



Oakmont PC Users Group

E-Mail Newsletter

January 1, 2009

Volume 3 Number 1

Officers:

President: Gordon Ramsey
ramsey7999@sbcglobal.net

Vice President: Ruth Caldwell
ruthiec@sonic.net

Secretary: Art Nichols
annpqn@sbcglobal.net

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

We are starting a new year for our PC Users' Club with a new slate of officers. We e-mailed a request for suggestions for new programs and were disappointed that we received only six answers. Your club officers and board want to present programs in which our members are interested. If we know more about your needs and desires we can do a better job. We have a broad range of abilities in our club from beginners to experts, and we would like to have programs that interest both ends of the spectrum.

There have been a number of members recently who have had problems with viruses. We hope to touch on that in our program for this month.

Also, if any members have particular websites they feel would be of interest or of value to our members, please notify one of the officers or e-mail them at any of their e-mails listed in the left column of the Newsletter. We are looking forward to a good year and hope to see you at our meetings.

We would like to thank Art Nichols for his fine work this past year as our President. Fortunately, he is not completely gone and continues his service as our new Secretary for the coming year.

Gordon Ramsey, President

Welcome New Member

We would like to welcome **Joanne Bartlett** as the first new member of our club in 2009.

Dues Reminder

Dues for our club are due in January 2009 for the year. Annual dues are \$10 for a family and must be paid no later than the February meeting or the member will be dropped from the club roster. Checks made out to **OPCUG** may be turned in at the meeting or mailed to our treasurer, Gary Goodenough, at 451 Oak Mesa Drive. If a new member, please fill out our membership application (especially current e-mail and phone numbers) so we'll have all the information we need about you!

New Approach

January Question & Answer Session

Monday, January 12 – Computer Talk Session, West Recreation Center at 2:45 p.m.

Our monthly Question and Answer help session will be held on Monday, January 12. A new format will be tried at this session. There will be an interlocutor presiding over the session and a row of “gurus” seated at a table behind the audience. Microphones will be at both places. The interlocutor will state the question and proceed with the answer and discussion. He will call on the gurus as needed and appropriate. For the January session, Bob Stinson will preside.

Although we will continue to take questions written on cards at the meeting, it would be helpful if members would submit the questions in advance if practical. This will permit the researching and tryout of answers before the meeting and result in better results for all. For the January meeting e-mail your questions to: ramsey7999@sbcglobal.net. Next month, rather than sending questions to our President, we will have a single contact point for future questions.

The talk 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 everyone to attend.

January General Meeting

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

The January program will be given by our president, Gordon Ramsey. He plans to cover maintenance and security for your computer. We are continually getting requests on what can be done to speed up a slow computer. We will give you various steps you can take to speed up your computer from the simple to the complex. In addition, we hope to touch on security programs, including a couple of free ones.

The President Speaks

What's New on the Web Page

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

1. The November 1, 2008, Newsletter was added to the Archive and the December 1, 2008, Newsletter was mounted in the masthead.
2. The first section of the web page was extensively revised to reflect the club's officers for 2009, their pictures and descriptive statements.

New Officers on the Web

Interesting Web Sites January 2009

Want to have a simple, free, on line back up system for home use? Visit: <http://mozy.com/>. As the site says, “Get 2 GB absolutely free! No setup fee, no credit cards, no expiration, no hassle.” You select the files you wish to back up and *Mozy* will back them up. The first back up takes a long time (hours) but after that it sends only the changes and the time is short.

Your files are encrypted and password protected so you can relax, secure in the knowledge that your pictures or music or other documents are safe and accessible from any computer you choose. The program is recommended by Walt Mossberg of the *Wall Street Journal* and Jack Frantz used it for about a year until he obtained a network back up drive. Send your interesting web sites to: jack@thefrantzes.com.

A Website for All!

**Do Your Friends
A Favor – Resize!**

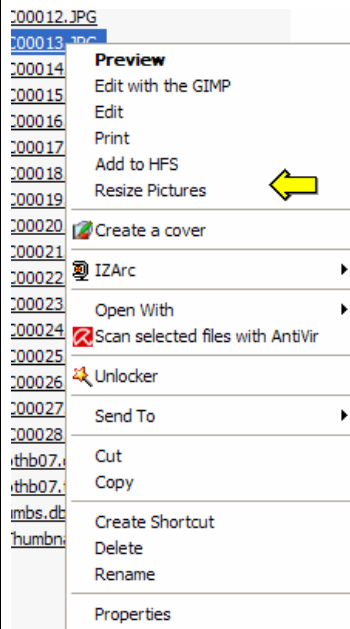
Resize Images

Modern digital camera's take pictures with a large pixel count. This permits making large prints or enlargements without looking fuzzy. However, when these image files are sent in an e-mail or included in a document, they often turn out huge on the monitor. To prevent this from happening and putting the recipient to some pain, it is useful to resize before sending.

There is some difference on how to accomplish this between Windows XP and Vista. For XP, Microsoft makes available, within its *PowerToys Suite*, an *Image Resizer*.

The *Image Resizer* can be downloaded by going to:

<http://www.microsoft.com/windowsxp/downloads/powertoys/xppowertoys.mspx>



Scroll down the right column listing the “Toys” until you come to *ImageResizer.exe* and download to your desktop. When complete, go to the desktop and install the Resizer. There are no icons or programs to activate, you simply right click on an image file in *My Computer* or *Windows Explorer* or on the image itself if it has been opened and in the menu presented you will observe that there is now a command available: *Resize Pictures*. An example of this is shown in the snapshot to the left.

When you select *Resize Pictures* a box appears which gives you choices as to how much to reduce the size. When you click OK, a new file with the same name but with the word *Reduced* added will appear in the same folder as the original.

The procedure with **Vista** is simpler since the resizing feature is built into the operating system. To resize a picture, open the file by double clicking on it and it will appear in *Windows Photo Gallery*.

Click on the e-mail icon in the top bar and this will open the *Attach Files* window. Select the size you desire and click on the *Attach* button. This will open the *Create Mail* window with the resized image attached. If you wish to save the reduced size image, send the e-mail to yourself and save the attachment.

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