



March 2011 Newsletter

It is hard to believe that freezing weather conditions in Houston caused the cancellation of the February general meeting and **Digital Photography SIG**. Now spring is just around the corner, and Jim Sandham has a very special program lined up for the March 3, 2011 meeting:

SPEAKER: Wayne Wendel
TOPIC: "Travel Photography"
Thursday, March 3, 2011, at 7:00pm
Activity Room - Forum Building

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

Wayne Wendel took up photography in 1967 while in the U.S. Air Force. He learned black & white photography, developing, and printing. His first job as a Houston Police Dept. rookie in 1971 was photographing crime scenes with a Speed Graphix 4x5. He supervised crime scene photography for over 30 years. After he retired in 2005 his photographic interests turned to birds, landscapes, cityscapes, wildflowers, and travel photography. On March 18th he'll have a showing of 75 of his photos taken in the south of France at the French Culture Center, L'Alliance Francaise.

Wayne's presentation to our club will include packing the right gear for your trip, using tripods, camera settings, preparing yourself for where you're going, elements of magazine quality photographs, composition techniques, what to look for in

subjects, and even an introduction to panorama photography and how to do it. Whew, all in 45 minutes! DON'T MISS IT! Guests are welcome.

Jim is also sharing the following websites for additional photography information:

"25 Top Locations for Nature Photography" – Outdoor Photographer, Dec. 2010
<http://www.outdoorphotographer.com/locations/north-america/25-top-locations-for-nature-photography.html>

"25 Pro Tips" – Outdoor Photographer, Dec. 2010
<http://www.outdoorphotographer.com/how-to/shooting/25-pro-tips.html>

"Adobe's Photoshop Lightroom 3: Improved Features, Added Options" – Shutterbug, Nov. 2010
http://shutterbug.com/equipmentreviews/software_computers/1110photoshop/

"Adobe's Photoshop Lightroom 3: Is it a 'Must-Upgrade' Version?" – Shutterbug, Dec. 2010
http://www.shutterbug.net/equipmentreviews/software_computers/1210lightroom/

Also remember to check out the Digital Photography website page for more resources located in the "archives."

Please note, the following meetings are held in room 30 on the second floor of the Annex Building:

Software/Internet SIG

Tuesday, March 8, 7-9 p.m., Don Marvin, SIG Leader. In February's meeting the group looked at some interesting programs, both new ones and others that have been updated. Some were designed to help keep your computer tuned-up and running at its best and others are tools for the storage of passwords, and synchronizing files between computers. Links were provided for all of the programs for those wanting to try them out.

Don also led those in attendance to share any programs or helpful hints with the group. He also encourages members and visitors to bring any problems they have or are having with their computers. Come to the March 8 meeting to see if Don and the group can help you solve your computer-related problems. He always has interesting topics to present. Bring a guest.

For additional resources and information, Don also has many archives for you to investigate on the Software/internet section of the Club website page.

Investors SIG

Thursday, March 10, 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.

The next meeting of the Investment SIG will be on Thursday, March 10th. We will commence the meeting with a presentation / discussion about a method of stock selections used by Michael Swanson which is described in his book, "Strategic Stock Selection." The second half of the meeting will have an open discussion for any subjects that the attendees wish to bring up. Guests are welcome.

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).

Graphics SIG

Thursday, March 17, 7-9 p.m., Alex Dumestre, SIG Leader. **The Graphics SIG is defined to cover all aspects of computer graphics that may be of interest to our members.**

In particular, all kinds of (1) painting, (2) drawing, (3) presentation, (4) scrapbooking and (5) photo editing software are in our area of responsibility both for printed and Web output. We also get into (1) scanning, (2) digital photography, (3) video, and (4) slide show production. We deal with use of graphics in more general purpose applications such as word processors and e-mail.

Which of this wide array of applications are actually covered at a SIG meeting depends strongly on the knowledge and interests of the SIG leader and of the guest speakers that the leader can recruit **and** on the suggestions made by the SIG attendees. The Graphics SIG, as are most of the club's SIGs, is very informal and questions are welcomed during the course of the meeting. It is suggested that, if possible, you submit your questions in advance via e-mail in order that the leader be able to do some research on the question if necessary. Attendance is typically about 20 members. Guests are welcome.

Your current leader specializes in graphic editing, slide show production, digital photography and scanning though he and/or other attendees may be able to answer your questions on a wider range of applications. Your current leader also has a standing offer to perform restoration work on damaged or faded photographs that are important to you. Simply e-mail digital files to him or bring them or original prints to the meeting.

Come equipped with your questions or e-mail them to me in advance. I hope to see you there. Guests are welcome.

Windows SIG

Tuesday, March 22, 7-9 p.m. Sam Sanderson, SIG Leader. At the Windows SIG there will be a discussion of Windows features aimed at beginner and intermediate level users. The primary subject matter will be driven by the specific questions from the attendees.

Past meetings have covered a wide range of subjects including copy-paste, system configuration, HD television, virus detection and removal, setting up home networks, choosing the best ISP to use, and all MS Office products.

As always, I'm sure there will be lively discussion about everyone's new challenges brought on by our favorite operating system. Come and join in on the fun!

Remember, visitors and guests are always welcome. Sam and the group answered at least four different questions at the February meeting.

Genealogy SIG

Thursday, March 24, 7-9 p.m., Betty Hesketh and Alex Dumestre, Leaders. Lynna Kay Shuffield will be making a return visit to speak to our group at the March 24, 2011 meeting of the Genealogy SIG. She will be talking about Newspaper Research Online... databases, using Houston Public Library's Research Resources and paid websites, and we will be learning how to use and the importance of devoting the time and effort to finding information about your family in black and white. Please join us for what promises to be a very interesting and useful talk. Beginning and experienced researchers are welcome.

Checkout our [genealogy web site](#) for up-to-date information about SIG happenings and helpful research information. Sign up for our newsletter by contacting [Betty](#).

Bring a guest and find out why this is such a popular SIG.

Share and Learn photos will brighten the newsletter next month.

BeaAnn Kelly,

Vice President of Communications