

# SCSH CAMERA CLUB

## ADVANCED PHOTOGRAPHY AND PROCESSING GROUP (“APP”)

### Don’s Travel Procedures

#### 1 Background

- 1.1 When traveling, we often don’t have reliable internet (e.g., on a cruise, slow internet in a hotel, etc.).
- 1.2 As a consequence, I can’t reliably upload to Dropbox or Lightroom Cloud as a backup while traveling.
- 1.3 For a few years, I traveled with my iPad Pro – but there is no good way I could find to get photos from the camera onto the iPad.
- 1.4 I also have and use to travel with a portable disc drive – it works to download from SD cards, but it’s clumsy to use and doesn’t work for CF cards.
- 1.5 I have one Lightroom catalog. All my Lightroom photos are in two places on my main (desktop) computer:
  - 1.5.1 My “current” photos (that is, the past three or so years) are in my Dropbox which resides on an internal drive. That drive is backed up nightly to an external drive.
  - 1.5.2 My older photos are on a separate internal drive which also backs up nightly to a different external drive.
  - 1.5.3 Everything also backs up to the cloud (Crash Plan for Small Business).
- 1.6 I wanted two things while traveling:
  - 1.6.1 A way to back up photos to have redundancy (one on the camera card and one somewhere else).
  - 1.6.2 The ability to start processing (playing with) photos to see what I have captured.

#### 2 Searching for a solution

- 2.1 Finally, I bought a Dell 13” laptop.
  - 2.1.1 Actually it’s a tad bit smaller than my iPad.
  - 2.1.2 Runs Windows 11

- 2.1.3 I have all the usual processing apps loaded on it.
- 2.1.4 It has a 1 TB SSD – not big enough to hold even my current photos.
- 2.2 So, I can download photos to the laptop and, if desired, process them in Lightroom Classic, Photoshop, the Topaz apps, etc.
- 2.3 My ongoing issue is integrating Lightroom Classic on the laptop with my Lightroom Catalog on my desktop.
- 3 What I have been doing the past few trips:
  - 3.1 I make a new trip-specific catalog on the laptop within my Dropbox folder.
  - 3.2 I import photos into that trip catalog (and copy them from the camera card to the laptop hard drive during import).
  - 3.3 I have been importing to a location within Dropbox on the laptop which is set up for the specific trip, not in my usual file structure.
    - 3.3.1 If I do have internet while traveling, even slow or sometimes, the trip catalog and photos start to synch up to the cloud (Dropbox).
    - 3.3.2 The catalog and photos will finish synching up to Dropbox when I get home.
  - 3.4 When I get home:
    - 3.4.1 I first verify that the trip catalog and photos have been synced up to Dropbox.
    - 3.4.2 I then import the trip catalog into my main Lightroom Classic catalog.
    - 3.4.3 Finally, I move all the photos within Lightroom from the temporary trip location to their final location within my usual file structure.
    - 3.4.4 This way, any metadata I have entered and any edits I have done end up in my main Lightroom catalog (I discovered that even keywording now gets imported, which I think didn't use to happen).
    - 3.4.5 (The problem with putting the trip photos into my usual file structure in Dropbox while traveling is that I haven't had good luck telling Dropbox which folders to synch up to the laptop hard drive. Dropbox seems to have a mind of its own and starts downloading from various adjacent subfolders within the same main folder, quickly overwhelming my relatively small laptop SSD).