

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/>

PHIL SCHEIER, Editor

Awards breakfast Oct. 17th at Emerald Downs

GORDON YOUNG SENIORNET VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Retired Boeing engineer **Gordon Young**, veteran volunteer SeniorNet teacher and now facilities coordinator, has been named as our nominee for the RSVP Volunteer of the Year regional award. The award ceremony, which includes a complimentary breakfast, will be held Tuesday morning, Oct. 17th, at the Emerald Downs Racetrack. All members are invited to attend.

Because of the award breakfast program, the regularly scheduled monthly SeniorNet membership meeting, originally scheduled to be held at that time, has been cancelled, it was announced by Pres. Lois Farris.

The Winner's Circle, the RSVP Volunteer Recognition Breakfast program to select the area-wide winner starts at 8:30 am. Carpools will leave from the New Hope Ministries Church, our regular meeting site, at 8 am, but please arrive at the church, our regular meeting site, by 7:45 am. You are asked to register for the breakfast event before Oct. 3, by emailing Sharon Arthur at shabi63@msn.com

Young joined SeniorNet a few years ago and quickly took on many volunteer chores, including teaching, and Instructor/Assistant Coordinator. He has long been part of former Facilities Coordinator Ken Crandall's facilities maintenance team. To make sure the computers, printers, programs etc all work properly. After spending four years in the Air Force and graduating from the University of Washington, Young joined Boeing where he spent the next 37 years before retiring.

The original emailed announcement and invitation to the breakfast and ceremony included a boxed form to be copied with the return email and marked by those planning to attend, or wishing to drive a car for the car pool etc.

OCT. 17TH MEMBERSHIP MEETING CANCELLED FOR AWARDS PROGRAM
 There will be no monthly membership meeting on Tuesday morning, Oct. 17th.
 Not having a meeting that day allows SNPS members to attend the RSVP Volunteer Recognition Breakfast at Emerald Downs to support our nominee **Gordon Young**.

For learners, some vacancies still available in key classes

RECORD STUDENT ENROLLMENT FOR FALL SCHEDULE

By LOUISE FLORA

(Registrar)

Here it is October and SeniorNet Fall classes are at the half -way point. We have a record number of classes offered this session with a record number of students learning what we have to offer, and some interesting classes with a few vacancies still available.

Even though many classes are full, some with wait lists, there are also a few helpful classes with open spots. Photo Editing, always well attended has a few openings. Photo-2 has two spaces and Photo-3, several more. Learn how to take those photographs and enhance, crop, remove blemishes and a host of other techniques.

Starting Oct. 5, Where's My Stuff – File-2, has a couple of openings. Ever wonder where you put that very important document – join this class and learn all the “tricks of the trade”.

Intermediate Word Processing, Nov. 21 thru Dec. 19, has openings. If you have taken basic word processing classes, now is the time to sharpen up on your skills. The last class on Dec. 19 is devoted to making labels using Word!

Be sure to mark your calendars for our next registration. It will be Thursday, Nov. 30, again at New Hope Ministries Church in Bellevue. A committee is already hard at work preparing the schedule and making improvements in the registration process itself. We'll see you all at the Nov. 30th registration.

Prepare breakfast to mark start of school year, present check

GRANPALS SERVE TEACHERS AT OPENING PROGRAM

By NANCY HARSH

(Granpals coordinator)

The Fall Granpal (SeniorNet members aiding teachers and students) season always starts with a continental breakfast served by the GranPals to the staff of Phantom Lake Elementary School, which hosts our classroom. This year was no exception. On Aug. 30th at 7:30 am the staff also started their new school year by congregating in the library for breakfast before their full day of meetings and organizing of their classrooms began. Principal Tracy Maury estimated there were about 50 members of her staff present. As there are only 16 teachers in classrooms teaching kindergarten to fifth grade, you can see what a huge support team these students have. Also present were the preschool teachers and their specialists.

Several GranPals came to the school an hour earlier to arrange the juices, muffins, bagels, Danish rolls, granola, and yogurt. Others arranged trays of fruit or vases of flowers so that by 7:30 all was ready. And by 8 am there was not much left over but enough so that the GranPals and members of the board who were also there could fill their own plates and adjourn to the multipurpose room for an extra koffee klatch.

Before we left the library SeniorNet Pres. Lois Farris presented a check to Tracy for the Marg Langley Emergency Fund. Lois wore a brown bag hat used by Treas. Joe Hesketh while he was selling raffle tickets. It was a wonderful touch.

Our Granpals' teachers were of course present so this gave those Granpals present an opportunity to meet up with them and confirm their volunteer times for the coming year.

Based on this year's breakfast, I'm sure this is a tradition that will continue. Phantom Lake teachers love their Granpals.

Hansen had key role in Thule area defense, research projects

HIGH OVER GREENLAND, HE RECALLS ARMY DUTY

By PHIL SCHEIER

For Ray and Mary Hansen this was more than just another flight over the Atlantic. This was a trip over the top of the world. This flight home from a trip to France and Copenhagen in September, was over the Polar route, not far from the North Pole, and, particularly, over Greenland with its desolate ice cap. Most importantly, this was a deeply emotional voyage of memories for Ray, as he looked down at his Greenland "home" of exactly 50 years ago with the Army Corps of Engineers on the bitter cold, white wasteland.

"Vivid sights leapt to mind," he recalled. "Out on the icecap when the weather was calm you could stand (yes, it's usually firm enough to stand on) and feel like being on an island in the middle of a dead-calm white sea. But when snow was blowing, you'd hang on to the safety rope or you could get totally disoriented, and never be seen again."

It was back in the 1950s at the height of the cold war with a belligerent Russia. The wary United States was playing catch-up to construct the massive Thule Air Base, and also install widely scattered outposts under the direction of the Engineer Arctic Task Force (EATF).

The camps and operations were spread over hundreds of square miles and held early warning enemy detection equipment, research stations to learn how to cope with the permafrost, plus other needed facilities. Hansen is a former SeniorNet instructor and curriculum coordinator. The West Pointer and MIT graduate, was the EATF's Operations Officer at that time, responsible for the many outposts scattered over hundreds of miles. Some were as close as 200 miles from the North Pole.

Gazing down from the modern passenger plane at his former "home," Hansen recalled, "It's the details that jump to mind. Little things. Don't remember the outside being cold at all, even during icy stinging storms. But what I do remember is how my feet felt, as if they were freezing when in the sack at night. Every bit of the pot-bellied stove's heat rose stayed at the top of the tent. So life was okay when you stood up. But in the sack it must have been well below zero, even with wool socks on and a bunch of extra clothing shoved down into the bottom of the sleeping bag for extra insulation."

Pressed against the window of his plane, Hansen could look down at the icecap and northwest Greenland's coastal fjords and glaciers, right where Thule is. "It's still hard to imagine being way out on all that white stuff--with flimsy vehicles (leftover and converted WW2 equip), and often on foot," he recalled.

(Editor's note: Ray Hansen and this writer have long shared a special nostalgia for Greenland, icecaps, permafrost, crevasse and all. Ray for his two lengthy duty assignments there. For this writer, it was landing at a WW11 virtual pit-stop air base refueling station in May, 1943, at the southern tip of Greenland, as a member of a B26 medium bomber crewmember heading for England. Because of bad weather, the refueling stop at this desolate steel-matted landing strip, turned into an almost week-long stay.)

COMPUTER TIPS

IT'S BILLED AS A WINDOWS SAFETY SCANNER which can be downloaded for a short-term trial before it expires. That is, unless you buy it. According to one of our in-house experts, Ross Roberts, "It can check for and help remove viruses and spyware, improve your PC's performance, and get rid of junk on your hard disk. Try it for yourself at <http://safety.live.com>."

SPEED UP INTERNET TRAVELS by reducing the size of your Windows Internet Explorer Browser cache (pronounced *cash*) that stores temporary web sites. This is recommended by experts only if you have a high-speed, broadband connection which can quickly search out and download different websites. If, however, your Internet connection is at the low end of the speed spectrum, such as a phone dial-up, experts advise, a larger cache is better to temporarily store more sites for quicker access. Trimming the size of the cache could have a downside. If so, just go back and return it to the earlier number. Here's how to set the Windows XP Internet Explorer Browser cache size selector:

1. Click Tools, and on submenu which appears, click Internet Options.
2. Dialogue box appears with tabs, click General tab.
3. Click Browsing History, and box appears.
4. Click Settings. Box appears with Temporary Internet Files and History
5. Halfway down box is a section with adjustable numbers. Write down number in case you want to return to original setting.
6. To reduce size of cache, click down arrow. Some versions have a slider scale, some adjustable numbers.
7. Click OK. Via trial and error, you can adjust the size of cache for best performance, or return to the original setting.

CLASSES, SCHEDULES ALL ON OUR WEB SITE

Make use of the information on our all-volunteer SeniorNet Computer Learning Center of Puget Sound. This includes all Courses, schedules and photos of the classroom and instructors at the Phantom Lake Elementary School in Bellevue. Go to:

www.seniornetps.org

Constructed and maintained by Hal Mozer, Jay Schlechter and Chuck Goldstein

YOUR SENIORNET DATE BOOK FOR OCTOBER:

Three Tuesdays, Oct.10, 24 and 31 , from 9:30 am –Noon

**Free Computer Help Lab-All Welcome, Members or Not
Phantom Lake Elementary School, SeniorNet Classroom
Instructors will sit with you at a computer to help solve problems**

Tuesday, Oct. 17th , at 7:45 am

NO Monthly Membership Meeting

Because of Regional Awards Breakfast;

But carpools will depart church at 8 am

New Hope Ministries Church, 15760- NE 4th St., Bellevue

Tuesday, Oct. 17th,

Kaffee Klatch at Crossroads Cancelled Because of Awards Ceremony

There is only one Kaffee Klatch monthly

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

GREAT CAREER OPPORTUNITY

Editor Position Available

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NOTE: Those submitting news items for consideration are asked to keep them brief, and email them before the 20th of the month. All material subject to editing. Please send to b26flyer@comcast.net

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President: Lois Farris; Vice Pres. Merrilee George; Treasurer: Joe Hesketh; Secretary: Martha Simon; Registrar: Louise Flora; Curriculum Coordinator: Bob Balsley; Facilities Coordinator: Gordon Young; Public Relations Coordinator: Helen Hesketh; Immediate Past President: Adella Granger; Member-at-Large: Harry Shedd; Granpals Coordinator: Nancy Harsh; Online Newsletter Circulation: Bob Balsley; Online Newsletter Editor: Phil Scheier

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