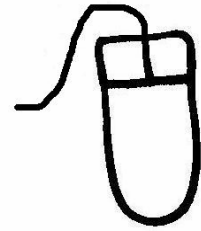




# OMUG

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

## News



Vol. 14, No. 8

Olympia Microcomputer Users

August 2006

## Good Turnout for Fundraisers

By Shirley Bellinghausen  
OMUG President

I would like to personally invite all members to the Annual Omug Picnic. The Board plans this event for you to THANK YOU for all the times you have come forward to help share the good word about OMUG, Particularly events such as the REST Stop, IPMA, SIG Leaders; for all your help at the meetings and behind the scenes, and for introducing your friends to Omug.

The club has hired the Priest Point Park's Kitchen #2 and will provide hamburgers, hot dogs fixin's, and beverages. You can bring anything you'd like to go with them. We will see you on Saturday August 12, any time after 10 AM. We'll eat about 12-ish. Gals, no cooking! John Acocks will be our chef. Max will also have the paper plates and glasses. If you have any games, bring them—and playing cards are always good. I have an old game called Jarts.

We are having OMUG 'business card' made for each member to have and give out to your friends when you are telling them about OMUG. So often we wish we had something smaller than the



brochure or a newsletter to hand an interested person. Business cards are easier to carry and good openers. Our new membership chairman, Richie Cunningham will have them to give out at the meetings. All you need to do is hand them out to anyone interested in computer help, and watch us grow!

Microsoft's Gary Moulton will do a presentation for us at our August 10 General Meeting on **Technology for Everyone**. Accessible technology enables opportunity for people of all abilities—including the elderly and those with difficulties, impairments and disabilities to get the most out of their computers.

A goal I have set for myself this year is to have a complete inventory of equipment Omug has purchased and acquired and where it is stored. If you should have anything stored you may have forgotten about will you check and see if you can find it?

OMUG is willing to loan out equipment but we are establishing a "checkout system" so we know who borrows an item—in case someone else needs it. Thanks for checking!

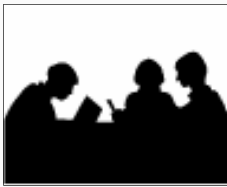
We've been talking over ideas to make our newsletter even more informative and interactive. What do you think of the two below?

1. A "letter to the Editor" column
2. A short interview with some of our members. Many have been with OMUG since its inception. I'd be interested in their experiences and some background. If you have other ideas, let us know!

See you at the meeting Thursday August 10th! ☞

### Beginners' SIG

Would you like to get more out of your computer and Microsoft Word? Arlene Kapner has just the ticket! She is teaching a class at the Beginners SIG Monday evenings in August and October. Kathleen Alonzo, who attended the SIG in June, said "It was awesome! Arlene was patient and thorough, and now I have a lot more confidence about using the computer. I'm glad I did it!" See page 6 for Arlene's phone and email. Pre-registration required! ☞



## EXECUTIVE BOARD

**President:** Shirley Bellinghausen  
president@olymug.org 426-7149

**Vice-President:** John Acocks  
vicepresident@olymug.org

**Secretary:** Larry Jensen  
secretary@olymug.org

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

**Newsletter Editor:** Sister Dorothy  
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**Webmaster:** Pat Sonnenstuhl  
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**Director at Large:** John Marshall  
director1@olymug.org

**Director at Large:** Gary Bigger  
director2@olymug.org

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

### KEY MEMBERS:

**APCUG Representative:** John Gerecht

**Budget Committee Chair:** Wim Verhoef

**Database Manager:** Max Whipps

**Elections Chair:** Bob Steinberg

**Historian:** David Belles

**Membership Chair:** Rich Cunningham

**Newsletter Distribution Coordinator:**  
Dixie Cattell

**Nominating Committee Chair:**

Arlene Kapner

**Public Relations Chair:** Vivian Forrester

**Scholarship Committee Chair:**

Bob Wing

**SIG Coordinator:** Bob Steinberg

**Special Activities Coordinator:** Open

**Visitors Coordinator:** Glenda Reed

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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# July General Meeting

By Larry Jensen  
OMUG Secretary

The meeting was opened at 7:00 PM by Vice President John Acocks. There were 38 present.

John announced that the rest stop was very successful. The treasurer reported that from a gross income of \$1370.84, \$212.43 was subtracted for expenses resulting in \$1158.41 being added to the scholarship fund. We now have \$3014.00 in the scholarship fund. John thanked the club members who helped with the event. We now have sufficient funds to offer a \$1000 scholarship to qualifying students of The Evergreen State College for the next two years.

John Acocks presented a demonstration of the voice recognition program contained in Microsoft Word 2002 and 2003. The program requires each user to establish a profile specific to the environment. John demonstrated how this is done. The computer is trained when the speaker reads a supplied selection into it so that it can recognize the speech characteristics of the individual.

John had brought his own well-trained computer for the demonstration. However, Murphy's Law seemed to be in effect; when John fired up his computer, there was an apparent hard drive failure. Never daunted, John went to plan B. He borrowed Pat's untrained laptop and went through the whole training procedure from the beginning. The results were impressive. Within a hour he was able to read an excerpt from the newspaper into the microphone and the computer translated the spoken word into almost error free printing. Further training would improve the results even more.

*Note: MS Voice Recognition works only with Word 2002 or newer.*



## Thanks for Renewing

**Marcelene  
Darling**

**Juanita & Lyle Hart**

**Ann Anthony**

**Robert Miller**

**Kerry Gorder &  
Stacey Santry**

**Pat Sonnenstuhl**

**Tonney Yamane**

**Bruce Welsh**

**Gary Moody**

**Eugene Sabotta**

**Bernadine &  
Robert Sullivan**

**Bob Elves**

**Curt Walseth**

**Leslie Kreger**

**Bill & Dora Murray**

**James Gunnells**

**Tom Johnson**



## Welcome to our

## New Members

**Roberta & Bill Stady**

**Charlotte Wright**

**Beverly Sells**

**Jack Voice**

**Donna Jebbett**

**Wayne Colvin**

**Margo Whipple**

# Outside Events in June & July

By Larry Jensen  
OMUG Secretary



President Shirley Bellinghausen opened the July 20 business meeting at 7:00 PM. Also present were Secretary Larry Jensen, Newsletter editor Sister Dorothy Robinson, Webmaster Pat Sonnenstuhl, Directors at Large John Marshall and Gary Bigger and Membership Chairman Richie Cunningham.

It was moved by Pat and seconded by Sister Dorothy that the July General Meeting minutes and the June board meeting minutes be accepted.

The Treasurer's Report shows that we have \$2931.22 in the savings account; \$3014.00 in the Scholarship fund; \$594.46 in the checking account and \$594.46 to be deposited. The treasury total is \$6719.65. As of 7/19/06 we have 188 primary members (11 more than at this time last year), and 76 Associate members. Total members: 264, 6 more than a year ago.

Secretary Larry Jensen brought the corrected Organizational chart. He will send the file to Richie Cunningham so that he may print it and include it in the new members packet.

There was a discussion of the possibility of changing the seating arrangement in the general meetings to improve the viewing. It was suggested that we try an arrangement 90 degrees from what we have been using. We will try this in September.

There was a question about the accuracy of the information in the newsletter about what program could be used for the voice recognition function demonstrated at the last General Meeting. The Newsletter editor will check with John Acocks to make sure we have the correct information.

Shirley reported on the very successful rest stop event. She complimented everyone involved and particularly noted that Don Herzog not only worked several shifts but collected the money and made emergency runs with needed supplies. The biggest problem was running out of cookies, so Shirley suggested that we need to determine just how many cookies were used so that we can be better prepared next time.

The date of next year's Rest Stop was discussed. The form from the DOT said 7/1-3/07. This was questioned and subsequent information shows that the actual date will be September 15-17, 2007.

Richie Cunningham had a mock-up of the information card intended for members to hand out to potential members. He also had an example of the sign-in book for visitors.

The problems that arose at the last newsletter mailing activity were discussed. We need to work out procedures to be used when Max isn't able to be present.

In order to have a complete inventory of all equipment and supplies, the following plan was proposed:


- John Marshall will furnish a list of the OMUG equipment stored at the Senior Center
- We will ask Max for a list of equipment and supplies (including coffee stop) stored at his home.
- We will put a request on the Reflector for information on equipment and supplies that other people may be storing.

With this information in hand, it will be possible to have a check-out list for people to use when they wish to check out equipment.

The annual OMUG picnic will be at Kitchen #2 at Priest Point Park, starting at 10:00 AM August 12. OMUG furnishes the hot dogs, hamburgers, buns and beverages. Members should bring side dishes. John Acocks will do the cooking. It has not yet been established who will furnish the grill.

Smart Computing Magazine will donate one free subscription for every four paid subscriptions from OMUG members. These free subscriptions could be used as door prizes.

Shirley has a copy of software called Homedata Bank, made by Russell Software. We need somebody to review it.

The meeting adjourned at 8:37 PM. 

## OMUG Income & Expenses June 2006

**Income: \$276**

[Membership Dues-\$272, Interest-\$4]

**Expenses: \$147**

[Senior Center Donation-\$50, Membership Committee Postage & Supplies-128, Newsletter Copying-\$130, Rest Stop Supplies-139]

**Net Deficit: \$171**



### OMUG Treasury as of 7/25/06

<b>Savings Account Balance:</b>	\$2,931
<b>Scholarship Account Balance:</b>	\$3,014
<b>Checking Account Balance:</b>	\$150
<b>Bank Accounts Total:</b>	\$6,095
<b>To Be Deposited:</b>	\$220
<b>Treasury Total:</b>	\$6,315

# CDs: Quick Reference Guide for Care and Handling

By Fred R. Byers

*Fred R. Byers has been a member of the technical staff in the Convergent Information Systems Division of the Information Technology Laboratory at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) for more than 6 years. He works with the Data Preservation Group on optical disc reliability studies; previously, he worked on the localization of defects in optical discs. Mr. Byers' background includes training in electronics, chemical engineering, and computer science.*

## Do:

1. Handle discs by the outer edge or the center hole.
2. Use a non-solvent based felt-tip permanent marker to mark the label side of the disc.
3. Keep dirt or other foreign matter from the disc.
4. Store discs upright (book style) in plastic cases specified for CDs and DVDs.
5. Return discs to storage cases immediately after use.
6. Leave discs in their packaging (or cases) to minimize the effects of environmental changes.
7. Open a recordable disc package only when you are ready to record data on that disc.
8. Store discs in a cool, dry, dark environment in which the air is clean.
9. Remove dirt, foreign material, fingerprints, smudges, and liquids by wiping with a clean cotton fabric in a straight line from the center of the disc toward the outer edge.

10. Use CD/DVD-cleaning detergent, isopropyl alcohol, or methanol to remove stubborn dirt or material.
11. Check the disc surface before recording.

## Do not:

1. Touch the surface of the disc.
2. Bend the disc.
3. Use adhesive labels
4. Store discs horizontally for a long time (years).
5. Open a recordable optical disc package if you are not ready to record.
6. Expose discs to extreme heat or high humidity.
7. Expose discs to extremely rapid temperature or humidity changes.
8. Expose recordable discs to prolonged sunlight or other sources of ultraviolet light.
9. Write or mark in the data area of the disc (the area the laser "reads").
10. Clean by wiping in a direction going around the disc.

## For CDs especially do not:

1. Scratch the label side of the disc.
2. Use a pen, pencil, or fine-tip marker to write on the disc.
3. Write on the disc with markers that contain solvents.
4. Try to peel off or reposition a label.

## General recommendations for long-term storage conditions:

For archiving recordable (R) discs, it is recommended to use discs that have a gold metal reflective layer.


*Archival Storage Facility—  
Recommendation for Storing CDs and DVDs together*


Media midity (RH)	Temperature	Relative Hu-
CD, DVD RH	Less than 20°C (68°F)	20% to 50%
	Greater than 4°C (39°F)	

A temperature of 18°C and 40% RH would be considered suitable for long-term storage.

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You can find this Quick Reference Guide online at: <http://www.clir.org/pubs/reports/pub121/contents.html#quick>

OMUG has permission to publish this guide in our newsletter from Kathlin Smith, Director of Communications at CLIR. 

**According to Media Sciences, Inc.**— <http://www.msscience.com/faq508.html> —there is some controversy about using marking pens to label CDs, although it seems that most agree that pens containing solvents should not be used if longevity is important for a disc. A brief study by Media Sciences used various CD-R discs containing Sharpie and Dixon Redisharp Plus! markings on the label surface. (Sharpie contains solvents and Redisharp Plus! is water-based.) After accelerated aging for 100 hours at 60°C and 85% relative humidity, conditions that are within allowable limits for CD-R discs, all discs degraded, often resulting in uncorrectable errors. No single type of media or marking pen was consistently better than another. Lifetimes of discs using marking pens for labeling are unpredictable at this time pending further testing. 

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## Raincoast!

October 6-7-8, 2006

What is Raincoast? Raincoast is an annual Conference dedicated to computer users. This year the breakout sessions will be of interest to users of Windows, Macintosh, and Linux, and will cover general information topics, as well.

Leaders and experts in the computer field will offer their knowledge to attendees, including question and answer sessions to solve specific and individual problems.

Registration fee of \$60 entitles you to:

- Raincoast badge (required for breakout sessions, meals, and conference events)
- Roundtable sessions, meals and social events
- Chance to win computer on Sunday (must be present to win!)

Go to: [www.raincoast.info](http://www.raincoast.info) to see the program and activities that are planned.

Raincoast 2006  
October 6, 7, & 8, 2006  
LaQuinta Inn & Suites  
Tacoma



### PrimoPDF— a Free PDF Converter

PrimoPDF, a free PDF Converter, is not a trial version. It is free to download and use. You can use the free Adobe Reader to read PrimoPDF files. You can print to PDF from virtually any application, and there is an online manual for reference and getting started. Create PDF output

optimized for print, screen, ebook, or prepress. No pop-up ads, no registration requirement—no catch!

It works like Adobe Acrobat Distiller, i.e. you open the file you want to convert, click File—Print then choose PrimoPDF as your “printer.” If you have Adobe Reader installed, it will open your new PDF file.

One testimonial: “I have tried several free PDF creators (PdfSuite995, Business PDF Writer, CutePDF Writer, etc.) and in my view PrimoPDF is the best and most stable one.”—Softpedia User Review ([www.softpedia.com](http://www.softpedia.com))

You may download it at [www.primopdf.com](http://www.primopdf.com)—version 2.0 for W-XP, 1.0 for W-98.

—Sister Dorothy, Editor



## APCUG Digital Photo Contest

"Unleash your creativity and show us what you can really do with that digital camera."

A "digital first" for APCUG in 2007! Our kick-off event for the 2007 Annual Conference will showcase the talents of our member group photographers! Somewhere inside of all of us is a creative genius just waiting for the chance to grab the spotlight..... and we want to give you that chance. There will be multiple chances to win....including..... professional judging and our own "Photo Idol" chosen from our Conference attendees! So, grab those cameras and start shooting!

Of course this doesn't mean that you have to go out and shoot new photos. Pick from some of those you have in your files. There are four categories; People and Children; Animals; Landscape/Flowers and Still Life. You may enter one photo in all four categories. All entries must be 8 ½ X 11, printed on glossy photo paper, color or black and white, and NO BORDERS! Deadline is September 30, 2006. For information, contest Rules, and Application form, go to, <http://www.apcug.net>.



## APCUG Annual Conference

It's not too early to start making plans for APCUG's Annual Conference to be held at the Riviera Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas, January 4-7, 2007 -- featuring a digital photo contest, roundtables, educational forums, and a host of vendors. It is a great way to start the New Year and get some wonderful ideas to bring back to your group. Make plans now to go and take part!



### Just for Fun

A computer company I work for placed an order for computer mice from Japan. After the normal delivery period had elapsed, we contacted the airport to enquire what had happened to the consignment. The official in charge said that it was nowhere to be found and should be reported as missing. Some time later the official contacted us to say that the package had been found. When we asked where it had been, he replied sheepishly, "In quarantine."

—from [www.computerjokes.com](http://www.computerjokes.com)