

More Flickr Features

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This is a follow up document of the tutorial on “Getting Started in Flickr” written for Lewisburg Photography Club members. This document assumes you have read that document and have created your own Flickr account. “[Getting Started in Flickr](#)” can be found at http://www.eg.bucknell.edu/~hyde/photo_club/UsingFlickr.pdf

This document explores several interesting Flickr features such as albums, slide shows, making title photos, tags, reading camera and lens settings of a photo, and search strategies.

Flickr Albums and Slide Show Feature

A good way to learn about the capabilities of Flickr Albums is to look at a few. In your web browser, enter Owen Floody’s Flickr account at <https://www.flickr.com/photos/ofloody/albums>

Since the link has “/albums” on the end, you will see a list of Owen’s many albums. Scroll down the list of albums and click on ‘Botswana17’ to see the 210 photos of Owen’s recent trip to Botswana. Owen uses Flickr Albums to organize his trips’ photos.

Scroll all the way to the top of “Botswana17” album, and select the **Slide Show** icon  at the upper right. Flickr will show the album’s photos in a neat full screen slide show. To exit the slide show, press the “esc” key or click on X in upper right corner.

By clicking on the left arrow  or the right arrow , you can advance the slide show faster than the automatic timer.

Exit the slide show and click on the  icon in upper right. Flickr will load all the album’s photos in the window where you can quickly scroll through the photos with the mouse. Clicking on the  icon will display the photos in the compact format with several photos to a line much like in a **Photostream**.

Note you can start a slide show on a **Photostream**, including your own, by clicking on the same  icon. This is a great way to view a person’s **Photostream**.

Creating an Album

Now that you have seen Flickr albums in action, it’s time to create your own. Login to your Flickr account and into **Camera Roll** view (**You > Camera Roll**). Select one or more images you want to place in an album. When you select the first image, a small menu window appears at the bottom of the window. After selecting your images, click on “Add to album” from that bottom menu.

A new window will appear. Since you want to create a new album, click on “Create new album.” Fill in the Album Title and the Description. I like to fill in the title with what the album is about, e.g., “Firemen’s Carnival” and the description with the place and date, e.g., “Montgomery, PA May 9, 2017.” Click on “Create album.” Then it’s important to click on “Done.”

Ordering Images in an Album

Notice that when you created the new album with selected images, the images are displayed in the album **ordered by how you uploaded them**. The first image displayed was uploaded first, the second image displayed was uploaded second, and so on. This is in sharp contrast to the order displayed in a **Photostream**, i.e., **ordered by time taken with newest one first**. Therefore, when using Flickr Albums, you should rearrange your images into the order you want using a tool such as Lightroom before uploading them to Flickr.

Flickr does allow you to arrange the order of the images in an album. Select an album and click on “Edit in Organizr” near the top. Now you may rearrange the images by moving them with the mouse. Then click “Save.”

An Image may be in many Albums

One of the powers of Flickr albums is that an image may be in many albums. You might have an image in an album labeled “Spring Flowers,” in an album labeled “Macros,” and in an album labeled “Yellow.”

Ordering the Albums

You may alter the order of how your albums are displayed in the album list. From the “You” menu, click “Organize.” Then click “Albums and Collections” from the menu at the top. Now, you may move the albums to a new arrangement using the mouse. Click “Your Photostream” to exit the page.

The Title Slide for an Album

When you create a new album, Flickr uses the first image, the album title, and description to create its title slide. Note that the title slide doesn’t change if you move the first image elsewhere. Therefore, if you have a preferred image for the title slide, select it to be first then move it after the album title slide has been created.

Sharing Your Flickr Albums with Friends and Relatives

To share your albums with friends and relatives, just add “/albums” to the end of your Flickr URL. For example, my albums are at <https://www.flickr.com/photos/danchyde/albums>

Making a Title Slide for your Photostream

Since the **Photostream** view is the default, many individuals will view your images in this manner. Some of us like to make a title image to insert in the Photostream to introduce a group of images. This can easily be done by writing the title on a blank sheet of paper and photographing it with your camera. Then upload the image. If your handwriting is less than great, you can use a word processor like MS Word to create the title page. You may have to adjust the image’s “Date Taken” to fool Flickr into inserting the title image where you want.

Magic View Feature

The new **Magic View** categorizes your images by subject, so you can browse by photos of landscapes, food, animals, children, portraits, and more. Go to your **Camera Roll** and click on “Magic View” to see how Flickr categorizes your images.

Tagging your Photos

If you want people to find your photos, you need to tag them. Tags are keywords that make photos easier to find in a Flickr search. The ones you add will show up with dark gray background. Flickr’s bots will try to help out by adding some for you; these will appear with a light gray background. Flickr’s bots use pattern recognition to analyze the contents of your images to determine the most appropriate tags to help you and others find your images during a search.

To add tags to a photo, go to your **Photostream** and click on a photo to select it. In the new web page, scroll to near the bottom and click on “Add tags.” Separate single word tags with spaces and add phrases in quotes.

You can remove both tags you create and ones Flickr has added for you by hovering over the tag and clicking the “X” in upper right.

You can see a sample of the most popular tags on Flickr by visiting [flickr.com/photos/tags/](https://www.flickr.com/photos/tags/). Click on one, e.g., “sunset” and you can view many pages of images with sunsets.

Searching

You can search for photos, people, and groups by entering a key word or words in the search box at the top. For example, you can search for “dog” or “dog at beach” for many images of dogs or dogs at the beach.

Inspecting Camera and Lens Settings on a Photo

When you discover a great photo, you may wonder how the photographer captured that shot. You can view the camera and lens used and their settings, e.g., camera’s f-stop, shutter speed, ISO and focal length of lens.

While viewing an image in a **Photostream** or album, click on the image and scroll down to view the camera’s make and model and lens specs. Exploring this feature is a great way to learn.

Explore the Flickr Universe for Inspiration!

This document has continued the discussion of using Flickr started in the first document. There remains many other interesting Flickr features to explore on your own.

It’s not functionality that sets Flickr apart from other photography-based social media, it’s the photos themselves, and the Flickr community. Flickr puts the photos first, displaying them beautifully on the screen and giving details about how the photographer captured that shot. It’s a photographer’s social media site! Have fun exploring!