



Grand Computers Club; Sun City Grand; 19781 N. Remington Dr., Surprise, AZ 85374

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Regular Contributors

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President's Corner



Rich Gorczyca

We Need Tech Team Members!

What do you think it takes to be a Tech Helper? Do you need to have a computer science degree? Nope. Experience as a computer repair technician? Nope. A Mensa minimum IQ of 148 or higher? Nope. None of those things hurt but are not necessary.

Well then, what does it take to be a Grand Computers Club Tech Helper? What you need is to be the type of person who, when faced with a problem, will not give up until it is solved. You must be someone who solves your own computer problems, whether it's on a MAC

or a PC. Perhaps you've helped a neighbor or two with their computer problems.

So, what's it like being a Tech Helper? It is loads of fun! You get to interact with friendly and appreciative people. Sometimes you'll be working with someone and together come to the solution that teaches you something new. Because we do have members of the Tech Team who are PHDs or have had careers in computer technology, you needn't worry about coming upon a more difficult situation than you're prepared to handle. You can always turn to another Tech Helper to help you along. But most times you'll find you solve the problem yourself, with one very happy customer leaving to go home with a great big smile.

So, if this sounds like you, come to Tech Help on Tuesday and ask for Joe Scanlon or Rich Gorczyca.

Vice President's Corner



Bob Babicke

What's New with the Mac Operating System Catalina?

The macOS Catalina 10.15.2 update improves the stability, reliability and performance of your Mac and is recommended for all users.

This new operating system adds the following features:

Apple News

- New layout for Apple News+ stories from The Wall Street Journal and other leading newspapers

Stocks

- Get links to related stories or more stories from the same publication at the end of an article
- "Breaking" and "Developing" labels for Top Stories
- Stories from Apple News+ are now available in Canada in English and French

Emoji

- Over 70 new or updated emoji, including animals, food, activities, new accessibility emoji, gender-neutral emoji, and skin tones selection for couple emoji

AirPods support

- AirPods Pro support

Home app

- HomeKit Secure Video enables you to privately capture, store, and view encrypted video from your security cameras and features people, animal, and vehicle detection
- HomeKit enabled routers let you control how your HomeKit accessories communicate over the internet or in your home
- Adds support for AirPlay 2-enabled speakers in scenes and automations

Siri

- Privacy settings to control whether or not to help improve Siri and Dictation by allowing Apple to store audio of your Siri and Dictation interactions
- Option to delete your Siri and Dictation history from Siri Settings

Other improvements have been made with Notes, Reminders, Photos and Mail.

This update includes bug fixes for Apple Music, iTunes Remote, Photos, Mail and other minor issues.

I am currently using the new OS on my MacBook Pro, and it has better features than previous versions of the OS. I would recommend downloading the new OS. However, be aware that some of the older Macs will not support a download.

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Education's Corner



Marie Frasca

By the Numbers:

2020 Winter Session Offerings:

PC - 42 Classes
65 Sessions

Mac - 17 Classes
26 Sessions

Other - 41 Classes
158 Sessions

Check out all of our 100 classes for the winter session! Go to Grand Computers Website, grandcomputers.org, and click on the tab "Classes" to see all the classes, dates and times. Click on the name of the class to see its description and decide if the class is right for you. To sign up for the classes, log in, and click on the date of the class.

Winter Session Classes Have Begun

Winter Session classes started January 13, 2020. We are offering 100 classes from PC, Mac and 'Other' which includes iPad, iPhones, Chromebook, Android Tablets, Smartphones and much more.

Some of our exciting courses:

FACEBOOK

The Grand Computers Club is presenting a class in Facebook in February. A lot of issues and topics will be discussed, but the primary section is about security and privacy. With all the concern the public has about Facebook, there are several protective steps one can take that surpass the standard Facebook default. Learn about all this to make your Facebook experience more secure and enjoyable.

GENEALOGY DNA

The class starts with the basics and explains which companies offer which tests and what the results mean, i.e., How to order your own DNA kit. How to prove and disprove family connections.

POWER POINT 365 FOR WINDOWS AND MAC

Learn to prepare presentations for meetings. Create fliers and brochures or learn to create a recipe book with photos for your family.

New courses for the winter session:

- **Cyber Security Learn how to protect your computer**
- **PC Computers - Hardening Google Chrome; Windows 10; Windows 10 Backup; Windows 10 Edge Browser; Mac Computers- MacOS; Safari and Time Machine**
- **Windows 10 How to Personalize PC Laptops**
- **Chromebook Workshop**
- **Create a Travelogue Using Google Sites**
- **Kindle Direct Publish-Upload/Print a Book**
- **Ways to Create Amazing Videos**
- **YouTube 101**
- **Elements 2020 - 10 individual new classes**

Some classes have filled up. Two additional classes just added -

Mac 1 - Introduction to Mac and Mac 2 - Mac Features.

These classes have been added as members placed their requests on the "Wait List" If you are interested in classes that are filled, add your name and class to the "Wait List." If there is enough demand and the instructor is available, we will add the class. Those on the "Wait List" will be the first ones added .

We still have some difficulty with students not attending classes they have registered for. Please let your instructor know in advance if you cannot attend to open it up to wait listed people,

Monitor Director



Susan Lucas

Become a Monitor!

Thank you to all monitors who have volunteered in the month of January and will monitor in the future. The club would not run smoothly without you.

We have a great group of people who volunteer to monitor, but we are always looking for members to become monitors.

It is a fun way to meet new people and serve the club. Other benefits include pre-registration of classes, annual volunteer breakfast & annual volunteer dinner (with the required number of credits).

We provide one-on-one training too.

If you are interested in becoming a monitor, contact Susan Lucas at

monitor@grandcomputers.org.

The Computers Club is looking for Graphics Designers!!!

If you have some **Time**, some **Graphic** skills, or some **Writing** skills, Publicity is looking for you! Contact Barb Vivian at Publicity@grandcomputers.org.

Volunteer Appreciation Dinner

Volunteers - Mark Your Calendars & Check Your Earned Points

Feb 7, 2020 from 5 - 9 PM

(Cash Bar, Dinner & Entertainment)

in the

Gila Room at Cimarron

Volunteer Instructors & Assistants Needed!

We are always looking for new instructors and assistant instructors.

If you have a class that you want to teach and we are not offering it at this time, let me know.

If you are interested in teaching, but you are unsure of your skills, consider assisting in a class. You might be surprised by your abilities. If you are interested in either teaching or assisting, contact education director.

Marie Frasca—
education@grandcomputers.org





Joe Scanlon

Tech Help Corner

Check Your Important Account Information.

Recently we have had several people come to Tech Help who have lost their password and are UNABLE to reset it.

The reason is as follows: When you created the account, the web site asked for your phone number and a second email address. This is to verify that you are who you say you are. Unfortunately, people may have changed phones and phone numbers or no longer have the same email address (Cox, for example) that they gave the web site a few years ago.

You should check your account profile periodically to make sure your contact information is always up to date.

That brings up another subject. If you do anything on the internet that involves information you do not want the "bad guys" to have - money, emails, contacts, photos, personal information, etc. - you should have the account protected with two step verification. PASSWORDS ALONE ARE NO LONGER SIGNIFICANT. For years my credit union has required me to provide my favorite animal, car, or city from

a list of 20 suggestions after it first verifies my username and password. Some sites send a text message or email with a 6-digit number that you are required to enter before they allow you access to their site.

This web site explains what they are and if you should be using them:

<https://www.howtogeek.com/117047/htg-explains-what-is-two-factor-authentication-and-should-i-be-using-it/>

If you have additional questions, please come to Tech Help Tuesday afternoons from 12:30 to 3:30.

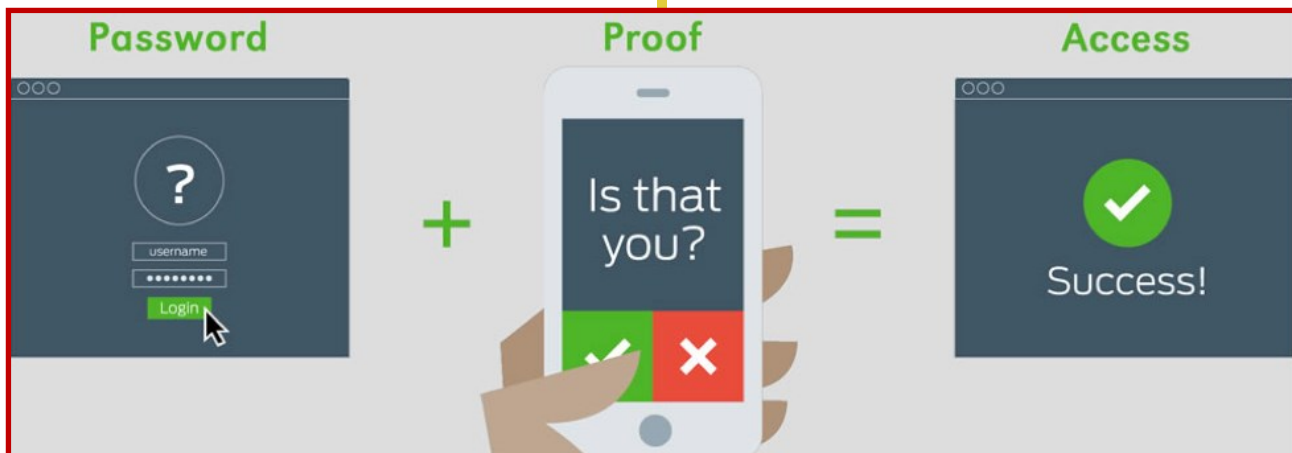
NEW TECH HELP SESSIONS

1ST AND 3RD THURSDAYS IN FEBRUARY!

6-7:30 pm

Thursday, February 6

Thursday February 20



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ATTENTION Windows 7 USERS!

End of Life—JANUARY 14th!!!

Microsoft has stopped doing updates for the windows 7 operating system as of January 14, 2020. The GCC Tech Team will no longer repair Windows 7 computers.

Any computer club member, with a Windows 7 computer, who would like assistance backing up their data (pictures, documents, favorites, contacts etc.) so it can be transferred to a new computer should do so ASAP. Stop into Tech Help for assistance.

Saturday Club Events

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

February 8, 2020

Compose Yourself and Graphics SIGs

February 29, 2020

Flight Simulator and Ham Radio SIGs

March 14, 2020

SCG Arts and Crafts Faire and Club Open House

Mar 21, 2020s

Learn How to Wipe Out all Info From Your Old Computers, Smartphone and Kindles before Donating or Tossing.

Our February Saturday Events will be conducted by four of our Special Interest Groups:

Workshops run from 10 AM - 11:30 AM at the Club.

These workshops are designed to help you know just what it is that each SIG does and how members may benefit by participating. This is a perfect opportunity to "get to know" our SIGS.

NOTE:

The Open Use Room is open to club members during the Saturday Events!

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"New to Computers" News

Susan Lucas

The New To Computers January presentation on "How To Use Your Calendar to Make Your Life Easier " was attended by 25 people. About a third of those individuals already used the calendar on their electronic device to keep appointments and events and were seeking additional tips.

One couple only used a paper calendar and we may have influenced them a little bit to go electronic. One person came to Tech Help later that day for calendar assistance.

Barb Vivian talked about and presented an Apple device calendar and Leigh Donaldson did the same for Android and Windows calendars. The presentations were great, well received and I picked up a couple tips.

The February presentation is "How To Avoid Being Scammed" and will be offered by the Surprise Police Department.

February 10

10:00 am to 11:30 am

Pima Room - Chaparral Center

This is open to all SCG residents. Reservations not required.



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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 accept 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.

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.

In the Beginning.....Grand Computers Club History

By Gloria Young

After nearly a year gathering documentation found in meeting minutes, Club newsletter articles and scrapbooks, we now have finished writing our history. It soon will be added to the Club's website.

We will also publish short segments in the monthly Grand Bytes newsletter beginning with this issue. I hope you enjoy learning more of our Club.

Before you begin reading, I'd like you to know how the documentation came to be. At the February 2019 Volunteer Appreciation Dinner, I spoke of accomplishments achieved the previous year in terms of numbers of member visits, classes taught, and Tech Help given to members. This triggered a thought in Roberta Marsh, President 2000 - 2001, realizing just how much the Club had grown; she immediately suggested we write the history of our Club!

A short time later, knowing Roberta has been a member of our club's Compose Yourself Writing, I asked if she would like to help. She graciously agreed, writing of the early years and comparing to today's club.

We were so excited and impressed we wanted the history to continue. Joyce Klonecz, Past President 2012 - 2013, volunteered to compile the remaining years and Leon Chapman, Past President 2006-2008 and I volunteered to be contributors adding more pieces of information. Future presidents will be asked to continue what has been started.

Grand Computers Club Early History—Installment 1

By Roberta Marsh

Why was it called "Computers"? Plural because there were only 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, was added to teach classes. Bulb replacements for the projector cost \$500.

The Club room was located where there is an Art room nearest the east parking lot in the Village Center Mall. The Mac Small Interest Group (SIG) met to decide what equipment they needed. Sally and Tom Gorey with Morris Shur began the SIG. Tom Gorey, a Graphics' Designer from Chicago, designed our logo in 2000.

During 2000, Mayor Joan Shaffer sent the Computer 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.

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

In the beginning, dues were \$50 per person or \$75 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.

.....to be continued in upcoming issues of Grand Bytes!

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General Meeting

After the business side of the February General Meeting, we will have a presentation on "Fun with Windows" presented by Larry Laursen.

Date: February 5, Time: 2:00—3:30 PM. Place: Agua Fria Room, Cimarron Center

Door Prizes!

Click here for a Map of the Village Center for Meeting Locations: [Cimarron Center](#)

Coffee Chat

The January Coffee Chat's topic will be: "Understanding and Installing Wi-fi Extenders".

Date: February 13, Time: 8:30—10:00 a.m.

Place: Pima Room, Chaparral Center

Coffee and Donuts Provided!

Saturday Special Club Events

February 8; Find out about two of our informative Special Interest Groups (SIG) the Compose Yourself Writing SIG and the Graphics SIG.

February 29; Find out about two of our informative Special Interest Groups: the Flight Simulator SIG and the Ham Radio SIG.

Time: 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.

Grand Computers Club Classroom

New to Computers Group

February 10; "How to Avoid Being Scammed" presented by the Surprise Police Dept.

Time: 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.

Place: Pima Room, Chaparral Center

New to Investing Group

February 14; Come with key question/concerns about investing. Topics include examples of investment objectives, establishing a time horizon, determining risk tolerance and investment risks .

Time: 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.

Place: Mediterranean Room, Palm Center

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Click here for a Map of the Meeting Locations: [Palm Center /Chaparral Center](#)

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: February 17

Topic: "Apple Watch Update" presented by Bob Babicke.

Compose Yourself—A Writing Group SIG

Note Room Change for
February 4th Meeting



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: Sago Room, Palm Center (Feb 4) Phoenix Room (Feb 17).

Contact: Gloria Young - CY@grandcomputers.org

Next Meetings: Tuesday, February 4 and Monday, February 17

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

Place: Hopi Room, Chaparral Center

Contact: Ira Simmons - devices@grandcomputers.org

Next Meeting: February 27

Topic: Best Photo Apps.

Digital Scrapbooking SIG



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

Meetings: 2nd & 4th Monday (October, November, January - April)

Time: 6:00—7:30 p.m.

Place: Grand Computers Club Classroom, Chaparral Center

Contact: Jane Connors - scrapbook@grandcomputers.org

Next Meetings/Topics: February 10—Work on the last segments of the Tool Bar - the small but very important MODIFY TOOLS.

February 24— Finish exploring the MODIFY TOOLS from the Tool Bar. Using your pictures, see how you can modify them in combination with the many other tools covered to make a great scrapbook page.

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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: Palo Verde Room, Sonoran Plaza

Contact: Richard Gabel - financial@grandcomputers.org

Next Meeting: February 28

Topic: "Wells Fargo—Outlook 2020"

Technical Analysis Subgroup, Grand Computers Club Classroom.
February 6 and February 20, 8:00 - 10:00 a.m.

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

February 3 in the Apache Room, Chaparral Center

February 17 in the Apache Room, 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: Mesquite/Palms Room, Sonoran Plaza

Contact: Bill Homewood - flight@grandcomputers.org

Next Meeting: February 21

Topic: "X-Plane 11—Getting Started"

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: February 6

Topic: Research—Bring laptops with Dr. Leon Chapman.

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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: February 13

Topic: "Steps on how You can Organize Your Photo Collection" presented by JoeAnn Posey .

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: Mesquite Room, Sonoran Plaza.

Contact: Gordon Bousman - hamsig@grandcomputers.org

Next Meeting: February 28

Topic: "Amateur Radio Satellite Communications".

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: February 20

Topic: "USB Drive Essentials "



"The computer says I need to upgrade my brain to be compatible with the new software."

MAPS!!

To find meeting locations for the meetings noted in Grand Bytes click on these links:

[Palm Center /Chaparral Center](#)

[Sonoran Plaza Rooms](#)

[Cimarron Center Rooms](#)

Or, visit grandinfo.com and search for "Facilities".

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