

VISTA ROYALE COMPUTER CLUB

February 6, 2020

President Mike Johnson opened the meeting with a couple of announcements regarding our upcoming speakers and a free task chair to be given away to who claims it first. There were 32 members & guests who enjoyed the coffee, bagels & cream cheese supplied by our guest speaker. Thanks to Ned Lynch for arranging the speaker. Next week we will be giving away our old, still operable, shredder to a member who is in the audience. Soon we will be doing the same for our old Windows 7/10 laptop, after Vicky cleans it up.

Our guests were Larry Russell, Claudia Church, Thomas Deshler and Timea Young from Millennium Cremation Service. Larry who has over 40 years of experience in the business told us of their 2 locations: 8th Street in Vero Beach and Sebastian. They will soon have operations in Port St Lucie, Palm Bay and Melbourne. Currently the percentage of cremations in Florida are 75-79% and in our area are over 95%. This is due to multiple factors: Economic, Longevity and Geographic concerns. They currently have a 12 member staff and they are open 24/7 for people trying to make arrangements due to the death or impending death of a loved one. In some cases, they will even make a home visit to accommodate a client that is unable to travel to their facility. The subject matter was handled very professionally and comments from the members who attended was that it was information that they felt was needed and appreciated. "Throughout our lives we make plans for the future, so it makes sense to plan for the one thing that none of us can avoid."

Larry explained what services they provide including a timeline of what happens when, the choices and different costs, comparisons to other providers, additional services available as well as showing photos of their tasteful local facility. Any pre-paid packages are escrowed in a state mandated third party trust [FSI Funeral Service Inc in Tallahassee] and current prices are honored throughout the span of the contract. The package is even transferable to another person.

Some of the things discussed were:

- Travel Insurance for when there is a transfer needed from another country or state
- Veteran's Benefits and available Florida cemeteries
- Revocable or Irrevocable Trust options
- Medicare/Medicaid regulations and 'spend-down' laws
- Cemetery costs, including opening a grave charges for a burial
- Grave Marker and engraving
- Obituary, flowers and caterer costs, etc.

A handout folder contained: [a few extra in the LAB]

Why Pre-Arrange

Cremation: frequently asked questions

Guaranteed Travel Assurance Plan

Pre-Arrange Basic Cremation rate sheet

Pre-Arrange Essential Cremation rate sheet

Information on Florida Death Certificates

Millennium information sheet; [typically used for death notices & obituaries]

You make an appointment for personalized service at one of their locations by phone: 772-999-5547; email to info@millenniumcremationservice.com or you can start the process online here www.millenniumcremationservice.com. He also advocated everyone have a 'Vial of Life' in their freezer or refrigerator. You can obtain one from the Sheriff's Dept if you do not already have one to assist any EMS personnel who arrive after a 911 call. It should contain your basic information, medication list, contacts and include a photo of you as well as a DNR [Do Not Resuscitate order] if that is your desire.

A former member will give away her \$35 ticket & lunch for the Indian River Genealogical Society annual all-day Valentine Day Seminar on Saturday, February 22, 2020 9 am – 4 pm at the First Presbyterian Church, 520 Royal Palm Blvd., Vero Beach, Florida 32960. Check here for the particulars and speaker: <https://irgs.org/> Contact Judy Fuller or Sandy McKenny if you are interested. What's not to like: a whole day of superior genealogical presentations and a great breakfast and lunch.

The 13th of February will be a presentation "Vicky Getz vs Window10 -part 2." This is necessary information for all of us now that we have a new operating system.

Sandy McKenny, sec

Vista Royale Computer Club

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