



## Verde Valley Computer Club

# Connections

Volume 25, Issue 5 May 2010

***MAY 15, 2010***

**MEETING TIME 9:30 AM**

**DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES TO  
BE PRINTED IN THE  
JUNE CONNECTIONS:  
TUESDAY, MAY 18, 2010 AT  
2:00 PM**

### "CELL PHONES ARE NOT JUST FOR MAKING CALLS ANYMORE"

Brandon Parker will be presenting this informative program. He is excited to be part of helping people understand cell phones. He will be explaining different types of PDA phones, the different functions, fonts, and internet capabilities.

Brandon is very knowledgeable in electronics. He and his father used to have a computer business in Washington State, so he is very familiar with the ins and outs of a computer. He is very cell phone savvy as well. Although cell phones change so often as technology advances, he understands and keeps up with the different phones, operating systems, and phone functionality. Brandon does not work for any particular company that uses his knowledge, but in some cases, he likes to do anything involving electronics in his spare time just to stay fresh.

You won't want to miss this program, especially if you are planning to get a new cell phone soon. Maybe the phone you have has some features you haven't been using because you weren't aware of them.

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 MAY/JUNE 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 2007**  
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  
secretary@vvcclub.com  
treasurer@vvcclub.com  
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equipment@vvcclub.com  
membership@vvcclub.com  
editor@vvcclub.com  
publicity@vvcclub.com

## IMPORTANT!

**Digital Shutterbug and Photography have merged.**

**Hal Rosenwasser and Leo Zuercher will be presenting the Shutterbug/Photography SIG on May 27, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.**

User group members  
**SAVE 35% on all titles**

ENTER DISCOUNT  
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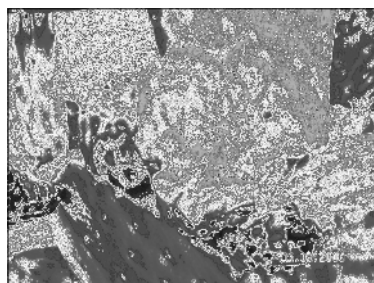
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<b>VERDE VALLEY COMPUTER CLUB</b>							<b>MAY 2010</b>
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
						1	
2	3 <b>SHUTTERBUG MOVED TO MAY 27</b>	4	5 <b>BEGINNER CLASS 4:15 PM</b>	6 <b>BOARD MEETING 6:30 PM</b>	7 <b>WINDOWS SIG 4:00 PM</b>	8	
9 <b>HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY</b>	10	11	12 <b>BEGINNER CLASS 4:15 PM</b>	13	14	15 <b>GENERAL MEETING 9:30 AM</b>	
16	17	18 <b>DEADLINE FOR CONNEC- TIONS 2:00 PM</b>	19 <b>BEGINNER CLASS 4:15 PM</b>	20	21 <b>WORD PROCESSING SIG 4:00 PM</b>	22	
23 30	24 31	25	26	27 <b>SHUTTER- BUG/PHOTO- GRAPHY SIG 6:00 PM</b>	28	29	

**JUNE 2010**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3 <b>BOARD MEETING 6:30 PM</b>	4 <b>WINDOWS SIG 4:00 PM</b>	5
6	7	8	9	10	11 <b>INTERNET SIG 4:00 PM</b>	12
13	14	15	16	17	18 <b>WORD PROCESSING SIG 4:00 PM</b>	19 <b>GENERAL MEETING 9:30 AM</b>
20	21	22 <b>DEADLINE FOR CON- NECTIONS 2:00 PM</b>	23	24 <b>SHUTTER- BUG/PHOTO- GRAPHY SIG 6:00 PM</b>	25	26
27	28	29	30			

## The VVCC President's Bits and Bytes

### Isn't this the truth!

It isn't always the man in the house who "hogs" the computer time! You ladies know that a lot of you get on the computer and say "I'll just check my e-mail and then I will...", but have you ever wondered why the time passes so quickly? Computers are very modular things. We can change the way they react to our input, change what they do, change how they do particular things and ultimately work in our own rhythm.

I think anyone who has tried to teach a computer task to another person finds it nearly unbearable to watch someone else move the mouse differently, not use certain keyboard shortcuts, find buttons, or close a program in some way you do not. The reaction is to want to say "move", sit down and complete the task the way you would get it done. This reaction often comes from the man who is trying to teach his wife!

Now let's go to the other side - Switching yourself to a new and different operating system is such a break from the rhythm we painstakingly developed over years of use, we tend to avoid change at all costs. People even mock other operating systems, declaring anything but their own choice unfit for use. Any Mac, Linux or Windows zealot will eagerly participate in such activity.

Seniors are using their new computing power to do everything from monitoring investments to tracking genealogy to producing their memoirs. Some have started postretirement businesses making greeting cards or performing legal research on the Internet. The majority say they were drawn to computers because... they simply didn't want to be left behind by progress or "I couldn't keep up with my four-year-old grandson".

Whatever your reason is for being on the computer I think you will find it very interesting to keep up with today's technology, be it what's on your computer or the accessories that pop up - iPods, phones, etc. Teenagers are often impressed when they can have a conversation with an adult about these things. Most of your Board members need and want to know how we can make our general meetings more desirable for you, especially those of you who have not been attending...what can we do to make things better. Let us know, we are [www.vvclub.com](http://www.vvclub.com).

Happy Computing!  
Consuelo Langholz  
president@vvclub.com

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## Perfume



"I want my husband to pay more attention to me.  
Got any perfume that smells like a computer?"

***Membership Corner by Myrelle McHale***

Hello Members,

WOW – What a great turnout for our April General Meeting. Many thanks to member Chuck LeBeau for his presentation on SKYPE - such a timely topic. Thanks Chuck.

We had a few latecomers so the attending numbers turned out to be:

59 Members

16 Visitors

Total: 75

We are getting back to the normal routine attendance of last year. Thank you all.....

We are always looking for ways to educate members and provide interesting topics for our General Meetings. In addition to the program on SKYPE, we have had presentations on Useful and Free Utility S/W (R. Gohman), Acronis – Backup S/W (G. Barlow), Keyboards and new hardware (R. Garrison/Fen-Tek). What a variety of programs! We want to continue along those lines and in that regard, we are asking for more input from you. You know what you want to learn about. You can let us know what interests you. That is the direction we want to take.

When the applications for renewals and new members started coming in, I made sure I made a list of items which you mentioned. It seems the things that interested most of you had to do with the personal things you do each and every day. Everything from how to set up personal files - to how to shop on E-Bay. Some of you have suggested we consider having “short SIGs” on matters that would not justify a 6-week class. We also have had requests for learning something as complicated as Desktop Publishing. Many of you have indicated an interest in photography. Are you aware we have two excellent members who teach this now? One is on Digital Photography and the other on use of 35mm cameras and others – not digital. For more information, you might try looking up our website: <http://www.vvclub.com>

Another address I would like you to become more familiar with is: [Membership@vvclub.com](mailto:Membership@vvclub.com)

That would be the address you can use to send me notes on your thoughts for future programs that might bring in more members or visitors. Ask your neighbors..... Ask your relatives ..... Ask your friends ..... We have an excellent group of members who would step up and help provide new and useful educational classes or programs. All we need is input from you.

Please take a moment to give this some thought. I would like to see our Membership grow and the only way that can happen is if we provide the types of programs YOU would like to attend. We are all in this together. Please and thank you for any/all help you can give us.



The pictures were taken at April 17 meeting.





BIO  
By Dave Olson, Publicity Chairman

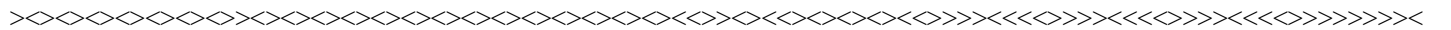
Being a life long resident of eastern Nebraska I was very fortunate to travel for the U.S. Government in WesPac, an experience that I could never afford to do without their resources, then after a career at a public utility it was time to leave the cold and humidity so with urging from family relocated to Cottonwood in the early 2000's.

A couple years after relocating, decided I needed to find new friends and new things to do and noticed a computer club schedule in the newspaper but reluctant about attending due to thoughts of the club being too technical. A time later noticed a Special Interest Group (SIG) that I might enjoy knowing more about so attended. Technical it was not. As a visitor I attended a few more SIG's, then a General Meeting and some Board Meetings. In January 2008 became a member. The position of Publicity Chairman became available. With encouragement and not knowing what it entailed offered to give it a try.

The club events are informational and helpful so I attend many to gain that knowledge. Repeats are still worth the attendance for new tips and tricks that may be added to what has been presented previously. Questions and comments from the attendees also helps others that may have similar concerns.

There are mentors with considerable experience to help all members and non-members that have problems with their computers.

If you are reading this and not a member because 'Oh, they are too technical', rest assured we are not. We are Users Helping Users. Attend our free events and see if we can help.



**YOUR PERSONAL WEBSITE**

By Miles Standish

At our April general meeting, someone asked about personal websites, and my name was brought up. That reminded me that I'm listed on our Club website as one who can offer help with Front Page – the web authoring program that is part of the Microsoft Office suite. I've been listed there for years, and no one has ever asked for help. Our old timers will remember that we used to have a website Special Interest Group (SIG), headed by retired Navy Chief John Moore. Interest waned and the SIG was abandoned. John was one of the original incorporators of VVCC, and he passed away some years ago.

Chief Moore often expressed disdain for Front Page, pointing out that it uses 16 times as much code as doing your own html. But it's so easy!! That's the idea; Front Page does nearly all the work for you, keeps track of page links if you move things around, and makes a piece of cake out of publishing your web. Now that most of us have broad band Internet service and computers running at a gigahertz or more, that extra space is of little importance.

There are two features of Front Page that I especially like: the handling of tables for making your pictures behave the way you want them, and the ease with which you can have side and top panels, called frames. If your web is published on a host like that of our VVCC website, you can have free Front Page extensions which allows Front Page to publish itself. If you don't have the Front Page extensions, you can publish it using a program that does file transfer protocol (FTP). I use WS\_FTP, which is an inexpensive program, very easy to use. If you have Total Commander, you can use that instead.

Why don't we have more Club members "doing their own thing" with websites? Make a public statement about whatever you consider to be important, sell things, or just keep news and photos out there for your friends and family.

How much does it cost? If you're using Earthlink, it doesn't cost anything, but you can't have the Front Page extensions and other whistles and bells. Our Club website hosting costs about \$15 per month. You can get cheaper service, but probably without as many features. Your own private domain name costs about \$10 per year.

Doing your own website is a cheap way to have fun.



## **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:**

**(New classes will begin in**  
**September)**

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

**VVCC**  
**PO BOX 3023**  
**COTTONWOOD, AZ**  
**86326**

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

## COMPUTER REFURBISHING/DONATIONS

by Miles Standish

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**

Handout #5

### Internet: Dick Gohman

### Windows: Bob Efros

Questions and Answers

### Beginner Classes:

All at CMS

May 5: Series 5, 4/6

May 12: Series 5, 5/6

May 19: Series 5, 6/6

### Digital Camera: Leo

Zuercher

### 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*

Many thanks, once again, to Joan Lambard and Myrelle McHale for doing notes and minutes while Hal and I were on vacation. It is such a relief to be able to go away, knowing that things are well taken care of back home.

### DO YOU JUST BELONG?

Are you an active member, the kind that would be missed?

Or are you just content that your name is on the list?

Do you attend the meetings and mingle with the flock?

Or do you just stay home to criticize and knock?

Do you take an active part to help the work along?

Or are you satisfied to only just belong?

Do you work with your club and get right in and mix?

Or leave the work to just a few and talk about the "CLIQUES"?

Think this over MEMBER, you know right from wrong!

Are you an active member or do you "JUST BELONG"?

The above poem, author unknown, addresses people who "Just Belong". Our Computer Club needs all members to "BELONG" in whatever capacity they can. The most important ways to "BELONG" are to tell everyone you know about our Club, volunteer to be on a committee, be a greeter at the door, volunteer to be an officer. The ways to "BELONG" are endless. It's only when we truly "BELONG" that our Club can grow and be strong.

Regretfully, Ned Pritchard has resigned as Program Chair. Will you volunteer to take that job?

This is my last year as Secretary. Will you volunteer to take that job?

Both Ned and I will be there to show you the way.

Now that I've had my say, let's get down to the business of our April 17th meeting:

After some computer jokes presented by Vice President Jerry Miller and SIG reports, we were fortunate that Chuck LeBeau was able to take time out of his busy life to volunteer to present a program on Skype. As Chuck reminded us, he is not an "expert" but has used Skype for many years and gave us a wonderful presentation. Obviously, Chuck does not "ONLY BELONG" but is a true example of our motto "USERS HELPING USERS". After a Q&A session with Chuck, Bob Efros and Richard Gohman, the following door prizes were awarded:

HP Photosmart Digital Camera to Gretchen Platt

O'Reilly Book: "The Digital Photography Companion" to Doug Wellmanand

O'Reilly Book: "Take Your Best Shot" and Targus CD Storage Case to Myrelle McHale

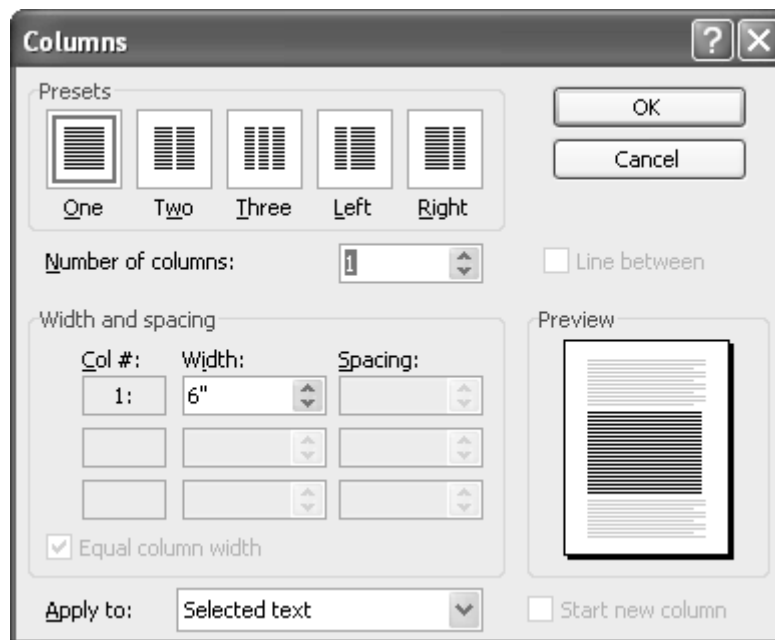
Labeler donated by Mary Waddel to Jack Burton

SEE YOU AT OUR MAY 15 MEETING!

## Mixing Column Formats On a Page

It is not uncommon to have a document that mixes different column layouts on a single page. For instance, let's assume you have a five-page document, and you want to format the center part of page two as three columns. You want the rest of the document to remain a single column. To overcome this formatting challenge, you can follow these steps if you are using Word 97 through Word 2003:

1. Select the text that will appear in the columns.
2. Choose the Columns option from the Format menu. Word displays the Columns dialog box.



*The Columns dialog box.*

3. In the Number of Columns field, specify the number of columns you desire.
4. In the Apply To box, make sure it says Selected Text.
5. Click on OK. Word places the selected text into its own section and sets it in the number of columns you specified.

If you are using Word 2007, then the steps are a bit different:

1. Select the text that will appear in the columns.
2. Choose the Page Layout tab for the ribbon.
3. In the Page Setup group, click the Columns drop-down list.
4. Pick the number of columns you want to use for the selected text.



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[membership@vccclub.com](mailto:membership@vccclub.com)



**PLEASE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!**

**Merlyn Brown**

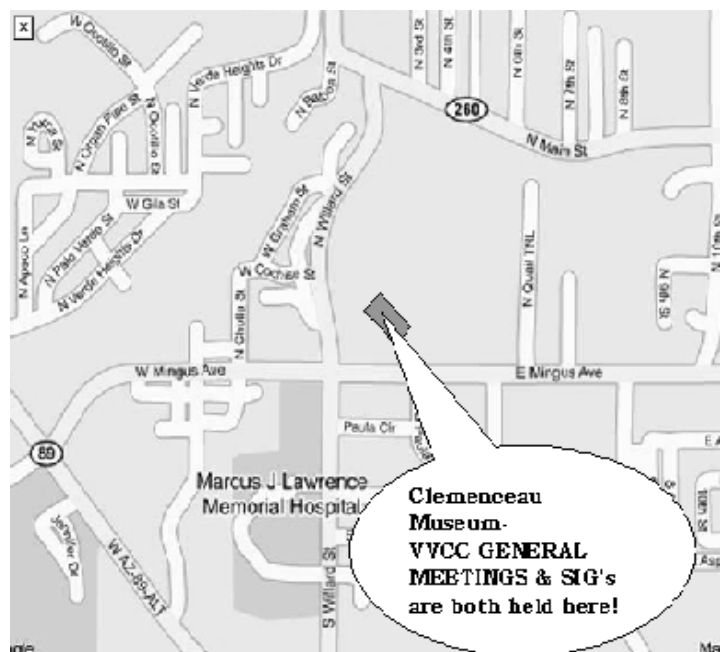
**Helena Eudave**

**Nancy Kloster**

**Note from the Editor...**

The next newsletter deadline for all  
submissions:

**TUESDAY, MAY 18, 2010 - 2 PM**



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