

## Vista Royale Computer Club

December 12, 2019

### Members:

President Mike Johnson welcomed only 18 members and guests to our 2nd meeting of the 2019/2020 season; probably due to the torrential rain. We have 43 paid members so far and you can renew your membership any time the Lab is open. Use the calendar online and on the Lab door for hours. Dues are the same price, \$20 cash. Please bring your badge for a new sticker; they are due on January 1st, 2020.

Mike reminded everyone of the Children's Christmas Giving Tree at Royal Palm Clubhouse which benefits homeless kids in two local shelters. Vicky Getz is looking into a new slide scanner that we can use with new machines. There is also a sign-up sheet for those interested in a Mac/Apple Special Interest Group in our club.

Jurgen Schwanitz of ACT Computers gave us the latest information on 'Security & Virus' for your machines.

The worst offender for catching viruses is the free stuff, screensavers and attachments that you may click on, or even hover over. They are TRAPS that will be costly for you in time and money. Other factors are not keeping up your anti-virus software subscription, he recommends Norton first and then BitDefender or TransMicro. He does not like most of the free ones, such as AVG. Make sure that you pay for your anti-virus after the trial period on a new machine.

### Other cause of virus infections:

- not doing Microsoft, Java or Adobe updates
- not updating Norton anti-virus or Malwarebytes
- Microsoft does not know what you are doing and will NEVER call you.... nor will the FBI
- do not turn off Windows updates
- do not allow remote connections unless you actually hire a local Tech company such as ACT
- do not ever give out credit card information over the phone to someone unknown
- do not download or use 'Registry Cleaner' type programs

If you do get caught by a virus or in a Ransomware scheme:

ran·som·ware /'ransəm,wɛr/ *noun* A type of malicious software designed to block access to a computer system until a sum of money is paid.

- turn off your machine; Alt F4 with close the current window
- disconnect from the internet and your network; turn off WIFI
- reboot in safe mode [Win10: kill power 3 times in a row will bring up dialog box re: rebooting in safe mode]
- run a full virus scan with your anti-virus software [ no excuses: there are frequent sales for Norton Anti-virus]
- if you have to restore your data, pick a restore point before you had problems
- re-scan with anti-virus again
- if that does not work, seek a professional
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## PREVENTING VIRUSES

- keep anti-virus software & Malwarebytes current
- back up, back up, back up.....
- Back up data to one external Hdd like a Passport Drive, one off-site backup, and one cloud back-up
- upgrade to Win 10 as it is safer than Win 7
- use a complex password
- do not let other people use your machine, especially grandchildren
- reboot your machine regularly as it stays really stable that way
- do not use a password reservoir such as free Last Pass
- turn off file sharing when using a public network
- turn on Win10 firewall and Win10 Defender anti-virus
- make sure that you are getting into the correct network
- DO NOT OPEN unsolicited ATTACHEMENTS regardless of who they come from
- do not allow Macros to run on Word or Excel documents that you are not expecting

## Phone

- have a good password, fingerprint or facial recognition [which is quite good now]
- turn on location and email 'Find My Phone'
- back up phone by plugging into your computer USB port with your lightning cable
- some apps can have viruses.....particularly games and flashlight apps
- Windows 10 App Store is quite safe, as is the Apple Store
- if sending email by phone, make sure that there is no cc [carbon copy] unless you initiated it

Explanation: The “Dark Web” is a hidden internet or portal to underground web where some stuff is stupid and dangerous..... underground trading. or..... The **dark web** is a part of the internet that isn't indexed by search engines. You've no doubt heard talk of the “**dark web**” as a hotbed of criminal activity — and it is ...

'Mr. Robot', <https://www.usanetwork.com/mrrobot> is a Techie TV show that Jurgen likes. See channel 124 or 1124 on ATT TV on Sundays at 10pm.

He also recommends Google Chrome or Firefox as your browser. The next meeting he does for us in January is a demonstration of the latest 'toy' in his shop, a new 3-D printer which uses liquid extrusion from reservoirs to make objects. They must be having so much fun in his shop!

Our next meeting is at 9:30 a.m. Thursday morning December 19, 2019 in the kitchen of Pine Arbor Clubhouse Vicky Getz will be our presenter and will tell you everything you need to 'stream' content to your TV via Roku, fire stick, etc. This is becoming more commonplace and some members have given up their cable TV setup altogether. Very Timely! See you then, bring a friend.

Sandy McKenny, sec.

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*Please go to our <http://www.vrcc.info/> website for archived Meeting Minutes, Calendar of Events, Genealogy Resources and more. You can also set your own computer home page to <http://www.vrcc.info/home.html> to make it match the home page on our Lab machines.*