



Puget Sound Computer Learning Center

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

August, 2007 Vol. 8 Issue # 8 Mail: PMB 705, 15600 NE 8<sup>th</sup>, Suite B-1, Bellevue, WA 98008-3958  
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## **BROWN BAG EVENT**

**THURSDAY AUGUST 23, 2007**

**11:00 AM – 3:00 PM**

The eleventh annual Brown Bag will be held at Phantom Lake Elementary School (PLE). ***This year the event will be held in the school gymnasium.*** Parking is available either at the school or at Tillicum Middle School, just south of PLE. You can get to the gym via the north entrance at the bottom of the main parking lot. As well as a brown bag lunch for yourself, bring along a non-refrigerated dessert to share with approximately six people. Cold drinks will be provided by SeniorNet.

Also bring a few dollars to buy raffle tickets for the Marge Langley Memorial Fund. This fund is used to support the less fortunate school children when they need help with acquiring school supplies or other school related projects. There will of course be a drawing and the lucky winners will receive gift certificates from QFC, Tully's or Bellevue Collection (BelSquare).

Following lunch there will be a choice of three seminars to attend. These workshops will be repeated so that everyone will have the opportunity of hearing two of the three.

- **VISTA:** Bob Morrison will give an overview of VISTA. Hopefully he will answer such questions as "Why Vista?", "To upgrade or not to upgrade. That is the question", and finally he will give you a description of the major differences he sees with VISTA when turning on the computer.
- **TRAVEL:** Joe Hesketh will present an overview of the many ways you can use the Internet to plan your travels, whether it's a local bus trip on Metro or an overseas adventure.
- **DIGITAL CAMERA:** Hal Mozer will offer helpful hints on using your digital camera, traveling with your camera, what to consider when buying a camera as well as an explanation of many of those mysterious digital terms such as *White Balance!*

Check over this list, decide what you'd like to hear and start thinking of questions to ask these instructors. There always seems to be time for questions.

Brown Bag has always been a SeniorNet highlight so mark your calendar.

***See you on August 23<sup>rd</sup> at 11:00 AM in the Phantom Lake gymnasium.***

## ***PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE***

Lois Farris

It is hard for me to realize that the summer is about over and we are preparing to return to our fun SeniorNet classes. However, before we do that, we have our **August general meeting on Tuesday August 21<sup>st</sup>**. We will meet in our regular location, **New Hope Ministries Church, at 10:00 AM**. This will be a business meeting only. Since we have our wonderful Brown Bag on the 23<sup>rd</sup>, the Board decided to forgo a speaker and go to Crossroads for lunch a little early. The group going to lunch is usually around 20 people; so do plan to join us and get to know our members a little better. I look forward to seeing all of you at the Brown Bag on Thursday the 23<sup>rd</sup> at 11:00 am

I would like to remind you all that the primary date for **voting** has been changed and it is the same day as our meeting on the 21<sup>st</sup>. So add that stop into your errands for the day.

### **REGISTRATION FOR FALL CLASSES**

Registration Day July 27 began very early for SeniorNet. As the workers arrived to set up, there were 2 cars already in line to get their registration number. Below is an accounting by the team who manned the parking lot and gave out numbers.

6:45 AM	First two cars arrived
7:30 AM	Ten cars in line
7:45 AM	Seventeen cars in line
7:55 AM	Traffic jam to the street
8:00 AM	Started passing out numbers
8:10 AM	Gave out #51 and traffic jam was over
8:30 AM	Gave out #67
9:30 AM	Gave out #79 & Registration officially started
11:30 AM	Last arrival #104

The day went very smoothly with several classes full by noon. The process of giving the student a time to return and a number was very successful. It even allowed enough time for the registrants to indulge in a cup of coffee and a pastry. The most popular classes were Basic-1, Using Windows XP 1 & 2, E-mail and Word Processing-1. Many others have only a few spaces left. It would be a good idea to call the voice mail 206-232-5892 to inquire about space available in a particular class. We will continue to process mail-in registrations in the order they are received. So don't delay; get that registration in the mail and don't be disappointed.

Don't forget our very popular Open Labs held on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of every month from 9:30 to noon.

# SCAM ALERTS

## How to Avoid Charity Scams

The following is an extract from an article by Ron Smith that can be found on the SeniorNet website.

Let's say that a well dressed lady comes to your door collecting for World's Children Fund. She is very pleasant and looks legitimate having a clip board in hand with info for you. But you'd as soon deal with her quickly so give her \$20.00 for her worthy cause and get a receipt. Sound about right? Let's review the mistakes you made along with what you could have done to prevent being taken in a charity scam.

Mistake # One: You never would have believed that sweet elderly woman at your front door was a con artist. Her appearance and manners were cleverly designed to make you drop your guard.

Mistake # Two: You didn't ask for the charity's registration number. Most scammers won't have it. Before you contribute anything, ask the Better Business Bureau if its Wise Giving Alliance (a Website roster of legal charities) lists the charity. You can check for yourself online at [www.give.org](http://www.give.org). Another, even more comprehensive, Website that shows legitimate charities is Charity Navigator. Find it at <http://www.charitynavigator.org/index.cfm>

Mistake # Three: You were too eager to fork over your money. Instead, you should have asked to have the charity's headquarters mail you literature. That normally separates the scammers from the real charities. Notice I said literature mailed to you. Not handed to you. Anybody today can dash out professional looking literature with a computer, a software publishing program, and a color printer. But few can fake receiving mail from a charity's mailing address.

Mistake # Four: You made a donation in cash. A big no no. And never use your credit card unless you're absolutely sure the charity is legitimate. That's a good way to have your credit card number stolen. You don't need that headache. Instead, make out a check in the name of the charity, not the person soliciting funds. But only after you've verified its legitimacy.

Use the same guidelines when somebody solicits you by phone. And disregard charity solicitations by email, unless you can verify the sender. Chances are they're bogus.

To read the full article go to <http://www.seniornet.org/php/default.php?PageID=7326> Click on the second article *New Charity Begins at Home*. Ron Smith is the author of *Scambusters: More Than Sixty Ways Seniors Get Swindled and How They Can Prevent It*.

## New Email Scam

Ken Crandall

Recently I have been receiving emails that inform me that I have received an email greeting card from “a family member”, “a friend”, “a School-mate”, “a Neighbor”, or similar sources. I can't tell you what was in these emails because they are clearly “spam” or other malicious emails that are detected by my anti-spam program since I had indicated to my anti-spam program that the first such message was spam. These emails all have an attachment that could include malicious programs or links that could take you to a malicious web site.

I suggest that you avoid these emails and, if possible, setup your email program to flag these emails. Be certain that you know that the email comes from someone you know before opening any such messages

In “Outlook” you can verify the sender by right clicking on an unopened message, select the “Options” link and read the “received from” information. In “Outlook Express”, you need to right click on an unopened message, select the “Properties” link, then click on the “Details” tab and read the “received from” information. These techniques will work for any message when you want to verify the sender.

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**VISIT OUR WEB SITE [www.seniornetps.org](http://www.seniornetps.org)**

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

**Get information on our all-volunteer SeniorNet Computer Learning Center of Puget Sound.  
Find information on our COURSES and SCHEDULES; see photos of our classroom and instructors.**

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- If you have changed your address, phone number or email address, please notify us of these changes. Please call the voice mail 206-232-5892 or email [Senior@seniornetps.org](mailto:Senior@seniornetps.org) and bring us up to date.
  - If you wish to contribute articles, news items or comments, please contact Nancy Harsh at [nbharsh@msn.com](mailto:nbharsh@msn.com).
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