



Oakmont PC Users Group

E-Mail Newsletter

November 1, 2008

Volume 2 Number 8

Officers:

President: Art Nichols
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Vice President:
Gordon Ramsey
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Secretary: Ruth Caldwell
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Treasurer: Gary Goodenough
gmgoody@pacbell.net

Communications:
Charlie McBride
sailor38@sonic.net

Helper Committee:
Granville DeMerritt
grandemerritt@sbcglobal.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

When one considers the current robust health of the Oakmont PC Users Group today, it seems appropriate to recognize the many members who contribute to that vitality.

In our rapidly evolving computer world, our club has transitioned its emphasis as our members' needs have changed, and we want our members to continue to inform us of what they would most like today and in the future.

At our November meeting, you will elect our officers for 2009, and we are confident that members will continue to step forward to help maintain a robust organization. Fortunately, many continue to offer to serve as officers and chairmen and members of committees. The nominating committee has been contacting potential board members and officers and appears to have signed up several youthful members in addition to current members. And we are always grateful for our presenters and other volunteers.

Art Nichols, President

Welcome New Members

This month we would like to welcome **Carl Balsillie, Linda Fischer, Hank Richmond, A J Schmitt** and **Earla Snow** as new members of the club. Also we welcome **Anita King**, wife of Ralph King, as a new member. If any of our new members have any computer problems or any special program interests we encourage you to contact Gordon Ramsey or any of our officers who are listed on the first page of our monthly Newsletter. We also encourage our new members to get involved.

Thank You – Our Last Month's Program Presenters

We want to thank Bob Stinson and Gary Pickering (two of our board members) for their fine program about pod casting and streaming audio. This should come in handy for music fans and others interested in all kinds of information on the radio.

Hospitality Committee

We wish to thank Dorrelle Aasland, Trish Diviney and Earla Snow for the great refreshments at our October meeting. We are always happy to have additional help and if you are willing to do so, please call Dorrelle Aasland at 537-1518.

November Q & A Session

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

Our monthly Question and Answer help session will be held on Monday, November 10. The program will be led by our technical committee. Please bring your questions and put them on the furnished 3 by 5 cards for submission. Please remember there are no dumb questions. This is a great way to expand your computer knowledge even if you do not have any questions. The session follows our monthly OPCUG Board meeting which starts at 1:45 p.m. All members are welcome at the board meeting and we would like to encourage any of our members to attend.

Need Help??

November General Meeting

Monday November 17 – West Recreation Center at 2 p.m.

We are fortunate to have Jack Frantz presenting a program on Skype software which allows computer users to call anywhere in the world using the free Skype software.

Eliminate your long distance telephone bills using this program which can also include webcams to see those to whom you are talking. We have invited the members of the Grandparents' Club to this meeting as it is an inexpensive way to talk to your grandchildren.

Skype Calling

If time allows we will also have a demonstration of **CrossLoop**, another free software program which allows a helper to work on your system from a remote location.

Following the presentation our Hospitality Committee will have door prizes and refreshments.

Proposed Officers for 2009

The following are the proposed officers for 2009 which will be voted on at the November General Meeting. Nominations may also be made from the floor.

President	Gordon Ramsey
Vice President	Ruth Caldwell
Treasurer/Membership	Gary Goodenough
Secretary	Art Nichols

Let's Vote!

Using the Internet to Make Life Easier

The Oakmont Computer Learning Center will present a program on the above subject on Wednesday, November 5, at 6:30 p.m. in the Berger Center. The presenter is Bob Stinson.

Take a Load Off Your Life

Are you tired of standing in line at the DMV? Would you like better access to your doctor? Your bank? Your broker? Would you like to shop for groceries and have them delivered without leaving your home? Would you like to see and visit with your grandchildren without leaving your den?

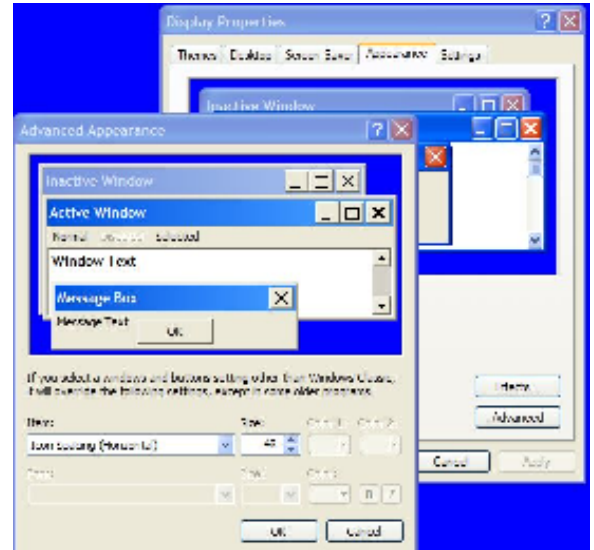
Come to the Berger Center and Bob will reveal with examples how you can do the above and more. You may be amazed at what can be accomplished on line.

Playing With Icons

Change Desktop Icon Spacing or Size in Windows XP and Vista

To change icon spacing, vertical or horizontal, *Right Click* on an empty part of the Desktop and choose *Properties*. In the *Display Properties* window *Left Click* on the *Appearance* Tab and then *Left Click* the *Advanced* Button. The window will look like this.

Lower down you will see *Item* and if you *Left Click* on the downward pointing arrow a large number of selections will appear. The three of interest here are *Icon Spacing (Horizontal)*, *Icon Spacing (Vertical)* and *Icon*. The *Icon* item changes the size of the icon. For spacing the item will generally be around 40 but experiment to see what works best for you.



Left Click OK several times and look at the desktop to view the result.

Sometimes nothing happens and you need to force the result by *Right Clicking* on an empty spot in the desktop, scroll to *Arrange Icons by* and then *Left Click* on any of the four top selections not currently selected and uncheck *Auto Arrange* and/or *Align to Grid*. This will cause icons to move about and let your new settings take effect.

For Vista you use the same windows as above but to get there, *Right Click* the Desktop and select *Personalize*. *Left Click* Window Color and Appearance, If the *Appearance Settings* window (equivalent to Display Settings) does not appear, *Left Click* on *Open classic appearance properties...* and the *Appearance Settings* window will appear. Proceed as with Windows XP.

What's New on the Web Page

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

1. The September 1, 2008, Newsletter was added to the Archive and the October 1, 2008, Newsletter was mounted in the masthead.
2. Links to the materials backing up the October 20 Program on Podcasting and internet streaming music and radio were added.

To opt out of this E-Mail:

If you do not care to receive information from the club through this 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

Web Page Changes