

VISTA ROYALE COMPUTER CLUB

Meeting Minutes 02/01/2024

Linda Briggs, President, welcomed 21 new and returning members to the fifth meeting of the 2024 season.

Important Notices:



Pete & Christy Oquist gave VRCC several laser cartridges. Thank you, Pete and Christy, for your generosity!



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED. CAN YOU HELP OUT?

Two volunteers needed to cover the Lab for Electronic Voting help.

The Lab has to be unlocked, machines turned on and then the verse. The dates are:

Feb 24 (Saturday) from 9am to 11am

Feb 29 (Thursday) from 4-6pm

Thank you for considering volunteering for one of these time slots. Please let Sandy know if you can help out. Thank you!

Upcoming VRCC Meetings:

Feb 08 ACT/Jurgen Schwanitz - Building Gaming Machines

Feb 15 Vero Beach Chamber of Commerce

Feb 22 IPHONES (and androids) for seniors - Linda Briggs

Feb 29 TBA

Mar 07 Estate Planning - Pamela Hennig

Mar 14 ACT/Jurgen Schwanitz - Cyber Security

Mar 21 TBA

Mar 28 Linda Briggs

Programs always begin at 9:30 a.m. and are held in the Pine Arbor Clubhouse kitchen. Twelve consecutive weekly programs are scheduled - every Thursday between 1/4/24 - 3/28/24

Shout Out to ALL MEMBERS - Thank you for supporting VRCC, now in its 22nd year of serving the Vista Royale community!

Indian River Genealogy Conference (see attached .pdf)

Free and open to the public

Presenter: Lisa Louise Cook

March 23, 2024 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. (In-person registration begins at 8:00 a.m.)

Our History: Your Story

3980 12th Street, Vero Beach FL

Thursday, Feb 1 Presentation:

Vicky Getz - USPS Informed Delivery, https, and Mobile Phone Photo Safety

Sandy McKenny - IR Genealogy Conference

Vicky explained how USPS Informed Delivery works and pointed out how useful and convenient this free tool is for keeping track of what mail is coming your way. Find Vicky's notes below and the link to the USPS ID website. There is also a link below that discusses the ways to avoid the pitfalls of impersonation scams.

We learned the history behind internet http and the arrival of https (s for secure) that is now used for almost all web browsers. A notable exception is the popular Chrome web browser. Here is a comparison of the Vista Royale Computer Club's address on Chrome vs other web browsers:

<https://www.vrcc.info> vs <vrcc.info> (Chrome's.) Both addresses get us to the same website.

Taking pictures on a locked phone is the safe way to go when asking someone to take a picture using your phone. See Vicky's notes below for the link to a video that explains how to utilize this safe method.

Sandy reminded us the Indian River Genealogy Conference is coming up on March 23rd. (see above). It's a very popular and excellent conference composed of 16 workshops and all of this is free and open to the public. Highly recommended for anyone with an interest, big or small, in genealogy, this is an annual conference with top notch workshops, speakers, and instructors. Sandy encouraged everyone to come enjoy a great day learning about or continuing on with genealogy.

United States Postal Service Informed Delivery

The United States Postal Service (USPS) will email you a picture of all the mail that is headed for your mailbox. It is free and it is a great service. It helps us know when your mail and packages are on their way. You can have multiple addresses in the service.

<https://www.usps.com/manage/informed-delivery.htm>

As with all great services there are USPS impersonation scams.

<https://krebsonsecurity.com/2023/10/phishers-spoof-usps-12-other-natl-postal-services/>

HTTPS

We talked about outdated ideas about HTTPS that make people sitting ducks for scammers. Vicky has been working on a web page to address this. A permanent link to this page has been added to the Training page, even though it is still a work in progress.

https://www.vrcc.info/http_vs_https.html

TAKING PICTURES ON A LOCKED PHONE

Many people use their phone as a camera. Imagine you are out with a group of friends and a friendly stranger offers to take a picture of you with the full group. You should never hand over your unlocked phone. Instead lock the phone and then without letting the phone see you, swipe the screen from left to right. This works on both Androids and Apples although on an Apple there is now a camera icon that you can press instead. It is best if you know the universal method. One of the advantages of this method is that people can't thumb through your stored photos.

Vicky mentioned the Joanna Sterns Wall Street Journal article that showed a lot of the dangers of letting a stranger handle your unlocked iphone.

This 9 minute Video is a must watch

<https://www.wsj.com/video/series/joanna-stern-personal-technology/an-iphone-thief-explains-how-he-steals-your-passcode-and-bank-account/C37B4009-E548-4459-8D0A-22B7400C3FEA>

NEXT MEETING - February 8th

ACT/Jurgen Schwanitz - Building Gaming Machines

9:30 AM. PACH KITCHEN

SEE YOU THERE!!

Nancy Dalley, Sec.