



Oakmont PC Users Group

E-Mail Newsletter

February 1, 2012

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krystine_at_oakmont@yahoo.com

Helper Committee:

Gordon Ramsey

ramsey7999@sbcglobal.net

Help Volunteers: If you have a problem, give one of these knowledgeable folks a call:

Jack Frantz 539-4232

Phil Kenny 538-2075

Gordon Ramsey 538-4981

We're on the Web!

<http://oakmontpc.com>

Webmaster:

Krystine Boehme

krystine_at_oakmont@yahoo.com

President's Message



I took a look at our web site and reminded myself of the goals of the club. I want to share them with you again.

The purpose of the Oakmont PC Users Group is: "(a) to improve member's knowledge and skills of their personal computers; (b) to provide communications and information to be exchanged among members; (c) to promote internet usage for e-mail and other information sources."

To that end, the Board works to make programs current and relevant to club members in order to inform and improve their technology knowledge and skills. The Questions and Answer sessions on the second Monday of each month, education through the monthly programs' presentations, our web page and member's computer assistance further that end.

To be a member of our club one needs to be a resident of Oakmont and pay annual dues of \$10/year/family. For many the renewal fee has already been submitted, but for others there is a need for annual-membership payment to continue enrollment and to enjoy the benefits of membership. Please make checks payable to OPCUG and either turn in at the February General meeting, or place in the club folder at OVA, or mail to Gary Goodenough, Club Treasurer, at 451 Oak Mesa Drive, Santa Rosa, CA 95409.

If you have any ideas or suggestions for the General Programs or club improvements, we would appreciate hearing from you. Contact anyone on the left column with your comments.

Ken Kronen, President

Oakmont Computer Learning Center and Technology Forum

Monday, March 5, in the Berger Center

Open House 4:00 p.m.

Technology Forum 4:30 p.m.

The Learning Center will provide a preview of the Spring Classes and instructor chats to answer any questions and begin taking class sign ups. The Computer Room in the Central Activity Center will also be open so that anyone not familiar with the Computer Learning Center can familiarize themselves with the facility.

The Technology Forum will focus on non-traditional telephoning, especially Skype. This program can be a great "minutes" saver anytime you are near a WiFi access point. Video chatting can also be accomplished if the person being called has a camera on their phone or computer. Come hear the presentation and join in the discussion.

**Learn By Hearing Answers
to Questions**

February Question and Answer Session

Monday, February 13 – West Recreation Center at 2:45 p.m.

If you have a computer question or problem you would like to have discussed at our Q & A Session, Gordon Ramsey is our Coordinator and M/C (**for the month of February only**). If you would e-mail your questions or problems to Gordon at ramsey7999@sbcglobal.net several days before the meeting, he will work with our experts to determine a solution and present it at the meeting. We will continue to take questions from the floor but the e-mail requests will have priority.

We encourage our members to attend this session whether you have a question or not. There is always something to learn and sometimes even the most knowledgeable pick up something new. Our Board Meeting begins at 1:30 p.m.; the Q&A session follows at 2:45 p.m. Both are open to any members who would like to attend.

February General Meeting

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

WiFi and Wireless

To many of us, connecting to the internet by wireless is an almost magical capability but there is a general lack of understanding on how this comes to pass and what some of the limitations are. Our speaker, George McKinney, is well known in the Oakmont community for his extensive breadth of knowledge of technology and his ability to make sometimes complex systems easily understood. If you wish to increase your understanding of WiFi and Wireless computing, come to the meeting.

Please note that the program subject for March has been changed to the following:

“Some Things You May Not Know About Windows 7”

Monday, March 19 at 2 .m. – West Recreation Center

This will be a program explaining some of the many tools that are available in *Windows 7* to make your computer activity more enjoyable and more organized. *Windows 7* is more user friendly than past Windows Operating Systems but one has to know where to look for the help. Gordon Ramsey will present the program.

Exchange Table

On the third Monday of every month at our Program Meeting we set up a table in the rear of the room with **FREE** items that have been donated by our members. It varies from month to month but sometimes includes ink, books, manual, cables software, keyboards etc. Please feel free to peruse it before or after the meeting and help yourself to any items you want. We also have a working **All-In-One printer** that has been donated. If you would like the printer, please call Gordon Ramsey (538-4981) who has it at his home and who will deliver it to your home if you wish. If you have any items you wish to donate, please bring them to one of our meetings. If you have something to donate and need it picked up, please call Gordon Ramsey and he will be glad to do so.

Get Rid of the Wires

Peruse the Treasures

Welcome All!

Jack's Travel Photos

Free at Last

New Members

We welcome the following new members to our Club:

John Barrett (returning member)

Gary Beard

Marie Crimaldi

Pam Gilbert

Earlyn and Ned Luzmoor

All new members are encouraged to become participants and please feel free to contact any of the officers for help or assistance.

Thank You, Jack Frantz

Thank you, Jack, for presenting the January 16 Program on "Share Your Travel Photos with a slideshow and CD/DVD." We especially enjoyed seeing how to add audio recordings, music and commentary to the slideshow. This ability adds another dimension to photos for friends and family. As mentioned, the slide show is on the club's web site for future use.

Free Education Available on the Internet

The internet offers almost unbelievable opportunities for learning and at the same time fight the cognitive decline that comes with age if not challenged. Here are a few.

Kahn Academy <http://www.khanacademy.org/>

Watch. Practice.

Learn almost anything for free.

With a library of over 2,700 videos covering everything from arithmetic to physics, finance, and history and 289 practice exercises, we're on a mission to help you learn what you want, when you want, at your own pace.

Watch a video

Practice with an exercise

A library of 2700, approximately 10 minute long, videos and practice exercises that anyone can use free. The videos are blackboard talks that explain K-12 grade subjects in math, science and humanities. If you want to know how banks work and money is created, see the 24 videos on *Banking and Money*. Many videos on *Calculus* or *Probability*. The latter is valuable to

anyone who flips a coin or visits River Rock Casino.

Founded by Sal Kahn, a successful hedge fund manager who learned that he has a gift for making sometimes difficult concepts understandable, and he can do that for you too. Try it.

MIT Open Course Ware <http://ocw.mit.edu/index.htm>

For ten years, the world renowned Massachusetts Institute of Technology has made available on the internet, free to everyone, the course materials for all of their courses. This has been improved over the years to where some course material has been enhanced for independent study with few additional resources. See OCW Scholar. There are no degrees or credit for courses and there is no registration required. There's just no excuse for not trying it if you have any interest in learning more about almost anything.

The screenshot shows the MIT OpenCourseWare website. At the top, it says "What's new on OCW?" with a "Sign up" button. Below that is the MIT logo and "MIT OPEN COURSEWARE MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY". A navigation bar includes "Home", "Courses", "Donate", and "About OCW". A sidebar lists links: "Get Started with OCW", "VIEW ALL 2000 COURSES", "Most Visited Courses", "OCW Scholar", "Editor's Picks", "Audio/Video Courses", "Translated Courses", and "New Courses". A main content area features a banner for "Unlocking Knowledge, Empowering Minds." with the text "Free lecture notes, exams, and videos from MIT. No registration required."

Virtual Sticky Notes

Academic Earth <http://academicearth.org/>



Provides lectures by world renowned experts as well as complete courses for credit. The material is provided by 17 of the

top rated Universities. You can view all the lectures in a course or just those which appeal to you. If you are interested in understanding the housing crisis try the economics course, *Financial Markets*, taught by Robert Shiller of Case-Shiller Housing Index fame.


Sticky Notes

You have probably seen computer monitors with yellow sticky notes clinging to the sides as a way to remember an appointment, password or similar item. These handy memory triggers are readily available to display on your monitor on any screen you choose, whenever you choose. They look like the one shown here. These are available in Windows 7, Vista or XP. We'll take them one at a time in that order.

Reminder

Don't forget the
OPCUG Q&A session
13 Feb. at 2:45PM

In **Windows 7** the applet is already installed. Simply click *Start* and begin typing *sticky notes* and before you get far the program will appear. Click on it and you have a sticky note on your desktop. It can be called up on any screen, even e-mail by clicking the *Sticky Notes* Icon on the Task Bar at the bottom of the screen. Simply click on the note and type in what you wish.

In **Windows Vista** Sticky Notes is a Gadget on the side bar. Right click anywhere on the Side bar or on the Tray Icon  and select *Add Gadget*. Drag the Sticky Notes Gadget to the Side Bar or Desktop.

For **Windows XP** download the small program from <http://www.sticky-notes.net/> and install.

Sticky notes free

Sticky Notes Free - Desktop Sticky Notes freeware - Sticky Notes software - Desktop Notes for Windows



[Click Here](#)

You too can have a memory like a bear trap.

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:

krystine_at_oakmont@yahoo.com