



Verde Valley Computer Club

Connections

Volume 27, Issue 11 November 2010

November 20, 2010

MEETING TIME 9:30 AM

DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES TO
BE PRINTED IN THE
CONNECTIONS: TUESDAY,
NOVEMBER 23, 2010
AT 2:00 PM

GENERAL MEETING: NOVEMBER 20TH 2010

THE TOPIC: "INTRODUCTION TO WINDOWS 7"

By Bob Efros

- Everyday tasks are simpler
- Your PC will work the way you want.
- Do new things
 - Use a touch-screen instead of a mouse. Connect to printers fast.
 - Share music, photos, and videos throughout your home.
- Use your PC to record live TV and watch Internet TV.
- Understand 32-bit-and-64-bit-Windows.
- What to get: Upgrade or full product.
- Check hardware & software compatibility.
- Much more for your to learn. Join use for another wonderful program that all of us can "Learn something new"

"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 NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2010. VVCC Events Calendar on page 3

CALENDAR OF UP-COMING VVCC EVENTS

* There are no SIG classes held in December. We will resume our normal class schedule in January 2011.

* Save all of your strength and energy for the December 18th Holiday Pot Luck Party! Visitors and donors are welcome too!

All classes offered by the Verde Valley Computer Club are offered for free to members and visitors. Visitors are invited to try us out and attend 2 classes before joining. Donations are always gratefully accepted to help defer costs.

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VVCC Mentors

Windows - Bob Efros:

646-9182 bob@refros.com

Front Page -Miles Standish:

frontpage@vvclub.com

Adobe Photoshop Elements, WordPerfect, Word 2007

Marny Zuercher

marny71@gmail.com

Photography-

Hal Rosenwasser
 photography@vvclub.com

Any others out there

willing to share their skills?

Being a Mentor doesn't

mean you have ALL the

answers just a willingness

to help someone. Join us!

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VERDE VALLEY COMPUTER CLUB				NOVEMBER 2010		
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Genealogy SIG 6:00 p.m.	2 Remember to Vote!	3	4 BOARD MEETING 6:30 PM	5 Windows SIG PC Software Maint 4:00 p.m.	6
7	8	9	10 BEGINNERS Series 4:00 p.m.	11	12 INTERNET SIG 4:00 p.m.	13
14	15	16	17	18 PHOTOGRAPHY /DIGITAL SHUTTERBUG SIG 6:00 P.M.	19 Spreadsheet SIG 4:00 p.m.	20 GENERAL MEETING 9:30 AM
21	22	23 DEADLINE FOR CONNECTIONS 2:00 PM	24 BEGINNERS Series 4:00 p.m. Last meeting until Jan.5th 2011	25 Happy Thanksgiving Everyone!	26	27
28	29	30				

VERDE VALLEY COMPUTER CLUB				DECEMBER 2010		
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	NO SIGS this Month!		1 No Beginners Series this month	2 BOARD MEETING 6:30 P.M.	3	4
3	6	5	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18 GENERAL MEETING 9:30 AM Pot Luck
19	20	21 DEADLINE FOR CONNECTIONS 2:00 PM	22	23	24	25 
26	27	28	29	30	31	30 Get ready for our New Year SIGS

The VVCC President's Bits and Bytes

Hi Everybody,

You may remember my first computer was an iMac. I bought it because my research had led me to believe that Macs were easier to learn and were more trouble free. They probably were. But right from the beginning, I had issues with things like internet connectivity, printer problems, slowdowns, and lots of crashes. I was quite upset and called the dealer who sold me my computer many times seeking help and solace. I guess he got tired of my calls and one day he said something to me which I remember to this day. He said, " You know, a computer is not a toaster."

I never called him again. It was very hard for me to accept, but I got the message. If we want toast, it's easy. We plop bread in the slots, press down on the lever, wait, and automatically, presto...TOAST. Do it again...TOAST. Works every time, never fail. Needs no maintenance. Works for years and years. Reliable, dependable, easy to use.

I contend, we have been spoiled as consumers to expect everything we buy to work just as perfectly as a toaster. And for the most part, those products meet that standard. A land line telephone is a perfect example. They are virtually foolproof in functionality, need no maintenance, last forever, and even work during power failures. A basic cell phone is amazingly reliable, and pretty easy to learn. I evidenced this personally recently by a very technology averse eighty year old lady I know who bought a cell phone and now can use it with ease. Cell phones are now adopted by people the world over. Television sets are pretty easy to use and quite reliable, considering what a complex machine they are. Even the most technology averse person can successfully master the remote and view TV quite satisfactorily. VCR's and DVD's have a short learning curve, but once even rudimentarily understood, they generally will work reliably without further attention for many years. Refrigerators are like toasters to us. They just work. And so on, for most of the electronic and mechanical things we use on a daily basis. Even as complex a machine as an automobile has become some we can comfortably rely on. Yes, they do require some attention, but for most of us, that merely means taking it to the mechanic at broad intervals for routine maintenance and repairs. We personally don't have to know how to do it.

With computers, everything is different. I suggest that we are still in the pioneering stages in the development of the computer. That is why it is not a toaster. I believe some day it will be, but given its complexity, it may be a long way off. (I look forward to the day when my computer is self maintaining, when I can simply talk to my computer and it will do my bidding.) During the early days of the automobile, breakdowns were common. Roads were terrible, communication was terrible, and help was seldom at hand. The motorist had to understand and be able to maintain and repair every part of their vehicle. So, to a large degree is it similar with computers. If you don't know much about your computer beyond how use a mouse and the keyboard, you'll probably have problems. Quite often I have heard of people who own computers, but don't use them because " something is wrong with it" .

This is where the computer club fits in. We are like minded people with a common interest coming together to share and help each other. There is a lot to know, there are many problems to solve, and we have many adventures ahead of us.

Bye for now,

Jerry Miller

A Thank You To The Verde Valley Computer Club

About ten years ago my husband Charlie and I were discussing computers with a neighbor who told us about a computer club in town that had basic classes for older citizens, with personal attention given to each member. We decided to check it out, partly from curiosity and partly from the feeling it was time we gave thought to joining the computer age. (Both my brothers were computer buffs who'd been after me to get at it.)

We joined at the beginning of the next class, knowing so little that we were surprised to find there were three parts to the computer; we'd thought the monitor and keyboard were it. And I was fascinated at all we were shown and told that day and in the weeks that followed. Charlie was not eager, but willing to make the purchase of a PC, so we settled on an e-machine at Walmart, it being the least expensive. I remember we bought it at Thanksgiving time; it was our Christmas gift to each other. I got the best of that deal!

When the next class began at the club we joined and took it all over again. I still remember, when we found we could look things up on the internet, we chose "statue on dome of United States Capitol." and were amazed to be given a full description with history. That was our first foray into the vast storehouse of knowledge at our fingertips. I can truly say that the club taught me enough that I feel comfortable sitting here typing letters, downloading photos from our camera, shopping our local stores and stores around the country, reading newspapers (I have read that newspapers in a short time will be published only on the internet and there will be a charge for reading them), and all the other tasks this computer can handle.

Six years ago we left Cottonwood and settled in Blue Ridge, GA, a town similar in size to Cottonwood. I was disappointed to find no computer club there so we continued our membership in the club, and continued to enjoy each issue of the news letter. And now and then when I was completely stumped by a problem I wrote an SOS to one of your most knowledgeable members who never failed to get me out of whatever mess I'd gotten myself into. (Charlie had long since given up interest in anything but playing games on the computer.) I do not have the tech blood that my dad gave my brothers; only my love of music forced me to put a high fidelity system together and only my deep interest in what the computer could give me has forced me to tackle this apparatus that I called "Monster" for a year or two.

We left our Encyclopedia Britannica at the recycling center when we left Cottonwood; Charlie checked later that day and it was gone, to a good home, we hope; no organization had wanted it. I have our large atlas and dictionary but seldom need to refer to them. Nearly everything we need to know is right here via the keyboard. While in Blue Ridge, we upgraded to a used Dell computer, which has been for the most part a delight. Our old e-machine is in another room and Charlie still plays games on it.

I hope you fellow members of the Verde Valley Computer Club will think about your good fortune in having it right there in town, where you can meet on a regular basis, ask your questions and have an expert answer them on the spot, meet fellow computerers (did I just coin a word?) not to mention all the Special Interest Groups available to you. And that wonderful potluck feast each year! Charlie misses that too! As for me, at eighty-six I don't know how long it can be, but as long as possible I'll be continuing our membership in your Verde Valley Computer Club.

Thank you, VVCC, for being there.

Ruth Gaeta

A lawn is nature under
totalitarian rule.

Membership Corner by Myrelle McHale

Hello Members,

Hopefully by now all of you will have learned how to go to our website and look at our newsletter, Connections, electronically. Pretty easy, isn't it? Hope you enjoy it as it is full of information and can lead you to ways to learn more and more about ways to have fun with your computer.

While at the meeting on Saturday, I recognized several members who had missed a couple meetings and I was happy to see you return. This must mean summer vacations are coming to a close and we are able to get back into our routines. Hopefully, regular attendance to the VVCC meetings will be one of your priorities.

In the past I have asked several of you to contact me if you had things you would like to know more about or specific situations you may have with your computer. Some of these things have been addressed and I am happy to say, some of your "situations" have been cleared up. It is all a matter of communication. Communications between "Users Helping Users". We may be starting up a new column where we actually print your questions and the answers we come up with. FAQ's are very common and you have no idea how many people may have the same situation in their own use of their computers. That happened to me just after the meeting. One of the members came up and told me he had a very similar situation to my own, and what he did to correct it. Who knew a solution might be just that simple.

I also spoke to the members about another "situation". Our membership is beginning to dwindle. We are down in membership and that is cause for concern. Three or four years ago, our membership was over 200. We are not even close to that now. I know some families move and we are sad to lose them. But what about those of you who are ever vigilant about attending. If we continue to lose members at the rate we are experiencing, we will be in a most tenuous position. We don't even want to think about the possibilities. That is why I asked you to look around at the world you live in. Look at your friends and neighbors and pick out just ONE. See if you can convince that ONE person or couple, to come and join for a year. See what we can offer. Let them see the many ways we offer to share knowledge. This is one of the most urgent cares I bring to you. We have a great group of people and we want to grow back to our former strength in numbers. We can only do this if we pull together. We have had contests in the past to bring in new members and that worked one year. This time I am asking that you go out and not try for a large number of people to join but for only ONE new membership from each of you to come in to our group. If each of us brings in just ONE membership, we will be back in business.

Please think about it. Some time between now and the end of the year, bring someone to either a meeting or even our Pot Luck in December and let them see how they can enjoy, learn and make new friends. Use the power of ONE. If you do, I bet you will really feel good about it. Then ask them to join in January and make a commitment to open the door to a new experience for them We will all benefit. And that's a good thing !

Bye for now.

Myrelle



Totaling Across Worksheets

Referring to ranges of cells is one of the very basic skills necessary to effectively use Excel. As you start to create ever-more-complex formulas, you may wonder if there is a way to refer, in a range reference, to a “stack” of cells on multiple worksheets, the same as you can refer to rows or columns on the current worksheet. For instance, the following formula is a way to refer to all cells in column B:

```
=SUM(B:B)
```

Note that you don’t have to provide a starting or ending row; you just have to provide the column name. You can likewise do the same thing for row references. The following refers to the range of all cells in row 3:

```
=SUM(3:3)
```

The problem with referencing all the cells in a set position across a range of worksheets is that there is no unique “collection name” to apply to cells in that position. For instance, rows have numbers and columns have letters. “Stacks” of cells across worksheets don’t have a comparable name.

The only way, then, that you can refer to the same cell across a range of worksheets is the rather explicit way that Microsoft dictates. For instance, the following refers to the range at cell D5 across three sheets:

```
=SUM(Sheet1:Sheet3!D5)
```

Understanding that sheets must be named in the range, you can include an ever-expanding range by simply making sure that you only add new worksheets between the beginning and ending sheets specified in your formula.

As an example, let’s assume that you have a template for an invoice, and that your workbook contains all the invoices you have created this year. Further, each invoice has a total at cell F15. If you want a summary worksheet that shows a total for all invoices, all you need to do is make sure that your first invoice is the first worksheet in your workbook, that your invoice template is the second to last, and that your summary worksheet is the last one in the workbook. In this way, your formula could be something like:

```
=SUM(Inv01001:InvTemplate!F15)
```

Whenever you need to add a new invoice, simply make sure it is added immediately before the invoice template. Your invoices remain in order, and your formula always returns the correct total.

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*****“Tech Support says the problem with my computer is between the keyboard and the chair.”*****

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 JANUARY 5TH 2011 At 4:15)

VVCC

Mailing Address:

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

VVCC

PO BOX 3023

COTTONWOOD, AZ
86326

WIRELESS OR CABLE NETWORKING

READ ON FOR CHOICE #3

By Richard Gohman

Do you have more than one location in your home, or office that requires an internet connection? You used to have two choices to solve this problem. Either setup a wireless network or string Ethernet cables though the walls or around the walls. The wireless network has security issues and is slower than cable. But cable routing can be expensive or ugly or even prohibited if you do not own the property.

Now there is a third option that I just tried and it works great. It is called Power Line networking and it works over the house AC wiring. I just bought a starter set from Plaster Networks that include the base unit and one remote unit, each with an 8 foot cable. You plug the base unit in a wall outlet near your router and connect the cable to the router. You plug the remote unit in a wall outlet near where you want the next connection and plug the cable into the PC. Your PC is instantly connected to your router with all the speed of a direct cable connection. I just installed my remote out in a shop behind my house and now I can connect a test computer to my system router and get on the Internet to update the test computer or just make sure the test computer Ethernet hardware is working.

For more information on this system, check the article on page 58 in the October 2010 issue of Smart Computing and the ad on page 25 in the August 2010 issue .

I do have a wireless system setup at my home, but wireless connections are always slower than a wired connection and to work off the internet with a computer I am testing in my shop I had to install a wireless adapter and then when I was done with any repairs to that computer I had to remove the wireless adapter and software before returning the computer to the owner. Now I can just plug the Plaster Network remote cable into the test computer and I am on the Internet.

Now if you have a laptop you like to move around the house, this Power Line network may not be the best solution for you, but if you have several desktop computers, or a generally fixed location for a laptop, it may be a good solution.

Helpful hints from Richard Gohman

**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.

Spreadsheets:
Dick Gohman

Internet:
Dick Gohman

Windows:
Bob Efros

Beginner Classes:
Barbara Wall
Sharon Skinner

**Digital Camera/
Photography:**

Leo Zuercher and
Hal Rosenwasser.

Web Site Team:
Bob Efros
Richard Gohman
Dave Olson

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

www.vvclub.com

The Secretary's Corner *By Del Rosenwasser*

General Meeting

Oct 16 2010

October Door Prizes:

Western Digital My
Passport 500GB portable HD

Cherie Lederer

Epson Stylus 115 Printer

Roland DeMond

Cuisinart Classic Round Waffle Maker

Barbara Wall

7-piece Stainless Steel Cookware

Donna Forbes

PLEASE BE SURE TO SIGN IN

Please be sure to sign in when you attend SIG's or our General meeting.
This is the only way we have to know you attend.

At the last meeting (Oct.16) I mentioned to one person they had only attended 4 meetings this year. He was shocked to hear that as he had come to each and every meeting. I knew that to be true but when I made up my GIANT chart to track member attendance, his name had not been checked off. He did not know it was an important step in our tracking and my reports. In fact the only reason his name was checked off was because one of the people at the Sign-In table saw him and noticed he had not stopped by to let them know.

When you come to the next meeting, please stop and look at the chart to see how many times you have attended. It will show how many times you came, and if you are a couple, how many times each of you attended. It shows how many visitors as well as how many men vs. women attend over the year. Also, which programs sparked the most member showing.

There are two charts. Last year and our current year. Check it out.
Let me know if it is accurate. Thank you.

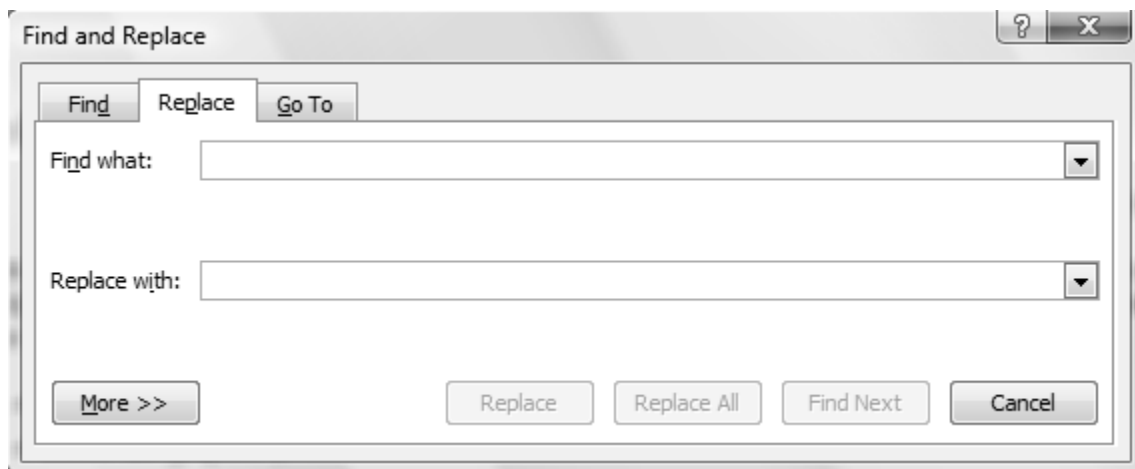
Myrelle



REPLACING TEXT WITH A GRAPHIC

There may be times when you have a need to replace text in your document with a graphic. For instance, you might be working on a marketing document and need to replace all instances of your company name with the company logo. This is simple enough to do in Word by following these steps:

1. Place the graphic in your document; it doesn't matter where.
2. Select the graphic.
3. Press **CTRL+X**. This removes the graphic, placing it in the Clipboard.
4. Press **CTRL+H**. This displays the Replace tab of the Find and Replace dialog box.



The Replace tab of the Find and Replace dialog box.

5. In the Find What field, enter the text you want replaced with the graphic.
6. In the Replace With field, enter **^c**, or click on Special and choose Clipboard Contents.
7. Set any other searching criteria, as desired.
8. Click on Find Next or Replace All, depending on how you want to make your replacements.

9. Copyright © 2010 by Sharon Parq Associates, Inc. Reprinted by permission. Thousands of free Microsoft Word tips can be found online at <http://word.tips.net>.

Q: What is a computer's first sign of old age?

A: Loss of memory

Q: What does a baby computer call his father?

A: Data.

Q: What is an astronaut's favorite key on a computer keyboard?

A: The space bar.

Q: What happened when the computer fell to the floor?

A: It slipped a disc.

Q: Why was there a bug in the computer? A: It was looking for a byte to eat.

Question:

When the computer boots up it always stops at the Welcome Screen with my user name, and icon, listed and waits for me to select my name before I get the Desk Top. How can I make it go directly to the Desk Top?

Answer:

This is usually a feature that is initiated if you have, or had, a password assigned to your user name or you have, or had, more than one user setup on the computer.

But you can configure the computer to go directly to the Desk Top for a selected user without stopping at the “Welcome Screen”

1. Start by Going to the START then RUN menu (Logo key +R) And type in “control userpasswords2” as shown in Figure 1 Note the space after “control”.

Note also the “s” before the numeral

2. Then click the OK button.

The next window to come up is shown in Figure 2.

First, uncheck the box marked “Users must enter a user name and password to use this computer”

Then take note of the EXACT user name that you want to use as the “Start-up User”.

In this example, “Richard Gohman” is how the user name is shown.

Then click on the OK button to go to the next window. The next window will most likely list “Administrator” as the user.

High-light this user name and type in your user name as show in figure 2.

If your user has a password, type in the password twice in the boxes provided.

Now click OK and window will automatically log this user on and go right to the Desk Top.

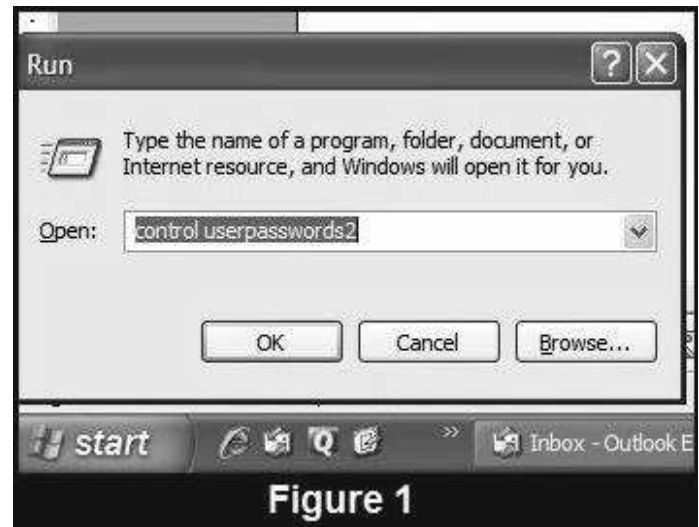


Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3

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Pass It On

When you are through reading
 the Connections Pass it on to a
 Friend or Neighbor



Verify that your e-mail and
 mailing addresses are correct.
 Send corrections or

changes to

membership@vccclub.com



PLEASE WELCOME NEW MEMBER!

Mary Young
 Barry & Rosalie Adico
 Jack & Noreen Zaccoria

WELCOME

Thank you for joining our
 Verde Valley Computer Club

Note from the Editor...

The next newsletter deadline for all
 submissions Tuesday:
 November 23rd, 2:00 p.m.

