10 Years of OSPS!

On May 6th 2007 we celebrated 10 years of our stereo club. Here are excerpts from our first newsletter, published in June 1997.

A New Club Is Born...

After driving with me to Detroit for two years, Jim Motley came with the idea of starting a Stereo Club in Cleveland. This was back in Fall of 1996. Stereo clubs appear to be a precious commodity with only about a dozen of them in the USA with the one in Detroit being the closest to Cleveland. Jim and I felt that there was sufficient interest to start a club in Cleveland. All we needed was a few dedicated members at first. Having the Detroit club as a model, we knew that once the club is formed and operates, the "magic" of stereo photography can attract new members.

Jim prepared and distributed a flyer to NSA members and in camera shows in Cleveland this past winter. We had agreed to have the first meeting in Spring and finally we set the date for May 6th. The LTV Technology Center was a convenient place for our first meeting because of its central location and because it is the workplace of a few potential club members. The announcement for this first meeting was distributed to those who expressed interest and also to a mailing list of about 250 people, generously provided to us by Reel 3-D (this answers the question we were frequently asked "how did you get our names?") We still had no idea how many people would show up. My guess was 30-40.

May 6th, 1997

Everything went as-planned. Jim Motley took care of the mailings, Dennis Petti took care of the refreshments and I took care of the program and projection. By 6:30 pm we were ready, waiting for our "guests".

Our first guests (Mr. and Mrs. Don Peck) arrived at 7:00 pm. By 7:45 we had about 50-55 people, filling the 60 seat capacity of the auditorium. It was a diverse group of people, some young, some old, covering a large variety of stereo photographic interests (slides, prints, Realist, 2x2, etc.) Some people came out of curiosity, to see what stereo photography is all about. Others are active stereo photographers, some more experienced than others. The record for the longest distance traveled to join the meeting belongs to Robert Grant and his wife Vickie who drove from Detroit. Robert, a Detroit club member, now knows how we (Jim and I) feel, driving to Detroit every month!

The Program

The program for this opening night was an introduction to Stereo Photography, in two parts: A first, short part, with overhead transparencies, covered the definition, basic principles and history of stereo photography. The second part was a stereo projection showing the variety of things that can be done in 3d.

Club Issues

After a short coffee break, the meeting continued and concluded with a discussion on club matters. Ideas were presented on how the club should operate.
<u>Name</u>: Northern Ohio Stereo Photographic Society or Stereo Photographers of Northern Ohio. Someone proposed that the "Northern" can be omitted. With Columbus at central Ohio being only 2 hours away, people from all different places of Ohio could join the club. Based on this I have used the name: "Stereo Photographers of Ohio" under the newsletter title. Everything, of course, is subject to change.
<u>Logo</u>: Robert Grant from Detroit had proposed that we use a map of Ohio (possibly with a flag in Cleveland) and a stereo camera at the center with the two lenses forming the "O's" in O-HI-O. The idea was found appealing. We only need someone to do the graphic work! It would be nice to have the logo in stereo too (two pictures, part of a stereo pair)

Stereogram Vol 1, No. 1

I have called this newsletter *Stereogram*, from the Greek words στερεό *(*solid, three-dimensional), and γράμμα (letter, as in telegram, etc.) So, this is a letter about stereo photography. Note that "stereogram" is used in stereo photography for stereoscopic drawings and also as a synonym for a stereo pair, in general.

The newsletter should summarize and highlight the activities during the last meeting, present news and information of interest to the club, and give details about the following meeting, motivating the club members to attend. I see the newsletter as a source of information and entertainment, something to look forward to, something that partially justifies the cost of the membership.

The mailing costs for the newsletter are covered by club funds . The contents and editing efforts are provided *free* by club members. I am willing to be the editor for the first few issues, until (and if) other arrangements are made.

Have in mind that, since this is YOUR newsletter, the Editor is expecting YOU to contribute news, articles, and other pieces of information!!!
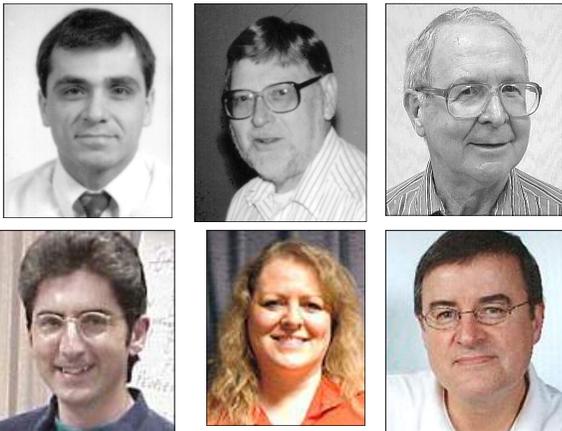
George Themelis

"Our "First Anniversary" Cake was both good looking and delicious" [June 1998 Stereogram]

OSPS 1997-2007

Our Club Logo [from June 1997]

Robert Grant of Detroit MI first proposed the idea for our club logo with a stereo camera whose lenses form the O's of OhiO. He did not stop there but worked further to make this idea a reality. With the help of his brother-in-law, Robert designed our logo not only in two dimensions but in three!

If you freeview the stereoscopic logo reproduced in the left, you will see that there are four depth levels: Furthest away is the state outline. Then comes the camera and the words "Photographic Society". Finally, closest to the observer is the word "Stereo". The more observant readers will notice that the camera's lens plate is standing a bit higher than the rest of the body. An enlargement of the lens' plate shows fine detail scribed around the lenses.

Thank you Robert for such fine work! We hope to see you in our next meeting!

OSPS Season	President	Atten- dance	Mem bers	NL Subs	Meeting Location
1997-1998	G. Themelis	25	51	72	LTV
1998-1999	Jim Motley	28	55	66	LTV
1999-2000	Chuck Weiss	31	48	50	LTV
2000-2001	Chuck Weiss	31	45	56	LTV
2001-2002	Dennis Petti	37	58	55	AAA (2002)
2002-2003	Dennis Petti	37	58	52	AAA
2003-2004	Debbie Motley	34	55	45	AAA
2004-2005	Debbie Motley	30	60	32	AAA
2005-2006	Ron Fross	30	55	33	AAA
2006-2007	Ron Fross	31	61	32	QI

Our 6 Presidents in 10 years (from their newsletter photos): George Themelis, Jim Motley, Chuck Weiss, Dennis Petti, Debbie Motley, Ron Fross. I have asked all our past Presidents to be at the June meeting to record a historic 3d picture.

In its 10 years of existence, our stereo club has seen 6 Presidents, 3 meeting locations, 102 meetings & Newsletters (including this one), 60 stereo slide competitions, 5,000 (estimated) projected stereo slides.

In addition to the club officers, many members helped in our meetings by working "behind the scenes".... Pictured above are Mark and Debbie Motley, helping Jim during the competition nights (from the May 1998 meeting)

Email, Internet and the WEB [Stereogram Feb 1998]

Seems that a newsletter does not go by without some mention of these words. What is all this about???

Email is like a voice mail system but with written text (read in a computer), instead of voice. Each person has an account and can leave and receive messages to and from other people, each with his/her own account.

The *Internet* is a connection of computers all over the world that share information. The email exchange takes place through the Internet.

The *web* (or World Wide Web, www) is like electronic publishing. A person can publish a flyer with information about himself or his products or whatever, with pictures and text, and have this flyer available to many people who have access to the Internet. To access the Internet, use email, or visit the web, you need a computer, a modem (phone connection) and a service that will do the connection. One day our club might have a web page (web site). Then people with access to the Internet can visit this page and get all the information they need about our club.

Right now only a relatively small number of club members are connected to the Internet but this number will increase with time with younger people being introduced to it in college or even high school. So expect to see more of it in the future.