



The *f*-STOP

Monthly Newsletter of the Arkansas Outdoor Photographers Club

Volume 13, Issue #10

www.arkphoto.org

October 2009

NEXT AOPC MEETING: Thursday, October 15, 2009, 6:30 p.m.
Second Presbyterian Church • 600 Pleasant Valley Drive, Little Rock AR
Monthly Meeting. Program:
October 15th, Toni Guinn - Blanchard Springs Caverns

The President's Message.... *Nick Dawson*

“WHAT’S NOT TO LEICA?”

by Nick Dawson

Last week Leica announced a new camera, the M9, a full frame, rangefinder, digital camera. At 18.2 MP and full frame coverage (35mm) it is certainly at the pinnacle of an admittedly small group of such niche cameras. But the price; \$7,000 without a lens! That got me thinking again about the price/value relationship of consumer (and luxury) purchases. Timex, Seiko and Rolex watches tell time with about the same accuracy as each other but their prices span \$25 to \$10,000+. Chevrolet and Rolls Royce automobiles may have the same reliability and utility but a ten fold difference in price sells them to very different buyers. So too with cameras.

I took a small 10MP Canon Digital Rebel XTi SLR camera (\$350 secondhand from KEH Cameras in Atlanta) with me on our recent cruise of the Mediterranean and it took fabulous photographs, especially at lower ISO's (100-400). I had just bought a Canon 1D Mark III, but decided it was too large to carry around all day every day. I have since sold it. Yes, the 1D Mark III would have taken better images at high ISO's but most of the time the quality of both images are the same. A new 1D Mark III is \$3,800. Is weatherproofing, 10 fps motordrive and more available customization worth the huge price difference? For me, no, but for you ... maybe.

Back to the Leica. For \$7,000 you can buy a 21 MP Canon 1Ds Mark III or a 21MP Nikon D3x, cameras with hugely more versatility. OR for many thousands less you could buy a Canon 5D Mark II AND a Sony Alpha A900. OR for \$1,700 the upcoming Canon 7D also has 18MP and is said to be highly water resistant. All these other cameras have lenses that are as comparable to Leica's famous glass

....
..... but but they are not a Leica. And therein lies the nub of this tale. If you buy a Leica (or a Ferrari or a Picasso) it is not because you need it but because you want it. You love the contours of the classic rangefinder camera body; you like the idea of possessing a handmade work of mechanical art; you want to buy in to all that photographic history. Me, I think I will stick with a Digital Rebel (well, maybe a 7D!) but maybe that Canon 400mm f4 DO lens would be nice

Ever Growing Library Collection Gains New Volumes

By Karen Russ, AOPC Librarian

As was mentioned at the September meeting, ten new books were ordered for the Club library. They have arrived and will be put in the cabinet at the October meeting. Our new titles are:

The Adobe Photoshop CS4 Layers Book: Harnessing Photoshop's Most Powerful Tool by R. Lynch

The Adobe Photoshop Layers Book: Harnessing Photoshop's Most Powerful Tools, covers Photoshop CS3 by R. Lynch

Advanced Digital Photography: Techniques and Tips for Creating Professional-Quality Images, revised edition, by T. Ang

ASMP Professional Business Practices in Photography, 7th edition, by the American Society of Media Photographers

Black and White in Photoshop CS4 and Lightroom by L. Alsheimer and B. O'Neil Hughes

Digital Masters: Travel Photography: Documenting the World's People & Places by B. Krist

Digital Photographer's Handbook, 4th edition, by T. Ang

Microstock Photography – How to Make Money from Your Digital Images by D. Freer

The Photographer's Eye: Composition and Design for Better Digital Photos by M. Freeman

Practical Artistry: Light & Exposure for Digital Photographers by H. Davis

It is possible that one more small order of books will be placed this calendar year. Please let me know if there are titles or topics of interest to you.

** I will be doing the annual inventory of the library around the first of the new calendar year. If you have materials checked out, you are welcome to keep them through the holidays, but if you doubt you will have time to read them, please consider bringing them back at the December meeting.



Tips and Tidbits

By Ernie Decker

Well folks, I'm drawing a blank. The only thing I can think of at the moment is a link to a brief video describing new features in Photoshop Elements 8 that was just released. But instead of giving it to you, I want you to give me some tips. It wasn't that great anyway. Seriously, I know many of you have tips that you could share with others. I have asked before, and a couple of you have responded, but this column is supposed to be a collaborative effort of all the members, not just me. Send me your ideas. It can be small little things, those are the ones that make the best tips anyway. Where to go, what to wear, a piece of equipment to make yourself, shoes or boots to buy, a sale on something, the best kind of battery to buy, a good website for info, a keyboard shortcut, good gloves, you name it-these can all be good tips for someone, so send them in. Please.

AOPC Directory Photos Needed

We would like to include a picture beside your listed information. Please email a picture (headshot) to me that you'd like to include in the directory. If you're unable to email a picture, we will be set up to take your photo at the March meeting. If you're sending a picture please follow the specs listed below:

1. Headshot
 2. 640X480 OR 2IN X 3IN JPEG IMAGE @ 72DPI
- Thanks and please email the image to Jason Crader • jacrader@yahoo.com

Members who do not have a name tag, please let Harris Lloyd know at the September or October meeting.



PHOTOGRAPHS FOR THE

f-STOP

The only requirements are that they have a *minimum* size in the short dimension of 800 pixels. Please send photographs and other information for the newsletter by the 25th of each month to David Dodson via e-mail at david.dodson@arfb.com

2009 Field Trips

October 17 *Blanchard Springs Caverns*

and do fall colors

November 21 *Ouachita – Little Missouri Falls* (around Glenwood) Fall Colors

December 19 (evening) *Garvin Gardens* Christmas Lights

January 17, 2010 (Sunday afternoon) *Dardanelle Dam* Eagles

ARKANSAS ARTS CENTER 4-Session Workshop “Nature Photography”

Weekend Class Saturdays 10am - 1:00pm

October 24, 31 & November 7, 14 (4 sessions)

\$108 Art Center members; \$127.00 non-members

Let David Dodson teach you the techniques and tricks
to really capture the beauty of Fall in Arkansas.

Through hands-on field trips and extensive digital lab time.

Please contact Jodie at the Arkansas Arts Center 501.396.0353.

Monthly Meetings

October 15th, monthly meeting. Program: Toni Guinn - Blanchard Springs Caverns

November

19th, monthly meeting. Program: Tim Ernst - Slideshow

December

17th, monthly meeting. Program: Pot Luck and Open Projector

January, 2010

17th, Technical Presentation

SHOWING IMAGES

AT AOPC MONTHLY MEETINGS

By Nick Dawson

All members are welcome to show 10 – 15 of their images at the monthly AOPC meetings. Due to increasing number of members who are wanting to show their pictures PLEASE DO NOT BRING MORE THAN 15 IMAGES. We have a high quality digital projector and regularly showcase up to 25 AOPC members' photographs. *Please use the following guidelines for image size etc.*

... 8x10 or larger image size at 150 – 240 dpi ... jpeg format only (NO tiff, pdf, gif formats please)

... label your batch of images with your initials as a 3 letter prefix (eg: NJD1, NJD2, NJD3, NJD\$ etc.) ... the preferred color space is sRGB for the best rendition of colors on our projector.

... bring them on CD, DVD or USB thumb drives only with NO additional software on the medium you use.

2009 AOPC OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: Nick Dawson nickdaw@sbcglobal.net
221-9118

VICE PRESIDENT: Jason Crader, jacrader@yahoo.com, 940-1370

SECRETARY: Jean Prince, jabberjeans@aol.com, 351-7539

TREASURER : Ron Russ, rsruss@comcast.net, 501-312-9206

LIBRARIAN: Karen Russ, kmruss@comcast.net, 501-312-9206

FIELD TRIPS: Jason Crader, jacrader@yahoo.com, 940-1370

NEWSLETTER: David Dodson david.dodson@arfb.com, 228-1370 (W), 920-0569 (C)

Programs: Ernie Decker, egdecker5@yahoo.com., 223-2530 & Marty & Gina Allen mallen@images-outside.com, 224-2308, (H) or 951-1332 (C)

WEBMASTER: Marty Allen, mallen@imagesoutside.com, 224-2308, (H) or 951-1332 (C)

“DATES TO REMEMBER” by Nick Dawson

Here are some upcoming events which will interest central Arkansas photographers. AOPC may have a table at one or more of these venues so stop by and say hi!

September 19th - October 19th: *Diana Michelle Hausam*, our July speaker at AOPC, will have an exhibit of her fine art photography at the M2 Gallery in Little Rock (in Pleasant Ridge Towne Center Mall). Artist's talk at the gallery on October 9th, at 6:30 pm. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Saturday, November 5th: *Vincent Laforet seminar* (sponsored by Canon Explorers of Light and Bedford Camera & Video).

Arkansas Outdoor Photographers Club
3401 Ridge Pass Court
Little Rock, AR 72227

