Kirk Community / Senior Center - 325 Kirkland Ave., Kirkland, WA 98033

| Day of Month | Time | Location | SIG / Email contact | SIG Leader |
|--------------|-------------------|--|---|----------------------------------|
| 2nd Monday | 6 PM - 7 PM | Kirkland's Peter Kirk Community Center | Technology Corner betacode@hotmail.com | Steve Fondren |
| 2nd Monday | 7 PM - 9 PM | Kirkland's Peter Kirk Community Center | KEGS General Meeting | |
| 2nd Monday | 9:30 PM - ? PM | Outback Steakhouse 12120 NE 85 th, Kirkland | Pig SIG sallyannmowrey@msn.com | Sally Ann Mowrey 206-902-7381 |

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 Peter Kirk Community Center / Senior Center is part of a string of three connected buildings. At the street (Kirkland Way) is Kirkland's Performance Center (350 Kirkland Ave.), then comes the Peter Kirk Community 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 |
|---------------|-------------|--------------|---|----------------------------------|
| 2nd 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 |
| 2nd Wednesday | 7 PM - 9 PM | Conf. room D | Computer Use and Optimization ctheprof@aol.com | Carl Von Papp 425-643-1398 |
| 3rd Tuesday | 7 PM - 9 PM | Conf. room D | Servers, Networks and Storage daviddodge1@compuserve.com | David Dodge |
| 3rd Wednesday | 7 PM - 9 PM | Conf. room D | Small Office / Home Office (SOHO) r_cowger@prodigy.net | Ron Cowger |
| 4th Tuesday | 7 PM - 9 PM | Conf. room D | Digital Imaging SIG sallyannmowrey@msn.com | Sally Ann Mowrey 206-902-7381 |
| 4th Wednesday | 7 PM - 9 PM | Conf. room D | KEGS Board Meeting r_cowger@prodigy.net | Jon Mercer |

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 The North Bellevue Community / Senior Center - 4063 148th Ave NE, Bellevue, WA Conf. Rm D, 7-9 PM on the 4 Wed. of the month (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: Email: info@kegs.org
The Komputer Enthusiasts of Greater Seattle
PMB# 195
677 120th Ave NE, Suite 2A
Bellevue, WA 98005
Or call 425-747-2433 before 9 PM

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