

SeniorNet®

Puget Sound Computer Learning Center

Where skilled volunteer seniors teach seniors to use, enjoy computers

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For detailed Information, Class Schedules: <http://www.seniornetps.org/>

By PHIL SCHEIER, Editor

GALA ANNUAL MEETING MARCH 15 TO MARK RECORD YEAR OF STUDENT, CLASS GROWTH

WITH MORE SENIORS wanting to learn computer operations, the approaching Tuesday, Mar. 15th SeniorNet Annual Meeting at 10 am will celebrate another year of achievement. This includes a growing choice of classes to meet this need, and a record enrollment of students this past year. A Thank You by-invitation-only Luncheon for Volunteers will follow the meeting.

The meeting of the all-volunteer group will be held at the New Hope Ministries Church, 15760 NE 4th St., Bellevue.

Featured speaker will be KRISTIN FABOS, chief executive officer of the national SeniorNet organization. Also attending will be LINDA YOUNG COLAR, SeniorNet director programs and services (for the Learning Centers), who will be meeting with members at the classroom Monday, Mar. 14, to observe the noted computer training program in action.

PRES. ADELLA GRANGER hailed the results in both expansion of courses and surge in student enrollment at the organization. . She said the unbelievable dedication of the entire all-volunteer staff of seniors, many working virtually full time,

has made it all possible. Granger said more and more seniors are hearing about the learning opportunities at the SeniorNet Computer Learning Center at the Phantom Lake Elementary School in Bellevue either via word-of-mouth, or through the media. Highlighting the growth of SeniorNet this past year, REGISTRAR LOUISE FLORA

SENIORNET DATE BOOK

No-Host Kaffee Klatch Social

Tuesday, Mar. 1, at 11:30 am
Crossroads-Bellevue Mall Food Circus
156th Ave. NE, 8th St., Bellevue

Annual Meeting

Followed by Thank You Luncheon for
volunteers, **by invitation only**
Tuesday, Mar. 15th, 10 am
New Hope Ministries Church
15760 NE 4th St., Bellevue

Three Free March Lab Sessions

Tuesdays, Mar. 8, 22, 29
Open to all, 9:30 am-Noon
SeniorNet Classroom
Questions? Sit down with the experts
For a hands-on computer demo

said, "Even though we are only two months into the Winter-Spring 2005 session of SeniorNet Computer Learning Center of Puget Sound, records are being broken.

"More than 500 students have either taken classes or will be taking classes during the next few months. In addition we have attracted 125 new members to SeniorNet. Many of the classes have 14 students and one class has 17 students. This means that our volunteers are very busy. When a class is over 12 students, at least three assistants are needed. In many cases, there have been four assistants available in the classroom. This provides our students will lots of help and takes quite a load off the instructor.

"Several of our instructors have been teaching three or more classes," she added. "Because assistants are so important, VICE PRES. DELORES DAVIS, who is also the instructor training coordinator scheduled a Training Session for Assistants this past month. This session was presented by HARRY SHEDD. If you would like to expand your horizons and train to be an assistant call the voice mail 206-232-5892 or email Delores Davis at delor6@comcast.net."

TRAVEL THE WORLD WITH JUST A CLICK AT SENIORNET CLASS

GOT THE WANDERLUST? Do you really know what a powerful tool you have on your computer? You can travel the world with a click of your mouse. SeniorNet's Internet for Information and Fun will open up this world for you, promises Registrar Louise Flora.

"There are a few openings in these two classes. Net-1 is offered Mar. 8 through Apr. 5. Net-2, Apr. 19 through May 17. Not only

will you learn about the Internet," she said, "but also how to be secure with the Internet (cookie management), update your operating system and the use of anti-virus programs and firewalls.

You will learn all of this and much more In this five-week course." Call the SeniorNet voice mail at 206-232-5892 to register. Fee for this course is \$30.00, plus national membership.

Become a pro in quickly getting information on traveling or any type of research.

ACTIVE SENIOR FAIR SATURDAY, MAR. 5, AT OVERLAKE MEDICAL

UNDER THE SLOGAN "Get up and go!" seniors have been invited to join in Overlake Hospital's free Active Senior Fair 2005 Saturday, March 5, at the hospital's Westminster Chapel, starting at 10 am, continuing to 3 pm. The chapel is located at 13648 NE 24th St., Bellevue, with free parking available. SeniorNet will display and demonstrate its learning opportunities program among the many exhibits and booths at the fair. JOE PONTECORVO announced details of the SeniorNet exhibit at the February membership meeting.

Exhibits will feature the latest information about products and services for seniors, and free samples and discount coupons will be distributed. Those attending may also enter for door prize drawings. Another plus being offered are blood pressure checks. The entertainment program begins at 10:15 am with a fashion show for both men and women. Speakers will touch on health topics, financial planning, among others. A soup and sandwich luncheon buffet will be available for \$6 from 11 am to 2 pm.

*News Items Must Be
Received by Mar. 25*

**GLAD TO MEET YOU!
YOUR INTERESTING
FELLOW MEMBERS:**

TWO DAYS A WEEK, CHUCK FLORA, is a Granpal at the Phantom Lake Elementary School in Bellevue, working with the young students in **MS. RENEE KARLOVICH'S 5th** Grade class helping the kids with math and science. Friday afternoons you will find him in another volunteer role as a docent, leading tours around the Museum of Flight. And in whatever is left of his free time, Flora, still volunteering, is at the controls of a glider soaring and swooping through the skies over Arlington Airfield, teaching others how to fly without an engine. Or he is at the controls of the tow plane pulling the glider off the ground and into the air. At a pre-arranged time, the glider pilot cuts loose from the powered plane.

No easy trick. Flora, whose wife, Louise, is SeniorNet's Registrar, is a long-time member of The Boeing Employees Soaring Club (BESC). "The Boeing soaring club, he recalled, "started up at about the same time, when I joined to learn to fly gliders". A few years later, he became a glider flight instructor. "Since then I have doubled as an instructor and a tow plan pilot for BESC and another area club – Evergreen Soaring. " Most of the activities of the glider clubs take place at the Arlington, WA. airfield.

Flying is a family thing with the Floras. "My father learned to fly in the Lindberg era," he said. "During WW II, he was a primary flight instructor for several different civilian contract flying schools which did primary instruction of military pilot cadets. He was also my first instructor when I soloed in

1944. I have been flying since I was a teenager, in fact I had a pilot license before I had a driver's license."

THEY INHERITED THEIR DAUGHTER'S COMPUTER, and like so many other parents, didn't know exactly what to do with the strange contraption. But like so many other parents, **BETTY and BURT BLOCK** knew they just had to also learn about computers to at least keep up with the kids. Even do that hip computer techhie talk. A friend who learned of their desire to learn computers, directed them to—naturally—the SeniorNet Computer Learning Center, then located on 116th Ave. NE, also in Bellevue. This writer at that time was one of their instructors. "After taking every course available at that time," Betty recalls, "we began assisting and the next thing I knew, I was teaching word processing. Harry Sully, also an instructor, and I developed a course for Microsoft Works and taught that for years.

***FORGOT CLASS SCHEDULE?
CHECKING OTHER COURSES?
GO TO SENIORNET WEB SITE!***

Everything you want to know about the many SeniorNet classes, instructors, schedules—and more!

Click on-----

<http://www.seniornetps.org/>

"Since Burt and I had both been school teachers, is was natural to help in the SeniorNet classroom. Before retiring, I taught math, and Burt taught chemistry and just about everything else. Both of us also were GranPals for at least 10 years. Burt was in a fifth-grade class

and also in a kindergarten class. I helped in just one fifth-grade class.

"Since Burt's most recent illness, we haven't been able to help out in any way," she said. "He celebrated his 83rd birthday in a nursing home but is home now and with physical therapy is doing better.

"We're hoping that he'll be able to get back to his Granpals kindergartners. If that doesn't happen we still like to keep informed about what is going on.

"We both sang with the Jubilee Singers and now we're members of the Senior Chorus at the Senior Center. This group sings at Evergreen Court and at Mission Health Care Facility once a month".

HANDY COMPUTER TIPS FOR THE ADVENTUROUS

AVOID EXCESS TYPING OF URLS-

-Although favorites, bookmarks, and customized start pages have helped organize and streamline our web surfing experience, every once in a while it is still necessary to type in a web site's address by hand. For times when you find yourself in this situation, here is a keyboard shortcut that can save you some typing.

When you type in a web address, you can just type in the part between the www. and the .com, and then press CTRL-ENTER, and Internet Explorer will fill in the rest. For instance, if I want to check on my favorite pro football team, I can simply click in the address field in Internet Explorer, type "nfl" without the quotes, and then press CTRL-ENTER. IE will automatically convert this into <http://www.nfl.com> for me. (From About computer tips)

DON'T GET TRICKED into running a virus. Virus files often try to hide their true extensions (the three-letter abbreviation after the dot, such as .doc or .jpg to trick you into thinking you are opening a harmless file. To see the actual extensions, follow these steps: Click Start and select My Computer. From the Tools menu, click Folder Options. Click to clear the check mark from the Hide File Extensions for Known File Types checkbox. Click OK. If you see something unusual, such as a file with double or triple extensions, it is probably best not to open it. (PC NOVICE Reference Series)

GOOGLE DOES IT AGAIN! Check out maps.google.com for Goggle's cool new mapping program. It is still in Beta version, so there may still be some further improvements, but it seems to work well and the map graphics are, in general, better than Mapquest, Yahoo maps and MSN maps. And when you get a map of a location, you can zoom in or out, like you can on most, BUT, you also can DRAG the map around seamlessly, instead of moving in discreet steps, which you must do with any of the others. (Thanks to Hal Mozer's daughter)

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NOTE: While all computer-operating tips come from usually reliable sources, readers are reminded you use them at YOUR OWN RISK. Again, in case you have friends who are online, and may be interested in taking classes to expand their skills, please forward this newsletter to them by clicking Forward when this message is displayed. Then enter their address in the To box, and click Send. We welcome your brief personal news items and article items, suggestions, sent to the editor at b26flyer@comcast.net. If you wish to receive this free monthly newsletter, update your email address or unsubscribe, rush your full name, phone and email address to pugetsnet6@qwest.net.

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President: Adella Granger; Vice President: Delores Davis; Treasurer: Joe Hesketh; Secretary: Martha Simon; Registrar: Louise Flora; Immediate Past President and current Public Relations chair: Helen Hesketh; Curriculum Coordinator: John Wise; Facilities Coordinator: Ken Crandall; Member-at-Large: Gordon Young ; Granpals Coordinator: Nancy Harsh; Online Newsletter Circulation: Bob Balsley; Online Newsletter Editor: Phil Scheier