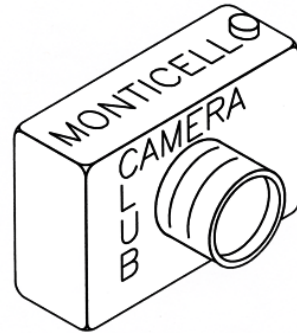


Monticello Camera Club



Meeting - 9/15/10

Photo Organizing Software

- **Why use photo organizing software?**
 - **Organize** – With a capable organizing program you can arrange your images by the date they were taken, occasion, file size, file type, rating (up to 5 stars) or just about any way you want. You can also sort them ascending, descending or by dates, subject, folders or tags/keywords.
 - **Archive** – After arranging your images, you can print them or burn them onto a CD for long-term storage.
 - **Edit** – Most organizers include a good set of editing and enhancing tools. So within the program you can perform basic edits like crop, re-size, add flash, change to B/W or sepia and so on. The best edit features of any organizing tool are non-destructive edits meaning they preserve the integrity of your original photo. Be sure to look for this feature.
 - **Share** – What's the fun in having great looking pics if you can't share them? With a flexible program, you can create slide shows, emails, galleries, greeting cards, album pages, prints, calendars or burn onto a gift CD.

Photo Organizing Software

- **What to Look For in Photo Organizing Software**
 - How you want to use the product?
 - Importance of organizing tools versus editing tools versus online image publishing capability.
- **Criteria used to evaluate Photo Organizing Software:**
 - **Feature Set** - The best programs include customizable ways to organize and view your images as well as a good set of editing/enhancing tools and creative ways to share your pictures.
 - **Ease of Use** - Functions and features should be easy to figure out the first time.
 - **Ease of Installation** - A good program will load quickly and not cause errors or problems with your computer.
 - **Help/Support** - Product and technical help are important. Good help includes inter-program help pages and tutorials as well as online FAQs, a searchable knowledge base, user forums and email and telephone technical support.

Photo Organizing Software

- **Recommendations**

- High End Professional Tools that can handle thousands of photos

- Adobe Photoshop Lightroom

- Cost: \$299

- Runs on Mac or Windows platforms

- Apple Aperture

- Cost: \$19

- Runs on Mac only

Photo Organizing Software

- **The Rest** (meant more for your typical hobbyist)
 - These selections were made based on ranking on the website TopTenReviews.com. Much of the material for this presentation was obtained from this website.
 - These are listed by ‘best’ to ‘worst’. (Note: I’m not sure how they determined which products should be included in this list.)
 - My recommended products from at least 2-3 years ago, when I last presented this topic, were Google Picasa (Free program that runs on Mac or Windows) or ACDSee which is included in the list below.
 - I am only including the top 5 here.

Photo Organizing Software

- **Ulead Photo Explorer 8.5**
 - Standout features:
 - Supports image imports from multiple sources (i.e. digital camera, scanner, removable media, camcorder, web page)
 - Comprehensive photo editing package
 - Multiple photo-sharing options
 - Platform: Microsoft® Windows® 98SE, 2000, Me and XP
 - Price: \$29.99
 - Summary: “Ulead Photo Explorer 8.5 is a comprehensive media organizing tool.”

Photo Organizing Software

- **Corel Photo Album 7**

- Standout features:

- Extensive photo editing and effects packages
 - Comprehensive photo-sharing options

- Platform: Windows Vista® or Windows® XP (with latest service packs installed)

- Price: \$29.99

- Summary: “Corel has created an easy to use program that provides a long list organizing, editing and sharing functions. It’s fast, fun and friendly, making it a top choice for amateur photographers.”

Photo Organizing Software

- **** ACDSee 2009** (they also have ACDSee Pro 2.5 version)
 - Standout features
 - Substantial photo editing and effects packages
 - Multiple photo-sharing options
 - Platform: Windows® XP with Service Pack 2, Windows Vista® or Windows® 7 operating system.
 - Price: \$49.99
 - Summary: “ACDSee is for those familiar with the technical aspects of organizing and editing photos. If you regularly work with Zip files, create PowerPoint presentations, and upload to popular photo sharing sites, you will use this software to its full capacity.”

Photo Organizing Software

- **CompuPic Pro** (made by Photodex)
 - Platform: Windows 98 or better, Pentium II CPU.
 - Price: \$49.95
 - Summary: “For the price, CompuPic provides a solid photo organizing tool. It has many good features, and we can't say enough good things about their help and support system. However, CompuPic's navigation and image search may be challenging.”

Photo Organizing Software

- **Imatch 3.6**

- Platform: Microsoft Windows 2000, Windows XP, Windows 2003, 64-Bit Windows, Windows Vista and Windows Vista 64 Bit (IMatch 3.6 and higher), Windows 7
- Price: \$64.95
- Summary: “This product is for those that need to manage thousands of images—not your typical family photographer. However, if you want a professional grade product and can digest technical instructions, you will not find a better priced product on the market.”

Photo Organizing Software

- **** Google Picasa 3.0**

(Note: I added this updated one from my previous presentation - Jean)

- Platform: Mac OS X 10.4.9+ or Microsoft® Windows XP, Microsoft® Windows Vista, Microsoft® Windows 7, or Linux
- Price: FREE
- Summary: “For a basic organizing and editing package, Picasa is a great tool. And, it’s free ... we like that, and so will you.”

Photo Organizing Software

- **** Adobe Bridge CS4**

Note: I'm adding this one (CS5 is available now) for those people who are using Photoshop.

- Platform: Mac or Windows - same requirements as Adobe Photoshop.
- Price: FREE with Adobe Photoshop (any Creative Suite version at least)
- Summary: “With the workspace overhaul and speed increase, Bridge is a real joy to use. The ability to quickly zip through the images on your hard drive is very satisfying, especially for those who have a lot of imagery in their lives. The new Output module is handy for exporting PDFs and Web galleries, but the inability to save your settings as a preset is bone-jarring. After all, the module feels air-lifted right out of Adobe Lightroom where the ability to save presets does exist.” (Based on Macworld.com Review)

Photo Organizing Software

Summary

- **Best Free Options**
 - **Adobe Bridge** if you already own **Adobe Photoshop**
 - **Google Picasa**
 - **On Mac platform, iPhoto is another option**
 - **Using your own file folder structure (any platform)**
- **Best Pay Options (Low to Medium End Use)**
 - **Ulead Photo Explorer 8.5** (#1 by TopTenReviews.com)
 - **Corel Photo Album** (#2 by TopTenReviews.com)
 - **ACDSee** (#3 by TopTenReviews.com but best in my opinion-Jean)

Photo Organizing Software

Summary

- **Best Pay Options (High End Use)**
 - **Adobe Lightroom – Windows or Mac**
 - **Adobe Aperture – Mac Only**

Photo Organizing Software

Your choice will depend on your preferences regarding:

- workflow habits
- money you have to spend
- personal preferences regarding the importance of the following:
 - Feature Set offered
 - Organizing options (ratings, keywords, metadata sets, etc)
 - Archival options (backups, CD/DVD burning, printing, etc)
 - Editing options (how many options there are)
 - Sharing options (web, CDs, uploading to facebook, etc)
 - Ease of Use
 - Ease of Installation
 - Help/Support

Photo Organizing Software

Most important thing to remember regarding your photo library and photos?

BACKUPS

The contents of this presentation can be found on our camera club website: cameraclub.monticelloarts.org.
Look for it on the Training page.

Photo Organizing Software

Demos

Adobe Lightroom – Ken Kvam

Aperture – Sanford Smith and Jean Davids

Group Discussion

What methods do you use to organize photos?

Preferences for file structure?

Backups?