

An Introduction To “Virtual” Meetings For Sandhills Photo Club

Everyone,

As Neva explained last week, our Club will be holding virtual meetings during this period of social distancing. The software application that we will use to hold our online meeting is Zoom Meetings.

This email:

- Lists the requirements that are necessary for you to use Zoom
- Provides information on how to attend the Zoom practice sessions scheduled for this week
- Gives you access to resources for using Zoom

A caution about security regarding on-line meetings and specifically concerning Zoom. There has been stories about “zoom bombings” where people have gotten access to meetings and posted shocking images or made annoying or worse sounds in the audio. Zoom is addressing these issues as its President said last week that it is focusing all resources on “trust, safety and privacy issues.” Most experts consider Zoom software to be as secure any other on-line meeting application. We all have to take security precautions by not posting or sharing the private links to our meetings that we will be receiving this week and going forward.

Requirements To Attend Our Club’s Zoom Virtual Meetings

You will need a computer, PC (with Window 10) or Mac (with macOS 10.7 or higher), an iPad or an iOS or Android mobile device (“cell

phone”). The device should have built-in or attached camera, speaker and microphone. It, of course, must be connected to the internet. The Zoom application also must be installed on your computer, which will happen automatically as explained below. For cell phone usage, you will need to install the appropriate Zoom Cloud App.

Zoom Virtual Meeting Practice Sessions

We have scheduled four group practice session this week:

- Wednesday, April 8 at 10 am. and 8 pm
- Thursday, April 9 at 10 am and 8 pm

These sessions are designed to get you connected with Zoom, learn some of its features and give you an opportunity to see and hear other club members. Each session should last about one hour.

You will receive an email tomorrow from Dennis Snipes, our Club’s Technical Director, assigning you to one of the four practice sessions. Assignments are being made by alphabetical order. The most important part of this email will be an URL link if you are going to join the meeting from your computer. This link will be in this format:

“Dennis Snipes is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting. Join Zoom Meeting ”**<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/723162999?pwd=U0h3ZDJDTIZiWFIVbTYwYIZ6VTdiUT09>**

Click on this URL link which will be in blue about ten minutes before the start of your assigned practice session. You then will be walked through the installation of the Zoom app and you will be able to automatically join your Zoom practice session.

Resources For Using Zoom

There are a lot of online articles and videos on using Zoom. The best we have found for learning how to join a Zoom meeting from your computer is the following video:

Joining a Zoom Call for the First Time;
Fun and Easy Online Connection

<https://youtu.be/9isp3gPeQ0E>

You may want to watch this video with the attached five step outline (Join a Zoom Meeting) in hand before clicking on your session's URL link.

If you are unable to connect to your Zoom practice session email us at: tech@sandhillsphtoclub.org. Someone from the Task Force will get back to you and offer help on connecting to Zoom.

Stay safe and get connected virtually,

SPC Virtual Meetings Task Force