



Oakmont PC Users Group

E-Mail Newsletter

March 1, 2008

Volume 2 Number 3

Officers:

President: Art Nichols
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Communications:
Charlie McBride
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Helper Committee:
Bill Richards
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

There is an old adage that "old dogs don't learn new tricks." Members of OPCUG resoundingly disprove this adage. Even though many of us had lived over 70 percent of our lives when PCs were invented, we seem to be able to learn quite a few new tricks.

In fact, teaching new tricks is the main business of OPCUG through both our monthly presentations and the popular question and answer sessions. Many of us learn at the Computer Learning Center, and a few of us teach there. A recent meeting at the Berger Center covered plans of the Santa Rosa Junior College to conduct some of its computer classes in Oakmont.

While not computer oriented, the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute has three classes ongoing at the Berger Center with a new set of three more classes beginning in a couple of months. Surely, people in Oakmont aren't quite ready to stop learning any time soon!

Art Nichols, President

Welcome New Members

This month we welcome ten new members: **Merlyn Adams, Milton Andrew, Lewis Gobble, Bev Leve, Hal Litke, Tony Lukes, J. Mead, Ray Pickering, Gary Pickering and Dorothy Tracy.** The vitality of the club relies on the active participation of 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 at meetings of the Board. The next Board Meeting is scheduled for March 10 (The second Monday) as noted in the paragraph below.

March "Q and A" Meeting

Monday, March 10 – Computer Talk Session, West Recreation Center at 2:45 p.m.

The OPCUG Q & A Meeting (Computer Talk Session) will be held at 2:45 p.m. on Monday, March 10. 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 starts at 2:45 following the OPCUG Board Meeting that will start at 1:45 p.m. All members are welcome at Board Meetings.

HiFi your WiFi

March General Meeting

Monday, March 17 (St. Patrick's Day), West Recreation Center at 2 p.m.

Following remarks by President Art Nichols, Judie Coleman will return to make the presentation. She will discuss WiFi, networking and file/device sharing. This is a timely subject as more of us consider installing wireless Internet connections. Such setups have interesting advantages, but prospective users should be aware of possible problems. Come and learn what is good and how we can minimize the bad.

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

The Bob and Gordon Show

Thanks Bob and Gordon

We wish to thank both Gordon Ramsey and Bob Stinson for their "fun" program at our General Meeting in February. To aid us in "Maintaining Our Mental Agility" they showcased many free games and puzzles on the computer. A summary listing their programs was provided to those who requested it. It is also now available at the OPCUG web site. Again, thank you Gordon and Bob. A good "fun" show.

Members Come Through!

Thanks for Volunteering

Dorrelle Aasland wishes to thank those who offered to help with Hospitality Committee efforts in the future. Some ten volunteered at the February Meetings. Dorrelle will contact you in the months ahead.

Go See Gran!

Information from Past Meetings

Gran DeMerritt has prepared a sheet listing past meeting presentations. Please see Gran (near the Exchange Table) after the March 17 meeting and pick up this sheet. With this list you will be able to ask him for handouts that are of interest to you. He has copies of most handouts for the past two years.

Help for the Helpless

Helper Committee Activity

After the General Meeting on March 17, 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.

Recap "Fun and Games"

What's New on the Web Page

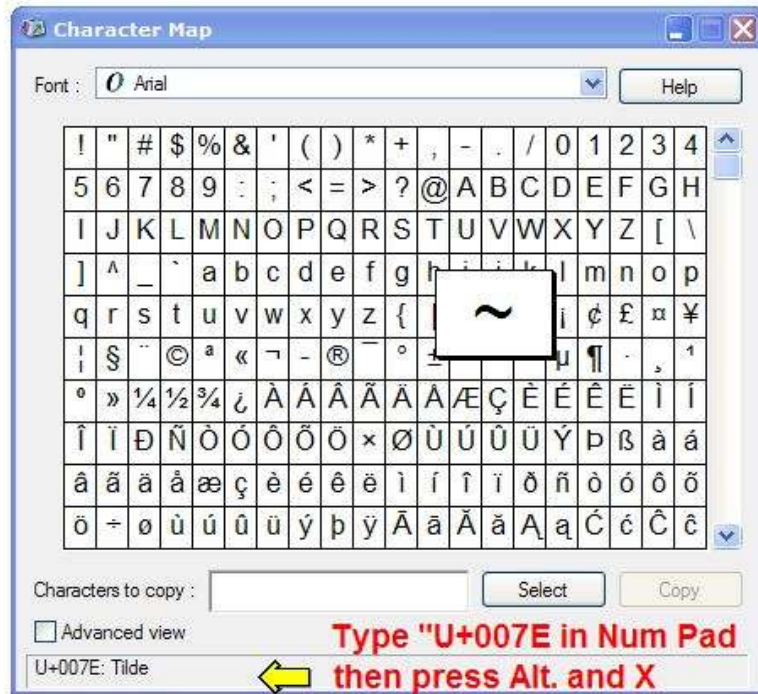
The club's web page, <http://opcugroup.googlepages.com/> has been updated with the following:

1. The January 1, 2008, Newsletter was added to the Archive and the February 1, 2007, Newsletter was mounted in the masthead.
2. A "Fun and Games" item was added. The article provides for downloading the table containing clickable links for all of the web sites demonstrated in the meeting of February 18, 2008. The addresses were chosen to foster development of mental agility.

Add Character to your Documents

Using Character Map for Special Characters

Character Map in Windows XP or Vista provides for the insertion of special characters or symbols into the text of documents that you prepare. **Click** the **Start** button and **Point** to **All Programs** then **Accessories** then **System Tools** then **Click** on **Character Map**. You will see:



Scroll down the table of hundreds of special characters and symbols and **Click** on the one you want. The character will enlarge and in the lower left, U+ a hexadecimal number will appear. Then go to your document and **with Num Lock On** type in U+ the number given typed from the Numeric Pad on the right side of the keyboard. Then **Hit Alt + X**, and as if by magic the selected character appears. The letters you type can be either upper or lower case. For example:

© is made with **U+00A9**

≈ is made with **U+2248**

each time followed by **Alt and X** held down together. You can also **Press** the **Select** button and then the **Copy** button which will then permit you to paste the character into your document. This capability is valuable for foreign languages and mathematics. Try it. Once you get the knack it's easy.

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