

# Grand Bytes

Grand Computers Club; Sun City Grand; 19753 N. Remington Dr., Surprise, AZ 85374

Website address: [www.grandcomputers.org](http://www.grandcomputers.org); Phone number: 623-546-7508

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## One of Our Club's VIPs: Don Noteboom



Assistant Technical Director Don Noteboom spent the first 18 years of this life on a family farm in the Lower Yellowstone River Valley on the Montana-North Dakota border, going to grade school in rural North Dakota and high school across the border in Fairview, Montana.

He spent the next four academic years at Montana State College (now University) at Bozeman earning a BS degree in Agricultural Engineering and a Regular Army Commission as a Second Lieutenant. This was followed shortly by his marriage to Jan, his first and present wife, from Terry, Montana. They spent the next four months in Glasgow, Montana where he was an Engineer with the Soil

Conservation Service; however, this career was ended when the Army called him to active duty, which was supposed to be for three years but ended up at 28 when he retired in 1988. During his Army career he was stationed in Germany and Republic of Viet Nam as well in numerous state side locations. His assignments took him to the Organization of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in the Pentagon and The Naval War College, Newport, Rhode Island as well as numerous Army posts. The Army career was followed by 13 years with a Defense contractor in Warren, Michigan ending as a Computer Systems Analyst/IT manager.

Don's experience with computers began in 1964, where the Army sent him to earn a MS degree in Meteorology at the University of Utah. The FORTRAN programming language was taught by the Professor using his draft manuscript; which he was hoping to publish and sell to future students. This was the time when there was no monitor and your program was punched, one line at a time, on 80-column Hollerith cards and then fed to the room sized IBM mainframe computer and from which you obtained your printout (if you did not make any errors) many minutes or even hours later. Incidentally, the number of characters on a normal computer monitor (before Windows) was also 80.

Don and Jan moved to Sun City Grand in 2002. Don has given up his previous activities as a private pilot (single-engine and glider) for more down-to-earth activities such as computers, biking and bridge. After a stint as Technical Director, Don has happily been servicing our computers as Assistant Director.



"Nurse, get on the internet, go to [SURGERY.COM](http://SURGERY.COM), scroll down and click on the 'Are you totally lost?' icon."

## General Meeting - Wednesday, December 7 - Gift Ideas

The main topic for the next General Meeting will be "Gift Ideas" and club member Arnie Gelb may include a few off-the-wall suggestions. The December General Meeting will also include a vote of the 2017 Club officers and approval of the budget.

The festivities begin at 2:00 pm in the Chaparral Center, Apache Room, down the hall from the club. For more information please contact Ira Simmons, [president@grandcomputers.org](mailto:president@grandcomputers.org).

## Coffee Chat - Thursday, December 8 - Backups and Security

December 8 is the date of the next scheduled Coffee Chat and the topic will be "Backups and Security" presented by Dan Wallen. Please join us in the Chaparral Center Hopi Room at 8:30am and enjoy the free coffee and donuts too. Contact Pam Kostel ([vicepresident@grandcomputers.org](mailto:vicepresident@grandcomputers.org)) for additional information.

## Education's Corner



Fall classes are winding down, and we're already preparing for winter session, which will begin on Monday, January 16. Winter classes will be released for viewing on January 1. Registration for GCC winter classes will begin on Monday, January 9 at 8AM online or at 9:00 AM at the Grand Computers Club.

Remember that you must renew your membership in order to register for classes. You can do this online by logging in or at the club. Memberships expired September 30.

This fall we offered 62 different classes, with 76 sections: 18 Mac classes, 23 PC classes, and 35 'Other' classes. 'Other' classes include those that run on both PC and Mac, smartphones and smart tablets, such as Apple and Android, social media, and photo editing classes. Some of these classes are one session, or two sessions, three sessions, or even four sessions. And

Joyce Kloncz some of our classes are offered several times, such as Windows 10 classes.

Joyce Kloncz  
Education  
Director

Go to [www.grandcomputers.org](http://www.grandcomputers.org) > Education > Course Offerings or Class Schedule to learn more about our classes. Be sure to read the descriptions of our classes under Course Offerings so you will know just what is in the class.

If you have any ideas of classes that we might consider offering starting in January, please contact me at [education@grandcomputers.org](mailto:education@grandcomputers.org)

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** We are always looking for new instructors and assistant instructors, especially for Windows 10 classes. If you are interested in teaching, but you are unsure of your abilities, consider assisting in a class. You might be surprised by your abilities. If you are interested in either teaching or assisting contact the [Education Director](#).

For more information, contact me at [education@grandcomputers.org](mailto:education@grandcomputers.org)

Joyce Kloncz  
Grand Computers Club  
Education Director  
623-215-2397  
[education@grandcomputers.org](mailto:education@grandcomputers.org)



## Tech Help

Remember that Tech Help takes place every Tuesday all year from 12:30 pm to 3:30 pm and no problem is too big or small for our Tech Helpers to address. Tip: you may want to wait until later, but not too late in the session to avoid the initial rush.

## Next Member Orientation - December 14

Our November orientation meeting attracted 41 new, existing and prospective members on hand. Attendees are given a general overview of the Club including how to navigate the Club website.

The next meeting is Wednesday, December 14, 4:00pm - 5:00pm in the Maricopa/Havasupai Room next door to the Club. For additional information contact Pam Kostel, [Vicepresident@grandcomputers.org](mailto:Vicepresident@grandcomputers.org). Hope to see you there.



## Membership's Corner



Martha McGill  
Membership Director

Most of the winter residents (aka "Snowbirds") have returned, Thanksgiving has come and gone and the holiday season is in full swing! SCG Computer Club members continue to renew their memberships and we have welcomed 137 new members since the beginning of our 2016-2017 calendar year (October 1). Many Fall classes are still underway and a new series of Winter classes will commence mid-January 2017. If you wanted to take a class or two (or more!) but didn't get around to it for one reason or another, remember that you must be an active member in order to enroll. If you haven't already done so, renew your membership. This is easily accomplished from the comfort of your home by going online to our website, [www.grandcomputers.org](http://www.grandcomputers.org)! If you do not choose to renew online you may visit the SCG Grand Computers Club - Monday through Friday, any time between 9:00 AM and 3:30 PM – and the monitor on duty will renew your membership.

**Tip for December:** Please update your membership record! You can do so by logging on to the "Members Only" page of our website. Review the data pertinent to your membership and edit it if needed. In particular, if your email address or phone number has changed be sure to make that correction to insure that you receive timely notifications sent out by the Club. In particular, the Education Director and Class Instructors need to be able to contact you with information about classes for which you have registered.



My role is to assist you with any of the aspects of your membership that pose a problem. I am always available to help. If I don't have an answer, I will find someone who does! Please feel free to contact me for any reason and I will respond as quickly as possible.

Martha McGill

Membership Director  
SCG Computer Club  
[www.membership@grandcomputers.org](mailto:www.membership@grandcomputers.org)  
623-398-8639

## Special Interest Groups

### Apple SIG



*Provides an opportunity to gather with Apple/Mac users for classes and informational sessions.*

**Meetings:** 3rd Monday (October -April)

**Time:** 4:30 - 6:00 p.m.

**Place:** Apache Room, Chaparral Center

**Contact:** Joyce Klencz - [apple@grandcomputers.org](mailto:apple@grandcomputers.org)

**Next Meeting:** Monday, December 19

**Topic:** Games for your Apple Device, Laptop or Desktop

### Compose Yourself—A Writing Group SIG

*The Compose Yourself Writing Group uses word processors to write their memoirs and stories and share writings with one another at the meetings.*

**Meetings:** 1st Tuesday and 3rd Monday (October – May)

**Time:** 1:00 - 3:00 pm (Mondays); 11:00—1:00 pm (Tuesdays)

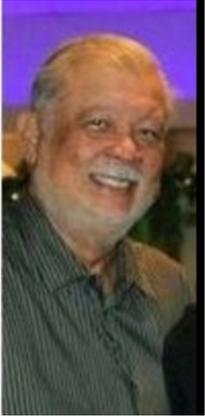
**Place:** Mesquite Room, Sonoran Plaza; Phoenix Room.

**Contact:** Gloria Young - [CY@grandcomputers.org](mailto:CY@grandcomputers.org)

**Next Meetings:** Tuesday, December 6; Monday, December 19



## Monitor's Corner



Joey  
delaConcepcion  
Monitor  
Director

November Monitor Sessions:

1. Number of sessions: 40
2. Monitor participation for Nov.: 19
3. Monitors' Total (yearly) participation: 66 out of a total of 76.
4. 16 In-active Monitors: 10 Support members; 6 Have not monitored in the last year.

November Monitor of the Month: Elfi Eades with 7 sessions.

Monitor Meeting: A 3rd meeting was held last Nov. 21 at 3:30 in the classroom. There were 12 attendees. A total of 3 meetings have been held since Sep. Because of the meetings... A few Monitor Procedures have been revised. Presently WIP on the handout and the training checklist. I will announce to the board and the monitors when the new revision is ready.

Welcome to our New Monitors: Joe Adams, Gaile Brinkman, Jim Lewandowski and Roger Albert.

Club Computers: New shutdown/update time is 7am every morning and not 3:30pm.

New Club Phone: We now have an answering machine where we can retrieve messages. I am also told that we can call out-of-state numbers.

New Monitor Training and Refresher: One-on-one training is available, upon request. Thank you all for your services.

## Special Interest Groups

### Devices SIG

*Provides a focal point for people to meet and work together on hand-held devices.*



**Meetings:** 3rd Tuesday (October – April)

**Time:** 3:30—5:00 p.m.

**Place:** Havasupai/Maricopa Rooms, Chaparral Center

**Contact:** Ira Simmons — [devices@grandcomputers.org](mailto:devices@grandcomputers.org)

**Next Meeting:** Tuesday, December 20

**Topic:** Music and TV on your devices.

### Digital Scrapbooking SIG

*The Digital Scrapbooking SIG's purpose is to share techniques and information concerning digital scrapbooking.*

**Meetings:** Every Monday (October- April)

**Time:** 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

**Place:** Grand Computers Club Classroom, Chaparral Center

**Contact:** Jane Connors and JoeAnn Posey,  
[scrapbook@grandcomputers.org](mailto:scrapbook@grandcomputers.org)

**Next Meeting:** Monday, January 2, 2017

**Topic:** Getting and Working With Layered Templates



### Social Networking SIG



*Provides a focal point for members to meet, work, and exchange ideas about social networking programs.*

**Meetings:** 2nd Monday (October – April)

**Time:** 4:00 - 5:30 p.m.

**Place:** Grand Computers Club Classroom, Chaparral Center

**Contact:** John Nuerenberg - [social@grandcomputers.org](mailto:social@grandcomputers.org)

**Next Meeting:** Monday, December 12.

**Topic:** Introduction to music and audio programs with an in-depth discussion of Podcasts.

## President's Corner

As I complete 2016 as the President of the Computers Club, it has definitely been a blast working alongside so many wonderful people who volunteer their time and talent to make our club the biggest and best in Sun City Grand! It is the main reason that we have a special dinner every year to honor our volunteers.

We certainly encourage all our members to contribute to the club. However, if you sign up to be a monitor at a specific time or agree to assist an instructor, you are expected to show-up and fulfill your promise. If for whatever reason you cannot serve or simply change your mind, please inform either the monitor director or the instructor in a timely manner so that a substitute can be found.



Ira Simmons  
President

While the Holiday season is certainly a joyous time of the year, we also need to acknowledge the recent passing of some very good people who were important to the Computers Club.

Clem Bauer, who was President of the Club in 2001 and 2002, passed away at his home in Northern California. Sympathies and condolences can be sent to Mrs. Kathy Bauer, 5330 Lakeshore Boulevard, SP #47; Lakeport, California, 95453.

Dr. Stuart (Randy) Winston, a very active club member, died suddenly on November 13. Randy, who was a practicing neurosurgeon, had been taking many of our Mac classes and he also had a keen interest in the Dakota Indian tribe.

And club member Mary Kent passed away on October 28 in Glenwood Springs, Colorado. Mary joined the club in 2012 and this past year served as a registration helper and class assistant. There will be a celebration of life for Mary Kent on Wednesday, December 7 at 12:00 noon. Please contact Maddy Wesiman at 623-322-9933 or maddyweisman@hotmail.com for details.



## Special Interest Groups

### Graphics SIG

*Provides members a forum for discussing graphic applications.*

**Meetings:** 2nd Thursday (October - April)

**Time:** 3:00 - 4:30 p.m.

**Place:** Havasupai/Maricopa Room, Chaparral Center

**Contact:** Rita Skarbek - graphics@grandcomputers.org

**Next Meeting:** Thursday, December 8.

**Topic:** Photo Editing Apps for your Smartphone



### New Technologies SIG

*Provides members with an open discussion forum of technologically advanced ideas*

**Meetings:** 3rd Wednesday of every month (all year long)

**Time:** 4:00 - 5:30 p.m.

**Place:** Havasupai/Maricopa Room, Chaparral Center

**Contact:** Joe Parla & Arnie Gelb - newtech@grandcomputers.org

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday, December 21.

**Topic:** Computers Club A/V Equipment Demo



## Featured Story

### 3 sneaky holiday scams to watch out for this season

By Robert Isenberg, Komando.com

The time has come: Malls will open, prices will drop and web traffic will skyrocket. Millions of customers will flock to online stores, buying everything from smartwatches to televisions, and the parcels will flow.

Most customers will use familiar retail sites like Amazon, Target and eBay. But others will scavenge the internet for less-popular gifts and unbelievable bargains.

Buyer beware: The holiday season is also phishing season. As online transactions balloon over the next few weeks, cybercriminals will have a field day trying to nab credit card and personal data.



A recent study by Kaspersky Lab demonstrated that in 2014 and 2015, phishing scams at the end of the year rose by 9 percentage points. Normally, about a third of phishing attacks are "financial," but around the holidays those kinds of attacks rise to nearly half.

In this case, financial phishing usually refers to credit card information, but cybercriminals may have their sites on other personal data as well, such as your PIN numbers, your social security number and your home address. Most banks will sort out fraudulent purchases in a few weeks, but identity theft can haunt you for a long time.

Here are three ways that hackers try to trick you into parting you with data, and what you can do about it.

#### 1. Phishing scams

Phishing techniques usually come in the form of spam emails advertising special sales and phony gift cards. The most recent example was a massive email scam purported to be from Amazon. But more sophisticated con artists will set up realistic-looking online shops. To put it mildly, if one of these merchants receives your payment information, you will get more than you bargained for.

#### 2. Counterfeit items

Counterfeit and resold items from major retailers have become very popular in recent years. Online shoppers can't hold an object and assess its quality, and conmen love to sell fake products for big markups. Counterfeiting and resold products have been a particular struggle for Amazon, and there is a growing number of eBay flippers who repackage sold-out products for outrageous prices.

Unless you're the kind of person to get into a fist fight over a Cabbage Patch Doll, you should probably wait until just after Christmas to secure that perfect gift, since most companies restock hard-to-find items once the shopping craze is over.

You'll also see prices dropping throughout January, especially online. Resold items are usually a rip-off, and it's worth waiting a few weeks for these predatory vendors to fizzle out.

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## Featured Story (continued)

### 3 sneaky holiday scams to watch out for this season

Counterfeit items are hard to spot, but your best guide is the rating system available on most sites. If a store has a 55-percent approval rating and has only made 30 transactions, that's a very bad sign. Customers are usually quick to criticize a bogus company and report faulty products.

#### 3. Data breaches

When scammers create fake websites, they're often seeking more than your credit card information: They may want to steal your identity as well. If an unfamiliar website is asking for more information than you would normally enter, you should probably stop your purchase until you're sure the website is safe.

One way to protect yourself from a breach is to shop from dependable merchants, but that doesn't necessarily mean you're 100 percent safe. As we've seen from the past, hackers focus on large companies such as Target, Wendy's, and Yahoo to steal logins, passwords and credit card information.

But even if a company name and logo are familiar, keep an eye out for fake emails, shopping apps and URLs that imitate real companies. Be suspicious of any mysterious gift cards and offers for free gifts from retailers you have never dealt with. Most importantly, never give out personal information on the internet unless you are 100 percent confident that the site is real.

## Featured Story No. 2

### Microsoft calling? Mind the tech support scammer!

After a long day, there is nothing like sitting down at your computer with a cup of tea to catch up on the news online. But what would you do if you were faced with a pop-up telling you that your computer has a virus and that 'tech support' is conveniently letting you know?

The solution seems only a quick call away. The popup even provides you with the 1800 number.

But, it's the people who are claiming to help you that are about to load your computer full of junk and charge your credit card for the privilege.

#### What these scams look like

These tech scams can appear in various ways, whether by a popup on your browser or a call on your home phone number. Here's what to look out for:

#### Over the phone

Usually calling from places such as India, these scammers target any person listed in the phone directories of the U.S, Canada, the UK, or Australia.

The scam is simple. Someone calls, pretending to be calling from Microsoft or a partner company. They ask you to give them remote control access of the machine, trick you into installing their software after they show you lists of fake error reports.

Once the installation is complete, they ask for your credit card details to charge you for the 'anti-virus' they have just installed. In the meantime, you have absolutely no way of knowing what has been installed and what kind of private information you have just given away. Microsoft is aware of these scams and reports on their website:

"You will never receive a legitimate call from Microsoft or our partners to charge you for computer fixes."

#### Pop-ups:

Causing further distress, there is another type of scam that prevents users from even closing their browser without calling the number on their screen to have the message removed. This kind of scam borders on the edge of ransomware as you feel forced to call and inevitably pay to have your system 'cleaned.'

These popups flood websites with high amounts of traffic and popular search engines. Even if you google tech support online these scammers have paid to reach the top of search engine listings. Even if they don't convince you with the popup, they can easily convince you from a google search that they are a legitimate online tech service.

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## Featured Story No. 2 (continued)

### Microsoft calling? Mind the tech support scammer!

#### Consequences for scammers

Recently, a collection of US companies were reported and caught for running this kind of scam by using popups to scare users into calling for tech support and pushing them into purchasing services they didn't need. CSO Australia reports: "Charges have been filed against Missouri-registered firms Global Access Technical Support, Global sMind, Source Pundit, Helios Digital Media, and an Indian company, Global Ites Private Limited. Defendants include three individuals who own the firms."

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## Special Interest Groups

### Financial Education SIG

*The Financial Education SIG's focus is education and sharing of knowledge in the area of financial investments.*



**Meetings:** 4<sup>th</sup> Friday (Jan., Feb., Mar., Oct.) and 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday (Apr., Nov., Dec.)

**Time:** 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

**Place:** Hopi Room, Chaparral Center

**Contact:** Richard Gabel - financial@grandcomputers.org

**Next Meeting:** Friday, December 9

**Topic:** 2016 Income Tax Updates.

**Income Investing Subgroup:** 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays, 8:00 - 10:00 a.m.  
Cimarron Club, Cimarron Center

**Technical Analysis Subgroup:** 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays, 8:00 - 10:00 a.m., Grand Computers Club Classroom, Chaparral Center

### Flight Simulator SIG

*Provide a focal point for members to meet, work, and exchange ideas about flight simulators.*

**Meetings:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday (October - April)

**Time:** 2:00 - 3:30 p.m.

**Place:** Apache Room, Chaparral Center

**Contact:** Bill Homewood- flight@grandcomputers.org

**Next Meeting:** Friday, December 16

**Topic:** Speaker: Rear Admiral Norm Campbell, USN



### Genealogy SIG



*Provides members with a forum for researching family history.*

**Meetings:** 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday (October - April)

**Time:** 3:30 - 5:00 p.m.

**Place:** Grand Computers Club Classroom, Chaparral Center

**Contact:** Leon Chapman - genealogy@grandcomputers.org

**Next Meeting:** Thursday, January 5.

**Topic:** 7 Unique Technologies for Genealogy Discoveries at MyHeritage.com