



## Verde Valley Computer Club

# Connections

Volume 25, Issue 4 April 2010

***APRIL 17, 2010***

**MEETING TIME 9:30 AM**

**DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES TO  
BE PRINTED IN THE  
MAY CONNECTIONS:  
TUESDAY, APRIL 20, 2010 AT  
2:00 PM**

### **FREE PHONE SERVICE USING SKYPE**

Did you know that if you have a high-speed internet connection you can talk to other computer users all over the world for as long as you want and for free? For our April program Chuck LeBeau will show members how to get started using this valuable service. Chuck says that he is not an expert but he uses Skype almost every day and has been using it for several years so he understands the basics and in our tradition of "Users Helping Users" he is happy to share what he knows. (Many of you may remember Chuck's previous presentation about the multitude of helpful resources for investors that are available on the internet.)

In Chuck's experience he has found Skype to be simple to use and the quality of the phone service is excellent. There are also texting features for chats and useful video conferencing features that Chuck will explain. Skype users can also communicate with regular telephone users at a very small fee and your incoming Skype calls and chats can even be forwarded to your cell phone.

This is a non-commercial program being presented by one of our own members so be sure to attend and bring a friend or two. Prior to presenting his program Chuck will be showing some beautiful slides downloaded from NASA so come early, buy your raffle tickets and enjoy the beautiful photos of galaxies, nebulas, dark holes, colliding stars, comets and the many wonders of our universe while waiting for the program. Then learn how to get started with Skype when the program begins at our usual 9:30 time.

**In presenting this program, the Verde Valley Computer Club is neither implying an endorsement of any product offered nor validation of any information provided."**

**See the APRIL/MAY 2010. VVCC Events Calendar on page 3**

## DOQ UPDATE

As a result of many reasons I missed a great number of General Meetings this past year. I plan and expect to be able to attend them this year. I thank the Board for their continued support.

I did create the DOQ's for the June, September, and December 2009. I also have data for the March 2010 DOQ.

I am creating a mini disk of research and information I did on Windows 7 Operating System at no cost to the club **FREE** to anyone that purchases any **TWO** of the above DOQ's to make up for the delinquency of making them available on a timely basis.

Look for an e-mail that will list the contents of each of the above DOQ's before the next General Meeting

Contact me with your requests and ideas at: [DOQ@vvcclub.com](mailto:DOQ@vvcclub.com)

## VVCC Mentors

**Windows** - Bob Efros:  
646-9182 bob@refros.com

**Front Page** -Miles Standish:  
frontpage@vvcclub.com

**Adobe Photoshop Elements, WordPerfect, Word**  
Marny Zuercher  
marny71@gmail.com

**Any others out there willing to share their skills? What programs do you work with? Share it! Being a Mentor doesn't mean you have ALL the answers just a willingness to help someone.**

### VVCC Contacts

president@vvcclub.com  
vicepresident@vvcclub.com  
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frontpage@vvcclub.com  
DOQ@vvcclub.com  
equipment@vvcclub.com  
membership@vvcclub.com  
editor@vvcclub.com  
publicity@vvcclub.com

## IMPORTANT!

**Please Watch for times to change as our Digital Shutterbug and Photography SIGs are going to be merging. I don't know if they will be held on Monday or Thursday. Watch the website!**

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VVCC web site?**

[http://  
www.vvcclub.com](http://www.vvcclub.com)

**Do you have  
your own web  
site?**

**Let us include a link  
to your  
personal web site—  
on the VVCC site!**

**Contact:  
[info@vvcclub.com](mailto:info@vvcclub.com)**

### 2010 OFFICERS

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## The VVCC President's Bits and Bytes

WOW! - A great March General Meeting! Randy Garrison of Fen-Tek presented an unusual and interesting program. We learned, once again, that even though you think you might not benefit from a program you may well find out something you didn't know before. Randy had on display many different keyboards that you would not have even imagined. Each one was styled for a different usage. He showed a left hand keyboard, a large print keyboard and keyboards that allowed a different language and several more. Fen-Tek is located on Main Street in Cottonwood. You can search for Fen-Tek to see more products.

We also showed a clip on Microsoft "Surface" computing. A demo on the technology progress of table top computing. This is an interesting subject. It is not affordable for you and me but nevertheless an interesting concept to behold. Google it! We forgot to mention that the "Virtual Memory" article by Richard Gohman was available so we will have them at the next general meeting. Another thing we talked about was the possibility of a Genealogy SIG. We have a few names already so if you are interested write me a note.

There seems to be a lot of e-mails going around that people send without a second thought because they are scandalous or disreputable. Facts that are untrue. You know what kinds of e-mail I am talking about. No? Well, there is one claiming the words "In God We Trust" has been removed from the dollar coins. Not so - it has been moved to the rim of the coin. Then there are the ones that push your emotional buttons. "Compute Responsibly". If an e-mail tells you to "Forward this to everyone you know" or "This is not a hoax" or maybe a strange subject from someone you know. Look carefully or check your favorite site that shows you what hoaxes, rumors or legends are out there. Not forwarding a message to ten people within 5 minutes is not going to change your luck one way or another. You have to wonder if these people stay up all night thinking of these things! Be suspicious. I recently started receiving e-mails from a trusted friend who only sends good mail with a second one following within minutes. Both had his correct address but one had a decent subject and the second one had an out of sort subject! After checking with my friend and then consulting Richard Gohman we found out that my friend's computer had been hacked and someone was stealing his e-mail addresses! Be careful.

One last thing to take a look at is [www.computerhope.com/history](http://www.computerhope.com/history). It is a timeline of computer history. I believe you will find it most interesting.

Remember - whatever you want to ask us or tell us - you have only to e-mail us. The addresses are on the website. [www.vvclub.com](http://www.vvclub.com). Have an article for the newsletter? Send it to the Editor.

Happy Computing!  
Consuelo Langholz  
[president@vvclub.com](mailto:president@vvclub.com)

***Membership Corner by Myrelle McHale***

Hello To The Members:

It was certainly nice to see over 50 of you at our General Meeting. The program was most informative. I know I was not the only one who enjoyed it. I heard nothing but nice comments from our group. I would bet each one of us learned at least one new thing. Thank you Randy Garrison.

At this point, I would like to ask a favor. I know I sound like I am harping on the same old thing when I get up to make my little speech but I like to do a good job for our club and one of the ways I do it is to try and be as accurate as I can where the membership is concerned. Some say I am down-right anal when it comes to the money we receive and getting it posted and keeping the records straight. I do take pride in that. But the favor I am asking is for each of you to be sure to let the ladies at the Sign-In Table know you are there. Also, if you bring your spouse, let us know that. Many times I see that one person has signed in and yet I know they came as a couple. Let us know. Plus, remember when you sign in, you get your name tag and one free ticket for a chance to win a door prize.

Last year we had 107 members who renewed and 28 new members. That should give us 135 renewals to expect this year. So far we are at 102 renewals but I am still holding out for the late-comers. We DO have 12 new members so far but last year we had 28.

One of the things I have noticed is more and more of you are talking to one another. This has been going on for about 6-8 months now. What a great thing to have happen. We have members from 6 local communities, 1 near Phoenix and 2 from out of state. Now those are LOYAL members!

We have members in: Casa Grande, Camp Verde, Clarkdale, Cornville, Cottonwood, Sedona, Lake Montezuma, Mongoup Valley, NY, and Winnabow, GA!

There have been friendships form from our Club that might not ever have happened. Several in my own case. If you add in the great lessons we learn at the SIG meetings and the General Meetings, I would say we have a FANTASTIC club and we need to share this with others. Take some time to look around your neighborhood. Are there people who might enjoy something like VVCC? Ask them to come with you to a meeting. You might even want to car pool and do lunch after. Couldn't hurt!

If you have any ideas about how to increase our membership or just to bring new people in to the various meetings, please let us know.

Just send an e-mail to: [Membership@vvclub.com](mailto:Membership@vvclub.com) and I will respond and follow up for you.

Please and thank you.

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*“Ah, but a man's reach should exceed his grasp, or what's a heaven for?”*

by Miles Standish

The quotation above is from a well-known poem by Robert Browning who was a major English poet of the Victorian Age. It expresses well my efforts to learn (and share what I've learned) about computers.

I never quite master what I'm working on. Currently, I'm trying to get completely comfortable with Debian Linux and Sun Systems Virtual Box, with Windows XP running inside of the box. Almost there. What's the incentive?

Linux offers great power and freedom from commercialism, “Software in the Public Interest.” All, or nearly all, of it is free. Debian is one of the most strict Linux distributions as to freedom from any copyright involvements, but can run applications from other “distros” that might not be perfectly free of the clouds of copyright. As I understand it, most commercial servers are Linux servers.

My son, Lloyd, who lives in Costa Rica is becoming a well-known contributor to the wealth of applications for Linux. His latest is a back-up program called snap2, which is now part of the regular Puppy distribution. You can look at some praise for his program on the following link:

<http://www.murga-linux.com/puppy/viewtopic.php?t=50402&start=105>

I use his program regularly for my own Linux backups, and I use Total Commander for my Windows backups. Both can make incremental or mirror backups. Mirror backups are simple copies of the whole thing, whereas incremental backups copy only that which is new or altered. Using “hard links” with snap2, Lloyd has what looks like 30 gigabytes on an 8 gig USB flash memory drive, with a lot of space left over.

Windows in a virtual box is extremely interesting. As I understand it, you can do almost anything in this box that you can do when Windows is the only operating system. This allows you to use your Linux for nearly everything, but open and use any Windows programs that you may still need. Your mouse pointer can move seamlessly across the edge of the box, changing between Linux and Windows mouse appearance. At the moment I have both Debian Linux and Windows XP Home on my laptop. Although I can access the CD/DVD drive with Windows, I am not yet able to have Windows “see” a USB flash memory drive. I need Lloyd to help me fix this glitch. There are minor limitations of shortcut key combinations, but this is not much of a bother.

As I progress with this, Club members are invited to share the rewards.

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### **Notice to Windows XP Users.**

Support for Windows XP with Service Pack 2 (SP2) will end on July 13, 2010. To continue receiving security updates for Windows, make sure you're running Windows XP with Service Pack 3 (SP3).

How do I know what Service Pack I have running?

- Option 1: Go to START then RUN and type in "winver" (without quotes) and click OK.
- Option 2: Right-mouse click on My Computer and choose "properties".

Either option will bring up a screen with the version of Windows XP you are using.

For more information on obtaining and installing Service Pack 3 see:

<http://support.microsoft.com/kb/950717/EN-US>

### **Windows XP and Vista tips and tricks**

Have you ever wondered about that key on your keyboard that has the little Microsoft flag symbol? That is called the "Logo Key" and it can be a very handy tool.

- If you press just the Logo key, your Start menu comes up. Then you can use the arrow keys to move through the menu if your mouse does not work or you wrist is tired.
- If after you press the Logo Key, you next press the "U" key, your shut-down menu comes up. Press the "U" key again and the computer will do a normal shut-down. Handy if your mouse does not work or you can't read the screen. (If instead of the second press of the "U" key, you press the "R" key, your computer will shut-down and then Restart.)
- If you hold the Logo Key down and press the "M" key, all open windows on your desktop will minimize into buttons on the task bar. (A good way to get back to the desktop.) Then if you hold down both the Logo Key and the Shift Key and press the "M" key, all the windows that were in the task bar will open up on the desktop again.
- Other Key combinations that work with the Logo Key hold are:
  - "F1" to start HELP
  - "R" to start the RUN command
  - "F" to start a SEARCH command
  - "E" to open Windows Explorer (the file manager) to MY COMPUTER

"Break" to open the Systems Properties dialog windows.

### **Mouse Tip**

Have you ever noticed that certain actions on your computer require a secondary mouse action? Example, when you delete a file, a dialog box comes up and you have to answer YES or NO with a mouse click. YES being the highlighted choice. Wouldn't it be nice if your mouse was already on the YES button so you did not have to search for the arrow and move it to that button?

You can configure most mice to do this.

Go to the Control Panel and open the Mouse Control Icon.

Then go to the Pointer Options tab.

There, check the box in front of:

"Automatically move pointer to the default button in a dialog box"

Now the next time you see a secondary request for mouse action, your mouse arrow will already be on the suggested button.

This page was Submitted by Richard Gohman

## **VVCC Beginners** **Class**

A popular series of six **hands-on** sessions designed for the *beginning* computer users. Classes are held on Wednesdays from 4:15 to 6:15 PM at the Cottonwood Middle School Computer Lab, Mingus & 6th. More information is on our web site!

Please call **Sharon Skinner** at  
**649-2993 after 3:00pm**  
Or **Barbara Wall** at **567-4222**  
To preregister for each series of  
classes

The Series repeats.

**Beginners class dates:**

**(Series 5 will begin  
April 7, 2010)**

**VVCC**  
**Mailing Address:**  
Mail inquires, sug-  
gestions and items  
of interest,  
to the club,

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**PO BOX 3023**  
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**86326**

Or e-mail us at  
**info@vvccclub.com**

### **Spam from Suits:**

One of the most prevalent sorts of junk e-mail is commercial advertising. Keep in mind that these are people who read "How to Make Lots of Money on the Internet" and actually believed it.

### **Spam from Grunts:**

It must be said that the foregoing marginal — if misguided — business people have largely been supplanted in the hearts, minds and spam filters of the 'net by spammers several levels lower in the food chain. These are the spammers who advertise magic penis enlargement pills; get rich quick infallible plans to attract women, men, sheep and erotic vegetables and prescription drugs for the price of a bag of licorice.

No one in his right mind could take these clowns seriously, but they no doubt figure that if they send out a few hundred million messages, they'll eventually luck onto someone who isn't.

### **Spam from Viruses:**

The third common manifestation of unsolicited e-mail is that which is generated by viruses attempting to propagate themselves across the Internet. There have been a number of viruses which have been designed to turn the systems they infect into "zombies," to be controlled by the virus authors, typically to send out more spam. A few viruses have been the work of malicious vandals who just want to nuke the machines they infect.

### **Don't Stay Home Without It:**

While there are a number of things you can do with spammers, actually doing business with one should never be an option. As a rule, legitimate businesses do not advertise their products through unsolicited e-mail.

This is especially true for any spam that involves medication. While prescription drugs are often unreasonably expensive, buying them from someone who could very well be mixing them up in his kitchen is hardly an intelligent substitute.

### **A Few Good Frauds:**

Every year, people lose millions of dollars to Internet frauds — at least, the ones who make the news do. I suspect there are a whole lot more of them who are too embarrassed to admit to being deceived by these scams.

- Investment Clubs, Pyramid Schemes and Ponzi Games
- The Nigerian Bank Scam
- Credit Cards for People with Bad Credit
- Multi-level Marketing

## Join Us for a Special Interest Group SIG)

Learn from *each other!*

Visit our Web site for more SIG info. Attendees are encouraged to print out handouts prior to classes.

### Word Processing:

#### Dick Gohman

Handout #4 inserting special characters, replacing text

#### Internet: Dick Gohman

Safe surfing, phishing, etc

#### Windows: Bob Efros

Questions and Answers

### Beginner Classes:

All at CMS

Apr 7: Series 5, 1/6

Apr 21: Series 5, 2/6

Apr 28: Series 5, 3/6

May 5: Series 5, 4/6

May 12: Series 5, 5/6

May 19: Series 5, 6/6

#### Digital Camera: Leo Zuercher

Putting pictures in e-mail  
Making albums

### PHOTOGRAPHY SIG: Hal Rosenwasser.

#### Web Site Team: Lisa Packard

There are handouts for the classes that can be downloaded from the club website:

**[www.vvcclub.com](http://www.vvcclub.com)**

## The Secretary's Corner      By Del Rosenwasser

The program for the March General Meeting presented by Randall Garrison of Fentek Industries, Inc. was very interesting and informative. Fentek is a local company formed in 1994, specializing in products to make our computer use more enjoyable and more comfortable.

Using a "show and tell" format, Randall gave examples of ergonomic keyboards, programmable keyboards, track balls including one keyboard with a track ball built into it, keyboards with a different layout than the familiar "qwerty" keyboard, and much more. The examples were displayed on a table, so that the audience could examine them after the presentation. Needless to say, he kept our interest!

Fentek is strictly an online company and does not have office hours. Check their web site [www.Fentek-ind.com](http://www.Fentek-ind.com) to see what they have to offer. You will be amazed to see the variety of keyboard, mouse and other interesting products. If you would like to try one of their products or have questions about the items, please feel free to contact Fentek to set up an appointment.

#### Door Prize Winners:

Battista Leather Task Chair - Jodie Wheeler

Equity Weather Station Wall Clock - Shirley Lyons

OfficeMax DVD Wallet (Holds 64 DVD/CD) - Jeanine Peterson

Targus DVD Wallet (Holds 80 DVD/CD) - Adrienne Pritchard

DYMO Embossing Labelmaker - Myrelle McHale

Hunter Lamp Base - Arnold Winter

Smart Computer Subscription/Remewals  
Al Quadracci  
Myrelle McHale  
Elaine Stichler

Special Door Prize donated by the speaker  
Trackball Mouse - Jerry Miller

Submitted by Joan Lambard

## Your Editor Marny Zuercher Sounds Off

Have you heard the saying: "Let George do it?" I hope you read the articles on pages 6, 7, and 8— notice page 6 is by Miles Standish—pages 7 and 8 are by Richard Gohman

I have asked for input from everyone, at the meetings, board meetings, explained that the Connections are yours, not mine. You don't have to put in an article about what to do with computers—it could be something as simple as: "how do I do something" or "I tried to do something and my computer froze" Ask questions, tell us about something you found— somewhere you went that others may be interested in. Send in a picture.

At a board meeting, I suggested the board members send in a short biography. One person did, Richard Gohman. He did it almost immediately after I asked for it.

Don't always sit back and let someone else do it. Let me hear from the rest of you.

**New Members:** Send in a short or long note about why you joined us and whether we are helping you and what could we do better.

**SEND ARTICLES TO: [editor@vvcclub.com](mailto:editor@vvcclub.com) or [marny71@gmail.com](mailto:marny71@gmail.com)**

I look forward to hearing from you and you will get a "thank you" e-mail in return.

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### JUNE 2009 DOQ UPDATES

by Jack Parmenas

#### 1 READ FIRST

V.V.C.C. Info. Updates or new Versions: Ad-Aware, Adobe Reader, AVG, DwX 7, SpooF Stick, and WinZip.

#### Computers & Electronics

Browsers; Firefox, Search Engines; Thunderbird. Digital Cameras; Info & Links. EMail; Scams. Thunderbird; Info. & Setup, How To; Folders, PDF Files, Links. Microsoft Links, IE7Pro, SilverLight, Service Packs, Ordering XP SP3 CD etc. Phone; FREE Long Distance, Info. & Links. SOC; FREE Auction, Links. Tecks & Geeks; Info. Links. Weather; AccuWeather Links. Webopedia; Links. Wikipedia; Links. Windows; Links. Misc. Links

#### Education & Recipes

Education: How To; Repeat. V. V. C. C.SIGS. Webopedia; Repeat. Wikipedia; Repeat. .

Recipes: Search, Corned beef, Pastrami, Polish Sausage

#### Finances & Credit

Finances; Rebates Coupons, Links. Retirement Links, Misc. Links.

Credit; Credit Reports, Debt Freedom, Misc. Links.

#### Legal & Medical

Legal; Free Legal Advice, Probate

Medical: Carbon Monoxide; Info Links. Hearing Aids; Info Links. Mental Health; Misc. Links. WEB MD; Links.

#### Pets & Pests

Pets: Dogs; Misc. Links. Puppy Mills; Misc. Links.

Pests; Gophers

#### Travel & Entertainment

Travel; Expedia.

TV Info; HDTV. TV Stations, local off air. Misc. Links.

#### Yard & Home Improvement

Home: Water Softeners; Links.

Yard: Carefree Gardener Link

349 Megabytes of Data

**DOQ INDEX**

By Jack Parmenas

**SEPTEMBER 2009****1 READ FIRST****V. V. C. C.: Info. IE7Pro Setup****Computers & Electronics****New Links. Repeat of old Links.****Education & Recipes****Repeat of old Links****Finances & Credit****New Links. Repeat of old Links.****Legal & Medical****Repeat of old Links****Pets & Pests****New Links. Repeat of old Links.****Travel & Entertainment****Repeat of old Links.****Yard & Home Improvement****Repeat of old Links.****DOQ INDEX****DECEMBER 2009****1 READ FIRST****V. V. C. C. Info.****Computers & Electronics**

New versions or updates: Ad-Aware, AVG, DivX7, Thunderbird, WinZip. Scam Alert Info. CNET; Bandwidth Speed test, Tech Tracker updates. New Links

**Education & Recipes**

New Links in; Email Scams. How To folders.

**Finances & Credit**

New Links: Good Morning America (making money at home). MSN (Career Info.). Hoovers (Reviews of Companies People Industries)

**Legal & Medical**

Wills

**Pets & Pests**

Old Info.

**Travel & Entertainment**

Old Info.

**Yard & Home Improvement**

Old Info.

361 Megabytes of Data

**ANGELS EXPLAINED BY CHILDREN**

**My guardian angel helps me with math, but he's not much good for science. --Henry, 8**

**Angels don't eat, but they drink milk from Holy Cows!!! --Jack, 6**

**When an angel gets mad, he takes a deep breath and counts to ten. And when he lets out his breath, somewhere there's a tornado. --Reagan, 10**

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Friend or Neighbor



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**Customer:** Aaaah.....thank you.

**Tech support:** Click on the 'my computer' icon  
on to the left of the screen.  
**Customer:** Your left or my left?

### Note from the Editor...

The next newsletter deadline for all  
submissions:  
**TUESDAY, APRIL 20, 2010 - 2 PM**

