



# Oakmont PC Users Group

## E-Mail Newsletter

February 1, 2008

Volume 2 Number 2

### **Officers:**

**President:** Art Nichols  
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**Vice President:**  
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Charlie McBride  
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**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**

Why do we have a computer club at Oakmont? Because those of us who use PCs sometimes need help, and our Club has members who can help us. These folks are listed in our column in every issue of the *Oakmont News* and in the left column of this newsletter. Also, our Club is a source of useful information about helpful software and techniques that we might not otherwise learn about. We present such material in our general meetings on the third Mondays eight months of the year.

What subjects would you like to hear about? In our last 26 meetings over a three-year period, we have covered many topics – some more than once. The most popular seem to concern Internet uses and how to keep one's computer secure. But some of the most valuable have covered both serious and fun uses of one's computer. If you have any thoughts about what you would like to have covered in future meetings, please speak to me or any of the Club officers. We want to present to our membership what you believe would be most interesting and helpful.

**Art Nichols, President**

### **Welcome New Members**

This month we are happy to welcome six new members. Recently joining the PC Club (OPCUG) are: **Don Baum, Mary Baum, Westley Doerr, Robert Haase, Betty Riley Huhn and Carmen Magsamen.** The vitality of our club relies on the active participation of our members. We invite each of you to contact Gordon Ramsey (or any other Board Member) to express your special interests. Please remember that you are welcome to meetings of our Board. The next Board Meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 11, as noted in the following paragraph.

### **February Q and A Meeting – 2:45 p.m.**

#### **Monday February 11, West Recreation Center**

The OPCUG Q & A Meeting (Computer Talk Session) will be held at 2:45 p.m. on Monday, February 11. 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. This session follows the OPCUG Board Meeting that will start at 1:45 p.m. All members are welcome at Board Meetings.

## **February Meeting**

### **February General Meeting – 2 p.m.**

#### **Monday February 18 (President's Day), West Recreation Center**

Following brief announcements from President Art Nichols, our Program Chairman, Bob Stinson, will Emcee a presentation called "Maintaining Your Mental Agility."

Several members will collaborate to show how you can exercise your mind and have fun with free games and puzzles on the computer. This is a "fun" program that all can enjoy.

After the presentation, the Hospitality Committee will provide door prizes and light refreshments.

#### **Congratulations and Thanks to Dutch Lichliter**

We wish to express our thanks to Dutch Lichliter for his presentation at the General Meeting on January 21. Dutch, assisted by Jack Frantz, told us not only "How to make a Slide Show or Movie," but he also allowed us to see the great results of his efforts. Members applauded both his efforts and his expertise as they saw his family film.

A guide to using Windows Movie Maker was E-Mailed to all who signed up at the meeting. It is also posted for download from our web site for anyone interested. The document is 20 pages long and opens in Adobe Reader, just as this newsletter does.

In addition, Dutch and Jack wonder if there is any interest in forming a group focused on computer video production. If you would like to attend a meeting to discuss the possibility of forming such a group, E-Mail either one at [dlichliter@aol.com](mailto:dlichliter@aol.com) or [jack@thefrantzes.com](mailto:jack@thefrantzes.com).

#### **Helper Committee Activity**

After the General Meeting on February 18, Bill Richards will have copies of his latest list of members who are willing to assist others with minor computer problems. His list also includes a number of computer professionals who serve in this area.

Also on Feb. 18, Bill and Gran DeMerritt will again set out available items on the "Free-Exchange-Table." Gran will also have copies of handouts from a number of past meetings. He has a sheet listing those that are available.

#### **Hospitality Committee Activity**

For the General Meeting in January, the hospitality committee again provided both door prizes and light refreshments. Dorrelle Aasland planned and purchased refreshments but was not able to attend the meeting. We wish to thank a number of folks for their efforts. These include Jill and Roger White, Floyd Becker and Gran DeMerritt.

***A Big Thank You!***

***And Thanks to our Helpers!***

***And Thanks to our  
Hospitality Committee!***

## **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 December 1, 2007, Newsletter was added to the Archive and the January 1, 2008, Newsletter was mounted in the masthead.
2. A step by step procedure for using Windows Movie Maker was added for download to Members' computers.

## **Don't Forget!**

### **Life Long Learning at Oakmont**

Don't forget the meeting on February 16 at 2 p.m. in the Berger Center featuring speakers from Santa Rosa Junior College (SRJC) who will be presenting ideas for computer associated educational programs for seniors. Most of the proposed courses will be offered here in Oakmont with some possibly using the newest live online teaching tools being utilized at SRJC. Details were in last month's Newsletter.

## **More Green Stuff**

### **Trashing Your Computer**

In the January newsletter we listed several locations that would accept computers for recycle. These included "Goodwill." Should your equipment not be acceptable for recycle, you can arrange to "Trash It" by calling Santa Rosa Recycling & Collection at 586-1478. You must call first in order to arrange pickup. They provide a special collection from regular customers for bulky items that do not belong in the landfill. Items such as computers, microwaves and washing machines were noted in their announcement. They are usually picked up on your normal trash collection day. Call and ask about their "Bulky Item Collections."

## **Technical Stuff**

### **How to Make Windows Boot Faster**

The more programs that launch at boot time, the longer it takes for Windows to boot up. Programs install in this fashion to be able to open quickly when selected. Sometimes you might want Windows to boot as fast as possible, and there's a way to make that happen.

Microsoft built that feature into Windows to help people not only get their systems up and running faster when necessary, but to also help people bypass many of the programs that would normally start when booting up.

If you hold down the Shift key during the entire boot-up process, Windows won't launch any programs located in the Windows and Users Startup folders at startup. After boot, the programs that have been bypassed will take a bit longer to start if you use them, but your system will run faster.

### **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)