

Grand Learning Instructors



Fall 2020 Zoom

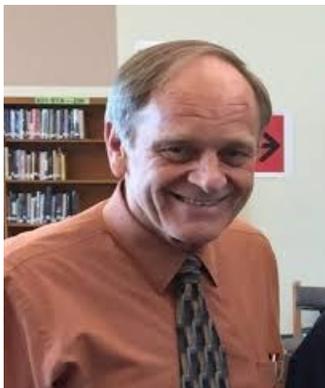
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ART with



Allen Reamer



Axelrod Phil

Phil Axelrod is a retired insurance underwriter who has been living in Sun City Grand since 2002. He served in the U.S. Navy as a boiler man on the USS Skywatcher and as a nuclear power plant operator on the USS Enterprise. He is interested in politics on the local and national levels and is a past president of the Sun City Grand Republican Interest Group.

Barbour Vicki

Vicki Barbour is a Grief Recovery Specialist certified through the Grief Recovery Institute. She has led one-on-one and group Grief Recovery Programs for death, divorce and pet loss. Vicki also had been a hospice volunteer in Colorado. A retired dental hygienist, she spends her time between Sun City Grand and Colorado.

Dion Terri

Terri Dion is a traveler and resident of Sun City Grand. She has visited all 50 states, the 7 continents and more than 100 countries. Since retirement, she continues to travel while teaching travel and geography classes for active adults. She created the Grand Learning International Travel and Learn Program and managed it for several years. Terri's professional background is in Human Resource Management, including developing strategic education programs. She taught in the corporate environment, the City University of Seattle MBA program, Grand Learning, and other Lifelong Learning Programs throughout the Phoenix area.

Dry Mat

My name is Mat Dry and I am the author of THIS is Africa: True Tales of a Safari Guide Volumes I and II. I have been a safari guide in Africa for the past 12 years and have a safari business based here in Phoenix, TIA Safaris, which takes people from the States and around the world to East and Southern Africa. Whenever I am back here in the States, I enjoy taking people on "Virtual Safaris", which entails sharing amazing photos and stories of my experiences in Africa.

Fox Laurie

Laurie Fox has been in the non-medical field since 1999 in Maricopa County. She is a Certified Senior Advisor (CSA); trained as a *memory care trainer* for Banner Alzheimer's Institute as well as a facilitator for an Alzheimer's/dementia support group at Grace Bible Church. She also serves on the management team of the West Valley Professionals' Roundtable and a large women only networking group in Sun City. Laurie enjoys working at Homewatch Caregivers assessing cases and helping families find solutions for their loved ones. She always says, "it's personal" as she was the POA for over seven years for her mother who had Alzheimer's Disease. Laurie resides in Peoria, Arizona.

Fritz Winnie

Winnie is a former Illinois farm girl who has held CEO, COO, and Chief Nursing Officer roles in a variety of U.S. and international healthcare organizations. For decades, she worked with the late King Hussein of Jordan as Dean of a School of Nursing and later as a network COO of a 28-hospital system. For her success in bringing about operational and clinical improvements, she was awarded His Majesty's Medal of Honor. During her tenure as a nurse in the U.S. Army, Winnie earned her pilot's wings and served in the U.S. Thailand, and Vietnam; her commendations include the Bronze Star. She has been an Asst. Professor at U. of MD, U of MO, and Georgetown. She is currently COO/Sr V.P. Clinical Ops for HCCA Mgmt and has worked extensively on projects in the Middle East, Asia, and Africa to improve patient safety, service excellence, and financial outcomes. Most recently, her projects are in Jamaica, Nigeria, and Pakistan.

Gibbs Jeff

Jeff Gibbs has over 15 years experience in city and regional planning, both in Arizona and in Oregon. For the past 3 years, Jeff has been a regular contributor to the Arizona Republic Community sections on Planning and Development topics. He is the author of the book *Planning and Development in the Desert Southwest* (Amazon, March 2017). He currently serves on the SCG Board of Directors and was a member of the Strategic Plan Committee. Jeff has over 10 years experience designing training programs as well as 5+ years teaching experience - including at the college graduate level.

Jamis Edelita

My name is Dr. Edelita Jamis. I am a medical doctor certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine and the American Board of Lifestyle Medicine. I was primary care physician for 6 years but I am currently practicing Lifestyle Medicine here in Surprise. I am passionate in empowering people to take control of their health and reverse chronic diseases with minimal or no need of medications through lifestyle change.

Keep Brian

Brian Keep has been in the insurance industry since 1986. He started his career at Allstate on Long Island, New York, and held many positions ranging from Operations Management to Territorial Manager. Brian moved to Baltimore, Maryland to work with Zurich North America developing call center sales centers for Auto, Home, Life, and Small Business and was recruited by a Morgan Stanley startup group to develop the first online homeowners company. Brian has held several positions since with Agencies and Companies over the past years involved in Life, Medicare, and other insurance products.

Komassa Carol

Carol Komassa (born in London, England) has experience gardening in few different countries (England, France, and the USA), but Southwest Gardening proved to be a challenge! After 12 years in Arizona, Carol decided to go back to school (U of A) to take the *Master Gardener Certification Course for Maricopa County* and graduated in Spring 2020. Carol helps home-owners with their landscape "challenges and opportunities" at home. Carol is also an award winning photographer, writer and Monarch Conservationist.

Leach Gale

New York native Ann Goldfarb spent over 30 years as a teacher, professional staff developer and school principal. She enjoys opening the world of historical fiction via mystery, suspense and time travel.

When she is not conducting workshops or writing, she is either swimming, hiking or frequenting one of the many coffee shops in the West Valley of Phoenix.

Lynn-Lobrovitch Dr. Karon

Karon has been meditating for over 25 years. She is a student of Light Body taught by Orin and Daben and loves to work with new students.

Moss D.D., Ph.D. Rabbi Doctor Sheldon

Rabbi Sheldon Moss D.D., Ph.D. has been a Rabbi at a local congregation since 2005. A gifted speaker, author, teacher and community builder he is also President of the local Ministerial Association. He was ordained by the Hebrew Union College, Jewish Institute of Religion in 1977, where he was also awarded a Doctorate in Divinity degree in 2003. His book on the synagogue Havurah movement, the decentralization of large synagogues into surrogate extended families, is used throughout the United States and Canada.

Nykamp Mary

Mary Nykamp received her B.S.W. Cum Laude from ASU and her J.D. from the U of A. She is a partner in the law firm of Jeckel & Nykamp, P.L.L.C., located in Sun City since 1974. Mary practices primarily in the areas of trusts, wills, estate planning, probate, guardianships and conservatorships. She has taught numerous classes on these topics and is a popular speaker throughout the Valley.

healing the body, mind and spirit. Cindy is also certified with Doreen Virtue as an Angel reader.

autobiography and also published his first novel *The Inner Circle, a Modern Political Novel* in 2010.

Reamer Allen

Allen Reamer was fortunate to be born into a long line of artists. He has also been fortunate to know what he wanted to do at a young age and be able to do it. He received a B.A. in art, a Masters of Fine Arts degree in sculpture. His post-graduate work is in art history and education. Allen developed and taught a great variety of studio art and art history courses for thirty-two years before coming to Arizona. During this time he was the president of the District of Columbia Art Education Association for ten years and very active for a decade with the National Art Education Association in the areas of curriculum and assessment. He has been a member or chair of a number of art related boards and has gratefully been recognized in a variety of ways including art teacher of the year, a fellowship to China, and upon retiring, letters from a number of politicians. Since coming to Arizona in 1999, he has been able to produce art and teach art history and studio art from the moment he arrived. Allen has taught for the Oscher program since its inception. He exhibits with the Neu Art Group in Arizona.

Saunders Bonnie

Bonnie Saunders has a Ph.D. in history from the University of Connecticut, with an emphasis on U.S. foreign policy, especially in the Middle East in the 20th century. Her dissertation on a CIA plot to overthrow the government of Syria in 1957 was published as a book in 1996. She has taught the Great Decisions program and other foreign policy related adult education classes since 1977 in Connecticut and Arizona.

Sorensen Ken

Not quite an Arizona native, Ken Sorensen moved here with his family as a young child. He grew up in Glendale and attended high school and junior college there. As Ken married and started a family, he worked in construction equipment related jobs until an economic downturn hit the Valley of the Sun. Being unemployed, Ken and his young family made the sacrifices necessary for him to return to school. He completed both his bachelor's and master's degrees and began teaching high school; a life-long dream. Ken is certified to teach both history and English and, during a 30-year career in education, has taught high school in two states. He also taught junior college at both Mesa and Chandler-Gilbert Community Colleges for 12 of those years. Ken has always taught with a humanities approach believing that if we understand who people are and what their motives are, we will more likely understand what they have written.

In the summer of 2005, Ken won a scholarship to attend Exeter College in Oxford, England for a summer term of graduate studies. That experience changed his life. Ken was able to experience things he had read about and taught all his life. In 2013, Ken was honored to be elected Teacher of the Year by the Mesa Arizona Chamber of Commerce following a student's recommendation. Ken is an avid reader and has an extensive collection of books. He also enjoys woodworking and has made children's furniture, inlaid clocks, and finely crafted pens and pencils. Ken lives in Gilbert with his wife Susan. They have seven children and many grandchildren.

Spata Tony

Tony Spata is a Registered Professional Engineer in numerous states, including Arizona. His professional life primarily consisted of twenty-three years at McDonald's as their Corporate Engineer, and eleven years at Hyatt Hotels as their Director of Building Systems Design. At both companies, Tony was responsible for the design of the air-conditioning, lighting, power, security and life-safety systems for their facilities. He has made numerous presentations to industry trade groups, and authored several articles for technical magazines.

Swan

Helen

As a past author, Helen has specialized in non-fiction. Her first book, "Alone After School: A Guide for Latchkey Children and their Families", was published in 1984. After publishing this book, she was a guest in the Donahue Show and CBS News with Maria Schriver. Other publications included research articles about child sexual abuse and a professional manual for adoptive parents of children sexually abused. Helen also has experience as a teacher. Immediately after graduating with an education degree from Purdue University, she taught junior high and high school student for two years. During the next thirty years Helen taught various child abuse courses for teachers and professionals at Ottawa University and Washington University in St. Louis.

Taylor

Chris

Chris Taylor practiced law for many years in Oklahoma and Tennessee before becoming a professor of Legal Studies. She coordinated the Legal Studies Program and taught law-related courses at Volunteer State College, outside of Nashville, Tennessee, as well as at Southern Utah University in Cedar City, Utah. In addition, Taylor is the author of *Granted! A Teacher's Guide to Writing & Winning Classroom Grants* and the e-textbook *Introduction to Law*.

