EUGENE, OR, EMERALD PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY NEWSLETTER             VOL. 53   NO. 07

The BELOWS

Complete with a quad-copter photo demo

EPSers Enjoy End of Summer Party

On a beautiful summer evening on the quiet banks of the McKenzie River at the gorgeous home of former EPS President, Rick LeB-run, filled with a fantastic array of choice desserts, a group of about forty EPSers found it utterly impossible to be in a grumpy mood.

Lots of stories about summer photo adventures in new locations or at new events or just meeting photo friends after no club meetings for a couple of months kept good conversations alive.

Still time to capture park shots for Willamalane
(If you’ve misplaced your assignment card, see Bruce)

4Cs Convention Oct. 3-4, Vancouver, WA

The Columbia Council of Camera Clubs (4Cs), our EPS parent organization comprised of thirty-two camera clubs in the Northwest, has its annual convention scheduled for the first weekend in October in Vancouver, WA.

A good list of photo specific speakers, workshops, demos, vendors and winning images of the year from all clubs will be in place for this two-day event at the Red Lion Inn on the Quay; i.e., the Columbia River.

You can register on-line at the Columbia Council web site knowing that this will be the best $$ you’ve spent all year on photo info. Ask any EPSer who has attended this event in years past. (Poster on page 3)

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THE FIRST RULE OF PHOTOGRAPHY . . . “BE THERE!”
Helen Fast Wins Blue Ribbon At State Fair

Congratulations to EPSer, Helen Fast, for winning a First Place ribbon at the 2014 State Fair.

Her shot was captured on a clear night while camping at the Sparks Lake campground on the Old McKenzie Highway.

Helen says it was about a fifteen second exposure at high ISO with her wide angle lens.

Best of all, her partner didn’t complain while she was prowling around in the middle of the night looking for just the right location.

Stephanie Ames, 4th Time In Mayor’s Show

Congratulations to EPSer, Stephanie Ames, for her fourth time to have an image accepted for the Annual Eugene Mayors Art Show.

Her image is a purposely motion-blurred shot of the “paper tree” farm along Highway 84 near Boardman along the Columbia.

On a very hot day, while her shooting buddy insisted on running around in the trees, Stephanie shot this out the window of the air-conditioned cab of her truck.

“Art is where you find it,” she says.
Columbia Council of Camera Clubs 2014 Convention

Hosted by Monticello Camera Club

October 3rd - 5th

Red Lion at the Quay
100 Columbia St, Vancouver, WA 98660

Registration:
BEFORE September 1st, 2014
Members: $65.00 per person
Non Members: $85.00 per person
Students with Student ID $10.00 per person

AFTER September 1st, 2014:
Members: $75.00 per person
Non-Members: $95.00 per person

Register Online at:
www.columbiacameralclubs.org

For information contact Lisa Nathan
360-747-7119 / lisa@nathanimages.com
Quantum Camera Uses Entangled Photons?

Researchers have developed a new quantum imaging technique. For the first time, an image has been obtained without ever detecting the light that was used to illuminate the imaged object, while the light revealing the image never touches the object.

The experiment published in Nature this week for the first time breaks a seemingly self-evident limitation. The object (e.g. the contour of a cat) is illuminated with light that remains undetected. Moreover, the light that forms an image of the cat on the camera never interacts with it. In order to realize their experiment, the scientists use so-called “entangled” pairs of photons. These pairs of photons -- which are like interlinked twins -- are created when a laser interacts with a non-linear crystal.

Stunningly, all of the infrared photons (the only light that illuminated the object) are discarded. The picture is obtained by only detecting the red photons that never interacted with the object.

[Is there a Quantum Physicist in the house who can explain all of this in kindergarten terms so the rest of us can understand it? Ed.]

[Also, we might need to change our EPS mantra which for several years has been:

“Light is your subject – Color is your partner – But, luck can be your best buddy.”

Soon we may have to change that to:

“Modern photography requires only a good supply of entangled photons.” Ed.]

Bruce Bittle

Science Daily – Aug. 28, 2014

Source: University of Vienna / Nature

[Item abridged to fit available space.]

Drone Automatically Lights Portrait Subjects

A group of researchers from MIT want your next lighting rig to be autonomous and airborne. They’ve developed a drone that automatically and dynamically lights a subject (living or otherwise) providing difficult to produce rim lighting.

Using the system is extremely straight-forward. The photographer indicates in the desired ‘rim [light] width’ wanted, then the flying assistant sets itself up based on the position of the subject as well as what the photographer is seeing through the camera.

Drone will move. If the photographer moves, the drone uses a 20-images-per-second feed from the photog’s camera to adjust its position accordingly.

The long term goal here is to allow photographers to use a whole fleet of drones in their work, never having to set up another light again.

MIT Research, DL Cade

Science Daily - July 11, 2014

[Put cameras on a couple of those drones in that fleet would then eliminate the need for a photog-pher. Ed.]
Deliver Your Show Safely With $5 Transport Boxes

Your new images have been framed to our Club Standard (16x20) and are now ready to take to the location for your show. But, how to do this without scratching frames or breaking glass?

Correctly sized cardboard boxes that are easy to carry, easy to stack and easy to store, are now available on special order from the same guy who purchases mats and frames for EPS members. Yup, that’s Bittle.

Each box costs $5 and holds 5 framed images. A little trimming, handle-cutting and taping is required, but they’ll last for years.

I have to order a bundle (20) at a time and I’ll place an order anytime as soon as I have firm requests that total 20.

Computer To Tell “Everything About Anything”

In today’s digitally driven world, access to information appears limitless. But, when you have something specific in mind that you don’t know, like the name of that niche kitchen tool you saw at a friend’s house, it can be surprisingly hard to sift through the volume of information online and know how to search for it.

Computer scientists from the University of Washington and the Allen Institute for Artificial Intelligence in Seattle have created Learning Everything About Anything, or LEVAN, the program searches millions of books and images on the Web, then displays the results quickly in great detail to users as a comprehensive browsable list of images.

The program learns which terms are relevant by looking at the content of the images found on the Web and identifying characteristic patterns across them.

For example, a search for “dog” brings up the obvious collection of subcategories: Photos of “Chihuahua dog,” “black dog,” “swimming dog,” “scruffy dog,” “greyhound dog.” But also “dog nose,” “dog bowl,” “sad dog,” “ugliest dog,” “hot dog” and even “down dog,” as in the yoga pose.

Once it has learned which phrases are relevant, the program does an image search on the Web, looking for uniformity in appearance among the photos retrieved.

The team wants the open-source program to be both an educational tool as well as an information bank for researchers in the computer vision community. The team also hopes to offer a smartphone app that can run the program to automatically parse out and categorize photos.

Source: University of Washington, Science Daily - June 12, 2014
Q: Is there a “significant/meaningful difference” for prints made from RAW files versus JPEG files, assuming identical subject, skilled photography, knowledgeable post-processing and assuming prints will not be large display prints?

A: The benefits of RAW capture are really only benefits if you capture a photograph that is [considerably] less than ideal.

JPEG compression does cause a change in pixel values. Using simplified 16x16 pixel blocks to reduce file size creates a grid pattern that can [sometimes] be visible.

[With] smaller prints the grid pattern will be less obvious than with large prints. Image content can also mask this grid pattern, or make it visible.

Be aware [after] optimization to save all JPEG captures as TIFF or PSD files rather than as a JPEG. [Repeated saving as a JPEG will continue to degrade an image.]

But, assuming an optimal exposure, there is very little benefit to using RAW capture rather than JPEG. So, for smaller prints, I wouldn’t worry about it too much.

Q: Have we reached the point where, excluding selections and cleaning up, a professional photographer can do a superior job in Lightroom exclusively?

A: When processing RAW, Lightroom and Photoshop are absolute equals [because they] use the same engine for rendering. Lightroom does have an advantage over Photoshop Elements [because it] includes a limited version of Adobe Camera Raw.

Photoshop offers much more powerful tools than Lightroom for targeted adjustments and image cleanup. Lightroom provides a match and actually goes beyond PS to control shadows and highlights independently.

Photoshop does sharpening a little better than Lightroom, especially [for] images to be printed. Lightroom doesn’t offer creative filters and ways to make composite images, etc.

However, for many photographers Lightroom provides all that is needed for optimizing photos. But, for many situations, I still consider Photoshop to be invaluable.

Q: About default sharpening in Adobe Camera Raw before opening in Photoshop or Elements. Is it appropriate to do further sharpening when conventional wisdom says sharpening should be the final step?

A: Sharpening as the last step of workflow is a very good practice, especially in the context for printing. But it doesn’t mean that you can’t apply any prior sharpening.

Initial sharpening (applied by default in Adobe Camera Raw) is aimed at compensating for [known] minor softness when converting an analog signal (light) to digital values [pixels]. Softness is also caused by] filters in front of the sensor and other factors.

It’s important to apply [additional] sharpening when preparing for] printing to compensate for the (sometimes considerable) softness that can result from the spread of ink on paper.

It is possible to apply all of your sharpening as a single step at the end of your workflow. But it can also be helpful in some cases to apply at least a minor amount of sharpening earlier.

Tim has written a dozen books, published hundreds of magazine articles and is a member of the Photoshop World Dream Team. [Ed Note: Articles are reprinted with permission and abridged to fit available space.]
New York artist Sam Van Aken has a challenge not shared by many — if any — of his peers.

Aside from sketching and sculpting, he spends a good deal of his energy figuring how to keep hungry groundhogs off of his art works.

That's because Van Aken, 42, is creating living sculptures — unique fruit trees designed to bloom in multiple colors while bearing 40 different varieties of stone fruit such as apricots, cherries and peaches.

The associate professor in Syracuse University’s art department calls his living work, “The Tree of 40 Fruit.”

“The trees were a way to collapse an entire orchard onto a tree,” Van Aken said in an interview.
September 2014
2 Challenge Night - Theme TBA Jun. 3
9 Ed. Night, Copters & Aerial Photos
16 Print & Digital Competition night
23 Beginners Q & A – Demo night

October 2014
7 Challenge Night - Theme TBA Sept. 2
14 Ed. Night, Macro/Micro Photos
21 Print & Digital Competition night
28 Beginners Q & A – Demo night

November 2014
4 Challenge Night - Theme TBA Oct. 7
11 Ed. Night, TBA
18 Print & Digital Competition night
25 Beginners Q & A – Demo night

December 2014
2 Challenge Night - Theme TBA Nov. 4
9 Ed. Night, TBA

ONLY TWO MEETINGS THIS MONTH

Happy Holidays
Next meeting Jan. 6

January 2015
6 Challenge Night - Theme TBA Dec. 2
13 Ed. Night, TBA
20 Print & Digital Competition night
27 Beginners Q & A – Demo night

February 2015
3 Challenge Night - Theme TBA Jan. 6
10 Ed. Night, TBA
17 Print & Digital Competition night
24 Beginners Q & A – Demo night

• Bill Haynes
  Will have a show, “Our Rural Northwest” for the entire month of September in Harris Hall Lobby of the Lane County Courthouse, 125 E. 8th Ave. See it M-F from 8-5.

• Mary Harrsch

Do you have a show?
Send complete details
(location, time, theme, etc.)

Have photos published?
Send complete details
/Publication, date, etc.

Before the last week of the month to:
<bittled70@gmail.com>

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Inquiries about, or submissions for The Bellows (deadline is the last week of the month for following month publication) direct to the Editor, c/o Emerald Photographic Society, 1236 Debrick Rd., Eugene, OR 97401, or by email <bittled70@gmail.com>
EPS Preferred Vendors

Show your membership card to these vendors for nice discounts. Be a good ambassador for EPS each time you receive these discounts by letting these folks know how much you appreciate their support.

Dotson’s Camera Store
1668 South Willamette Street
15% Discounts on in-house processing (including slide processing)

Derek Dickerson, Computer Technician
PCs & Macs, Hardware, Upgrades, Networks
888-458-5650 Cell: 541-335-9912 or www.teQmo.com

Focal Point Photography
161 West Ellendale, Dallas, OR
Equipment Rentals, Trade Ins, discounts on most items Call Mike Lowery, 503.623.6300

Oregon Gallery
199 East Fifth Avenue, Eugene
15% discount on all matting and framing

The Shutterbug Camera Stores
Two Stores 207 Coburg Rd. & Valley River Center
10% discount on photo accessories and photo finishing

U of O Bookstore Art Department
Corner of 13th Ave. & Alder St.
20% discount on all art supplies

Vistra Gallery
160 East Broadway, Eugene
20% discount on printing, matting & framing, Up to 30% on orders over $500