Bits & Bytes

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE BY KATHRYN QUERRY

THE TECHNOLOGY CENTER WILL BE CLOSED JULY AND AUGUST.

Unfortunately, we have had to make the decision to keep the Technology Center closed through both July and August. No firm completion date can be given for Mountain View clubhouse renovations.

Since we can't be in the Tech Center or Speakers Hall, we hope to offer several Zoom information and demonstration classes in August.

Steve Berman, Director of Mac Maintenance, has informed us that Apple is bringing major updates to their operating systems for all their devices, including iPhones, iPads, Macs, Apple Watches, and CarPlay. These updates will be announced alongside the new iPhone. Unlike before, the operating systems will now be named after the year they're released, starting with 2026. So, we'll see iOS26, iPad26, Apple Watch 26, and MacOS26. The most noticeable change will be the new Liquid Glass User Interface, which features layered depth, motion, real blur, and glass-like transitions. Stay tuned for more updates!

One of our favorite instructors and presenters has been Doug Graham, now our new Director of Programs. Doug may also Zoom some fun and fascinating August presentations.

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JOIN/RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP FOR 2025-2026

Member dues are still only $25 per year. Our club year is July through June. We want to keep the dues at this low rate this year in part because, much to our regret, we have needed to suspend classes and close the Technology Center during renovations in Mountain View Clubhouse.

You'll still find the membership application form in all clubhouse kiosks/carousels and it is always available on our website. Snail-mail the form with your U.S. check (no cash via U.S. mail, please) to Let's Compute, 38180 Del Webb Blvd., PMB #166, Palm Desert, CA 92211.

We appreciate your support!

Stay up to date. Visit our website:
Let's Compute Technology Club
https://scpdcaclubs.com/dev/clubs/lets-compute/

Artificial Intelligence-Created Podcast
Also on our website (or click the link below) is an AMAZING 10-minute audio file ENTIRELY GENERATED BY ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE. It is a discussion of what the Let's Compute Technology Club has been up to in 2025.

Audio File – LCTC AI Podcast

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MEET KATHRYN QUERRY

CHEERS! Welcome to the new 2025-26 club year! Perhaps you have wondered about my technology background and how I came to be president of Let's Compute. Or, perhaps you haven't… 🤔

My career in information technology began in the late 1970s when the IBM memory typewriter appeared in the office. No one could figure out how to make edits in a document when the tiny digital screen displayed only about five words. Somehow it made sense to me, so I taught others to use the new-fangled contraption.

Through the 1980s and '90s most people in workplace settings became comfortable using computers. Software development was exploding with custom programs for specific business needs. Computer programmers were in high demand and the need for software training grew right alongside.

Another critical expertise emerged – liaison, or translator if you will, between "coders" and "users." For me, that evolved into working as a business analyst, project manager and software designer. We worked in teams that included both coders and users to design, test and train on the resulting custom software.

Where did I do this? These skills have been transferable to many environments. Some examples of where my jobs over the years have involved IT functions to varying degrees include:

- University brain behavior research laboratory
- Social research organization focused on reducing prison recidivism
- West Indies fragrance company
- Hawaiian business conglomerate
- National trade show and exhibitions company
- Police harbor patrol division
- State and county public health

Now, how did I become president of Let's Compute? I moved to Sun City in March 2020. Covid was just hitting. The Let's Compute lab was closed. Board meetings were on Zoom. The vice president position became vacant. I was asked to be VP. Ridiculous, right? I knew little about either Sun City or Let's Compute. They assured me it would be fine because nothing was going on during Covid. Well, okay.

A year later the technology center re-opened and classes started up again. Elections were on the horizon and the board asked if I would run for president. My work experience was relevant, and more recently I had managed the computer training program and taught classes in the northern California retirement community where I lived for six years before moving here.

These long-time club founders and leaders explained that they had been rotating through the board positions for years and decided each had been president enough times! They wanted someone new.

So here we are. July 2025 begins my fifth year as president. I have appreciated the support of members and the talented people on the board over these years.

Together with the inspiring instructors and all our dedicated volunteers, we will continue to fulfill this club's mission of fostering digital literacy in SCPD. We look forward to seeing you around the community this year!

> **We want to learn a little about you and how the Technology Club has helped you.**
>
> **Contact Ann Shepperd annmilshep@gmail.com. Ann will connect with you to develop your story so we can all meet you in a future Bits & Bytes issue.**

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EMAIL SCAMS
By Brian Locke, *SCPDCA HOA Information Systems & Communications Director*

Sun City Palm Desert Community Association would like to remind you to be extra vigilant about potentially malicious emails. Cybercriminals are constantly developing new methods to trick people into giving up personal or financial information. Here's what to look for and what to do:

Common Signs of Suspicious Emails
- **Unexpected requests:** Be wary of emails asking for personal information (passwords, financial details, Social Security numbers), gift cards, or demanding immediate action.
- **Spelling and grammar errors:** Look for poorly written emails with typos and grammatical mistakes.
- **Suspicious links:** Avoid clicking on links within an email, especially if the sender seems unfamiliar or the link looks suspicious.
- **Urgency and fear:** Emails that create a sense of urgency or use fear tactics are often scams.
- **Attachments:** Be extremely cautious about opening attachments from unknown sources, as they can contain malware.
- **Take note of the sender's email address:** If the message is coming from an unfamiliar email address or an address may be slightly off, take note to verify the sender is a legitimate address. If you cannot see the full email address, hover your mouse cursor over the email address or sender's name to see the full email address.

What To Do if You Suspect a Scam
- **Don't respond:** Never click links, open attachments, share personal information in response to a suspicious email or agree to purchase anything.
- **Verify the sender:** If you are unsure about the legitimacy of an email, contact the sender (a simple phone call to verify) to confirm the message.
- **Report suspicious emails:** Many email providers (like Gmail, Outlook) have reporting features for phishing attempts. Use these features to alert them to the suspicious email.
- **Be mindful of information you share:** Think before sharing any information, especially online. Don't share sensitive information with anyone you don't know and trust.
- **Keep software up to date:** Keep your operating system, antivirus software, and email client up to date to protect yourself from the latest threats.
- **Stay Vigilant:** Be aware of the tactics scammers use and stay alert to potential scams.
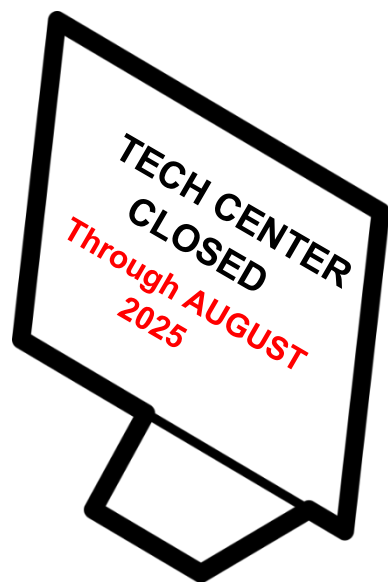
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Let's Compute Officers 2025-2026

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Printers........................Richard Ravich.........760-772-3905

Meeting Schedule

Board Meeting .... Third Monday 2:00 PM
General Member Meeting .... Fourth Tuesday 1:30 PM
(When Advertised)

TECH CENTER CLOSED
Through AUGUST 2025

HOLIDAY	2025-2026 Tech Center Closures
MVC Closed for Renovations	JULY & AUGUST
Labor Day	Mon, September 1
Columbus Day	Mon, October 13
Veterans Day	Tue, November 11
Thanksgiving	Thu/Fri, November 27/28
Christmas	Thu/Fri, December 25/26
New Year's Day	Thu, January 1, 2026
Martin Luther King Day	Mon, January 19
Presidents Day	Mon, February 16
Memorial Day	Mon, May 25

Scan this QR Code with your smartphone camera to visit the Let's Compute website.