



PC NEWS

October 2011 Newsletter

General Meeting and Digital Photography Meeting

Due to scheduling conflicts, the October General Meeting and Digital Photography meeting will **not** be held. Our presentation for November will be posted in next month's newsletter, so be watching for that announcement.

The September presentation by Paul Flagg was most informative and educational. Paul's presentation: "The Challenges and Rewards of Travel Photography," gave us many pointers for improving our photos no matter what type of camera we use; from a point-and-shoot to an SLR, even cell phones. Important points and suggestions from Mr. Flagg: Have a plan, mentally prepare for the type of images you would like to take, scour catalogs for ideas, use high ISO for fast shooting, use a balanced stance and hold your camera steady. The entire group seemed to appreciate Mr. Flagg's program and image examples.

Members anticipating the September program



Photography articles submitted by Jim Sandham, Digital Photography SIG Leader:

"Polarizing Filter (Photography)"

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Polarizing_filter_\(Photography\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Polarizing_filter_(Photography))

"Polarizing Filter Tips"

http://www.offrench.net/photos/articles/polarizing_filter.php

"Polarizer Tricks...and Links"

<http://www.offrench.net/photos/articles/polarizer.php>

"How to Use a Polarizing Filter"

<http://www.great-landscape-photography.com/polarizing-filter.html>

"Amazing Landscape Photography With a Polarizer"

<http://www.picturecorrect.com/tips/polarizer-filter-landscape-photography/>

Check out these articles for answers to your questions about the use of polarizing filters.

Judith Tooth Published in Major Photography Magazine

Active member and outstanding photographer, Judith Tooth, had this full page, back inside cover image published in the July, 2011 edition of "Outdoor Photographer."



Judith stated she merely submitted the image to the magazine and the editors selected it from the thousands of images received each month. She captured these two American Pelicans in Rockport, Texas, during bath time, "The grace and beauty of these birds captivated me to the point of being one with them and nature."

Many of you witness Judith's talent each month during the Share and Learn portion of the Digital Photography SIG, as well as those published in the club newsletter. Congratulations, Judith, you are an inspiration for all of us to take that next step in sharing our images. Many of the images we see during S & L are also magazine quality that are taken by other talented members.

Software/Internet SIG

Tuesday, October 11, 7-9 p.m., **Don Marvin**, SIG Leader

Last month Don discussed the variety of electronic devices either already on the market or coming soon. Do you need a **Desktop** or a **Laptop**? What suits your needs best a **Netbook**, a **Notebook**, a **Tablet** or maybe a **Smart phone**? Answers to some of these questions, and a review of the devices currently on the market, was also planned. Don also discussed how you can save money by doing your home research and buying a new computer on-line.

As usual in this SIG Don took a look at some useful software including both shareware and freeware utilities. There are some very good ones that you might add to your computer's library of resources.

Members were encouraged to bring the devices mentioned above to share their experiences with them. Computer problems were also presented for the group to solve.



Carol Mills photo



David Gustine photo

Investors SIG

Thursday, October 13, 7-9 p.m., **Larry McKee**, SIG Leader

Topic – “The Utilities Sector - Has their time Come?”

“With the volatility that exists in today’s markets, many are looking for stability but do not want to give up on a reasonable payback for their investment. The Utilities Sector has languished for several months. Some analysts are forecasting that the sector will be having some modest appreciation in addition to their normally stable, but conservative yields. We will examine some of the latest thinking and trends on the sector in a short presentation.

As we did last month, we will also list some securities that various analysts have recommended recently for their assumptions of where the market is headed. And as usual, we will have an open discussion of the current markets and solicit comments from the attendees about their reactions to the market movements.

If anyone is willing to share which securities they are currently buying or selling will invite their descriptions and rationale.

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 advisor.

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).”

By Larry McKee

Graphics SIG

Thursday, October 20, 7-9 p.m., **Alex Dumestre**, SIG Leader,

Last month we spent most of the meeting looking at many of the basic operations in a digital graphics editor (PaintShop Pro). There seemed to be interest in this review of using an editor. Based on that, I intend to continue along that line this month.

We will look at such things as color control, layers, selections, feathering, cloning, painting, line drawing, etc. We will also look at basic photograph work such as exposure correction, tint removal, sharpening, blurring, cropping and perspective correction. This will be a good time to ask questions about any aspect of editing that you are unclear about.

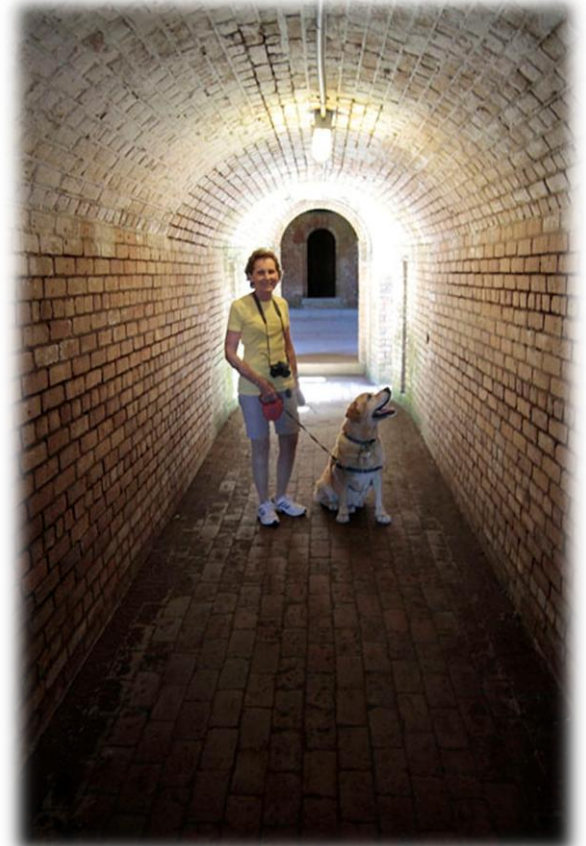
Paintshop Pro has released, during the past month, a new version (X4) that was mentioned last month. There are several additions that appear to be interesting. We will be able to take a look at a few of these changes/additions.

If there is time we will look at the workings of my favorite slide show producing program -- ProShow Gold.

Come join us.

Alex

Craig
Loomis
Photo



Carlos Hernandez Photo



Jean Franklin Photo

Technology SIG

Tuesday, October 25, 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.

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."

Art Rothenberg Photo



Bob Argo Photo



Jim Sandham Photo



Jim Kelly Photo



Genealogy SIG

Thursday, October 27, 7-9 p.m., **Betty Hesketh and Alex Dumestre**, SIG Leaders



"If you are new to genealogy or want to know how to get started, this meeting is a good place to get help. Time permitting, we will visit some interesting genealogy-related web sites. Beginning and experienced researchers are welcome.

[Our next bus trip to Clayton Library will be Tuesday, October 4, 2011.](#) Please contact Bill Nation to sign up for the trip. Also visit the [genealogy web pages](#) for the latest SIG and bus trip information."

Bill Franklin Photo



Pat Tucker Photo

BeaAnn Kelly
Photo



Sylvia Tucker Photo

On the last page of this month's newsletter you will find information about other photography groups that meet in the area.



The Woodlands Photography Club -- meets on the second Monday evening of each month from 6:30-8:00 pm at the South Montgomery County Community Center, just west of The Woodlands Pavilion, at 2235 Lake Robbins Road, The Woodlands. The club offers frequent photographic field trips, and hosts a members-only photography contest each fall. Check them out at: <http://www.woodlandspphoto.org/>

The Woodlands Camera Club -- meets the first Monday evening of each month from 7:00-9:00 pm, in the Jones Library (southwest corner of The Woodlands United Methodist Church), which is located at the corner of Grogan's Mill and Lake Woodlands Drive. The church address is 2200 Lake Woodlands Drive, The Woodlands. The club offers occasional photographic field trips. It also offers three SIGs (special interest groups): Digital SLR Camera SIG, Photoshop Elements SIG, and "The Fine Art of Seeing" SIG. Check them out at: <http://www.thewoodlandscameraclub.org/>

BeaAnn Kelly, Communications Officer



Judith Tooth Photo