



Festival Bytes Computer Club...Its Origins and more

The Founder...

Carolyn Whitehead

about me...

Who am I, and...???



I came to Sun City Festival ten years ago from the Los Angeles area of California.

Worked for 40 years with Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD)
I worked in schools, in Maintenance facilities, and local District Offices
In the mid 1970's (working in a school at that time) something new was now becoming part of daily life...COMPUTERS. My supervisors felt I had 'potential' in this new field and therefore groomed me for what would be a new office position.

EARLY “LARGE” Disk Drive...back up

THE PIZZA PIE DISK



Huge. We had two..one always kept in school vault. Never kept in same room as computer.

How WE Started

Shortly after moving here, I signed up on the club interest pages to ‘join’ a computer club. There were about four or five pages of names, etc. Heard nothing.

Decided to actually take some action – and—one dreary weekend, I took all the pages home and went through our then hard copy resident directory and looked up each name, composed and sent out a letter for an informational meeting.

Response was excellent, and our informational meeting was held. We then set the wheels in motion to become a fully chartered club.

Our name—Festival Bytes Computer Club—was decided upon by the initial meeting participants.

Mission statement of the club

Purpose of Organization: To provide an organized framework under which Sun City Festival residents may engage in a variety of activities for acquisition and/or the advancement of skills in the use of computers and their applications. The club will provide information, education, activities and field trips.

THE ORIGINAL BOARD...

Standing:

Harv Missan

Allan Brown

Carolyn Whitehead

Seated:

Terry Wilkerson



Do's & Don'ts of the club

What we DO

- Got a new device? Need set up/operational help? We will try our best to help you.
- Not sure how to use popular programs? We'll help
- We help understand different security programs, different kinds of routers, etc.
- We can help you build a website, work with photos, and more
- Our focus is to help with GENERAL computer/technology issues/items that are of interest to the group as a whole.
- Have presentations/guest speakers on items of interest.

What we DON'T Do

We are not technicians. Certain issues do NOT fall within the realm of what the computer club is all about.

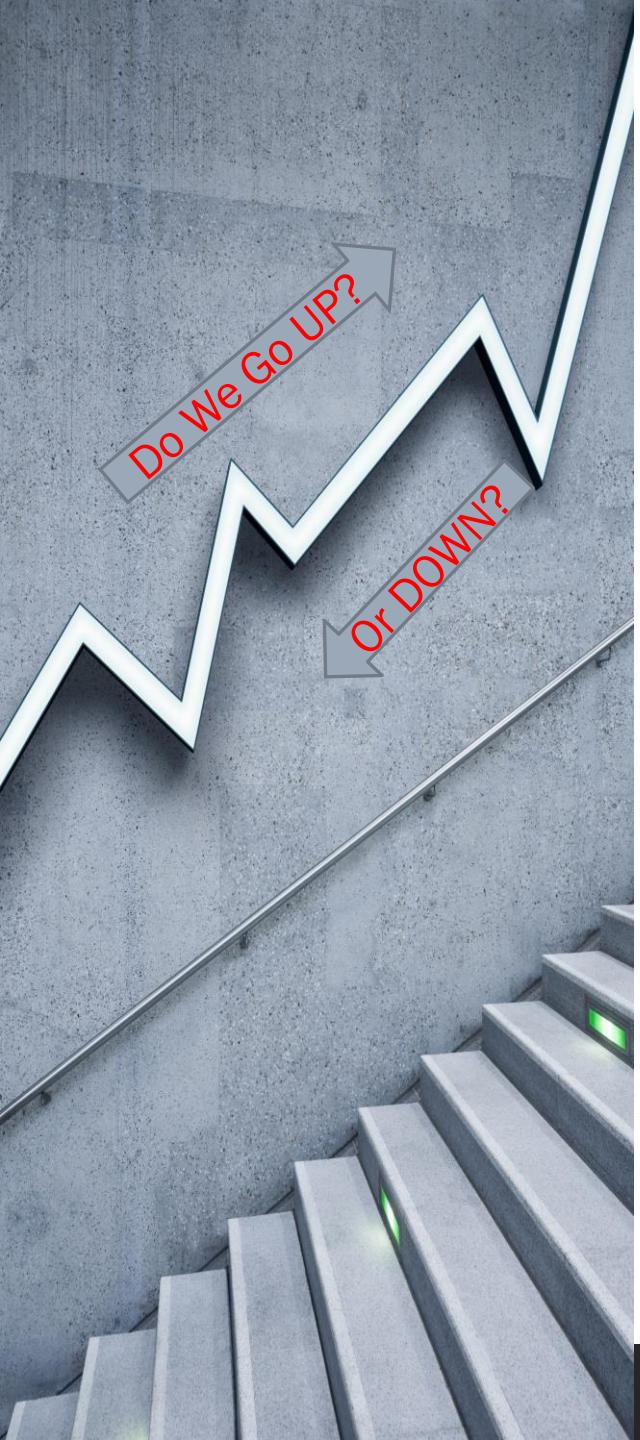
- Email or Social Media Hacked? YOUR problem. First thing YOU need to do is CHANGE YOUR PASSWORDS to a complicated one...not easy to hack.
- Changed internet providers and can no longer get your email from before? CONTACT your previous internet provider for possible solutions.
- Plugged a new streaming device into a wrong port (i.e. plugged an HDMI into a regular USB port–forcing it)? Not sure if your TV is a Smart TV or??? Contact an electrician.
- Router Issues? Contact your Internet Service Provider

Your Role as a Member

Besides paying yearly dues--you play a vital role in the actual function of the club.

The board consists of only a FEW members, and can only come up with so many ideas for meetings/workshops. And...we'd love to have more than just the few 'drive' some of our meetings. Member input and participation is what drives the group.

Suggestions made in passing (in the halls or the gyms or at events) can soon be forgotten. If you DO have a suggestion, PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE make it or them through our contact page of our website.



So Where to from Here?

Let's Brainstorm:

1. Do we form steering committees? And will YOU participate?
2. Do we, as a board, move forward with more presentations?
 - a. You will suggest the presentation/presenters
 - b. You will help OBTAIN the presenters
3. Do we become more actively involved at club expos?
4. Should we have individual SIGS? (special interest groups) for workshops? (i.e. An Excel SIG; Website building SIG; Photos SIG?)
5. Or....???

These calls are YOURS to make. Yes..I started the club, but YOU ARE the club. YOU will determine its future.