



Photo of the Year Randy Harris

Speaker This Month - Randy Hedgepath

Newsletter August 2012

Randy Hedgepath has been walking through the Tennessee woods most of his life. The Natchez Trace State Park and State Forest with its extensive woods and sand hills was adjacent to his childhood home. Growing up on the family farm was a great education in nature. A Bachelor of Science in Parks and Recreation was achieved from the University of Tennessee at Martin, also in his native west Tennessee. During the college years, summers were spent working in Tennessee State Parks. A superb introduction to park work was experienced at Fall Creek Falls State Park. Cedars of Lebanon State Park and David Crockett State Park were added to his list in subsequent years.

After college, Randy traveled, working at a summer camp in the Maine woods and at three units of the National Parks Service. A wonderful fall in Glacier National Park was followed by an amazing winter at Natural Bridges National Monument. Then for three years Randy worked at the Ozark National Scenic Riverways in Missouri.

In 1983, Randy became the Ranger Naturalist for the South Cumberland State Recreation Area in Tennessee. South Cumberland is an expansive multiple unit park with trails and hiking as the focus. In his 15 years at South Cumberland, Randy established an interpretive program using hikes and tours predominately. In 1998, Randy joined the staff at one of the premier walking parks in Nashville, the Radnor Lake State Natural Area. For nine years Randy helped visitors appreciate this beautiful urban oasis of nature. During these years Randy explored as many places and trails as he could. He has visited most of the parks, forests and natural areas in Tennessee and walked many of their trails.

Randy Hedgepath became the State Naturalist for Tennessee State Parks in 2007. He now travels the state doing nature programs, supporting conservation groups, and walking trails. He continues to seek out new trails and beauty spots of nature. The goal of his work is to help everyone know and appreciate the wonderful outdoor world of Tennessee.

Club meeting
7 PM Tuesday
Aug 21, 2012
Social at 6 PM
Guests welcome
First meeting free.

Club Website
www.nashvillephotographyclub.com

Quote
"Twelve significant photographs in any one year is a good crop."
Ansel Adams

Beginner Tips - Basic Photography

Trust me there won't be a test at the end of this article but there are some basics of photography and terms that you should know if you are going to be serious about this subject. We will go through a few basics of photography concepts and technical terms below. First, we'll talk a little bit about **aperture also known as f-stop**. A small number in f-stop means more light and a larger number will be less light. This is the circular opening inside the lens that's adjustable and regulates

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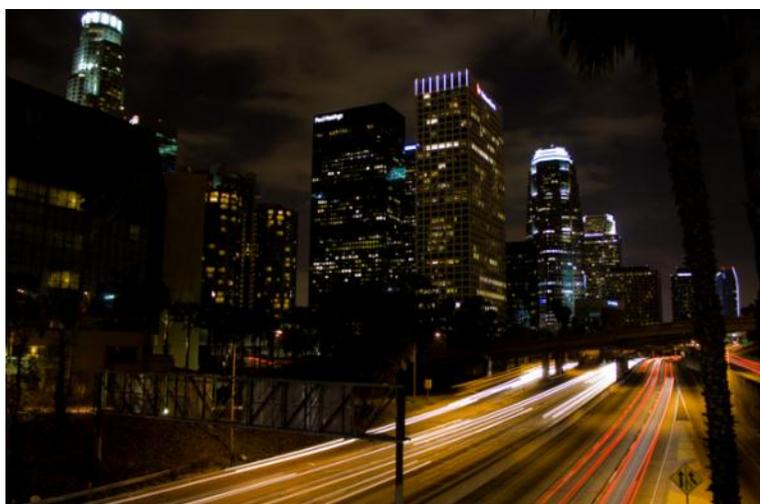
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how much light goes through the lens and hits the sensor.

Basically, it's a hole in the lens that you can control by adjusting it smaller or bigger. Very little light gets to the sensor if it is a small hole. On the opposite end a big hole, the lens becomes like an open fire hydrant with light pouring through it. Think of it like your faucet in the kitchen sink. A quarter of a turn and the water is just dribbling out, small hole aperture. Open the faucet all the way and the water comes rushing out, big hole aperture. If you understand your camera's capabilities and the basics of photography, the quality of the images you take will increase greatly.



Captured with a 5 sec shutter speed by Don Heffern II

Next let's talk about **exposure**. Both aperture and exposure really go hand in hand when we are talking about the basics of photography. Exposure is how much light hits the sensor and the length of time. Two things a photographer has control of. A few terms you'll hear all the time is "bad exposure" "good exposure" "under exposed" and "over exposed." Exposure is the amount of time it took your camera to capture the image, plus the amount of light it allowed in. As an example, I would say that, "I shot that at 1/60th at f/5.6 and ISO 400."

Huh!

Alright: The 1/60th is 1/60th of a second. This is the **shutter speed**. Shutter speed is how fast your camera shutter opens and closes. A quick way to understand the shutter speed is to look at your camera. The higher the number the faster the shutter speed the lower the number the lower the shutter speed. Fast speeds are usually 1/250th of a second on up to 1/8000th of a second. These types of fast shutter speeds are mostly used in brighter conditions. Darker environments need slower speeds, ranging from 1/30th of a second or so all the way to 10 seconds or more. One thing to consider when you are taking photos at the longer shutter speeds is camera shake, so you may want to consider a tripod or practice a steady hand. I hope these examples are making it clear why you need to know the basics of photography.

I want you to use your imagination next to better understand shutter speed. So let's create an example. Close your eyes and imagine a body of water let's say a flowing river with large rocks and a tree that has fallen half way in the river. Now that you have that picture in your head, what I want to do first is I want to take a photo of the water at 1/500th of a second to see if I am able to stop the action and stop the flowing of the water. Alright we have captured that image so let's take a look at that. Looking at the photo it came out really good. We actually have the water that was frozen in action and can really see the texture of the water. Now we will take a picture of that same image this time we'll use a slower shutter speed, roll your dial down to say 2 seconds and remember you'll probably have to use a tripod. If not your photo is going to be blurry. Take the photo and let's take a look. Wow you're going to love the results! To me, in this case and my preference and the one I enjoy is the slower

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Picture of the Month July, 2012

Steve Choatie

Nikon D90

ISO - 800

Shutter Speed 1/1000

Focal Length 42 mm



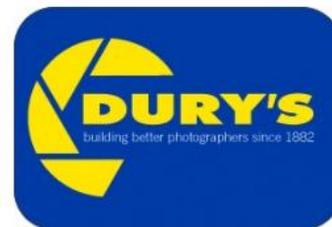
Americana

Upcoming Photo of the Month Themes

-Rules for Photo of the Month Contest -

1. You **MUST** be a member and dues paid up to date.
2. Photograph must pertain to the Monthly Theme (i.e. November is FOLIAGE).
3. Image size limits: Minimum 4 x 6 to Maximum 12" (long side).
4. Place ONE photo in the Marked Folder on the center table.
5. Photograph needs to be taken within the past 3 months.

Note: *Be sure an put your name on the back of your image.*



Sponsored by Dury's



NASHVILLE PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB Schedule of Speakers

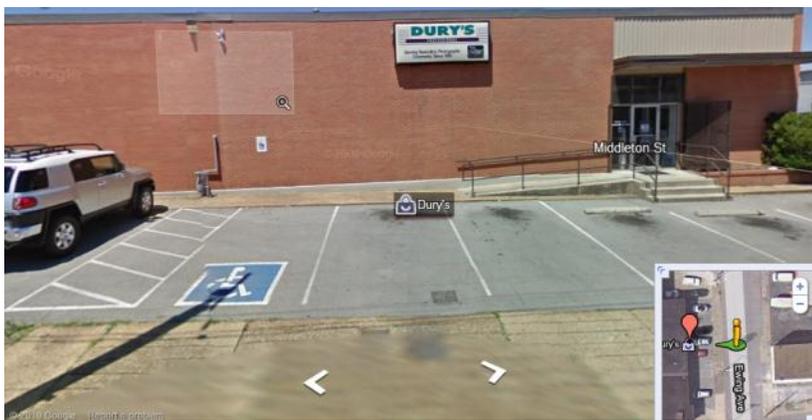
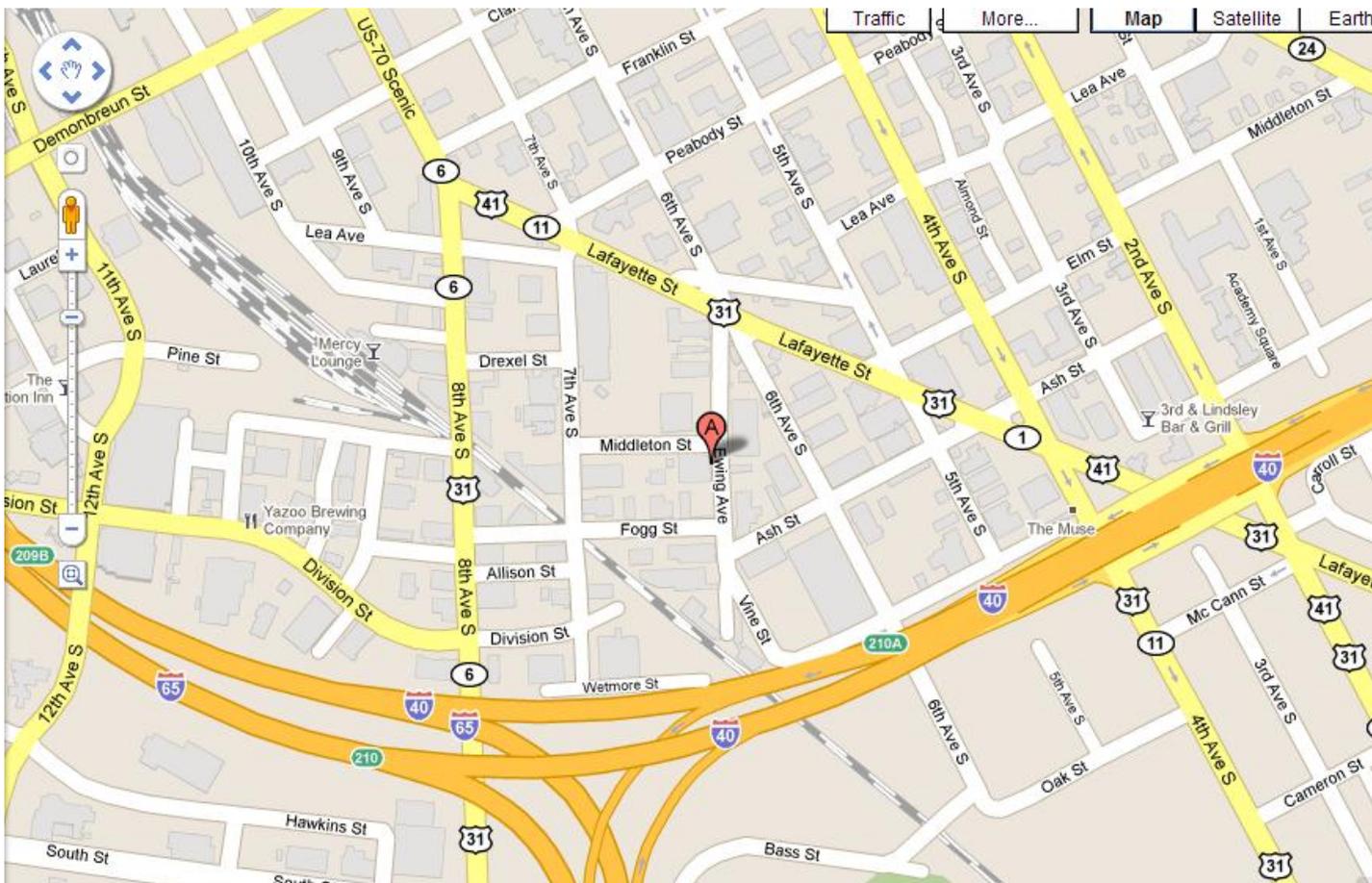
<i>Meeting Date</i>	<i>Speaker</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Photo Theme</i>
August	Randy Hedgepath	Tn. State Parks	Black & White
September	John Guider	"The River"	Night Time Photos
October	Larry McCormack	Photojournalist	Reflections
November	Steven Creech Anderson	Underwater Photography	Repetitive Patterns
December	None	Christmas party	None
January	Byron Jorjorian	Fine Art Photography	
February	Dean Dixon	Advertising, Media, Celebrity	
March	Tom & Pat Cory	Photography Instructor	

There are still slots for Member Spotlights for some months. Please signup so we can all see some of your best photographs and learn a little more about you. The Member Spotlight was designed to allow club members to learn more about each other. So far we have seen some amazing and wonderful work plus heard several entertaining and informative bio's.



Meeting at Dury's 3rd Tuesday of the month.

Dury's is located at 701 Ewing Ave, Nashville, TN



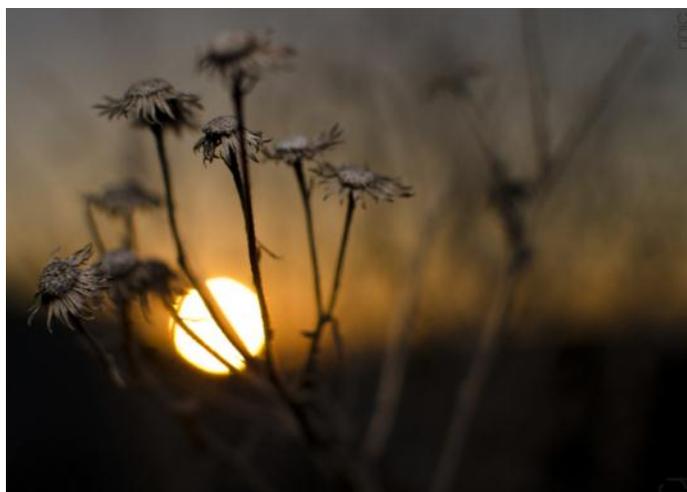


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shutter speed. It looks so much more artistic. It's blurring out the water and you have great detail in the fallen tree in the river and everything just looks cool. So as you can see or in this case imagine the shutter speed not only controls the exposure but it also can control how moving objects appear in your photo.

Keep in mind that most of your shots during daylight will have a shutter speed of around 1/125th to 1/160th if you are photographing stationary objects and people. If low light situations cause you to drop your shutter speed below 1/60th then you may want to consider using a tripod because blurry photos are only cool if you're doing it on purpose. This should give you a better understanding about shutter speed and a basics of photography concept that you can use the next time you're out taking photos.

f/5.6 in the example above brings us to f-stops or f-numbers which ever you prefer. This defines how wide your aperture is open or closed. The most common clicks on your camera's aperture dial are f/2.8, f/4, f/5.6, f/8, f/11 and f/16. These are "full" stops of light. Each f-stop number is 1.4 times larger than the one before it, and each full click from one stop to the next either doubles through the lens or cuts it in half, depending on which way you are turning the dial. The larger the f-numbers, the smaller the lens opening and the opposite is true for a larger lens opening the smaller the f-numbers. I was in the Army so we use a lot of acronyms to remember things, try this LLL means Large (numbers) Less Light.



"six eighteen twelve" captured by rjnic

We are almost there, only two more terms to go through for the basics. Next we will discuss **ISO**. There are three components controlling exposure of your image, shutter speed, aperture and ISO. We know that shutter speed controls the duration of light that hits your sensor. Aperture controls the volume of light that hits your sensor. Finally ISO the one we haven't been over yet is a measure of the sensor sensitivity to light or how sensitive it is to light. The organization that determines and defines this standard is the International Organization for Standardization and where ISO comes from. Ultimately you will want to have the lowest ISO setting on your camera maybe a 100 or 200. This will give you the sharpest image at least from the sensors perspective.

Finally the last term I would like to touch on about the basics of photography is **white balance**. Light has color and different lights have different colors. Depending on atmospheric conditions and time of day, daylight has different color casts during the day. White balance is basically the camera adjusting the color balance of an image so that the items that the human eye perceive as white actually appear white on an image. Tungsten and Fluorescent, or incandescent bulbs give off shades of green and yellow the human eye doesn't see this but the camera will. Today's digital cameras can adjust for this with a flick of a button. The basics of photography can be fun if you know how to apply them in the many different circumstances that you will come across.

Author: Ray Pepito



10 Tips for Better Photos of Your Children



Professional photography is a fantastic way to celebrate important moments in your life. It also allows all of the family members to be in the image as well. Finally, it creates true custom works of art. However, those images will account for a tiny fraction of the photographs that will take place in your life.

The majority of images are the everyday photographs families make themselves to capture moments and save them for the future. These are the images that tell the story of our lives. Here are some tips to quickly improve the images you take every day. Have fun experimenting with them and try a few of them each time you are out.

1 – Know Your Camera

One of the most common questions I get is “What camera should I buy for myself?” while the answer sometimes changes for specific situations, the best answer I can have is: “The one you will always have with you.” The moments we want to capture and save for ever are often not planned. They are spur of the moment and usually are fleeting; they disappear as quickly as they appear. Having a great camera that is too bulky for everyday use means it will be sitting at home when the action is taking place right now. Most of us have a very good camera built into our newest

smartphones. The best thing you can do is learn how to use the camera you have right now. Learn how to turn it on and keep it a mode that is the best for spur of the moment shooting. Learn what the buttons do and why you would choose one mode over another. If reading the manual and practicing isn’t your style, invest a little bit of money in a video or attend a local photography workshop.

The goal is to become like a quick draw artist from the old west. Be able to get your camera out, into a shooting mode and ready to start firing images in just a few seconds. It only takes a little familiarity and a little practice with your camera to be able to do this. That way, when Johnny starts to pull a face at the clown on the street, or Jenny climbs into the flower bed, you can freeze that priceless moment and add it to the storybook.

2 – Get Down to Their Level

Adults see children from the same angle. We are looking down at them all the time. If you want to quickly change the impact of an image of child, get down low to their level. This accomplishes a few things. First, it allows us to see the world from their perspective. We get a new angle on the world and that is refreshing. Secondly, it puts them visually on the same level as our world, and that raises the impact of the image. Also, psychologically, it changes how they feel about the moment. When we get down on their level, they feel more equal, and that makes them feel happy. It can actually improve their expression in the image.

3 – Get Much Closer

A famous photographer, Robert Capa, once said, “If your images aren’t good enough, you aren’t close enough.” This is something you can prove to yourself with just a little experimentation. When we take a posed image of people, we tend to capture a



lot of the image around the person. Next time you have the opportunity, take the picture you were going to take, but then start to move in (either with your feet or with zoom if you have it) and gradually get closer and closer, taking an image each time you get closer. Go until you think you are too close, and then keep going!

You'll be surprised with how much character you can get in an image when you combine number 2 above, getting down to their level, with getting very close. Try getting so tight that you are cutting a bit of the head at the top and don't have much below the chin at the bottom. You'll be surprised with how nice those images look.

Combine that with number 4 below, new composition, and you will be entering a whole new world of amazing images.



4 – Try New Compositions

One of the things we most often do is place the person or the person's face dead center of the frame. This is called a bullseye composition. Another way to increase the quality of your images is to move off the bullseye. One concept photographers are taught regarding composition is called the rule of thirds. We divide our viewfinder into thirds, both horizontally and vertically. This creates a small grid with 4 points where the thirds interact with each other. If we place our subjects, or important parts of the subject such as the eyes, on these intersecting points, we get a stronger impact from our images. Many cameras have an option to turn on a grid in the viewfinder. This grid is usually the rule of thirds so it makes it very easy for you to change your composition while looking through the viewfinder. One tip, if you do use the rule of thirds for your composition with people, make sure people are looking towards the center of the image, and not off the edge.

5 – Be Very Patient

Being a professional photographer working with children, one of the first lessons we learn is that children are going to do what they are going to do. If we try and make them do otherwise, they react very strongly! If you are after a specific image, and a child is involved, you just have to be patient. If you force them to make the image when they are not ready, they will get upset. Even if they don't cry or throw a tantrum, their unhappiness will be visible in the image and the results will not be what you were after. That only gives us a few other choices. We can find ways to encourage them to participate on their terms. We can get them excited about the image we are about to make or, if it is a really important image for you to capture, you can provide a reward for them doing what you would like them to do. The last thing we can do is wait until they are ready. No matter what, rushing or forcing them will give substandard results. If the particular image is not critical, then see our next tip about candid.



6 – Take Candid Images

The opposite of posed photographs are candid images. The goal with candid photographs is to capture our children doing exactly what they do, the way they do it. In a candid, the viewer of the image becomes an observer of a particular moment.

These actually are the best images for telling a story of our life. Posed images that show a location help to tell where we were at a particular moment. Candid images show life as it is happening. We can have an image of Johnny sitting on the wall around the playground and get a sense of where Johnny was that day. But we don't know what he did while

he was at the playground, or whether he was enjoying it. Instead, if we have pictures of Johnny coming down the slide with his arms up in the air and a giant smile on, then we know where he was, what he was doing and that he was having a great time doing it. That image captures the full moment to look back on, and why it was a good moment. Follow your children around with camera in hand doing what they like to do, and you will not just capture a moment in time, but you will capture the joy and happiness that made that moment really special for both your child and you. Then when you look back at those images, you will be filled with the warmth of happy memories because you can feel that moment as an emotion, rather than a memory.

7 – Tell a Story

A great next step to taking a candid moment is to take a series of candid moments that tell a story of the event. Next time you take them for ice cream, have the camera in hand. Take a picture of Jenny getting her cone from the man behind the counter. Then another as she proudly shows you her cone held high like the Statue of Liberty holding up her torch. A few images of the joy they have while eating the cones. Another of the aftermath with faces all covered in ice cream and a few sprinkles. Now you have a series of images that tell a whole story. When you go back looking through your photo albums, you can experience the memory again as it unfolded. You can laugh at the smeared faces, or sniffle at the pout after the ice cream hit the floor. The stories are worth saving too.

8 – Show the Environment

Earlier, we talked about getting closer for strong impact, but don't forget to vary things up in your albums. Take a few images that include the environment. This can be done either with posed or with candid images. Using the rule of thirds from before, if we place the subject on one of the lines, we still have almost two-thirds of environment that we can show. This can be a great part of creating your story telling series of images. In our ice cream visit from before, we can include the interior of the shop in some of the images to help show the environment that the story took place in.

9 – Capture the Memories

Professional photographers are there to celebrate the family milestones from an artistic perspective, and to show the growth of a family throughout its history. From engagement and wedding, to maternity and newborn, from 1st birthday to senior portraits, we are there to celebrate your milestones. You should focus on the memories. Linda McCartney said it best: “If you see something that moves you, and then snap it, you keep a moment.” If something makes you laugh, take a picture. If it makes you proud of your child, take a picture. Even when it makes you sad, take a picture. What you are really trying to do is capture the emotion of the moment. Then you can relive the whole moment again and again. If it moves you, capture it forever.

10 – Learn more about Photography

Learning more about photography can open a whole new world of possibilities up for you. Once you begin to understand the fundamentals of photography, you will find that you can use most of them to your advantage using any type of camera. By learning more about photography we can know how to blur out the backgrounds, or know how to freeze our children as they race around (or allow some motion blur for effect!). The more we know, the more we can do in general, and the more control we have over the finished image. Just like learning how your camera works, there are lots of ways to learn more about photog-



raphy. You can get books from the library or the bookstore, learn about them online, attend a course or a local workshop, watch a video and so much more. *Author: Matthew Davies*

Always a Changeling taking portraits in bright sun light check out the 4 min video on the left and find out how it's done.

Click on Photo to go to video.



Why Take a Picture?

I have a firm belief that the purpose of photography and the act of taking a picture is to capture a moment in time, be it a person, a place, or an object. Each captured image has the potential to carry its own unique feeling through time, and bring you back with happiness and wonder to the origins of that moment.



Every second that you live is a second more in the past. Every picture that is taken captures those split seconds and stores them timelessly. Pictures are a chart of memories and moments that can be revisited as they were when the image is viewed. If a picture wasn't taken, some precious memories would be lost forever.

Of course pictures come in many forms. From natural in the moment snaps, to carefully staged and managed photo shoots. In whatever form the picture is taken, the captured image will be forever unique, like the originality of every finger print. Natural

moments cannot be created, they can only be captured in their time.

A great picture does not necessarily need to be a great work of art. While the art of photography in my opinion relies primarily on both creativity and preparation, the art of a great picture can very often rely just on the emotion that is captured in that instant. Today photographs can be enhanced and transformed with the click of a mouse, but the greatness of a picture cannot be edited, it's either there or it's not. It cannot ever be created.

A raw amateur can capture as great a picture as a finely trained professional photographer when that special second is captured on the camera. The main difference in the two individuals is the consistency of getting that great picture at each opportunity and seeing the possibility of a great image in a passing moment. A great picture can come in the simple form of an apple in a field or the innocence in an eye. The little moments can sometimes be the best.

Photography styles and consistency can vary, but a great picture is just there. If you carry the camera and click the button you have it to cherish. No matter how talented an eye you may have, if you take the pictures, there is always a diamond to be found. If you don't, that great moment is gone. So get ready for the next one.

Peach Tree camera cleaning Sept meeting—Sensor Cleaning, \$30 for any size DSLR sensor and one lens. Service is first come, first serve. Please Pre-Pay to speed up the Pickup after the meetings. Payment for Sensor Cleaning should be Check or Cash . Also, Repairs can be picked up at the meeting. Have camera in need of repair? Peachtree will take cameras back to Atlanta for repair as well.



A picture really is worth a thousand words. A great picture is priceless.

I have a firm belief that the purpose of photography and the act of taking a picture is to capture a moment in time, be it a person, a place, or an object. Each captured image has the potential to carry its own unique feeling through time, and bring you back with happiness and wonder to the origins of that moment.

About the Author:
Peter Shields



Come join us for a weekend of beautiful scenery with great photographic opportunities.

We will be planning some hiking trails to trek, waterfalls to see, possibly some fall colors and maybe even a s'more or two !! We are looking forward to an awesome weekend of great photography, good friends and as always a fun adventure !

September 28 - 30, 2012

Jack and I will be there Friday evening the 28th and return Sunday the 30th, but this is a come and go as you please event, so don't feel locked into that time frame.

Imagine a wall of water falling 60 feet into a boulder-strewn gorge, a whispering mist that kisses the face and a magical moonbow visible on a clear night under a full moon. Known as the "Niagara of the South," the 125-foot wide curtain of water is dramatic day or night. But it's only at night during a full moon that you can see the moonbow, a phenomenon not found anywhere else in the Western Hemisphere!

Cumberland Falls State Resort Park is located just ten miles outside the city of Corbin, Kentucky and is home to a natural phenomenon that can be seen no place else in the world - a moonbow. A moonbow, or lunar rainbow, occurs when light from a full moon refracts off of the water from the falls creating a prism of light in the mist of the falls.

If weather conditions allow moonbows occur once a month at Cumberland Falls. A moonbow is visible for five nights, and is most visible two nights before a full moon about an hour after dark when the moon has cleared the ridge of land surrounding the waterfall. Each night of the five night cycle the optimum time for seeing the moonbow is thirty minutes later than the night before. On Moonbow weekends Cumberland Falls State Resort Park has Naturalist Staff on hand to explain about this natural phenomenon.

For more information on visiting Cumberland Falls State Resort Park you can call 1-800-325-0063 or visit the Kentucky State Parks website. <http://parks.ky.gov/parks/resortparks/cumberland-falls/default.aspx>

You must be an NPC member to join the Adventure Focus group for the outing. Also, a hold harmless agreement form must be turned in upon arrival.



Upcoming Charitable Events

Saturday Sept 15 - Ronald McDonald 2nd Annual Hustle for the House family Fun Run

October 6 and 7 - the MS Jack N' Back to Lynchburg, TN

November 4 - TN Hemophiliac Walk in Nashville

[See website for additional information](#)

September Photo of the month theme is nighttime photography and we have the outing planned to make you a contender!

The adventure group has a route laid out a route for all of us to get some great night time shots and enjoy a great nighttime stroll through downtown Nashville. We will meet in front of the court house near the fountains and weave our way through the city to some beautiful shots, yes we'll do the pedestrian bridge, and the shot across the river at downtown, but we also will go to some great locations that are mostly unknown but very cool for nighttime photography.

We will meet at the courthouse at sunset on August 25th at 7:24 pm and travel through the city and back to the courthouse. There is inexpensive parking under the courthouse.

If you are interested in back issue of the 3CT news letter click on this link to view-> <http://3ct.org/newsletters/>

The Digital Focus Group will not be meeting next month.

If you have any comments, complaints, suggestions email at

rodshean@bellsouth.com

If you want something included in the newsletter please email no later than the second Tuesday of the month.