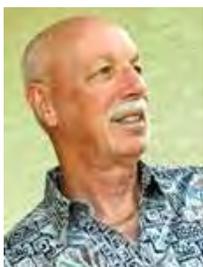


INFOCUS★



June 2012 - A - The Newsletter of The Indian River Photo Club

PRESIDENT'S SNAPSHOT FOR JUNE 2012



Well, things are moving along nicely. We have just completed our first ever

seminar on Photoshop Elements. We had 19 members go through 12 hours of training on that software and from the written comments I received everyone enjoyed the seminar.

We will probably do it again sometime later this year. In addition, the attendees requested a more advance session of Elements training, which we'll try to get done early next year. Now we are planning a seminar on Adobe Lightroom.

At the last meeting we had 17 members sign up for it so there is still room for a few more if you missed that opportunity. When we pin the dates and times down I'll let you know the specifics. Right now we're planning to have it run 5 weeks from late June thru July. Details to follow.

In addition, I asked at the last meeting how many members would like to go on a mentored trip to the Brevard Zoo. It looks like about 25 members were interested. So we'll plan that for sometime soon and we'll have about 4 mentors so each mentor will have about 6 members. That should give you a good deal of room to ask questions and follow the advice of the mentor.

On another subject; each presiding officer of any organization will get unsolicited advice from many sources. It does not matter if you're

the President of the United States or president of a corporation or president of a club. There are always those who want to help (or maybe criticize). The suggestions come in many forms; e-mail, telephone, verbal and snail mail. Most of the suggestions are not very helpful but some are, at least they make the presiding officer aware that people are paying attention to some matter or other. The hardest to handle are suggestions while you are trying to run a meeting, not that they are unwelcome but they are disruptive. So I would like to leave you with this true analogy:

A few years ago I owned a very nice cabin cruiser which I kept in a yacht club on one the largest lakes in the Northeast. Each weekend a group of us boat owners would get together and travel to a small cove and "raft" (tie our boats together) and we would enjoy an afternoon of swimming, fishing, eating and general camaraderie. That all ended when the gas prices increased to the point that it was not economical to go out two days every weekend. It would cost me \$250.00 to fill my gas tank.

So we quickly devised a scheme that allowed us to continue enjoying the water as we had in the past. We only took half as many boats out with the guest captains and crew members, joining

What's Inside....



Our speaker this month is Lloyd Behrendt, photographer, author, photo journalist. (2)



Some of our Backus and F3C photographers and their outstanding shots
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Dr. Len S Hood with some more on editing and the tools of the trade.
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Florida Bird Photo of the Month
Pelican Island Audubon Society....page 8

my boat one weekend and I and my crew joining their boat on alternate weekends. This worked out very well in all but one respect. As the guest captains and crew rode on another person's boat they were always giving advice as to what route to take or what speed to operate the boat or how to enter a straight to get to the cove, etc. So we devised a "tongue and cheek" response to that advice which everyone used.

We said "SIT DOWN, SHUT UP AND ENJOY THE RIDE."

Regards,

Jim Riley,
Indian River Photo Club, President

Our Speaker for our June 28th. Meeting...Lloyd Behrendt



Lloyd Behrendt is an artist, photographer, author, photo journalist and storyteller. He is a resident of Malabar, FL and a lifelong (almost) resident of Brevard County.

Lloyd is active in local political and civic organizations and well-known in the art community where he has judged a wide range of artistic competitions.

His father's job as a weather officer for the earliest rocket launches from Cape Canaveral led to Lloyd's own involvement with the space program. He has, through photos and video, recorded over 300 launches.

Lloyd's is owner of Blue Sawtooth Studio, where he completes his own unique artistic process which could be loosely described as "hand-colored" photography. Technically, it's "Oil on Gelatin Silver Print from Silver Halide Negative." To put it simply, the process involves the application of oil paints applied directly to the print surface of a black and white photo image.

Lloyd's original works reside in many public and private collections. He is



currently working on his third book. Lloyd is currently showing at Highland Art and Studio in Melbourne and the Amsterdam Whitney Gallery in New York City.





Several of our members were good enough to send us the photographs that they exhibited or won an award at either the Backus Photographic event, or the F3C TriAnnual.

We take pleasure in presenting these for your viewing here.



Long Nose Hawk Fish on His Perch
By Mike Ricciardi
Honorable Mention, Backus 2012



Sewing Wild Oats by George Bollis
Backus 2012

Design created with Wild Sea Oats, embroiderer's colored threads, and two large Needles.



"Mormon Barn"
By Charles Kellington, Backus 2012



"Totem Pole and Dancers"
By Charles Kellington, Backus 2012

The Totem Pole was taken shortly after sunrise in Monument Valley and took first place in the landscape division. The Mormon Barn was taken in Grand Teton N.P. in Wyoming and received an honorable mention.



"Whitney in a Bonnet"
By Mary Lou Christy, F3C 2nd TRI 2012 Print

Converted to black and white, taken with the D200 and my favorite lens the 70-200 F/2.8. Settings were ISO 100, F/2.8, 1/80s.

This photograph was awarded a yellow ribbon in the F3C print second Tri-annual.

A further Quintet of awards photographs by Mary Lou Christy With her commentary and observations



The first on the left "Hood in Amsterdam" was taken in Amsterdam in 2011 with my Nikon D200. Settings were ISO 100, F/18, 1/13s, the lens was the 18-200.

I saw the reflection of the buildings in the car hood parked next to a canal at the golden hour before sunset. I composed it to get that diagonal line through the photo. This shot won a third place in Color Landscapes and other in the Backus 2012 competition.



The second photo, "Rowing Through Florence" was taken on a gorgeous November day in Florence, Italy, from the balcony of a hotel room looking down on the Arno river. I was studying the gorgeous reflections when this rower came along. Settings were ISO 200, F/5.3, 1/80s, lens on the D200 was the 18-200. I didn't have a tripod, so steadied the camera on a railing.

This shot was entered under Color Landscapes and Other and won the "People's Choice" award at the Backus 2012 Museum!

This photograph also was awarded a blue ribbon in the first tri annual print competition for F3C.



"Sandpiper on the Run" was taken on a beach just north of Vero, about an hour after sunrise.

I pushed my ISO really high to get this shot. Nikon D700, lens was a 70-300 lens, ISO 1600, F/10, 1/800s. In entered it in Nature Flora and Fauna at the Backus 2012.

This photograph also was a monthly winner in the PIAS competition.



"Magical Summer Dew Drops" was entered in Nature Flora and Fauna. It was taken with the D200 (I always use the D200 because of the crop factor when shooting dew drops), a macro lens, settings ISO 200, F/3.2, 1/250s. I also used two extension tubes so I could get closer. I saw the cluster of dew drops and laid in the grass to get this shot. I placed yellow, pink and orange tiny flowers about four inches behind the cluster of dew drops. I left some space between flowers and dew drops as I wanted to capture the specular highlights. I was shooting into the sun, early morning.



This final shot was "Autumn Dew Drop". It was entered in the manipulated images category because I added a texture I made from a photo of rust. I place a chrysanthemum behind the dew drop on a blade of grass, probably about one inch behind the dew drop. D200, with a macro lens (Nikon 105mm), extension tubes, laying on the ground. ISO 640, F/16, 1/10s

A Quintet of Awards by Lisa Willnow



Amaryllis 2
Winner of a Blue Ribbon in the F3C
1st Tri-Annual print competition



"Parrot Flower (Heliconia)"
FCCC 1st TriAnnual 2012
Yellow Ribbon - Advanced/Color -



"Floating Feather"
Backus Gallery 2012
1st Place & Sony's Choice Award - Black & White -



"Wing Stretch (TriColored Heron)"
Art By The Sea - Vero Beach Art Club
3rd Place - Photography



"Snowy Egret"
Annual Florida Juried Photography Exhibit
United Arts Council, Naples, FL
Honorable Mention -

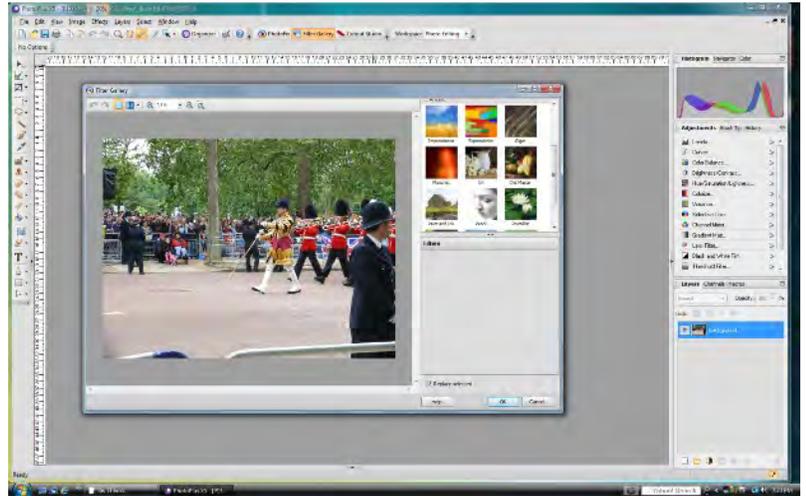


Some more on “Editing your Photographs”

By Dr. Len S. Hood

When using your computer to edit your photographs, you use a selection of tools and palettes within your image editing software. These are floating windows that can be placed anywhere on your screen to make using of them more convenient for you. Almost everything that you might need to perform a chosen edit is usually found on these palettes. They are rather similar to a painter who holds a palette in one hand and a knife or brush in the other. The artist can mix, blend and select the paints quickly and conveniently.

The palette is sort of a command center that allows many functions and commands to be performed speedily by you. Perhaps the most popular and important palette is the "Layers Palette". This allows you to build new parts of an image, one on top of the other. Unlike a painter having to apply new paints that blend with those already on the canvas, using layers is non-destructive. The additions and alterations, or special effects you make to your photographic image can be easily "washed away" enabling you to start over afresh. If you don't like what you see you can quickly change things or delete what you have done. No problem! The original image stays just as it was when you first made the photograph. Special effects are always at your finger tips. You can experiment to your heart's content.



One palette, the Style palette, is there to enhance your creativity and test your every whim. Great fun becoming an artist overnight! Try it and test your imagination. Very handy for participating in the “Special Techniques” category of awards.



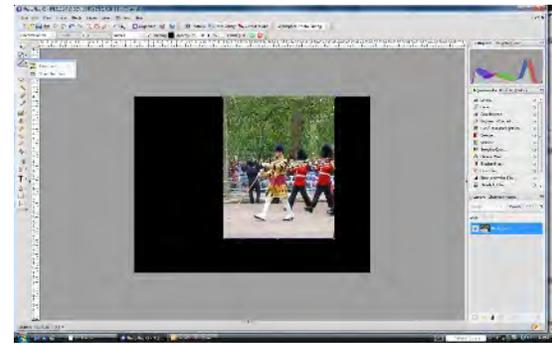
Perhaps you have a problem in your editing, so right there is the help palette. It will assist you in solving that frustrating quandary. It will smooth out the way to creating that master piece.

Some palettes stay open all the time. They are the basic tools of the trade, and one important one is the tool bar. This is a group of tools that are used directly on the surface of the image as against using on a layer. These tools can be controlled using either the mouse or key strokes, and on newer computers by touch screen technology.

When working on your photograph, it is very handy to enlarge the image in order to examine the quality of focus and details, allowing you to easily adjust and correct as necessary. The zoom tool which has a magnifying glass icon is useful for both enlarging or decreasing the image. Do not be afraid to use it to examine what you have on the screen. We often overlook things that need to be changed in our photographs and, unfortunately, these "oops" are not seen until the photo is printed. We look and don't see! So look closely and enlarge to an adequate size to perfect your corrections or enhancements. “Oops” not only waste time but

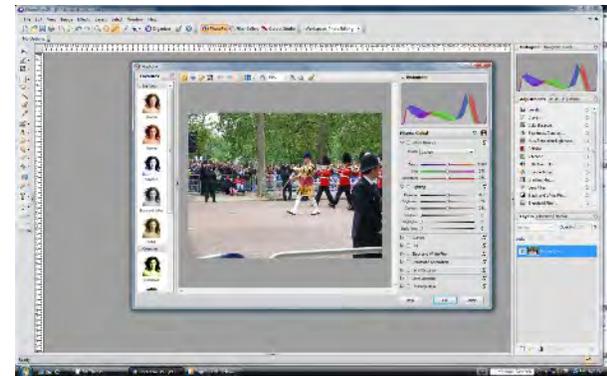


are also costly. You don't need to enlarge the whole photograph. If you click on your photograph, hold the left mouse button down and drag your cursor across the image you will see a dotted outline form and encircle a part of the image as you move the mouse. This dotted outline is called a "marquee" and serves to inform the computer program on how much of the image it should enlarge so that you can examine and work on that area. After enlarging the image, you can easily navigate or roam around the image by using the hand tool, an icon that looks like an open gloved hand. Place the hand on your image and by moving it around it will move the image around the screen. By clicking on the right mouse button while your cursor is on the image, you will be able to reduce the image size back to its former size or smaller.



Selections tools are those icons that have a small black inverted triangle alongside them. If you click on the icon and hold down your left mouse button, then a small fly-out will appear. You will then see other options offered that you can use to edit your photograph. These selection tools allow you to isolate varying areas of your photograph that you might wish to work on or exclude.

If you want to crop your photograph, the tool for doing this is accessed from the tool bar. (It usually looks like a squashed parallelogram with a line across it from corner to corner). You can use this tool to cut your image to the size you want and you can remove parts you do not need or like.

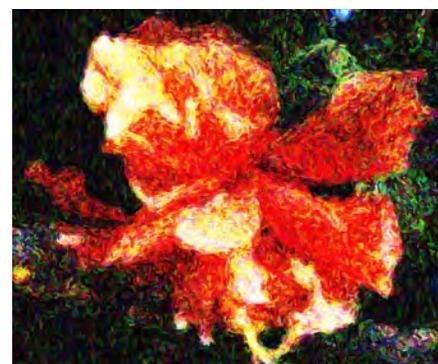


Adding words to your photographs using the text tool is useful too and you can size and color the type to your liking.

There are also tools that are designed to be used for more specialized modifications and which will allow you to paint and draw. However, many photographers are against making these extreme changes to their precious shots. The thought is that a photographer should form his image through his camera lens and shoots what he wants as he presses the camera button. Often these more artistic tools are used in what we call "special techniques" presentations where the photographer does change the initial fabric of the shot to emphasize a special aspect of the particular shot.

Unless you are trying to make a certain statement in your artistry then the use of these artistic tools should be sparingly done because of their obvious effect.

Another range of tools are classed as enhancement tools, often the favorites in post production. These are designed to directly affect the surface of an image. These tools can sharpen or blur specific areas of the photograph. They can also darken or lighten other parts. There is a tool that allows the user to copy (duplicate) specific groups of pixels from one part of the image to another part, this is called a clone stamp tool and is essential in removing damage to an image. It can be used to remove dust marks, scratches or unwanted parts of the image, such as the pole sticking (apparently) out of your subject's head, which certainly wasn't there when you shot the picture!



A click or two of van Gogh

It must be emphasized that before you start playing around with or experimenting with any photograph; first "export" it under a different name into a new working folder. The original is then safely stored in your library should anything go wrong. Take the time to try out the various tools and palettes--it can be fun as you discover what you can do, and also what you can create, and who you might become!

Think Outside The Box,Imagine

Theme “Bold Colors”

“Brushes With M&Ms and Fun Pops”

Venue Camera Club of Brevard ~ June 2012 Contest

By George Bollis

Placing: Honorable Mention

Title: “Brushes With M&Ms and Fun Pops”

George placed the objects on a poster board, outside, on the ground and then took the photo from the top of a step ladder.

The photo was enhanced in Elements with a distort tool, a technique learned from Jim Riley in the recent Indian River Photo Club Elements Class.



Pelican Island Audubon Society Photographs of The Month.....April & May

By Jaunita Baker

Both of The Winners for the Past Two Months are Indian River Photo Club members. Well done Don and Mary Lou.



April 2012: “On the Hunt”
by Don Schuster Pileated Woodpecker



May 2012: “Sandpiper on The Run”
By Mary Lou Christy

The Awards Subject for June 14th Meeting is

OPEN

So dig deep and show us what you can do that is different!

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