



**Verde Valley Computer Club**

# Connections

Volume 28, Issue 4 April 2011

***APRIL 16, 2011***

**MEETING TIME 9:30 AM**

DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES TO  
BE PRINTED IN THE  
CONNECTIONS: TUESDAY,  
April 26, 2011  
AT 2:00 PM

## **'The Revolution in Cellular & Wireless Devices'**



**presented by: Cassandra Killinsworth,  
AZ Cellular  
1100 S. State Rd 260  
Cottonwood Az. 649-24444**

Our General Meeting is **FREE** and open to the public  
*"Users Helping Users"*

Bring a friend (s) and see what is happening at VVCC

**Visit our web site: [www.vvclub.com](http://www.vvclub.com)**

Door prizes— Always!

***See the April/May 2011. VVCC Events Calendar on page 3***

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



Marny Zuercher has had to resign as VVCC Editor due to her doctor's orders; and we are looking for a volunteer to take her place. She will help train the replacement.

Our club would like to take this opportunity to thank Marny for the many years she has been editor of our clubs Newsletter, CONNECTIONS.

Marny has made us all laugh a thousand times by her little trade mark jokes, sayings and plenty of reminders. She is truly one of the happiest, fun loving and multi talented people in our club. She makes her best friend and husband smile always!

**Thank you** Marny, from all your friends in the VVCC and all those who know you in our Cottonwood, AZ home town. **SALUTE!**

**P.S. Marny will help teach someone how Connections is made for printing & Web edition.**

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**2011 OFFICERS**

**President:** Jerry Miller

**Vice Pres:** Bob Efros

**Treasurer:** Lee Andress

**Secretary:** Barry Adico



**VVCC Contacts**

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- DOQ@vvclub.com
- equipment@vvclub.com
- membership@vvclub.com
- editor@vvclub.com
- publicity@vvclub.com

**VVCCMentors:**

These Good Guys N' Gals are here to help you in specific areas. Their talents are not just limited to one subject. If you have any questions regarding software problems, give them a call. They will be more than happy to help you. Some services may require a charge.

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

**Adobe Photoshop Elements, WordPerfect, Word 2007 - Marny Zuercher**  
marny71@gmail.com

**Photography-Hal Rosenwasser**  
photography@vvclub.com  
554-7066

**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. VVCC Contacts**

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


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<b>VERDE VALLEY COMPUTER CLUB</b>							<b>APRIL 2011</b>	
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday		
					1 Windows SIG 4:00 p.m.	2		
3	4 Genealogy SIG 6:00 p.m.	5	6 Beginners Class 4:15-6:15p.m.	7 BOARD MEETING 6:30 PM	8 MS Word SIG 4:00 p.m.	9		
10	11	12	13 Beginners Class 4:15-6:15p.m.	14	15 Spreadsheet SIG 4:00 p.m.	16 GENERAL MEETING 9:30 AM		
17	18	19 DEADLINE FOR CONNECTIONS	20 Beginners Class 4:15-6:15p.m.	21	22	23		
24	25	26	27 Beginners Class 4:15-6:15p.m.	28 DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY SIG 6:00 P.M.	29	30		

<b>VERDE VALLEY COMPUTER CLUB</b>							<b>MAY 2011</b>	
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday		
1	2 Genealogy SIG 6:00 p.m.	3	4 Beginners Class 4:15-6:15p.m.	5 BOARD MEETING 6:30 PM	6 Windows Sig 4:00-6:30pm	7		
8	9	10	11 No Beginners Class until September	12	13 Word Processing 4:00—5:30p.m.	14		
15	16	17	18	19	20 Spreadsheet SIG 4:00-5:30 p.m.	21 GENERAL MEETING 9:30 AM		
22	23	24 DEADLINE FOR CONNECTIONS 2:00 PM	25	26 Digital Photography 6:-7:30p.m.	27	28		
29	30 	31	↓					

## The VVCC President's Bits and Bytes



Hi Everybody,

We had another great general meeting in March. "Facebook 101", presented by our resident computer expert, Bob Efros was a rousing success. The audience was most attentive and interested, and the question and answer period went on and on until we were forced to end it for lack of time, but not for lack of interest.

The sound system also worked fine. Many thanks to Roy Platt for volunteering to get trained on that equipment, so we will now have a backup person whenever Bob Efros is not available. We still need one more member to come forward for this task, as we feel it would be prudent to have one more backup person in the eventuality that both Bob and Roy are unavailable.

What follows is based on a computer running Windows XP, but the principles apply also to Vista and Windows 7. As always, do your own homework, use at your own risk.

Do you ever look at the Task Manager? I usually open it during every session, and let it sit in my task bar. That is done by pressing Ctrl-Alt-Delete, or right clicking with your cursor arrow in a blank spot in the taskbar and selecting Task Manager from the ensuing menu. I like to know how many processes are running at any given time. Out of need and habit, I try to keep as few processes as possible running, so that more of my computers processor and memory resources are available for running the software I want to run. A surprising amount of resources are allocated to things you do not need or want, things that just run in the background, consuming computer resources, but not contributing one bit to enhancing your computer experience, and in many cases, actually slowing everything down.

When I first open my computer and look at the processes tab in the Task Manager, I look at the bottom left corner and I see 'processes: 29'. In my experience, that is an acceptable number. You want to keep it as low as reasonably possible. Before I learned about this my computer was running over 60 processes. It took forever to boot up and was chronically slow. One thing I learned was that it was helpful to reduce the number of processes that run at startup, that is, as your computer is first turned on and booting up. While it is possible to check and change the number of processes using Windows, my favorite way at this time is to use CCleaner. Open CCleaner/Tools/Startup and you will see a list of all processes that run every time you turn on your computer. Typically, if you never checked this before, you will find quite a long list, with many of the running processes not being vital at all. I currently have seven startup items running, and I'm sure it is possible to trim that down even more.

How do you know what to allow to keep running, and what to turn off? I usually Bing/Google each item I don't recognize or understand. The information I glean from checking a good sampling of the results gives me enough confidence to decide. If you turn something off and later your computer or a process doesn't work as expected, it's just as easy to turn that process back on. You are not uninstalling or deleting or erasing anything. In CCleaner, for example, suppose in the window we opened previously, Adobe Reader Speed Launcher is listed as 'Enabled/Yes', and suppose I have decided I don't want that service to run at startup. I need only click on that item in that list to select and highlight it, then look to the right and click the 'disable' button. The process you turned off remains in the list, becomes faded out, and the previous 'Yes' in the Enabled column is replaced with 'No'. To turn it back on, simply reverse the steps.

There are other ways to reduce the number of unnecessary processes that run continuously, outside of startup items, but lets save that for another day.

Till next time, Jerry Miller  
President

**Why can't I copy a "Program", like Quicken or Word, from my old computer to my new computer?**

This is a question often asked when I am helping someone set up a new computer. (It also applies when reformatting the hard drive on an old computer and re-setting the old computer.)

The reason is due to the way "Programs" install in a Windows based computer. When a program is installed, from the CD or an installation file, a program folder is created and most of that program's files are copied to that folder. But at the same time a number of Windows supporting files are copied into other folders on the computer. This includes the "System" subfolder in the Windows folder, the "System32" subfolder in the Windows folder, the "Application Data" subfolder in the Users folder and a number of other folders scattered around the computer. Many of these folders are also hidden from the user to prevent the novice user from deleting system critical files.

Then a number of instruction and informational lines of code are written into the files that make up the "Registry" of the computer. These files tell Windows where to find the support files and how to use the support files. There are five major sections that make up the Registry files and each section has several hundred lines of code, including the ones for the Program in question.

Now if you knew exactly which files, in which folders, applied to the "Program" you wanted to copy to the new computer, then you could copy these files to the same folders in the new computer. (Be forewarned that the names of these files may not be obvious to even the most skilled computer user.) Then you would have to export each applicable code line in the registry files and import that line into the new computer registry. (And you hope that a newer version of Windows will still recognize the organization of the older version of Windows.)

As you would expect, this task would be a major undertaking and one error could render your computer useless. In short, if you want to use the same "Program" you had on the old computer, you need to use the installation file that came on the CD, or that you downloaded and saved to a flash-drive, to reinstall the Program on your new or rebuilt computer. If you cannot find that CD, or installation file, then you are either out-of-luck or you are about to buy another copy.

There are other issues to consider also. When you installed the program in the old computer you had agreed to legally limit that program to one computer. If you leave the program on the old computer you are not supposed to install it on the new computer. Further, some of the older programs may be written in an older code that will not work on a new computer. Windows XP can read and use programs written in either "16 bit" or "32 bit" codes. But Windows 7 can only work with programs written in "32 bit" or "64 bit" codes. If you had a program written for Windows 95 or earlier (8 bit code), forget about even trying to use it in Windows 7.

Reminder: If you are planning on getting new computer, or having your old computer rebuilt, locate all of those Program disks you bought. If you download a program from an Internet source, make sure you saved a copy of the installation file and the key code. If the program came pre-loaded by the computer manufacturer, contact them for a copy, but don't hold your breath.

MEMBERSHIP CORNER by MYRELLE



Hello Members,

Nice to see so many of you at the last General Meeting. For those of you who could not make it, Bob Efros presented an excellent program on Social Networking / FACEBOOK 101. Great site but you have to be so careful of what you list and who you are friends with. Thank you Bob for pointing out some of the possible pitfalls yet also showing how "current" this method of communication has become.

Also, I would like to say "Thank You" to those who renewed your membership. With the economy the way it is, we know it can sometimes be one of the items you might want to cut back on. We hope this does not have to happen in your household.

I have tried 2-3 times to write this article and each time, the words escape me. I am asking you for your help. We need to get those of you who have not renewed your membership yet to come back into the fold, so to speak. We would like to know what we can do to spark your interest enough to have you join us at our General Meetings and also to come to the SIG meetings. We have several mentors who present classes on a variety of subjects. These people are quite informed about their special presentations. I know when I attend, I ALWAYS come away with knowing something new. If you could plan the activities for a month for the VVCC, what would you include? What would the main topic be at the Saturday Meeting? Would you plan it differently? What would you like presented at the various SIG meetings. We DO have some set subjects but we CAN deviate from that if enough of you have a current topic you want to know more about. We hope you will think about it and if you have an idea or suggestions, please drop me a line at: [membership@vccclub.com](mailto:membership@vccclub.com)

In the meantime, we hope you will think about our Club and what we offer. It starts with the Beginners Classes on Wednesdays where you can come to 'start' to learn about how to enjoy your computer. It continues to the SIG meetings where we cover topics from Genealogy to Photography to Spreadsheets and Windows. We always have a Q&A session after the General Meetings and also the SIG meetings. We want you to participate at any/all of our gatherings. This is your place to come to learn. Our main reason for being is to provide a pleasant place for you to learn more about your computer and the possibilities presented with education.

We are here for you and we also would like you to consider volunteering some of YOUR time to help. It can be something as easy as helping to set up and take down the chairs at the meetings. It can be volunteering to help at a SIG meeting by helping the instructor set up the sign-in sheets and putting the meeting room back in order after the class. We believe in volunteering, you become an integral part of the team. We need (and appreciate) new people who come forward to help.

Remember, try to bring a friend, neighbor or relative to one of our meetings. Perhaps they will want to join and/or volunteer to be a part of our Club. You never know.....

Till our next meeting, bye for now.

Myrelle



In Memory of Arnold Winter - Long time VVCC Member  
1928 - 2011

Arnold Winter was born June 24, 1928, in Medina, ND to Rachel and Cecil Winter. He went home to be with the Lord, March 14, 2011 at Verde Valley Medical Center, Cottonwood, AZ. Arnold is survived by his wife of 29 years, Charlotte Raab Winter; his first wife, Betty; a daughter, Denise Dean; his grand-daughter, Keri Leigh Waters; and two brothers, Robert – Seattle, WA, and Roger – Denver, CO.

Arnold served with the Marines in Korea where he fought with the Special Forces under Captain Hautens Raiders

Arnold attended Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary for three years. Arnold and Charlotte Raab met in 1975 while Arnold was still running a janitorial service, and Charlotte worked for Litton Industries on government projects in California. They married February, 14, 1982 and moved to Arizona in June of 1990. Arnold built a 3000 sq. ft. passive solar house on two acres of land in Cornville with irrigation and a creek. The property had a water tank built in 1917 that was used in a Walt Disney picture.

The couple were involved with the Thousand Trails music ministry with Rev. Melton (retired Baptist minister). The Lord then led them to Verde River Resort and they also helped start Lutheran Church in Lake Montezuma.

While at the Verde River Resort Bill Minor asked Arnold to come sing at the Clarkdale Baptist Church where Charlotte played the piano! Since there was someone to fill their shoes at Verde River Resort they became members of the Clarkdale Baptist Church.

Services were held Friday March 31st at the Clarkdale Baptist Church located on 89A in Clarkdale.

## 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:  
(April 6th,13th, 20th, 27th**

**May 4th last class till Sept.  
20011 At 4:15)**

## VVCC

### Mailing Address:

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

VVCC

PO BOX 3023

COTTONWOOD, AZ  
86326

## Make your own icons

It's shockingly easy to create your own icons in Windows. Let's do it: Click Start, click All Programs, click Accessories, and then click Paint. On the Image menu, click Attributes.

Type 32 for both the Width and Height of the document, and make sure that "Pixels" is selected under Units. Click OK to create a new 32x32-pixel document the size of an icon.

Then add type or color or do whatever you'd like to create your icon. I like to shrink photos (headshots work best) to 32x32 and simply paste them into my Paint document.

When you are finished, open the File menu and click Save As. Use the dialog box to choose where you want to save your file, then give it a name followed by ".ico" (without the quotes), and click Save. (The extension ".ico" tells Windows that it's an icon file.)

You just created an icon! Now you can change any shortcut or folder to your own icon—just browse to it on your hard drive.

## Take your programs with you.

Any ordinary USB memory device can do a lot more than you probably thought it could. It can carry programs, encryption and even a full installation of Windows XP! Here is one of the coolest things you can do with a USB thumb drive:

We all know how frustrating it is when we take your files to another computer just to discover that the software required to read the files is not installed.

Here's the simplest solution – take your programs with you – on your USB thumb drive.

1. Go to the Portable Apps website and download the installer, choosing the software you want to carry along.

2. Run the installer and install the software to the root of your USB thumb drive.

And you're done! As soon as you connect your thumb drive into a computer, Portable Apps will open up automatically.



Here's how to do it with  
Portable Apps:  
([http:// portableapps.com](http://portableapps.com))

**Join Us for a  
Special Interest  
Group (SIG)**

Learn from *each other!*  
Visit our Web site for more  
SIG info. Attendees are en-  
couraged to print out  
handouts prior to classes.

**Spreadsheets:**

Dick Gohman

**Internet:**

Dick Gohman

**Windows:**

Bob Efros

**Beginner Classes:**

Barbara Wall  
Sharon Skinner

**Digital Camera: Photog-  
raphy:**

Leo Zuercher

**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 Barry Adico**



**Winners of the March's raffle:**

- |                                   |                    |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 Set eXRS Digital two-Way Radios | Adrienne Pritchard |
| 1 Sunpak Flexpod Tripod           | Pete Romer         |
| 1 Black & Decker Mixer-           | Sheila McCully     |
| 1 Targus Net Book Case            | Bev Hansen         |

Wait until you see what we have next Month!



**Have you given thought to becoming  
editor of our VVCC's Newsletter?**

**Benefits:** Express your artistic Talents, Monthly information  
given to our Membership & the world, Provide humor on any  
page you choose, Help keep our computer club visible with a  
monthly Newsletter. See Pg. 10 for further information.



## Verde Valley Computer Club

# *Connections*

SPECIAL ADDITION!

## *Newsletter Editor Wanted.*

### “Apply Now”

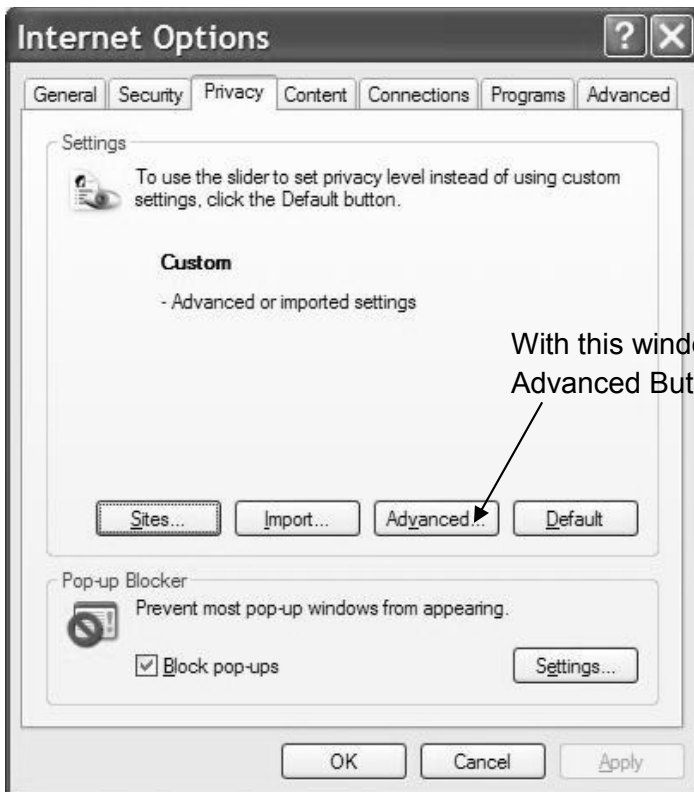
1. “Never fight traffic again” Work in the comfort of your home, have backup help with just a phone call. Sip your coffee, tea, with your comfortable cloths on while you construct the monthly VVCC Newsletter.
2. You will get all the help you need, articles, pictures, software, teachers to help guide you, a constructed newsletter sample, free help, yes **Free from the clubs instructors** to the long time users and more suggestions that you can imagine. Our retired editor willing to help you learn.
3. Printing is done outside Cottonwood. It is folded, stapled and sent to one of our distributors, Dave. He distributes the copies at the monthly Board Meetings.
4. Your job is to construct the newsletter, print a pdf file, (we will show you how to do this) send it via e-mail to the Printer. He will take care of the rest of details.
5. Job to start this month. Call or e-mail Marny Z (928)-301-0591  
[genealogy@vvclub.com](mailto:genealogy@vvclub.com)

### Internet Explorer Tip:

R Gohman

Tracking cookies, for a web site I visit, are normally not bad. If I return to that site, it tailors itself to the things I was looking for last. What I hate are tracking cookies placed on my computer by an advertiser on that web page, especially if it was a hidden advertisers program. These are called 3<sup>rd</sup> party cookies.

Figure 1



Here is a little tip to greatly reduce the number of tracking cookies by 3rd parties. With your Internet Explorer program open, got to the menu item TOOLS and then choose INTERNET OPTIONS from the menu. With the Internet Options window open, click on the PRIVACY tab (see figure 1)

This will bring up the Next Window In the **Advanced Privacy Settings** window, Then select **Accept** for First-party Cookies And Block for Third-party Cookies

And Block for Third-party Cookies

Put a check in the box for **Always allow session cookies**.

Click the **OK** box to clear all windows.



Verde Valley Computer Club  
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 Cottonwood, AZ 86326

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# Pass It On

When you are done 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@vvclub.com](mailto:membership@vvclub.com)



**PLEASE WELCOME NEW MEMBER!**

WELCOME New Members  
**Patricia Breitreutz**

**WELCOME BACK** Returning Members  
 Alan & Eleanor Baker

Thank you for joining our Verde Valley Compute Club

**Note from the Editor...**

The next newsletter deadline for all  
 submissions Tuesday:  
 April 26th, 2:00 p.m.

