



PC NEWS

August 2011 Newsletter

Your PCUG keeps getting better and better. SIG leaders continue to present absolutely interesting, informative programs with valuable content and useful current information. If you haven't attended a SIG recently, we urge you to come to a meeting to discover what you have been missing. Keep up with all the rapid changes in the technology world, enjoy the company of interesting people, interact, contribute your knowledge, bring a guest, and come to a meeting. Each of us has something to contribute to our organization to make it stronger and to broaden our horizons. Select a SIG of interest or choose something new. Who knows, you may discover a totally fresh mind-boggling experience – another mind stimulating method to stay young.



Jim Sandham photo



Jim Fallon photo

General Meeting and Digital Photography SIG

SPEAKER: John & Gloria Jones

TOPIC: "Antarctica -- The Last Great Wilderness"

Thursday, August 4, 2011, at 7:00pm

Activity Room - Forum Building, Cypress Creek Community Christian Church, 6823 Cypresswoods, Spring.

6:30 PM:

Membership sign-in, pay dues, and greet visitors.

Spend time with other members and share your questions and answers
(refreshments will not be provided at this time)

7:00 PM to 7:15 PM:

General Meeting Announcements

7:15 PM to 9:00 PM:

Digital Photography SIG

The Jones' have been retired for twenty-three years — John from a thirty-seven year career with Schlumberger and Gloria from banking. After retirement, they became avid birders and nature photographers and have traveled to the seven continents with emphasis on watching and photographing birds and other nature subjects. Through the years they have made numerous presentations to nature groups and camera clubs.

John and Gloria are members of the Piney Woods Wildlife Society, The Houston Outdoor Nature Club, and The Woodlands Camera Club.

They first visited Antarctica in December 1991 and returned in February 2009. This presentation is the result of their last visit.

Last month's program presenter, **Paul Gregg**, held us spellbound with his nature photography followed by thrilling video and still shots of the May 2011 launching of the Space Shuttle. This was the historical next-to-the-last Space Shuttle voyage from the closest possible vantage point. Paul and his wife had the sights and sounds recorded for all of us to relive the experience. What a thrill!! We hope to have a return program of Paul's current Icelandic experience. Watch for updates. You won't be disappointed.



Craig Loomis photo



Judith Tooth photo

In addition to archives on the club website page, **Jim Sandham**, SIG leader, has monthly photography article selections. Here is his August list:

"Getting Your Point-and-Shoot to Capture Better Pictures"

<http://photography.bhinsights.com/content/getting-your-point-and-shoot-capture-better-pictures.html>

"... To Get Better As a Photographer"

<http://photography.bhinsights.com/content/get-better-photographer.html>

"Sharing and Selling Your Photographs Online: Comparing Flickr, Phanfare, Picasa, Shutterfly, Snapfish, and SmugMug"

<http://photography.bhinsights.com/content/sharing-and-selling-your-photographs-online-comparing-flickr-phanfare-picasa-shutterfly-snap>

Investors SIG

Thursday, August 11, 7-9 p.m., **Larry McKee**, SIG Leader

The objective of the meetings is to provide helpful and interesting investment information to the attendees through presentations, group discussions, web site references, and information exchanges. Hopefully, this information will provide a better knowledge base for making decisions for those who manage their own portfolios or want to have a more meaningful critique with their investment advisors.

For our August 11th meeting, we will have several short topics and an open discussion. David Gustine will present information about how to access investment data by using the public library's free on line sources. I will demonstrate how to access some other on line resources. Also we will have an open discussion on current topics such as the result of the deficit spending arrangements

Please note that the past months' PowerPoint presentations are now available in the archives of the Investment SIG part PCUG Web Site (they can be found at the end of section)

Future months probable topics

- **On line sources of Investment Information**
- **Technical Analysis as a guide / assist to investing**
- **Utilities Sector Investments**

- **The American Association of Individual Investors' concept of "The Other Stock Market"**
- **How to find and evaluate investment candidate securities**
- **China—should you invest in securities there?**

Information Exchange

During the month, we maintain an information exchange for useful data regarding current investment developments. If you wish to receive these, please provide me your email address. Attendees are encouraged to email suggested articles to me at: mckeelarryg@hotmail.com

Although we provide information about good performing securities, we do not make recommendations for specific investments. Each recipient of information should decide what to do with the information he or she receives, if anything.

By Larry McKee, Investment SIG Leader

Last month, John Hawkins, presenter, explained his investment philosophy and strategies, as well as the computer journaling and tracking system he developed to help make the best possible investment decisions. The two hours whizzed by for the large turnout for this very interesting program.



Barbara Wallace photo



Jim Kelly photo

Graphics SIG

Thursday, August 18, 7-9 p.m., **Alex Dumestre**, SIG Leader

We looked fairly deeply into the use of Windows Movie Maker (and its Win7 version, Windows Live Movie Maker) last month and had some interest indicated. If this caused some of you to give it a try but left you with unanswered questions, please send me your questions or ask them at the August meeting.

We also looked briefly at making slide shows (using ProShow Gold) but ran out of time. We will look a bit more closely at how to use the program, particularly at the use of multiple layer slides and the complex movements one can get from them.

We will try to have more time to look at digital graphics editing (with PaintShop Pro - somewhat similar to the much more expensive Photoshop). We will be guided by questions from the attendees but, if that doesn't take up all of the time we will look into basic exposure correction, tint removal, cropping and geometric correction.

A quick demonstration of taking photos for panoramas and automatically stitching them into a panorama will be given if there is any interest.

Come join us.

Alex has many additional notes, articles, and tips on the Graphics website page. He has tutorials and articles related to taking better photos, developing your own graphics albums and many other features. Check out Alex's page.



Carlos Hernandez photo



Don Townzen photo

Technology SIG

Tuesday, August 23, 7-9 p.m. **Sam Sanderson**, SIG Leader

At the Technology SIG we have discussions on a wide variety of subjects pertaining to all technology new and old and of course many topics surrounding all versions of the Microsoft Windows operating systems. The primary subject matter will be driven by the specific questions or request from the attendees. I will be bringing my new Apple iPad 2 and iPhone 4 to explore all the free apps available for them.

A sampling of topics include:

Laptops & PCs	WIFI Devices	Smart Phones	Plasma/LCD TV	Tablet PCs
Virus Utilities	Home Networking	MS Office Suite	Windows A to Z	Audio Visual
Bluetooth	ISPs	eMail Apps	Cloud Apps	Music/Video

No subject is off limits, we cover it all. Come and join us. The topics are always interesting. It is amazing all of the technology know how that exist within our club members.

Leader: [Sam Sanderson](#)



Bill Franklin photo

Genealogy SIG

Thursday, August 25, 7-9 p.m. **Betty Hesketh and Alex Dumestre** SIG Leaders

In July we visited some unique and interesting sites on the Internet. When researching, we often tend to visit the same web sites over and over again, so the purpose at this Genealogy SIG will be to encourage researchers to broaden their Internet searches to include places that they may not have considered in the past. Beginning and experienced researchers are welcome.

Our next bus trip is scheduled for Tuesday, October 4th. Check the genealogy web pages at www.1960pcug.org/gensig for gensig news and research helps.

SIG Co-
leaders:
[Betty
Hesketh](#)
[Alex
Dumestre](#)



Jean Franklin photo

We leave you with the above photo by Jean Franklin to keep you in a "cool" state of mind for August.

As always, we hope to see you attend at least one SIG and bring a guest. You will be pleased.

BeaAnn Kelly,

Communication Officer