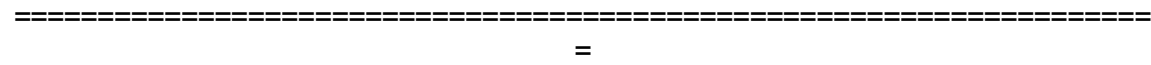




Where skilled volunteer seniors teach seniors to use, enjoy computers
Oct. 1, 2005, Vol. 6; Issue #10; Mail: PMB 705, 15600 NE 8th, Suite B-1, Bellevue, WA 98008-3958

Voice Mail: 206-232-5892; Email: senior@seniornetps.org; Phantom Lake Elementary School, Bellevue

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



NEWLY-ELECTED VICE PRES. PATTY NELSON FORMER HEAD OF MI SENIOR ADULT CENTER

As the director of the Senior Adult Center at the Mercer Island Community Center, newly-elected SENIORNET VICE PRES. PATTY NELSON originally learned of the efficient in-depth teaching methods of SeniorNet when seniors wishing to learn how to operate computers, asked her for suggestions. Learning about SeniorNet earlier, she passed on the SeniorNet information and phone number. "SeniorNet's teaching methods intrigued me because I had taken classes that lasted for a day or two, and the information they taught was overwhelming."

In addition, Nelson was impressed with the success of her Senior Adult Center volunteers who took the SeniorNet classes in Bellevue. "When I retired in 1998," she said, "I started taking classes at SeniorNet where I also volunteered, and have continued to do so over the years since then." Nelson taught a variety of SeniorNet computer classes, including Web Page and Word, presented a Paint workshop at the annual Brown Bag picnic at the Phantom Lake Elementary School, site of the SeniorNet classroom. Keeping busy, she also worked at the SeniorNet booths at various fairs, as well as aiding at registration. Nelson succeeded PRES. DELORES DAVIS as Vice President, after she became president when PRES. ADELLA GRANGER announced her sudden resignation some months earlier because of ill health.

SENIORNET REGIONAL CONFAB HERE OCT. 27-28 OFFERS COMPUTER FAST-LEARN CLASSES, TALKS

Computer users in the Pacific Northwest will meet in Bellevue for a Regional Conference Oct. 27-28 in Bellevue sponsored by the SeniorNet Computer Learning Center of Puget Sound (SNPS) to discuss and review

various computer operating programs and interstate cooperative projects. High on the agenda for the conference at the Westminster Chapel, 13646 NE 24th St., Bellevue, is the maze of information and activities that are available for computer users. In addition, plans will be outlined on what the Northwest Leadership Exchange can offer, along with tips on teaching by veteran instructors.

Deadline for registration is Monday, Oct. 24. Those planning to attend can make their reservations at SrNetConference@aol.com, listing their name for lunch and for handouts on various subjects. Details were sent out via email earlier to all on the monthly SeniorNet Online Newsletter. In person registration is scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 27, from 12:30 □ 12:55 pm. Scheduled participants in the array of programs include Joe Hesketh, SNPS instructor; Atty. Richard Schenkar; Bob Balsley, SNPS instructor; Jill McLeod, former principal of Phantom Lake Elementary School, Bellevue, and now director of Early Childhood Education; Ken Crandall, SNPS instructor and facilities coordinator; Kristin Fabos, CEP of SeniorNet National; John Wise and Hal Mozer, SNPS instructor; Gordon Young, SNPS instructor; Ron Hawkins, SN regional consultant, and Cheryl Reed, AARP.

NEW SENIORNET PRES. DELORES DAVIS' BUSY PUBLIC SERVICE BACKGROUND

It's been a very busy year for newly-elected SENIORNET PRES. DELORES DAVIS, climaxed by her taking over the reins of the organization several months ago when then PRES. ADELLA GRANGER suddenly had to leave the post because of medical problems. As vice president, Davis continued her busy schedule as a teacher, among other responsibilities.

Now suddenly, she was holding the reins of the leading and largest SeniorNet Computer Learning Center in the country while handling her many other chores. This mother of six children, with 20 grandchildren and one great grandchild, has been a widow for more than 30 years. Among many courses she has taught is the life writing class. She is a retired medical social worker from the University of Washington Hospital where she served for more than 20 years with those with acute and chronic medical problems. Davis also worked at Catholic Children's Services with foster and adoptive children, as well as at the Children's Orthopedic Hospital's emergency room. Davis received her Master's Degree at Boston College, two years after graduating from Seattle University, both over 50 years ago.

With her long-time administrative skills, Davis quickly became active with SeniorNet with a wide range of responsibilities, along with teaching, with life writing her big hobby. Some 11 years ago, she noted, □I started writing about my husband for our children to remember

him." She has focused on writing, turning out a number of books in recent years, but which now are taking a back seat to her new demanding job as SeniorNet president.

BOB BALSLEY TAKES ON THE TOUGH JOB AS CURRICULUM COORDINATOR

BOB BALSLEY, a former Air Force globe-girdling pilot and veteran SeniorNet instructor, has accepted the post of curriculum coordinator, succeeding longtime SeniorNet CURRICULUM COORDINATOR JOHN WISE who is stepping down from that post. For the time being, Balsley will continue in charge of circulation of this monthly online newsletter which goes to some 850 readers. Balsley had worked earlier with Wise in setting up classes. Wise, who also has been an instructor, said he wanted to devote more time to other projects he was involved in. He agreed to be available if needed.

Balsley piloted the giant four-engine Douglas C-124 including service in the VietNam war. When he left the service after six years, he became a systems engineer with IBM for some 27 years before retiring. He has been active with SeniorNet for the past three years, volunteering for many projects including teaching. The C-124 was a propeller-driven plane with a cruising speed of some 200 miles per hour, making for lengthy flights to VietNam, India, Europe and Thule Air Base in northern Greenland. With its huge bulk, and clam doors, it could take on huge loads, with vehicles often driven on via the lowered ramps. Many of his flights lasted 18 hours, and required refueling stops on the lengthy journeys. With great fondness, he recalls the plane's nickname as "Old Shakey," with its constant vibration.

One of the most memorable trips for Balsley came when they loaded three planes on to their own plane, removing the wings from the smaller Cessnas to fit into the cargo hold, and delivering them to VietNam. All told, Balsley logged some 4,000 hours as a pilot.

A GREAT TITLE FOR RETIRED TECH FOLKS WILLING TO SHARE SKILLS WITH SENIORS

So there you are, a retiree with lots of accumulated technical expertise, and wondering what to do with your free time.

Many of you have already volunteered to share this knowledge, particularly on computer operations, with other seniors really wanting to also master computers, as SeniorNet instructors or teaching assistants. Others may already be doing the same at other volunteer community organizations, such as senior centers, libraries etc.

For those with backgrounds on computers, you are invited/urged to register with the SeniorNet RTV (Retired Technology Volunteer) program. This will provide a very handy database (computer talk for a directory) of available tech-savvy seniors

available to teach computers to other seniors, according to SENIORNET PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTOR HELEN HESKETH.

Who qualifies as an RTV? According to Hesketh, "Anyone over 50 who is doing volunteer work that involves computer skills. The person can be volunteering for any organization, club or group in the United States and doing any kind of computer-related work at any skill level from simple data entry to accounting, website design, or digital photography."

Also, Hesketh notes, "If you are one of the first 500 to register, you will not only become an RTV Pioneer, but will also receive a free SeniorNet national membership, valued at \$40. Or, if already a member, you will receive a one-year extension of your existing membership."

To register, go to <http://www.seniornet.org/rtv> and click ³Join RTV.² The form is easy to fill out.

TWO-SESSION AOL CLASS STARTING OCT. 17 HELPS UNRAVEL SECRETS, LEARN NEW USES

By LOUISE FLORA
(Registrar)

Starting Monday, Oct. 17, and Oct. 24, (two sessions) JOE HESKETH will be unraveling many of the mysteries of your AOL program. He will be utilizing AOL 9.0 Optimized SE Security Edition. You will learn both the basics and advanced features of AOL E-mail, address book, Instant Messaging and many tips on how to navigate the net through AOL Home Page.

Then when you have mastered this program, you can use the Internet for planning your winter travel in the Travel Planning Class. In the three sessions beginning Thursday, Dec. 1-8-15, you will be amazed how easy it is to plan your travel by air, auto, rail, bus or RV. Find bed and breakfasts, hotels etc, while en route and after you arrive at your destination. Travel planning becomes a virtual breeze.

Both of these classes have limited openings, they are both priced at \$20.00 each with the required National SeniorNet Membership. Call the voice mail 206-232-5892 to register. While the class is free, registration is required by calling 206-232-5892

FREE CLASS FOR BEGINNERS: Still available Tuesday, Nov. 1, from 1 pm
□ 3:30 pm SeniorNet is offering a free class for anyone with little or no experience in using a computer. This class is a pre-requisite for all other SeniorNet classes. Instructor ROSS ROBERTS will help you conquer any fear of computers.

Emphasis is on the simple use of the mouse and the keyboard. It features a low tech, jargon-free explanation of the very first steps in using a computer. Each student will be assigned a computer during the hands-on class, and you will be on the way to mastering the magical world of computers.

MORE GRANPALS NEEDED TO WORK WITH KIDS: The teachers have returned to Phantom Lake and so have the Granpals who help the young students with their reading, math etc., right in the classroom. Nine Granpals greeted the teachers at an 8 am continental breakfast at the start of classes. This has now become a tradition at Phantom Lake. This year the breakfast was held in the library. It was great to get together and talk shop. "Nearly all our Granpals are back this year and many are already working with their teachers," according to Granpals Coordinator Nancy Harsh. "However, the staff seems to be able to accommodate any number we have so if you are contemplating joining our group, please feel free to email me and find out what it's all about. Contact GRANPALS COORDINATOR NANCY HARSH, nbharsh@msn.com"

CLASS VACANCY? WHAT VACANCY? A funny thing happened last month, when your editor wrapped up the September SeniorNet monthly online newsletter which goes to some 700 avid readers. Included was a story from REGISTRAR LOUISE FLORA, listing two classes with three vacancies from our in-person registration. Later that day, she sent this writer an email saying he was earning his huge salary cause within hours after members received the newsletter with that story, people called up to sign up for the vacancies. And this included two new members.

NEW HIGH POST FOR RETIRED PRINCIPAL: Recently resigned Phantom Lake School PRINCIPAL JILL MCLEOD just can't seem to stay retired. Our long-time SeniorNet friend has just been named Director of Early Childhood Education for Bellevue. This covers preschool, Head Start and childcare, with approximately some 100 staffers in those programs which serve some 1,000 children in Bellevue. McLeod has been in public education for some 34 years, the last eight at Phantom Lake. The new principal and good friend of SeniorNet is TRACY MAURY.

TROUBLE VIEWING TEXT ON SCREEN? Microsoft Word allows you to enlarge or reduce the display of text on your computer screen to make for less eyestrain and easier viewing. Try the following:

- 1-Click the down arrow alongside the Zoom box ON TOP, RIGHT, with the number and percent sign, and a list of zoom settings.
- 2-Click the zoom setting u want to use. Note: Select Page Width or Text Width to fit the page or the text across the width of screen. (Select Whole Page or Two Pages. The document appears in a new zoom setting. You can edit the document as usual. To return to the normal 100% zoom setting, repeat steps 1 and 2.

GOOGLE OFFERS NEW FREE TALK PROGRAM: Here is a new Google program that allows you to talk with just about anyone else in the country who has also downloaded the Google talk setup and has a fairly good computer. This writer has used it successfully both in local area calls, and also to another user in Massachusetts. The only occasional problem is the very brief fadeout, but then it comes back on. After all, it's still a beta program. If interested, here is the URL with all the download info:
<http://www.google.com/support/talk> (Thanks to Hal Mozer)

IS A VIRUS SLOWING DOWN YOUR COMPUTER? Some helpful hints on determining if you may have a virus problem when your computer starts slowing down and acting strangely, can be found at this Microsoft URL:
http://www.microsoft.com/athome/security/viruses/intro_viruses_signs.msp

SENIORNETTER HELPS RENAME PARK: Our own Margaret Amory of Mercer Island was honored this past month when a 2.8 acre park was renamed Wildwood Park after she spearheaded a drive to change the name of the area near her home. The park, donated to the city by the Weyerhaeuser Corp., has walkways, benches and a seasonal duck walk, among other facilities. Amory is a long-time active SeniorNet member and assistant instructor in several classes.

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**YOUR SENIORNET DATE BOOK FOR
OCTOBER:**

Tuesday, Oct. 4th at 11:30 am

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

Tuesday, Oct. 18th at 10 am

**Monthly Membership Meeting
New Hope Ministries Church, 15760- NE 4th St., Bellevue**

Two Tuesdays, Oct. 11 & 25 at 9:30 -12 Noon

**Free Computer Help Labs-All Welcome
Phantom Lake Elementary School, SeniorNet Classroom
Instructors will sit with you at a computer to help solve problems**

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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

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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. 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

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