Running a Slide Show with Roku

I use a stand-alone **Roku** device attached to a 24” **Sceptre** monitor to watch slide shows of my photo archives.

The slide show runs on the **PLEX** app, a channel available on the Roku device. Roku offers other slide show apps but I prefer PLEX

The photos are fed from a **Synology Network Storage Device** (NAS).

The Roku device and the Synology NAS run over a wired network.

Though I could have set up the Roku device wirelessly, I always prefer hard-wired connections over Wi-Fi.

My images are stored on the NAS by date taken. I set up PLEX to randomize the images that display though I could have set them up to run by folder. Plex displays each image for about 5 seconds.

Though the PLEX slide show is capable of playing videos with sound, I prefer the silence and the quick pace of the still images.

For reasons best understood by others, PLEX does not allow slideshows to loop. Typically, I have to restart the slide show about once a day.

Sometimes, the slide show stops working.

When this happens, the first thing that I do is to restart Plex.

If that doesn’t solve the problem, I restart Roku, checking that I have a good Internet connection.

If that too fails, I verify that I am running the latest version of PLEX and Roku.

On one occasion, the Synology NAS sent me an e-mail indicating that the PLEX application was out of memory.
My low-tech solution was to uninstall PLEX from the NAS, keeping the settings and reinstalling the program.
That solved the one-time issue.

What follows is a listing of the hardware and software that I use to run my slide shows

Roku 4400X – Roku 4

24” Sceptre Monitor E248W-19203R Series screwed to a VESA articulating mount

Synology DS218+ Network Storage Device

Plex Software – 1.29.2.6364-7000

I cut out a hollow between the studs in order to hold the monitor power supply, the Roku box, the Roku power supply and the Ethernet cable connection. The monitor is attached to an articulating VESA mount and covers the wall cavity.

  