

VISTA ROYALE COMPUTER CLUB

Meeting Minutes January 19, 2023

Sandy McKenny, Sec, welcomed 26 new and returning members to the 3rd meeting of the 2023 season. We have more than 126 paid members now on our books The 'two for one' membership dues sale is working well and will continue until Feb 1, 2023; less than 2 weeks away. For better management and continuity, our club is looking for a president and vice president.

Announcements:

- We have had our #4 computer repaired by ACT Computers and now it has Windows 11 operating system on it. Use it in the LAB and assess how you like this operating system, which is the latest.
- Our un-scientific poll from your application forms has these stats for member interest:
 - Genealogy 44
 - Movies 23
 - Photography 38
 - iOS 19
 - Androids 30
 - Windows 28
 - Mac 16
 - Streaming 25
 - OTHER: CAD, Microsoft Word, iPad, Chrome

We will try and incorporate some of these subjects into our program line-up in the next few weeks. Please email VRComputerClub@gmail.com if you want us to explore a **specific** part of one of these subjects. If you are moderately conversant on any of these subjects, please let us know.

- **Next week, Steve Nader will be presenting on 'Hearing and Cochlear Implants'. He is giving up his bowling slot for the week as he felt the information was needed and timely in our community. Please mention to your friends and neighbors; especially if someone has a severe hearing problem.**

- *Who uses cochlear implants": Cochlear implants are designed to help severely to profoundly deaf adults and children who get little or no benefit from hearing aids. Even individuals with severe or profound "nerve deafness" may be able to benefit from cochlear implants.*

- **Sandy mentioned several items she will be putting on the LAB bulletin board re: Caregiving Tips, Florida Domicile Checklist for prospective residents, short chart on "Things never never never to say to someone with dementia".**

- **VB Senior Bulletin Board Newsletter [monthly copies found in Royal Palm Clubhouse]**
- Mary Thieman, our club treasurer, and the Chair of the Landscape/Beautification Committee noted that there are new plantings at the North Entrance. If you care to help fund this or another project to off-set the Association freezing of landscape funds, please contact Mary gmthieman@gmail.com with a donation or shovel power
- We received a new box of 16 GB flash drives that are priced at \$5 each; place fee in Printer Money Jar, please. Then write you name on the label before you use it.

- The Lab will be used for Electronic Voting by owners who need help or a computer/internet connection to participate easily. It will be manned by members of the Electronic Voting Committee and opened by a club monitor. The dates are:
 - Thursday; February 9, 2023; 4-6 pm; [Sandy McKenny monitor]
 - Wednesday; February 15, 2023; 4-6pm [Mary Thieman monitor]
 - Saturday; Feb 25, 2023 9-11am; [Sandy McKenny monitor]

NOTES from Vicky Getz's presentation:

Phones and Cars

Used as a Phone

Used for Navigation

Apple CarPlay and android auto

Future

PHONE

- No device or object has proven to be more distracting to people of all demographics than a handheld cell phone.
- Distracted driving is defined as any activity that takes away attention or focus from safe driving:
 - Visual distraction is when you are removing your gaze off the road.
 - Manual distraction is when you are releasing your grip from the steering wheel.
 - Cognitive distraction is when your thoughts and mind stray away from the road.
- A study by Carnegie Mellon University also showed that just actively listening to a cell phone reduced brain activity associated with driving by 37 percent.

Attention is a Limited Resource: <https://youtu.be/vJG698U2Mvo>

- Driving while using a handheld cell phone is so dangerous that it is illegal in many places.
- Why do so many people use their hand-held phones in areas where it is illegal?
- Their Phone is not connected to their infotainment system.

There are two ways to connect your phone, a wired USB connection and a wireless Bluetooth connection.

USB Provides a connection to the entertainment system and charges the phone's battery at the same time.

Who plugs their phone in every time they drive away?

Bluetooth Connectivity

- Requires your phone to be paired with your car.
- Requires the phone's owner to know that Bluetooth is available.
- Once paired, the connection is automatic
- Pairing a Bluetooth enabled phone to a Bluetooth enabled vehicle is a very simple process.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sdpUlo3dBqk>
- While you are plugged into your car's USB entertainment port or connected via Bluetooth, your phone's internal speaker is disabled and all sound is played through your car's speakers.
- The other reason that people don't connect their phones to their cars is that the car is too old to have those connections.
- A new radio can add both Bluetooth and USB connections.

Many people use their phones as a GPS

- A GPS can give you audio directions.
- A GPS can give you visual clues.
- A GPS can recalculate your route on the fly.
- Smartphones make an excellent GPS
- Maps are always up to date.
- Can start navigation hands free with Siri or Google
- Excellent Navigation apps

- Waze

- Google Maps

- Apple Maps

Smartphones navigation systems don't require you to update your maps, they are always up to date. Traditional GPS systems require you to manually update your maps, sometimes at very high costs.

Avoidance settings, such as no toll or highways, on any GPS navigation system can give you bizarre routing. Your smartphone apps are no exception. One thing that can happen with a smartphone that doesn't happen on traditional devices, is that you can accidentally change your avoidances while your device is in your pocket or purse.

Another common problem is the phone's GPS 'Not Talking'

Of course, the first action is to check your volume settings but there is another more common problem. When your phone is connected to your car, all sound is played through your car's speakers. While phone calls work just fine, the GPS audio is considered music and is treated differently. In order to get your GPS to talk, you need to do one of the following.

1. Select Bluetooth or USB as your music source on your radio
2. Disconnect your phone from your car by turning off Bluetooth and unplugging the USB cord.
3. Find some obscure setting somewhere in your navigation app that say: always play through the phone's own speaker.

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Apple CarPlay and Android Auto

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Starting in 2016, automakers started offering Apple CarPlay, and 2017 Android Auto in some of their vehicles.

- In 2017 Vicky took a test drive in an CarPlay vehicle.
- It only worked when connected via USB
- It only had Apple Carplay, nothing for android.
- It only supported Apple Maps, which were terrible at that time.

At that time, she was concerned about how much data would it use? She was on a very restrictive data plan.

How well would it work when there is no cell coverage? She has since used her phone's GPS out west and in Alaska, where she was without cell service for hours at a time, and had no problem with the GPS getting lost.

A lot has changed since 2017 and it is time to take another look!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sjd2AK7WsTc>

Just like Bluetooth, Apple CarPlay and android auto can be added to your older or vintage car by replacing the radio.

CarPlay and android auto is now available via a wireless connection, and it now supports Google Maps and Waze and other third-party apps.

These radios can offer an optional backup camera and an optional front parking camera so you don't hit the parking block at the front of the parking space.

Future Developments: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YLkyPtV8ErI>

KEEP

YOUR EYES ON THE ROAD

YOUR HANDS ON THE WHEEL

YOUR MIND ON YOUR DRIVING

Thanks, Vicky, for another comprehensive presentation of an everyday problem that many of us are not as comfortable with as we should be.

If you would consider demo'ing a favorite app/software or website when we have a Potpourri Meeting, please let Vicky Getz know. These are some of our more interesting programs. The demo need be for only 15 min or so. Also, you may know an owner or renter with an interesting occupation or hobby that would like to give us a program. Think about it.

That is all for this week..... see you on Thursday to hear all about one man's hearing solution.

Regards, Sandy McKenny, Sec.

Attachments area

[Preview YouTube video selective attention test](#)



[Preview YouTube video How to Pair your Motorola Flip Phone to your Mercedes-Benz Bluetooth System \(HD\)](#)



[Preview YouTube video Apple CarPlay Overview 🚗](#)



[Preview YouTube video Apple CarPlay \(2022\) vs. Android Auto \(2021\): Watch the Reveals](#)

