

VISTA ROYALE COMPUTER CLUB

March 5, 2020

President Mike Johnson opened the meeting with a couple of announcements regarding upcoming events as well as looking for nominations for Club Officers for next year. There were 29 members & guests and our membership is at the 128 mark.

Our speaker this week was a new member of the ACT Computer family, Jon Skys. He moved to Vero due to aging parents and has worked for Microsoft, Bloomberg and many other recognizable titans in the business world. He brought his own Laser Etcher and also his 3D printer, explaining that the shop also had these pieces of equipment, some even more advanced. He does do custom work for the shop as well as clients on his own time.

First he scanned the Vista Royale logo, loaded it into a free vector graphics software called Inkscape www.inkscape.com which is similar to Gimp or CorelDRAW. When it was finished, he etched it onto paper and then did the same with a piece of wood all while we were able to watch via his portable movie camera. The printer uses very little electricity, having only a 20 watt bulb. This equipment can be used also make cut-outs or stencils and now is becoming a tool for artists. One should be aware that some supplies are combustible and you should also wear safety glasses around lasers.

The 3Dimensional printer worked with liquid resin from a reservoir, the liquid being about \$40 a liter and comes in all colors as well as transparent ones. The printer must be cleaned occasionally with alcohol but is really low maintenance. Cost is also reasonable, appx \$250. Patterns are readily available through a 'Google' search and are about \$5 each; many of them taking hours to print. One of his favorite sites is www.Thingiverse.com which has thousands of patterns. These printers operate somewhat like a glue gun, laying on layer by layer of resin. If you want, you can even make a 3D scanner for yourself. Many companies or organizations in third world countries are able to make replacement parts for necessary infrastructure projects such as community water systems. Someone has made a misting shower head that will conserve water for us in the future.

A downloaded pattern tells the printer what to do, but you can also use a cell phone for the same purpose. He showed YouTube videos of several time lapsed objects being created; this will bring small parts manufacturing into affordable range for obsolete pieces. There is even a town in Mexico that has been made with a cement 3D printer and Dubai is making plans to do the same.

Mexico: <https://www.wbur.org/hereandnow/2020/02/06/worlds-first-3d-printed-neighborhood-mexico>

Dubai: <https://www.dubaifuture.gov.ae/our-initiatives/dubai-3d-printing-strategy/>

Jon did show us a couple of \$200 reconditioned Dell computers that ACT is now selling with a 1 year warranty. Both were quite small and would be easy to transport. As you all know, ACT Computers continue to supply our club with up-to-date equipment and support as well as three informational programs a season.

For those of you interested:

from National Public Radio: A Guide: How To Prepare Your Home For Coronavirus

<https://www.npr.org/sections/goatsandsoda/2020/02/26/809650625/a-guide-how-to-prepare-your-home-for-coronavirus>

See you all next week when we have a Wells Fargo representative as our guest-learn all about their services and the new digital banking apps.

Sandy McKenny, sec

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If you missed the 'Long Range Plan' Presentation to Residents & BOD on Monday morning, you can read it here: See what the committee suggests and advocates for Vista Royale in the next few years.

<http://www.vistaroyale.org/view/document-center.aspx> to be found under Documents>reports after you sign in.