



Verde Valley Computer Club

Connections

Volume 25, Issue 1 January 2010

JANUARY 16, 2010

MEETING TIME 9:30 AM

**DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES TO
BE PRINTED IN THE
FEBRUARY CONNECTIONS:
TUESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2010
AT 2:00 PM**

SMALL UTILITY PROGRAMS

The January General Meeting Program will be a demonstration of small utility programs by Richard Gohman. These are programs that Richard has found useful on his computer and you may find them useful as well.

All of these programs are free for downloading off the internet. If you come to the January General Meeting, we will have a hand-out with the name of the program, a short description of what the program does and the web address where you can obtain the program file. But you must show up at the meeting, or send a friend, to get a copy of this hand-out.

Also, a reminder that the 2010 membership renewal is due beginning in January. One year of membership is only \$30 for the entire family and your support keeps the Verde Valley Computer Club functioning with both the General Meetings and the Special Interest Group (SIG) Meetings. Your membership entitles you to the monthly newsletter (The Connections) and email notices of meetings and technical information by the SIG leaders.

Note: To keep our records up-to-date, you do need to complete a new application form each year. There is a copy of the application in The Connections.

See the JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2010. VVCC Events Calendar on page 3

DOQ UPDATE

Anyone still having problems with past DOQ CD's, please notify me so I can bring a replacement CD for you FREE.

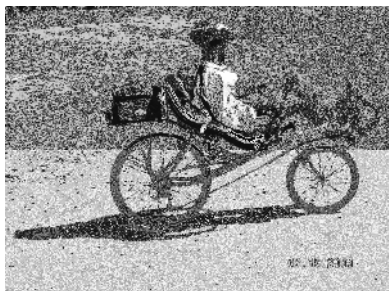
Contact me with your requests and ideas at:

DOQ@VVCLUB.COM

**Thank you,
Jack
DOQ CHAIRPERSON**

VVCC Mentors

Windows - Bob Efros:
646-9182 bob@refros.com
Databases - Kelley Riedel:
567-4717 - kriedel@juno.com
Word/Excel– Tahona Daluz
tdaluz@msn.com
Front Page -Miles Standish: 646
-3473 & Lisa Packard
ljp@commspeed.net
Roxio EZCD Creator-Dorothy
Cory fbow@commspeed.net
**Adobe Photoshop, WordPer-
fect, Word & Excel**
Russ & Susie Beach
susan@beachsonlocation.com
**Any others out there
willing to share their
skills ?**



VVCC Contacts

president@vvclub.com
vicepresident@vvclub.com
secretary@vvclub.com
treasurer@vvclub.com
past-president@vvclub.com
sig@vvclub.com
frontpage@vvclub.com
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equipment@vvclub.com
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**Do you have
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site?**

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

**Contact:
info@vvclub.com**

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Vice President:
Joan Lambard
Treasurer: Miles Standish
Secretary: Del Rosenwasser

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The VVCC President's Bits and Bytes

Out with the old - In with the New!

This catchphrase may apply to many of us at the start of every year but does it apply to our Computer World... Yes and No! Many of us are going to toss out Windows XP or Vista and go on to Windows 7. There are others who are going to say "As long as my program works why change? Some of us will "out with the Old" and some will say "in with the New". Isn't it fortunate that we have somewhere to turn to with our questions and answers....the Verde Valley Computer Club.

This club has been active over 18 years. We have had "Users Helping Users" share both the excitement of learning something new and the frenzy when our computer does not do what we expect it to do. There are those of you who have come faithfully to every general meeting and then there are those who come once in awhile, for one reason or another. It is the goal of this club to see more of the membership attend the general meetings. We'd like it even better if you brought a friend. We would like to know WHAT you need to hear and see at our general meetings. A program or topic that you would like to know more about. We need to know how we can make our attendance at the general meeting larger. Go ahead - swamp our e-mail box with your thoughts!

We have had some great leadership and I am happy to say that many of the 2009 officers will still be at the board meetings to help the new officers "break in". We are in need of a Program Chairperson. Last year's chairperson was gracious enough to leave us some ideas for programs for 2010 but we need someone to set these programs up. That person will have much support from the board members. Is this person you? Will you step up and be that person? Don't be shy. If you are willing to give it a try, or have questions, send an e-mail - [president @vvccclub.com](mailto:president@vvccclub.com).

We look forward to seeing some new faces and always those of our current membership in the New Year. You can bet that we will see some new adventures in the computer world. Have a great holiday season and we will see you at the next general meeting, January 16th, 2010.

Consuelo Langholz
President 2010

Membership Corner by Myrelle McHale

VVCC General Meeting Pot Luck Party Dec 19 2009

WOW – What a day !!! Thank you to all who were able to make the Pot Luck Party! We had a nice turn out. There were 53 members, 10 visitors and a LOT of very tasty food. A very BIG “Thank You” to Dale and Donna Forbes for once again, planning and presenting us with good food, festive surroundings, organizing and taking care of all the details to enable the rest of us to totally enjoy our day. Thank you to both of you.

We made it through another 12 months of meetings, SIG’s, Beginner Classes and a lot of “Thank You’s” to the people who tirelessly give of their time and knowledge to help each and all of us learn more about our computers and how to enjoy the technical age we are part of. If I were to list those names and all they do, it would fill the Connections! But we know who you are..... And we thank you.

By the way, that thanks also goes out to those of you who help set up (AND take down) the chairs at each meeting and the tables at each Pot Luck. You ARE appreciated.

So now it is time to begin a new year. We hope each and every one of you will continue to be a part of a group that, while you may have started as a stranger, are now part of a team of friends. I know I have made so many friends through attending meetings and even more importantly, I have been asked to help with projects and to volunteer for certain jobs within the Club. That makes me feel pretty good when I know I am doing something that may help another. Even if it is to just relieve someone of a small job so they can do other things for our Club. Look around... It seems the same people are always doing the volunteering; time for more of us to do the same. We now have a new slate of people to run our Club. Let’s see what they would say if we were to ask: “Is there anything I can do to be of help?” You might be surprised.... You ARE needed.

January is time to renew your membership in the Verde Valley Computer Club. We have a simple form for you to fill out; one page only. Just fill in the blanks.... Hopefully we will increase our membership this year. That is the goal. To achieve that goal, I am asking each of you to ‘volunteer’ to try and bring in just one new member. It will help in so many ways. First and foremost, it will bring fresh new faces to the meetings and knowledge to the person. Perhaps we (VVCC) can learn from THEM! If they are afraid of computers, tell them about our Beginners Classes. What a great way to get them involved. Almost half of all our members have attended these classes. If they are already pretty savvy about computers, perhaps they can share by teaching others. If they are not into teaching, maybe they (or YOU) can help a SIG leader by being an assistant. So many ways to participate. Think about it and see if you have a friend, relative or neighbor who might benefit from coming to our meetings and joining our Club. The more the merrier. We need you ALL.

By the time you receive this, it will be January, 2010! I hope your holidays were all happy and filled with friends and family. Time to start new beginnings and what better place than here. Hope to see you at the January General Meeting on the 16th.

Bye for now.

Myrelle McHale

Membership

FREE EPSON INK

We replaced our printers and have full ink cartridges for Epson stylus Photo printers to get rid of:

3 Black for: 400/440/460/480/500/580/600/640/660/670/680sx/480sxu/700/710/720/750/1200/ex/ex2/ex3

2 Color packs for: 700/710/720/750/EX/EX2/EX3

3 RC-008 COLOR

3 Black, 2 Magenta, 2 cyan, 1 light cyan for: 1400 We will not be back till the new year, but you can call us at 928 301 1319 or 928 301 8169 Elaine and Bob



December 19 Pot Luck A good time was had by all.

I feel sorry for anyone who did not attend this wonderful day.

Good food, good people to visit with.

We have some remarkable members and our guests are always welcome.

Our new officers for 2010 were introduced and they immediately accepted their new responsibilities.

We are looking for a new Program Chairman and I have great faith that someone out there will soon be there to accept this job.

Verde Valley Computer Club
P.O. Box 3023 Cottonwood, AZ 86326

E-mail: info@vvcclub.com Web Site: www.vvcclub.com

Date: _____, 2010

Membership Application: New: _____ Renewal: _____

Cash: _____ Check: # _____

Name: _____ Spouse: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: () _____ E-Mail: _____

How did you hear about us? _____

Have you attended a Seniors Class or Beginners Class? _____

Have you attended a SIG class? Which one(s): _____

What topics would you like to learn more about? _____

**Would you be willing to help in: Club Newsletter () Meetings –Set up/Clear () Equipment
Maintenance () Lead or assist SIG group () Publicity () Administration () Programs ()
Decorations ()**

Other () _____

**Do you know anyone who might be interested in making a presentation at one of our
monthly meetings?:**

**Please mail this form along with your dues to the P.O. Box shown above, or bring it to the
next General Meeting or SIG Meeting.**

Thank you.

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!

The Series repeats.

Beginners class dates:

**(New classes will begin
January 6, 2010)**

VVCC

Mailing Address:

Mail inquires, suggestions and items of interest, to the club,

VVCC

PO BOX 3023

**COTTONWOOD, AZ
86326**

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



Have a refreshing cup of tea or coffee and sit back and peruse the Connections. This is your Publication.

COMPUTER REFURBISHING/DONATIONS

by Miles Standish

As we move into 2010, it's a good time to re-think some of our actions in the Club. I have been receiving, refurbishing and placing donated computers for several years, and I greatly enjoy this activity. However, interest in the program has increased to the point that I'm having trouble keeping up. Also, I don't have room for efficient storage of all the computers, monitors, keyboards and other parts in our garage. I don't even have a good workplace; I do this in the living room of our house, on a foldup table or sometimes out on the floor. So I want to invite others to "get into the act." To help you consider whether you would like to participate, let me tell you some details of how I've been doing this.

I have an air compressor that I use to blow out the dust, as practically all of them have **lots** of dust. Usually there is something needing replacement, and normally I can use parts from another computer that, for one reason or another, I "sacrifice" or cannibalize. Often my reason for sacrificing a computer is damage to the case or input/output ports. Another reason is to sacrifice the older and slower for the newer and faster. Basically, all I can do is remove and replace; I can't "fix" some electronic part that requires an electron microscope to see inside. Sometimes the only trouble with a computer is that it's choked up with Internet garbage and programs running in the background, perhaps including viruses, such that it seems all bogged down to where the owner has lost patience with it. For this situation, it's amazing what reloading the operating system can do. I think it takes less time and expertise to reload than it takes to diagnose and remove this type of problem. Besides that, this is a good way to remove all of the donor's personal data.

Memory upgrade is the most common expense for refurbishing computers. Fortunately, the cost has plummeted, so that a 512mb module now costs about \$30.00 postpaid. However, I've ordered a lot more of the 256mb modules @ \$23.00 each. Nearly all the donated printers need ink, and that costs about \$35 per printer at think4ink in Prescott.

If you would like to help pay for this activity, you can donate directly to VVCC. We have an account for this. Just mark your check "for computer refurbishing." If you would like to work on the computers, let's talk about it (miles@crnatural.net). Refurbished computers go first-come-first-served to people all over Verde Valley and to some Indian reservations.

Don't forget to back up all data files that are important to you. Once your hard drive dies, it's too late, so do it frequently.

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

Session #1

Internet: Dick Gohman

Outlook Express Identities

Windows: Bob Efros

Questions and Answers

Beginner Classes:

All at CMS

Jan 6: Series 3, 1/6

Jan 13: Series 3, 2/6

Jan 20: Series 3, 3/6

Jan 27: Series 3, 4/6

Feb 3: Series 3, 5/6

Feb 10: Series 3, 6/6

Digital Camera: Leo

Zuercher

Dust Off The Manual

PHOTOGRAPHY SIG:

Hal Rosenwasser.

Thursday, January 28

6:00 PM

Web Site Team:

Lisa Packard

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

www.vvcclub.com

The Secretary's Corner

By Del Rosenwasser

Ned Pritchard opened the final general meeting of his two terms as President by thanking all members and guests for attending our December Potluck meeting.

He recognized all the Board members who helped make his tenure a huge success:

Vice President Joan Lambard, Treasurer Miles Standish, Secretary (me), Past President Louise Evans, Membership Chair (and Charter Extrodinaire) Myrelle McHale, SIG Leaders Richard Gohman, Bob Efros, Leo Zuercher, Hal Rosenwasser, Program Chair Chuck Lebeau, DOQ Moderator Jack Miechurski, Publicity/Blog Chair Dave Olson and Connections Editor Marny Zuercher (who, after all these years together, again fell for - or near - hubby Leo and came to our potluck meeting confined to a wheelchair).

Actually, we all thank Ned for the great job he has done in the past two years and we are delighted that, as Past President, he will continue to serve as "Chief Procurer" of Door Prizes. (Just made up that title and had to add "of Door Prizes" in case anyone gets the wrong idea.)

Nominating Committee Chair Joan Lambard introduced the 2010 Officers Elect:

President: Consuelo Langholz

Vice President: Jerry Miller

Treasurer: Lee Andress

Secretary: Del Rosenwasser

all of whom were unanimously elected by a show of hands. Ned Pritchard then handed over the meeting to our new President Consuelo Langholz who announced that we need a Program Chairperson to serve for 2010. That person will get much help from the Board. Outgoing Chair Chuck Lebeau has programs set for January and February, so whoever takes the job can ease into it. Do I hear a plethora of volunteers? (Don't you just love that word - plethora?) You can volunteer by contacting Consuelo at peace@swiftaz.net (isn't that a lovely email address?) or, after January 1, at President@vvcclub.com or just magically appear at our January 7th Board meeting.

Membership Chair Myrelle McHale reminded us that our 2010 dues are payable in January - so come to our January general meeting prepared to re-up - and bring a few new members with you.

Many thanks to Donna and Dale Forbes, our Queen and King of Potlucks, for providing us with a plethora (there's that word again!) of perfection: ham with all the trimmings and to our members who furnished side dishes and desserts. Dale announced that the pretty table centerpieces would be awarded to the person at each table who didn't win a door prize. If more than one person at the table failed to win a prize, then the person who could come closest to guessing how many candies were in the mug, would be the winner of that mug. What fun!

After that sumptuous meal, door prizes were awarded:

Meshback Task Chair to Leo Lane

Carryall, 50 Pack TDK Discs, Jewelry by Adrienne to Beverly Hansen

Leather Jacket, Painting to Mary Perkins

50 Pack TDK Discs to Al Quadracci

Brother Label Maker to Cherrie Lederer

Barbecue Set, Toolkit/Flashlight to Donna Forbes

Tool Kit/Flashlight to Arnold Winter

Color Multi-Function Center to Shirley Smith

Richard Gohman 1-hour Computer Consults to Kathy Johnson & Clay Waldo

Indian Jewelry, Toy Wood Train, Toy Wood Airplane to Ann & Robert Landers

Carol's Gentle Yoga Session, Buxton Legal Portfolio, Haircut by Trish at

Metro Hair to Marny & Leo Zuercher

Omnitech Crosscut Shredder to Charlotte Raab

Magic Jack Hardware to Don Mesaros

Porcelain Clock, Tote Bag, Wood Magazine Rack, Buxton Legal Portfolio

to Norma & Cecil Tyner

Buxton Legal Portfolio to Joan Lambard

Baska Binoculars, \$25 WalMart Gift Card to Bill Weeks

George Foreman Champ Grill to Gretchen Platt

1# Sedona Fudge, \$25 WalMart Gift Card to Adrienne & Ned Pritchard

1# Sedona Fudge to Gordon Schneider

Hand Carved Goose Egg, Southwestern Welcome Sign to Louise Evans

Stereo System, Wood Lazy Susan to Carol Seymour

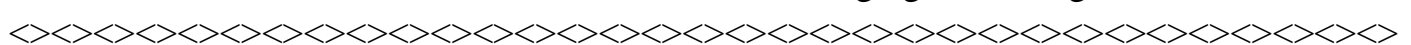
Snowman/Elves Wood Decoration to Christine Caniola

Two Clemenceau Museum Memberships to Myrelle McHale

Tote Bag to Lovey Jones

Bob Efros 1-Hour Computer Consult to Phyllis Haworth

50 Pack TDK Discs was awarded to Dave Olson for bringing the most guests.



Our bylaws do not allow officers to serve more than 2 years consecutively. This is Del's 2nd year—Not too soon to be thinking about Secretary for 2011. Just a thought.

WHEN ARE YOU TOO OLD TO LEARN SOMETHING NEW?

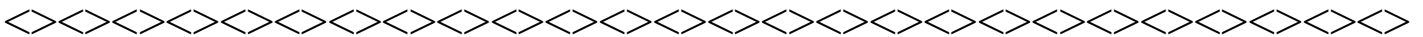
If you were to pose this question to Miles Standish, you might be surprised at his response. He will readily admit his age at almost 85 and he just got his Gliders License.

Miles flew in the Air Force until 1965 - Trainers Cargo planes - T33 Jet Trainers - Jet Bombers. He hasn't flown since then until now.

Why would he decide to get a Gliders License now? He did this to help his son get a Powered Glider License. Miles told me he loves being able to pilot a glider.

The glider has no power, but is lifted off the ground by a tow plane and 200 foot rope. Once in the air, the pilot looks for thermal updrafts to extend his flight time. No updrafts - short flight. It lands on one wheel.

We didn't ask what he would charge for a flight, but if you are interested in flying with no engine and landing on one wheel, you might talk to him. Who knows, you might become a Glider Pilot, too.



For Sale

"Windows 7 Home Premium" upgrade designed for Windows Vista, available for \$80. Unopened, in original packaging.

Call Shirley Smith @ 649-2154.

WOULD ANYONE BE INTERESTED IN HELPING WITH "CONNECTIONS"?

My recent fall made me realize the need for backup for getting the Connections to the printer on time. I am using

Microsoft Publisher

I would really like to have some backup.

Your Editor, Marny



OUR OWN KING AND QUEEN OF POT LUCKS

DALE AND DONNA FORBES

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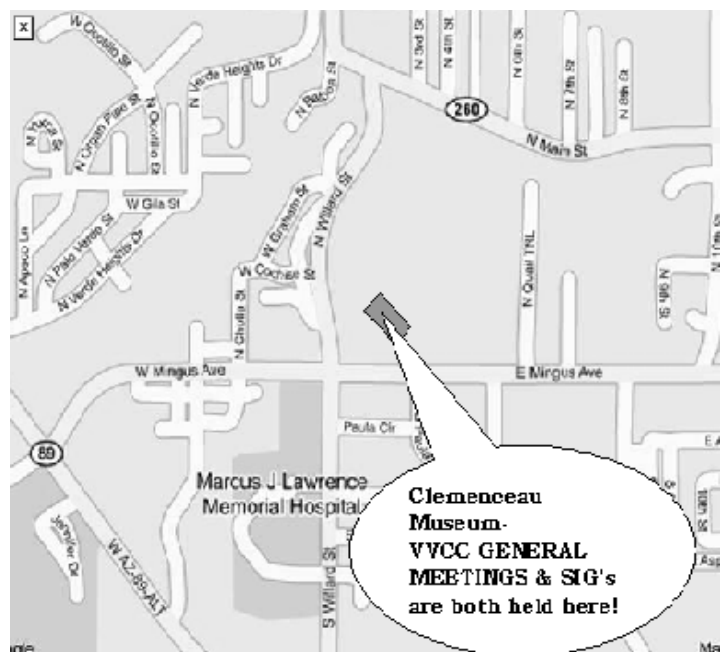


**THIS SPACE RESERVED
FOR NEW MEMBERS
MAYBE NEXT MONTH**

Note from the Editor...

The next newsletter deadline for all
submissions:

TUESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2010 - 2 PM



**Clemenceau
Museum -
VVCC GENERAL
MEETINGS & SIG's
are both held here!**