

Vista Royale Computer Club  
December 1, 2016

Dear Members:

Our first meeting of the 2017 season got off to a good start with a *Welcome* from President Mike Johnson along with some significant numbers relating to the club and goals for the new year. We had 37 members and guests in the audience and have signed up many new members. Current count is 58 paid members.

These are the links that Mike showed:

Welcome Back <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xZzEzDkeHzI>

English Garden <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y7OqzUQRxq4>

He asked for volunteers for the important positions of Webmaster and Vice President which are vacant. It is difficult for only a couple of people doing all the work for a membership of 186-200, so please consider stepping up to help. We can train someone for the website. Upcoming programs already scheduled include computer security, organizing your finances, exploring Ancestry.com in Lab for free, Apple products review & tips, new trends in phones, elder law and estate planning. Check the Calendar on [www.vrcc.info](http://www.vrcc.info) for specific dates. Let us know if you have a request or suggestion.

We have also scheduled an Open House for Saturday, Jan 21 and we will be giving tours of the Lab and explaining the various advantages of joining. Refreshments will be served and we have several really good items for Door Prizes. More on this after the first of the year when we will have volunteer sign-up sheets. Don't forget to tell your friends.

Sandy McKenny explained a bit more about how the new AT&T set-up will work if you decide to change over to AT&T for your internet and phone. The price of these services will be announced when they start connecting everybody in January; apparently there will be some kind of package deal. A major concern for those members changing to AT&T will be the loss of their Comcast email address and contact list unless they plan ahead. In anticipation, everyone should have another email provider such as gmail or yahoo which are free. We will try to keep you updated on the situation, but know that any email address you have such as '[JohnDoe@comcast.net](mailto:JohnDoe@comcast.net)' will disappear 30 days after your Comcast account is closed.

She then explained that the club had signed a contract with ProQuest so that we can have Ancestry.com on all 9 of our machines in the Lab at the same time. This is the superior 'library edition' so it includes census, military and newspaper records as well. This is a great advantage over traveling to the public library downtown to do your genealogy research. Spread the word as it will be a 'use it or lose it' proposition as it is quite expensive for a small organization to have. We plan on having a couple of sessions to help people use this resource. Look for other resources on our website.

Jurgen Schwanitz of ACT Computers will be our speaker this coming Thursday, 9:30 in the kitchen of Pine Arbor. The subject will be 'Computer Security' and he will be taking computer questions after the presentation. See you there.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sandy McKenny, Sec  
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