

The Life Long Learning Center
(Wagner building on the left)
Noble Horizons
17 Cobble Road
Salisbury, CT 06068

THE HOUSATONIC CAMERA CLUB



We're on the web
<http://www.housatoniccameraclub.org/>

President's Corner: *Rita Mathews*

President:	Rita Mathews
Vice President:	
Treasurer:	
Secretary:	
Webmaster:	Lazlo Gyorsok
Newsletter:	John Frenzel

Here is hoping you all had a nice summer and are looking forward to our meetings which start on Tuesday, September 19th. We are putting together some interesting programs for all of you. Some will be learning and some will be entertaining but always with the accent on photography.

First Meeting for the new season, September 19th. 7:00 PM Sharp

Tonight's Program:
Member Show aka "How I spent my summer vacation"
An open night for members to display some of their work from the summer break.

PSA Competition. The first of the 4 PSA competitions will be judged tonight. Members can submit 2 photos for judging and 6 will be chosen in total for our submission to the competition.

We will open with up to 5 photos from each of us that went to the zoo and Innisfree Gardens and for those that did not join us you may submit up to 5 slides or digitals for us to see of your summer. Digital people please submit your photos to John Frenzel via the internet as JPEG's at 1024X768 pixels. Slide people can bring them along ready to put in a tray for viewing. We will also have our first interclub PSA digital contest so send your best digitals to John as above. See specifics in News Letter.

An urgent call to members..... We need people to volunteer their services to the club. Currently the club needs **officers** and members to serve on many of the committees. If you enjoy the club and want to see it grow and stay strong, it is time to pitch in and become a more active member.

Hints and Basics: This year I am going to take up the basics of Digital photography and I will start with the Histogram. The histogram is basically a bar chart. The height of the bars represent the number of pixels in each tonal value. The chart starts at the far left which represents black with a tonal value of 0. The far right represents white with a tonal value of 255. The position of the bar represents the tonal value from 0 to 255 and the height of the bar represents the number of pixels in that image which have that tonal value. So after you snap your photo look at the histogram. The overall brightness of your image can be read from the distribution of the pixel values. If the left (black) side is predominately composed of tall bars and the right side (white) is of short bars that tells you that your image is very dark as there are many more dark pixels than light pixels. Conversely if the right side is composed of tall bars and at the left side short ones your image is relatively bright. You also can determine the overall contrast of the image. If the image has the appearance of a bell curve with most of the pixel values concentrated in the central area (middle tone) you can assume your image has very little

Continued on page 4:

PSA News: This year we will be hosting the January interclub competition. We will be judging upwards of 100 photos in this competition. This should prove to be an very interesting evening for all of us.

When You are in the Judge's Seat

Look first at the photo's assets, then consider how it could be improved

Points to be covered:

- 1) Technical quality-focus, depth of field, exposure, lighting
- 2) Composition– Center of interest properly placed (a color or pattern is also a center of interest) good leading lines, no distracting elements.
- 3) Originality– Something out of the ordinary or new point of view-new interpretation of old subject matter.
- 4) Impact/Emotional appeal– does it tug at your emotions or give an immediate involuntary reaction?

Scoring:

1,2,3 are almost never used

4 is seldom used, it indicates Very poor quality

5 is used to indicate poor quality or below average. Usually for photos that are technically poor.

6 means the photo is fair; technically good but lacks composition or interest or vice versa.

7 means the photo is technically good and has good composition but does have room for improvement.

8 is a very good score-technically very good, composition very good; interest and impact provided by strong color, texture, patterns or some other feature.

9 & 10 are reserved for excellent photographs. The photo must possess all the characteristics of an 8 plus a sense of drama ie. Dramatic lighting, strong emotional appeal, uniqueness etc.

Comments:

Always start with something positive.

Photography Trivia:

What does the "EOS" stand for in the Canon line of Auto focus capable SLR's?

Digital Daze

Many of our members are familiar with Pro Show Gold software. If you have seen any of Lazlo, Rita, Brian or my slide shows you will have seen this software in action. There is a new and much improved version due to be released soon called ProShow Gold 3.0. This version allows for multiple layers per slide, many more transformation effects and an extended option for file output including FLASH, Quick Time and Windows Media. This will be fun to watch for. If you would like to see examples of slideshow by Lazlo, or myself among others, click the following link http://www.davrodigital.co.uk/proshow_index.htm



Victorian Portrait by Lazlo ©2006

The Housatonic Camera Club Web Gallery: Nothing new has been added to the web gallery since April of 2006. I would sure like to see members begin to post images to the gallery again. This can be a good tool to attract new members and we should utilize it more.



Lily's Reflective Moment by John ©2006

Hints and Basics Continued from Page 1:

contrast. If the chart is the opposite with spikes on either end and low area in the middle you can count on very high contrast.. It is most helpful in detecting clipping which is a loss of shadow or highlight detail. If you clipped the highlight end the histogram will end abruptly before it should have ended and you will have lost some tonal values. The same is true for the left or black side of the chart. If the histogram ends at the end of the chart but there is a spike going up the side of the chart on the right side you can expect some specular highlights or some very bright spots that are white with no detail. The same is true for the left side with a spike you can expect some very dark spots in your shadows with no detail. The spikes are not much to worry about. In clipping you lose a great deal of detail so avoid it by changing your exposure more or less depending on what tone this occurs at. If at left side increase your exposure and if on the right decrease it. Digital makes taking perfect pictures easy in comparison to film. After adjusting histograms in the camera you than go home and if you take raw you can adjust everything as you wish all over again and make that perfect photo. .

NECCC Schedule for the coming season:**Print Competition Deadlines**

November 8	January 9	March 15
------------	-----------	----------

Color Slide Deadlines

November 1	January 10	March 20
------------	------------	----------

Nature Slide Deadline

November 14	January 17	February 26
-------------	------------	-------------

Digital Image Deadline

	Competition Date	Closing Date
Fall	TBD	11/xx/06
Winter	TBD	2/xx/07
Spring	TBD	4/xx/07

If you would like a copy of the Rules and Regulations for competition I will be happy to email it to you, or you can download the document from the NECCC website.

**Answer to this Month's
trivia question:
Electro-Optical System**

Housatonic Camera Club Member Profile: Anne Brigham

Anne has been a member of the club for 31 years, she heard about the club through a friend. Anne's interest in photography began with her joining the club and she was inspired even more by the NECCC study weekend that is held annually in Amherst Ma. Anne has exhibited her work at the Douglas Library in Canaan off and on during the 70's and 80's. She tells us she is influenced by Mary Lou Estabrook and Sid Shore. She considers herself an amateur and she shoots both film and digital. Her cameras of choice are the Minolta X700 and the Kodak DC 4800. Anne's favorite type of photography is Landscapes. Close to home she likes to shoot in the Twin Lakes area of Salisbury CT. Away from home her favorite place to shoot is the wilds of Alaska. Her other creative outlets are sketching and painting, many times using her own photos. Anne says "Don't photograph humorous shots of people you know or who are known locally. She once did a club assignment of humorous photographic portraits, but her efforts proved too revealing and funny, the club never saw the show.

If you would like to be a part of the Member Profile section of the newsletter, please fill out and return a profile form to me at one of our meetings. If you no longer have the form, I can send you another one.

Time to put the suntan lotion on the shelf and get that camera back into the field!



Until September..... Stay healthy and stay safe.