

The



Computer Booter

Computer Booters of Sun Lakes

<http://www.computerbooters.com>

February 2012

February newsletter highlights

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We are pleased to have as our quest speaker for the February meeting on Tuesday, February 7th, at 7:00 PM in the Sun Lakes Country Club Arizona Room. Her subject will be *What a BLOG really is*. She'll explain how it is different from a regular site, how to use it to your advantage, how to interact with the writer and other readers plus if you want, how to create one for yourself.

Rollie Baumann will be managing our fifteen minute technical Tips & Tricks segment at the beginning of the session.

Our meetings start at 7:00 PM sharp in order to close at reasonable time. Check in by 7:00 PM and you get a free raffle ticket for our many door prizes. Late comers are still welcome, but will not get a raffle ticket.

Treasurer's Report *by Janet Quade, TREASURER*

Fund Balances as of January 3, 2012:

Rainy Day Reserve Fund	\$ 3,010.00
Current Operating Fund	<u>\$ 6,244.12</u>
Total Funds	<u>\$ 9,254.12</u>



From the President's Desk

by *Ben Thompson*, PRESIDENT



Our January speaker, **Perry Hegewald**, from Virtuon Inc. in Scottsdale, gave us a good view of what Cloud Computing has in store for us in the near future. This concept is currently being integrated into small and medium sized businesses and predictions are that individuals will soon become more and more involved.

We look forward to having **Kathy Jacobs** as our February speaker. **Kathy's** topic is Blogs, what a blog really is, how it is different than a regular site, how to find ones on the topics you want to learn about, how to interact with the writer and the other readers, and how to know if you want to create your own Blog.

We have commitments for a number of interesting speakers to round out our spring agenda. At this point we have speakers to cover topics including Anti-Virus Software Protection, Social Media for Sharing Life Stories and Memorabilia, and more.

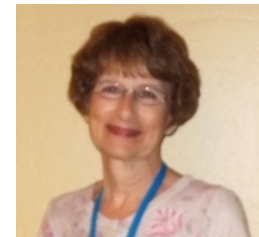
Our general meetings start promptly at 7:00 PM in order to close at a reasonable time. Check in by 7:00 PM and you will receive a free ticket for our many door prizes.

Rollie Baumann will be managing our fifteen minute technical Tips & Tricks segment at the beginning of the session.

See you at the meeting on February 7, 2012.

Look Who's Volunteering

by *Marie Krula*, VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR



The 1st meeting of the New Year was attended by 91 people who were eager to start the New Year and gain more computer knowledge. Nine guests were welcomed by our Welcome Director to their 1st meeting of the **Computer Booter's Club**.

There were also 10 volunteers who were on hand to help: 3 helped with setting up the equipment for the meeting, 2 helped at the membership table, 3 helped to get a microphone to those who had questions, 1 helped with the lights, & 1 helped at the raffle table. New volunteers were **Bob D'Evelyn** and **Jerry Weinert**.

Did you know that there were also 14 other volunteers who helped at our meeting? Yes, the board consists of these 14 board members who also graciously help to meet the computer needs of Sun Lake residents. The board also meets a week after our club meeting to make the plans for each meeting. Then, there are also many SIG facilitators who volunteer to hold sessions on numerous computer topics throughout the year.

Together, all of these volunteers are eager to play a small part in making the club a great learning experience for all. We appreciate all of you!!!

2012 SIG Classes News

by Sue Klein, SIG COORDINATOR



Happy Valentines Day!

Our February Schedule!

I would like to say "Thank you" to all the hard working Facilitators that put in preparation time and work hard at presenting their SIGs.

The month of February is full of exciting and new classes.

One Shot Workshops

February 16, Thursday is PhotoShop Elements

Linda Smith, Facilitator

February 27, Monday is Turbo Tax

Al Hill, Facilitator

A reminder you should pick up your badge at the regular meeting of the month.

Wearing your badge is your entry key into the SIGs. Our membership person has many badges that have not been picked up. Please contact Guy at mr1968zeus@msn.com to pick up yours.



Mark Your Calendar!

Monthly SIGs for February

February 6th, 13th, and 20th, Mondays are SIGs handling "Buying and Selling on Ebay"
Linda Ward, Facilitator

February 14th and 21st, Tuesday, Quicken, a money management program
Janet Quade, Facilitator

February 1st, 8th, 15th, and 22nd, Wednesday
"Computer Components, pieces, parts and care of your computer"
Howard Winkle, Facilitator

All SIGs are taught in the Arts and Crafts room in Sun Lakes Phase 1 at 7 PM; **please wear your badge when attending all SIGs.** (You must be a current member of Computer Booters to attend SIGs)

Membership Report

by *Guy Laroche*, CLUB RECORDS DIRECTOR



Attention Members who have not renewed yet! This is it. The dues for 2012 are due. Don't delay and renew now. Membership expires January 1st, 2012, and the database has been purged after the January general meeting. Therefore you will not receive email notification. Please note that the Post Office Box has been closed, so make sure you send your form and check to the Membership Director address (the Web site form is correct).

Approximately 100 2011-members have not renewed their membership. What are they missing? The Computer Booters of Sun Lakes has very informative and educational SIG Classes. Check the Calendar of events on our Web Site (www.computerbooters.org) for regular SIG Classes and One Shot Workshops. Scheduled for the coming months are SIG classes (One Shots) on Windows Media Player, Turbo Tax, Gadgets, etc., and regular SIG classes on PC Basic and Quicken to name a few. Your benefits will start as soon as your membership is received. Guests at the general meeting who choose not join but wish to attend SIG Classes will pay a fee – See the SIG Classes coordinator report for details.

Remember that if you do not follow the ever changing world of computers, you are left behind. Don't be technologically challenged. Understand what the kids and grandkids are talking about. We are here to help.

The dues for 2012 remain the same as 2011

and are \$36.00 for individuals and \$48.00 for two persons living at the same address. This covers general meetings, door prizes, and all SIG Classes (Special Interest Group classes), not to mention that you can always talk to someone in the Club regarding specific problems. We have a number of members that can answer computer related questions

Membership forms for 2012 are available on our website www.computerbooters.org (left column of the home page, under membership). Everyone is requested to fill out a membership form, even if they are renewing. Print and fill the form (make sure the email address is legible). You can also pick up a form at the membership table before the general meeting of the Computer Booters of Sun Lakes. Attach (do not staple or tape) your check to the form and bring it to the meeting or snail mail it to the address on the form (Membership Director).

As always, membership badges will be ready to be picked up at the membership table before the general meeting following the receipt of the application.

Please note: General meetings start promptly at 7:00 PM on the first Tuesday of each month (except summer time). Doors close when the meeting starts and late comers will not receive a door prize ticket. SIG Classes also start at 7:00 pm according to the schedule found on the Computer Booters Web site. Mark your calendar.

Some members have indicated that they are not receiving notices via e-mail. Make sure we have your correct e-mail address. Also, notices are now being sent by the SIG Classes coordinator Sue Klein at her new e-mail (sirnoodles@g.com). If you don't have her e-mail in your contact list, the notices may be filtered and go to the junk folder.

Program Update

by *Ben Thompson*



January 2012 Program

We began the evening with **Rollie Baumann's** presentation of "Tips and Tricks". He suggests that we make a New Year resolution to clean our computers. Find **Rollie's** very useful information on the Computer Booters website by going to "Tips and Tricks" Notes and clicking on January 03, 2012.

We were pleased to have **Perry Hegewald** as our speaker for the January general meeting. Perry is a technology consultant and director of partnership development at Virtuon, Inc. In Scottsdale. He currently advises on cloud business strategies both nationwide and internationally. His topic for the evening was "Virtualization and Computing in the Cloud."



Most homes are now totally relying on their PC to store all their photos, videos, music and documents. Cloud Storage is a must, especially with increasing computer viruses and hard drive crashes.

In a cloud computing system local computers no longer have to do all the heavy lifting when it comes to running applications. The network of computers that make up the cloud handles them instead. Hardware and software demands on the user's side decrease. The only thing the user's computer needs to be able to run is the cloud computing system's interface software, which can be as simple as a Web browser, and the cloud's network takes care of the rest.

There's a good chance you've already used some form of cloud computing. If you have an

e-mail account with a Web-based e-mail service like Hotmail, Yahoo! Mail or Gmail, then you've had some experience with cloud computing. Instead of running an e-mail program on your computer, you log in to a Web e-mail account remotely. The software and storage for your account doesn't exist on your computer -- it's on the service's computer cloud.

February 2012 Program

Our general meeting is scheduled for February 7, at 7:00 P.M. in the Sun Lakes Country Club.

We will start the evening with a 15 minute "Tips and Tricks" presentation organized by **Rollie Baumann**.

Our program speaker, **Kathy Jacobs**, is a social media geek who loves to connect people with who and what they need. She is active on the social web as "CallKathy". Professionally, **Kathy** speaks, writes, and answers questions on social media, community, OneNote, PowerPoint (when she has to), and other computer topics. In her spare time, **Kathy** is an active member of the PodCampAZ/TechPHX team and a regular speaker at user groups around the Valley.

Her topic for the evening is "Blog- The New Black". Everyone has one, but what makes it a blog? **Kathy** will cover what a blog really is, how it is different than a regular site, how to find ones on the topics you want to learn about, how to interact with the writer and the other readers, and how to know if you want to create your own. During the session, **Kathy** will answer these questions from one of two viewpoints: How to find and work with blogs that exist already and, Creating a blog and getting found.

Publicity

by *Kc Collier*, PUBLICITY DIRECTOR



Computer Booters wants to show off its new officers!

It happened at the December General Meeting. The clubs New Officers of the Board of Directors were elected. We thank the following for accepting these positions;

President: **Ben Thompson**
Treasurer: **Janet Quade**
Secretary: **Colette McNally**



The first meeting opened with Rollie Baumann's much regarded "Tips and Tricks" and the greetings to the new members and guests.

We let go of **2011** and into **2012** with **Perry Hegewald** leading off as the guest speaker. He is Director of Business Development of Virtuon and spoke on "Virtualization & Computing in the Cloud". His topic was both enlightening and well received.

The next Computer Booters Club meeting will be Tuesday, February 7th with **Kathy Jacobs** being the guest speaker. Her topic; "**What a BLOG really is**". She'll explain how it is different from a regular site, how to use it to your advantage, how to interact with the writer and other readers plus if you want, how to create one for yourself. She will answer; "How to find and work with blogs that already exist" and "Creating a blog and getting found" from two different viewpoints.

Mark your calendars to attend and learn a bit more in the world of computers or even win one of the door prizes.

Interesting Information about our SIG (Special Interest Group) classes:

These SIG classes have been well attended. There have been 505 attendees from September through December.

February's SIGs

EBay; Feb. 6, 13 & 20 (3 Mondays)

Facilitator: **Linda Ward**

Quicken; Feb. 14 & 21 (2 Tuesdays)

Facilitator: **Janet Quade**

Computer Components; Feb. 1, 8, 15, & 22 (4 Wednesdays) Facilitator: **Howard Winkle**

One Shot Workshops SIG's

Turbo Tax; Monday, February 27

Facilitator: **Al Hill**

PhotoShop Elements; February 16

Facilitator: **Linda Smith**

Remember SIG classes are FREE but subject to change so watch for e-mail notifications to all members. If you have any questions about any of the SIG classes, please contact **Sue Klein** at 480 895-3528. Remember to wear your Computer Booters nametag to all general and class meetings. All classes meet on the specified dates at 7:00 pm in the Arts & Crafts Room.

This group was established to aid computer owners in Sun Lakes by achieving maximum results from their home or small business computer. It's easy to join and attend. If you would like further information call or e-mail our Membership Director **Guy Laroche** at 480 883-0638 or mr1968zeus@msn.com.

Computer Technology Conference

by Patricia Hill, APCUG REP. & REVIEW EDITOR



Computer Technology Conference Update

A computer conference is coming to Arizona! The Computer Technology Conference will be held from March 22 – 25, 2012 at the beautiful 4 Diamond **Radisson Fort McDowell Resort and Casino**.

This conference is for computer users of all capabilities. Whether you use a PC, MAC, tablet or any other device, there will be something of interest for you. Join other users to share your experiences. Windows? Come to the conference. Linux? Come to the conference. Mac OS? Come to the conference.

All platforms

Learn about the latest technology by attending informative seminars and workshops

Two Electronics Recycle Days courtesy of Westech Recyclers

Lunches and dinners included

Hospitality Suite Thursday through Sunday

Digital Photo Contest – **February 1 deadline**

Keynote addresses from industry leaders

Attend the Vendor Expo and purchase the latest and greatest the industry has to offer

Microsoft workshop and store tour

Get up close and personal with vendors who can't wait to tell you about their latest product

Network with leaders in the field

Raffles, door prizes, special pricing and goodie bags

Conference fee \$50 if registered at resort for 3 nights by March 1

\$99 if not staying at the resort and payment received by March 1

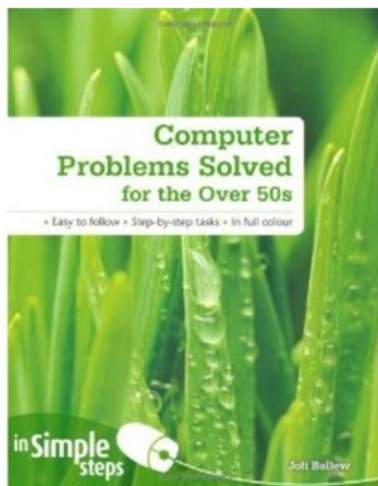
\$125 if payment received March 2 through the conference

Register by **February 10** and have your name entered into a drawing to win a **Samsung Galaxy Tab 8.9** with WiFi and 16GB memory. The package includes a wall charger, USB cable, pre inserted SIM card and a Quick Start Guide. The tablet was rated the #1 Android tablet in February's *Consumer Reports*. MRSP is \$570.

Planning to attend the conference and want to share your expertise? Send an e-mail to Director@CompTechConf.com with a short synopsis, biography and your preferred presentation day (Friday, Saturday or Sunday). Your submittal will be reviewed and we'll let you know if you're selected. Check out the website for speakers who have signed up so far as well as their topics.

Hope to see you there!

Computer Problems Solved For the Over 50s in Simple Steps



By Joli Ballew

From \$16.00 on Amazon.com

Paperback: 225 pages

Publisher: Prentice Hall (August 19, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0273746359

ISBN-13: 978-0273746355

This is another book in the *Over 50s* series in the *in simple steps* collection by prolific writer **Joli Ballew**. Why a book for the Over 50s? It is because many of this generation started late in life to be exposed to computers. They sometimes feel intimidated and overwhelmed by the rapid changes.

How many times you had to ask for help fixing simple PC problems? Probably it was quite a few times. You may even have had to pay for the simple repair.

Well, this book is for you. **Joli Ballew's** approach is very visual and she uses everyday language.

The book is well organized::

First, there is a section on the Top 10 Computer Problem Tips. These tips are extracted from the specific chapters.

After a section called *Know Your Computer*, there are 15 chapters covering subjects like; First Steps and Quick Fixes, Fix Hardware Problems, Diagnose and Repair Network Problems, Resolve Security Warning Messages, and Remove a Virus.

The last section covers Top 10 Computer Problems Solved.

So, here you are. Look for the specific problem you are having and find it in the Top 10 or in the specific paragraph. Each action or problem is described on one or two pages at the most. After a brief introduction there are numbered step-by-step instruction corresponding to item numbers in screen shot. Font type is large and very readable.

(Continued on Page 9)

(Continued from Page 8)

As in some other books from **Joli Ballew**, each page contains tips such as Alert! (Over 100) such as: "Don't run two anti-virus programs at the same time"

Hot Tip (Close to 150) such as: "Write your passwords down, but don't put them where your grandkids (or nosey guests) can find them!"

See Also (Almost 20) such as: "There's a slew of information about drivers in Chapter 4, 'Fix hardware problems'."

Did You Know? (About 90) such as: "Often problems can be resolved by rebooting your computer, or simply closing and reopening the program. Try both."

What Does This Mean? (13) such as: "BIOS: Stands for Basic Input/Output System. The BIOS performs tests each time you turn on your computer and then initiates the loading of the Operating System."

To summarize: I highly recommend this book. It is easy to understand with simple numbered steps and large clear screen shots. Reading and using this book will not make you an expert nor allow you to open a PC repair business. However, it may save you trips to the repair shop (and money).

The Author:

Joli Ballew is a Microsoft MVP, and holds several Microsoft certifications including MCSE, MCTS, MCDST, and others. She has written almost 50 books on topics ranging from Windows to Photoshop, to Phones to iPads, and even on to making your Windows PCs run better and faster. Beyond writing, she teaches classes at several local community colleges and is the IT Academy Coordinator at Brookhaven College in Farmers Branch, Texas.

The Reviewer:

Guy Laroche, Computer Booters of Sun Lakes, is a retired Computer Engineer who worked on Large Main-Frame Computers as Customer Service Engineer, Designer, Programmer, and Project manager. Presently, he is facilitating Special Interest Group Classes on Microsoft products and other computer related subjects.



The **COMPUTER BOOTERS OF SUN LAKES** is a non-profit organization established to aid personal computer users in achieving maximum results from their home or small business computer. This newsletter is published monthly from September through June by the **COMPUTER BOOTERS OF SUN LAKES**. It is not connected with any commercial or private business. The information contained in this newsletter is believed to be correct and accurate. However, the **COMPUTER BOOTERS OF SUN LAKES** assume no responsibility for inaccuracies or omissions. Any information used from these articles is at the user's risk.



The **COMPUTER BOOTERS** meets the first Tuesday of each month, except in July and August when we do not meet, and in March when the date and/or location may change due to the Sun Lakes One homeowners meeting. Call for the date and location of the March meeting. All other meetings are held in the Arizona Room of the Sun Lakes One Country Club at 7:00 PM. which is south of Riggs Road on Sun Lakes Blvd. CB Board meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month at 2:30 PM in the Mirror Room at the Sun Lakes One Country Club.

Member of



For membership information contact Guy Laroche at 480-883-0638 or mr1968zeus@msn.com

Other computer user groups have our permission to use the articles written by our members as long as credit is given to the author and source and notice is sent to our Editor or Assistant Editor:

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2012 CALENDAR CORNER

Meeting 7:00 PM Tuesday February 7, 2012

Feature Speaker: Kathy Jacobs being the guest speaker. Her topic; “What a BLOG really is”.

Tips and Tricks: Our evening will begin with a 15 minute “Tips and Tricks” technical presentation by Rollie Baumann.

2012 Monthly Meeting Dates

Tuesday, 7:00 PM--Arizona Room, Sun Lakes 1

2012

February 7

March 8 *

April 3

May 1

June 5 (TBD)

September 4

October 2

November 6

December 4

* Location subject to change