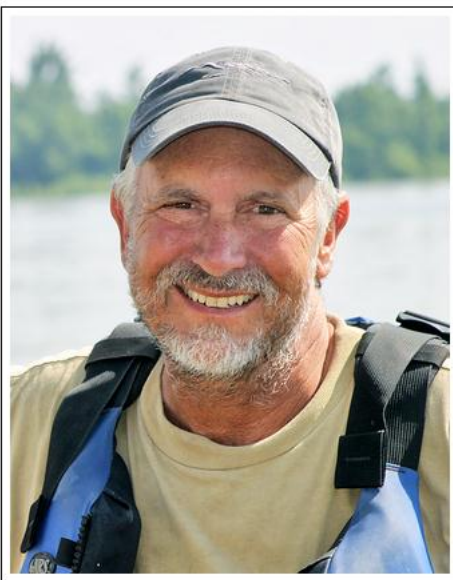




## Photo of the Year Randy Harris

## Speaker This Month - John Guider

Newsletter September 2012



John Guider is a nationally recognized award winning photographer and author based out of Nashville TN. His largest project, *The River Inside*, is the subject of a book by the same name and a popular traveling museum exhibition.

Guider is the recipient of many prestigious awards including a national Addy Award, the Cancer Society's Excalibur Award, and the Nashville Advertising Federation's highest award, the Silver Medalist in the year 2000. His work and adventures have been the feature of numerous magazine, television, and newspaper articles and broadcasts. In 2009, he was a guest author on renowned journalist John Seigenthaler's television program, "A Word on Words". His work has appeared in major publications such as Print, Communication

Arts and Graphics and has appeared as the featured guest speaker at The Southern Festival of Books, PhotoArts Santa Fe, and the National Waterways Commission convention.

<http://www.johnguider.com/>

**Club meeting**  
**7 PM Tuesday**  
**Sept 18, 2012**  
**Social at 6 PM**  
**Guests welcome**  
**First meeting free.**

*Club Website*  
[www.nashvillephotographyclub.com](http://www.nashvillephotographyclub.com)

*Quote*  
*Your first 10,000 photographs are your worst*  
*Henri Cartier-Bresson*

## Beginner Tips - Basic Photography

### Using a Tripod

Digital cameras offer a level of technology that was unimagined only a few short years ago. The funny thing is, the old techniques are still as important as ever.

A tripod is still an essential piece of equipment for good photography. For beginners, the purchase of a tripod is usually a sign that one is ready to move beyond the snapshot stage and get more serious about photography. But if you have managed without a tripod in the past, perhaps you have wondered if you should take the plunge, or continue to get by without. So here is the first question you need to an-

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swer: “Do I need a tripod?”

The answer depends on how seriously you take your photography. If you are happy with simple snapshots, and have no ambitions of delving into more serious photography, you would probably be wasting your money. Tripod photography takes a little more time, thought and effort; if good photography is not important to you, you will not get value out of a tripod and probably would not use it even if you had one.

### Now for the second question: “Why do I need a tripod?”

A tripod keeps your camera completely still, so you can take photos that will not be blurred by any movement of the camera caused by an unsteady hand.

There are two reasons why you might use a slow shutter speed for your photos. Sometimes the light is very low, and you need a slow shutter speed to get a good exposure. Or you may choose to use a slow shutter speed to capture a special effect. In either situation, your tripod will ensure that the camera is perfectly still and the photo will not be blurred.



An additional benefit is that the tripod allows you to compose a photo carefully, without having to concentrate on keeping the camera still in your hand. It is much easier to check that the horizon is level, and all parts of the photo are as

[Continued Page 6](#)



Picture of the Month July, 2012

Joe Fizer

Canon 5D MkII

135 f/2 Lens

f/8  
ISO 100

5 Secs



Black and White

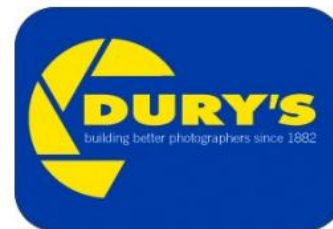
Down Town Nashville, Tn.

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

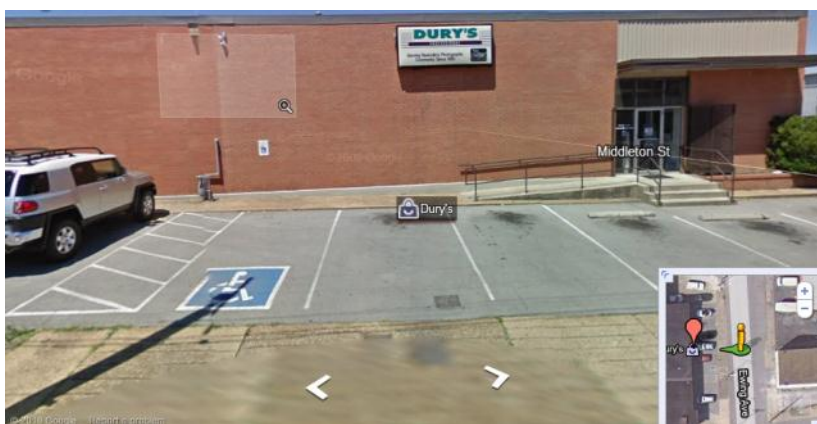
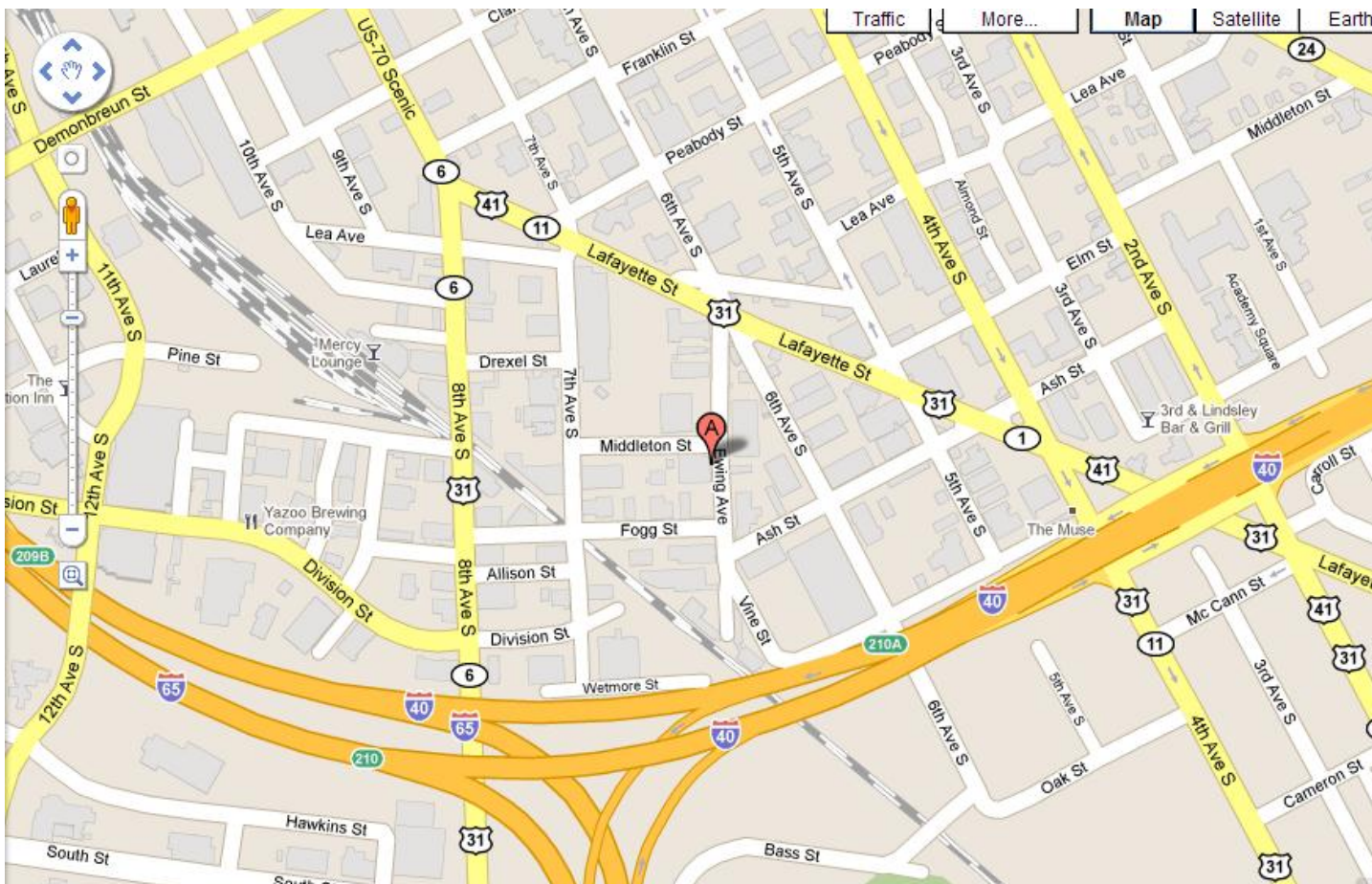
<i>Meeting Date</i>	<i>Speaker</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Photo Theme</i>
September	John Guider	"The River"	Night Time Photos
October	Larry McCormack	Photojournalist	Reflections
November	Steven Creech Anderson	Underwater Photography	Repetitive Patterns
December	None	Christmas party	None
January	Byron Jorjorian	Fine Art Photography	Bridges
February	Dean Dixon	Advertising, Media, Celebrity	Abstract
March	Tom & Pat Cory	Photography Instructor	Macro/Close up

**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





you want them before you press the button.

Continued from Page 2

Let's assume for a moment that you have a tripod. Now for our third and final question: "When do I use my tripod?"

Some people will tell you you should never take a photo without a tripod below a certain shutter speed. The trouble is, different people recommend different speeds. Some photographers will tell you 125/sec is the lower limit; other will recommend 60/sec or 30/sec.

So who is telling you the truth? Actually, all of them. Because the truth is, it's not that simple.

When you use a large lens to magnify your subject, you also magnify the effect of any camera movement. So if you use a telephoto lens, a shaky camera will affect your photo much more than if you use a wide-angle lens. So it could be that a photo you could take hand-held with a wide angle lens would require a tripod with a telephoto lens.



How do you know, then, when to use a tripod? This is a guideline that was recently told to me, and it is a good one to keep in mind.

Let your choice of shutter speed match the size of the lens. For example, if you are using a 200mm lens, you should be able to take photos without a tripod at speeds of 200/sec or faster. Once your speed drops below 200/sec, be sure to use your tripod.

For a smaller lens, you can go with a slower shutter speed to match. So if you are using a standard lens (around 50-60mm) you could set your cutoff point at 60/sec. Faster, and you can take the photo hand-held; slower, and you should use a tripod. *With a wide angle lens of 28mm, your cutoff point would be 30/sec.* There are some photographers who insist that all photos should be taken with a tripod, no matter what lens or shutter speed you use. This is simply not practical, but it does point to the simple fact that the tripod is always steadier than the hand. If a photo is important to you, it is worth going to some extra effort and leaving nothing to chance. So if in doubt, use a tripod, even when the shutter speed suggests you can get by without it.

Oh, and one more thing. Never, ever, ever take a photo slower than 1/30sec without a tripod. *Author: Andrew Goodall*



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## Photography Acronyms

Have you ever been shopping for a camera, but been bamboozled by a barrage of acronyms that you didn't recognise?

Sure, they all sound great, but it's useful to understand what they mean so that you can choose the right camera. Part one of this article will clear up three of six acronyms that you're sure to encounter.

A Digital Single-Lens Reflex camera combines a single-lens reflex camera (SLR) with a digital camera back. But what does this mean for you and your photography?

You'll be able to capture shots exactly as you see them, as opposed to having colours skewed in preparation for print. And you capture them as digital photos, rather than images recorded to film. This 'what you see is what you get' principle is achieved through the camera's mirror-and-prism format which works as follows: light passes through the lens and bounces upwards off a mirror into a prism, which reflects the light through the viewfinder to the human eye.

**DSLR** cameras boast several other benefits, including the fact that they enable users to capture images of a very high quality. This is due to the large electronic imaging sensor used by the digital camera.

And the ability to change lenses gives you great versatility because a lens can affect many aspects of a photo, including the colour, contrast, clarity and saturation.

Another benefit of DSLR cameras is their near-zero lag time, which is the time between the user pressing the shutter and the camera capturing the shot. This is particularly helpful in action photography where you might only have a split second to get the perfect picture.

**HDR** - High Dynamic Range, an idea conceived as early as 1850, is a photographic technique. It enables the user to capture a greater range of light-to-dark areas in a photo than would be possible in a standard camera shot. The outcome means improved accuracy in the photo's intensity levels.

The technique is achieved by capturing several shots simultaneously (known as bracketing), even though the shutter has only been pressed once. These captured images are all shot at different exposure levels and, when merged, give a more accurate representation of the light-to-dark range.



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HDR is measured in EV (Exposure Value) differences, which determine contrast. A DSLR camera has a contrast of 2048:1; twice that of a standard digital camera which is 1024:1.

HDR images are often known as 'scene-referred' because they more closely reflect what the human eye sees than standard photos.

**ISO** - Derived from the International Organisation for Standardisation, ISO originally referred to the speed of photographic negative materials. It denotes the sensitivity to the amount of light in a shot.

Simply put, the higher the ISO, the more sensitive the film is to light and the better your shots will be in a low-light scene. In daylight, a setting of no more than 100 is ideal. In low light, the camera needs a bit of help, which you can provide by increasing the ISO.

This can also be useful when you are taking action shots because it reduces the likelihood of a blurred image. However, be wary of going too high with your ISO setting; this will cause noise to appear.

Most cameras have an automatic ISO setting that adjusts according to the amount of light in a scene. If you do need to choose a high ISO value, to create artistic effects for example, you're better doing it with a DSLR camera. They provide a larger electronic imaging sensor, which gives you a broader ISO range than a point-and-shoot digital camera.

In this second and final part, we'll cover another three, ensuring you hit the ground running with your photography once you've made your choice.

**RAW** isn't an acronym, but it's important nevertheless. It's a method of capturing 'raw' data, as opposed to standard JPEGs. Used by professional photographers, it can result in higher quality images. But taking the photo is only the first step.

Once you've pressed the shutter, your picture is captured as a RAW file and left alone. No automatic processing (saturation, brightness, white balance etc.) or compression is applied, as it automatically would be if shooting a JPEG.

The outcome is a considerably bigger file that you can process yourself on a computer. So, what's the point? The level of potential detail in a RAW image becomes clearer and more impressive when compared with a JPEG.





RAW files give you 16-bit images to work with, whereas JPEG images are restricted to 8-bit. That's the difference between 65,536 levels and 256 levels of brightness, from black to white.

This is helpful, not only for producing higher quality images, but for bringing out the best in scenes where there is cloud, shade, or mixed sources of lighting, or where underexposure might occur. The captured RAW file contains all the detail and it's just a case of revealing it when you edit the image.

Compare this to shooting JPEGs; the levels are determined by the camera as soon as the shot is captured and the JPEG is then compressed. This makes the chances of recovering or rectifying features such as white balance difficult, if not impossible.

**CMOS and CCD** -Complementary Metal Oxide Semi-Conductors (CMOS) and Charge Coupled Devices (CCD) are two types of image sensor that convert light into electrons; they then read the electrons' values and turn them into a digital image. In a nutshell, they transform what you see through your lens into a JPEG or RAW file.

CCDs were widely considered superior, providing high-quality images with low noise levels. CMOS sensors, although they use considerably less power, were always susceptible to noise.

However, CMOS has recently become much more widespread because such sensors can now take care of image-processing tasks such as analog-to-digital conversion and noise reduction.

That's not to say that CCDs don't have any advantages, particularly when it comes to panning while shooting and capturing fast-moving objects. They use a global shutter that captures an entire frame in one go, whereas a CMOS records what it sees line by line, resulting in the possibility of distorted moving objects.

You'll probably see a CMOS sensor in the camera you choose. Why? It's because of improvements in performance, low power consumption and size.

**EXIF**-Exchangeable Image File Format contains metadata about your photo that is recorded as you shoot with a digital camera. The format is common with JPEGs and TIFFs, but not with RAW files, although there are equivalents.

The data includes the date and time your photo was taken (the time zone is not noted); camera settings such as model, aperture,

shutter speed, and focal length; and descriptions and copyright information.

This information comes in handy when reviewing your photography. If you're examining a shot and aren't happy with something, check the EXIF data to see exactly what your camera's settings were and tweak them for future shots.

Other settings include a thumbnail of the shot itself, plus GPS information. The former enables you to preview on the camera's LCD screen and the latter to tag the location of your photo. It's possible on some cameras and most smartphones.

The newest photo editing software and many image gallery programs also recognise EXIF data. In fact, even if you edit your photo and save it under a different name, the data will normally remain intact.

When it comes to buying a camera, the sheer amount of choice makes the process difficult enough. But when acronyms and terms start being thrown at you left, right and centre, finding the right camera becomes even more challenging.

Armed with an understanding of six of the most common and important acronyms you're likely to hear about, you'll be better prepared than most to ensure you make the right purchase. *Author: Peter White*

## Depth of Field Explained



[Click on Photo to view a 4 minute video](#)

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.

## How to improve your landscape Photography

Landscapes are amongst the most popular subjects for photography, and with some of the best scenery to be found in the U.K, it's not surprising why. Many of us enjoy a day out in the countryside, and to take along the camera is often second nature. Coming back with some nice record shots can be satisfying, but how do you turn your landscape scenes into truly inspiring images? One of the first things to remember about landscape photography, is that lighting is key. It can't be emphasized enough just how



much the quality of light can affect your pictures

Sunlight is usually required to capture a good landscape scene, but you need to try and avoid harsh light. When the sun is very

high in the sky, the lighting becomes too strong, there is too much contrast, and detail and color are lost. Ideally, you want to try and shoot when the sun is much lower, either early morning or late afternoon.



On a clear summer's day this can mean that realistically the light is too strong between around 9am and 4pm (virtually the whole day!). During other seasons the sun is lower all day, so there are more quality hours of sunshine available. Shooting with a lower sun also provides a more three dimensional quality, as shadows become longer, revealing shape and form to the landscape. This can be invaluable, and usually provides a much more appealing and interesting picture than one taken during midday which will appear very flat.

For many landscape shots, you will want to show the wide scene. To do this you need to use a wide angle lens – or the widest end of your zoom. This allows you to fill the frame with as much as possible. It also distorts perspective making close objects

If you really want to do the landscape justice then there is no substitute for doing your research. Walking a route, or even driving round an area is a surefire way of finding where the best pictures are. Think about returning at a better time of day, and try to judge where the sun will be. Also bear in mind the seasonal changes – one location may look pretty dull during late summer, but it could be completely transformed once the autumn colors arrive. All of this comes with experience, but the more time you spend out there, the more likely you are to bag some truly rewarding images.



*Author:* Paul Miguel

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## Better Landscape Photos the Low Tech Way

Photography, and in particular nature photography, does not have to be over-complicated. Unfortunately, with so many features on a new digital camera, and a manual that is impossible to read, most beginners feel much safer with their camera set to automatic.

If you read that and thought “That sounds like me!” read on; I have good news. There are some great ways to take better photos without having to learn the complexities of your camera. That’s right – leave your camera on auto and still learn to take great photos.



Of course I encourage anybody to learn and understand aperture and shutter speed, the settings you will need to understand to really improve as a photographer. However, the best encouragement is

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to start getting results quickly, so here are five easy tips to help you improve your photography...the low-tech way!

**Better Photography Tip#1. Take your photo in the best possible light.** You may have heard that the best light for most photography is very early or very late in the day, when the sun is low, and the light is soft and colorful. This is a good rule to follow most of the time. Not only is the light more attractive, you can also avoid the contrast and heavy shadows of midday.

Some subjects actually work better on cloudy days. For animals and people, cloudy weather softens the light and overcomes the problem of your subject squinting into the light. In the forest, overcast skies prevent the heavy contrast that is a problem on sunny days.

**Better Photography Tip#2. Landscape photos:** create a more interesting composition. Many photos can be made more interesting not by zooming right in on the subject, but by zooming out, or standing further back to capture more of the surroundings. The important thing is to use make sure you use the surroundings to add impact to the picture.





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For example, let's say you are photographing an old rustic farmhouse. You could add even more character by using a line of fence posts, or a gravel driveway, to lead the eye into the picture. Or when photographing a waterfall, you could try going a little further downstream, to shoot the creek with the waterfall in the background for a more interesting angle.

**Better Photography Tip#3. Sunset and Sunrise.** Everyone loves taking sunset (and sunrise) photos. A brilliant sunset sky can make a great photo, but you can make it even better by looking for a good subject in the foreground. The key is to find something that stands out against the sky, with a an outline people can recognize; a tree, a windmill, even a row of power poles. The subject does not have to dominate the photo; in fact it is probably best if it only takes up about ten percent of the composition so that the sky remains the starring attraction. But if you can create a striking silhouette, you will immediately add character to your sunset photograph.

**Better Photography Tip#4. Animals (And People).** Portrait style photos are usually spoiled by a distracting background. When you take a photo of a friend, a pet, or an animal, you don't want the surroundings to take attention away from the subject.

So here's the trick. Don't stand close to your subject and take the photo with a regular or wide-angle lens. Stand further back and zoom in with your largest lens magnification. This will have two results. First, it will reduce the area behind and around the subject that is visible in the photo. Second, it will minimize the depth of field, which means only your subject should be in focus. Anything in front or behind the subject will be out of focus, and will not cause a distraction.

**Better Photography Tip#5. Concentrate.** Sometimes all it takes to make a photo a success is to move a little to the left or right, or zoom in or out just a little more. If you just point the camera in the general direction of the subject without thinking about what you are doing, your results will not improve. If you slow down and really examine what you can see in the viewfinder before you press the button, your success rate will improve. Simple things to look out for include; trees and power-poles appearing to grow out of the head of the subject (move yourself or the subject to a better position); litter on the ground (pick it up); aircraft or distracting clouds in the sky (wait for them to pass by); blurry branches on a windy day (wait for conditions to settle for a moment). All these

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things and more can ruin a photo, and they can all be remedied by taking a good look to make sure your picture has captured everything you want, and nothing you don't want.



"burmester sunset" captured by Great Salt Lake Photographer (Click Image to Find Photographer)

So there you have some easy tips for good photography without getting hung up on technology. Above all, pay attention to tip #5 and slow down to concentrate on what you are doing. The other golden rule: keep practicing, take lots of photos whenever you can. You will learn a lot more from your own experience in the field, than by being told what to do. Remember with digital cameras it doesn't cost you anything to keep on snapping. With patience and attention to detail, you will be taking better photos in no time – guaranteed!

*About the Author*

Andrew Goodall

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## Charity Events

We will again photograph the Big Brother/Big Sister Franklin Wine Festival at the Factory on Friday night, October 19th.

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We have volunteered to photograph the MS Jack & Back for the first Sat and Sun in October 6 and 7th. This will start at Paige High School in Franklin about 7 am. A large group of bicyclists will do a 75 mile round trip on Saturday and return to the High School. The rest will go on to Lynchburg and spend the night and return the next morning. We need photographers at the High School Saturday morning, on the route to Lynchburg and someone in Lynchburg. Then it would be great to have someone at the high school the next day to photograph the returning riders.

Please let me know of your interest so we can line this up. I will then provide times and places.

Jamie

[msjamiebruner@gmail.com](mailto:msjamiebruner@gmail.com)

678-446-8723

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### 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.

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## Exhibit at Chaffin's Barn Dinner Theater

The Exhibit Dates for The Barn Dinner Theater will be Thursday October 4th through Sunday November 11th.

There isn't a theme, so it is an open Exhibit. We do want all prints to be at least 11" x 14" and matted and framed. There is no restriction on the type of frame and the mat color, only the images must be a minimum of 11" x 14".

Members can go ahead and sign up at:

<https://spreadsheets.google.com/spreadsheet/viewform?formkey=dERXWE9zYVM5ZF1wWFNnQ0JocV9lQmc6MA>

They just need to check Barn Dinner Theater in the Exhibit Venue.

We need 30 framed prints and we will set up a drop off spot at a date near the Exhibition date for members to bring their prints.

Just a reminder:

If you haven't yet supplied all the info (name, price of print framed and unframed, dimensions, title, media, etc.) on the website sign-up sheet for your submissions in

the Chaffin's Barn Exhibit, please try to do so this weekend. We are getting near the shut-off date for submissions which will be this Tuesday September 18 and we would

like to go ahead and have all this info for the title blocks.

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

You can see 3CT current Newsletter at <http://3ct.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/September-2012-3CT-Newsletter1.pdf>

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If you have any comments, complaints, suggestions email at

[rodshean@bellsouth.com](mailto:rodshean@bellsouth.com)

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