



Puget Sound Computer Learning Center

Where skilled volunteer seniors teach seniors to use, enjoy computers

Dec. 1, 2005, Vol. 6; Issue #12; Mail: PMB 705, 15600 NE 8th, Suite B-1, Bellevue, WA 98008-3958
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Bellevue

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

PHIL SCHEIER, Editor

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In-person registration from 10 am--noon
**SIGN UP FOR CLASSES DEC. 1;
MASTER COMPUTER SKILLS**

Expanded learning opportunities for seniors to master computer operations will again be offered Thursday morning, Dec. 1, by the all-volunteer SeniorNet Computer Learning Center of Puget Sound. Doors will open at 9:55 am, at the New Hope Ministries Church, 15760 NE 4th St., Bellevue, just four blocks south of Crossroads Shopping Mall, it was announced by REGISTRAR LOUISE FLORA. In-person registration will continue until Noon. The wide range of courses cover starting basic basics for those without any computer experience, to those wanting to further expand their current computer skills. In-person registrants will have preferential admittance to classes. Those unable to attend in person may register by mail for classes. If a class is full, the applicant will be placed on a waiting list for admittance if, as often happens, space becomes available for that class.

Flora said those driving south on 156th NE, past the Crossroads Mall, should turn East (left) on 4th. "The Church is on the left in about one block. Watch for our signs! As in the past, numbers will be distributed beginning at 8:30 am. But this year, there is a different twist. To eliminate the need for standing outside in long lines, as in the past, early arrivals may drive up in a car and obtain a registration number from one of the volunteers, and given an approximate time to return for the actual registration process based on their number."

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REGISTRATION DETAILS ON OUR WEB SITE: Always a key source for information on all SeniorNet activities here, our popular web site at <http://www.seniornetps.org/> has special importance for those planning to sign up for computer courses at our Friday, Dec. 1 registration. Check the site for great learning opportunities. and class schedules listed in the detailed catalogue that was mailed out earlier this month.

Describing the new streamlined procedure, Flora said, "You can leave the grounds and return at your scheduled time without losing your place in line. Once inside the building you will be assisted by 50 SeniorNet volunteers eager to help you with your registration. Coffee and pastries will again be available for those awaiting their turn.

While the Spring/Winter catalog has been mailed, listing all classes, schedules and fees, students who did not receive the catalog, were asked to call the voice mail at 206-232-5892, to request one. Those calling are asked to spell first and last names, and speak slowly when asking for the catalog to be mailed.

"As in the past," Flora stressed, "in-person registration takes priority over mail-in registration. The mail-in registrations are processed in the order they are received so if you are unable to get to in person registration on Dec. 1, mail your class registration form and check as soon as possible. We can accept credit card payment only for the National Membership Dues but class fees must be paid by check. If a class is filled we will notify you and put you on a wait list. We do receive cancellations during the school year, and many students on the wait list eventually get a place in class."

HELPING STUDENTS ACHIEVE COMPUTER GOALS HIGH ON SENIORNET AGENDA FOR COMING YEAR

With the new school year registration taking place Thursday morning, Dec. 1, the SeniorNet leadership is moving ahead with updated goals to more effectively help students master computer operations, ranging from first-time users to those with more classroom experience.

SeniorNet Pres. Delores Davis led the discussion at the May 15th membership meeting which stressed a goal of helping students chose basic classes before moving to advanced programs. Curriculum Coordinator Bob Balsley said he was hoping to use available empty periods in the classroom for special single-session brush-up classes. These special classes would focus on some key operations, such as opening up and backing up files. Even though the procedures are part of the regular, students can be helped with additional instructions and drills. In addition, students will be urged to first take basic required courses before going on to more advanced classes, thus making for a smooth transition from beginner to advanced. The major concern of instructors is whether the student is "ready" to tackle new subjects, or needs additional help with some basics.

Registration time, it was noted, is a key point in selecting classes, based on past computer experience to properly prepare the student for the next step in learning computers.

The Goals Update discussed included;

CURRICULUM: Create more workshops whether in the available empty days in the classroom, or in available empty rooms.

VOLUNTEERS: Develop a training program for instructors and assistants, and create a mentoring program.

PUBLIC RELATIONS/PUBLICITY/MARKETING: Increase marketing to news media, radio and TV, along with participation in community activities to inform seniors of the computer learning opportunities at SeniorNet.

COURSES/AND/OR WORKSHOPS: In addition to the favorite programs, Photo editing has been added, with an ongoing study of possible new courses to be added to the curriculum, based on interest by students.

The meeting was topped off with a discussion panel on New and New Ways of Technology, which could also be considered for Holiday gifts, and included: Ken Crandall, Ross Roberts, Hal Mozer and Ray French.

EVER LOST A FILE WHEN HARD DRIVE JUST FAILS? SPECIAL 'BACK-UP' TRAINING SESSION IN WORKS

Because of the great interest shown by those attending the recent talk and discussion on backing up files to another disk or drive to prevent them from being lost, presented at the recent Regional Conference, plans are being completed for a similar two-hour demonstration/seminar sometimes during the coming Winter-Spring session, according to CURRICULUM COORDINATOR BOB BALSLEY.

The importance of learning how to effectively back up files to avoid losing documents in event of a breakdown of the computer's hard drive highlighted the earlier seminar which included FACILITIES COORDINATOR KEN CRANDALL.

In addition, Balsley is also planning to conduct several 'special' learning sessions in the coming year, probably in the spring. Specific subjects will be announced at a later date. The two-hour back-up session will be held in the SeniorNet classroom that includes a projector linked to the instructor's computer for easy viewing on the giant wall screen. The special sessions will be scheduled when the busy classroom is available for these programs, he said.

ONE SPACE LEFT FOR TRAVEL PLANNING CLASS: Because of a late cancellation, there is an open seat available for the popular three-session Computer Travel Planning Class starting Thursday, Dec. 1. Registrar Flora said anyone interested in this class should immediately call the voice mail at 206-232-5892 to register. "This class will offer hands-on experience in using the internet for planning travel by air, auto, rail, bus or RV," she said. "Discover how to find tourist attractions, B&B's, hotels, etc. while en route, and after you arrive at your destination, what the weather will be like and more. The class starts Thursday, Dec. 1, from 1:15 pm-3:15 pm, and continues on the following two Thursdays, to Dec. 15. The cost is \$20.00 plus national membership of \$40.00, if you are not yet a member of National SeniorNet.

A REMINDER FOR NATIONAL SENIORNET NEWS: National SeniorNet members online automatically receive the national SeniorNet online newsletter, which is loaded with good information, designed for seniors. Here is the URL/address for those who may have overlooked this emailed publication: <http://www.seniornet.org/php/default.php>

SPYWARE WARRIOR LIST? Yes, there is such a place online, known as Rogue/Suspect Anti-Spyware Products & Web Site, with a big listing of various spyware products and procedures to block outsiders trying to follow your computer adventures. Might be interesting to check it out to get a closer look at this computer safety threat, and what to do about it at:

http://www.spywarewarrior.com/rogue_anti-spyware.htm (*Thanks to Ken Crandall and Hal Mozer*)

WHAT BETTER TIME to plan on creating your own personalized calendar for the coming year? Not only can you insert your own personal photos for each month of the year, but you can also write in birthdays, anniversaries, and meetings before printing out the new calendar. Also could make a great gift for someone who has everything, or thinks he/she has everything. This shareware is priced at \$29.95. Features include a wide range of shapes and types, retains key dates from year to year, and, of course, text can be added. Check it out at <http://www.digi-labs.net/software.htm>. (*Thanks to Ray Hansen who uses it.*)

FROM MICROSOFT: Here is an excellent guide to using Windows XP, with lots of details and explanations etc. Plus lots of links to other instructional material.
<http://www.microsoft.com/windowsxp/using/default.msp>

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YOUR SENIORNET DATE BOOK FOR DECEMBER:

Thursday, Dec. 1, at 10 am--Noon

In-Person Registration for Winter/Spring Classes
New Hope Ministries Church, 15760- NE 4th St., Bellevue

Tuesday Dec. 6 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, Dec. 20 at 10 am

Monthly Membership Meeting
New Hope Ministries Church, 15760- NE 4th St., Bellevue
Followed by Kaffee Klatch at Crossroads Mall

Tuesdays Dec. 13 and 27 at 9:30 -12 Noon

Free Computer Help Labs-All Welcome, Members or Not

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

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