

Basic Instructions for getting Started with the *New* MPAS Astrophotography Gallery

SOME BASICS FOR WORKING WITH YOUR NEW GALLERY 3

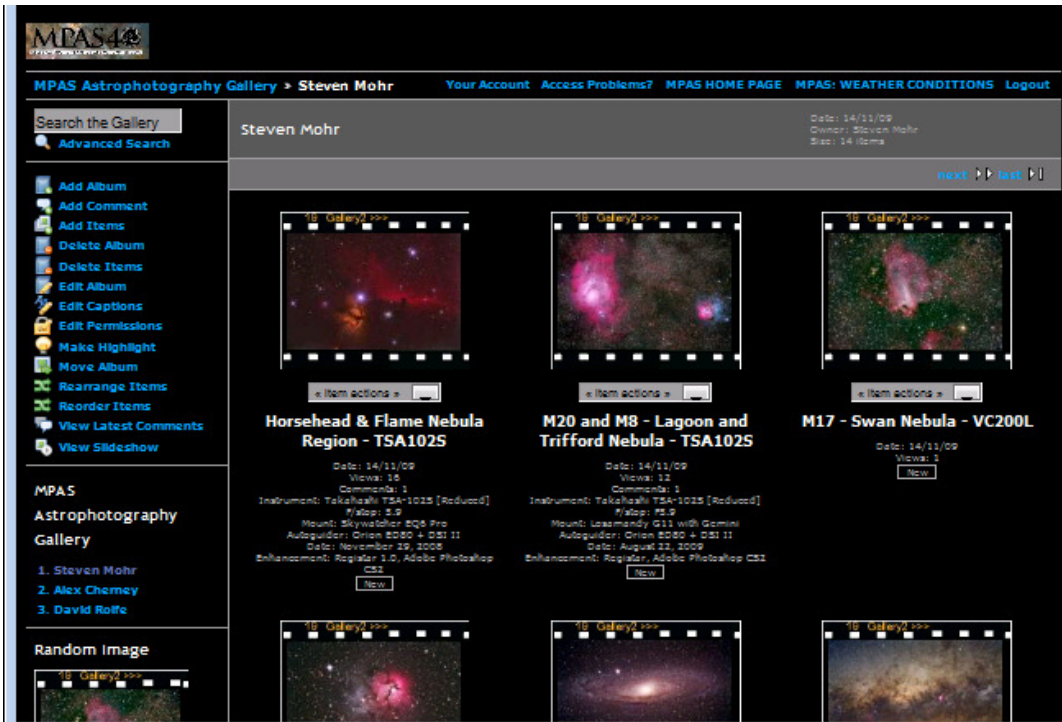
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SOME BASICS FOR WORKING WITH YOUR NEW GALLERY

Just for starters, note that this is the first guide written for the new gallery. Over time we will make corrections and additions for new items we find. Good luck with your new gallery!

Getting Started..

Once you have logged in, you will be faced with the following screen, but without the existing thumb nail links (Gallery Empty):



Adding your first images

To add your first image, look to the left side menu and select "Add Items". You will have the next screen:

MPAS Astrophotography Gallery > Steven Mohr Your Account Access Problems? MPAS HOME PAGE MPAS: WEATHER CONDITIONS Logout

Steven Mohr

Options

- Add Album
- Add Items
- Delete Album
- Delete Items
- Edit Album
- Edit Captions
- Edit Permissions
- Make Highlight
- Move Album
- Rearrange Items
- Reorder Items
- View Comments

Add Items

From Web Browser Link

Upload files directly from your computer. Enter the full path to the file and an optional caption in the boxes below.
Note: You can upload up to 8 megabytes at one time. No individual file may be larger than 2 megabytes. If you want to upload more than that, you must upload the files separately, use a different upload format, or ask your system administrator to allow larger uploads.

File

Browse...

Caption

File

Browse...

Caption

More Upload Boxes...

Set item titles from: Base filename Assign caption to: Summary Description

Thumbnails

Gallery can create thumbnails at upload time, or create them the first time you want to see the thumbnail itself. Either way, it will create the thumbnail once and save it, but if you create them at upload time it makes viewing albums for the first time go faster at the expense of a longer upload time.

Create thumbnails now

Add Items

On this page, you upload your images. REMEMBER, limits restrictions apply to uploadable images (max dimensions: 1600 x 1600, and size max 1500kb). The option "More Upload Boxes" allows more slots for uploading your images, but see the header for restrictions on how many at any one time.

I highly recommend Fotosizer Batch Image Resizing software. It is excellent for rescaling images to a specific size:
<http://www.fotosizer.com/>

To select your image, just use the "Browse" button and then navigate to your image.

HINT! Name your image files what you would like in the **TITLE** for the image. Saves extra work later.

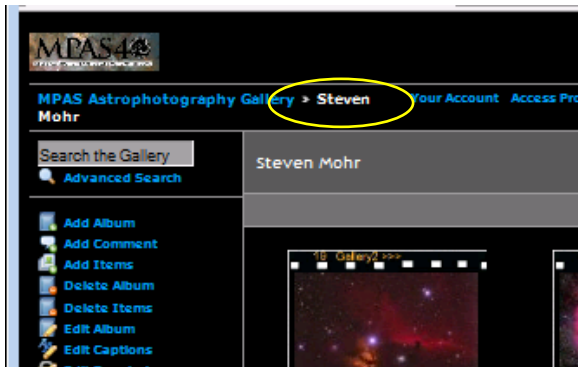
Once you have your images selected, NO OTHER OPTION NEED CHANGING, nor do you have to worry about using the "CAPTION" section. All information you want to add for the image, is easily added afterwards. This makes it simpler for those who just want to upload images and no more fuss.

Once done and your ready to upload, select at the bottom of the page:
Add Items.

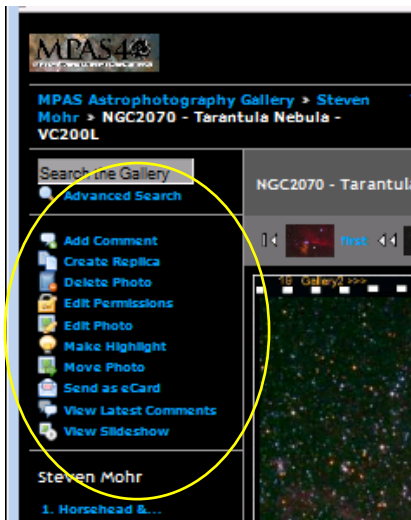
At this stage, just wait for the software to do its thing, and you will be returned to your gallery.

How to add text information to your images

First, make sure you are in the start of your Gallery, select at the top of the screen your Galleries name:

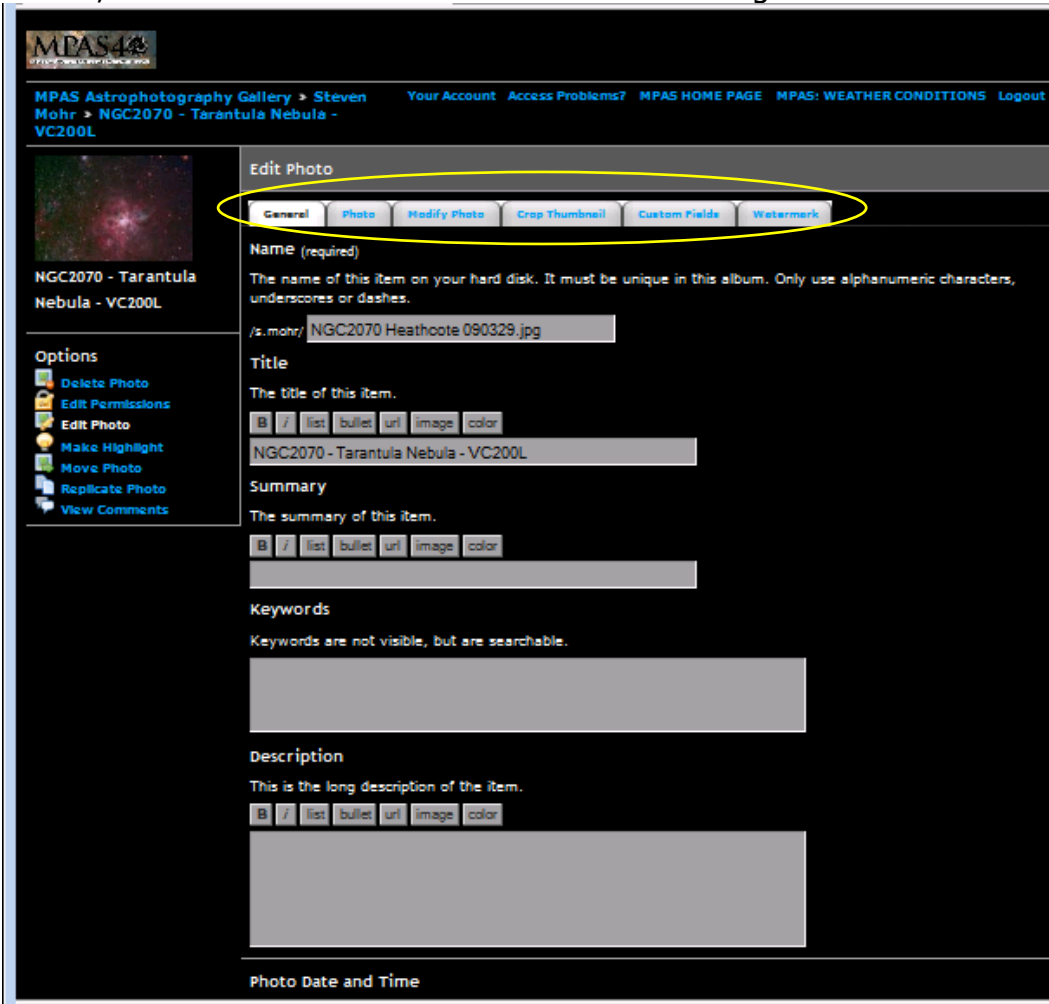


Next double click on the thumb nail of the image you want to change. The first thing to notice, is that the SIDE MENU has changed.



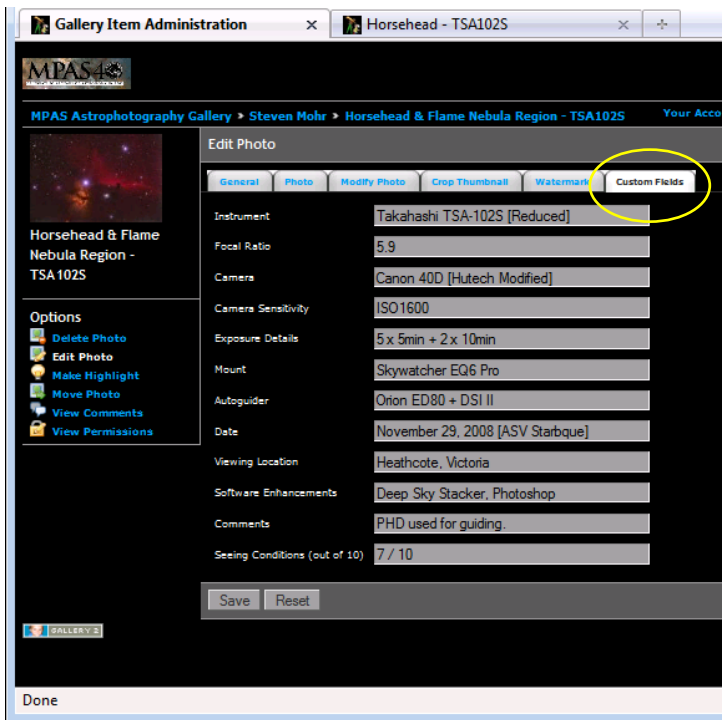
In this menu you can select "EDIT PHOTO" to make changes to Text inputs, and to that of the image.

Here you can make some interesting additions in the "General" tab, but notice, there are other tabs where information can be changed. "Custom Fields" is a good one, but for some reason, some of these items remain hidden. But I'll figure out how to fix this over time.



Add Custom Fields [Information] about your Photo

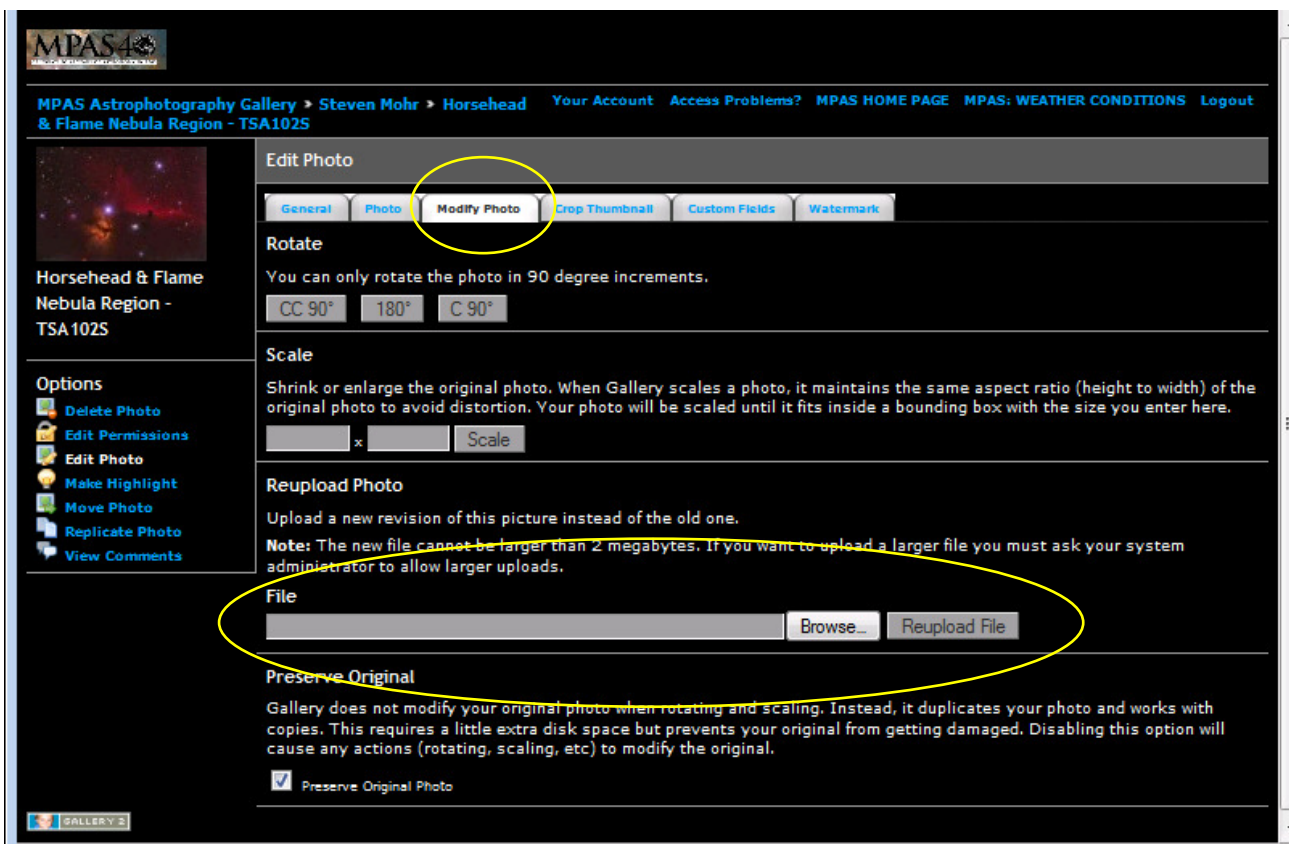
Once you have selected a photo to edit, by selecting "Edit Photo" from the side menu, you will see a number of TAB options across the top, notice one named "Custom Fields":



Under this option you can add standard fields of information to your image. If you do not have information for one or more of these fields, just leave it out, as it will simply not appear in your photo's display area.

Modifying Your Photo – Re-Uploading a Replacement Photo

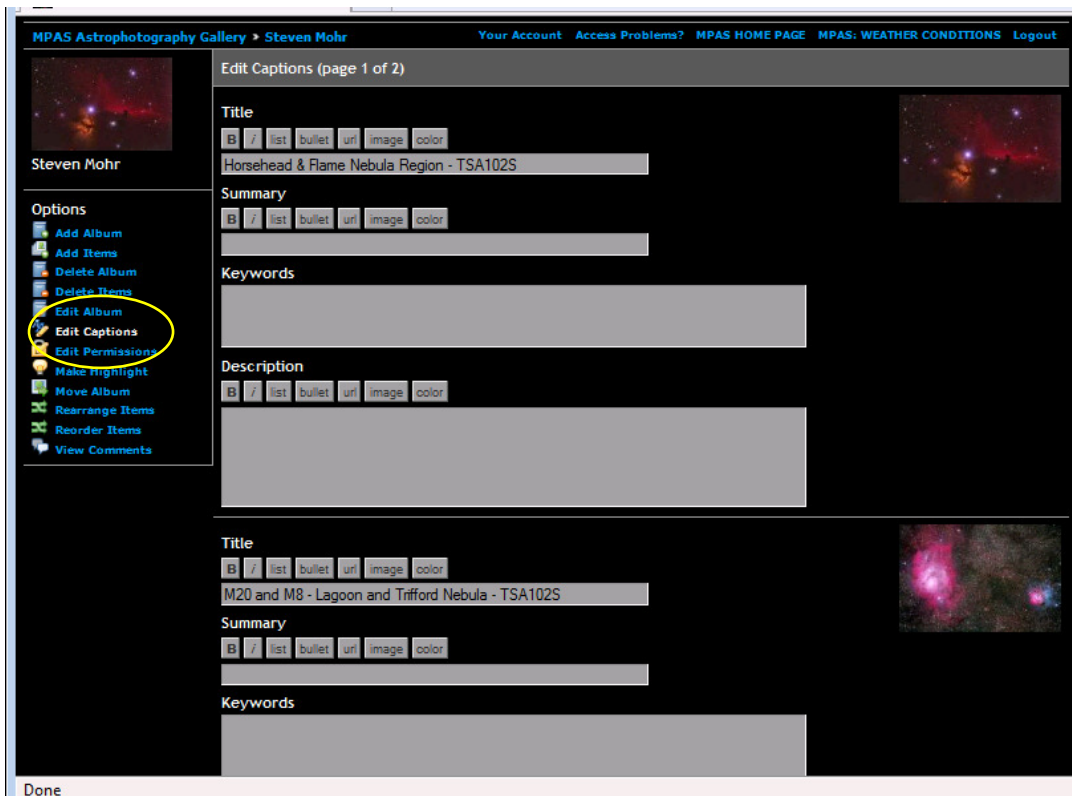
In this section you can re-upload a new image to replace an existing image. This is a great option as you keep all text data associated with the original image. See below what the screen looks like:



Notice: there is a file upload section to “Reupload” your new image (see above).

Making Global Caption Changes to Your Images

A great section to make a total revamp of titles, etc, is in the "Edit Captions" section (see side menu when at Gallery view).



Here you can see each image and change Title, Summary, Keywords (for searches), and the Descriptions. Neat!

REALLY IMPORTANT! Make sure to save all your work by Clicking on the Save option at the bottom of any page you work on!!

Making Sub Albums

Here you can add some division to your work by adding additional albums. For an example, you make like an album to display your equipment, one for your galaxies, one for your Deep Sky objects, another for Planetary images. Its up to you.

Importantly: You can MOVE images around your albums! Select the "Rearrange" or "Reorder" Options for that section you are working on.

Finishing Off

Just so you know, there are many more areas to play with than are mentioned here. Please try not to break anything ☺.

Other features include a ***slide show*** option and even an ***electronic Ecard*** option – both found at the main side menu when logged out.

Have fun with your gallery, and let me know if you find something interesting!

Cheers

Steve Mohr

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