



Dedicated to the art of three-dimensional photography and imaging

Sunday, April 13, 2008

GET YOUR TAXES FINISHED EARLY!!!

MEETING AGENDA

1:00 PM INTRODUCTION & ANNOUNCEMENTS

1:15 PM FEATURE PRESENTATION: DAVE WILSON
"Rail-Fanning around New England" (30 min)

1:50 PM AUCTION OF DONATED ITEMS

2:00 PM SHORT PRESENTATIONS

- StereoData Maker by Ralph Johnston
- Animated 3D Stills by Jay McCreery

2:15 PM CLUB BUSINESS

- Treasurer's Report
- Member Announcements
- Show & Tell
- Open Projection

3:00 PM FEATURE PRESENTATIONS: ED JAMESON
"The 3D Underwater World" (45 min)
"Terra Firma" (10 min)

4:00 PM CLOSING REMARKS

PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

Feature Presentation: Rail-Fanning around New England by Dave Wilson

This is Dave's first time projecting at SNE. He uses electronically-synchronized twin Nikon N2000 SLRs mounted on a custom bar. He will be using his custom 2x2x2 twin Kodak Ektagraphic slide projection rig set up with a unique way of dealing with perspective error (keystoning). His projectors are mounted at 90 degrees to each other, and he uses a front-surfaced mirror to reverse one of the images. In this manner, the effective lens separation between the projectors is only a few inches.

Dave's images include trains, trackside hyperstereo scenery, and railroad-related architectural shots taken on various Mass Bay Railroad Enthusiasts-sponsored rail-fan charters in Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, and Connecticut.

Short Presentation: StereoData Maker by Ralph Johnston

Back in April 2007, Ralph gave us a feature presentation on stereo mounting using StereoPhoto Maker, and he gave us a tutorial update in July 2007. StereoPhoto Maker is a shareware program that loads individual left/right image pairs, performs auto-alignment, cropping, and outputs a projection-ready jpg stereo image file.

Now Ralph is presenting the next new technology in digital stereo photography. StereoData Maker is a "modified" version of firmware for some Canon digital point-and-shoot cameras. The firmware, after being loaded into a pair of twin cameras and rigging up a very simple and inexpensive electronic circuit, allows the cameras to synchronize to 1/20,000-second. Ralph will preview results of his own tests of this exciting new technology.

Short Presentation: Animated 3D Stills by Jay McCreery

In July 2007, Jay projected an animated four-minute digital show, the "Sun in Stereo," which included over 850 individual stereo frames that he downloaded as separate left and right high-definition images from the NASA.GOV server. Inspired by those results, Jay began experimenting with animated sequences of 3D scenes using twin electronically-synchronized Canon 30D digital SLR cameras mounted on a tripod. The cameras are fired by a custom trigger box variable from 0.5 second to 15 minutes. This technique adds yet another dimension to the images, time. Most of the image is stationary, like a traditional stereo view, but select elements in the scene move around within the 3D space. Sequential shooting also allows slow motion and time lapse effects, rarely seen in 3D. The views shown in this brief demonstration were taken along the Maine coast in September 2007.

Feature Presentations: The 3D Underwater World and Terra Firma by Ed Jameson

Ed was planetarium director at the Natick Public Schools for 37 years, and prior to that, a lecturer and special effects designer at Boston's Hayden Planetarium. Now, when he's not lecturing under the dome of the Framingham State College Planetarium or presenting 3D underwater programs around New England, Ed likes to spend nights hovering over coral reefs, occasionally lighting up the reef with his custom, synchronized twin Nikonos macro system. Ed was audio video consultant and 3D photographer for the 3D Underwater Theater of the Curaçao Sea

Aquarium in the Netherlands Antilles, where his 3D underwater images are currently featured in three showings a day.

Ed has spent thousands of hours underwater since 1960. Over 400 hours, mainly at night, were spent capturing the unique views for this show, "The 3D Underwater World." Viewers will experience a guided tour of life on the lush coral reefs of the Bahamas, Bonaire and Curaçao. "Terra Firma" is a potpourri of 3D images of "dry" subjects photographed by Ed at various places around the world.

MORE INFORMATION

Trade Show: Space will be made available for those who wish to sell 3D-related items at the meeting. If you plan to sell items, please let us know in advance of your space requirements.

Open Projection: GET THOSE IMAGES READY! We will have a Brackett Fader for projection of Realist-format slides. Please bring your slides to the meeting. Everyone is also encouraged to submit digital stereo images for open projection. These must be double XGA format (each side is 1024 pixels wide x 768 pixels high, parallel preferred). For more information on preparing your images, please see <http://studio3d.com/pages/stereoproj.html> Digital files may be emailed to geophotoman@comcast.net in advance to ensure proper format. Digital images may also be brought to the meeting on CD if you are familiar with the projection format. Open projection may include 10-15 images per person, subject to available time. **Open projection will also include preview images of upcoming shows.**

Donations: The suggested donation for this meeting is \$5.00 per person to cover costs of polarized 3D glasses, equipment, and auditorium rental. Also, please look around and bring photo-related items for the auction. We appreciate your donations to help keep these meetings going.

Volunteers Needed: Our meetings are currently organized and run by a small group of volunteers. We are in need of additional volunteers to help with club business. Please let us know how you would like to get more involved with the club!

DIRECTIONS

Fay School is located in Southborough, Massachusetts, best reached from Middle Road via Rt. 9W.

From the West: Take the Mass Pike East to Rt. 495N (Exit 11A). Take Rt. 495N to Rt. 9E (Exit 23A). Take Rt. 9E to the Rt. 85 interchange, and reverse direction onto Rt. 9W.

From the East: Take the Mass Pike to Rt. 9W (Exit 12).

From the South: Take Rt. 495N to Rt. 9E (Exit 23A). Take Rt. 9E to the Rt. 85 interchange, and reverse direction onto Rt. 9W.

From the North: Take Rt. 495S to Rt. 9E (Exit 23A). Take Rt. 9E to the Rt. 85 interchange, and reverse direction onto Rt. 9W.

Once on Rt. 9W, Middle Road is the next road on the right after Rt. 85. Take a right on Middle Road, and go 1.0 mile. Enter the loop driveway for the gymnasium on the left. Maps and directions to Fay School are included at:

<http://home.comcast.net/~geophotoman/SNE/Directions.html>

About Stereo New England

SNE is a New England-based club of 3D photographers and those who appreciate the art of 3D imaging. The group has been meeting four times a year. Our meetings typically include presentations of members' 3D images, a featured 3D program, auction, show-and-tell, and announcements relating to 3D. The public is always welcome to attend.

Check out our website at www.sne3d.org