Minutes of PODS Monthly Meeting – November 21, 2013

Seventeen members attending including: Michael Penn Smith, Laura Griffith, Ken Ziegler, Janice Smith, Rick Shores, Greg Lasley, Tom Johnson, Phyliss Rummel, Chris Wuestefeld, John Hoag, Ron Millegan, Terry Brim, Jaime Molina, Winifred Simon, Janet Sanders, Jennifer Kuykendall and Cathy Potwin Jones.

One guest attending including: Lesley Martin

The meeting began with a quick round table of introductions.

Michael Penn Smith then introduced Pam Owens from the Dripping Springs Chamber of Commerce/ Visitors Bureau. Pam is looking for photographs to be used in the Dripping Springs magazine and/or brochures which are handed out to visitors. The photographs should be of places of interest in Dripping Springs and tourist activities. Photos of local life would be great as well as areas such as Mercer Street, local restaurants and the like. She would prefer that the photos be handed in on a CD in hi-res jpeg format unless it is only 1 or 2 photos which can be emailed. If your photo(s) are chosen then she will request the photo in RAW format for publication. The deadline for submitting the photographs is January 02, 2014.

There have been some changes to the Committee chairs since the last meeting.

 Ron Millegan has vacated his seat as Chairman on the Membership Committee. Membership has doubled since Ron took over the committee. Thank you Ron for all of your hard work!

Carla McCandless has resigned as Chairman of the Activities Committee. She has been instrumental in the success of the past Wesley Gallery shows and both Digital shows. She has put together some wonderful field trips in the past as well. Thank you for your contribution and hard work!

Winifred Simon will be taking over the Chair on the Activities Committee.

Phyliss Rummel has taken over the Chair on the Membership Committee.

Cathy Potwin Jones will take over the Chair on the PR Committee as her term for Treasurer expired in November 2013.

All Committees need volunteers! Please consider helping out on one of the committees- it is what keeps this club going and growing.

There are two Officer positions open as of November 2013.

The office of Treasurer is open. John Hoag has been nominated. Terry Brim motions to vote John Hoag into office, seconded by Ken Ziegler. All approved- John Hoag is our new Treasurer.

The office of President is also open. There have been no nominations for this office. Michael Penn Smith has graciously volunteered to continue in the office until June 2014. PODS will continue to search for a new President in the interim. If one is not found in that time there will a motion to have the position filled by committee. All approved Michael Penn Smith staying on until June 2014.

Michael Penn Smith will be offering a Beginning Photography Class starting on December 7, 2013. The classes will be held at the Dripping Springs Library from 12:00pm to 2:00pm. The dates will be December 7, December 14, December 21 and January 4. The class is FREE for anyone interested.

The PODS Christmas Dinner will be on December 19, 2013 at the Dripping Springs Ranch Park from 7:00pm to 10:00pm. Jen Kuykendall has received 15 RSVPS so far so if you have not RSVPed please do so immediately. Pizza Cave will be catering the party. Side Dishes and desserts will be brought by members. Jen will send out a list to all members attending on what to bring. There will be live music at the event which was provided to us for free. We will have a White Elephant Gift Exchange so bring a piece of photographic equipment. Money was collected at this meeting to help pay for paper goods and decorations.

Memberships paid from now until the end of the year will extend through the end of next year. If you know of anyone interested in joining now is a great time to do so!

For anyone interested in Photoshop CC and LR5- Adobe is offering a $9.95 a month special which is open to all (regardless of whether you have PS or not).

New ideas for activities/ field trips:

Presentation (or class) on photo processing. Cathy P Jones suggested Jim at the Wesley Gallery would be great to give a presentation to the group.

The possibility of having a presentation on how to critique photos was also brought up. Many in the group would like to learn how to properly critique.

The question of whether PODS has a Flickr account was brought up. We did have a Flickr account but the site was too disorganized so we have concentrated more on FaceBook and Yahoo Groups. Anyone can submit a photograph on Facebook- in fact we would love to have more contributions on the account.

Thanks to Ken Ziegler who contributed a nice camera case as a door prize tonight at the meeting. Tom Johnson was the lucky winner!

The meeting was concluded with members showing Before/After photos.