



Puget Sound Computer Learning Center

*Where skilled volunteer seniors teach seniors to use, enjoy computers*

Sept., 1, 2005, Vol. 6; Issue #9; Mail: PMB 705, 15600 NE 8<sup>th</sup>, Suite B-1, Bellevue, WA 98008-3958

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

PHIL SCHEIER, Editor



## **PRES. GRANGER CITING SUDDEN ILLNESS, STEPS DOWN; VICE PRES. DAVIS TAKES OVER**

After directing the all-volunteer SeniorNet Computer Learning Center for the past year-and-a-half to record growth, PRES. ADELLA GRANGER stunned the Aug. 16 membership meeting with her announcement she was stepping down immediately because of illness. She called on VICE PRES. DELORES DAVIS to preside over the meeting and become the official president for the remainder of the current term that expires in March, 2006.

Davis in behalf of the organization expressed the shock of the organization to the sudden news, saying the prayers of SeniorNet is being offered for a speedy recovery. She noted the continuing expansion of class registrations and growth of computer classes during her presidency.

Granger reported she had been rushed to the emergency room of a local hospital several times in the past week when she suffered a sudden illness. A series of tests followed, with more to follow, she said. In the following weeks, Granger was able to resume some of her activities, including the Computer Labs, and some other SeniorNet activities, but said she must avoid all stress activities. Granger is a former vice president of one of the area's largest bank. She has also been active with the Woodland Park Zoo program, among other volunteer activities.

## **STILL SOME OPENINGS FOR FALL CLASSES, INCLUDING 'WHERE'S MY STUFF?' FILE SETUP**

By LOUISE FLORA  
(Registrar)

Registrations for SeniorNet Fall 2005 classes continue to come in for the few classes still with openings. Added to the schedule was a very popular class – Where's My Stuff (File Management) File-3.

There is still time to plan your next trip online with Joe Hesketh's Travel Planning – Travel-1, Thursday, Dec. 1 to Dec. 15, 1:15 – 3:15. There are two openings left in Computer Fundamentals – CF-4, Tuesday, Nov. 8 and Nov. 15 – 1:15 – 3:15 and a couple spaces in the added class - Where's My Stuff (File Management) File-3 Friday, Sept. 30 to Oct. 21 – 1:15 – 3:15

For our beginners we have a free Class on Tuesday Nov. 1 – 1:00 – 3:30 – Basic Basics. This class is for the person with little or no experience in using a Windows-based computer. Emphasis will be on the simple use of the mouse and the keyboard.

We do receive cancellations, so if a class you wish to take is full, just ask to be put on the wait list. Call the voice mail 206-232-5892. Do not send any money until you are notified that space is available.

If you have missed out on the class that you really wanted because it was full, remember that in-person registration for Spring 2006 classes will be held on Thursday, Dec. 1 at New Hope Ministries Church. We hope to see you then. (See detailed information on classes, registration, costs etc immediately below)

## **Popular Classes Added to Schedule:**

Due to the overwhelming response to our July 19 in person registration, we have added two classes to our Fall 2005 Schedule. You may request to be put on the wait list for any class that is full.

**Where's My Stuff (File Management) File-3      \$20.00**  
Friday, Sept. 30 - Oct. 21 , from– 1:15 pm– 3:15 pm - 4 sessions

**Introduction to Windows XP – Intro-5              \$20.00**  
Friday – Sept. 9 - Sept. 23 – from 1:15 pm – 3:15 pm – 3 sessions

### **CLASSES STILL AVAILABLE AT PRESSTIME:**

**Basic Basics – 4 – Tues., Nov. 1, from 1:00 pm – 3:30 pm ( 1 sessions)**  
**No Charge**

**Travel Planning – Travel-1 – Thurs., Dec. 1 - Dec. 15**  
**From 1:15 pm– 3:15 pm – 3 sessions - \$20.00**

**AOL and Beyond – AOL-1 – Mon., Oct. 17 & Oct. 24**

To register for any of these classes call the voice mail at 206-232-5892 and then send your check for the class fee to: SeniorNet of Puget Sound - PMB 705 - 15600 NE 8<sup>th</sup> St. Suite B-1/ Bellevue, WA 98008

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***EASY REGISTRATION TIPS IN BRIEF:***

To register for any open classes at SeniorNet, mail your class registration form and check for the class fee to SeniorNet PMB 705, 15600 NE 8th St., Suite B-1, Bellevue, WA 98008. If you are not a SeniorNet member, a membership form plus \$40.00 membership is required. New members receive a \$10.00 discount on their first class. Forms for registration and membership can be found on our web site [www.seniornetps.org](http://www.seniornetps.org).

**DOOR PRIZES, SIX COMPUTER WORKSHOPS  
HIGHLIGHT SENIORNET'S SCHOOL PICNIC**

More than 120 SeniorNet members and friends attended last month's annual gala Brown Bag summer picnic at the school's covered outdoor site, which also featured six heavily attended computer workshops inside the building. DONNA HOLCOMB who headed the Brown Bag committee thanked those who donated items for door prizes and grab bags. "This generosity made the event a big success." Those attending brought their own lunch in a brown bag, plus a non-refrigerated dessert to share with others. Soft drinks were provided by the committee.

Grand Prizes were won by JOAN LERNER, (One-year membership, and one class of her choice), and by MARGARET AMORY, (one class of her choice). Other prizes were won by DIANE FELTON, a cookie jar, KAREN LEIGH, a planter vase, and MARGE WHITE and CARSON CHARLTON won Snoqualmie Railroad passes, Holcomb reported.

The amount donated this year for the MARGE LANGLEY PHANTOM LAKE SCHOOL FUND totaled \$446, was presented to SCHOOL PRINCIPAL TRACY MAURY on Aug. 31..

**SENIORNET MOVES UPSTAIRS—ONE FLIGHT;  
TAKE HANDY ELEVATOR OR USE STAIRS**

SeniorNet has moved up—one floor-- in the world of learning! The classroom, formerly located on the ground floor of the Phantom Lake Elementary School, has moved to Room 213 on the second floor, which is located at the top of the stairs at the North end of the school.

Easiest access is from the gym entrance in the North Parking Lot. Turn right, walk up the ramp, follow the signs and go up the stairs. If you prefer not to walk up the stairs then enter the school from either the Main or South Entrance and take the elevator located across from the School Office. Upon exiting the elevator turn right and walk to the end of the hallway where Room 213 is on your left. We look forward to seeing you in the new classroom.

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## **MAKING THE MOVE TOOK TEAMWORK, COORDINATION, SPEED AND KNOW-HOW**

The move was organized by SeniorNet's technical team that included former FACILITIES COORDINATOR KEN CRANDALL, with the full support from the Bellevue School District. PAST PRES. HELEN HESKETH, with her long association with school officials, made the contacts for the school techs to also aid in the move. SeniorNet first learned of the required move Tuesday of that week, so that second-grade students would have their class on the ground floor classroom. By Friday noon, the full move was completed, an amazing feat. Others involved included JOHN WISE, GORDON YOUNG and BOB BALSLEY.

Installing the cupboards and supplies were OTIS ROLEY, LOUISE FLORA and Hesketh. The Brown Bag committee was notified of the move, and PATTY HERZOG, SHIRLEY FOUCHT, DONNA HOLCOMB and JOAN THOMAS showed up to help. They moved all the Brown Bags materials, and door prizes, etc., for the upcoming event into another room the day the room was packed up.

## **HERE'S AN OFFER YOU JUST CAN'T REFUSE: JOIN GRANPALS, HELP KIDS LEARN MORE**

**By NANCY HARSH  
(Granpal Coordinator)**

Of course everyone knows the great role our volunteer Granpals play in helping young students at Phantom Lake with reading and other studies, right in a corner of the classrooms during regular class sessions with the teacher. This is another chance to really help the kids polish up skills and gain confidence with your encouragement and interest.

It seems hard to believe that school summer vacation is over. Where did that summer go? The Granpal/Teacher Breakfast was held in August this year since school starts early. It will be nice to see the teachers and find out who is back and who isn't. We will also have a chance to better know the new principal, Ms. Maury.

For anyone interested in becoming a Granpal, this is the very best time to join our select circle. The month of September gives us all time to find teachers we can help, or which grade we'd like to work with. Early on I will know who is back and who wants to resume volunteering in the same classroom as last year.

I will also know which teachers are in need of Granpals. Also the Bellevue School District provides several training sessions this month for new recruits. This orientation lasts two hours and is the only time that attendance is mandatory. Most new volunteers then go into the classroom the first of October and volunteer for a couple of hours a week. If you think that this is a service in which you'd like to participate—and enjoy--, please don't hesitate to email me at [nbharsh@msn.com](mailto:nbharsh@msn.com) I'd be only too happy to answer your email or, if you wish, talk to you by phone.

## **PREPARING FOR NEW FALL SESSION: UPDATING SOFTWARE PROGRAMS**

Preparing for the Fall SeniorNet classes, which began Aug. 22, is a full-time operation, which includes updating all software programs and installing the latest programs available among other procedures. So while many SeniorNet students and members were lazing away the summer, other volunteers with special skills were busy preparing for the new learning season.

These updates etc include, according to GORDON YOUNG, the following:

Removed McAfee anti-virus.

Installed the latest versions of: Adobe Reader, Office 2003, Quicken; Print Shop Essentials; Deep Freeze. This latter program returns the computer to its start-up configuration each time you re-start the computer. We have only the C: drive frozen.

Installed Security version of AOL; Microsoft Anti-Spyware.

Updated: Windows XP; Office 2003.

Set the Internet Explorer home page to Google. (To avoid a biased count of visitors to our SeniorNet home page.)

Ran an error check on each computer; Cleaned up temporary and Trash Bin files; Defragged the C: drives.

Updated the Start Menu and Quick Launch Bar

Reset the Monitors to factory default profiles. (For consistent color and contrast among all the computers.)

Applied the Microsoft Clear Type Tuner to optimize the text viewing on the monitors.

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**HERE'S A MATURED WEB SITE FOR SENIORS:** There's lots of key information on *Complete Seniors* for various senior activities such as home, travel, health, finance, working from home, dating. *Dating?* Yes indeed, and also information on gambling, according to our own BILL BUMPAS, who uses it. He however, declines to say which of the many categories he clicks on. But it's only for those over 50. So if you are under 50, no cheating. Here's the URL:  
<http://www.completeseniors.com/technology.html>

**HOW TO SAFEGUARD YOUR WIRELESS SECURITY:** Thanks to *About Computing* for a detailed description on steps to take to guard your wireless security who can tap into your information by picking up those signals. You might try the following URL:  
[http://netsecurity.about.com/od/hackertools/a/aa072004b\\_2.htm](http://netsecurity.about.com/od/hackertools/a/aa072004b_2.htm)

**BEFORE BUYING A DIGITAL CAMERA, TRY IT FOR FIT:** As a follow-up to his digital camera workshop at the August Brown Bag picnic at Phantom Lake Elementary School, our own HAL MOZER has sent along the following for further information: "...here is an excerpt from an article in the Aug. 21, 2005 *Washington Post* that reinforces some of the points I made. The full article provides some additional good ideas and is at:

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2005/08/20/AR2005082000174.html?referrer=email&referrer=email>

"Usability can and should be the biggest factor in choosing any camera. An electronic device can be too small; just try to punch in a phone number on a new cell phone. Some ultra-thin cameras would present a challenge for the large-fingered among us. For example, the otherwise excellent Kodak EasyShare V550's on/off switch is tiny and kept flush with the camera's surface, making it hard to switch on in a hurry. This is why digital cameras, like computer keyboards and monitors, should not be purchased without a hands-on trial. Inspect some cameras, hold them, take pictures with them, see how they feel in your hands and where your fingers fall on its controls. Choose the most compact and convenient camera that works for you and feels comfortable. But if a camera feels too small, leave it behind."

**WOULD DESKTOP REMINDERS HELP FLAGGING MEMORY?** Below is the URL for a free download of those handy yellow Post-It sticky notes, except these software notes are not sticky. This writer finds them very handy. These are the Post-It Software Notes. Might be worth checking into.

<http://www.windowmarketplace.com/prices.aspx?itemId=1745602&stext=>

**THOSE WEIRD EMAIL MESSAGES IN SUBJECT LINE?** Be cautious when you spot incoming email with a garbled message in the subject line, which just doesn't seem to make sense. And there's often a reason. Outside of the fact it may be coming from a friend with a loose approach to syntax, or is merely carrying on an earlier

email discussion with you in bits and pieces, it could be dangerous. Too often these garbled messages are coming from spammers who want to avoid spam filters. This writer recently received an email from an unknown source, with the subject line reading: "*Was swim the pommy.*" Another email from an unknown sender, had a subject line which read, "*My run to statistic.*" Many are sales pitches. Curious enough to open the message? Sure, but only if you like to take risks such as a virus or a pornographic sales pitch. Even worse, when you open the message, it can alert the sender that you will open anything,

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**YOUR SENIORNET DATE BOOK FOR  
SEPTEMBER:**

**Tuesday, Sept. 6<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 am**

**No-Host Kaffee Klatch, Meet, Make New Friends  
Crossroads-Bellevue Mall Food Circus, 156<sup>th</sup> Ave. NE, at NE 8<sup>th</sup>, Bellevue**

**Tuesday, Sept. 20<sup>h</sup> at 10 am**

**Monthly Membership Meeting  
New Hope Ministries Church, 15760- NE 4<sup>th</sup> st., Bellevue**

**Tuesdays, Sept 13 and 27, 9:30 am to Noon**

**FREE Computer Lab in the Classroom**

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NOTE: Those submitting news items for consideration are asked to keep them brief, and email them before the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month. All material subject to editing. Please send to [b26flyer@comcast.net](mailto:b26flyer@comcast.net)

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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](mailto: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](mailto:b26flyer@comcast.net)

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