

SAVING AND DISPLAYING PHOTOS ON THE IHC WEBSITE

Written by Ed Wright 06/22/25

Overview of Process:

Photos on the website are saved in a primary directory folder entitled “images” and are accessed from a Photo Galleries link saved on the home page. It is one of the links referenced on the left side of the home page. When you select it will access the following link www.indyhike.org/photos.shtml which in turn selects a special routine written in Perl to display the photos (too complex to describe here). That routine is accessed by the link www.indyhike.org/cgi-bin/displayGalleries.

Individual photos are saved on the website as jpg images under a directory referencing a unique event, such as a hike, the Winter banquet or the Club picnic. Each directory (event) must have a unique name in the primary folder entitled “images”. There are one or more jpg photos saved in the “images” directory for every event (directory) listed in the photos gallery. In the past I made event names up (each event is in turn a directory) every time I add a new group of photos to the website, such as Picnic2020 or SouthwestwayPark2022. There are currently 10 pages in the “images” directory of all of the event names we have photos for dating back to 1999. Each event name (e.g., hike or picnic) has all the jpg images saved for that event, saved under the event name.

If the above wasn’t confusing enough, I will walk you through an actual example of adding an event (hike or picnic) and associated photos to the website.

Adding Photos to the Website:

Let’s start by setting up a new event entitled TestHike2025. I would log onto the website to make changes (only a few of us are authorized to do this). Then I would access the primary directory “images” from the main menu. I would then add a new directory to “images” entitled TestHike2025. I would

then scroll through all pages under images until I located the one that has the new directory I just added (the directory names are all saved alphabetically)

I would then access the new directory I just created entitled TestHike2025. I would then upload all the jpg images for the event from the download directory on my PC to the TestHike2025 directory, one at a time. Making sure to give each jpg image a unique name, e.g., TH1.jpg, TH2.jpg After all jpg images (photos) have been uploaded (at least I do not need to resize the photos any longer before uploading to the website), I would then need to create a text file "images.txt" under the same directory TestHike2025. The images.txt file has a special format that the software expects. The first line of the images.txt file is always printed by the software as the first line on the screen, and by convention this is Title: (always required), name of the event, followed by the date and the name of the leader and photographer. Something like this "Title: Southwestway Park, May 10, 2022 Leader: Debbie Bucholz Photographer: Amy Auberry". The software looks for the word Title: and simply prints the line as you enter it. After the title line we are now ready to add the images and associated captions in the order you want them displayed. Going back to our test hike example if I wanted the image TH1 displayed first would start a newline with TH1.jpg, I would then need to put a bar "|" to indicate the start of the caption. For example, "|This is the first caption for our test hike". I would then skip a line and add the second photo - TH2.jpg. and its caption. If I had wanted image TH2 displayed before TH1 I would have entered them in that order. I would continue in a similar manner until all images I had uploaded were listed each with their own caption. I would then save the updated directory "TestHike2025". Regarding captions, sometimes the person who sent me the photos would have provided captions. Sometimes I lift the photos and captions off of Facebook (put there mostly by Phil Coons). Most often I simply make them up. Frequently, I email back to the person who took the photo and ask what caption they want on a photo. This can be time-consuming, especially if the event has lots of photos and multiple photographers, especially if you are merging two or more photographers' photos of the same event getting them in the right order can be tricky.

Debbie, you should know enough now to access and correct the captions on your Southwestway Park on May 10 of 2022. Check on page 8 of the “images” directory for the event name SouthwestwayPark2022 and make the necessary changes to the images.txt file (only one photo and caption). I would practice and go ahead and make the change.

Adding an Event (group of photos) to the Photo Gallery:

You would think you are now done setting up a new event (hike), but not yet. You still have not informed the software what directory on the “images” directory to display and in what date order. That is where another table and software routine comes into play.

First the new table entitled “galleries”, which contains the list of all entries (mostly hikes) on the photo gallery display, currently 977 entries. Below is a printout of what the current Galleries table looks like (although it would be clearer on your screen. The display was produced by a special software routine Bob Hackenberg developed entitled <https://www.indyhike.org/cgi-bin/retrieveTable.cgi?table=galleries> which I booked mark on my desktop computer as “IHC Insert Photos”. Selecting the “IHC Insert Photos” bookmark would produce the following display of the galleries table.

[Insert a record into galleries](#)

galleries

id	hike	day	month	year	photographer	basedir	link
1	Turkey Run	1	9	1999	Bobbie Mattasits	turkeyrun99	
2	Smoky Mountains	1	4	2003	Daymon Evans	smokies	
3	Indiana Dunes State Park	1	6	2003	Bobbie Mattasits	Indianadunes	
4	Door County Wisconsin	1	10	2003	Bobbie Mattasits	DoorWI	
5	Eagle Creek Park	1	4	2004	Bob Hackenberg	eaglecreek	

6	California, here we come	1	4	2004	Lawler, Wooden, Conwell, Roberts, Monnon, Kestle, Voegel	california
7	Shadyside Park, Anderson	1	5	2004	Bob Hackenberg	anderson
8	Holliday Park	1	5	2004	Bob Hackenberg	holliday
(Followed by many more entries)						
977	Christkindl art in Carmel	06	12	2023	June Sergi	Christkindlemart2023

The table “galleries” contains one entry for every event currently in the Photo Gallery (currently 977 in total). Every entry includes: a number assigned by the computer, and the following fields you would be responsible for entering: event name, day, month, and year of the event (used as the primary sort of the photos gallery display), photographer(s), and the unique name of the entry in the “images” directory (which contains the jpg images for the event).

Selecting the “Insert a record into galleries” link at the top of the above display would yield a fill in the blank new table entry looking like the following (would be clearer on your screen).

Insert galleries Record

[Return To galleries Record List](#)

galleries Insert Record Form	
id int	NULL (auto_increment)
hike varchar(50)	
day varchar(2)	
month int	
year year	
photographer varchar(70)	
basedir varchar(30)	

link varchar(150)

You would then enter every field in the table, starting with event name, day of month, month and calendar year. Followed by a list of one or more names of photographers of the event, followed by the event directory name in the “images” table. If you selected entry #910 from the galleries display (each number assigned by the computer is a link to a gallery table entry), here is what a filled in gallery entry for your Southwestway Hike in May of 2022 looks like.

Edit Table Record

[Return To galleries Record List](#)

galleries Record Edit Form	
id int	910
hike varchar(50)	Southwestway Park
day varchar(2)	10
month int	5
year year	2022
photographer varchar(70)	Amy Auberry
basedir varchar(30)	SouthwestwayPark2022
link varchar(150)	