



Grand Macs SIG Newsletter

December 20th Grand Macs SIG Meeting

On Wednesday, December 20, at 4:00 PM in the Palo Verde Room at the Sonoran Plaza, a representative from MacMedia in the Arrowhead Shopping Center, will be coming to Grand Macs to present information about Airport Express and Airport Extreme, Apple's WI-FI.

Here's what Apple says about Airport Express:

In 1999, Apple sparked the wireless revolution with the introduction of AirPort, the first affordable and easy-to-use solution for accessing the Internet without restrictive cables. In 2003, AirPort Extreme took unwired connection to the next level by harnessing the super-fast 802.11g wireless standard for data rates nearly five times those of the 802.11b standard that the original AirPort used and many current wireless networking devices still use. With AirPort Express, Apple continues to advance wireless, delivering the first device to pack wireless networking, audio, printing and bridging capabilities into a single affordable, portable unit.

Enjoy your iTunes music library in virtually any room of your house. Share a single broadband Internet connection and USB printer without inconvenient and obtrusive cables. Create an instant wireless network on the go. Extend the range of your current wireless network.



If you're considering WI-FI, here's your chance to hear all about it. Coffee and holiday goodies will be served after the meeting. Join us and bring your friends!

Please note that "Green Apples" Tech Talk will be the second Tuesday of the month:
3:00-4:00 PM.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DECEMBER 6: 1:00 PM

GCC Meeting
TechSmith: SnagIt - Kathy Jacobs
Cimarron Center

DECEMBER 12: 3:00-4:00 PM

"Green Apples" Tech Talk
GCC Open Use Room

DECEMBER 20: 4:00-6:00 PM

Grand Macs SIG meeting
Palo Verde room, Sonoran Plaza

JANUARY 3: 1:00 PM

GCC Meeting
Smart Computing Magazine: Brynn Burtwistel
Cimarron Center

JANUARY 9: 3:00-4:00 PM

"Green Apples" Tech Talk
GCC Open Use Room

JANUARY 17: 4:00-6:00 PM

Grand Macs SIG meeting
Yavapai Room, Chaparral Center
(Note: Change of location for Jan.-May)





MAC MAGIC IN THE DESERT

MacsWest, the Macintosh users group of Sun City West, presents "Mac Magic in the Desert" from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m on Saturday, January 27, at the Palm Ridge Recreation Center, 13800 Deer Valley Drive in Sun City West.

This event will bring the Macintosh and Windows users of the Valley together to

meet and explore the joy of the "Mac Experience." Seminars and workshops will be held throughout the day. Among the presenters will be Argosy West Computers, the Biltmore Apple Store, CompUSA, Mac Media Inc., Macs R We, and Mac to School. A Vendors Fair will be free and open to all. There will be a nominal fee for the seminars and workshops. Lunches are available by reservation only.

The seminars are limited to 100 seats, so Mac Magic is offering Mac user group members an opportunity to purchase their tickets in advance. Tickets to the seminars (\$2) and lunch reservations (\$5) will be available at the MAC SIG meeting on January 17.

For a list of topics and presenters as well as other information, visit the Mac Magic website at <http://www.macswest.org/expo>. Don't miss this celebration of Mac magic!



Mac 101
Get started with the Mac.

If you're new to computers or simply need a refresher course on how to get the most out of your Mac, go to Mac 101: Your guide to using a Mac effectively and efficiently. If you've switched to Mac from Windows, Switch 101 is just for you.

Whether you want to learn how to get around your Mac desktop (or find out what a desktop is, for that matter); figure out how to connect your printer, iPod, digital camera, or other device; discover email and the Internet; learn how to do various tasks; learn how to use the software that came with your Mac; or even find out what to do when things don't go as planned, Mac 101 has the answers.

<http://www.apple.com/support/mac101>

NEW MEMBERS



Some of our new members are shown above at the November 8 Grand Macs general meeting.

We welcome new Mac users **Jeanie Lee, Robert Schallhorn, Jack and Jan Gossett, and Kurt von Allment.** We're happy to have you with us.

Our Grand Macs membership now totals 131 members!

We hope all of you will renew your memberships in 2007.

iTunes Demo



Grand Macs creative genius Ron Mackey is shown above during his demonstration of iTunes at the Grand Macs November meeting. Ron showed us how to download CDs, how to use pod-casts, how to import music from Apple's iTunes Store, and how to access radio broadcasts.

Ron then shared CD covers and holiday gifts he created using Comic Life, new software shipped on new Apple computers. These then were given as door prizes to participants. Everything from holiday ornaments to CD covers were created and donated by Ron.



Bits and Pieces

Here's some updated information about our Grand Macs SIG and the Grand Computer Club.



New Grand Macs Logo

Thanks to Grand Macs member Bill Bernstein who has designed a logo for our group. We will now use this logo in our newsletters, web site, and brochures. This logo shows who we are and our affiliation to Macs. Thanks, Bill!

Dues Increase



Due to the fact that the reserve funds of the club for equipment and software replacement has been depleted by the recent replacement of computers in the Open Use room, including our 2 new iMacs, the Grand Computer Club (GCC) has raised the due to \$20 per year, beginning in January, 2007. Much cost analysis of computer use was researched before this decision was made. If you renew in December, your membership will be through December, 2007, thus giving you a free month.

Fall Classes



Our Grand Macs classes for fall have been very successful. Most of the classes were filled or nearly filled. January registration isn't far off. If you would be willing to teach a class, please contact us at scgmacsig@mac.com or 215-2197. Usually January has the highest registration numbers, so we anticipate a need for additional classes. Winter registration will be online this session. More information to follow.

January- May Grand Macs Meetings



In order to have our meetings in the same location for the rest of the winter, CAM has moved our monthly meetings to a new location: the Yavapai Room at the Chaparral Center, across the hall from the Computer Club. We will continue to meet the third Wednesdays of the month at 4:00 PM.

NOTE TO OUR MEMBERSHIP

You *cannot* set up email accounts on the Macs at the club. If your ISP allows it, you may be able to do your mail from some sort of a web browser, but since you cannot get at the COX system, and therefore cannot set up accounts, all you will get for your trouble is a "cannot access". Also, if something does not print for you, you will have to go to the print queue and delete your job or when the printing does start, all of your documents come out in black and white, or color, which you will need to pay for !! Furthermore, your personal and confidential data is now available for other club members to see. Please don't leave any of your documents on the club's iMacs. We occasionally have to delete personal information from our Mac computers. Copy everything to a CD or whatever backup you are using.



A Note From Grand Macs: Looking Back After A Year

Our Grand Macs SIG has grown considerably since last December. We're proud to have 131 Mac users in our SIG. When we received the first print-out of the Mac members from the Grand Computers Club (GCC) Membership Chair on 12.10.05, there were 18 names on the list! By the end of December, those numbers were up to 47 members and the list has continued to grow monthly.

We are also pleased that the Grand Computer Club has responded to our needs and purchased four new iMacs since last December. That has really helped for our classes and for those using Macs during open use time. Thanks, Grand Computer Club!

Our class registrations have been great and the attendance at our events has been good as well. We encourage you to invite your Mac friends to our events. They can be a guest three times and then have to join the GCC, but let's encourage them to join the Grand Macs right away!

Now we need to keep our numbers up through this next year. We need each and every one of our members to renew their memberships in December. If you renew in December, the GCC will give you that free month, and your dues will be covered from December 2006 - December 2007. Please go to the club in December and renew your membership. And make sure that you check the Mac box on the envelope.

Many of you have responded to our pleas for help and that is appreciated. We still need additional instructors for classes in January. We anticipate that we will also need additional sections of classes in January. Contact me if you can help (215-2397) or ljkloncz1@mac.com

Again our successes could not happen without our volunteers. Art and Gale McCall, Sharon Hoobler, and Ron Mackey have put out extra efforts to make this club succeed. And thanks to Bill Bernstein, who designed our logo. Doesn't it look great?

I have been elected secretary of the GCC and will begin duties at the January 2007 meeting. This is the first time a Mac user has been a member of the GCC board since Morris Schurr, who helped start the GCC back in 1997 and was its president in 1999.

To celebrate our successes, let's celebrate! I invite all Grand Macs members and their spouse/significant other to come to a Holiday Get-Together at our home on Saturday, December 2, from 2:00-5:00 PM. We ask that you bring a hors d'oeuvre or holiday goodies to share. Lenny and I will provide wine, beer, and soda.

Directions to our home: Take Clearview across the #303. Go past the Cimarron Center to the second right, Desert Blossom. Turn right on Desert Blossom and take the very first right, Portico Way. We are the second house on the right: 20140 N. Portico Way. Please RSVP at 215-2397 or ljkloncz1@mac.com. We're looking forward to seeing you!

Joyce Kloncz, Grand Macs Facilitator