

VISTA ROYALE COMPUTER CLUB

Meeting Minutes March 9, 2023

Sandy McKenny, Sec, welcomed 17 members and guests to the 9th meeting of the 2023 season. We have more than 169 paid members and the 'two for one' membership dues sale will continue for the rest of the Club spring season. Remember your membership is good until Dec 31, 2023.

**NEXT WEEK:** To Be Announced ..... watch for the email from VRCC.

- If you are interested in learning about filling the president's position or any of the other available positions in our organization, please see Darryl, Vicky or Sandy. Many hands make light work. We will also be looking for a few volunteers in April to help pack up the LAB for hurricane season when we close.
- See numbers of **free** ink cartridges at bottom.

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Jurgen Schwanitz and one of his many techs, Brian, of ACT Computers transported all their 3-D printing equipment into Pine Arbor for a very appreciative small audience. There was an extraordinary number of questions and dialog regarding this up-and-coming advancement in the Tech field. It can only get more common and available.

Jurgen explained the rather large Bambu Labs printer that they just purchased for about \$1400 as it is a production grade printer that they use for clients usually needing parts that are no longer available. The old printer was much more primitive and needed calibrating and tinkering with to get a good product. This new one is self-contained and even has a WIFI camera so you can watch it print on the screen or your phone. It can print up to 16 colors automatically and they use a 3-D scanner along with the software, 'Bender' for the 3-d modeling.

Originally 3-D printers were used by the automotive industry but have branched into dentistry, printing titanium body parts such as knees, and also printing concrete homes. You can even print with human cells, metal and chocolate. Their equipment prints in recycled plastic and carbon fiber. NASA recently noted that one of latest rockets has about 85% of the bulk printed in California and shipped to Florida. Needless to say, this technology is only going to get better and more popular.

Obviously, this is a new occupation field that will be very challenging in the future. Support for those interested can be found on Facebook groups dealing with 3-D printing.

Don't forget that ACT computers does free electronic recycling and will put your hard drive through their 'crusher' to make sure that no one acquires your data: <https://www.actcomp.us/recycling> . They also brought a Bluetooth rechargeable Anker speaker to use with their computer that they sell in different colors for \$60; a nice addition to your laptop with an awful speaker system or use with your 'play list' on your phone. Their store is the first place I go when having problems with any devices; just had my iPhone battery changed there.

Thanks, Jurgen, for another clear, concise presentation and we are extremely pleased that we have you as our most popular presenter every year.

Sandy McKenny, sec