



JANUARY PROGRAM: On Jan.14 Barbara Staggs presented Part One of her Basic Photographic Composition Class. Using slides to illustrate, Barbara demonstrated several ways to insure that an image has a strong center of interest. Her handout is included in the newsletter. The strong attendance shown at this meeting is evidence that everyone knows that good composition is one of the main essentials to creating a dynamic image. Barbara encouraged members and guests to shoot a roll of slide film using the principles they learned and bring them to the February meeting for anonymous critique.

FEBRUARY PROGRAM: Barbara Staggs will present the final part of her Basic Composition Class. Topics will include "Getting Depth into a Photo" and "Framing as a Compositional Tool". Also at this meeting attendees are encouraged to bring in slides to be reviewed for effective composition by three Master Photographers of HPS. If you plan to have your slides reviewed please choose ten and put your initials on them to make it easier for you to retrieve them later. The owners of the slides will not be revealed unless permission is given. If you need your slides developed before the meeting on Feb. 11 you may turn them into Sutherland's Photo on Whitesburg Dr. by 4:00 Fri. afternoon and pick them up on Mon. after 9:00 a.m.

JANUARY'S COMPETITION RESULTS

| | B&W | Color | Slides |
|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| 1 st | Barry Jackson | Heidi Chitwood | Bill Haynes |
| 2 nd | Barry Jackson | Lowell Skidmore | Brenda Kinnane |
| 3 rd | Brenda Kinnane | Barbara Staggs | Rodney Durrett |
| HM | Harry Kinnane | Emily Saile | Elsabe Webster |
| HM | Elsabe Webster | Doug Felton | Barbara Staggs |
| HM | | Emily Saile | Barbara Staggs |
| HM | | David Blue | Rodney Durrett |
| HM | | | Diehl Martin |

MEMBER NEWS

-- **Patricia Engle Cole**, local photographer and Huntsville Photographic Society member has been selected for the Tennessee Valley Art Association's "Photography 2002". Her three pieces are "Monarch Domain", "Twilight Moment" and "Red Lilies". The exhibition, at The Tennessee Valley Art Center located at 511 N. Water Street, Tusculumbia, Alabama, begins February 10th and ends March 24th. The Center's hours: Monday - Friday 9 A.M - 5 P.M and Sunday 2 P.M - 4 P.M., closed Saturday. www.tvac.riverartists.com

-- **Monica Martin** had 2 photos accepted in the juried art show Winterfest 2000. Old Homestead #2 received Honorable Mention. This is a juried show and competition with entries from several states. Winterfest 2000 will be on view until February 16, at the

Remember to pay your 2002 Dues

Next Meeting: February 11, 2002

Topic: Basic PhotoComposition Part 2 by Barbara Staggs

Next Competition: February 25, 2002

Topic: Children (moods of)

February Scheduled Judge: Farley Vaughn (Portrait/Wedding Photographer)

The Huntsville Photographic Society meets at 7 PM on the second and fourth Mondays of each month in the Huntsville Public Library. Visitors are welcome.

Please contact David or Carol Blue with news, information, or announcements. (256) 232-7526, or by email at: dcbblue@hiwaay.net

Guntersville Museum and Cultural Center, corner of O'Brig and DeBow Street in Guntersville. (Tue-Fri 10-4; Sat/Sun 1-4)

--**Monica Martin** has also been accepted into a curated virtual art show, The Sight 6. This is her third year to be accepted. Included are photographers from all over the world, and curated by Mark Sink of Gallery Sink, Denver CO. See it on the web (only) at www.thesight.com

--**Lee Pratt** specializes in stereo (3-D) photography, both slides and prints. He enters about 20 stereo exhibitions a year. In January, he had 16 slides and prints accepted for local exhibitions in Maryland, Delaware, Hollywood, and Oakland, California. These include a Best of Show, a Silver Medal, a 6th Place, and an Honorable Mention. He also earned an Honorable Mention for a slide in the club competition at the January meeting of the Stereo Club of Southern California.

-- **Announcement from Tom and Pat Cory:** Tom is curating a photography exhibit entitled 'Elements of Excitement' at The Creative Arts Guild at Dalton, Georgia. The exhibit will run from March 4 until April 26 with an opening reception on Friday, March 8, from 5 until 8. The exhibit will feature 10 photographers who differ in their approach to photography both in subject matter and in the equipment they use. The photographers who are included in the exhibit include Tom Cory, Valerie Fleming, Kippy Goldfarb, **Barry Jackson**, Lisa Norris, Muril Robertson, Cella Neapolitan, Chuck Summers, Lane Brown Taylor, and Jim Thurston.

IN MEMORIUM

We have learned of the untimely death of long-time HPS member **Gene George** on Jan. 20. Gene had presented many programs to HPS in the past. He had worked for many years for the Chrysler

Corporation here in Huntsville. He was an expert on lenses and had an extensive collection of photographic memorabilia. He was also involved in antique car restoration and had an extensive collection of those. In recent years, he and his wife Linda had moved to Athens from Huntsville.

FROM THE PRESIDENTS--Thanks to Barbara Staggs for presenting an excellent program on composition. Her tips are published at the end of the newsletter. You should think about them in every picture that you take. The more you use them, the better your photography will become. Don't forget to bring your slides (up to 10), which will be critiqued anonymously at Monday's meeting. This program is a great learning opportunity.--**David**
-- The work shown for abstract was very impressive. I think we had close to 150 entries. The quality was excellent. Way to go! I thought the post-competition discussion/critique/sharing session went well considering it was our first time. The format may change as we see the idea into action. I think we can make it fit any amount of time or level of participation. This is just one more chance to share our interest, knowledge, and experience. We do need to wind things up by 8:50 so we can get out of the library by 9:00. See you at the competition--**Barry**

FROM THE OTHER VP/PROGRAM CHAIRMAN—Don't forget Barbara Staggs February Basic Composition Pt. 2. Changes to our program lineup: In March nature photographer Harold Stinnette will be our guest speaker (topic TBA). In April members will tell about the pros and cons of photo workshops they have attended and some of the tips they have learned. In May Bill Gates will bring us a program about photographing butterflies and also show us interesting places to photograph on the refuge--**Carol**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

-- Wednesday, Feb. 13, 12-1PM, Main Library Auditorium
Program: A **slide presentation** will be **given by the North Alabama Railroad Museum** on the impact of the railroads on Huntsville.

--**Don't forget Trip to Yellowstone National Park: Dave Dieter** is arranging a winter trip to Yellowstone National Park for February 20-27, 2002. Dave can be contacted at his work number (532-4436) or by email at: daved@htimes.com.

--**Don't forget the Intensive Nature Photography Workshop** by professional nature photographers Tom & Pat Cory and Harold Stinnette on 2/9/2002. You will find more information about this workshop or their other Workshops on the Cory's webpage at <http://hometown.aol.com/tompatcory> or contact them at tompatcory@aol.com or give them a call at 423-886-1004.

--Watch this spot for details on the **upcoming Harold Stinnette Nature Photography Workshop** at Fall Creek Falls State Park (TN) in May 2001 423-452-0735 or stinnettephot@aol.com.

--**"Photographing Children" seminar** Sun. Feb. 17, 2002 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Cost: \$50 per person (includes light lunch)
Location: Wilson Studio, 6503-D Hixson Pike. Hixson, TN 37343
Ernie and Lorraine Johnson of Franklin, TN will present "Photographing Children". Our speakers have over 53 years of photography experience between them, have held numerous offices in both local and state professional organizations, and have received many print awards, including 9 Fuji Masterpiece and 14 Kodak Gallery Awards. Ernie and Lorraine are well known for their elegant wedding photography as well as their beautiful portraiture of children. See how they use reflectors and natural lighting, hear about their garden studio, and see a live model demonstration. Watch how they capture the warmth and true personalities of their subjects. Experience their dedication and love

of their craft! To register, or for more information, please contact Jeannie Keys at: jeanniekeys@home.com or call 423.886.3507.

PHOTOGRAPHERS WANTED:

1--My name is Karen Johnson and I live in Scottsboro. For the last 6 years or so, I have been the Chairperson for a **national Photo Contest** in connection with the **Cardigan Welsh Corgi** National Specialty dog show. In case you've never heard of them, Cardigans are short little dogs, sort of like German shepherds with no legs! Anyway, I have only been in Alabama for a couple of years, and I find myself in need of some **judges for this years contest**. I was wondering if your club, or some members would like to judge the photos? Last year we had 95 entries. Our National Specialty is the second week of May. Dealines for photo entries is May 1st. Any chance that you're group might be interested in judging? Feel free to contact me at ironhill@charter.net, or at (256)259-2164.

2--Wanted wedding photographer ... I was wondering if there are any members of this organization who would be interested in wedding photography. I am on a somewhat limited budget but still feel that photography is the most important element to me. I would like to use a very creative photographer if possible. I was wondering if there are any semi-professional members or members who are just beginning a wedding photography business or possibly a student interested in beginning a portfolio in your organization. The wedding will be May 4, outdoors at Annabella, a antebellum stylehouse, at 5:00. (the house is 3 miles off of the N. Mem. Parkway on Winchester Rd) Thank you ... Christy King, 931-937-8367, Christy_k@hotmail.com

3--Enviornmental: I am a photographer that is active in environmental pursuits. One of the groups I work with, FORALA - Friends of Rural Alabama. FORALA has a contract with the EPA to photograph impaired stream, streams that are listed There are many of these streams in the North Alabama area.

We have been photographing the streams and the sources of their pollution using both full color and infrared film. The pictures are taken from a small plane (Cessna 172 or 182). The Civil Air Patrol is furnishing the planes and pilots. FORALA pays for the plane and all of the expenses for film and processing. Under some circumstances FORALA will also furnish camera equipment. All of the photography is to be done by volunteer photographers. Volunteers must be a member of the Civil Air Patrol and their membership dues will be paid by FORALA.

We need photographers in the North Alabama area. I would like to talk to your group about the project and some other environmental photography opportunities.

Please contact me by email or at 205-913-6786 to learn more about our project and what your members might be able to accomplish. Ed Tyler Vice President - LMLLPA (Logan Martin Lake Protection Association)

4---- ... I am helping to organize and promote a new group in Alabama and surrounding areas. SEMPA, South Eastern Models and Photographers Association. Since August local photographers have set up two very successful get togethers at Little River Canyon and Green Mountain ... Feb 8-10 we are having a convention at the Radisson Hotel in southeast Huntsville. Saturday the 9th will be a day full of seminars for both models and photographers. Rooms are set up saturday and sunday for photo shoots as well as locations around the hotel. If this sounds like something you ... might be interested in please check out the groups website www.modelshoot.itgo.com If you have any additional questions feel free to email me (Donald E. Bates, Jr, DBatesPhotography@home.com, Huntsville, AL) at dbatesphoto@aol.com

CLASSIFIED ADS:

--**Epson Photo EX (wide carriage) and Epson Photo 700 (standard carriage)** Includes ADOBE PHOTOSHOP LE (V4) and other photo software. Also includes 5 black ink cartridges and 1 color cartridge (over \$100 value). EX is noisy but has printed award-winning photos. 700 is rebuilt, purchased to fill gap when EX was in shop 18 months

ago but only used about a month. \$200.00 Contact David or Carol Blue, dcblue@hiwaay.net 256-232-7526

NEWSLETTERS BY EMAIL: If you would like to receive your newsletter by email (in Word97 format or text) send Carol Blue an email at dcblue@hiwaay.net.

SOUTHERLAND’S SPECIALS OF THE MONTH

Be sure to visit Southerland’s Photo for all your photography needs. 2357 Whitesburg Dr. Huntsville

OTHER AREA MEETINGS:

- The Huntsville Nature Photography Society meets on the 3rd Monday of each month in the Charles Stone Agricultural Building on Cook Avenue at 7 PM.
- The Tennessee Valley Audubon Society meets at 7PM on the 3rd Tuesday of each month in the Huntsville Public Library.

COMPETITION TOPICS 2002

| <u>Month</u> | <u>Topic</u> | <u>Topic</u> | <u>Month</u> | <u>Month</u> | <u>Topic</u> |
|--------------|---------------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|------------------|
| Feb '02 | Children (moods of) | June '02 | People at Work | Oct '02 | Black |
| Mar '02 | Shoes | July '02 | Glass Items | Nov '02 | Out of Place |
| Apr '02 | Open | Aug '02 | Americana | Dec '02 | Best of the Year |
| May '02 | Available Light | Sep '02 | Open | Jan '03 | Water |

2002 OFFICERS

| <u>Office</u> | <u>Name</u> | <u>Phone</u> | <u>Email</u> |
|-----------------------|--------------------|----------------|--|
| President | Barry Jackson | (931) 762-5851 | barryj@usit.net |
| | David Blue | (256) 232-7526 | dcblue@hiwaay.net |
| VP & Program Chair | Barbara Staggs | (256) 882-0933 | staggwh@ro.com |
| | Carol Blue | (256) 232-7526 | dcblue@hiwaay.net |
| Competition Secretary | Diehl Martin | (256) 882-1923 | dhmartin@ieec.org |
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| Publicity | Sam Tumminello | (256) 534-1480 | tumminello@ppg.com |
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| PSA Representative | Lee Pratt | (256) 325-1854 | leepratt@knology.net |

Visit the HPS Web site at <http://home.hiwaay.net/~puon/hps>

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BASIC PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPOSITION

By Barbara Staggs

Strong center of interest

What caught your attention? Try to show that to the viewer. Eliminate everything that’s not necessary to enhance your idea. There are several ways to emphasize your center of interest.

1. Rule of thirds

Place your center of interest at one of the intersections of a tic tac toe pattern. You can balance it with a smaller, farther away, or less important subject at the other intersections. However do not have empty, wasted space in your frame or any distracting elements that do not contribute to your central theme.

Use the rule of thirds for horizon line placement. You usually don’t want horizons in the middle. Only include lots of sky if it’s interesting or important to the scene. If it’s white minimize or exclude it.

2. Limit depth of field

You can use a large aperture, e.g. f/4 or f/5.6, to eliminate or blur distracting elements in the background. The farther away the subject is from the background the more the background will blur.

3. Use color

Strong or contrasting color makes the subject stand out.

4. Diagonals

Diagonals make your image more dynamic. Buildings shot on the diagonal usually look better than when shot straight on from the front.

Curves and diagonals can lead the eye through the picture.

A leading line coming from the bottom of the frame draws the eye into the photo and to the center of interest.

February Meeting will include:

Getting depth into a photo

Plan a visual route through the picture. Give perspective by placing elements in the foreground, middle and background. Try a vertical alignment and a wide-angle lens. All should be sharply in focus. You need good depth of field.

Framing as a compositional tool

Use it to create an illusion of depth, echo the subject’s main form, obscure distractions and dull areas or add interest to commonplace subjects.

COMMON SUBJECT MATTER NEEDS ABOVE AVERAGE TREATMENT IN LIGHTING AND COMPOSITION.