



Oakmont PC Users Group

E-Mail Newsletter

October 1, 2008

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Officers:

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Helper Committee:
Granville DeMerritt
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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

Have you looked at our Club's website lately? It really is a great source of information about our Club, as well as containing, in a most professional manner, lots of helpful technical material. The conceiver, orchestrator, and webmaster (as well as the fellow who so expertly answers so many questions at the second Monday Talk Sessions) is Past President Jack Frantz.

You can reach it on-line by going to the address shown on our monthly Newsletters: <http://opcugroup.googlepages.com/>

Those of you with Vista will want to download, from our website, the Vista Tips and Tweaks from Judie Coleman's presentation on September 15th.

Art Nichols, President

The Help Committee – "The Exchange Table"

For the General Meeting on October 20, Gran DeMerritt, Chairman of the Help Committee, will set up a table of donated computer related items. We call this our "Free Exchange Table." Members are encouraged to bring any excess small items and software for the table. At the Meeting on September 15, Arlene O'Rourke provided three boxes of books, etc., that were no longer needed at the Oakmont Computer Learning Center. (Thank you, Oakmont Computer Learning Center!) A number of these may be available on October 20. In addition to the exchange table, Gran provides two other services:

Past-Presentation Handouts: Gran has prepared a sheet listing meeting presentations of the past year. Please check the Exchange Table 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 list also indicates how some handouts are available via your computer.

Helper List: On the Exchange Table, Gran will have copies of the latest list of members who are willing to assist others with minor computer problems. The list also includes a number of computer professionals who serve in this area.

Many Thanks, Judie!

Thank You, Judie

In September Judie Coleman presented a helpful session for those struggling with Vista, covering tips, tricks and secrets that can make life easier. Her nine-page handout can be acquired from our website at <http://opcugroup.googlepages.com/> A number of the tips also apply to Windows XP, including links to free software utilities.

Lots of New Members

Welcome New Members

This month we welcome **Fritzie Amantite, Dick Doran, Gail Hartman, Donna Hopley, Rich Irwin, James Jorissen, Hae Sook and Guy Louinbos, Edmund Low, Doris Pelton and Erika Reck** as new members. The vitality of the club relies on the active participation our members. We encourage you to contact Gordon Ramsey (or any other Board Member) to express your special interests. Please remember you are welcome at meetings of the Board. The next Board Meeting is scheduled for October 13 as noted in the paragraph below.

Coming Attractions

October Q & A Session

Monday October 13 – Computer Talk Session, West Recreation Center at 2:45 p.m.

Problem Solving

Our monthly Question and Answer help session will be held on Monday, October 13. 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 p.m. following the OPCUG Board Meeting that will start at 1:45 p.m. All members are welcome at Board Meetings.

Podcasting Radio & TV

October General Meeting

Monday, October 20 – West Recreation Center at 2 p.m.

The Oakmont PC Users Group will host a program on Podcasting and other related Internet communication. Join Gary Pickering and Bob Stinson as they walk you through an increasingly common way to get digital information while choosing a convenient time to play them.

The term podcast combines the words "iPod" and "broadcast" and describes a variety of digital media broadcasts (audio, video, etc.) that can be saved on a computer, iPod or other similar device and viewed or listened to at the user's leisure. Many people now "subscribe" to recurring podcasts because of personal interests, hobbies or their jobs.

Gary and Bob will also touch on "streaming" media and jukebox Internet sites. Would you like to listen to a live radio broadcast of your eastern college's big football game? Would you like to pipe your favorite "big band" music through your house? Would you like to watch a news clip from a Chicago TV station that features your grandson making a game-winning touchdown? All this is available on the Internet. Come, have fun, and learn. We look forward to seeing you.

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

More Thanks

Hospitality

We wish to sincerely thank Trish Diviney and Arlene O'Rourke for the fine light refreshments provided at the September General Meeting. Chairperson Dorrelle Aasland was out of town but will be back for the October Meeting. She will phone several volunteers for help in October. Thanks to each of you.

Slide Show Screen Saver

Your Personal Pictures as a Screensaver

You can have a screensaver on your Windows XP computer which slowly rotates through the pictures in your "My Pictures" folder, displaying them one at a time as in a slideshow. To set this up, right click on an empty portion of the Desktop, and left click on "Properties." The "Display Properties" screen will appear with five tabs along the top; select the one which is labeled "Screen Saver." Left click on the downward pointing arrowhead in the center of the screen to reveal the menu of selections available. Scroll down to "My Pictures Slideshow" and left click on it. In the picture of the display in the dialog box you will observe a preview. Left click "OK" and the job is finished. For Vista, go to Control Panel > Personalization and select Screen Saver, and then Photo's.

Perhaps, however, you may want to have the ability to turn on the screensaver whenever you wish. To do this you can make an icon on the desktop on which you can left click/double click to turn it on. To make such an icon, left click on "Start" and then "Search." In the "Search Results" box, left click on "All files and folders" and in the new "Search Results" window, in the box labeled "All or part of the file name", type in *.scr and left click the "Search" button. Windows will search your hard drive and as it finds screensaver files it displays them in the right portion of the window.

When you have a list of *.scr files look at the list for **ssmypics.scr**. Ignore those listed in blue and review only those in black type. Right click on **ssmypics.scr**, scroll down to "Send to" and on the fly out menu, left click on "Desktop (create shortcut)." You now have an icon on your desktop which can be used whenever you wish without waiting for the idle timeout.

Web Page Changes

What's New on the Web Page?

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

1. The May 1, 2008, Newsletter was added to the Archive and the September 1, 2008, Newsletter was mounted in the masthead.
2. Judie Coleman's extensive handout for the September 2008 General Meeting, covering Windows Vista Tips and Tricks, was added. This handout was not available at the meeting. It contains several links for obtaining free software which can be used on Windows XP as well as Vista.

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