



Puget Sound Computer Learning Center

Where skilled volunteer seniors teach seniors to use, enjoy computers

Aug. 1, 2005, Vol. 6; Issue #8; Mail: PMB 705, 15600 NE 8th, Suite B-1

Bellevue, WA 98008-3958

Voice Mail: 206-232-5892; Email: senior@seniornetps.org

Phantom Lake Elementary School, Bellevue

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

By PHIL SCHEIER, Editor

Door prizes, six free computer lab classes

**GALA FUN-FEST BROWN-BAG LUNCHEON
AT SCHOOL, THURSDAY, AUG. 18, AT 11 AM**

The eagerly awaited fun-filled summer highlight, the Annual SeniorNet Brown Bag Luncheon with an exciting social program, prizes and six free computer lab workshops, will be held Thursday, Aug. 18, from 11 am-3:30 pm, at the Phantom Lake Elementary School, 1050 160th Ave. SE, Bellevue.

All seniors, whether members or not, are cordially invited. The gathering will take place outdoors under the huge Covered Area of the sparkling, newly rebuilt school, according to GLORIA HENNINGS who heads the Brown Bag committee.

"This is a wonderful way for you and your guests to meet with other students and SeniorNet volunteers," she said. "Bring your own brown bag lunch for you and your guests, as well as a favorite non-refrigerated dessert to share with others." Soft drinks and coffee will be provided.

You can meet with skilled SeniorNet instructors and classroom assistants, and learn more about available programs and classes. There will be computer demonstrations, workshops and much more, along with door prizes.

The grand prize will be a SeniorNet membership for one year, along with a certificate for one free class of the winner's choice.

The committee planning the gala event includes BITTY RAUCH, LOIS FARRIS, SHIRLEY FOUCHT, MERRILEE GEORGE, PATTY HERZOG, DONNA HOLCOMBE and JOAN THOMAS.

**COFFEE, PASTRY, GUIDANCE SPEED PROCESS
AGAIN, EAGER SENIORS FLOCK TO REGISTER
FOR COMPUTER CLASSES STARTING IN AUGUST**

By **LOUISE FLORA**
(Registrar)

Registration Day July 19 for SeniorNet Fall computer classes which start Monday, Aug. 22nd was an overwhelming success. Eager students began lining up at 8:30 at the New Hope Ministries Church, Bellevue, with the line reaching out to the street by 9:30. Because everyone was ready, registration began at 9:50 and by 10:50, 97 people had begun their road to learning more about computers.

The rest were enjoying coffee and pastries and waiting their turn. Final count by noon was nearly 160 people. Classes are held at the Phantom Lake Elementary School, Bellevue, in a large classroom with 18 late-model, high-speed Dell computers, LCD flat-screen monitors and printers. The instructor using his/her own computer, is connected to a projector which illustrates each keystroke, or cursor click on the giant wall screen.

Many of our more popular classes had filled by noon with wait lists as many as 7 in Intermediate Word Processing. Photo Editing continues to be a popular class; it too has long wait lists. To those who did not get the classes they wanted, we suggest you mark your calendars for Thursday Dec. 1, when we will be registering for Spring 2005 classes.

At this writing, the only classes left with openings are AOL & Beyond; Basic Basics-3 and 4; Computer Fundamentals CF-4; Internet for Fun Net-1; Life Stories; Playing With Numbers; Tracking Your Investments, and Travel Planning.

We will continue to accept mail in registrations. If the class is full you will be put on the wait list. We do receive cancellations during the year. Please do not send money with a wait listed class; we will collect the class fee when there is an opening and you are called.

But keep on sending in those registrations because class vacancies do occur for many reasons.

****COMPUTER-SAVVY SENIORS TEACHING OTHER SENIORS****

SMOOTH-RUNNING CLASS REGISTRATION WINS PLAUDITS FROM EAGER STUDENTS

By ADELLA GRANGER
(President, SeniorNet)

The success of the complex July 19th Registration event represents the well-organized and comprehensive team effort by our skilled and dedicated all-volunteer membership. LOUISE FLORA is the Registrar, and is in complete control on Registration Day. ROGER DALTON is the Facility Arrangements Chair, aided by HARRY SHEDD. Dalton is responsible for the facilities set-up and arrangements with the New Hope Ministries Church as the registration site. The procedures for the processing of National membership dues and class fees are strictly monitored to ensure that each class registration is accurate.

I personally act as one of the cashiers, and asked each new student how they had heard about the SeniorNet Computer Learning Center of Puget Sound. The most common response was that they had read about our Learning Center in the newspaper. Our public relations and advertising program, headed by PAST PRES. HELEN HESKETH, has really paid off. Twenty-five of our classes are full, and several of those have a waiting list.

In another tribute to the complete registration team, I later received a phone call from a new student who wanted us to know that she was very impressed at how organized the registration procedures were. She was amazed at the long line of people waiting to sign up for classes at 9:15 am. Actually, the line began forming at 8:30 am. She said she very much appreciated the counseling and guidance received as a new student and the advice on beginning with the Basics class, and Computer Fundamentals. To aid and speed the smooth flow of students waiting to sign up, Hesketh worked outside the building with the line of students, handing out numbers and informative material.

The success is due completely to the commitment of our enthusiastic volunteers, all achievers. We are all very proud of our SeniorNet Computer Learning Center earlier named by the National SeniorNet as Number One in the Nation, and the world. Yes, several learning centers are now operating overseas.

To provide a real home atmosphere, students going through the registration line, were invited to have coffee and pastry, thanks to the work of JIM and PAT BRAUN. In addition to widen the menu, I was happy to bring my own popular honey raisin bran muffins and some chocolate chip cookies, features of our scheduled Tuesday morning free computer lab sessions. Both Louise Flora and I brought our 36-cup coffee pots. There was also hot water for tea. Something for everybody. We try to keep the students happy while they wait in line to be processed, joining the SeniorNet family.

CALLING SENIORNET ARMCHAIR ASTRONAUTS: Google is offering a free Magic Carpet Ride around the Earth to any spot you choose, including your own home, if you get lonely. Just type the full address in the proper space, click on the Go or OK button, and the wild ride begins on your computer monitor. This only works with WinXP, or Win 2000, I think, so check it out. This writer first learned of this in a recent *Business Week* (BW) article, tried it, and is logging lots of flying time. Using the program, which Google describes as "part flight simulator, part search tool," you can fly anywhere on the globe and zoom quickly from an outer-space view to a close-up that shows skylights, swimming pools, and individual cars on roads. BW reports, in part: "Google Earth's brilliance lies in its mosaic of thousands of satellite and airplane images collected by Keyhole (another program). For most urban areas of North America and some rural ones -- as well as metropolitan regions of Europe and select locations in the rest of the world -- you can make out objects as small as a few meters across." BW also reports, "Unlike other Google services, this doesn't run in a Web browser but rather requires downloading an application -- currently only for Windows (MSFT) -- from <http://earth.google.com/>. Don't forget to type in the DOT between earth and Google.

ONE GIANT STEP FOR—YOU? In the previous news item, you learned about circling the Earth while in space, thanks to Google. Now, again via the Google's search engine, you can also virtually visit the Moon, swoop over the various landing spots by the astronauts, dive down for a closer look and then safely return home to your computer desk at home without even firing any rockets. As Google notes, man first landed on the Moon July 20, 1969. "A few decades later, we're pleased to cut you in on the action," Google reports. Google Moon is an extension of Google Maps and Google Earth. Go to your browser and type in: <http://moon.google.com/>. Again, don't forget to type in the DOT between moon and Google. (*Thanks to Hal Mozer*)

MEET THE CHAIR MAN: The gentleman you saw at the very busy July 19th class registration at the New Hope Ministries Church helping students to the right table, pulling out chairs to help them be seated, and then tucking them in to sign up for computer classes, was HARRY SHEDD. When the delighted senior student wanted to thank him for his courtesy, Shedd smiled, declaring it was his job, and adding, "I'm *the chair man*." Shedd, one of our active veteran members and an instructor, was aiding Registration Facilities Coordinator ROGER DALTON in keeping the registration line moving smoothly.

IF YOU SWITCH THE NUMBERS, it hasn't been a bad senior softball season for ROSS and SANDRA ROBERTS, stars of the Issaquah Snowflakes of the 55+Co-Ed Softball League. Ross, typical of so many active SeniorNet volunteers, including his many teaching duties, acknowledges the Snowflakes now have a 7-14 record. But switching the numbers to 14-7 would make for a happier season. In any case, Ross and Sandra still have a few more games and are hopeful of coming up with a huge hitting streak. Lotsa luck!

SENIORNET'S SEATTLE FOUNDER STILL PUSHING COMPUTERS: Our own beloved Jiggs Clark who launched the Puget Sound chapter of the fledgling national SeniorNet organization so many years ago in his Bellevue office, and is now allegedly retired, is still moving ahead full steam. Jiggs who now lives at the Horizon House in

downtown Seattle, is busy with the Horizon House Computer Lab. In a letter to this writer, he notes that the excellent Fall SeniorNet catalogue listing all classes and schedules, is displayed prominently on not just one bulletin board there, but on two." He writes, in part: "One copy is hung on the Computer Lab Bulletin Board, and the second is on the lobby bulletin board." The computer lab has five computers. In his note, Jiggs proudly hails the growth and achievements of the all-volunteer SeniorNet organization he launched single-handed way, way back. "You do know by now that the Learning Center here has become the prime model for other centers all over the world." And of course he is correct, since this was the description of the Puget Sound SeniorNet Computer Learning Center given by the two top national officers on a recent visit here. And it all started with Jiggs, for which, our grateful thanks.

NEW PRINT INK CARTRIDGE RE-FILL SITE AT CROSSROADS MALL: In the preceding July issue of the *SeniorNet Online Newsletter*, we listed two sites, one in Bellevue, the other at Northgate Mall, where they re-fill those costly printer cartridges at a fraction of the cost for a new one. Now there is another similar store just opened in the Crossroads-Bellevue Mall, site of our regular Kaffee Klatches. Even better, it is close to the Phantom Lake Elementary School where SeniorNet classes are held. This new store, Island Ink-Jet, is near the library inside the Mall, adjacent to the giant chess game site. This store is affiliated with the Northgate Mall site. We spoke with the manager/owner, Jason Lim, who said they also can tweak those pesky chips to allow users to operate with the re-filled print cartridges. Many cartridges block the printer from operating unless the company's high-priced "authorized" equipment is used. This writer had a black Epson original equipment print cartridge re-filled at the Bellevue store which includes the operator there tweaking the implanted chip. In this case, it worked just fine on my Epson, representing a considerable cost saving.

NEW HELP FOR GOOGLEBAR AND FIREFOX USERS: For those using the Firefox web browser instead of Internet Explorer (you know who you are), Google has now introduced its Google Toolbar for Firefox. You can download and install the Google Toolbar at <http://toolbar.google.com/firefox/>. For Firefox users currently using the Googlebar Firefox extension, after installing the "real" Google Toolbar, the Googlebar extension can be removed. If you don't understand all of this you probably are not using Firefox. *(Thanks to Hal Mozer)*

=====

YOUR SENIORNET DATE BOOK FOR AUGUST:

Tuesday Aug. 2, at 11:30 am

No-Host Kaffee Klatch, Meet, Make New Friends

Crossroads-Bellevue Mall Food Circus, 156th Ave. NE, at NE 8th, Bellevue

Thursday, Aug. 18th, at 11 am
Annual Brown Bag Luncheon
Phantom Lake Elementary School, Bellevue
Outdoor Covered Area
Plus Six Free Computer Lab Classes
Bring your own sandwich, and a dessert for others
Soft drinks will be provided/ Lots of prizes

NOTE: Those submitting news items for consideration are asked to keep them brief, and email them before the 25th of the month. All material subject to editing. Please send to b26flyer@comcast.net
=====

=====
If you wish to receive this free monthly newsletter by email, update your email address or unsubscribe, rush your full name, phone and email address to pugetsnet6@qwest.net. 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
=====

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