



Asiya Computer and Photo Club



Asiya Shriners A.A.O.N.M.S. No. 15, 1925 Elkhorn Court, San Mateo, CA 94403-1308

November 2009

Newsletter

VOL. IV No. 3

The Club: The purpose of the Computer and Photo Club is to promote and advance the interests of Asiya Temple A.A.O.N.M.S. by the use of computers and photos. It assists the Asiya Shrine, Units, and Clubs with computer and photo usage, including but not limited to development of announcements, fliers, and similar documents, computer construction and repairs, and the documenting of events with photos. Membership is open to any Shriner.

The Clubroom: The Computer and Photo Clubroom in the Shrine Center is mainly the result of the dedicated work of Noble Sam Yee. Noble David Elms was responsible for the addition of the wireless N connection to the Internet. Members now have 5 very fast computers available to them. All the computers have hardwired DSL Ethernet connection to the Internet via a 16 port switch. Members can also use their personal Laptop Computers to access the Internet by connecting to the 16 port switch in the clubroom or by connecting from anywhere in the Shrine Center via secure Belkin wireless N routers. Two routers are available. A router WEP key code is required to use each of the routers. See Irv Davis or Sam Yee for the key codes. Also available is a color laser printer, B&W laser copier, laminator, paper cutter, and a HP all in one photo inkjet printer. The clubroom is available to all paid members and accessible during temple business hours or during any of the stated meetings at the temple.

Maintenance of the clubroom: Because the operating budget for 2009 was cut, the club discontinued maintenance of the clubroom and closed its website through most of the 2009 calendar year. To assist Shriners in preparing for 2010 events, the club reopened its website and restarted maintenance of the clubroom in October. This month we will prepare a budget for 2010. General office supplies are not included in the budget. They are paid by yearly membership dues and club fundraisers.

Club Dues: Dues for the 2010 calendar year are now being accepted. You can mail your \$15 check for 2010 dues to the club Treasurer, Samuel Yee, 20 Laurel Hill Court, San Mateo, CA 94402, payable to the Computer & Photo Club, or drop off your check at the temple Computer & Photo Club mail box.

Entering and leaving the Clubroom: To unlock the clubroom door, pull the door toward yourself and while pulling the door enter the current 3-digit code, then press the unlock key. This should unlock the door. If you do not pull the door toward yourself, the door may not unlock because of friction on the door lock. When leaving the clubroom, lock the door by pulling the door closed then pressing the lock button. A new code will be required to enter the clubroom next year.

About Digital Cameras: If you want to have a digital camera to use with your computer to make slide shows, or enhance, and print your pictures, we recommend that you have a camera with a resolution at least 4 to 5 megapixels. The number of pixels is the number of squares or dots that are used to make the picture. You can save storage space in your camera or computer by using a lower resolution but the picture will be less clear when you enlarge it. You cannot get as many pictures in your storage media if you use a higher resolution. It is a choice of how clear a picture you want to have vs. how much memory you will have to use to store the picture. A good compromise is something in the 4 to 5 mega pixel range. If you purchase a camera with lower resolution it will usually cost less but the pictures will not be as clear. If you purchase a camera with higher resolution it will generally cost more, take more storage space for the picture, and you will probably never need or use the higher resolution unless you are a professional photographer or you are making large pictures, posters or portraits. 5 megapixels are sufficient to make a clear picture 8 ½ x 11 inches with most color printers. A number of relatively inexpensive digital cameras are now available with at least a 4 to 5 megapixel resolution. They can take pictures that can be printed, displayed on the computer, zooming in and out, cropping portions of the photograph and enlarging them, and have little visual degradation. Most digital cameras come with a photo-editing program. The programs are very limited but can give you a good start in editing photos.

Cameras Then and Now: What a difference a decade makes. Today's subcompact digital cameras have roughly 10 times the resolution of cameras available in 1999. They are also one-third to half as heavy and are far less bulky. Moreover, digital cameras today are roughly half the price of cameras a decade ago. The least expensive cameras back then would cost at least \$499 in today's dollars.

Digital Point-and-shoot Cameras: Attached is a listing of some of the best digital point-and-shoot cameras on the market today along with some of their specifications for your consideration:

-Price\$ -Megapixels-Weight-Zoom-Battery Life (shots)-Max ISO-

Subcompact for those who want a camera that fits into a shirt pocket.

Canon PowerShot SD 1200	230	10	5 oz	3X	260	400
Nikon Coolpix S710	280	14.5	6 oz	3.6 X	250	400
Canon PowerShot SD 780	280	12	5 oz	3X	210	1600
Nikon Coolpix S630	280	12	6 oz	7X	220	1600

Compact for those who want the basics at a low price or advanced features.

Canon PowerShot G10	470	14.7	14 oz	5X	400	200
Nikon Coolpix P6000	450	13.5	10 oz	4X	260	400

Super zoom for those who want to have an extremely versatile zoom lens.

Canon PowerShot SX10	380	10	10 oz	20X	600	400
Nikon Coolpix P80	350	10	14 oz	18X	250	100

