



f-STOP

Focused on the Activities of
Hub Camera Club

Affiliated with Photographic Society of America
and Delta Camera Club Council



January 2006
Volume 47, Issue 5



Inside: Digital Glossary

White Balance: Auto & Manual

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Editors Note

Did you manage to live through the holidays? Our family had a wonderful time, and I hope yours did as well.

This month George Leveritt, who has been one of the most entertaining and memorable evaluators, will be presenting a Photoshop Elements workshop. Everyone's excited about this, since most of the members are using this program to do post-processing of their images.

Speaking of post-processing, expect the Glossary column to move on to that subject. As you know, when shooting film, pressing the shutter is only half the battle: it still needs to be printed. The same goes for digital, where the darkroom has been replaced by Photoshop or other post-processing tools.

I'm enjoying the journey with all of you. See you at the meeting.
f-STOP Editor

All the images in this and future issues of f-Stop are in color. It's more cost effective to print in B&W, but how can you see them in color?

The website, of course! All issues of f-STOP are made available there. Just click on the Newsletters link at the top of any page. From there, you can select this or any other issue of f-STOP you wish to see. In color.

On The Cover

Bear Valley by Greg Chance



f-STOP

A monthly publication of

Hub Camera Club
PO Box 1757

Yuba City, CA 95992-1757

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E-Mail: fstop@hubcameraclub.com

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

Copy Deadline

Send articles, letters, photos
and comments to the editor
by the 15th of the previous month

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Affiliations



Delta Camera Club Council serves nine Central California and Western Nevada Clubs. Competitions and shows are scheduled for six meetings per year. Dashes from Delta is the council's publication that provides details regarding meetings and inter-club competition.



Photographic Society of America (PSA) is the international organization promoting the art and science of photography, of which Hub Camera Club is an affiliate. There are many benefits to be gleaned from participation in the parent organization but membership is not an individual requirement. The PSA Journal is an informative monthly magazine provided for members.



FotoClave is an annual gathering of participants from four councils. Besides inter-council competition, instructional, inspirational, and entertaining programs are supplemented with social activities.

From the President

by Martha Green

You will never meet anyone that bubbles with as much enthusiasm for photography as George Leverett. It is such a pleasure to have him present new ideas and ways to use photography. This next meeting is the one you will want to invite your friends who are interested in learning more about working with digital prints on the computer.

Workshop

George's workshop is entitled "The Miracle Seven", the seven basic steps to getting the image from the camera to the printing. There will also be time for individual questions. George will be working with the widely used Adobe PhotoShop Elements program.

Recently George traveled to Alaska, taking along some new photo equipment. He will show us pictures of his trip and share other photo projects he has worked up.

Pre-Meeting Dinner

I made reservations for 14 at the banquet room at the Wonderful Chinese Restaurant for 6:00pm on Wednesday, January 11, the night of our meeting. If you're interested in joining us for dinner with George Leverett, please come!

Pay as you come in, then tell them you are part of the group in the banquet room; otherwise I think they wanted us to just go to the banquet room and we would be paying by one check. I told them that just wouldn't work for us. Now I need to get there early before George pays his own way.

Last Month

Did you all enjoy as much as I did the relaxed Christmas meeting with the "show and tell" time and tasty treats? The club board will be planning other similar activities that we can enjoy outside of the regular meetings. We will also be scheduling a time when those who are interested can get together and attend a meeting of the Nevada City Camera Club. I think it will be help for us to see how they critique the print entries.

Photography Outings

While the club cannot sponsor official outings due to liability issues, individual members can. Announcements of such outings can be sent to Greg Chance for publication in the newsletter. These trips, when announced, are strictly the responsibility of the individuals involved.

Have you visited our website? ...no???

Then here's what you're missing!

Discussion Forum

Member Gallery

Newsletter Back Issues

Hints & Tips

Image Sharing

Photography

Calendar of Events

Get the most out of Hub Camera Club!

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

Board Meeting Minutes

by Martha Green

Those attending the board meeting on Wednesday, January 5th were board members Ed Valusek, Joann Nixon, Greg Chance, Laura Keber and Martha Green, along with members Diana Valusek and Cindy and Kelly Thomas.

Critiquing

The board is asking for approval to invite outside experienced photographers to critique our photos. It was thought that having the same member critics didn't allow for new ideas and outlooks.

Awards

The board is asking for approval for a single "top score award" to be presented to the person with the most total points added from all categories. Certificates would be given to winners in individual categories. Because of the shifting from most members entering slides and prints to very few in those categories, the board thought such limited competition didn't merit a major award.

Visit to Nevada City

The Nevada City Camera Club meets the 4th Monday of each month at the Nevada County Library. A simple technical meeting starts at 6:30, with the regular meeting starting at 7:00. A group from our club will be going to the meeting either January 30th or February 27th. Please sign up at the meeting if you plan to go. We hope to carpool.

Field Trips

Because of legal concerns the club will not organize any field trips. Places were suggested that would make good photo ops, and it was suggested that individual members take it upon themselves to invite a few photographers to share the experience. March and April are good times for spring flowers; Table Mountain and Bear Valley and/or Bridgeport and the Empire Mine add other photo elements.

Elections

The board proposes that the election be held at the June picnic. (Anyone unable to attend the picnic can send a written vote to the secretary.)

Nominations will be taken at the April meeting, but because this year the May meeting is the major meeting with an outside judge and a dinner gathering at a local restaurant, it was thought that the election would be better at the June meeting, the same as in 2005.

2005-2006 Assigned Subjects

People in Everyday Activities
Trees
Joy
Time

September
November
February
April



Formatting Digital Images for Critique

by Ed Valusek

These instructions do not address the specifics of each image manipulation program (e.g. Photoshop, Elements, Photo Delux, and others) but are detailed enough to allow you to submit a properly formatted image.

Once you have finished working your image and you are ready to submit it, you must format it for submittal.

Hopefully, you have worked your image in RGB Color Mode. This is the preferred Color Mode for all image submittals except B & W, which can be in Monochrome. If your image is not in RGB Color Mode, change it to RGB Color Mode now.

The next step is to size it.

Sizing

If you have a horizontal image, go to the image size adjustment and type in 1024 pixels in the "Width" box. Check the "Height" box to insure that it is not more than 768 pixels. If it is, then type 768 pixels in the "Height" box. The width will be less than 1024 pixels and that's okay.

If you have a vertical image, go to the image size adjustment and type 768 pixels in the "Height" box. Check the "width" box to insure that it is not more than 1024 pixels. If it is, type 1024 pixels in the "Width" box. The height will be less than 768 pixels and that's okay.

Now that you have set the mode to RGB Color Mode and have sized the image so that it is not greater than 1024 pixels in width or 768 pixels in height the next step is to do a "Save As".

After clicking on "Save As" in the Format box select .JPEG (.JPG, .JPE). Now you need to name your file.

The first letter will be the Category (see below). The second letter will be the Member ID (see below). Next enter in your seven-digit phone number (no dash). Now enter in your image title. Your file name will look something like this:

CA6732213Purple Nightshade.jpg

Now click "Save" or "Okay". This is the image you will submit.

Codes

Category Code:

A = Assigned Subject

B = B & W (Monochrome)

C = Color

N = Nature

Member ID Code: (the member code is to differentiate between members of the same family)

A = Mr. or Single

B = Mrs.

Uploading Digital Images for Submission

by Greg Chance

So now you've formatted your images properly. What next?

1. Open your web browser and go to <http://www.hubcameraclub.com/>.
2. At the top of the page, click the **Gallery** link.
3. Find the gallery titled by the current month and click its name.
4. On the right side of the page, pull down the menu and select "add photos".
5. Click the first **Browse** button.
6. Browse to the image you want to submit and double-click it.
7. Enter the name of the image underneath the filename that has appeared.
8. You can upload all your images at once. Just follow steps 5-7 for each image.

9. Scroll down to the bottom of the page and click **Upload Now**. You can close the upload window when finished.

I should take this opportunity to say that the internet is not the only way to submit your images. While that is the recommended way to submit images, this is not always possible. If you do not have an internet connection, or have a dialup connection and don't have the time it takes to upload images online there are other options.

CD: Put your images on CD and either send it to Greg Chance or come early to the meeting and bring it with you. This is the preferred method if you cannot upload to the web.

Memory Card: We also have a card reader, so you could put the images onto the card, come to early to the meeting, and bring it with you.

12/19/05
Check # 223
\$563.43
To: Laura Keber

Dell Notebook Computer & Printer Toner Cost Breakdown

\$499.00 Computer (Order Date: 11/27/05)
49.00 Shipping
39.73 Tax
6.00 Environmental Fee
\$593.73 Computer Subtotal
-100.00 Rebate to Laura Keber (has not arrived)
\$493.73 Total Computer Cost

\$ 64.99 Printer Toner Cartridge
4.71 Tax
\$ 69.70 Total Printer Toner Cartridge

\$493.73 Total Computer Cost
+ 69.70 Total Printer Toner Cartridge
\$563.43 Total Cost to Hub CC Reimbursed to Laura Keber

\$663.43 Total Charge to Laura Keber's Credit Card

The invoice indicates that the computer and Printer Toner Cartridge were sold to Greg Chance. It was purchased under Greg's name and Dell account, but the purchase was billed to Laura Keber's credit card, with the understanding that Laura would be reimbursed by Hub Camera Club. The total charge to Laura Keber's credit card was \$663.43. Therefore, the \$100 rebate will be sent directly to Laura from Dell.

	Gold Rush Chapter	
	The Photographic Society of America	
Date:	Sunday, to be announced	
Location:	Holiday Inn Northeast 5321 Delta Avenue (I-80 at Madison Ave.) Sacramento, CA	
	8:30	REGISTRATION OPENS
	9:30	To be Announced
	10:30	To be Announced
	11:00	To be Announced
	12:00	LUNCH
	1:15	To be Announced
	2:30	To be Announced
Visitors welcome/ \$5 for non-members/ \$3 for students RESERVATIONS REQUIRED! Flyers/registrations may be available at the Hub Camera Club meeting.		

Hub Camera Club
Treasurer's Report

December 1, 2005 – January 1, 2006

Balance December 1, 2005 \$2124.55

Income

Dues 30.00

Total Income \$30.00

Expenditures

Paper 5.32

Stamps 14.80

Printer Toner Cartridge 69.70

Notebook Computer 493.73

Total Expenditures \$583.55

Balance January 1, 2006 \$1571.00

As of October 20th, members have donated \$405.00 toward the purchase of a digital projector for our club.

Report compiled by Laura Keber

REMINDER: Club Dues

Single: \$30

Junior: \$15

Family: \$45

New Single: \$10

New Family: \$15

Dues can either be paid at the meeting or mailed to:

Laura Keber
2450 Del Pero Street
Marysville CA 95901

or

Hub Camera Club
PO Box 1757
Yuba City, CA 95992-1757

Digital Glossary

by Greg Chance

There are quite a few things that have not been covered in the glossary, but most of those are post-processing: once the shutter has already been pressed. One in-camera item that has not been covered, however, is white balance.

At a meeting a few months back, Ed Valusek covered white balance for a few minutes, but I thought this would be a good opportunity to put it in print for people to have in their files.

Color Balance

If shooting film, before you take any pictures, you need to decide which film to actually buy. For most people, this just means you go down to the store and buy whatever your favorite brand of film is, but in stores like Wal-Mart and Target, all that's usually available is "daylight" film. What this means is the film was designed to be sensitive to the quality of light found during the day.

Not so coincidentally, this is also the quality of light that your camera's flash is designed for. What is nice about this is you can select daylight-balanced film to shoot either outdoors in daylight, or indoors with a flash. If there's plenty of light coming in the windows or you are shooting a longer exposure, you can use the film as well.

What happens if you have plenty of light indoors that's not coming from outside? For example, at Christmas, you move the dining room table out of the way for a nice group portrait of the family. There's a

large chandelier above their heads, providing plenty of light. You load your film camera with the daylight film from Wal-Mart, turn on the chandelier, take the picture, and get on with the Christmas festivities.

Perhaps there are fluorescent lights above everyone's head, providing plenty of light to take the picture, so you snap away.

After the holidays you rush to have your film processed, but when you get the prints back, what do the indoor shots look like?

I think you know the answer to this one. You don't remember little Suzy's skin being yellow. Certainly Bob's skiing sweater wasn't blue. Yet, this is what happened. You shot film that was designed for daylight or flash using tungsten or fluorescent light.

One way you could have avoided this would be to use the your flash, but as we all know, flash is extremely harsh. Poor Dave's receding hairline can easily turn into a mirror for the flash, leading him to make the comment, "I don't like having my picture taken." We've all heard it.

The other way is to buy a film that matches the light source. Are you shooting under tungsten lights? Buy tungsten-balanced film. Fluorescent lights? That's right, buy the proper film.

And now you've taken the plunge, you've gone digital. Congratulations! But what about color balance? There is no film, so what does the camera do?

This is where white balance comes in.

White Balance

Many people think that white balance is a new concept, when in reality it's a concept that's been in use for 50 years or more. All white balance does is tell the camera what white looks like as a reference point so it knows how to view everything else.

Every camera will automatically set white balance for you. Many of the same cameras will let you turn the automatic white balance off and set it manually.

Why would you want to do such a thing? For the same reason you would want to turn the automatic settings on your film camera on and expose it yourself using a gray card or handheld meter. The camera is a machine, and while new technology is great, the simple fact is that it's not human and does not think.

When the camera uses its auto white balance, it does its best to evaluate the scene and adjust accordingly. For someone learning, this is wonderful because that's one less thing they have to worry about. If you want to have perfect color, every time, you can't rely on the camera to make this decision for you.

Setting White Balance

Every camera's settings are different, but the functions are the same. The steps are:

- Tell the camera to use manual white balance.
- Shoot an all-white picture in the light you will be using.
- Tell the camera to use that frame for white balance.

You can carry a white card with you, or even a white piece of paper.

Or you could find something white in the scene and shoot it. Some people (myself included) use a pure white filter on the front of their lens.

Once the white balance is set, you're ready to shoot. Just remember that as light changes, or you move to a different location, you need to set the white balance again.

Benefits

There are certain benefits to shooting digital that we've all heard of, but one that doesn't get much discussion are the benefits of setting white balance. Here's a real-world example that I've seen firsthand.

The family's back in the dining room, ready to take the picture. You're shooting film, and you've opened a window. You don't quite have enough light, but you don't want to use the strobe, so you turn on a tungsten light. Now, you have mixed light sources. Will little Suzy be yellow? Will Bob's skiing sweater be some shade of orange?

With film, this is now solved. If you've white balanced with a white piece of paper right in front of little Suzy's face, as you would have done with a gray card, now the camera has a reference point. When you shoot, the skin tone will be great.

One funny thing happened to me when I first started shooting digital. I was shooting a sunset, and set my white balance manually. When I was done and came home, I noticed that the scene looked as if it wasn't shot at sunset at all! What had happened was the camera was white balanced in the same light as the sunset, so it was able to interpret the proper colors. By setting the camera to daylight balance, the sunset looked like a sunset again.



Hub Camera Club
PO Box 1757
Yuba City, CA 95992-1757

Next Meeting: January 11, 2006