SBRTC Newsletter – October 2023

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From the President

Welcome Photoworks Members

by Dave Richey on September 04

As we inch degree by degree into Fall here at SBR I want to tell you of wonderful things going on with your Technology Club.

First, the Photoworks club has merged into the Technology Club. We refer to those members as the Photography Special Interest Group (SIG). There has always been a sizable overlap between the members of Photoworks and the members of the Technology Club. The Technology Club has long offered classes on Adobe Photoshop (thanks to Steve Weiss). Now all Technology Club members can enjoy classes on the art of photography. The board added a short term board position to represent the Photography SIG that is held by Kathy Watson. We plan to leverage the board, our room and resources to offer more benefits for all members.

Second, the long awaited 3D printer has FINALLY ARRIVED! We ordered it from a leading edge manufacturer PRUSA3D headquartered in the Czech Republic. The pandemic and subsequent supply chain problems delayed our delivery by almost 2 years! 3D printers are THE key tool for today's makers. Our Technology team will now install it in the Tech room. For general rollout to our members we will be creating processes and classes so everyone can enjoy. Stand by for more info! Meanwhile stop by the Tech Room to check it out. Those of you that are 3D printer enthusiasts let Tony P or myself know and you can help us figure out the rollout (and maybe get some early access).

Third, Apple and Microsoft have been making changes for new hardware. The result is Windows 11 and the Apple M2 hardware. See the article which follows to understand the new Apple Mac Studio we have just installed. We also have a relatively new and beefy PC that runs Windows 11. Check them out in the Tech Room.

Fourth, we have board elections coming in December. You will hear about nominees at our November 15 Community General Meeting. Two board members that are leaving (term limits and personal plans) are women: Maria Astaire and Barbara Whitehead. They have been valued board members and will be much missed. So if you are a woman interested in serving on the board or know some great women please let me know.

Enough. Fall is here and great things will be happening at your Technology Club.

Dave Richey

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TOP STORIES

New Apple Desktop Computer

Mac Studio M2 MAX

by Anthony E Pietrzykoski on September 04

Technology moves at a fast pace in the modern world. The choice for the additional new computer should be innovative, and powerful as possible. So the Apple Studio was chosen.

Figure 1: Mac Studio Front and Rear

It's a super sleek and minimal box with all the computing bits integrated inside. Apple has upgraded the Mac Studio to its M2-series silicon, including the M2 Max and the even more powerful M2 Ultra (which is probably overkill for all but the most serious users).

Mac Studio Specifications:

M2 Max CPU

Memory Transfer 400GB/sec.

32 GB RAM

1 TB SSD

HDMI 2.1 (4K)

3.5mm Audio Jack

Magic mouse

Magic Keyboard + Numeric keypad

27" Studio Display with Nano Textured Glass

Figure 2: Mac Studio with 27" Studio display

Upcoming Classes

by Ben Eisenstein on September 04

MAC Class – Hank (Oct 5). This is an introduction to Mac computers. Learn the key features of the Mac OS, to include system preferences where the user can customize settings to personalize their computer. Topics will cover the basics of the Finder, Dock, Spotlight and Safari (Apples web browser). Get a tour of the Mac keyboard and the pre-installed apps.

This presentation will allow the new user to get started with the Mac so they can explore on their own. Experienced users would find this to be a helpful review of the Mac basics.

Improving your online security (Oct 12). In this class you will learn how to harden the security of your mobile devices, computer and online accounts. We will look at optimizing your device settings, improving account security, using password managers and setting up email to maximize security.

Nature Photography (October 25). The presentation is for new and intermediate photographers who want to improve their photography, especially of wildlife, flowers, and landscapes. It will cover compositional tools and recommended camera settings. Gerry is a regular contributor to the Nature's Way column in the SaddleBrooke Ranch Roundup.

AI Graphics Class (November 16). No registration required. Class will be in the Montana Room.

Understanding Color in Photoshop (November 29). Learn about color in Photoshop. You can even send in a photo that needs color workwhich may be used as an example in class!

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Saddlebrooke Ranch Technology Club