



# Oakmont PC Users Group

## E-Mail Newsletter

March 1, 2011

Volume 5 Number 3

### **Officers:**

#### **President:**

Jack Frantz

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#### **Vice President:**

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[codger65@att.net](mailto:codger65@att.net)

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#### **Communications:**

Krystine Boehme

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#### **Helper Committee:**

Gordon Ramsey

[ramsey7999@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ramsey7999@sbcglobal.net)

**Help Volunteers:** *If you have a problem, give one of these knowledgeable folks a call:*

Jack Frantz 539-4232

Phil Kenny 538-2075

Bob Mandelstam 537-8724

Gordon Ramsey 538-4981

### **We're on the Web!**

<http://oakmontpc.com>

#### **Webmaster:**

Gary Pickering

[rwp@sonic.net](mailto:rwp@sonic.net)

### **President's Message**

The officers and Board of our club strive to make it relevant and interesting while at the same time improving members' skills in the use of personal computers. The Question & Answer sessions on the second Monday of each month (except in December) play an important part in furthering the effort.

Recently we have heard from several members who felt overwhelmed by the sessions in that it was apparent that some of the questions asked demonstrated knowledge well beyond their own. Let me reassure anyone who hesitates asking a question for fear of looking foolish that there is no need for concern. No one is born with a high computer skill level. It is an acquired skill usually obtained very gradually over a period of years. Obtaining answers from someone in person or on the internet speeds the process.

"There are no dumb questions." This was the phrase used by Mason Huffman when he started off the Q&A sessions. Mason headed the Q&A sessions for many years and is still an active club member. Simple questions often help others and also lead to other questions, which make the session enjoyable and informative to the group. It also makes our Experts Panel feel good to have questions they are able to "ace." Help make our experts feel good by bringing your questions and participating in the Q&A sessions.

In a similar vein, if you have ideas or suggestions for the General Programs that occur on the third Monday of each month the Board and Program Committee would appreciate hearing them. Contact anyone in the left column of this newsletter with your suggestions.

**Jack Frantz, President**

### **Final Dues Notice**

This is the last issue of our club newsletter that will be sent to you if your 2011 dues of \$10 per household are not paid. We try to keep our membership list current and can only assume that you do not wish to continue to support the club. Dues can be paid by mailing a check made out to **OPCUG** to Gary Goodenough, 451 Oak Mesa Drive, Santa Rosa, CA 95409. Dues can also be paid at the General Meeting on the third Monday of March, but it would be a good idea to do it now before you forget.

### **New Members**

We welcome the following new members to our Club:

**Nancy and Dale Blake**

**Joan and John Hodge**

**Christopher Jako**

**Victor Spear**

**Helen and Ken Young**

All new members are encouraged to become participants and please feel free to contact any of the officers for help or assistance.

**Thanks to  
George McKinney**

**Any Questions?**

**Any Problems?**

**Hear Sonic**

**Face the Facebook**

### **Thank you, George!**

Once again George McKinney did a superlative job of sharing with us the benefits of his experience in conducting "Successful Internet Searches." We had a large audience and they were most appreciative of the extensive amount of information he conveyed. Thank you, George.

The handout and slides will be posted on our club web page so that you can refer to them as needed and use for further study. It will take a few days since our new Webmaster is learning the business of editing on the web but we expect to mount the items within the first week of March.

### **March Question and Answer Session**

**Monday, March 14 – West Recreation Center at 2:45 p.m.**

If you have a computer question or problem you would like to have discussed at our Q&A Session, Bob Mandelstam is our Coordinator and M/C. E-mail your questions or problems to Bob at [bobmandel@psualum.com](mailto:bobmandel@psualum.com) several days before the meeting and he will work with our experts to determine a solution, which will be addressed at the meeting. We will continue to take questions from the floor but the e-mail requests will have priority.

We encourage our members to attend this session whether you have a question or not. There is always something to learn and sometimes even the most knowledgeable pick up something new. The Q&A session follows our board meeting, which is held at 1:30 p.m. and is open to any members who would like to attend.

### **March General Meeting**

**Monday, March 21 – West Recreation Center at 2 p.m.**

At our March meeting we will hear from **Sonic.net**. A large percentage of our membership uses **Sonic.net** as their Internet Service Provider (ISP). **Sonic** is favored partially because they are local and help is provided by flesh and blood Santa Rosans. More recently, they have expanded into becoming an FCC Certified Telecommunications Provider. Hear "What's Going on at Sonic" straight from the inside.

### **Is Facebook for You ??**

There are more than 500 million active users of the social networking site **Facebook**. It is has been hailed as an international phenomenon and has even promoted a recently released movie documenting its founding. At the same time, there has also been some negative publicity.

Are you a **Facebook** user? If not, here's your chance to find out what it is, how it works, its safety, and whether or not it's right for you. Join us on **March 3rd in the East Rec Center from 6:30 to 8 p.m.** for a **FREE** informative presentation and discussion by **Pat Barclay** and **Christina Roosen**.

## Easy Learning

### Technical Stuff

We have recently had an influx of new members, some of whom are at a very early stage on the road to becoming PC experts. To help speed up the process we offer two web sites that may be of interest.

A number of Google employees have set up a web site which contains roughly 40 short videos that are designed to give "how to" instruction on performing various PC tasks. In a few cases an Apple Mac is demonstrated. When that is the case the video title so designates. Simply click on the title to play.

Go to: <http://www.teachparentstech.org/>

A screenshot of a web form. At the top, a hand icon points to a "Hello:" label followed by checkboxes for "Mom" and "Dad", and an empty input field. Below that, another set of checkboxes for "shocked", "impressed", "worried", and "jazzed" is followed by the text "that you've been using your computer these days." The form is divided into two columns. The left column is titled "CATEGORIES:" and lists "THE BASICS", "WORLD WIDE WEB", "COMMUNICATION", "MEDIA" (highlighted with a red bar), and "FINDING INFORMATION". The right column is titled "SELECT VIDEOS TO SEND:" and lists several video topics with checkboxes and a play button icon: "RESIZE A PICTURE", "SHARE A BIG FILE", "ATTACH A FILE TO AN EMAIL", "SHARE PHOTOS", "CROP PHOTOS", "SHARE VIDEOS", "TRANSFER FILES BETWEEN COMPUTERS", and "KEEP TRACK OF FREQUENT FLIER NUMBERS". A "VIEW ALL VIDEOS" link is at the top right of the video list.

When looking at security software, a number of terms come into play. Here is a compilation of the short definition of these common security related terms. All the info is compiled from Wikipedia.

Go to:

<http://www.ilovefreesoftware.com/08/featured/definiton-of-various-security-related-terms.html>

### To opt out of this E-Mail:

If you do not care to receive information from the club through the E-Mail Newsletter, you may opt to have us delete your name from our distribution list. You will need to let us know at:

krystine\_at\_oakmont@yahoo.com