



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

Welcome to our fall and winter season. Much has been happening during the past months including closing the 2019 membership year with more than 1579 members. Thank you for your membership. I should remind you that we are in the membership renewal season! You can renew your member using our www.grandcomputers.org website or visiting the club. Annual dues remain the same at \$20.

New things happening in our Club:

1. Tech Help Evening Sessions held the **FIRST and THIRD Thursdays** from 6 - 7 PM beginning in

November. We did a test last spring and learned we need more advertising and promotion.

2. Saturday Events will give members the opportunity to **learn what our SIGS** do and how they might benefit you. We have **workshops** scheduled too in which you can bring your devices and leave with select apps downloaded. See our Saturday line-up on page 6.

3. Cyber Security is a big deal in today's world. It's going to be a big part of our club too. To help members achieve **peace of mind and confidence** that their computers and devices are hardened (protected) the Club is offering new CYBER Security Education. Spe-

cialized classes are in development to better educate members on what to do and not do to avoid the costs of time and money to restore a computer that's been hacked. **WATCH** for these upcoming classes!

4. Our Grand Bytes Newsletter will have a monthly column dedicated to Technology.

In addition to the new things above we will have a full slate of fall classes, SIG (Special Interest Group) meetings, Tech Help Tuesdays and presentations at our General Meetings, Coffee Chats and the New to Computers Series.

I'm glad to be back in SCG and look forward to seeing you.

VP's Corner



Dan Wallen
Vice President

The Summer of Scams

While many of you fled the summer heat for cooler temperatures of Minnesota, the Dakotas and coastal climes, I was here on the front lines confronting scammers. Here are some highlights from this past summer.

I received a call from the iCloud people that my iCloud account was used in Russia. "Do you know anyone in Russia?" I was asked, "No" I replied. "Am I talking to Ross Wallen?" "Yes, this is Ross Wallen." This concerned me a bit because my son Ross, does have an iCloud account. After a few minutes I was asked if I had a PC or MAC and could I log on to my computer. I wasn't in the mood to play with my uninvited friend, so I just came out and asked, "How many people have you scammed today?" "Seven" he replied boldly. CLICK!

I was called several times announcing that the service contract on my computer was about to expire and if I didn't want to renew to please press 1, which I did. (My home phone has a Minne-

sota area code and the caller ID was from Minnesota) "You have an interesting accent for a Minnesotan" I said, CLICK! I just hate when they hang up on me.

When the phone rang again with another Minnesota caller ID, I tried a different approach. "Yes, I do NOT want to renew my (nonexistent) service contract" I replied enthusiastically. "Please bring up a browser and enter this address." "What's a browser?" I said. CLICK! I think he was having a bad day and didn't want to deal with me.

The moral of the story is still the same. No one, I mean NO ONE! from Microsoft, Apple, AOL, ATT, Verizon, IRS or Social Security is going to call you.

I am asked all the time what we should do about this issue. There are apps provided by your cell phone carrier now that can warn you about a suspicious call, but they're not fool-proof.

My conclusion is if you do get an unsolicited call with an unfamiliar accent, even from your own area code, just hang up! (Don't be like me)

For Sale!

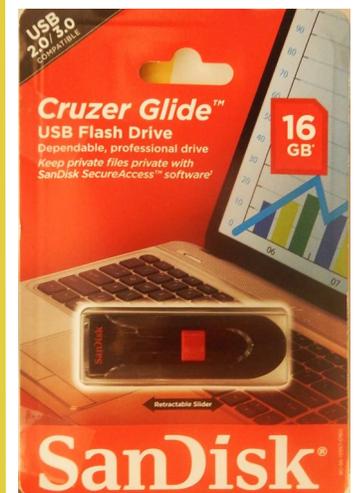
Mouse Pad — designed with all club SIGs and computer platforms.

\$3.00



Flash Drive — a valuable tool in saving and copying data.

\$6.00



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Education's Corner



Marie Frasca

By the numbers:

Summer Session Summary as of 8/1/19

Total number of Classes:

Classes - 16

Sessions - 23

Total number of Students:

Total - 99

Average per class - 4.3

Fall class planning has gone on since early August. Here is important information for you.

We will release the class schedule for viewing only starting on Monday, September 30

Class registration for GCC members will begin online on Monday, October 7, at 8:00 AM, and at the club beginning at 9:00 AM. If you need help with registration, please come to the club at 9:00 AM, when the club is opened.

Classes start October 14.

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. Membership expires September 30.

The classroom is installed with **Listen Everywhere**. This is a hearing assistance service. The service works through an app on your cellphone. The instructions for downloading the app is found on the Members Only page when you Log In titled Hearing Assistance Members.

The Member Page is where you will find the following:

- Handout for class when you register for the class
- Hearing Assistance Members (Listen Everywhere)

- Instructions for Registering for Class
- Video on "PayPal Works."
- And other informative information.

The following are new courses for fall 2019

You Tube 101

Introduction to Chrome

For a description, requirements of all the classes go to the Education page >Course Listing and click on the name of the class.

For the time, date and instructor of the class go to the Education page >Class Schedule.

Signing up for a class there are 15 computer

seats. There are no laptop seats when registering.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: We are always looking for new instructors and classroom assistants, especially for Windows 10 classes. If you are interested in teaching, but you are unsure of your abilities, consider assisting in the 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

SATURDAY CLUB EVENTS



Mark your calendars! Learn more about Technology and the Grand Computers Club by joining us at Club Open House Events, Special Interest Groups (SIGs), Demonstrations, and Workshops.

DATE	SATURDAY EVENTS
Nov. 09	Sun City Grand Festival/Club Open House
Nov. 16	Apple and Devices SIGs: What are they?
Dec. 07	Workshop: How to Download/Use Lyft and Uber Apps
Dec. 14	Workshop: How to Download/Use Listen Everywhere App
Jan. 11	Financial and Digital Scrapbooking SIGs: What are they?
Jan. 18	New Technology and Genealogy SIGs: What are they?
Feb. 08	Compose Yourself and Graphics SIGs: What are they?
Feb. 29	Flight Simulator and HAM Radio SIGs: What are they?
Mar. 14	Sun City Grand Arts & Crafts Faire/Club Open House

Starting time for the Workshops and SIG Presentations: 10 – 11:30 AM

Membership's Corner



Martha McGill

The Summer of 2019 is officially behind us, and Fall brings renewed activity to Sun City Grand as snowbirds begin to drift back, the weather becomes more acceptable and the pace picks up for everyone!

REMINDER - Renew Your Membership for 2019-2020

For those of you who have not already renewed, your membership will have expired on Saturday, September 30, 2019. (Yearly dues are \$20 from October 1 through the next September 30.)

So, you ask: *why should I renew my membership now?*

First and foremost, you love our Club!

You will want to have an active membership when you sign up for the Winter classes. If you find that your membership has expired when you try to register for a class, you'll first need to renew your membership, and may find the delay causes you to miss out on a spot in the class/classes in which you want to enroll.

Tech Help is held on every Tuesday from 12:30 - 3:30 PM and the first and third Thursday, Nov - Jan, 6 - 7 PM. The evening sessions may be extended if popular. Tech Help is one of the many wonderful offerings of which members may avail themselves. If you come in for assistance with any of your devices and haven't yet renewed your membership, you will not be put on the list of those needing help until you have completed the process. This will delay the time you might have to wait! As an aside, it is ever so gratifying to observe our members when they come in with unhappy faces and leave with big

smiles after having their particular problem solved by one of our terrific and knowledgeable volunteer techies

So, now you ask: *how can I renew my membership easily?*

Renew Online: www.grandcomputers.org

Log in by selecting the "Log In" option at the top right of the home 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.

We understand that there are those of you who do not wish to use PayPal and/or a credit card and we certainly respect that decision. If this is the case the monitor will happily assist you during our regular hours of operation (Monday through Friday from 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM) and you may then renew by submitting \$20 in cash or by check.

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.

I'm looking forward to another happy year with Sun City Grand Computer Club and hope that you are as well!

www.membership@grandcomputers.org

I think that someone has been in my computer; It seems to be running slow. What should I do?

By Ray Fagan, Instructor and Tech Team Member

Every day five computers out of every hundred are attacked or exploited. Most of the time nothing serious happens **because the hacker's attack was isolated and/or quarantined**. This happy situation depends on what you have done to your computer in the last few months. This approach is called Hardening, **"The brilliance of doing the basics."** Stuff that you don't have to think about such as:

1. Shut your computer down **"power it off"** when you're not using it if there is no memory active
2. Set your web browser to **"a private viewing screen with no history"** or **"purge your viewing history"** whenever you shut browser. **If it's not there, no one can steal it**
3. Turn off **"access within your computer so no unauthorized program can send anything out"** to the internet. **if it can't get out, no one can use it against you**
4. **"Make your personal & financial data unavailable"** to access by putting it on an external drive that can't be accessed by hackers or encrypting it on your hard drive; if they can't read it, they can't use it.

But what happens next depends upon whether you as owner has done anything to protect your device and your privacy. Yes. I am sure that your computer has firewalls, anti-virus and anti-malware software installed on them; **But has anyone configured them to protect your privacy and**

personal data?

Before your start worrying, let's see if anything really happened. You should look at is

1. The menu **windows security** - to access it, go to bottom left corner,
 - a. **Left Click on windows icon, then, right click on gears,**
 - b. **then, right click on windows security**
 - c. **if you see that the first five icons have a green check mark**, it means that windows defender did **not detect any hacker access**.
2. Next, you should check to see if any changes were made in the windows 10 operating system or its performance. To access this information, go to bottom left corner,
 - a. right click on run to get control panel
 - b. then click on system & security
 - c. then click on security & maintenance
 - d. then click on view reliability history
 - e. you will than see if any changes have been made or any change in performance has occurred, I you see any performance decline or failures. You should have a PC technician check it out.

To help members achieve **peace of mind and confidence** that their computers and devices are hardened (protected) the Club is offering new **CYBER Security Education**. Specialized classes are in development to better educate members on what to do and not do to avoid the costs of time and money to restore a computer that's been hacked. **WATCH** for these upcoming classes!

Saturday Club Events

Mark your calendars! Learn more about the Grand Computers Club and Technology through open house events, SIG (Special Interest Group) demonstrations and New Workshops.

November 9, 2019

SCG Fall Festival - Open House for Club

November 16, 2019

Apple and Devices SIGs

December 7, 2019

Workshop: How to Download and use Uber and Lyft Apps

December 14, 2019

Workshop: How to Download and use Listen Everywhere App

January 11, 2020

Financial Ed and Digital Scrap-booking SIGs

January 18, 2020

New Technology and Genealogy SIGs

February 8, 2020

Compose Yourself and Graphics SIGs

February 29, 2020

Flight Simulator and Ham SIs

March 14, 2020

SCG Arts and Crafts Faire and Club Open House

NOTICE: The GCC Board has agreed to accept only cash or checks drawn upon US banks when paying for classes or membership in the club.

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. You may contact Jim by phone - 623-544-3394 or by email at

geffre1949@yahoo.com

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To All Members of the Grand Computers Club

By Susan Lucas
Nomination Committee Chair

The Grand Computers Club with a membership of 1500 strong is comprised of many members who are talented and skilled in many ways.

Our current board members provide our club with direction; monitors keep the club open and operating for our members' use; tech helpers provide assistance to those who need technical help with computers, phones and other digital devices; and numerous volunteers do many things behind the scenes. All of these people volunteer their time and talent to keep our Computers Club strong and vital within SCG.

The election for the executive board will be held in December, 2019. The one-year term begins January 1, 2020. You may nominate yourself or other members of the club.

We need members like yourself to step up and volunteer for one of the board positions.

Nominations for the following positions are open:

President (incumbent is not seeking reelection)

Vice President (incumbent is not seeking reelection)

Secretary - has accepted to serve another term

Treasurer (incumbent is not seeking reelection)

Education Director (has accepted to serve another term)

Membership Director (incumbent is not seeking reelection)

Monitor Director (has accepted to serve another term)

Tech Help Director (has accepted to serve another term)

Technical Director (has accepted to serve another term)

Please contact a member of the nominating committee below to get more information about any of the positions, a copy of the job description, or an application. **We need your participation.**

The current nominating committee is:
Susan Lucas, Chair
(lucass15w@gmail.com), Leigh Donaldson
(mhleigh@gmail.com), and Donna Koca
(donnakoca@gmail.com).

Some of the benefits of volunteering that I have gained include meeting and working with some very nice people, using my skills and talents for the betterment of the Club, just having fun, and developing some long lasting friendships.

Thanks for your consideration and the nominating committee looks forward to hearing from you!

The Club's Tech Team - Who are they?

By Gloria Young

Grand Computers Club has a Tech Team of nearly thirty-five Tech Helpers. Many have volunteered their time for ten or more years, some for five or so years, while new team members have joined in recent years.

Many of our Tech Team have B.S. degrees, M.S. degrees, with several having PhD degrees. A high number have engineering degrees. Some have degrees that are not technology related. Some have no formal education but are loaded with career experience. All have a wealth of technical knowledge.

Tech Team members have worked in a variety of technical positions at companies including: Boeing, Honeywell, Federal Reserve, GTE, IBM, Lockheed Missiles and Space, McDonnell-Douglas Missiles and Space, Microsoft, Phillips Petroleum Research, Teledyne Analytical Instruments, United Air

Lines, U.S. Post Office and New York Stock Exchange (SIAC Div.).

Our Tech Team is truly a "team". Should a member have an unusual problem and the team member is unable to solve, other team members assist to find the answer. The Club is blessed with dedicated individuals who have the passion to serve our members. They are caring individuals wanting to find solutions to technical problems.

One Team Member recently said, "The fun of tech help is solving the 'puzzle' of how people got to where they are on the computer and how to get it back to 'normal' for them."

Another team member said, "Although I don't have any formal education in computer science, I have been an active user and willing teacher for the skills I've learned".

I welcome members to visit our Tech Team **every Tuesday** from 12:30 - 3:30 pm in the Club and **starting in November through January, the first and third Thursday** from 6 - 7 pm. Evening hours may be extended if popularity increases.

Hearing Assistance for Our Members

Over the summer, Grand Computers Club purchased two Listen Everywhere (LE) servers to provide hearing assistance to our members. The service is provided through an app on your smartphone that allows you to hear the classroom audio through headphones or Bluetooth connected hearing aids. You can adjust the volume through your smartphone to your personal preference.

The first unit has been installed and provides services to the classroom. It will offer similar services to the Open Use room once a lectern/microphone system is installed and connected to the first Listen Everywhere server in the backroom. The second LE server is configured to be portable and used in other Sun City Grand meeting rooms when connected to the audio/visual equipment provided by the building services staff.

Directions and training will be provided:

- in a booklet available from the monitor when renewing membership;
- by requesting help at Tech Help on Tuesday afternoon from 12:30-3:30pm;
- at the upcoming meetings for instructors and assistants;
- by making a request request to Joe Parla at newtech@grandcomputers.org.

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General Meeting

After the business side of the October General Meeting, Marie Frasca, our education director, will lead a discussion on the computer club's educational programs.

General Meeting

Date: October 2

Time: 2:00—3:30 p.m.

Place: Agua Fria Room, Cimarron Center

Door Prizes!

Coffee Chat

The October Coffee Chat's topic will be backup for Macs and PCs with a few clicks!

Coffee Chat

Date: October 10

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 Sign Up for Classes in the Computer Club", information on the Basic Beginning classes for people new to computers and smartphones.

New to Computers Group

Date: October 21

Time: 10:00—11:30 a.m.

Place: Mesquite/Palms Room, Sonoran Plaza

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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: Agua Fria Room, Cimarron Center

Contact: Ira Simmons - apple@grandcomputers.org

Next Meeting: October 21

Topic: New Products and Updated Operating Systems

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.

Place: Phoenix Room, Palm Center

Contact: Gloria Young - CY@grandcomputers.org

Next Meetings: Tuesday, October 1 and Monday, October 21

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: October 24

Topic: Personal Assistants

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: October 7, 14, 21, 28.

Topics: Beginning and Intermediate Scrapbooking using Photoshop Elements.

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, November 8

Topic: TBA

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

Flight Simulator SIG



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

Meetings: 3rd Friday (October—March)

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

Place: Apache Room, Chaparral Center

Contact: Bill Homewood - flight@grandcomputers.org

Next Meeting: October 18

Topic: "Using GPS Cross Country"

Genealogy SIG



Provides members with a forum for researching family history.

Meetings: 1st Thursday (October—April)

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

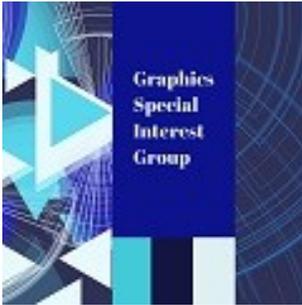
Place: Grand Computers Club Classroom, Chaparral Center

Contact: Leon Chapman - genealogy@grandcomputers.org

Next Meeting: October 3

Topic: Advanced DNA Techniques: Using Phasing to Test DNA Segments, presented by Blaine Bettinger, Ph.D

Graphics SIG



Provides members a forum for discussing graphic applications.

Meetings: 2nd Thursday (October - March)

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

Place: Grand Computers Club Classroom, Chaparral Center

Contact: Rita Skarbek - graphics@grandcomputers.org

Next Meeting: October 10

Topic: TBA

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: Agua Fria Room, Cimarron Center

Contact: Mark Heroux - hamsig@grandcomputers.org

Next Meeting: October 25

Topic: Group discussion : "What inspired me to get my Amateur Radio License"

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: October 17

Topic: Virtual Reality Headset Demos

iToons

Sunil Agarwal & Ajit Ninan



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