



IN focus!

The Camera Club of Hendersonville

January 2006

Moderator: Jeff Miller

Secretary/Treasurer: Ron Anderson

Past President: John Orolin

Christmas Party

Our annual Christmas Party was held December 27 at Sammy Williams Center. Those in attendance brought at least twice as much food as we managed to devour! We enjoyed good conversation and some fun in the gag gift exchange as we did last year. There were 21 in attendance. We presented Mary Lewande, our Sammy Williams center manager, with a gift in appreciation for her willingness to host our club once a month.



Photo Shoot

A while back, Mary asked the club if we would be willing to shoot some photographs of the Sammy Williams Acting Troup onstage for a brochure they are going to publish. Barbara Patton coordinated the event with Mary. Several of us met at the Lake Pointe Landing theater on December 13 for the session. Present were Barbara Patton, Kaye and Dennis Morel, Jeff Miller, John Orolin and Ron Anderson. I (Ron), am collecting the results to put on a CD for Mary. So far I have the efforts of Dennis, John and myself. It was an interesting event with not very good lighting, but I think several of the shots will be worthy of appearance in a brochure.

New Look

You may notice a bit of a new format for the Newsletter. I decided to venture out and not use the previously used template this month (since I am NOT a Word expert). I thought I would do it "my way".

January Forum

Don't forget our big event Forum to be at the Kaplan Auditorium at the Hendersonville Library on January 24. John's great idea of showing the entries via projector for the audience while the judge looks at the original prints went over so very well in the October Forum that we will be doing this again. Also we are inviting the general public to this meeting. It ought to be a fun night. Remember, the theme for the Forum is **Shapes**. I have to admit that though I have a number of possible entries, none of them fit the theme yet. I'll have to get busy! Get your prints to Mountain Lore Book Store and Email your digitals to John Orolin by 4 P.M. Friday the 20th. Check the web site for Forum rules and forms.

www.hendersonvillecameraclub.com/

Themes for the remaining forums in 2006 are:

April: Contrast July: Juxtaposition October: Reflections

You might start looking for possibilities in those themes now and be ahead of the game.

For those new to the club, photos are judged and scored on a 1 to 10 basis. Scores of 7 or above are eligible for display for a month in the Library in Kaplan Auditorium. The club has a display twice a year so each display will include the eligible photos from two forums. Perhaps it is time to send all members and recent guests the complete forum rules again. I will do that in

addition to the newsletter this month. Judges for the forum will be Les Saucier and Don McGowan. Les is a good, fair, tough judge. His comments on photographs have been very helpful in past forums to help us improve our images. John Orolin has sent an Email to all of us with information on our judges. I encourage everyone to submit some photos. All of us have had images score poorly, so don't be discouraged by fears of poor scores. We learn more from our failed attempts than from our successful ones!

Photo Show

John Orolin is having a one man photo exhibit at Kaplan Auditorium at the Library for the month of January. Be sure to stop in and see it.



Dues

So far a total of nine of us have paid our 2006 dues. REMEMBER that only members can enter the Forum in January. Dues will be accepted before the judging on the 24th. Dues are \$20 a year for a single or a couple.

We Need Your Help

Whether you are new to the camera club or a longtime member, we need some folks to volunteer to be on the steering committee for 2006. I plan to remain as treasurer and writer of the Newsletter plus whatever else I can handle. John would like to be relieved of the forum duties after the January forum. Those duties involve collecting the prints from Mountain Lore

downtown, arranging them and preparing a list of them on a spreadsheet for the judging so someone can announce the title of each image as it is shown, and fill in the judge's score for the record. Then after the forum the results need to be tabulated for the record. I'd appreciate someone who is good with Excel doing that job. I've used it (for two or three years) but I'm not really handy with it, and don't really care to be :-)

If we continue our present practice of photographing all the prints so they can be projected at the forum, we will need some help in that area too. I think this is one of the best things that has happened to our Forums. Thanks John for the good idea.

We need a publicity person to handle meeting notices, someone to distribute our new brochures when we have them printed, and a number of other small tasks.

If you are interested in helping out, please Email John or myself. You don't need to be an Ansel Adams to qualify to help on the steering committee!

While I am asking for volunteers, I must thank those who have helped recently. Kaye Morel brought some more proof copies of the new club brochure that she prepared for us, to the Christmas Party. I think everyone had a chance to have a copy to look at. Kaye did a beautiful job on this project in spite of all the kibitzing that she had to endure, and we will have some printed as soon as enough of us have paid our dues so the club can afford the project!

Barbara Patton deserves thanks for her efforts at coordinating the photo shoot at Lake Pointe Landing.

More Information on Mounting Prints

John Flinchum of Framing Supplies sent an Email to John Orolin after reading last month's newsletter. I had wrongly said that they sell mounting board in 30 by 40 inch size. Let me insert John Flinchum's letter text here intact:

“I first want to thank you for the mention of Framing Supplies / formerly known as Presto, as a good resource for foam core and such. May I offer some good info for you to pass on to all of the members as to fill in some of the Blanks.

We offer all types of mounting boards in single sheets the industry standard is 32x40. You can get 4 16x20 from one sheet. If you fear cutting it I can cut it for you on a wall mounted fletcher 3000 cutter with great precision so the boards we offer are foam core and X board and perfect mount and many other acid free boards. The X board doesn't have a foam core to it and is wonderful for mounting photography. I have many John Sexton and a Brett Weston images mounted on X board in the seventies and are still doing great! X board comes in single X and 3X which is really thick, about 1/8 inch and very strong. as for the mounting methods for all of the new ink jet papers, after much research and calling many companies, who should have figured out how to mount their photo paper. I discovered PMA, positionable mounting adhesive works really well. we carry it and use it daily; great stuff. It is high tack! So.... you dont have to buy a whole case of any mounting boards, single sheets are fine and very inexpensive. We carry anything related to framing and if I don't have it in retail for some reason I can have it for you the next day from the whitted street warehouse, but we are fully stocked and prices are very low.

A book worthy of mention that we carry, “Mounting Photography” covers the ins and outs of mounting many types of photography even the great ilfochrome prints, formerly known as cibachrome. I have found them to be the best form of printing from slides. you must handle them with kid gloves though. scratch very easy. Please feel free to drop by anytime and I promise to help you with any of your framing needs the best I can. It is always a lot of fun seeing all of the photographers come in. some great discussions with fellow photographers have been known to happen. :)”

Thank you John for the clarification. Next time I need mounting board I'll be in for some of that 3X kind. I have 11 by 14 black and white prints from as far back as 1970 mounted on what was then called “double weight” mounting board, that are still flat and securely attached to the board.

Photoshop vs Reality

John O. sent me a link recently to an article on Photoshop. The premise was something that I've realized for a few months now (my head is pretty thick so it takes a while for me to understand things).

The article says that neither film nor digital Image sensors tell the truth. Neither can possibly record the tremendous range of brightness of an outdoor scene. We can look at the sky and clouds and see brilliant white against dark blue. Then we look at the shadows, perhaps under a tree, and we see all the detail there too. The image sensors simply can't accommodate this range of brightness, and if they could, no printing paper could hold the image either. A scene such as the one I described above could have a brightness range of up to 1,000,000 to 1. The image sensor or film can record a range of about 7 F stops or about 125 to 1. This is about what photographic paper can display as well.

I had noticed that my images from the digital camera had lost much detail in the shadows, and that it was possible to restore much of that detail using the Levels or Curves adjustments in Photoshop. I've been trying very hard to make Evelyn's and my Fall photos appear more like what I think we saw the day we took them. Those efforts include things like darkening the sky and other bright objects in the images, lightening the shadows and increasing the color saturation to something that looks more like the view the day we took the photos.

The article shows how some of the famous artists handled the representation of light and shadows in their paintings. Photoshop, I am happy to say, gives me some of that kind of control in making

my digital images look more like what I remember seeing when I took the photograph.

<http://db.tidbits.com/getbits.acgi?tbart=08365>

This URL will get you to the entire article. It is very interesting reading. I don't know how long it will be available so do it now if you are interested.

Tutorial – Resizing Images

A recent occurrence along with a letter requesting help that was published in the last PC Photo Magazine has inspired me to write a little note here regarding resizing images. The digital SLR camera's images are in the aspect ratio of 3:2. The reason is that 35 mm film produces an image that is 36 by 24 Mm. That is in the ratio of 3 to 2. Film photographers who made their own prints are familiar with this odd format not fitting standard size printing paper. The image if enlarged to 5 inches in the smaller dimension becomes 7.5 images in the long dimension and therefore doesn't fit a 5 by 7 without cropping. If enlarged so the small dimension is 8 inches, the long dimension becomes 12 inches and even more cropping is required to fit an 8 by 10 format.

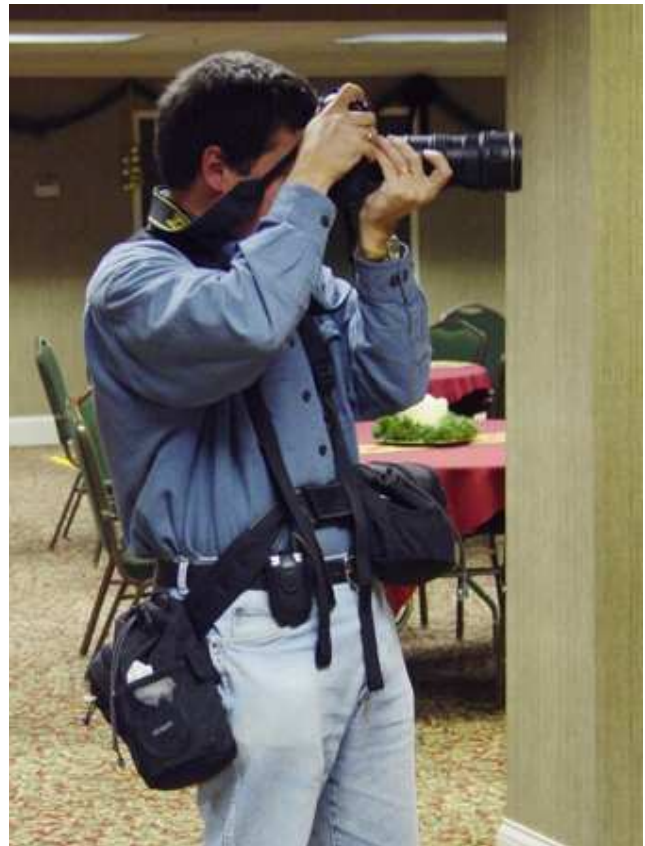
Most other digital cameras shoot in a 4 to 3 image format, which almost fits an 8 by 10. If the shorter dimension is enlarged to 8 inches, the long dimension is 10.67 inches. Cropping is a necessity in almost all cases. I sometimes make 8 by 10.67 prints of my images if I don't want to crop them.

Now to the crux of the matter. If you resize an image from your camera, you can specify both dimensions. If you do that you must be sure you are maintaining the original aspect ratio of your image. Recently someone sent me some images that were resized from the 3 to 2 format of an SLR to 640 by 480 pixels. To maintain the same ratio the dimensions should be 480 by 720. If the long dimension is set at 640 the short one would be about 413.

The images were resized in Photoshop. In Photoshop if you open the Resize Image window you will see a little check box that is labeled “Constrain proportions”. If you check that box you will find that you specify one of the dimensions of the image and Photoshop automatically calculates the other dimension.

The consequence of squeezing a 3 to 2 image into a 4 to 3 ratio was to compress the image in the direction of the long dimension by some 12.5%. A photo of a person taken vertically would compress the person by about 10 inches in height. One taken horizontally would make for some skinny people!

One of my photoshop books actually talks about using this as a technique to make more flattering portraits of folks who are on the rotund side like me! They suggest that 4% to 5% is not obvious and it makes the person look a bit thinner.



Smile for the Camera!

Kanuga Photography Retreat V

Students of all experience levels are welcome, even point and shot cameras, at this week long photography retreat in the mountains of North Carolina May 7-12, 2006. Check out the website:

www.kanugaphotoretreat.com

for all the details or call Beth Reynolds, workshop coordinator at 727.327-1106



Who's the Frenchman?



Isn't she Sweet!



Photographer at Work?

Opportunities

Camera Club of Hendersonville:

Meets 4th Tuesday of the month.

Next meeting:

Tue. Jan. 24 At Hendersonville Public Library
Kaplan Auditorium – Forum

Contact:

Ron Anderson at ronwande@bellsouth.net

Website:

<http://www.hendersonvillecameraclub.com>

Pixelpushers:

Meets 4th Wednesday of the month – All Digital! 7 to 9 P.M. South Buncombe Library

Contact:

Tim Lewis at tlewis@buncombe.main.nc.us

F/32 Asheville:

F/32 meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month at their regular meeting place. 7 to 9 P.M.

Contact: John Orolin at orolin@bellsouth.net

Take a look at their New Website designed by Susan Stanton:

[http:// www.f32nc.com/](http://www.f32nc.com/)

CNPA-Asheville: Meets 2nd Sunday of the month, 7 PM UNCA Botanical Garden.

Next Sunset Op:

NextField Trip:

Next Meeting: Sunday Dec. 11

Website: <http://www.cnpa-asheville.org>