



Oakmont PC Users Group

E-Mail Newsletter

May 1, 2008

Volume 2 Number 5

Officers:

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gmgoody@pacbell.net

Communications:
Charlie McBride
sailor38@sonic.net

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

It hardly seems possible that one-third of the year has passed. In that time your club has presented a variety of worthy, helpful presentations: Dutch Lichliter on how to make home videos with Movie Maker, Bob Stinson and Gordon Ramsey on fun and games with computers, Judie Coleman on how to be more secure if you use wireless, and Tony Hoskins (from our local library) on how to search on-line sites to gain genealogical information. And still to come is Jack Frantz in May to cover various freebies on Google Pack.

Then we all take a bit of vacation from June through August; HOWEVER, we will continue the valuable question and answer sessions on the second Monday of each month all through the summer. You can be sure we'll be back in September through November with more interesting presentations you won't want to miss.

Art Nichols, President

What's New on the Web Page

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

1. The March 1, 2008, Newsletter was added to the Archive and the April 1, 2008, Newsletter was mounted in the masthead.
2. The article on Google Pack was updated to reflect changes made by Google in their web page for Google Pack.

Veterans Benefit Handbook for 2008 Available On-line

Club member Bob Mandelstam has informed us that the Department of Veterans Affairs has released its latest handbook providing information on home loan guarantees, education, training and vocational rehabilitation, pensions, insurance, and survivors' benefits. To download the 2008 edition of Federal Benefits for Veterans and Dependents, visit http://www.va.gov/OPA/vadocs/current_benefits.asp on the VA Web site. Copies are available for \$5 from the U.S. Government Printing Office. Call (866) 512-1800 toll free, or order from Superintendent of Documents, PO Box 979050, St. Louis MO 63197-9000 (stock #051-000-00233-4) or online at <http://bookstore.gpo.gov>.

Our Ancestors Thank You

Welcome Aboard!

***You Have Questions?
Our Experts Have Answers***

Google with Google Pack

Thanks to Tony Hoskins

We wish to thank Tony Hoskins, an expert of history and genealogy at the Sonoma County Library, for his entertaining and informative presentation at our April 21 General Meeting. Jack Frantz has added information in our Web Page <http://opcugroup.googlepages.com/> to give you some of his "handout" data. Again, THANK YOU TONY.

Welcome New Members

This month we welcome nine new members. **Welcome: Krystine Boehme, Linda Canar, Francine Dorshkind, Michelle Ingham, Robert Knutson, Peter Mirkovich, A. Schmitt, Brenda Steele and Donald Wetherill.** The vitality of the club relies on the active participation our members. We invite 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 Monday, May 12 (The second Monday of the month), as noted in the paragraph below.

May "Q and A" Meeting

Monday, May 12 – 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, May 12. 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 PM. (All members are welcome at Board Meetings.)

May General Meeting

Monday, May 19 – West Recreation Center at 2 p.m.

Following remarks by President Art Nichols, Jack Frantz will cover elements available in *Google Pack*. Among the thirteen separate applications are: **Google Earth** to let you view satellite photos including zooming in on your own home, **Spyware Doctor** to prevent or find and remove spyware and Trojan horses, **Skype** to call anywhere in the world for little or no cost (including video calling), and **Star Office** which is a suite of programs similar to Microsoft Office for word processing, spreadsheets, data base, presentations and drawing. Jack will cover how to select what you want, download those applications, and let Google install them and also update them as updates come available. These are "free" programs.

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

May 19 will be the last General Meeting of the P.C. Club until September. **Computer Talk Sessions will be held during the summer months (June, July and August) on the second Monday of each month.**

The Icing on the Cake

Need a Handout?

Trouble Using a Mouse?

Hospitality

Among those assisting Dorrelle Aasland with refreshments on April 21 were Jill White, Joy Dion and Gary Pickering. Sincere thanks to each of you. Any member who wishes to help at the May 19 meeting is invited to call Dorrelle at 537-1518.

Handouts from Past Meetings

Gran DeMerritt has prepared a sheet listing many past meeting presentations. Please see Gran (near the Exchange Table) after the May 19 meeting to pick up this sheet. With this list you will be able to ask him for handouts that may be of interest to you. His copies of "handouts" may refer you to information that is also available at the OPCUG Web Site <http://opcugroup.googlepages.com/>. Gran will also have copies of the "Helper List" which contains a number of computer professionals who serve in this area.

Technical Stuff

Do you sometimes (or always) have trouble making the Mouse do what you want it to do? There is a feature built into Windows XP and Vista which permits the use of keyboard keys as a substitute for the Mouse. It is called "Mouse Keys" and is described in detail on the Microsoft web page:

<http://www.microsoft.com/enable/training/windowsxp/mousekeys.aspx>

To summarize the article:

- The cursor is controlled by using the arrow keys in the Numeric Key Pad on the far right of the Keyboard.
- The set up is accomplished by going to the Control Panel item *Accessibility Options*, tab *Mouse* (Figure 1). Settings are shown in Figure 2. Whether Num Lock is ON or OFF for active Mouse keys can also be set.
- Activate Mouse Keys with LEFT ALT + LEFT SHIFT + NUM LOCK. A small mouse is displayed in the system tray.
- Turn Mouse keys off by pressing this sequence again. The indicator in the system tray disappears.

One can set Mouse Keys to activate with Num Lock either ON or OFF.

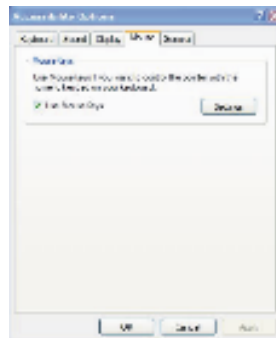


FIGURE 1

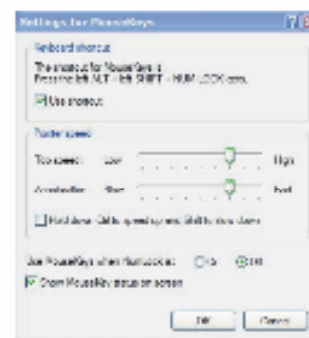


FIGURE 2

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