

The Housatonic  
Camera Club

The Life Long Learning Center  
( Wagner Building )  
Noble Horizons  
17 Cobble Road  
Salisbury CT, 06068

# The Open Aperture

**neccc**



V o l u m e    3   I s s u e   1 8

J a n u a r y   2 0 0 8

## The Program for 01/15/2008

The program for the evening will feature a digital presentation with photographic examples of what makes an image compelling. Discussion to follow.

### “Photography’s Most Controversial Mystery”

Was the Inventor of the First Color Photograph a Genius, or a Fraud? New Research Reveals the Answer to a Much-Debated 156 Year-Old Mystery: To read this story in full detail follow this link.

<http://americanhistory.si.edu/news/pressrelease.cfm?key=29&newskey=614>

### Convert your digital images to slides

Looking to convert your digital images into Slides so you can compete in the NECCC slide competitions? Well there has never been an easier time to do this. <http://iprintfromhome.com> can meet all your needs.

Their site is loaded with the information you need to make this happen and it is surprisingly inexpensive to get this done.

## Lomography ~ johnfrenzel

**H**ere in the midst of the digital age, I find I have taken a trip back in time. I have recently been taken by lomographic images and there striking simplicity. Just purchased a Diana+ camera. This all plastic <including lens> camera retails for \$50.00 and shoots 120 medium format film. I will keep you posted on my progress with this new toy. For more info about Lomography check out <http://www.lomography.com>



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## NECCC News ~Rita Mathews

The NECCC is now going to have a Nature section in their digital contests. In November we judged for the January contest in their Pictorial division so we must now do the Nature. I already have 4 pictorial to send in on January 25 and need 4 Nature ones. Nature for the NECCC depicts observations from all branches of Natural History except anthropology and archeology. So it looks like only wild animals and flora. Send them in to me sized for jpegs at 1024X768, file size below 350 KB. Each photo must be named as follows: X#\$Club Name\$LastName\$FirstName\$Title\$Year-Month.jpg  
X = either P for pictorial or N for Nature; # designates the round in which it is judged (in this case it is 2; Club Name is Housatonic; Title properly spelled out with necessary Caps; the year is 2008; the month is 01.jpg. Here is what I would send in:  
N2\$Housatonic\$Mathews\$Rita\$Iguanas\$2008-01.jpg;  
So send me some pics via e mail and off we go.

## Photoshop News

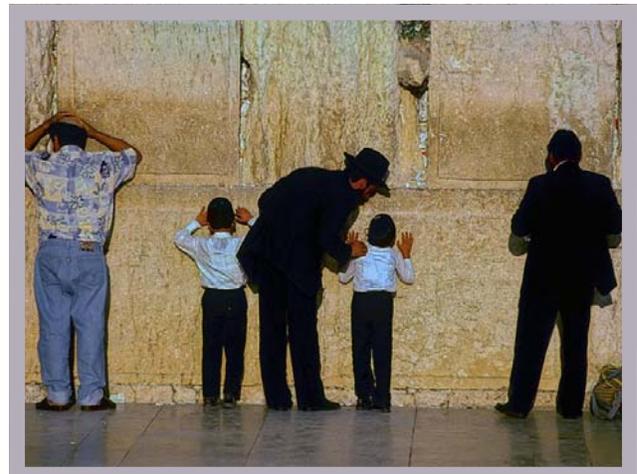
Photoshop fans, some exciting new plugins have been released recently: On One Software has just released Photo Tools Professional for one click professional finishing touches. For more info see [http://www.ononesoftware.com/detail.php?prodLine\\_id=29](http://www.ononesoftware.com/detail.php?prodLine_id=29)

Tiffen, long famous for making filters for your lenses has also released Dfx software, now you can have all the wonderful Tiffen filters at the click of a mouse. For more info see <http://www.tiffen.com/products.html?tablename=dfx>

Both companies offer full 30 day trial versions so you can see if it is worth parting with some of that nest egg.



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# Tips for Photographing Outdoor Sculpture :

The following tip on photographing outdoor sculpture was written by Dianne Durante from [Forgotten Delights](#).

I've taken thousands of photos of outdoor sculptures in Manhattan - a tough job given the erratic weather, extreme congestion, and a recent ruling restricting use of tripods in public places. The following techniques have helped me greatly improve my photos over the past years, and should help you take great photos of outdoor sculpture wherever you happen to be.

1. Wait out the weather - Overcast skies are the best: no camera can cope with the extreme contrasts of light and shadow that the sun makes on polished bronze or bright white marble. If it's a sunny day, try looking for a sculpture that's completely in shadow, not merely dappled shade. That may mean shooting in the afternoon rather than the morning, or vice versa, or waiting until a neighboring building conveniently casts a shadow over the sculpture.
2. Look first - Getting a good angle on a sculptured face is just as important as getting a good angle when taking a formal portrait of a live person. Walk all around the sculpture and figure out the most interesting angles before you look through the viewfinder and get side-tracked by apertures and exposures. Usually the most interesting angle for a face will be a profile view or a 3/4 view, rather than a full-frontal mug shot. But perhaps you'll find you want to look at a skyscraper over the sculpture's shoulder, or focus on one detail.
3. Zoom - Many sculptures are on pedestals, so if you stand close to them to shoot, your photo will be filled with legs and feet. To compensate, back up as much as you can (without backing into the street!) and use your optical zoom to fill the frame. If possible, stand on a bench or a slight hill - anything that brings your eye level closer to that of the sculpture.
4. Background Check - Look methodically for distractions. In New York, the most frequent offenders are street signs, pigeons, and tree branches. Consider the texture as well as the shape and color of objects behind the sculptures: a shiny face may disappear against a mirrored background. Shift your position to remove as many distractions as possible.
5. Spot metering (Center-weighted metering) - Once you've found a good angle and distance, set your camera to meter the light only at the center of the frame. Aim the center mark on your viewfinder at a big, solid chunk of statue such as the torso; the sky behind the statue may fade almost to white. Press the shutter half-way down to hold the setting and shift your camera back to pointing at the treeless, pigeon less, sign less image you composed before. If this doesn't get you an image with good detail, try using the exposure bracketing function (still center-weighted), if your camera has one.
6. Simplify, simplify, simplify - If there are too many distractions around a particular sculpture, you may have to settle for several close-up shots rather than one photo of the whole sculpture. Try a different view of the face, face and torso, hands, or supporting elements. Also experiment with shooting in B&W or sepia tone: a "no parking" sign is often less offensive if it's not red.

## Housatonic Camera Club

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I wish to enroll as a member for one year. Attached is the fee of \$25, and \$10 for each additional immediate family member.

Please hand or mail this form to the Head of Membership, Jen Abbott/213 Guilder Hollow Rd./Sheffield, MA 01257. For additional information call Jen Abbott at 413.229.3046

PLEASE PRINT ONLY... AND CLEARLY

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address(es): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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We will send you our Monthly News Letter (September to May), Schedules, and Club Information **upon payment of your dues.**

View the world through our lens!

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