

# The New Housatonic Camera Club Newsletter

Member: New England Camera Club Council  
http://www.housatoniccameraclub.org/

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*"Never test the depth of the water with both feet"*

## NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, February 15, 2005



7:00 PM Sharp

The Life Long Learning Center  
(Wagner Building on the Left)  
Noble Horizons  
Salisbury, Connecticut

## This Evening's Program

### "Barbara Winters"

Presented by:  
Barbara Winters

Prominent photographer, Barbara Winters will address *How to meld two photographs together.* Barbara will demonstrate PhotoShop techniques and show photos of Paris. Barbara has salvaged all the photographs of the New Marlborough Historical Society and printed them for a book and calendar. From over 50 entries she took 2nd place in *The Housatonic River Show* last summer, 2004, and has photos in the permanent collection of the Berkshire Museum, Pittsfield, MA. Barbara is a resident of Mill River, Mass. ☺

## ALSO TONIGHT:

### "3rd NECCC Competition" (Final for the season)

Bring with you:

2 Nature Slides  
2 Color Slides  
2 Black and White and / or 2 Color  
Prints (Must Be Mounted) ☺

## President's Corner

I will not be at tonight's meeting. It will be run by your Vice-President, Chris Bleuher. I am off to California and George Lepp's Institute to study Adobe CS from 9 to 5 every day for a week! Since I will be on the coast, I figure I can take some photos between 6 AM and 8 AM and also maybe some sunsets. I could not get another time to do this and had to make this reservation last July.

### Think about this while I am away:

- Would you like to have a short period where you could ask any question about photography you wished?

There are enough of us to be able to answer almost anything and it could be helpful for your enjoyment of taking pictures. Tonight is a *"how to do it"* session from a friend of mine, plus some lovely photos of France. Have fun!

Rita ☺

## Merci, Jacques Charlas !

*"No one ever said that life is perfect."*

*"Every cloud has a silver lining."*

These two cliché's apply rather well to Jacques' presentation at last month's meeting. Accept the first cliché for the fact it is, face up to it, move on. **Persevere!** ... Somehow, somewhere, you will find *"the silver lining."*

Jacques planned digital program ran into a snafu, a not uncommon occurrence with things digital and, for that matter, life in general. Without missing a beat Jacques seized *the silver lining* and talked. It was a fascinating, informative and moving tale, mostly about his experience as a photo journalist [embedded] with Afghan warriors during the Afghanistan / Russian war. The talk was documented with [mostly] very large prints that he displayed while giving his presentation.

*Touché Jacques.*

Editor ☺

## "Photo Hints and Basics #12"

By Rita W. Mathews

I have pretty well covered camera basics and how to take photos from the camera setting point of view. Now, since I am deep into digital, I would like to point out the great advantages of this new way of taking photos.

To start with, every one can get into the act. There are literally hundreds of cameras out there that go from about 3 megapixels to 14 megapixels; starting at about \$200 and ending up at over \$10,000. Just to give you an idea of the cost of getting started, I bought a 3.5 megapixel Fuji finepix for \$240. A memory card<sup>1</sup> for \$25. An Epson 66 printer that will print from 4X6 to 8X10 photos for \$99. Some paper to print on, about \$12. Batteries.

So for about \$350 you have everything to make and print lovely photos. Fuji gives you a program to help fix your photos with the camera so all you must do is take them.

Of course you must have a computer for all this and many of us do or possibly will have one as interest evolves and finance permits. However, if you decide against this route, it is even easier to go to a photo shop and hand them the memory card from your camera and get your usual prints as before. In some places you can insert your card into a machine and wait a few minutes for all your prints. You will be amazed at how much better they are than the old chemically processed ones. The pictures are captured on a Charge Coupled Device (CCD). This is a matrix of tiny light sensitive cells. Each camera maker has its own or one contracted out from another manufacturer. The CCD passes electrical charges to an analogue-digital converter and is transformed into the binary code of 0 and 1, and thence to your memory card.

Then when you're hooked you can go on from there. Beware of spending mania however. Most everything you see on display in a camera store is tempting and tries your will power, to say nothing of your pocketbook. Remember, you still have to get home. People always ask me how many pixels<sup>2</sup> do they need. 3.5-4 megapixels is plenty for up to 8X10 photos. You can even push them to 11X15's. Depends on the resolution you wish. The average for photos is 150 pixels per inch (ppi) which, by the way, is a linear measurement. To

figure the number of pixels needed for an 8X10 you would multiply (150ppi X 8") (150ppi X 10") = 1,800,000 pixels or 1.8 megapixels. Since your camera has 3 megapixels, this is more than enough for a great photo! Very high quality is 300 ppi. I have a 6.1 megapixel camera and I print 300 ppi photos that are 13X19.

Now all this resolution has nothing to do with the printer resolution. Except that if you do not have enough picture pixels for the size you choose the printer will have to interpolate some pixels and your pictures will probably be fuzzy not sharp. So you must choose the appropriate size for the total pixels in your photo. Printer resolution is its own thing and Epson printers print at 360, 720, 1440, and 2880 dpi. Remember the only way to make a photo bigger in the computer is to increase pixels by:

- 1) Scanning at a higher resolution.
  - 2) Using a higher megapixel camera.
  - 3) Have the computer interpolate.
- The printer takes care of the detail if you tell it what paper you are using. I find 1440 dpi is adequate for most work. Have fun! Rita ð

### New Members, Etc.

The Newsletter apologizes for not introducing several of our new members who have joined us this season but at least you are listed on the January 2005 Membership List. Since that time we have been honored with several new members and one renewal. Welcome aboard John Frenzel and John Jasmin and welcome home, Dotty Smith. ð

### Refreshments

Gabby Shore and Dorothy McCunn do the honors tonight. *Tips accepted but no flirting.* ð

1 A removable module used for storing images in digital cameras. This "digital film" is made up of non-volatile flash memory chips in various formats such as CompactFlash, SmartMedia and Memory Stick.

2. Short for PICTURE ELEMENT; the smallest unit that makes up an image. Each pixel can represent a number of different shades or colors, depending on how much storage space is allocated for it. Also used in measuring image size and resolution. The number of pixels determines the maximum size of a printed photo without sacrificing quality. The higher the resolution from the start, the better the results.