

# RED RIVER MONITOR



Volume 25 No. 07

NWLAPCUG, Inc. Newsletter

July 2011

## Review of the June 2011 Membership Meeting by Bob Pierce

Due to the lack of a quorum, we did not hold a business session. Robert Saucier introduced our guest speaker for the evening, our own Glenda Conradi. Glenda and her husband Bernie had recently traveled up into Iowa to visit Bernie's hometown. She used those travel experiences to share with us a number of things to consider on a trip and how to put your travel photography together for an interesting presentation.

There are a number of things to be aware of when you are packing for a trip. The best way to keep up with what you are doing is to have a checklist. All of the items Glenda mentioned should be on your list. With experience, you will develop additional items. First, pack extra batteries and memory cards for your camera(s). If your camera uses power packs instead of batteries, get a spare power pack and keep it charged. Your batteries may take 300 pictures. Then picture number 301 is seen. There may not be a drug store or Wal-Mart handy, so be ready with a spare. Another item for your checklist is a notebook and pen. Keep notes as you photograph. You don't want to get home and have a lot of pictures that you can't identify. Notes are good to help you remember. Other items for your checklist may include lens cloths to clean your lens, tripods, filters, etc. Don't feel that you should only have photo items on your list. There are many none-photo things to remember; such as medicines, phone lists, chargers, DVD movies, laptop, external hard drive to store photos on, card readers, and the list can go on forever. Tailor it to suit your needs.

Now that everything is packed, you need to think about the trip itself. Of course, you want to take plenty of pictures of places where folks grew up, went to school, rivers they swam in, old stores they may have shopped, etc. There are also many places of historic interest along the way. Don't forget about those. In addition to your notes, take pictures of signs

to help you remember where and what you are photographing. You can always label your notes (i.e., Day 1, Day 2, etc.) in such a way that it helps your memory, because when you get home you will want to organize the images. When photographing an old building, find a sign that helps identify it and include the sign in your photos. There may be a sign on the window or the door that will help. Again, take plenty of pictures and make many notes.

Once you have returned home, you will want to organize your images. Don't do anything to them in the camera. Go ahead and upload the images to your camera. When you are sure that the images are properly stored in your computer, it will be safe to put your memory card back in the camera and format the card for your next trip. Some of your pictures will need a little editing, and it is important that you duplicate the image before you edit. Do the edits on the duplicate and be sure to save the duplicate. Since most of these are important images, back them up to an external drive, DVDs, or flash drives as soon as possible. You never know when a hard drive will crash and you may lose everything that is not backed up.

Glenda made her presentation more interesting with the use of many images to illustrate her points. There were images of the house Bernie grew up in, the school he went to, and many of the places he would be found when he was a kid. Images of interesting places they saw going and coming were included. These showed how Glenda would take pictures of water towers and highway signs to show where they were as the photos were taken. Using her notes, she could relate some facts about the places and the images.

Stella Smith's name was drawn for the door prize, but she was not present. Another ten dollars will be added to the pot for the July meeting. Hope to see you there!



Users Helping Users

### Red River Monitor

Published by  
**Northwest Louisiana personal Computer User Group, Inc.**  
 6658 Youree Drive Suite 108-112  
 Shreveport, LA 71105

Editor: Phillip Sanders  
 Co-Editor: Ben Fusco

The opinions expressed in the articles in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the editor or publisher. Mention of products by their trade name does not in any way constitute endorsement by anyone.

Permission to reproduce portions that are not specifically indicated as printed courtesy of any computer magazine is given to other computer user groups for non-profit use. All other reproduction is prohibited without the specific written permission of the original source.

NWLAPCUG, Inc. is a non-profit organization.

#### Member of APCUG



#### Newsletter Articles Welcomed

Please submit articles for newsletter, in RTF file format, by the first day of the month to  
 Phillip Sanders- phillip479@aol.com  
 And to Ben Fusco-benfusco@bellsouth.net

#### Officers & Board of Directors

President	Pat Joyner	798-2766
Vice Pres.	Dr. John Hardin	861-3408
Secretary	Jack Barnett	968-2372
Treasurer	Robert Saucier	861-2235
Bob Pierce		686-0203
Bob Franklin		933-1235
Lee sepulvado		687-2088

#### Membership Dues

Full: \$15.00 a year  
 Spouse: \$6.00 a year  
 Student: \$10.00 a year

#### Visit Our Web Site

<http://www.nwlapcug.com>

## Photos taken at the June 2011 Membership Meeting By Glenda Conradi



### Glenda Giving Program



### Carole White Draws Name

## Corel Graphics/Photo SIG, June, 2011

by Glenda Conradi



Our June Corel Graphics/Photo SIG program covered some of the features that are included on a lot of the digital cameras most of us have, and we may not even realize some of them are there, or how to benefit from them. We looked at Digital camera modes, which, when selected, can automatically

change our camera settings to get the best pictures in special circumstances and settings. Your camera manual, whether printed or provided on line, can be a very good source for finding out what modes your camera has and how they work. Not all cameras include the same camera modes. Some cameras have a panoramic setting that automatically stitches several photos together right in the camera, then there are some that have panoramic assist that just guides you on how close together to take the pictures so you can use software on your computer to convert them to a panoramic picture.

The picture modes on your camera may be accessed with a rotating wheel that has the mode icons printed on the wheel, or you may have to access some or all of them through the camera's menu.

Here are some of the more common modes:

**Portrait-Mode:** Your camera will automatically select a large aperture (small number) which helps to keep your background out of focus using a narrow depth of field – to keep the subject the only thing in focus.

**Macro Mode:** Lets you move your camera closer into your subject to take a close up picture. Good for shooting flowers, insects or other small objects.

**Landscape Mode:** This mode sets the camera up with a small aperture so the scene you're photographing will be in focus. It is good for capturing shots of wide scenes, especially those with points of interest at different distances.

**Sports Mode:** Good for photographing moving objects. Sports mode attempts to freeze the action by increasing the shutter speed. When photographing fast moving subjects you can also increase your

chances of capturing a good picture with panning of your camera, along with the subject and/or by attempting to pre focus your camera on a spot where the subject will be when you want to photograph it.

**Night Mode:** Night mode (a technique also called 'slow shutter sync') is for shooting in low light situations and sets your camera to use a longer shutter speed to help capture details of the background but it also fires the flash to illuminate the foreground (and subject).

**Movie Mode:** Extends your digital camera from just capturing still images to capturing moving ones. Most new digital cameras come with a movie mode that records not just video but also sound. The quality may not be up to video camera standards on some cameras, but it's a handy mode to have when you come across that perfect subject or situation that you would really like to have video of.

**Panorama Mode,** that we discussed earlier, is a mode offered on some cameras can come in handy if there is a landscape, or something you want to photograph that is wider than the average picture.

You can get a panoramic picture by keeping your camera level and taking several shots while rotating the camera and overlapping the edges slightly, than arranging the photos and applying the panorama option in a photo editing program or software that offers that feature. With most panoramic modes your camera will do the arranging and stitching automatically in your camera.

We also talked about and demonstrated the ease of using Windows Explorer to work with our files and folders.

We hope you will be able to make the next Corel Graphics/Photo SIG on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM. at Podnuh's Bar-B-Q, located at 1146 Shreveport-Barksdale Hwy. The room in the back is reserved starting at 6:00 p.m. for those of us who would like to eat and want to do it before the meeting starts. Of course it is fine to eat during the meeting, too. Everyone is welcome, bring a friend. Please let me know if you have questions, or suggestions, that can be used in our SIG meetings for part of the program. If there is something you would like to see covered at one of our meetings you can email me at [glenda@conradi.com](mailto:glenda@conradi.com).

## Windows SIG June 2011

by Bernie Conradi



We started the meeting with the usual reminder to keep your antivirus programs and the Windows Operating Systems up to date. We warned all in attendance about the latest malware attack on Facebook. Then we told about the 16 security updates released

by Microsoft on the second Tuesday of June. I myself received 25 updates but the number can vary depending on what version of Microsoft Office you may have and whether you have Microsoft Security Essentials as your antivirus program. Also, Adobe Acrobat Reader has now started to update on the second Tuesday of each month also. Since then there has been an additional update to the Adobe Reader program. Firefox version 5 has just been released and is now available. I have the new version and I think it loads faster than version 4. Microsoft has confirmed that the online edition of Microsoft Office (Office 365) will be available very shortly. This is an online program that you will have to pay an annual fee to use. When you use it, it will always be up to date. We talked about the beta program that Microsoft has

started called, "System Sweeper". This is a free download from Microsoft that will allow you to put the program on a CD or thumb drive and scan your computer for errors. It is meant to be used in situations where you cannot start your PC due to a virus or other malware infection. The URL for this program is <http://connect.microsoft.com/systemsweeper>. The program for this month was a triple play, starting with an article telling us the best way to archive our data. Then we had a power point presentation titled "Getting Organized", and then another with a subject of "Tasks you can use to Optimize your Computer". This presentation talked about programs that are available in Windows that you can use to keep your computer running smoothly, and hopefully faster. Please join us at 7:00 PM on July 28, 2011, at Pod-nuh's Bar-B-Q on Shreveport-Barksdale Highway. Everyone is invited to attend. I am looking forward to suggestions for upcoming programs, as I want to present subjects of interest for all in the group. Let me hear from you. You can email me at [bernie@conradi.com](mailto:bernie@conradi.com).

Bernie Conradi, Windows SIG Leader



**Hope you had  
a very happy  
4th of July**

## NWLAPCUG's **S**pecial **I**nterest **G**roup Leaders







Our SIG leaders are in the heart of NWLAPCUG's monthly activities. See the chart on the last page of this newsletter for the monthly schedule of their meetings. Every member is welcome to attend any or all of their meetings and for as many times as they wish. All of this with *no extra fees* involved.

SIG leaders are dedicated to sharing their expertise in their particular programs. Their meetings include presentations, demonstrations and

cover questions and answers. In some cases, handouts may be furnished.

Following the SIG meeting, a number of the SIG leaders will submit an article, reporting on the activities of their meeting, for publication in the next month's newsletter.

Members are encouraged to take a tour of these SIGs and determine which one or more appeals to their liking.

 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>J.C. Barnett</b> Word SIG</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Pat Joyner</b> Saturday SIG</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Bernie Conradi</b> Windows SIG</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Glenda Conradi</b> Corel Graphics/Photo SIG</p>
 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Bill &amp; Cisly Morgan</b> Digital Photography SIG</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Bob Pierce</b> Beginner's SIG</p>		

### Members Furnishing Newsletter Articles

Computer related newsletter articles are welcomed from our members who are other than SIG leaders. We appreciate as few as one article a year. Or as many (not to exceed one per month) as you would like to generate. The range of topics is virtually

unlimited. To name a few, your experience/opinion with certain software programs, the entertainment and educational value in computer use, How To's, Tips, etc. etc. Your participation may surface one of your great hidden talents.

 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Bob Franklin</b></p>	 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Carolyn Franklin</b></p>	 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Phil Sanders</b></p>	 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Bob Pierce</b></p>	 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Ben Fusco</b></p>
--	--	--	--	---

## MONTHLY CLUB ACTIVITIES

**PLEASE NOTE THAT SIG TIMES, DATES AND LOCATIONS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. FOR THE LATEST INFORMATION CONTACT , VIA E-MAIL, THE RESPECTIVE SIG LEADER AS LISTED BELOW.**

Corel Graphics/Photo SIG	First Tuesday Podnuh's Bar-B-Q	7:00 P.M.	Glenda Conradi	glenda@conradi.com
Digital Photography SIG	First Thursday Room 310, Bronson Hall	7:00 P.M.	Bill and Cisly Morgan	cisly@shreve.net
MS Word SIG	Second Thursday 2:00 P.M. Broadmoor Library		J C Barnett	jc Barnett875@suddenlink.net
Board of Directors Meeting	6:30 PM Before the Membership Meeting		Pat Joyner	patbj@bellsouth.net
General Meeting	Third Thursday Bronson Hall, Room 310	7:00 P.M.	Pat Joyner	patbj@bellsouth.net
Windows SIG	Fourth Thursday Podnuh's Bar-B-Q	7:00 P.M.	Bernie Conradi	bernie@conradi.com
Saturday SIG	Fourth Saturday Broadmoor Library	2:00 P.M.	Pat Joyner	patbj@bellsouth.net
Getting Started SIG	Third Monday Hamilton/South Caddo Library	9:30 A.M.	Bob Pierce	bobpierce1942@bellsouth.net

IF YOU NEED INFORMATION ABOUT THE SIG'S SUBJECT, MEETING PLACE OR TIME, PLEASE CONTACT THE PERSONS LISTED ABOVE

### Meeting Places

Podnuh's Bar-B-Q - 1146 Shreveport-Barksdale Hwy (Corel Graphics/Photo SIG; Windows SIG)  
 Room 310, Bronson Hall LSUS-Northside of campus (General Meeting, Digital Photography SIG)  
 Broadmoor Library- 1212 Captain Shreve Drive - (MS Word SIG; Saturday SIG)  
 Getting Started SIG Hamilton/South Caddo Library, 2111 Bert Kouns

## Meet Our NWLAPCUG Officers



Pat Joyner  
Director



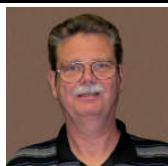
Dr. John Hardin  
Vice Pres. & Director



Jack Barnett  
Secretary & Director



Robert Saucier  
Treasurer & Director



Bob Franklin  
Director



Bob Pierce  
Director



Lee Sepulvado  
Director