

Jefferson County Photography Club

Minutes

April 13, 2021

Attendance:

Doug Allmond, John Kracke, Alice Newton, Rip Smith, Mike Keefe, Ellen Hardesty, Chris Carlson, and Eric Whitenton.

Treasury Report:

\$1163

Rip Smith presented a demonstration of how he processes astrophotographs captured using remote telescopes.

Rip presented a overview of the basic workflow using the editing program Pixinsight, which is specialized software for the processing of digital images in the scientific community, especially astrophotography. The out of the camera original greyscale images are .fits format and are not readable in Photoshop or other common photo editors. Therefore, specialized software is needed. While Pixinsight is expensive (almost \$300), it is by far the most comprehensive, albeit with a steep learning curve. (That's half the fun of it!)

The processing involves combining filtered greyscale images to color. He demonstrated the process on two different images and provided information about the different websites where remote telescope imaging is available. The art happens after the image is downloaded.

Rip mentioned some resources on the web:

<https://telescope.live>: Plans are available for as little as \$4 per month up to \$49/month

Others include:

<https://itelescope.net>: \$19.95/month up to \$999.95

<https://slooh.com> \$100/yr

<https://insightobs.com> Varies

A great resource for previsualizing images is <https://telescopius.com>

Software:

<https://pixinsight.com> (Mac, Windows, Linux)

<http://deepskystacker.free.fr/english/index.html> (Windows only)

https://esahubble.org/projects/fits_liberator/ This is freeware for Windows but limited. Mac installation is possible but problematic.

Berkeley Arts will present, Photo 21 National Juried Photography Exhibit June 3 – July 3, 2021. The deadline for this exhibit is April 27. Check out the details at berkeleyartswv.org

May: Zoom Meeting:

Eric Whitenton will be the presenter.

Assignment: Three black and white images. Be prepared to discuss why you chose black and white.

June: We will meet at the Firehall Gallery for the first time since the pandemic.

Your photo story will be due. Bring 5 or 6 images that are tied together in a story. Example: baking bread,

making beer, architectural things, or something
controversial like Rockwool