Berks Photographic Society
Weekly Update for February 17th, 2020

HOT NEWS!

Join us on Monday, February 17th for Tom’s Tips: Light, Exposure, and Composition with Tom Stoeri

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Monday Meeting - Tom’s Tips: Light, Exposure, and Composition with Tom Stoeri

Enjoy an interactive discussion on techniques, technical insight, and thought processes for using light, exposure, and composition to improve your photography.

Tom is a long-time member of BPS, a great photographer and wonderful teacher. You don't want to miss his insights!

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January 2020 Digital Competition
Class B Assigned Subject Third Place: "Old Time Train" by Tom Russo

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Members' Passion Night - Call For Entries!

We'll be having a Members' Passion Night in March & probably again a few months later. We need Club members to participate & share areas of photography that are particularly enjoyable to shoot. Topic examples would include street photography, macrophotography, night photography, creative work & composites. The presentations are to be 10-30 minutes long as several folks will be speaking. There
would need to be a discussion on the technique used for capture along with some image examples. This has been a very popular & fun night for all. Please email Vince Pellegrini with your interest & topic.

Everyone who expresses an interest will be given the opportunity to be part of this program!

Exhibition at The Heritage of Green Hills

BPS is planning an exhibition at The Heritage of Green Hills, a retirement community in Shillington, PA. The exhibition is scheduled for April 17th through July 1st, 2020.

Members are encouraged to participate and may enter up to 2 printed and framed images with a wire for hanging. No size limit on the images.

Images will be delivered to the Heritage of Green Hills on Monday, April 13th or Tuesday April 14th, and will be hanged and labeled on Wednesday, April 15th and Thursday, April 16th.

The opening reception will be held on Friday, April 17th from 3:00 to 4:30PM.

To participate, or for more details, talk with Larry Stamm at the next meeting, or contact him at 610.698.4921 or via email at jlstamm@ptd.net.
State Game Lands Photo Contest

To celebrate the 100th anniversary of Pennsylvania’s State Game Lands System, the Pennsylvania Game Commission is sponsoring its 2020 State Game Lands Photo Contest.

Outdoor enthusiasts who explore game lands across the Commonwealth throughout the anniversary year can submit seasonally-themed photos for this new contest for a chance to win one of four prize packages.

[Click here for more details.]
High School Competition 2020

Invitation for Submissions

This year, the contest will be in digital format covering four categories: *Abstract/Texture, Landscape/Nature, Animals & Portraiture.*

Images will be judged based on creativity, artistic flare & technical detail. Each student may submit up to a total of 3 images.

All Berks County, PA students in grades 9, 10, 11 & 12 are eligible.

PRIZES:
$250 cash & a prize ribbon for the Grand Winner of all categories.
First, Second & Third Place winners of each category will receive prize ribbons. First-Place winners will also receive a 16×24” gallery wrap canvas print, along with a BPS member *mentor session* in their category.

Email your image files to HSComp@BerksPhotographic.com as an attachment using this file naming format:

*Category-Title-School-First name-Last name.jpg.*

Submit full-sized jpg files at maximum quality. Include your name & your school in the email subject line.

The electronic submission deadline is April 3, 2020 at 5:00pm. Students will receive notification when their images are successfully uploaded. *Image files will also be accepted in person on April 6, 2020 from 6:30pm to 7:30pm at the GoggleWorks Center for the Arts, Suite 326.*
Judging will be performed by three members of the Berks Photographic Society. All decisions by the judging will be final.

OPEN HOUSE AND RECEPTION for all students, family & art faculty on Saturday, April 25, 2020 at the GoggleWorks Center for the Arts at 1:00pm. Winners will be announced & prizes awarded. You do not have to be present to win but we’d love to see everyone. All submitted images will be continuously projected at high resolution, along with last year’s winners. BPS members will be happy to discuss the images, as desired.

Chair: Greg Aulenbach

Venture Into the Night! with NPAN
Major photographic workshop to be held in Berks County with Berks Photographic Society and National Parks at Night (NPAN)

Saturday, May 9, 2020 at the GoggleWorks Center for the Arts in Reading, PA.

The Berks Photographic Society (BPS) will host the renowned National Parks At Night (NPAN) with Gabe Biderman & Matt Hill for a fantastic focused workshop. Gabe & Matt are highly regarded, phenomenal teachers. They are part of the 5-man team at NPAN putting on some of the best and most popular night photography workshops worldwide and they will be right here in Reading, PA. Check out the NPAN website and blog to learn more about NPAN and what they do: www.nationalparksatnight.com and www.nationalparksatnight.com/blog. NPAN workshops typically sell out soon after they are announced.

This will be a two-part workshop with separate registrations. You must register for the afternoon session to partake in the evening fieldtrip.

The program will begin at 12:00pm(noon) and run until 4:30pm at the GoggleWorks, located at 201 Washington Street, Reading, PA, the home of BPS. Gabe & Matt will address various aspects of night photography, including basic setup and exposures, night sky photography, low level lighting, light painting, ghost imaging and post processing, as time permits.

The second part of the workshop will be an evening of hands-on shooting beginning at 6:30pm. This event will be held at the Berks Heritage Center Park, located about 10 minutes from the GoggleWorks. The structures at the Park date back to the mid-19th Century. In addition to the beautiful and treasured Gruber Wagonworks building, this site includes Melcher’s Grist Mill, Reeser’s Farm House, a cemetery, a small gas station with an old pump, a canal and horse-drawn canal boat mockup, and the famous 220-foot-long Wertz’s Red Covered Bridge over the Tulpehocken Creek. Both the bridge and the Wagonworks are on the National Register of Historic Places/Landmarks. Click here for a brochure of the Berks Heritage Center.

There will be time for independent and guided shooting outside during the “Golden Hour” and at the 8:00pm sunset before venturing inside the historic Gruber Wagonworks with Gabe and Matt. Participants will be divided into two groups for about 90 minutes of individualized attention as the now darkened several floors and multiple rooms of the Gruber interior are artistically lit. The building is filled with wagons, work benches & tools so there will be plenty of good setups. Once this exercise is completed, participants will venture outside again for about 90 minutes of instructed low level lighting and light painting of the numerous structures within the Park. A clear sky will add stars to the images.

Registration cost:
Afternoon session at the GoggleWorks $50 for BPS members & $75 for non-members

Evening session at the Berks Heritage Center Park $100 for BPS members & $125 for non-members

To register visit the BPS Registration and Payment site.

**Space is strictly limited.** You must be registered for the afternoon session in order to take the evening session. You can also register only for the afternoon session, if desired.

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**The Ethics & Honesty of Photojournalism**

*Vince Pellegrini*

Rich Lewis presented an excellent talk on Judging this week. His message should certainly help all of us raise the bar of our own images. During his talk, Rich showed two classic images as examples to solidify points in his discussion.
The first was "The Migrant Mother" by Dorothea Lange. In reality, this image was not truly of a starving woman alone with her children as stated in the story line as it went viral in newspapers around the USA. It was a posed shot. To be clear, the fact that this was a staged image certainly doesn't detract from the strength of the photo or the plight of migrant farmers at the time but addresses the ethics of photography & "fake news." The effect of the photo did indeed result in an outpouring of food to the needy farm pickers, while also making Lange quite famous.
The second was "Raising the Flag at Iwo Jima." The flag raising was not the original breach of the mountain top on Iwo Jima as told in the story line but a repeat maneuver to raise a bigger flag after capturing the area. Again, this certainly does not detract from the bravery of those men nor the significance of the moment but the associated story was not a true representation of reality as it happened.

More info can be found in the following Wikipedia article, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Raising_the_Flag_on_Iwo_Jima](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Raising_the_Flag_on_Iwo_Jima).

The issue of photographic honesty continues today. Last year, National Geographic published a story with images by Beth Moon about ancient trees and the night sky. It turns out that her images were manipulated without noting such. The National Geographic policy is completely against image manipulation. National Geographic published an apology for "breach of trust" and stated that Beth Moon would never again be published in any National Geographic media despite her celebrity status as a photographer.

PetaPixel’s discussion of the issue.

So, we must always be vigilant and do our own research when the storyline seems “too good to be true”. Honesty must be the agenda of a photojournalist.

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**Upcoming Calendar of Club Events**

The [Calendar](#) on the BPS website lists all the upcoming events for our members. Some highlights:

- **February 17th** - Tom’s Tips: Light, Exposure, and Composition – Tom Stoeri
- **February 22nd** - Intro to Digital Photography Class part 2 – Seeing The Light
- **February 24th** - Up Close and Personal Macro Presentation and Hands-On Shooting – Valerie Hoffman
- **March 2nd** - "How I Arrived at My Final Images" with Joel Styer
- **March 9th** - Competition Software Review and New Procedures
- **March 16th** - Family Portraiture – Carrie Kizuka
- **March 23rd** - Monthly Photo Competition
- **March 30th** - High Dynamic Range Photography with Frank Plucinsky

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**Photo Outings and Events**

Below is a list of upcoming Club photo outings and events. These are great opportunities to practice your photo skills while enjoying the camaraderie of your fellow Club members!
The BPS Events page on our website lists all our upcoming events, by month. Be sure to check back often to stay on top of everything happening at your Club.

**National Parks at Night - *Venture into the Night* Workshop in May!**

Major photographic workshop to be held on Saturday, May 9, 2020

See all the details and registration info elsewhere in this issue.

**Your Ideas and Suggestions**

The Club's members are always looking for fun and interesting places to photograph. If you have a favorite place to photograph, or suggestions where to shoot, please let us know by sending an email to info@berksphotographic.com.

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January 2020 Digital Competition
Class B Assigned Subject Honorable Mention - "Not" by Kathy Grim
Reminders

The BPS Meetup Group

We offer two types of Meetups, photo walks and workshops.

The photo walks are generally casual and intended for people to meet new friends and photograph together. The organizers will generally assist with camera and photography questions to help people obtain better photos. There is usually no cost associated with the photowalks except for entrance fees at certain venues.

The workshops are for learning new techniques and generally have a modest fee. The fee depends on the costs involved in putting the meetup together. At these meetups, the instructors spend most of their time assisting the attendees, helping them to improve and learn the techniques associated with the meetup as well as answering any questions. These meetups can vary from simple camera techniques to in-depth hands on workshops.

Visit The Berks Photographic Society Meetup Group

Member Directory

The membership directory is available at https://www.berkscamera.org/member-center/ and you will need the member password to log in and view the directory. If you have any comments or changes, please contact Bill Coughlin or Joel Styer. We hope you enjoy this long-requested addition to the Berks Photographic Society!

Classified Ads

If you have photo equipment (only) you would like to sell, please send an email to info@berksphotographic.com with the details: description of what you’d like to sell, condition, sale price, a photo of the item (if applicable) and contact information. The ad will appear for 2 weeks in the weekly newsletter.

"Ask the Board" Q&A - Call for Questions

If you have a question for the BPS Board, please submit your questions to info@berksphotographic.com and the appropriate Board member will respond in an upcoming edition of the newsletter.

Like us on Facebook
Did you know our club has two Facebook pages to share information with our members as well as promote our club to our community?

**Berks Photographic Society** – this is our business page, and is used to provide information about the Club and promote our activities. It's a great way to market our Club and grow our membership.

**Berks Photographic Society Group** – this is our group page sponsored by the Club. It is used for members of the group to interact and share information with each other. If you are not already a member of this Facebook group, please join.

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**Shop with AmazonSmile**

Amazon has a great program where non-profit organizations (like our Club) receive a donation every time you shop on their site through the AmazonSmile Program. The Club receives 0.5% of the purchase price of every item you buy on Amazon and there is no cost to you, nor does it change in any way your shopping on Amazon.

To set this up on your Amazon account, simply click on this link: [https://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-2222727](https://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-2222727) and follow the instructions. The Club thanks you!