



# In Focus

## April Program- Building A Website



The Internet is a tool that is changing by the minute. For the April Program, Walt Schumacher, HPS Webmaster, will discuss some of the more recent options: Blogs, Facebook, Flickr, etc. The main emphasis will be on "traditional" websites, though. There are two "flavors"

of those ... "cookie cutter", and "do it yourself". The "do it yourself" type is more versatile, and the one we will look at the closest. No cost (and no HTML) programs will be shown, as well as info on how to register a Domain name and sign up for hosting. The main point of the evening - with just basic computer savvy, you can have your own website for only \$50 a year.

### New Members

- Mary Lines
- Russ Sexton
- Bob & Linda Fletcher
- Margaret Stephens
- Jerry & Judith Cox
- Jessica Dodd
- Tim Solomon
- Susan Bridges

### Visitors

- Elizabeth Hicox
- Sparkie Waller

## Format Size and Depth of Field

*by Walt Schumacher*

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First, there is no "standard" film or sensor format. Originally, glass plates were any size that could fit into a camera. 8x10 and 4x5 inch film became "popular", and later, 120 roll film; 2.5 inches square. In recent history, the 35mm format became king, measuring 24x36mm. This is what we now call "full frame". In 1996, Kodak introduced an "Advanced Photo System" (APS) format, which measured 16.7x25.1 mm, but it never caught on.

started with video cameras; which were 8mm across. As technology improved, this gradually increased to the size of the defunct APS-C. A handful of cameras have pushed the envelope to include "full frame-sized" sensors, but they cost \$2000 and up, just for the camera body.

For a given lens, since the APS-C sized image is smaller, an uncropped print yields a smaller field of view. We equate a smaller field of view with a longer focal length

Enter the digital sensor. Sensor size

*(Continued on page 3)*



## From The President

I think spring has finally sprung and not a moment too soon in my opinion. I'm looking forward to some warmer weather and the beautiful color that has started blooming and will continue for the next couple months. March started with Barbara Stagg's informative presentation about how to make your images pop. Barbara did a great job summarizing an eight week course into a two hour presentation. She presented lots of good ideas on how to improve our photographs. Personally, I got the biggest kick at the end of her presentation when she showed images of a simple boot photographed using the various techniques she had just presented.

Thanks Barbara.

Our competition this month fell right in with March Madness. It was surrealism. Returning judge Keith Jones had the difficult job of evaluating and interpreting the hidden meanings in our imaginative images. I was blown away with some of our member's mastery of Photoshop along with their very creative minds. I saw many cool images that I would have never thought of

in a million years. Thank you Keith for judging and your informative talk about your criteria for judging. We love it when our judges give us good feedback.

We had a 5th Monday meeting in March too. Attendance was pretty good with several new visitors and/or new members. Hopefully we didn't scare any of them away. Diana Davidson presented a really beautiful slide show sent to her from our New Zealand member, Roger Urlwin. It was a great show of some amazing landscapes with original accompaniment created by a friend of his. Hopefully Roger can come visit us some day. Lee Pratt also presented some useful information about the latest craze in TVs, stereo/3D. If anyone is considering buying a 3D TV in the near future, you definitely need to talk to Lee first! Several other members had some show and tell items too. It was a good (and loud) meeting.

Rick Kress

"I take photographs I love, so I try to make them art objects. But I make them for myself first and foremost-that is important."

- Jacques-Henri Lartique

## Calendar of Events

Apr 12 – Program Meeting, 7.p.m., Huntsville Library

Apr 14 - New Moon. Robert Schuffert Photo Class (see p. 5).

April 19- Digital Pics due for monthly competition. Nature and Travel Photo Society Meeting, 7 p. m.

Apr 26 – Competition Meeting, "Wildlife", 7 p.m., Library

Apr 28 - Full Moon



## Format Size *(Continued from p.1)*

lens. So "apparently" an APS-C image seems magnified (around 1.5x, depending on the exact sensor size.)

This is great on the "long end"; our 400mm lens now seems like a 600mm. However, our 35mm wide-angle seems to make pictures similar to what we were "used" to seeing at 52mm ... i.e. a "normal" lens. So we have all had to go out and purchase one "shorter" lens, to compensate. 10mm is about the limit in a "rectilinear" (non-fisheye) lens.

What has been the effect of the APS-C format on DOF? Well, there are several factors contributing to DOF. F-stop is one; so let's hold that constant. Subject to camera

distance is another factor. The closer you are to a subject, the greater the difference there is between the camera-to-subject, and camera-to-background distance. So let's hold the distance the same.

Now, DOF depends on how you take the picture:

When a picture is taken using lenses of the *same focal length*, the smaller format has *less* apparent DOF. To get the same final image, you'd have to enlarge the picture, which magnifies the out of focus part.

But, when a picture is taken with lenses that give the *same angle of view*, the smaller format has *greater* DOF. Why is

this? the smaller format has the effect of magnifying the image. To get the same image, you would have to "zoom out" to a smaller focal length. When you do that, your *effective* f-stop number gets larger. [F-stop = aperture / focal length]. As your focal length gets smaller, the f-stop number gets larger - i.e. more DOF.

In practice, you are probably going to zoom out to get the image you want; or move farther away. Either will increase DOF. This is usually good news for the macro shooter... maybe not so good for the subject-isolating telephoto enthusiast!

### Photographic Opportunities

- ⇒ Bloomin' Festival and Arts Fair, Apr 17-18, Cullman, [www.bloominfestival.com](http://www.bloominfestival.com). The Bloomin' Festival is a two-day juried arts festival attracting thousands of visitors to the beautiful campus of St. Bernard Abbey and Prep School. Located adjacent to the school is the world famous Ave Maria Grotto. The picturesque landscape of stone cut buildings on the grounds of Alabama's only Abbey provides a backdrop for the out-of-doors show. More than 140 booths are filled with artists demonstrating and exhibiting their work.
- ⇒ Noble Street Festival, Apr 17-18, Anniston, [www.noblestreetfestival.com](http://www.noblestreetfestival.com). Noble Street becomes cyclists and pedestrians-only for a day during the Noble Street Festival. This family festival features pro bike races, the Red Diamond Restaurant Tour, music, art, a running race, and children's activities. Apr. 17, 10 a.m.-10 p.m.; Apr. 18, 7 a.m. until 10 p.m.



March Competition Results  
 Subject - Surrealism  
 Judge - Keith Jones

	Digital 71 Entries	Color 39 Entries	Monochrome 17 Entries	Slide 20 Entries
1st	Barbara Staggs	Barbara Montgomery	Diana Davidson	Lee Pratt
2nd	Diana Davidson	Barbara Montgomery	John Kirwin	Daniel Little
3rd	John Kirwin	Barbara Staggs	Tom Bryant	Lee Pratt
HM	Eddie Sewall	Henry Smith	Henry Smith	Lee Pratt
HM	Geri Reddy	John Kirwin	Barbara Montgomery	Martha Teal
HM	Sam Tuminello	Carol Blue		
HM	Henry Smith	Alan Buwalda		
HM	John Kirwin			
HM	Walt Tyszka			
HM	Alan Buwalda			

# First Place Winners



Color Print by Barb Montgomery

Slide by Lee Pratt



Digital by Barb Staggs

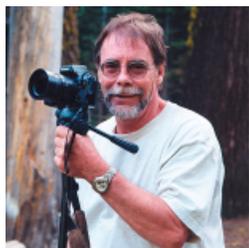
Monochrome Print by Diana Davidson



(c) Diana Lyn Davidson



## Photography Class



Robert Schuffert, HPS member, is conducting a photography class on Wednesday, April 14, 2010, from 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm at Trinity United Methodist

Church on Airport Road. Enrollment fee is \$25.00. Visit [www.SchuffertStudios.com](http://www.SchuffertStudios.com) for additional information.

### Websites for Digital Entries:

Website for Digital Competition results: [www.HPSPhotos.smugmug.com](http://www.HPSPhotos.smugmug.com)

Website for Novice Class is [www.HPSphotos.smugmug.com/NoviceCompetitions](http://www.HPSphotos.smugmug.com/NoviceCompetitions)

### Costco Sponsorship

Thank you, Costco, for sponsoring HPS monthly competitions! Prizes are awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners in each category. Prizes must be redeemed within 30 days or before the next month's competition (whichever comes first). Members should go to Costco photo lab to claim the prize.

Name	2010 points	2010 wins
Martha Teal	14	5
Diana Davidson	13	3
Barbara Montgomery	12	5
Lee Pratt	12	6
Carol Blue	11	4
John Kirwin	11	6
Henry Smith	11	6
David Blue	10	3
Virginia Gilbert	8	3
Geri Reddy	8	5
Barbara Staggs	8	2
Tom Bryant	8	2
Joy Henderson	6	2
Ernie High	6	3
Tim Solomon	6	2
Rick Kress	5	1
Guy Mcallister	5	3
Andrea Shetley	5	1
Daniel Little	4	1
Emily Saile	4	2
Bill Snoddy	4	2
Joe Boyd	3	1
Alan Buwalda	3	3
Mikala Buwalda	3	3
Jerry Green	3	1
Robert Schuffert	2	2
Eddie Sewall	2	2
Sam Tumminello	2	2
Roger Urlwin	2	2
Bill Courtney	1	1
Brenda Courtney	1	1
Doug Felton	1	1
Roger Hunter	1	1
Margaret Phillips	1	1
Anthony Prince	1	1
Michael Roberts	1	1
Walt Tyszka	1	1
Don Wolfe	1	1



## Book Review by Diana Davidson

Joe McNally, 'The Moment It Clicks - Photography secrets from one of the world's top shooters' - Peach Pit Press, 2008

When I saw this book in the book store, it really caught my attention. The cover of the book - a shard of broken glass held against a dark, moody sky reflecting a well lit woman's face staring directly at the camera was arresting. When I saw that the author was Joe McNally, I was doubly interested. I've heard Joe speak at several Photoshop World conferences. He has a breezy, casual lecture style that is nonetheless extremely informative and I have always walked away having learned something new and important from him.

I opened the book and read his premise:

*"It's about the sheer joy of clicking the shutter...repeatedly! The sweet sound of the shutter and the explosion that occurs in your head and your heart when you make the shot. The deal is the shot, you know. You make the picture and you know something just froze solid in a shifting world. Something stabilized, for all time. You just hung your hat on a moment that otherwise would be gone forever, and now you can go back and take a look at that moment, be it amazing or ordinary, any time you want. It's about your eye in the camera as the light hits just right. It's about the slight turn of your subject's face that speaks the truth. It's about holding your breath as you shoot. It's about the nerves, the joy, and the terror of wondering if you got it.*

*And then dancing about, punching holes in the air when you know you did. It's about...the moment it clicks."*

Well, that certainly resonated with me so I bought his book and I'm glad I did. The book is very easy to read and although there is a great deal of technical information (lights used, f-stops, shutter speeds), most of that is tied to Joe's photographs that he is using to illustrate his *philosophy* of photography. So, it is wonderful that he is sharing the technical secrets to some of his best known photographs but more important, he is sharing his thoughts on why he made the decisions he did.

The book is divided into 4 chapters: 1. Shoot what you love, 2. Keep your eye in the camera, 3. The logic of light, and 4. There always something to bounce light off of. Within each chapter, there are one page sections with brief discussions of a key concept, such as 'if you want to be a better photographer, stand in front of more interesting stuff' or 'pay attention to the small stuff' or 'sometimes the best light happens after the light is gone'. Each key concept is also accompanied by a photograph and a paragraph on how to get this type of shot. One of my favorite key concepts was 'The only way to keep your heart

beating as a photographer is to shoot what you love' with Joe advising us that no matter how difficult it is to stay alive as a photographer, the "shoulda, couldas, and wouldas that befuddle our brains and creep into our dreams, always remember to make room to shoot what you love." The photograph illustrating this concept is that of a prima ballerina on pointe with wind-blown hair and gauzy dress, gazing at the camera with her hands clasped in a prayerful position next to her head. Joe said, 'the kid is 15 years old and I literally thought an angel had walked into the room'.

But, in addition to the main chapters, there are sections on lighting tips, camera bag, and grip and lighting gear. The book finishes with a section entitled, 'the bar is open' and is a collection of behind the scene stories of New York journalists, photographers, and editors. Wonderful, funny stories and illustrated by awesome photographs with sidebars such as "Never underestimate terror as a motivational tool" and "In my helter-skelter pursuit of big pictures, I ignored too many quieter, close-to-home moments. As I look back, I wish I had more of 'em".

Joe McNally is an assignment photographer who does primarily commercial and editorial

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2010 HPS Meeting Info
Apr 12– Building A Website by Walt Schumacher
April 26 - Wildlife Competition
May 10– Photoshop by Walt Tyszka
May 24 - Stairs Competition
May 31 –Members Forum
June 14– Girls Gone Wild by Diana Davidson, Joy Henderson, and Barbara Hitt
June 28 - Shadows Competition
July 12 - Panorama by Stan Prevost
July 26- Humor Competition
Aug 9 - Program TBD
Aug 23 - Nature In Motion Competition
Aug 30 – Members Forum
Sep 13– Program TBD
Sep 27- “Open” Competition
Oct 11– Program TBD
Oct 25– Abandoned & Discarded Competition
Nov 8– Stereo Photography by Lee Pratt
Nov 22– Faces Competition
Nov 29 – Members Forum
Dec 13– Best Of Year Dinner

## Member News

Lee Pratt won Best of Show, Second Best of Show, and one of four honorable mentions in the March 2010 Annual Southern Cross International Exhibition for stereo slides, held in Sydney, Australia.



### Information from HPS Mar 31 Meeting

Some members expressed interest in the Adobe Creative Suite® 5. The following link provides a glimpse of the latest CS upgrades:

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NH0aEp1oDOI&feature=player\\_embedded](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NH0aEp1oDOI&feature=player_embedded). If clicking on the link doesn't work, please copy and paste in your browser.

The Global Online Launch Event is scheduled for Monday, April 12, 8:00 a.m., PDT. For more information go to <http://cs5launch.adobe.com/?trackingid=FDKYT>



## Book Review (Continued from page 6)

work. His work has graced the pages of *Sports Illustrated*, *Time*, and *National Geographic*, among others. What I like most about 'The Moment It Clicks' is that it combines invaluable educational advice, no-nonsense insights, and the secrets of a top-notch professional photographer with a gallery of stunning images. Truly, this book offers the best of both types of photography books. I recommend this book highly. If anyone would like to borrow my copy, they are welcome to do so but you can't keep it for too long, because I refer to it frequently!

HUNTSVILLE  
PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY  
Von Braun Civic Center  
700 Monroe St  
Huntsville AL 35801

HPS website:  
[huntsvillephotographicsociety.org](http://huntsvillephotographicsociety.org)



A member organization of PSA and The Arts Council



### 2010 Officers of Huntsville Photographic Society

President	Rick Kress	(256) 890-0722	<a href="mailto:rgkress@knology.net">rgkress@knology.net</a>
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Assistant to the VP Of Competitions	Diana Davidson	(256)564-7570	<a href="mailto:lyn@davidson.net">lyn@davidson.net</a>
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PSA Representative	Lee Pratt	(256) 325-1854	<a href="mailto:leepratt@knology.net">leepratt@knology.net</a>
Webmaster	Walt Schumacher	(256) 536-1284	<a href="mailto:waltshoe@comcast.net">waltshoe@comcast.net</a>

Website for Digital Competition results: [www.HSPPhotos.smugmug.com](http://www.HSPPhotos.smugmug.com)

#### Meeting Information:

HPS meets the second and fourth Mondays of the month, 7:00 p.m., at the Huntsville/Madison County Public Library-Main Branch, 915 Monroe St.

Annual Membership Dues: \$20.00 due Jan 1st (\$18.00 if renewal paid before start of the Calendar year).

Membership required to submit entries in monthly competitions.

