

# 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: Larry Laursen



Larry Laursen and his wife Barbara purchased their house in Grand in January 2010. They sold their house in Michigan in 2012 and became full time-Arizona residents. They have 5 children, 8 grandchildren and 1 great granddaughter. Two sons live in the Phoenix metro area along with 5 grandchildren and the great granddaughter. Larry retired in 1995 after working for a major chemical company nearly 33 years. He was involved in "making things from plastic." This encompassed familiar consumer products Ziploc, Handi Wrap; consumer packaging products for milk, cottage cheese and yogurt; industrial piping products for harsh chemicals and product purity; medical films; aircraft composites and electronic resins for computer chips. He was involved in research, product development, engineering and manufacturing at different stages of his career. During that time he and Barbara lived in Midland Michigan, Plaquemine Louisiana and Findlay and Newark, Ohio. Prior to getting into plastics in 1962 Larry received a MS in mechanical engineering from the University of Michigan. Larry also worked for Westinghouse Electric from 1959 to 1961 primarily in the aerospace power equipment design and engineering in Lima Ohio after receiving a BS in mechanical engineering from the U of M.

Larry grew up in a small farming town about 100 miles north of Detroit where he met Barbara. His father had a small car dealership with a repair garage and gas pumps and later a farm. Thus he learned how to pump gas; wash and repair cars; trucks; farm equipment and milk a cow by hand at a young age. He has had the opportunity to see many different things made or processed. This includes automobile assembly; steam turbines and generators for power plants; iron and steel foundry castings; plastic resins; various chemicals including aspirin; meat processing; cheese processes; aircraft and aircraft component assembly and micro-electronic chip manufacturing. He and Barbara traveled extensively across the United States and Canada in 3 different motorhomes before settling into Grand after retiring. They now travel in the summers in the motorhome to miss some of the Arizona heat. Larry also does travel photography and hiking plus uses his skills with various programs such as Excel, Word, PowerPoint, photo organizing and editing software and video editing software.

Currently Larry is an instructor and tech helper in the Computers Club. He enjoys teaching and tech help because he can help others with their computers and it provides a learning challenge for him. He is self-taught in computers after doing some programming back in the punch card days and then having to learn new things after retirement. He has concentrated on the most used computer applications; Web browsing, e-mail and photo storage on the computer as they relate to Windows 10 along with Android smartphones.



### Coffee Chat - Thursday, January 12 - What's New In 2017?

Fresh on the heels of the annual Consumer Electronics Show, Joe Parla will survey what we can look for in the Tech World in the New Year. Also free donuts and coffee. Join us on January 12 at 8:30am in the Hopi Room, Chaparral Center. Contact Ira Simmons ([president@grandcomputers.org](mailto:president@grandcomputers.org)) for additional information.

## Education's Corner



Joyce Klonecz  
Education  
Director

Winter Term will begin Monday, January 16, 2017, and run through April. The winter class schedule will be released to the membership to view on Sunday, January 1. We are offering 63 different classes winter session, totaling 118 sessions: 16 PC classes, 14 Mac classes, 33 'Other' classes.

Online registration will begin on Monday, January 9, at **8:00 AM**. If you need help with registration, we will guide you through the process on Monday, January 9, at **9:00 AM** at the club; or Tuesday, January 10, **12:30 - 3:30 PM** at the club during Tech Help. Explicit directions for registering online are at our website: [www.grandcomputers.org](http://www.grandcomputers.org) > Education > Register Online > Click here for registration preparation instructions.

You can also log in to your page at our website and see a PDF printable list of winter PC, Mac, and other classes. Look for "You can download these documents . . ."

Before registering for classes, we ask that you read carefully the class descriptions. Each class has a list of prerequisites of which you need to be aware. We often find students taking classes that are either too difficult or too easy for them. This proves troublesome for the instructor and your fellow classmates.

It's also very important that, if you register for a class, you attend that class. We have had many instances in the past where a member has registered and didn't show up at the class. This is unfair to our members who may be on a waiting list for a class. If you haven't paid for a class and you find you cannot attend, you can withdraw from the class yourself when you go to your page on our website. However, we do not refund class fees unless there is a medical or other emergency for you or a

family member. So please try to register only for those classes that you intend to attend to be fair to your fellow members.

There are 10 different Windows 10 classes. We ask that you follow the flow chart on the left when registering for Windows 10 classes. If you have questions about the flow chart, email me at [education@grandcomputers.org](mailto:education@grandcomputers.org).

We can always use more class assistants for our classes. Consider helping us out. Who knows? You might even become proficient enough to teach our classes! That would be great!

Joyce Klonecz  
Education Director  
[education@grandcomputers.org](mailto:education@grandcomputers.org)  
623-215-2397



## Membership's Corner



Martha  
McGill  
Membership  
Director

Happy New Year! I hope your holidays were relaxing and that you were all able to take a break from your daily routines and enjoy the company of family and friends. With the onset of 2017 come the inevitable "resolutions", so do make one of yours the resolve to renew your membership. Perhaps you received a new device over the holidays and desperately need help learning just the basics of that device - or the intricacies of it - and how to make it work better for you. Winter classes will begin on January 16 and a plethora of classes will be offered, so remember that you must be an active member in order to enroll. Since many of these instructional opportunities fill quickly, you will want to be eligible to sign up as soon as registration begins on Monday, January 16 (8:00 AM online, or 9:00 AM at the Computer Club). A current membership status is also required in order to qualify to receive assistance with any of your devices at Tech Help Tuesdays.

A mere \$20 (really, it's a true bargain) is all that is required to effect your renewal, and renewing your membership 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 assist you with this task.



At the close of the 2015-2016 year, we boasted a total of 1,673 active members. We have welcomed 183 new members since the beginning of our 2016-2017 calendar year (October 1, 2016 – September 30, 2017) and at this time have a total of 1,118 active members. This indicates that many of those who were members last year have not yet renewed.

**Tip for January:** 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. I receive messages left on my voice mail in an email format so am able to respond promptly even if I am out of town or away from my phone for a period of time.

Martha McGill  
Membership Director  
SCG Computer Club  
[membership@grandcomputers.org](mailto: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

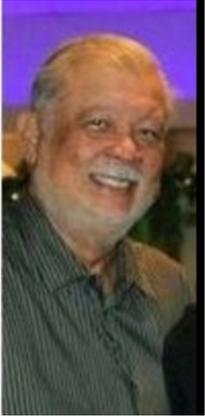
**Contact:** Joyce Klonecz - [apple@grandcomputers.org](mailto:apple@grandcomputers.org)

**Next Meeting:** Monday, January 16

**Topic:** TBD



## Monitor's Corner



Joey delaConcepcion  
Monitor  
Director

### December Monitor Sessions:

1. Number of sessions: 42
2. Dec. Monitor participation 25
3. Dec. Monitor of the Month: Sandee Acocella with 6 sessions.
4. New Monitor for Dec.: Ellie Workman
5. Monitors' Total (yearly) participation: 67 out of a total of 79.
6. 12 In-active Monitors: 10 Support members; 2 Have not monitored in the last year.

Revised Monitor Procedures: Because of our orientation sessions, a few monitor procedures have been revised. Presently it is a work-in-progress on the handout and the training checklist.

New Monitor Training and Refresher: One-on-one training is available, upon request.

E-Mail Address changed: Due to numerous junk mail received, the Monitor Director's e-address has been changed to: [monitor@grandcomputers.org](mailto:monitor@grandcomputers.org). Note: 'monitor' without the 's'.

Volunteer Dinner Award idea: How about longest serving member? Longest serving monitor?... etc...

Joey delaConcepción  
GCC Monitor Director  
(623-255-7620)

## Meet the 2017 Board of Directors

The votes are in and congratulations to our 2017 Executive Board Of Directors:

President	Ira Simmons
Vice President	Dan Wallen
Secretary	Cynthia Steffen
Treasurer	Nancy Collins
Tech Director	Ted Gray
Education Director	Joyce Klonecz
Membership Director	Martha McGill
Monitor Director	Joey delaConcepcion
Past President	John Nuerenberg



## General Meeting - Wednesday, January 4 - Technology - A Different Perspective

Making his annual visit all the way from New Mexico, Bob Gostischa will discuss "Technology - A Different Perspective."

Join Bob G and your fellow club members on January 4 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).

## Next Member Orientation - January 11

Our member orientation meetings continue to be a big succes. Attendees are given a general overview of the Club including how to navigate the Club website and we will answer your questions. The next meeting is Wednesday, January 11, 4:00pm - 5:00pm in the Maricopa/Havasupai Room next door to the Club. For additional information contact Dan Wallen, [vicepresident@grandcomputers.org](mailto:vicepresident@grandcomputers.org). Hope to see you there.



## Vice President's Corner

Dan Wallen



I end every class here at Grand Computers with the same final thought:

“NO ONE FROM MICROSOFT IS EVER GOING TO CALL YOUR HOUSE AND SAY YOUR COMPUTER IS REPORTING A PROBLEM!”

The phone rings and the caller says he works at Microsoft, that he is a “Certified Microsoft Engineer” and your computer is reporting a problem.

Or maybe like me, you mistyped the word “gmail” and a page popped up claiming your computer has a virus and you need to immediately call this 800 number.

It’s called social engineering. The caller says he is from Microsoft in California (Hint, Microsoft is in Washington.) The pop up has a Microsoft logo so it must be legitimate. It’s all a big scam!

The next step is to get you to enter an address into your web browser that allows the scammers full access to your computer. Then they will run a bogus program that reports multiple problems with your system.

Finally, they will ask for money, anywhere from \$250 to \$500 dollars. If you pay them, they will run some more fake programs and leave you with a log file and dent in your pocketbook. If you don’t pay them, many times the scammer will lock up your PC before hanging up.

If you get a call like this, the best thing to do is simply hang up. If you get a pop up screen that claims you have a virus, simply hold down the power button for 10-15 seconds until the PC shuts down. After powering back up, your PC is usually OK.

If you think you have been scammed, run your virus and malware scanning software. If you still feel uneasy, bring your PC in to Tech Help on Tuesday and let us take a look at your system.

Dan Wallen  
Vice President

## 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:** 4:00—5:30 p.m. *(Note new starting time).*

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

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

**Next Meeting:** Tuesday, January 17

**Topic:** Cloud Apps.

### 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



## President's Corner



Ira Simmons  
President

For 2017, the Grand Computers Club welcomes two new officers: Cindy Steffen as Secretary and Dan Wallen as Vice President. Club members know Dan as an instructor and also as a regular at Tuesday Tech Help. Dan is also very opinionated about tech matters, especially protecting yourself online, so beginning this month we are giving him a new vehicle to express himself, a column in the Grand Bytes which can be found on Page 5.

Speaking of Tech Help, the numbers are in and for the entire year of 2016 we had 1,817 requests during our weekly Tuesday sessions, an increase of over 400 from 2015! Not surprisingly, the busiest months were February, March and November. If we place a value of \$75 on each request, not unreasonable given what the Geek Squad and other private vendors charge, it equates to a total value of over \$136,000! We have always said that if nothing else, having Tech Help at your disposal more than justifies membership in the Club. Remember that Tech Help occurs every Tuesday from 12:30 pm to 3:30 pm and often it is better to come in after the initial rush. So a big thank you to all of our Tech Helpers for their great work in 2016.



Based on recent meetings and conversations, it now seems certain that the Chaparral Center will be closed for a few months in 2017 as our building will finally be renovated. While we don't expect to either gain or lose any space in the renovation, the Club will likely have to suspend operations. I'll provide more details in future Grand Bytes, but you should keep up with the latest happenings in Sun City Grand either in the monthly Grand Lifestyles or by regularly checking the SCG website <http://www.grandinfo.com/>. Also plan to attend any meetings that CAM schedules to make your voices heard.



## Special Interest Groups

### 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

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

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

**Next Meetings:** Tuesday, January 3; Monday, January 16.

### Graphics SIG

*Provides members a forum for discussing graphic applications.*

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

**Time:** 4:00 - 5:30 p.m. (Note new starting time).

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

**Contact:** Rita Skarbek - [graphics@grandcomputers.org](mailto:graphics@grandcomputers.org)

**Next Meeting:** Thursday, January 12.

**Topic:** Copyright Issues for Photographers and Other Visual Artists in the Digital Age.



### 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](mailto:newtech@grandcomputers.org)

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday, January 18.

**Topic:** Low Cost Devices

## 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, January 27

**Topic:** "Fundamentals of Technical Analysis".

**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, January 20

**Topic:** Bug Bomber, Jack Gossett - "Don't miss it if you can."



### 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



### Social Networking SIG

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

**Meetings:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday (October – April)

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

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

**Contact:** John Nuerenberg - social@grandcomputers.org

**Next Meeting:** Monday, January 9.

**Topic:** What to do with all these photos and videos from the Holidays?



## From the Sun City Grand Election Committee

(Note: CAM has asked the Chartered Clubs to post the following information to our members)

The campaign to elect three candidates to the Sun City Grand Board of Directors begins on Monday, January 16, 2017.

Ballots will be mailed on Tuesday, January 24, 2017 with a return date to Vote-Now of no later than Friday, February 20, 2017.

Included here are the Campaign Policies and Election Policies and Candidate and Supporters' Guide each candidate and their supporters are expected to follow. We also ask each resident, Chartered Club, Neighborhood Representative, and Interest Group to be familiar with and follow these policies and guidelines during the election process. Of particular importance are the following:

- Shall not use any email listings, websites, and personal websites of Neighborhood Representatives and Alternates, chartered clubs, community and specialty groups, support groups or interest groups.
- Shall not address a formal Sun City Grand Community Group (club, sporting event, advisory committee, etc.) unless approval has been obtained from the Election Committee.
- Shall not participate in formal Q&A sessions and programs other than those sponsored by the Election Committee.
- Functions in private homes do not have to have all candidates invited.
- Everyone should respect all candidates including not removing their campaign materials from any location.

All of the candidates understand the above and we request you inform your members. We are trying to ensure a fair and impartial election process and would appreciate your help and those of your members to make sure this happens.

Supporting a candidate is an individual's choice and not the responsibility or option for the Chartered Clubs. As a Sun City Grand Board sanctioned organization, any violations of the Campaign and Election Policies and/or Candidate and Supporters' Guide may result in a sanction of the offending group.

Any questions can be referred to Karen Peterson (623-546-7468), Executive Administrative Assistant, who can contact a member of the Election Committee for an answer.

## Deadline has been extended to January 7, 2017



Online voting is being implemented to provide a more convenient and secure way for Sun City Grand residents to vote in future association elections. Online voting will be less costly for residents and all information is secure and verifiable. **The deadline has been extended to January 7, 2017 - register today!**

- **Information Flyers Can Be Accessed At These Locations**
  - *Adobe Fitness Center*
  - *Cimarron Fitness Center*
  - *Chaparral Center*
  - *Sonoran Plaza*
  - *Welcome Desk at the Palm Center*