

Grand Bytes



Grand Computers Club; Sun City Grand; 19753 N. Remington Dr., Surprise, AZ 85374
Website address: www.grandcomputers.org; Phone number: 623-546-7508

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President's Corner



Gloria Young

Computers Club instructors are putting in serious hours creating a series of true beginner classes on how to protect your computers and devices from cyberattacks. Technology offers so many opportunities for enjoyment and convenience! We don't want you to be afraid to use your smartphones, tablets, computers and the Internet. We believe that if you adopt some basic defensive measures you can avoid most of the risks, hazards and hassles being reported in the news.

Our goal is to offer a thorough review in easy to understand terms of what it means to protect

yourself as a presentation topic at a late fall or early winter General Meeting. We will follow this up with a variety of classes on Best Practices to setup and configure Windows 10 and Apple operating systems, local and external backup and web browsers to get you started.

Currently, we are doing a test pilot to make sure we are providing the support many of you are wanting. A busy summer ahead for these folks!

We have added Tech Help from 6 - 8 PM on the 1st and 3rd evenings of the month to provide an extra opportunity for members who are not available to attend the Tuesday sessions from 12:30 - 3:30. We are in a trial period which started February 21st and will end April

18th at which time we will evaluate its success. So far, the attendance has been less than anticipated. It may be weather related. The first night was a cold and rainy evening. You could hardly blame people for not venturing out! The next two sessions many may have been taking advantage of the gorgeous weather. Only a couple more opportunities to bring those numbers up!

Our Club's open house during the March Arts and Crafts Faire was a big success with a constant stream of members and non-members coming for tours. We gave tours to 106 individuals which was the same number as our first open house in February!

VP's Corner



Dan Wallen
Vice President

"Grandpa, what does long distance mean?"

Sometime in the near future, I can imagine receiving a Facetime call from my granddaughter.

"Grandpa, in history class today I heard the term 'Long Distance.' Mommy said I should ask you what that meant."

How do you explain to a kid that was born in this decade what Long Distance calling was? This kid has played with her parents' cellphone since she could sit up on her own.

"Well, Lillian Jules, when I was your age, if you wanted to speak to someone far away, you went to the phone that was attached to the wall, spun the rotary dial clockwise with your finger in the 'O', and then an Operator would ask you who you wanted to call."

"Rotary dial that you put your finger in, I don't get it?"

"Yeah, just Google it!"

"Sometimes, you would get a busy signal."

"Busy Signal, what's that?"

"That meant the person you were calling was already talking on the phone and you had to call them back later."

"You didn't leave a voice mail?"

"No, there was no voice mail."

"Sometimes you could barely hear the other person so you would have to scream into the phone. And you had to talk fast because 'Long Distance' calls were very expensive."

"You had to pay extra just to talk to another person in another state?"

Because of Facetime, I can actually see the bewilderment on her face.

"And just to make sure you understand, you could only HEAR the person on the other end. You couldn't see them. There was no video or picture on the phone, and of course, there was no texting!"

As I look at that beautiful face 2000 miles away in brilliant HD color, I can only think, "WOW, I feel old!"

Grand Computers Club Orientation and Tour!

For Members and
Non-members

Hopi Room
Chaparral Center

April 18
3:30 - 4:30 pm

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Education's Corner



Marie Frasca

By the numbers:

Winter Session
Summary as of
3/17/19

Total number of
Classes:

PC - 29

Sessions - 52

Mac - 17

Sessions - 28

Other—38

Sessions 62

Totals

Classes - 84

Sessions - 142

Winter classes are going well and we appreciate your interest in our Grand Computers Club classes.

There are still several classes open. Go to 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 covered in the class, what the prerequisites are, and whether this class will be too easy or too difficult for you. Click on the name of the class to read about the class, click on the date to register to use the computers in the classroom and click on the seats to register to use your laptop.

Summer courses are being finalized and tentatively will be from April 29 through June 30, 2019. If the summer session takes place, then on April 15, classes will be released for viewing to our

membership. Class registration begins on April 19 and classes begin April 29. An email will be sent to all members when the summer session is finalized.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED. We are always looking for new instructors and assistant instructors. 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: Marie Frasca Education Director, education@grandcomputers.org

Scent-Free Zones

Attention: In keeping with a policy that is making its way into businesses throughout the United States, the Grand Computers Club is declaring all facilities used by the club to be Scent-Free Zones. We are asking our membership to be considerate of those with allergies that use our facilities and not wear perfume, cologne, after shave, and other scented products when attending any of our functions.

Wanted - Older Laptop Computers!

WANTED - Older laptop computers! Please help out by donating your older laptop to Jim Geffre as you purchase a new one. Jim repairs them, updates them, and donates them to schools and St. Vincent DePaul. He would like the laptops to have Windows 7, Windows 8 or already be upgraded to Windows 10. Include the power cord with the computer. Jim wipes the hard drives or puts new ones in, and if needed, adds memory to at least 4GB and adds Office. Jim will also except Mac laptops. You may drop them off at the computer club with his name on it. Please include your email address on the computer, the password to unlock the computer and Jim will email you a tax form for deducting from taxes. (You can deduct up to \$150.00 per laptop). You may contact Jim by phone - 623-544-3394 or by email at geffre1949@yahoo.com

Membership's Corner



Martha McGill

All of us know that the ice cream cones at Grand Café are the biggest bargain in town! If you have been an active member of the Grand Computers Club for the 2018-2019 year, you also know that your membership runs a close second in the bargain category - \$20 for a whole year. For those of you who never quite got around to renewing to regain active status, we have yet another bargain to offer up. Starting on April 1st you will be able to re-join for a mere \$10; this will enable you to enjoy all the amenities which our club offers until September 30, 2019.

It looks like winter is finally over and the weather we have come to expect in Arizona is finally here. They say that time flies when you're having fun. It seems as though the snowbirds just arrived but now it's almost time for them to leave again. There actually seems to be more availability of parking! The Grand Computers Club is still alive with activity. Our winter educational classes are winding down but there are still a few open spots. Keep checking your email to see if there will be summer classes. Tech Help Tuesday continues to be a big attraction (yet another bargain) and our Special Interest Groups (SIGs) continue to attract a number of our members as well as some non-members. Be sure to peruse the brochures that reside outside the entrance to the Club. You may very well find that you would like to attend one or more of these meetings in an area that is of interest to you.

In my article in the January issue of Grand Bytes I asked you to consider making a few New Year's resolutions that pertain to your membership in the Grand Computers Club. I hope you managed to execute at least some of them. At the risk of being painfully redundant, I am repeating those reminders with the hope that you will take heed of them. They are simple tasks but so important in saving your time

and that of our monitors, our Webmaster, myself as Membership Director, and the Education Director.

Update Your Membership Data: On the "Members Only" page you will see an option to do so. Perhaps you have changed your email address or phone number. You can correct that information and be assured that you will receive important notifications.

Change Your Password: If you have experienced password problems as many people do, you may select this option which is also on the "Members Only" page. Here you may opt to have no password and we encourage our members to choose to do so. Please note that monitors, instructors, class assistants and tech helpers **MUST** have a password to ensure that their volunteer hours are accurately recorded.

You have moved: Please let me know! If you have a new address and are an active member or have been a member in the past at a different address, your new CAM card will not work. If you are signing in at the Club or trying to register for a class, there will be a message that you are not a member. Changing your data record to reflect your new CAM# can only be accomplished by my assistant, Gretel Coursol or myself, and may cost you valuable time if you are registering for a class or desiring assistance at Tech Help Tuesday.

All these tips will be of tremendous help in maintaining our data base with information that is current. Thank you for your help in this endeavor. 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.

Grand Computers Club

Early History

By Roberta Marsh

Grand Computers Club President - 2000

March 15, 2019

Why was it called "Computers" (plural)?

There were six IBM computers in the beginning with 80 charter members. Two printers and a scanner completed the hardware for the club. The projector, which cost \$7,600.00, was added to teach classes. Bulb replacements for the projector cost \$500.00.

The Computers Club room was located where there is an art room nearest the east parking lot in the Village Center. The MAC SIG met to decide what equipment they needed. Sally and Tom Gorey and Morris Shur began the SIG. Tom Gorey, a graphic designer from Chicago, later designed our logo which the Club began to use in 2000.

During 2000, Mayor Joan Shaffer sent the Computers Club a letter of thanks for a donation to help New Hope Domestic Shelter. At that time the population of Surprise was only 40,000.

In the beginning, dues were \$50.00 per person or \$75.00 per couple. Yes, the reserves needed to be built up to buy more computers and peripheral equipment. A monitoring system began with Bob Mosier creating the slide card device presently used by many charter clubs. Bob Mosier, Ken Pierick, and Ken Raske organized the club.

On September 1, 1997, Grand Computers became the first chartered club in Sun City Grand. It was used as a selling point by the Del Webb salespeople. By 2002, membership had grown to 1,300. It was and still remains the largest chartered club in Sun City Grand.

Three refurbished computers were placed in the Sonoran Plaza for use by residents of Sun City Grand where there is now a long blue seating area. However, abuse by a resident looking at pornography caused the computers to be removed.

Fifteen different computer classes were held in September 1997 at a cost of \$5.00 each for members and \$20.00 each for non-members.

Non-member residents could take classes with the hope they would join the club and they often did. The demand to learn about computers and the software was great among the 55-plus population who wanted to keep in contact with children and grandchildren. The members who knew the technology were eager to share their knowledge and expertise. AOL.com and Juno.net were the first Internet provider classes taught in October 1997.

The Vice-President served as the Program Director and brought guest speakers to the general meetings. The speakers shared the newest software, which they sold and/or gave to us for raffles: Go-Daddy, Microsoft, Photo Shop, Intuit (TurboTax), Corel Word Perfect, Inkjet Southwest, Smart Computing Magazine, Analytical Software and many more. Some of these companies no longer exist.

Then general meetings were held at 10 AM on the first Wednesday of the month with coffee and cookies served. In 2002 the club stopped serving refreshments at the general meetings. We could never plug in two coffee pots or it would blow a breaker. It may be repaired by now. Meetings were held in the two rooms behind the ballroom at the Sonoran Plaza. Some people may have just come for the refreshments, but it brought them to meetings. Greeters were always at the door. Since meetings were open to all residents, no one had to show a membership card, nevertheless a count was taken.

The Computers Club moved to the Chaparral Center on September 8, 2001. The biggest problem encountered was that the cabinets had not been installed so paper, cartridges and software containers among other items had to be put on the floor. I was on the Chaparral Committee led by Doug Schultz, Tech Director, and Clem Bauer, President. That year 193 classes were taught serving 1,317 students. There were seven SIGS in 2001. The accounting year changed from fiscal year to a calendar year.

Dues changed to \$20.00 in 2002 and have remained the same for 17 years. Should the dues change?

Then, as now, volunteers were the strong backbone of the club. The classroom or open use room could not open without a volunteer. Classes were taught by volunteers and assistants. In the beginning there were callers to notify or remind people their class would be taught soon. That was to eliminate "no shows". Gretel Coursol

was one of the original callers.

All members of the Grand Computers Club could be members of all the Special Interest Groups (SIGS). Bob Mosier began the Genealogy SIG, followed by Morris Shur beginning the MAC SIG and Doug Schultz beginning the Tech SIG. The Photography and the Scrapbook SIGS became large enough to begin their own clubs.

"Passing of the Mouse" became a tradition when a new President took office. Morris Shur, President in 1999, was the first to "Pass the Mouse" to Roberta Marsh in 2000.

Freda Kissane was the first Webmaster and then became President in 2003. Joe Scanlon completed her term of office due to her illness. Joe continued to serve as President the following year.

Volunteer dinners began in October 1998 with six-foot sub sandwiches and a potluck. We had a music group including Chuck Metzinger and David Purtel to entertain us. Cost of the dinner was CHEAP but improved in years to come with a budgeted amount for that purpose. Each President selected their theme for the party.

Many may recall the Hawaiian theme in 2003 when a few of the men did the hula in grass skirts. Everyone received shell leis. Fifty door prizes were given away that year. Ann Church, a member, brought her Ukulele Group and taught everyone to hula to the Hukilau. Other themes included Mexican with Mariachis and dancers and Irish and Italian food and entertainment. The Grand Computers Club members are well known to have a good time!

Trips to the San Diego Southwest Regional User Group Conference were educational and fun. Every couple paid their registration fees and hotel expenses. There was never any payment by the Club. We collected many wonderful copies of software like Microsoft Office, Adobe Elements, Windows XP, and more that we used as door prizes for the Volunteer Dinner.

Computers were refurbished in 1998-1999. Some students came to the old computer room in 1999 and learned three programs. Then we served them lunch from McDonalds and dismissed in the late afternoon. I recall they taught me about a dripping blood font.

A service project was started by Arnie Becker and his team who refurbished old donated computers in 2001-2002. This group was the pipeline for providing Dysart and Morristown school

students with computers. Arnie or members of his team went to the homes to show students and their parents how to use the computer. Over 30 computers were donated in 2002. The service project ended due to lack of storage space and people to rebuild the computers. Community Service has been on and off during the past 20 years.

Windows XP was in highest demand in 2002. Fifteen hundred people attended about 20 different classes in 2002. Two years later 27 PC Classes were held mornings, afternoons, and evenings along with the MAC classes.

Doug Schultz, Tech Director, gave a presentation about terrorists in 2002. He told of their ability to affect the United States. He told us the use of a Firewall would be our first line of defense against unwelcome computer invasions. Doug talked often about security and updating for virus protection. Backing up your data to an external device was another thing he stressed. To this day you must be concerned about protecting your computer and personal information.

The Monitors Handbook was updated in 2003 by Dorothy Blum, the Monitor Director. The Computer Club began afternoon only summer hours from May to October.

Dave Skilling died while teaching an evening Windows Class in October 2002. Many changes were made in Sun City Grand as a result. Emergency numbers were placed in a frame at each phone. Defibrillators were placed throughout the buildings and training provided. Outside areas had marked rocks to tell the fire department location of accidents.

In April 2002, the Compose Yourself SIG was formed. It was led by Dana Wall and Jim Hale to focus on Memoir Writing. It continues today and is led by Helen Swan and Gloria Young.

Members of the Grand Computers Club were often called upon to serve on countless committees in Sun City Grand. Clem Bauer spent endless hours helping rewrite the Charter Club By-laws. I served on the Special Needs Committee and the first Activity and Fitness Committee that made decisions for the Cimarron Center.

The Grand Computers Club should continue to be a leading charter club in Sun City Grand. Please value your president as she spends as much time working for our club as she did on a full-time paid job. I often spent 60 hours per week during 2000.

Suggestions and Actions Taken during February

By Gloria Young

Thank you to those giving suggestions and comments in January. Plus, I am pleased to share those received in February.

Suggestion 1: Please have directions for the scanner at those computers.

Action Taken: This is a very reasonable request and instructions have been written and placed on top of scanners.

The next two relate to those with hearing impairments:

Suggestion 2: I go to many activities here, including Grand Learning Classes. In the ballroom, it is very difficult to hear, even with a microphone. There is a new technology called hearing loop systems.

Suggestion 3: Download App called InnoCaption for those with a hearing impairment.

Action Taken: The GCC Board will discuss both suggestions at Feb. 28 board meeting. In addition, we would like to know our members' interest in a class where you could learn about the InnoCaption Application, how to download to your smart phone and then how to use the app. For those interested, please send an email to president@grandcomputers.org. If there is strong interest, we will try to find an instructor who would teach the class.

Comments received included a thank you to Joe Scanlon for the great service given to Johanna during Tech Help and a thank you from the instructors and assistants to the five individuals who cleaned the Club on Feb 2.

New To Computers "How To" Series

The March 2019 New To Computers "How To" 6th presentation was on the topic of Online Grocery Shopping. Chad Raymond, Director of E-Commerce for Safeway did a Power Point presentation on the four ways to shop at Safeway; In-store, Delivery, Drive Up & Go or Rush Delivery. It seems relatively easy to do and is a great service for people who don't like to grocery shop, who are too busy to shop or are unable to physically get out to shop. You can have your groceries delivered right to your door (for a small fee). If you would like more information about Safeway/Albertsons programs or the services offered by other stores in the area, stop by the computer club or check out the website for additional information. We have cards from Safeway offering \$20.00 off your first order, as well as a spreadsheet comparing the many online grocery shopping programs in the area.

If you have questions or suggestions for future presentations feel free to contact Susan Lucas at new2computers@grandcomputers.org.

Our next presentation is "How To Use Netflix and Amazon Prime for Watching Movies, on Monday, April 15th at 10:00 am - 11:30 am in the Mesquite/Palms room in the Sonoran Plaza. Bring your friends and neighbors. These presentations are open to all residents of SCG.

General Meeting

After the business side of the meeting at the March General Meeting, there will be a presentation "All About the Ham Radio SIG"

General Meeting

Date: April 3

Time: 2:00—3:30 p.m.

Place: Agua Fria Room, Cimarron Center

Door Prizes!

Coffee Chat

The March Coffee Chat will feature "Fun with Windows" presented by Larry Laursen

Coffee Chat

Date: April 11

Time: 8:30—10:00 a.m.

Place: Hopi Room, Chaparral Center

Coffee and Donuts Provided!

New to Computers Group

In keeping with the Grand Computers Club's and this group's "How to" mission, we are offering a presentation on "How to get started with Netflix and Amazon Prime for watching movies."

New to Computers Group

Date: April 12

Time: 10:00—11:30 a.m.

Place: Mesquite/Palms Room, Sonoran Plaza

New to Investing Group

Bring your investment questions regarding topics upon which you would like to learn more or get clarification.

Fundamentals of Investing Group

Date: April 12

Time: 10:00—11:30 a.m.

Place: Mediterranean Room, Palm Center

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Special Interest Groups (SIGs) Pages

Apple SIG



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

Meetings: 3rd Monday (October—April)

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

Place: Hopi Room, Chaparral Center

Contact: Ira Simmons - apple@grandcomputers.org

Next Meeting: April 15

Topic: Apple TV and Season Wrap-Up

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 p.m.

Contact: Gloria Young - CY@grandcomputers.org

Next Meetings: Tuesday, April 2 in the Phoenix Room, Palm Center, and Monday, April 15 in the Mesquite Room, Palm Center

Topic: Read and discuss your written stories.

Devices SIG



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

Meetings: 4th Thursday (October—April)

Time: 2:30 - 4:00 p.m.

Place: Pima Room, Chaparral Center

Contact: devices@grandcomputers.org

Next Meeting: April 25

Topic: Annual Roundup: News, Weather and Sports

Digital Scrapbooking SIG



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

Meetings: Every Monday (October, November, January - April)

Time: 6:00—8:00 p.m.

Place: Grand Computers Club Classroom, Chaparral Center

Contact: Jane Connors - scrapbook@grandcomputers.org

Next Meetings: April 8, 15, 22 and 29.

Special Interest Groups (SIGs) Pages

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

Next Meeting: Friday, April 12

Topic: "Today's Investment Risk Environment."

Income Investing Subgroup: 1st and 3rd Mondays, 8:00 - 10:00 a.m.
Apache Room, Chaparral Center

Technical Analysis Subgroup: 1st and 3rd Thursdays, 8:00 - 10:00 am,
Grand Computers Club Classroom, Chaparral Center

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: April 4

Topic: Watch Geoff Live: "Adding a World War I (and II) Draft Registration Card" presented by Geoff Rasmussen.

Ham Radio SIG



Provides members a forum for learning the many facets of ham radio including emergency communications.

Meetings: 4th Friday (October - April)

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

Place: Grand Computers Club, Chaparral Center

Contact: Mark Heroux - hamsig@grandcomputers.org

Next Meeting: April 26

Topic: "Amateur Satellites" presented by Mark Heroux and Gordon Bousman

Special Interest Groups (SIGs) Pages

New Technologies SIG



Provides members with an open discussion forum of technologically advanced ideas

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

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

Place: Grand Computers Club Classroom, Chaparral Center

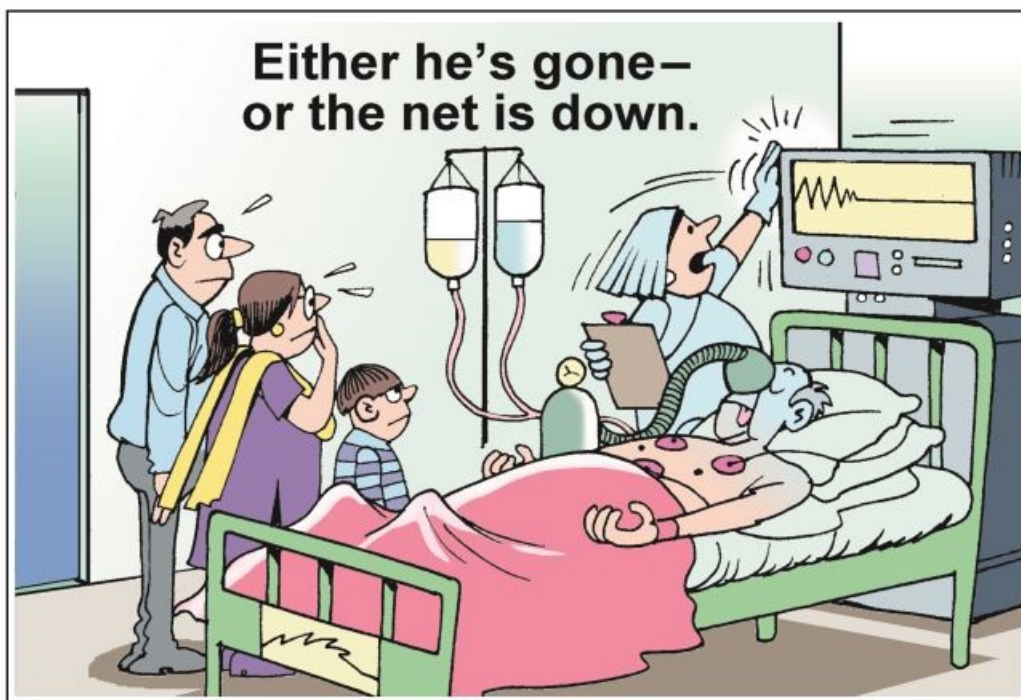
Contact: Joe Parla - newtech@grandcomputers.org

Next Meeting: April 18

Topic: VPN - Google Fi - A cellular service offered by Google

iToons

Sunil Agarwal & Ajit Ninan



**Grand Computers Club In Conjunction With
Your Community Association Management
Present A New Series Of "HOW TO" Workshops**

Free To All Sun City Grand Residents

***Monday, March 18, 10 AM to 11:30 AM
Mesquite/Palms, Sonoran Plaza***

""How to Order Groceries Online""



For quick pickup or home delivery."

***Monday, April 15, 10 AM to 11:30 AM
Mesquite/Palms, Sonoran Plaza***

""How to Use Netflix & Amazon Prime""

To Watch Movies and TV Shows."

