Photo Sharing on the Internet

- 1. Why share photos on the Internet?
 - a. Cheaper than sending through the mail
 - i. Processing/reprint costs
 - ii. Envelope costs
 - iii. Postage costs
 - iv. Time to write out multiple cover notes
 - b. Can share with more friends and relatives than through the mail
 - i. Don't have to worry about them all getting together to view at the same time
 - ii. Don't have to worry about toting around a photo album/brag book with you everywhere
 - c. Friends and relatives can view photos at their leisure
- 2. Ways to share photos on the Internet
 - a. E-mail
 - i. Attachments to messages
 - 1. Have to scan in prints or copy over digital files
 - 2. May be confused with viruses
 - 3. May get scrambled in transmission
 - a. CompuServe and AOL accounts sometimes need to have files .zipped first
 - 4. Long upload/download times over dial-up lines
 - 5. One or more large files may get discarded by your ISP's SMTP server
 - 6. Firewalls and security policies can block e-mail attachments
 - 7. Low-quality prints on home printer
 - ii. In-line photos on HTML messages
 - 1. Same problems with transmission, viruses, upload/download times, low-quality prints, etc.
 - 2. Some people turn off HTML e-mail for security reasons
 - b. IRC and Instant Messaging
 - i. Can flood an IRC server
 - ii. DCC, most IM is one-on-one
 - iii. Firewalls, proxy servers, and security policies can block file transfer
 - c. ftp, Web-based directories
 - i. Examples: STARFLEET Region 13 Summit Photos, http://www.region13.org/summit/images/pictures/
 - ii. Pro:
 - 1. Don't have to spend lots of time organizing and writing up pretty pages
 - 2. Not confusable with attached viruses
 - iii. Con:
 - 1. Have to scan in prints or copy over digital files

- 2. Friends or relatives need to know the site and login information
- 3. One-at-a-time photo transfer can be long and boring
- 4. No room for descriptions of photos
- 5. friends and relatives are stuck downloading and/or viewing everything
- 6. time-sink if they're not interested in viewing all photos, or if they're limited to dial-up access
- 7. Storage and bandwidth limitations of your account
- 8. Low-quality prints on home printer, or need CD-burner to bring large-sized files to (work, Kinko's, etc.) for high-quality prints
- d. Web pages or sites
 - i. Examples: Bonnie Brae Highland Games <u>http://tmana.tripod.com/Bonnie_Brae/</u> OPH Booth at 2001 North Plainfield Street Fair <u>http://members.tripod.com/~TMana/PhotoSuite/OPH_at_NPSF/</u> 2002 Capsuto Family Reunion (passworded) <u>http://www.stevecap.com/familia/</u>
 - ii. Pro:
 - 1. Pretty interface
 - 2. Can use thumbnails as previews
 - a. view large images only of what you want to view
 - b. easier on slow-bandwidth connections
 - 3. Room to place captions and other information
 - 4. Photo editing software can automatically create Web pages and sites, and can automatically transfer image information to pages (e.g. PhotoSuite)
 - 5. Can restrict viewership with login IDs/passwords to pages
 - iii. Con:
 - 1. Requires HTML know-how or page-generating tools
 - 2. Have to scan in prints or copy over digital files
 - 3. Storage and bandwidth limitations of your account
 - 4. Low-quality prints on home printer, or need CD-burner to bring large-sized files to (work, Kinko's, etc.) for high-quality prints
 - 5. Available to general public
 - a. Possible security concerns (children's images available to would-be kidnappers, molesters, etc.)
 - b. Possible copyright concerns (persons who will swipe your image and call it theirs, etc.)
- e. Restricted group sites (Yahoo!Groups, etc.)
 - i. Examples:
 - 1. Brenda's photos on the Yahoo!Groups Courtesan group photos page

- 2. Brenda's photos on the Yahoo!Groups RenCostumer group photos page
- 3. Brenda's photos on the Yahoo!Groups RenCostumer group files page

ii. Pro:

- 1. Thumbnails automatically provided and generated
- 2. Can use existing captions, or write your own
- 3. Easy announcement to interested group
- 4. Don't have to write pages, etc.
- 5. Prints and associated merchandise available for purchase
- 6. Not available to general public

iii. Con:

- 1. Still have to upload photos
- 2. Storage and bandwidth limitations of group account
- 3. Must be member of group and service to upload photos
 - a. How much information do they want?
 - b. How do they intend to use it?
 - c. How much advertising can you opt out of?
- 4. May have to be a member of the group and service to view photos
- 5. Terms and Conditions of Site: who *really* owns the rights to your photos?

f. Photo-sharing services

- i. Examples
 - 1. Ofoto <u>http://www.ofoto.com/</u>
 - 2. Snapfish <u>http://www.snapfish.com/</u>
 - 3. Shutterfly http://www.shutterfly.com/
 - 4. PhotoWorks http://www.photoworks.com/
- ii. Pro:
 - 1. Thumbnails and slide shows available, and automatically created
 - 2. Film processed at a discount and automatically uploaded
 - 3. Can add captions to photos
 - 4. Can invite friends and family to view with a personalized email message
 - 5. Don't have to write pages, etc.
 - 6. Prints and associated merchandise available for purchase
 - 7. Not available to general public
- iii. Con:
 - 1. Limited storage life of albums or high-resolution files (PhotoWorks, Snapfish)
 - 2. No film negatives returned
 - a. All prints must be done through the service
 - 3. Have to join service to upload photos
 - a. How much information do they want?
 - b. How do they intend to use it?

- c. How much advertising can you opt out of?
 4. May have to answer same questions to view the photos
 5. Terms and condition of Site: who *really* owns the rights to your photos?