



You'd Better Read Me News

April 2023

Spring has sprung, the grass is riz, time to become a cleaning wiz..... for our April 15 swap meeting.

This April 15, 2023, meeting is IN PERSON!!!

However, **NOT at our old location.**

We looked high and low, called everyone and everywhere and could not secure a room - at least not at a reasonable price. So we were able to get a room in a condominium complex in Huntington Beach for our April 15, meeting. A bit farther for some people to drive, a bit closer for others, yet there are some options for adventures near by, so your Saturday April 15, can be a photographing opportunity or a great day for a hike in the wetlands.

You might want to photograph the surfers from the Huntington Beach Pier, or just photograph the other people walking on the pier. Or you might want to walk the Bolsa Chica Wetlands trails, and photographing egrets, pelicans, ans, skimmers and more. There is also a Conservancy Interpretice center nearby to learn about the wetlands, and walk them from there. Attached you will find maps to those locations.

We hope this get-together will renew acquaintances and help everyone sell off a few items they no longer use and buy other items at fair prices from people you know.

Bring stuff you want to sell, and if you have a card table, bring it. Bring some cash or checks for buying from others. There will be ZERO charge to anyone - in other words, if you sell something, you keep all the money. ATX takes nothing. This is basically an ATX meeting with items on tables!!!

And for those who come and stay through 11:30 - ATX will order pizza.

The maps show the location of the in person ATX meeting, and also show how to get from the meeting location to the Huntington Beach Pier, the [Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve](#), and the [bolsachica.org](#). Bring your camera and a long lens, so you can spend the afternoon walking the wetlands, photographing surfers or birds, or even just learn more about the wetlands.

We will open the Meeting Room at 9 am, and keep

it open until about 2 pm. We will have electrical outlets and power strips available for people who might be selling something that needs power. If you have a portable card table, you might want to bring it too. We will keep the doors open for good ventilation and people can also be outside in the back area... **Inside, we will ask people to wear masks to be extra safe!**

This is your opportunity to regroup, and to sell, trade, or buy items like lightly used camera bags, or lens filters, tripods, strobes, and flashes, lights, light stands, external drives, camera straps, cables, posing stools, or even cameras, lenses, and computers from "known" sellers, i.e. other ATX members. So start getting your items together for April 15.

If you send us your list in any PDF format, we will send it out ahead of time.

For the May 20, ATX meeting we will be back on Zoom, with the famous and infamous Dennis Dunbar teaching us the many techniques for sharpening in Photoshop. He will show us the techniques of the pros, using Photoshop as well as Topaz Sharpen AI. That way you can know when to use which tool. Topaz tools are great, however, there are some caveats for using AI tools, and Dennis is a master retoucher, so he has the experience and know how to help you do your best sharpening.

Oh and for the May 20 ATX Zoom meeting we will not only raffle a full year of the Adobe Creative Cloud but also at least one copy of Topaz Photo AI - a new tool that combines several Topaz tools, like noise reduction and sharpening into one simple tool. Great for some images, or great as a quick-look tool to see how you might choose to edit your photos, with or without Photoshop.

This coming Saturday, April 15, there will be a sign in sheet for the In Person Meeting, giving those who participate an extra opportunity to win a raffle prize at May's meeting.

Regards and God Bless,
Rick Redfern
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