

VISTA ROYALE COMPUTER CLUB

Meeting Minutes March 25, 2021

Vicky Getz opened the Zoom meeting for the last time this season.

Mike Johnson, President:

As you know, this is the last computer club meeting of this very unusual season. Next season will be much better. Let us know what you would like as meeting material.

I want to thank the Zoom presenters for the great job they did: Darryl, Jamie, Sandy and Vicky. It takes a lot of work to put these together. Thank you also to Vicky for selling the club officers on the idea of these Zoom meetings. The meetings turned out to be very successful.

Thank you to Sandy for her very fine notes and to Steve for loading them to the club website. And to Vicky for setting up all the Zoom meetings.

Hopefully we will meet in person next season and our first order of business, besides

welcoming everyone back, is to elect officers for the coming season. The positions are for President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Unlike previous years there will not be any homework assignments.

Don't forget to use the resources of our www.vrcc.info website.

Have a healthy and safe summer. Be careful out there. Mike's mantra: "Think positive and stay [covid] negative!" I will see you in the fall. Mike Johnson

Another message from Mike for the minutes: All right boys and girls, have some fun with this one!

Listen to radio stations from all over the world. Really fascinating and likely to keep you occupied for a while.

The green dots on this Google Earth map represent radio stations all over the world.

Click on any one of the dots and you will immediately hear that station with very good reception.

For example, halfway up Ireland's East coast, there is a station playing Irish pub music.

<http://radio.garden/live/toulouse/radiopreence>

Another Message from Vicky

We are in a freeview weekend having Showtime, TMC and Epix channels through Sunday March 28.

Vicky showed how to use photo metadata to find a location; this is something that she has used for some time.

Sandy McKenny was our presenter this last week and did a program on Google Earth which she really likes and uses quite often. Many years ago, she used Microsoft Street & Trips that she paid for, but it was strictly a good mapping program not the comprehensive app with all the interesting features.

Now Google Earth Pro has put loads more selections in it that make using it fun as well as functional.

- Global Positioning Satellite
 - Great for current foreign maps
 - Use it on your laptop, tablet or install on your cell phone or car/computer
 - You can also use the online version which is bit different. <https://www.google.com/earth/>
 - This App is a free download from Google.com
 - It covers Worldwide locations
 - It is a compilation of satellite photos, some better and more up to date than others
 - Latitude & Longitude can be identified with it
 - Use YouTube.com for installation & tutorial videos; there are many of them besides the ones mentioned here.
-

USES:

- Plan trips, know where amenities are, get directions & mileage
 - Locate properties to visit or those of friends or ancestors
 - Find businesses, check types under: place categories
 - Street view so you can recognize buildings when you get there
 - Note: at the bottom of the page you will see date, latitude, longitude, elevation
 - It is wonderful for genealogical purposes; especially foreign
 - Help your perspective about various places at home and abroad especially as it has a link to Wikipedia for more information
-

DEMO:

- She showed how easy it is to search for a new location using the 'Fly to Address bar'; you can save these locations permanently so you can see some of your previous searches. You can also plan a trip by using the From & To boxes for 'directions'. She likes to use it at street level for questionable turns when traveling, making sure that you know what lane to be in.
- Adding 'Layers' in the sidebar such as roads, borders, place names will add icons to your view giving you more information although sometimes it gets too 'busy'. She showed how close her northern home was to the US/Canadian border and you could even see the waves in the lake. Use the 'photo' feature as well.
- You can easily check off the types of locations and businesses that you want to show up on your view; from parks to PO, coffee shops to gas stations. They are all listed, many under the MORE button.

- To use the Peg Man or 'street view', you need to check the box for 3-D buildings and drag the icon to a place on the street. In Sandy's case the street view ended when her road changed to dirt and became a 'right of way'.
 - She showed how to locate Vero restaurants or businesses by the address by putting in the name: Scampi Grill, Vero Beach; you can also use the actual street address if you have it.
 - She gave several examples of using Google Earth in your genealogy search and even showed a street view of the Eiffel Tower in Paris.
 - She cautioned that sometimes the app as well as other GPS can be incorrect.
 - It is possible to overlay historic maps from another source over a Google Earth view; do a Google search on this feature if you are interested. She especially likes the timeline button that you can slide back to various older satellite photos to see how the location has changed over the past few years.
 - Sandy's favorite Google Earth feature you can view on this Youtube ad: 'Explore Ancient Rome with Google Earth' <https://www.wired.com/2008/11/explore-ancient/> She is looking into this feature to show next year as it requires a couple of downloads to work; although it may not be available for use any longer.
-

Tutorials on using Google Earth.... check date & country of tutorial to get the latest one in easy to understand English:

[Sandy showed this first one:] 'Google Earth Advanced Tools Tutorial' [11min 2016]

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fa7c4SVzo0I>

'Google Earth Basics Tutorial – YouTube' [6 min, Mar 2020] <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-nN11Yhk8f0>

'How to use Google Earth Tutorial 2020' <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b1gnPw0cqRI>

'25 Google Maps Tricks [TIPS] You Need to Try' <https://www.pcmag.com/how-to/google-maps-tips-tricks>

'How to Use Historical Imagery in Google Earth': <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8lvdKT8AJsM>

OTHER USES:

- Tours, there is a record feature if you want to make a 'Tour of a Place' to show your friends or family
 - Projects & Stories
 - Locate cemeteries
 - Find places from photo location metadata
-

This week was our last week for the season and we hope you all have a great healthy safe summer and look forward to things getting back to 'new normal' in the fall.

Regards, Sandy McKenny, sec.

Members can still find the Jamie Smith's Meeting Recording: **March 18 2021, Smart Home Technology**

Link Expires April 2 2021

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/871JVbK5HuxGKHv_KnjO0UFYUZKAHe-f8BtMOSDNkQdv4gk9a3M9lcsaWc8rTRsU.nLvuScAVV_GFL9CZ
