



# Oakmont PC Users Group

## E-Mail Newsletter

January 1, 2008

Volume 2 Number 1

### **Officers:**

**President:** Art Nichols  
[annpqn@sbcglobal.net](mailto:annpqn@sbcglobal.net)

**Vice President:**  
Gordon Ramsey  
[ramsey7999@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ramsey7999@sbcglobal.net)

**Secretary:** Ruth Caldwell  
[ruthiec@sonic.net](mailto:ruthiec@sonic.net)

**Treasurer:** Gary Goodenough  
[gmgoody@pacbell.net](mailto:gmgoody@pacbell.net)

**Communications:**  
Charlie McBride  
[sailor38@sonic.net](mailto:sailor38@sonic.net)

**Helper Committee:**  
Bill Richards  
[wgrich@sonic.net](mailto:wgrich@sonic.net)

**Help Volunteers:** *The following is a list of individuals who have offered to help solve your computer problems. If you have a problem and before you do violence to your computer, give one of these knowledgeable folks a call:*

Gary Caldwell	538-4153
Jack Feniger	538-8809
Gordon Ramsey	538-4981
Bob Rietow	537-0451
Phil Kenny	538-2075
Bob Stinson	539-7684

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

<http://opcugroup.googlepages.com/>

### **President's Message**

It seems fitting for the first message of the incoming President to express thanks to the two most recent outgoing Presidents: Charlie McBride and Jack Frantz. Both, by their expert, dedicated, and energetic service to our Club, have helped greatly to keep it viable and helpful. We were fortunate to have them serve so well when they did, and we are lucky that they are still with us and willing to continue to serve.

Have you ever considered our good fortune in having personal computers? They handily serve as typewriters (without the messy ribbons and the need for erasers), files (that take up very little space), encyclopedias (via Google, etc.), a ready window to the world, and more. Sure, they occasionally create nasty aggravations. But if you attend our informative meetings, you will increase your knowledge, your facility of use, and your aggravations will be reduced. We guarantee it!

**Art Nichols, President**

### **Computers and Life Long Learning**

Are you interested in additional classes that could be offered here in Oakmont by Santa Rosa Junior College (SRJC)? The Life Long Learning committee and the Oakmont Computer Learning Center are co-sponsoring a meeting on February 16 at 2 p.m. in the Berger Center featuring speakers from SRJC who will be presenting ideas for educational programs for seniors. Most of the proposed courses will be offered here in Oakmont with some possibly being taught using the newest live, on-line teaching tools being utilized at the JC. Everyone in Oakmont interested in hearing a really dynamic presentation and in having the opportunity to ask questions about possible class ideas is encouraged to attend.

The JC really wants feedback on the ideas being presented and to hear from Oakmont residents about the types of classes they'd like to see offered. This meeting will be held at the Berger Center due to the potentially large number of participants from the PC and Mac User groups as well as from Oakmont at large. The meeting is scheduled for the same time as the February meeting of the Oakmont Mac User Group (OakMUG) and will take the place of its monthly program. Please contact Caroline Keller (539-7618) with any questions you may have concerning this event.

## ***The Scoop on Meetings***

### **January Meetings**

#### **Monday, January 14 – Computer Talk Session, West Recreation Center**

The OPCUG computer talk session will be held at 2:45 p.m. on Monday, January 14. This question and answer period will be led by the technical committee. You will be asked to jot down your questions. Three by five cards will be available.

The OPCUG Board Meeting will be held earlier at 1:45 pm. All members are welcome at our Board Meetings. A special invitation is extended to newer members.

#### **Monday, January 21 – General Membership Meeting, West Recreation Center**

The General Membership Meeting will be held at the West Recreation Center on Monday, January 21 at 2 p.m.: Announcements by new President, Art Nichols.

Following announcements Dutch Lichliter, assisted by Jack Frantz, will provide a presentation covering “How to make a Slide Show or Movie.” If you have a digital camera or a camcorder, you will have special interest in this subject. Material will be based on the use of “Windows Movie Maker” that comes with Microsoft Windows. The speakers will take you through the downloading of data from your camera or camcorder through editing, and the addition of sound to produce a disk that can be played on any home DVD player.

After the presentation, the Hospitality Committee will provide door prizes and light refreshments. This month one door prize will be the book “How Computers Work” by Ron White. It is well illustrated and was a National Bestseller.

## ***Welcome!***

### **Welcome New Members**

We wish to again welcome each of the nearly 50 new members who joined OPCUG in the year 2007. The vitality of our club relies on the active participation of our members. We invite each of you to contact one of our officers or a Board member to answer any questions and to express your special interests. As noted above, you are welcome to attend the January 14 meeting of our New Board (1:45 p.m.).

## ***Dues are Due!***

### **Time to Pay 2008 Dues**

Gary Goodenough, OPCUG treasurer and membership chairman, has reported that a few members have already paid dues for the year 2008. Yearly dues are only \$10 for either individuals or for a household.

Your dues provide for the timely update of our equipment and allow us a high-speed internet connection at the West Center. Last year the club purchased a new Windows Vista laptop computer for use at our meetings. Your dues also allow the club to provide hospitality items such as door prizes and refreshments.

Dues can be paid by writing a check payable to OPCUG and giving it to Gary at any meeting. The check could also be sent to Gary Goodenough, OPCUG Treasurer, 451 Oak Mesa Drive, Santa Rosa CA 95409.

## **Thanks to the Helpers**

## **Helper Committee Activity**

After the General Meeting on January 21, Bill Richards will have copies of his latest list of members who are willing to assist others with minor computer problems. Also listed are a number of computer professionals who serve in this area.

At the start of the New Year, we wish to give special recognition and our thanks to those volunteer members who allow us to list their names in our *Oakmont News* items and in this monthly Newsletter. They are Gary Caldwell, Jack Feniger, Gordon Ramsey, Bob Rietow, Phil Kenny, and Bob Stinson.

On January 21 Bill Richards and Gran DeMerritt will set out items on the Free Exchange table. Members are encouraged to bring recent computer magazines and software which they no longer need to the "Exchange Table." Gran will have copies of handouts from recent OPCUG presentations that you may have missed.

## **Hospitality**

## **Thanks for All You Do!**

We wish to thank Dorrelle Aasland, chair of the Hospitality Committee, and also both Trish Diviney and Jill White for the refreshments at the General Meetings during 2007. As noted above, light refreshments and door prizes are planned again for the General Meeting on January 21.

## **Green Stuff**

## **How to Recycle an Old Computer**

Several members have asked about how they might be able to "recycle" an old computer or printer. A recent newspaper article reminds us that as new computers are purchased, often there is one to unload. Both Goodwill and the Computer Recycling Center were mentioned in the article for possible "recycle."

### **Goodwill:**

Within Oakmont is a Goodwill Donation Center. It is at the rear of the gas station on Oakmont Blvd. A flyer by Goodwill includes "Computers (Working or Not)" on a list of items that might be accepted. A footnote, however, notes "Acceptance of any donation is up to the discretion of the Goodwill employee." It would be wise to check out your donation before loading things in your car. The flyer lists a phone number: 523-0550 and a web site [www.gjire.org](http://www.gjire.org).

### **Computer Recycling Center:**

The web site for the Computer Recycling Center [www.crc.org](http://www.crc.org) lists their Santa Rosa location as 3227 Santa Rosa Blvd. The phone number is 570-1600. We suggest you call to confirm the days/hours they are open. They indicate that you should call for an appointment if you have large items such as a 15+ inch old style monitor.

## **Web Page Update**

## **What's New on the Web Page?**

The club's web page, <http://opcugroup.googlepages.com/> has been updated with the following:

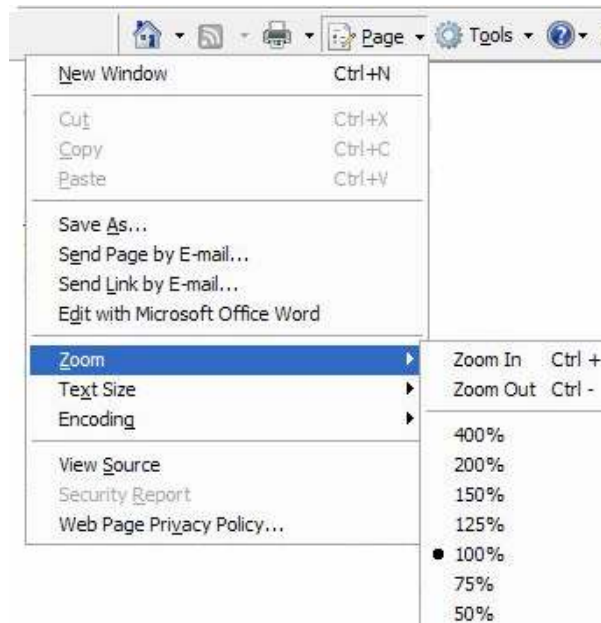
1. The picture of our new President has been added along with words relating to the new duties of the Vice President and the new Past President.
2. The November 1, 2007, Newsletter was added to the Archive and the December 1, 2007, Newsletter was mounted in the masthead.

## Technical Stuff

### Large Print Using Internet Explorer (IE 7)

The latest version of the Windows Internet Browser, Internet Explorer 7 (IE 7), has some very significant advantages over the previous version (IE 6). Basically, IE 7 is the same browser that is used in the new Windows Vista and Microsoft is making it available to Windows XP users.

If you wish to change the print size of a web page in IE 7, click on the "Page" icon on the toolbar (located just above the web page you are on) and you will see:



Click on Zoom and the options are shown. To enlarge in steps, hold down the "Control" key and press the "+" or "-" key as required to get the desired size. To obtain a specific enlargement, select the appropriate %.

Microsoft is making IE 7 available to users who use the "Automatic Updates" feature which is a selection in the "Control Panel/Security Center." Because of the large number of users,

and because it is not a mandatory update, it will take many months to reach all users. To obtain IE 7 immediately, click on:

<http://www.microsoft.com>

In the search box in the upper right corner of the Microsoft page type in "IE 7 download." On the search page which is presented click on the Internet Explorer "Get it Now" button and follow instructions.

This process will be demonstrated at the Question & Answer Session on January 14.

### 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: [sailor38@sonic.net](mailto:sailor38@sonic.net)