Prez Says:

Ron Cowger

Hi Everyone,

Is anyone besides me tired of the chilly, damp weather we've been having lately? Snow in mid-April? That's not supposed to happen, is it? I know, the experts say our recent weather is not that unusual but I'm ready for spring! I don't need or want more bad-weather time to work on my computer. A warm afternoon suitable for sitting on the patio and enjoying a glass of wine would lift my spirits and make me smile more. Bring on the "May flowers." Oh well, enough complaining. What's happening in our user group?

The planned presentation for the May General Meeting will be interesting and helpful for most of us. David Dodge has agreed to present some information on tuning up and opti-mizing our Windows XP systems. Now I know that some of you early-adopters have moved on the Windows Vista but my informal inquiries indicate that most of us are happy to maintain our WinXP machines for a while longer. The information that David plans to present should make our systems run more efficiently and more effectively. I know I plan to listen carefully as I am one of those who is still happy to use XP for a while longer.

We had only one KEGS membership renewal during April. While I am pleased that our membership is about the same as last year, I think we can do better. 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. Cur-rently, our membership is about sixty-three 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 mem-bership level. Please help our organization by bringing in at least one new member this year.

We are continuing to plan for our annual KegaBuck$ Auction in June. Each of you can help make the auction a success by digging through your closets, shelves, attic and/or ga-rage to see if you have any new or gently used computer hardware that may be of some use to a fellow club member. Also, you may have a software application that you've never

Prez Says: continued

installed as you found something else that filled your needs better. I encourage you to consider donating those items to the Auction and letting another member get some use from them. It's getting very hard to get donations from manufacturers and vendors so we have to depend on our members for many of our auction items. You may give your donations to any member of the Board at the next General Meeting and we will make sure that the items are collected and made available for the auction. Thanks in advance for your donations.

One of the popular items that we normally offer at our annual auctions is one or more subscriptions to Smart Computing magazine. We earn one free subscription for every five of our members who cite their memberships in KEGS when they subscribe to or renew their subscriptions to any of the fine Sandhills Publications computer magazines. All you have to do is list one of the numbers listed on the first page of our KEGS web-site when you send in your subscription information and KEGS will get the credit. As of this week, only four KEGS members acknowledged their membership when they re-newed during the last year. That's disappointing. I'm guessing that more folks than that subscribed. Perhaps they forgot to cite their KEGS membership. I've sent a note to the folks at Smart Computing asking if there is a way to receive the credit for these sub-scriptions after the fact. I'll let you know what I find out.

That's it for now. Keep looking for those items that you are willing to donate to the Auction. I hope to see each of you at the General Meeting on May12th and/or at a fu-ture SIG. Happy and safe computing!

Ron Cowger
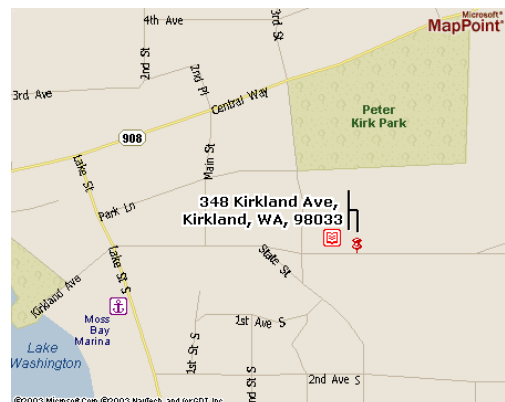President

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	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

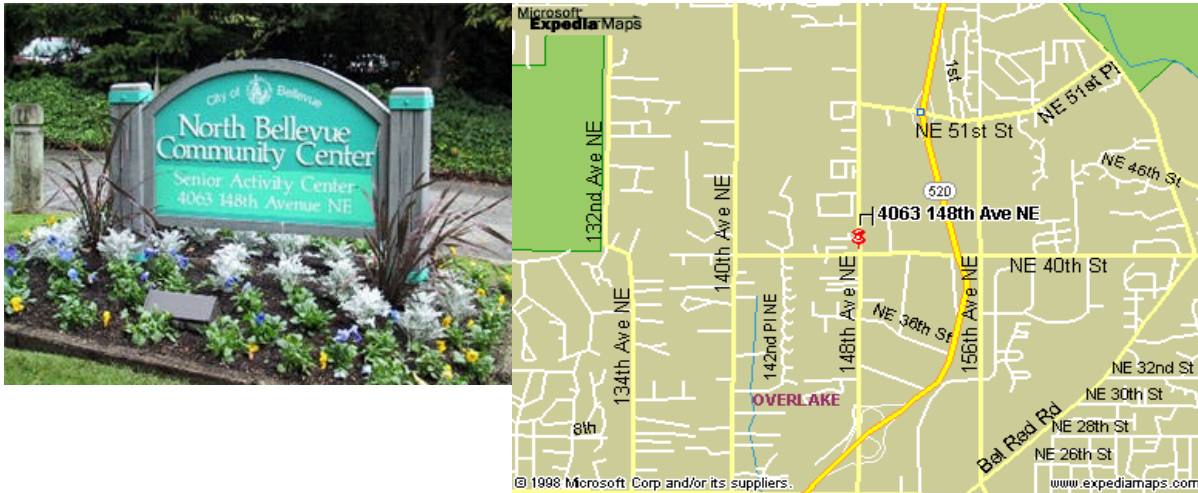| Day of Month	Time	Location	SIG / Email contact	SIG Leader
3rd Monday (Only on the ODD Months)	7:00 PM - 9 PM	Kirkland's Teen Union Bldg. Computer Lab	Computer Support SIG - Kirkland j_m_mraz@hotmail.com (Computer repair & maintenance)	Joe Mraz 425-747-2433

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