



OMUG

<http://www.oly mug.org>

NEWS



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Olympia Microcomputer Users Group

October 2005

Beat the rush, consider running for board

By Bill Gortz
OMUG President

Recently, as I have gone shopping in various stores around town, I have found that many of the items I need have been moved to make room for the Christmas stuff that is starting to fill up the spaces.

I don't know about the rest of you, but it seems to me the Christmas things keep getting put up earlier each year. With more than three months to go, I believe it is too soon; we haven't even got to Halloween or Thanksgiving yet! And, with prices going up, my checkbook doesn't last as long as it used to.

Since the stores seem to want to start things three or four months early, I decided I could beat that time and start seven months early, and it won't cost a cent.

I am talking about the OMUG elections coming up in April of next year.

The nominating committee will be forming this month and getting ready to



contact OMUG members about their willingness to run for one of the elected positions. I expect this to start late this year or early next year and I would like each member to give serious thought to running for one of the following elected positions – president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, newsletter editor, webmaster and three directors at large.

The duties of these positions are covered in the OMUG ByLaws and the OMUG Standing Rules. These are both on the OMUG Web site at www.oly mug.org. I encourage every one to read them, and if you see a position you would be interested in, accept the nomination when the nominating committee contacts you.

In addition to the elected officers,

there are many other positions within OMUG that need member participation: key positions, committees and special interest groups, all of which are listed on the Web site also. There are several positions open and persons interested can contact me, or any member of the Executive Board, about filling them.

Most of the committees have committee chairs and I am sure they would be willing to accept additional help on their committee if you are interested and would be actively involved in assisting them. Please contact the appropriate committee chair.

OMUG currently has several active Special Interest Groups, but has also had several in the past that are no longer active due to lack of a facilitator, such as the MS Office, Genealogy, Linux and Web site Creation & Maintenance SIG's. If anyone would be willing to lead one of these SIG's, or have a suggestion for a new SIG, please contact our vice president and SIG coordinator, Shirley

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Are you ready for some (fantasy) football?

By Wayne Steen
Quad-Cities CS, Iowa

Playing Fantasy Football allows you the opportunity to manage your own team of professional football players. You begin by drafting your own team of

players from across the NFL (National Football League). Then you receive points based on your players' actual performance in NFL games.

Have you ever thought that you could do a better job of running the Chicago Bears than the current management

has been able to do? Well, this is your opportunity to prove yourself capable of being an NFL owner (you will have to become a multimillionaire on your own).

There are many fantasy football leagues to choose from on the Internet. For this

article, I will be using the NFL's official Fantasy Football League. You can go to <http://football.nfl.com> to find out more about joining the Official Fantasy Football League.

See FOOTBALL, Page 4



EXECUTIVE BOARD

President: Bill Gortz, 426-2310,
president@olymug.org

Vice President: Shirley
Bellinghausen, 426-7149,
vicepresident@olymug.org

Secretary: Larry Jensen
secretary@olymug.org

Treasurer: Max Whipps, 486-9959
treasurer@olymug.org

Newsletter Editor: Sandy
Pishner, 459-5726,
editor@olymug.org

Webmaster: Pat Sonnenstuhl,
webmaster@olymug.org

Director at Large: James
Gunnells, director1@olymug.org

Director at Large: Christie
McCormick, 426-9996,
director2@olymug.org

Director at Large: L.D. McNall,
director3@olymug.org

KEY MEMBERS

APCUG Representative: Bill Gortz

Budget Committee Chair: Bill Gortz

Database Manager: Max Whipps

Elections Chair: Bob Steinberg

Historian: David Belles

Membership Chair: James Gunnells

Membership Renewal Coordinator:
Max Whipps

Newsletter Distribution Coordinator:
Loren Freeman

Nominating Committee Chair:
Wes Kirkpatrick

Scholarship Committee Chair:
Bob Wing

SIG Coordinator: Shirley Bellinghausen

Visitors Coordinator: Elizabeth Ross

Special Activities Committee Chair:
Gary Bigger

Public Relations Chair: Vivian Forrester

The Olympia Microcomputer Users Group is a not for profit organization dedicated to helping computer users improve their skills with computers.

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BOARD

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Bellinghausen. Contact her at vicepresident@olymug.org.

In addition to the positions mentioned above, there are many other activities members can assist with such as helping with the upcoming potluck and silent auction for the December meeting, helping with the highway rest stop each

year, picnics, helping to set up and take down for the general meetings.

As you can see, there are many opportunities to serve within OMUG and as with any organization, the more members who are willing to participate in the organization's activities, the better the organization can become. Please consider these opportunities and help us become a better organization.

Thanks For Renewing

L.D. & Mary Lee McNall

Pat Perry

Phyllis & Don Batten

William & Mary Swaim

Sister Dorothy

Robinson, OSB

Kath, Michael,

& Stephanie Thorn

Peggy Wilson

Gene Andrews

Sharon Love

Kay & John Sanders

Rita & Dan Sevcik

Dick Bostic

David, Marcy,

& Nathan Belles

Welcome Returning Members

Mary Lee Martinez

Bill Froude

We had NO
new members
this month!
Recruit friends,
family, & neigh-
bors and get an
extra 3 months
on your
membership
for each new
member.

Board considers membership incentives

By Larry Jensen
OMUG Secretary



The meeting was called to order Sept. 15 at 7 p.m., by president Bill Gortz. In attendance were Shirley Bellinghausen, vice president; Larry Jensen, secretary; and Chris McCormick, director at large.

Also in attendance was new member Arlene Kapman

Ms. Kapman, who was a member of a similar group in California, expressed surprise that our membership dues were so low and felt that there would be more incentive for people to join if dues were higher and if membership was required for attendance at SIGs.

Bill explained that in order to be able to use the Senior Center, all meetings must be open to the public. He will check to make sure that is correct.

Ms. Kapman also agreed, tentatively, to chair the nominating committee for the coming year.

There was a discussion of the need to reimburse presenters for their expenses, (milage and supplies) when they were not sponsored by vendors.

Bill reported that we will have the Maytown Rest Area coffee stop the July 4th weekend of 2006 and Sept. 15-17 in 2007.

Shirley said there is some question about next month's program. It had been announced that it would be on firefighters' use of computers in fighting fires, but that may be put off if LapWorks puts on a program.

Shirley is also working on a new version of the member profile questionnaire. The difficulty is designing it so that it could be incorporated into a database.

The suggestion was made that each director at large be give specific duties. This awaits further discussion.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Figuring out how spammers get your e-mail

By Dave Gerber
Director, Sarasota PCUG, Florida

Spammers employ a variety of methods to acquire e-mail addresses. Some methods take advantage of the e-mail addresses readily available on the Internet, whereas others employ different levels of trickery, from harvesting to outright stealing. Here are two common methods.

Spammers use a technique called harvesting to acquire e-mail addresses. While harvesting requires a lot of bandwidth, it is ingeniously simple: download the right pages from select Web sites and extract the e-mail addresses that are there. Some of the tools and sources employed in harvesting e-mail addresses from the Web include the following:

Web spiders: Spammers employ Web crawlers and spiders that harvest e-mail addresses from Web sites. It's common for Web sites to include mailto: URLs, as well as unlinked user@domain addresses. Put your e-mail address on a Web site, and you're spam bait.

Newsgroups: It's a straightforward task to harvest e-mail addresses from Usenet newsgroups: Just pull in a big news feed and extract the e-mail addresses with a simple shell or Perl script. Newsgroup volumes are still increasing

exponentially — this means lots of e-mail addresses are there.

The Editorial Committee of the Association of Personal Computer User Groups, an international organization of which this group is a member, brings this article to you.

OMUG Income & Expenses August 2005



Income: \$1489

[Dues—\$360, Rest Area Donations—\$1124, Interest—\$4]

Expenses: \$550

[SSSS Donation—\$25, Newsletter Copying & Supplies—\$130, Rest Area Supplies—\$111, 2006 Picnic Site Reservation—\$20, Mail Box Rent—\$119, Admin Supplies—\$5, Bank Charge—\$2, 2005 Picnic Supplies—\$138]

Net Income: \$939

Savings Account Balance:	\$2948	9/28/05
Scholarship Account Balance:	\$1840	
Checking Account Balance:	\$332	
Bank Accounts Total:	<u>\$5120</u>	
To Be Deposited:	\$240	

FOOTBALL

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You can choose between two playing options. The Fantasy Football game is for one player. After you sign up, you will name your team and you are arbitrarily assigned to play in a league by NFL.com. The League Manager product allows you to manage your own league of friends or co-workers.

I strongly suggest you play a season as an individual player and then be a League Manager the second year. Being a League Manager is a very time-consuming job and required experience playing Fantasy Football.

The X's and O's

First, you do not need to have been a football player to be successful playing Fantasy Football. Playing Fantasy Football is a great way to learn about the great game of football. If you have a friend or spouse who loves football, then ask him/her to help you with a Fantasy Football team. It will help you understand their passion for the game.

Each league consists of 12 teams. You will manage one of the teams. You will play weekly against one of the other teams in your league.

You can sign up for Fantasy Football 2005 until 11:59:59 PM on October 8,

2005. NFL.com. Fantasy Football is free to play.

After signing up, you will then join a draft in which you will raft your team. IF you are new to NFL football, then you may want to ask a friend/spouse who knows football to help you with the draft.

Last year I was very lucky and was able to draft Ben Roethlisberger as my quarterback. Ben was the rookie quarterback of the year for the Pittsburgh Steelers.

Each team has 14 players; therefore, you will have a fourteen round draft. Then each week during the season, you will select a starting lineup of eight players from the 14 players on your team.

The scoring system is too complicated to explain in the brief room I have for this article. There is a detailed explanation of the scoring system on the NFL.com Web site.

The twelve-team league is divided into three divisions. The winner of each division plus a wild-card team will meet in the playoffs.

The division champion with the best win-loss record will play the wild card team. The other two division champions will play each other. Then the two winners meet for the championship.

If you win the

championship of your league, the next season you will be eligible to play in a special winners' league. I lost in the playoffs last year, so I cannot tell you much about the winners' league.

You can make weekly lineup changes and can trade players during the season. This is where championships are won and lost in Fantasy Football! Trading during the season is much more important in Fantasy Football than it is in the real game. You do not have to worry about salary caps and the financial aspects of the game of pro football when playing Fantasy Football.

The grand prize is \$5,000 and a free trip to Super Bowl XL in Detroit. If you win the grand prize, you can take me along as your friend.

For the first time players, I recommend that you subscribe to Fantasy Football Extra. You can subscribe to Fantasy Football Extra at the same Web site as NFL Fantasy Football.

The Extra e-mail subscription keeps you up to date on NFL statistics and injuries. It also provides some useful tips on drafting and trading players. At the time this article was written, the Fantasy Football extra e-mail subscription cost \$34.95 for the

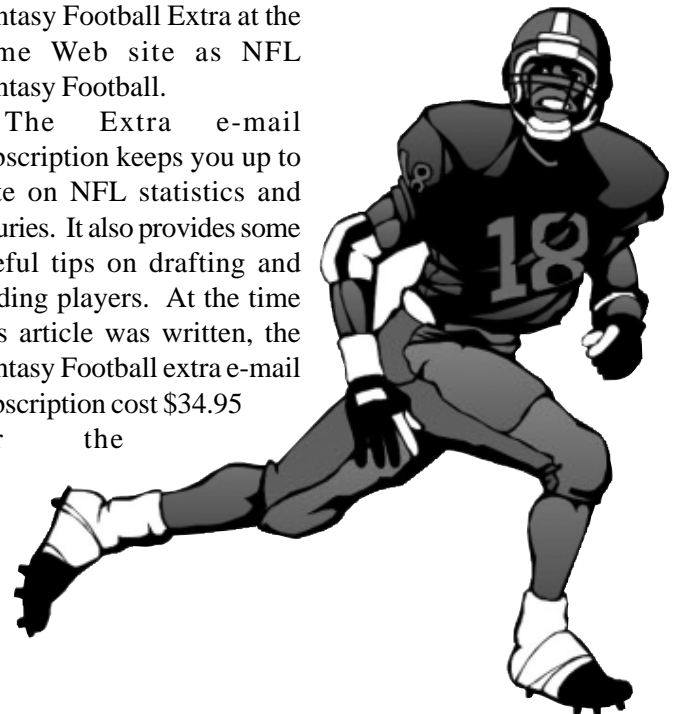
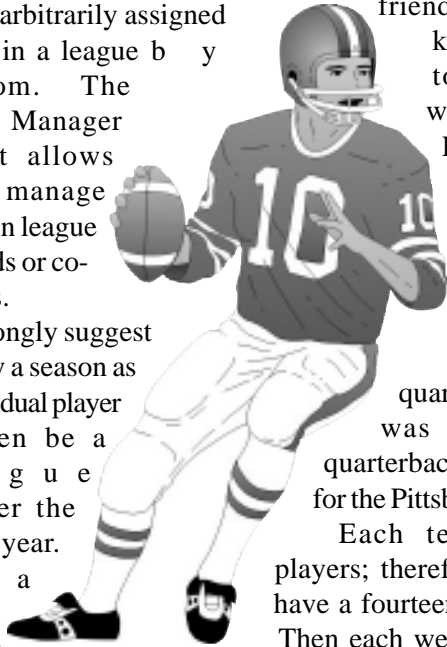
football season.

Fantasy Football is a national craze and is much easier on your wallet than online poker. It is a great way to learn about the game of football.

Once you et past your rookie year of Fantasy football, then I suggest you create your own league with friends or co-workers. It is a great way to bring everyone together.

Be careful out there! The children are back in school. Watch out for them, because they may not be watching out for you!!

The Editorial Committee of the Association of Personal Computer User Group, an international organization of which this group is a member, brings this article to you. Mr. Steen is a Contributing Editor, Q BITS. His e-mail is Pythagoras78@hotmail.com
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Watch for malicious code in free services

By Sue Crane
Editor Big Bear Computer Club

Tech Notes

Malicious code

Free services are being used to install malicious code. Cybercriminals are increasingly using blog sites, photo album sites, fan and greeting card sites and other free online services to install and spread software designed to steal personal information or hijack a victim's PC. In the first two weeks of July, security company Websense saw more than 500 incidents of such attacks. The free services are an anonymous and affordable way for attackers to store and spread their malicious code. Be careful what you click on!

Insect "extermination"

Scientists in Lausanne, Switzerland, have successfully infiltrated a colony of roaches with a micro robot according to a report published in the June issue of IEEE Robotics & Automation. Called InsBot, for "insect-like robot," the mechanical bug mimics the insects' smell and movements so the roaches have accepted it as their own.

WinZip bought out

WinZip is one of the most popular shareware programs on the Web. More than 140 million people have downloaded the program, and it's downloaded for free about 500,000 times a week. Turnaround investor Vector Capital will try to change that by reminding users a little more firmly that the software costs \$29 (after a free 30-day trial), as well as likely coming out with new features that only paying customers can download.

Better Eating

Major food producers are using nanotechnology to improve the quality of their foods, although some warn that the technology may be misunderstood by consumers. At a Nano4food conference food scientists, material scientists and nanotechnicians met to discuss how the technology is being used to improve the consistency of yogurt or cheese, packaging technologies, and even how to "wall off" the most

nutritional components of food in favor of tastier alternatives. However, as nanotechnology moves forward, consumers will have to be informed and educated about the possible benefits and hazards of using it.

There is no "Superfetch"

Ed Bott, bestselling author and computer journalist advises: "The same yokels who insist on spreading the "clean out your Prefetch folder" BS are now spreading the word that there's a super-double-secret registry setting in Windows XP called SuperFetch that will reduce boot times dramatically. No, there isn't. And if you see any Web site that tries to insist that there's any benefit to cleaning out your Prefetch folder or enabling this latest bogus tweak, you should assume that any other advice they give you is worthless as well."

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A few simple steps to get that screen shot

By David Garcia
Northglenn, Colorado

Have you ever wanted to print out what you see on your monitor screen? This is called a "Screenshot," and there are several software packages on the market that allow you to do just that with various degrees of sophistication. If you don't need that sophistication, you can easily use Windows to get a screenshot. Just follow these

instructions:

- 1) Press the Print Screen Key (PrtScr) on the keyboard.
- 2) Click Start, then click Run.
- 3) Type "mspaint" (without the quotes) in the Run box and click OK.
- 4) In Paint, click Paste in the Edit menu
- 5) Click Print Preview in the File menu. If the screenshot is cut off, you may want to change the printer setting to print in Landscape

mode.

- 6) Click Print and close Paint. You're done!

You can also save the file if you like:

- 1) Click "Save" in the File menu
- 2) Browse to the folder you want to save the file in so that the folder name is in the "Save In" box.
- 3) Type a file name for the screenshot; use JPG in the "Save as Type" box and click Save.

There is no restriction

against any non-profit group using this article as long as it is kept in context with proper credit given the author. The Editorial Committee of the Association of Personal Computer User Groups, an international organization of which this group is a member, brings this article to you.

Mr. Garcia is president of the Little Blue PC Club, Northglenn Colorado.