

VRCC Minutes and Information
January 4, 2018

Hi Members, President Mike Johnson welcomed 34 members and guests on this third program of the season and made these Announcements:

Our current paid membership is 81 and growing every day. If you have not paid your 2018 dues of \$20 cash in the Lab; we hope you consider joining again.

We have had many inquiries, but the photography group cannot start as it is still in need of a leader/organizer. We are still looking for a club President, Vice President & Secretary for the coming year. Consider volunteering for one of these essential jobs.

Sometime this month the club will be selling the 3 computers that we replaced a few weeks ago. They are complete systems with the exception of speakers. We will also be selling our extra flat screens, an excellent time to try using a double screen like the one to the left of the file cabinet in the Lab. Twice the space of just one, especially great for genealogy or multi-tasking.

Vicky announced that the VCR to CD/DVD set-up we now have for members to digitize their old VCR cassettes is ready to be used; there will be a class on how to use this equipment. We also have other gadgets to use or lend to members.

Sandy pointed out the double monitor computer, encouraging everyone to try it out. She has also updated the 'resources' page under 'Genealogy' on our website: www.vrcc.info. Amazing the productivity people have when they stay in from the cold.

Our Guest Speaker was Michelle Miller, an Community Relations Specialist with the local www.211.org, part of the national organization. It is a 5 county resource center located in Palm Beach County and you can call them 24/7, 365 days a year with a crisis or inquiry. Crisis hot lines are answered in less than 45 seconds and have saved and improved many local lives. They have 55 employees working on a tight budget funded by United Way, other entities and 2 major fundraisers. They also accept donations.

They had 115,305 referrals in 2016 and have over 2,000 resources in the area to direct you to for everything from a suicide attempt, depression, emergency shelter information, to say nothing of hurricane season questions. They average 300 calls per day; 23% from Seniors. Currently Indian River County has the highest 'teen self-harm' rate in the US and there are 14 opioid deaths in Florida each day. You can also contact them through email and by texting to 898211.

One of their programs is 'Help me Grow'; geared to making sure babies and children are hitting the correct mile stones for their age and providing resources if they are struggling. Another is their 'Sunshine Program' that contacts over 600 Seniors for a well check each day; much like a pro-active life line. Other services include free tax preparation, summer meals for children, back to school supplies, flu season information, diabetes awareness, winter holiday meals & toys and hurricane preparedness. Michelle gave us a very comprehensive concise look at the services that 221.org provides, had good handouts and left a bunch of posters for members who were unable to attend.

Next week Sandy McKenny will give a demonstration on how to use our Library Edition of Ancestry.com so you can make good use of this subscription in the next couple of months while the Lab is open. She will also discuss the upcoming genealogy beginner class. Alison Findlay will staff the Lab on Monday afternoons from 3pm-5pm for independent genealogical research and Sandy will do the same on Wednesday afternoons 3pm to 5pm. Of course, members can use this resource whenever they are in the Lab as it is on all computers.

Sandy McKenny, sec; Vista Royale Computer Club; Pine Arbor Clubhouse, Vero Beach, FL 32962

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.