

# 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

## Meet the New President



When I arrived in SCG in 2004 I had not a fleeting thought of being the President of the Computers Club. Yet, here I am. I became a member of the club because I was looking for help writing my autobiography and the Compose Yourself Writing Group was my answer. I eventually became a SIG leader and attended various meetings of the Club. So while I have knowledge of writing, I am not a technology wiz and will rely on business skills to fill the void.

My work career started in St. Louis, Missouri but the majority was in Omaha, Nebraska. The last twenty years I worked for AAA Nebraska, with business lines of membership, travel agency and an insurance company. My degree in Business Administration served me well in the corporate world where I held several management positions and was an officer of the company.

Responsibilities during this time period consisted of the company's real estate, including building a three-story office, filling it with employees and tenants; plan administrator for the pension and 401 (K) plans; all insurance needs; legal affairs of the company plus overseeing all contracts; negotiations with vendors and travel suppliers on behalf of twenty AAA clubs across the Midwest, creating travel programs for the public and training programs for employees.

I find it a humbling experience to be President of the Computers Club and I look forward to the challenge. My goals include 1) continuing the fine work of those preceding me, 2) getting to know many of you and 3) learning from you of things we can add to make your club experience even better.

Please join me for our first General Meeting of the year on January 3, from 2 - 3:30 PM in the Agua Fria Room at the Cimarron Center.

Sincerely,  
Gloria Young  
President  
SCG Computers Club  
[www.grandcomputers.org](http://www.grandcomputers.org)

## General Meeting - January 3

The first General Meeting of 2018 is scheduled for January 3, 2:00 PM in the Agua Fria Room of the Cimarron Center. New Education Director Marie Frasca will talk about all the great classes the club will be offering for the Winter session and answer any of your questions,

There is a prize drawing too. For more information please contact Gloria Young, [president@grandcomputers.org](mailto:president@grandcomputers.org).

# GENERAL MEETING

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## Education's Corner

## Education Report



Joyce Klonecz  
Education  
Director

The scheduling of winter classes will be released for viewing tomorrow, January 2, 2018.

Additional new classes for winter session:

New - Legacy Family Tree 9 New Features - taught by Leon Chapman

New - Photoshop Elements 2018 classes:

- Elements Basics - Rita Skarbek
- Elements Basics Guided Module - Jane Connors
- Elements Beyond Basics - Rita Skarbek
- Elements Editor: 5 Easy Photo Fixes - Geoffrey Buxton
- Elements Editor: Beginning Scrapbooking - Jane Connors
- Elements Editor: Fix Old Photos - Rita Skarbek
- Elements Editor: Fun with Your Photos - Jane Connors
- Elements Organizer: Slide Show Building - JoeAnn Posey

To date we are offering the following classes, which includes multiple classes; i.e. Windows 10 Basic has 4 classes scheduled.

- Mac - 22 classes
- PC - 22 classes
- Other - 35 classes
- Total - 79 classes

Registration for classes will open on next Monday, January 8, online at 8:00 AM, and at the club beginning at 9:00 AM. We will need some help at the club at that time.

Classes begin January 15, 2018, and run until April 27, 2018.

Instructor meetings are scheduled for Tuesday, January 9 at 9:00 AM or Friday, January 12, at 1:00 PM.

Joyce Klonecz & Marie Frasca  
Education Directors



### Tech Help

Our weekly Tech Help sessions are held every Tuesday from 12:30 pm to 3:30 pm in the Club. No computer, smartphone or tablet problem is too big or small for our Tech Helpers to address. Remember you must be a paid member to receive Tech Help and don't forget the relevant passwords.



### Coffee Chat: January 11

The next Coffee Chat occurs on January 11, 8:30am in the Hopi Room, Chaparral Center. Our Social media guru Klaudia Jurewicz will speak about what is new and how we might participate. As always, there are free coffee and donuts, Contact Dan Wallen (vicepresident@grandcomputers.org) for additional information.



# Membership's Corner

# Membership Report



Martha McGill  
Membership  
Director

## GRAND COMPUTERS BOARD MEETING MEMBERSHIP REPORT

December 31, 2017

MEMBER COUNT

	<b>Total Paid Members</b>	<b>781</b>	
PC Users	69%.	537	
Mac User	31%.	244	
PayPal Paid Users	47%	370	

We gained 27 new members last month through December 19! On November 29, we had 554 active members so we have picked up an additional 125 members in a little less than a month. The flurry of renewals is definitely keeping the monitors busy. Once winter classes are announced, those members who have not renewed will need to do so in order to register. This should result in an increase in our membership.

if you haven't yet renewed your membership take the time to do that as well! Registration for classes will open on Monday, January 8, online at 8:00 AM and at the club beginning at 9:00 AM. You will more than likely want to register right away, as classes will most certainly fill up quickly. Please remember that you must be an active member in order to enroll. If you have not renewed your membership (it expired on Saturday, September 30, 2017) you may lose valuable time if you have forgotten to keep your membership current. We don't want any disappointments!

If you are unable to find the time to renew at the Club, it's easy to renew from the comfort of your home! Yearly dues are only \$20 and allow you all the privileges that our Club offers through September 30, 2018. From our Home Page ([www.grandcomputers.org](http://www.grandcomputers.org)) log in by selecting the "Log In" option at the top right of that page. You will be asked to enter your Member ID (7-digit CAM#) and your Password (feel free to contact me if you cannot remember your password). You will be directed to the "Members Only" page, and given the option to "Click here to renew using PayPal". If you have never established a PayPal account, you may choose just to use a credit card and that option is also listed. (For more information, log into [www.grandcomputers.org](http://www.grandcomputers.org) > Login > View Videos > How PayPal Works).

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 check my email frequently and 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.

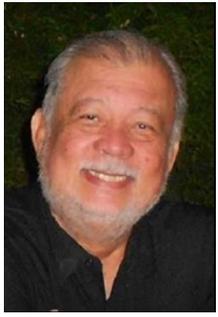
We're looking forward to a great 2018!

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

**RENEW YOUR  
MEMBERSHIP**



## Monitor's Corner



### Monitor Report

December Monitor Sessions:

1. Number of sessions for December: 48 (Nov. 27-Dec. 30)
2. December Monitor participation 17
3. Monitors' Total (yearly) participation: 40 out of a total of 74 (19 have not yet renewed.).
4. 47 In-active Monitors: 12 Support members; 16 Have not monitored in the last year; 19 expired memberships.

New Monitors: Susan Lucas and Kathy Cracraft.

December Monitor of the Month: December 30 is still in the future but it appears to be Richard Vick.

Monitor of the Year, 2017: Richard Vick.

Glass Tops: We lost our Plexiglas top during the move. I ordered three: for the front desk, the center table and the back.

Monitor Refresher: Two refresher courses were held, November 27 and December 14, both at 3:30pm. We had 17 and 12 attendees respectively. One-on-one training is also available, upon request. Send e-mail to: [monitor@grandcomputers.org](mailto:monitor@grandcomputers.org)

E-Mail Address change: The Monitor Director's e-address has been changed to: [monitor@grandcomputers.org](mailto:monitor@grandcomputers.org). Note: 'monitor' without the 's'.

## 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:** Hopi Room, Chaparral Center

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

**Next Meeting:** Monday, January 22

**Topic:** macOS Features



## 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:** Palm Center. Sago or Phoenix Rooms.

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

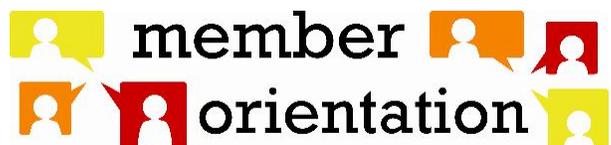
**Next Meetings:** Tuesday, January 2 (Sago); Monday, January 15 (Phoenix).

**Topic:** Read and discuss your written stories.



## Member Orientation - January 9

Our member orientation meetings are back! New, present and perspective members are given a general overview of the Club including how to navigate the Club website, and we promise to answer all your questions! The meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 9, 4:00pm - 5:00pm in the Mesquite/Palms Room, Sonoran Plaza. For additional information contact Dan Wallen, [vicepresident@grandcomputers.org](mailto:vicepresident@grandcomputers.org). Hope to see you there.



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## Vice President's Corner



Dan Wallen  
Vice President

### My House Is Possessed!

The following story is absolutely true (I'm not sure I believe it!)

Let me set the stage. In my wall unit behind my TV is my internet modem, 2 wireless routers, an Ethernet hub, Insteon hub (for my home automation) phones and a jungle of wires plugged into 3 wire strips mounted on the wall. The lights for the wall unit work by touch. You touch a metal tab and the lights go on, touch again and they dim, touch again and the lights go off.

I have been having some trouble with my internet so on the Saturday before Christmas, I ran down to the Cox store and swapped out the modem. After installing the modem, I was on my laptop when in the corner of my eye I saw that the lights in the wall unit were on. I figured I just left them on and turned them off. After a short time, I found the lights on again, then I saw them dim, then off again. I told my wife that the lights in the wall unit were going on by themselves, but she didn't believe me. We had company that night, so I didn't give it another thought. While sitting at the kitchen table playing cards, the lights came on again. "Did you see that?" I asked.

On Sunday morning my wife turned on her laptop and it was going crazy. Windows were opening as if someone was pressing the enter key as fast as possible. The mouse was jumping all over the place. "REBOOT!" I told her in my normal dismissive voice. "I did reboot three times" my wife screamed. Finally, I took a look to confirm that her laptop was possessed and opening windows at a chaotic pace.

I fired up my laptop and the same thing was happening. I couldn't control the mouse and windows were being opened erratically. Then I looked at the wall unit and the lights were going on, then dim, then off. "WHAT THE... (expletive deleted!)"

I have always considered myself a good troubleshooter using the "Known Good theory." Meaning you can only test using known good parts. For example, if you can't print, is it the printer, the network or the PC. If you can print from another PC, then the network and printer is OK. Get it?

So, if everything was working before I changed the modem and now with the new modem 2 PCs are going crazy, it must be the modem. But how can a modem cause 2 PCs to go crazy? So, I unplugged the modem and instantly both machines recovered. I didn't believe it. I plugged the modem back on and WHAM, both machines go crazy and the wall unit lights came on. I still couldn't believe it. When I unplugged the PCs from the wall they settled down. Plug the PC back in, CRAZINESS.

I ran an extension cord from the kitchen and everything was OK so it HAD TO BE THE MODEM and it was affecting everything on that circuit and in these Del Webb homes, there are a lot of outlets on the same circuit.

So now it's the Sunday before Christmas and all the COX stores are closed until Tuesday. I can't call COX tech support because who is going to believe me when I tell them this story? (I can just imagine the COX tech putting me on hold and yelling over to the next cubicle "Wait till you hear this idiot!")

I ran over to Walmart and bought a modem to have over the holiday just in case the newly replaced modem bursts into flames before Tuesday. As I write this article, there is an extension cord running across my dining room to power up the laptops and all is calm in the world. Since I don't have an oscilloscope, I can only assume that the new modem is producing so much noise on the circuit it was affecting my PCs and the wall unit lights. I'm anxious to hear the opinion of my fellow tech helpers.

On Tuesday I will replace the modem AGAIN but if the problem returns, I will need an exorcism!



## 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.

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

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

**Next Meeting:** Tuesday, January 16.

**Topic:** Cell Phone Alternatives

### 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 8

**Topic:** What's new in Elements 2018 for digital scrapbookers.



### Financial Education SIG

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

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

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

**Place:** Mediterranean Room, Palm Center

**Contact:** Richard Gabel - [financial@grandcomputers.org](mailto:financial@grandcomputers.org)

**Next Meeting:** Friday, January 26

**Topic:** Estate Planning - Morris Hall PLLC



**Income Investing Subgroup:** 1st and 3rd Mondays, 8:00 - 10:00 a.m.

**Next Meeting:** Monday, January 15 (Apache Room, Chaparral Center)

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

**Next Meeting:** Thursday, January 4

### Flight Simulator SIG

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

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

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

**Place:** Apache Room, Chaparral Center

**Contact:** Bill Homewood- [flight@grandcomputers.org](mailto:flight@grandcomputers.org)

**Next Meeting:** Friday, January 19

**Topic:** Guest Speaker: Ron Lansing



## Special Interest Groups

### Genealogy SIG

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

**Meetings:** 1st 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 4

**Topic:** Hands-On with Legacy Hints: MyHeritage.com Matching – Mike Mansfield & Geoff Rasmussen



### Graphics SIG



*Provides members a forum for discussing graphic applications.*

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

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

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

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

**Next Meeting:** Thursday, January 11

**Topic:** TBD

### Ham Radio SIG



*Provides members a forum for learning the many facets of the hobby of ham radio.*

**Meetings:** 2nd Monday (all year)

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

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

**Contact:** April Kramer hamsig@grandcomputers.org

**Next Meeting:** Monday, January 8.

**Topic:** Digital Radio Modes

### New Technologies SIG

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

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

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

**Place:** Computers Club Classroom

**Contact:** Joe Parla newtech@grandcomputers.org

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

**Topic:** Home Entertainment 2018



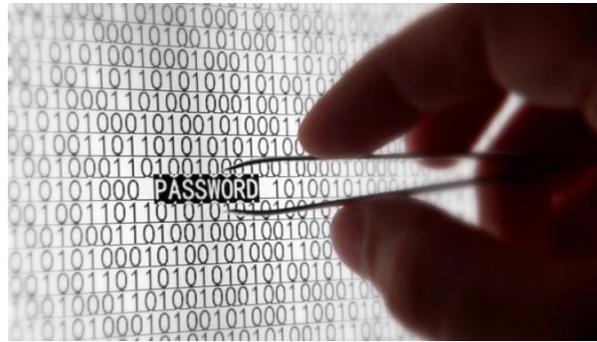
## Volunteer Dinner - February 16, 2018

Mark the date: our annual Volunteer Dinner is scheduled for Friday night, February 16, 2018 in the Agua Fria Room, Cimarron Center. To all those who qualified, thank you for your service. Invitations will be sent shortly.

If you would like to help in the preparations for the dinner, contact Joe Scanlon (joe@scanlonmail.com) and for any questions or additional information, contact Gloria Young. (President@grandcomputers.org).

## 20 passwords other than '123456' you should avoid

By Kate Seamons |



As [Time](#) points out, it's been a banner year for hacks, from Equifax's [totally avoidable breach](#) to Yahoo's eventual admission that [all 3 billion accounts](#) were compromised.

SplashData ran an analysis of some 5 million leaked passwords to come up with its list of the 100 most used, and, therefore, "[Worst Passwords of the Year.](#)" [Lifehacker](#) reports that SplashData projects that 1 in 10 computer users have used at least of the passwords on the list.

Many are frequent offenders, and will come as no surprise. The top 5 is, as you might expect:

123456, Password, 12345678, qwerty, and 12345. But some that make the list are seemingly more random or quirky.

We've Wagged 20 such entries, and note their rank on the list.

- |                  |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| 1. letmein (7)   | 11. sunshine (55) |
| 2. monkey (13)   | 12. tigger (56)   |
| 3. starwars (16) | 13. merlin (58)   |
| 4. dragon (18)   | 14. banana (61)   |
| 5. freedom (22)  | 15. cookie (68)   |
| 6. trustno1 (25) | 16. jessica (74)  |
| 7. harley (28)   | 17. dallas (79)   |
| 8. buster (39)   | 18. passwor (80)  |
| 9. ferrari (43)  | 19. ginger (97)   |
| 10. cheese (44)  | 20. thunder (100) |

(The guy who wrote the book on passwords [now says he was wrong.](#))

This article originally appeared on Newser: "[20 Passwords Other Than '123456' You Should Avoid.](#)"

### Still Wanted: Old Laptops

We are again collecting old laptops. Club member Jim Geffre donates old laptops to schools and would like the laptops to have Windows 7, 8, 10, Vista or Windows XP. Drop off your old laptop at the club with your name and email address so he can email you a tax deduction form (you can deduct up to \$500.00 per laptop) with Jim's name on it. No desktops or printers please (they can be donated to Goodwill.) You can contact Jim Geffre at 623-544-3394 or [geffre1949@yahoo.com](mailto:geffre1949@yahoo.com).



### Also Wanted: Old Cell Phones

Drop off your old cell phones in the Open Use Room. A colorfully-decorated collection box is available for their deposit on the counter across from the monitor. Your donation helps our veterans. They are recycled for phone cards that are sent to our armed forces.

### "Dancing With the Sun City Grand Stars"



The Utah Ballroom Dance Company is looking for any of our members who might want to participate in this annual event. The show is on February 19th, and it will require about an hour a day for about 5 days leading up to the show. You'll be partnered up with a professional the whole time.

If you are interested or have any questions contact Alex Galvan, Company Manager, Utah Ballroom Dance Company, 541-829-8586,

[Alex@UtahBDC.com](mailto:Alex@UtahBDC.com), [www.utahbdc.com](http://www.utahbdc.com)