

November 2008

Volume 52, Issue 11

## November Program-Homework

*Note: the Program meeting location has moved. Please see bottom of page.*

There were several instructional programs earlier in the year that provided the opportunity to improve photography skills. The links for some of the program assignments are below. Submissions were due to the Digital Secretary by 3 Nov 2008.

HPS programs to use for your "Homework":

1. Websites:

Muril's Program "It's All About the Light" Homework:

<http://www.finelightimages.com/TheLight.ppt> or <http://www.murilrobertson.com/TheLight.pdf>

Stan Prevost's Program "Focus on Exposure":

<http://photo.sprevost.net/Downloads/FocusOnExposure.htm>

2. Barbara Stagg's program, BASIC PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPOSITION.

Strong center or point of interest (strong subject)

What are you trying to show? Identify your main subject. Then look at

*(Continued on page 2)*

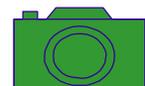
## Alternate Meeting Location for Nov 10 Program Meeting

The Library will be closing early Monday due to the Veteran's holiday on Tuesday. The meeting has been moved to First Baptist Church, 600 Governors Drive, Room 343 (3rd floor). The church is located just east of the intersection of Governors and Monroe St. You may enter the parking lot from St. Clair which is the street between the Library and the church.

You must enter the building through the East entrance (car overhang) which faces Huntsville Hospital. Entry is not allowed in the front or back at night. There will be an HPS member at the door. There are several other organizations meeting Monday evening.

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- Special points of interest:**
- Open HPS Board Positions for 2009
  - End of Yr Dinner
  - Army Photo Contest.
  - New Photo Editing Group.





New HPS Logo –Due to the number of entries, the HPS Board will be narrowing down the choices and those will be printed in the December newsletter for membership vote.

## Homework *(Continued from page 1)*

everything else in your viewfinder. ELIMINATE everything that's not necessary to enhance your idea. There are several ways to emphasize your center of interest:

### a. Rule of Thirds

Decide on your main subject and place it at one of the intersections of a tic tac toe pattern. This is a general rule and gets the subject off center. When shooting portraits of animals or people, consider the eyes as the main subject, and keep them out of the center of the picture. The eyes should be the sharpest element. Don't place the horizon in the middle unless it's a reflection.

### b. Simple Backgrounds

1. If you are shooting one main subject such as a flower or a person, and the background is not important or doesn't add to the subject, simplify it. Move yourself or your subject to have a less distracting background. Watch for distracting lines or colors brighter than the subject. Eliminate distracting elements such as stray tree branches. The farther away the subject is from the background the more the background will blur to reduce distracting elements. You can use your zoom or macro on your subject. It will produce a more blurred background.

2. If you have an SLR or an advanced point and shoot you can use a large aperture, e.g.  $f/2.8$ ,  $f/4$  or  $f/5.6$  or the largest available (but smallest number) to eliminate or blur distracting elements in the background. You will get less of a blurred background using basic digital point and shoot cameras. Try using the portrait mode. Usually a flash will darken and simplify the elements in the background.

### C. Use color

Strong or contrasting color makes the subject stand out. Your subject should usually be the brightest spot or most colorful in the frame. Look around the edges and eliminate bright or light spots.

### Other hints for better composition.

Move in close to fill your viewfinder with the subject. Many times verticals work best for pictures of people or any other subject that is taller than wider. Choose the best viewpoint for your pictures. Move up, down, in, out, to eliminate everything that doesn't add to the picture. Use an unusual camera angle. Take 5 or 6 shots of the same subject varying your angle. Give people, animals or moving objects room to move in the frame. They should be looking into it rather than out. Shoot up to make your subject look larger, down to make it smaller.

### Line: one of the strongest elements in design.

Putting your subject on the diagonal will breathe life into an otherwise static composition. S curves and diagonals can lead your eye through the picture. Allow a leading line to come up from the bottom of the frame to draw the eye into the photo and to the center of interest, preferably from left bottom, but usually not the exact corner.

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## The President's Column *by Andrea Shetley*

Autumn greetings!

It looks like it's going to be a colorful fall this year, so I hope everyone is keeping an eye on their favorite location to capture the changing season. Remember to record the details, such as leaf veins and frost on grass, in addition to colorful landscapes.

Our October program was the annual presentation of the results of the PSA Stereo (3-D) Sequence Competition compiled by Lee Pratt. We had an excellent attendance, despite the threat of possibly having to leave the Library early due to electrical problems. Fortunately, we were able to get through the entire show without any problems. This year we had a few youngsters in attendance who especially enjoyed the program.

Be sure to join in and be part of the November program. It will be a showing of HPS members' "homework assignments" from programs we had earlier this year. Bring in your images to share showing techniques you tried after seeing one or

more of our technical presentations.

Also, due to the Library closing early on our scheduled November 10 meeting, our meeting will be held at the First Baptist Church across the street from the Library.

The October competition of Water/Liquid drew a large number of entries. Congratulations to all for an impressive assortment of images. Our last competition this year will be "Celebrate America." Remember to also bring in all of your winning entries from this year to compete in the year end competition.

We are looking to fill two HPS Board positions for 2009: President and Programs VP. If you are interested in either position, please contact a Board member ASAP.

We will be revising our competition rules for 2009. Please send your suggestions to Andrea Shetley for incorporation into the proposed changes before November 30. We will vote in December on the new rules.

I hope everyone has a safe and happy Thanksgiving.

## November Judge

Muril is a freelance photographer who enjoys fine art and nature photography. He taught mathematics at Auburn University for several years and has also taught nature photography for UAH Continuing Education for a few years. Muril works full-time as an applied mathematician.

His photography has appeared in National Wildlife's Nature's Best Magazine, American Photo, Photo World Magazine of China, Ladies Home Journal, the Washington Post, Hometown Press Magazine, Tennessee Wildlife, Alabama Conservation, and Alabama

Magazine, as well as art galleries, brochures, catalogues, etc. He had an exhibit of his panoramic landscapes in Café Baba at the Huntsville Museum of Art in early 2007. He has won numerous local, national, and international awards. These include a second prize in the 1994 Kodak sponsored Robert Huntzinger Photo Contest. He was the featured U. S. photographer in *Photo World Magazine of China*, in 1990; with a photo spread of his work featured on the magazine's center two pages. This issue featured one photographer from each of several countries around the world.

**October Competition Results**  
**Subject - Water/Liquid**

	<b>Color Prints</b>	<b>Digital</b>
<b>1st</b>	Sam Fara	Barbara Staggs
<b>2nd</b>	Barbara Hitt	Sam Tuminello
<b>3rd</b>	Willie Staggs	Henry Smith
<b>HM</b>	Joy Henderson	Diana Davidson
<b>HM</b>	Barbara Hitt	Tom Bryant
<b>HM</b>	Janet Schumacher	Peter Ashley
<b>HM</b>	Doug Felton	Henry Smith
<b>HM</b>	Barbara Hitt	Anthony Prince
	55 entries	86 entries

	<b>B/W Prints</b>	<b>Slides</b>
<b>1st</b>	Barbara Hitt	David Blue
<b>2nd</b>	Martha Teal	Sam Fara
<b>3rd</b>	David Blue	Lee Pratt
<b>HM</b>	Barbara Hitt	Bill Gates
<b>HM</b>	Barbara Hitt	Bill Gates
<b>HM</b>		Bill Gates
	24 entries	36 entries

<b>Rank</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Total</b>	
		<b>Points</b>	<b>Wins</b>
1	Hitt, Barbara	67	25
2	Bennett, Don	31	10
2	Henderson, Joy	31	12
4	Davidson, Diana Lyn	30	12
4	Fara, Sam	30	10
4	Saile, Emily	30	12
7	Smith, Henry	29	17
7	Staggs, Barbara	29	10
9	Montgomery, Barbara	27	12
9	Gates, William	27	13

<b>Rank</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Total</b>	
		<b>Points</b>	<b>Wins</b>
11	Pratt, Lee	25	8
12	Teal, Martha	22	8
13	Blue, David	19	9
14	Bryant, Tom	16	7
14	Little, Daniel	16	6
14	Schuffert, Robert	16	5
17	Gilbert, Virginia	15	4
17	Schumacher, Walt	15	6
19	Montgomery, Alan	13	6
20	McAllister, Guy	11	3
20	Prince, Anthony	11	6
20	Reddy, Geri	11	5
23	Tumminello, Sam	10	4
24	Blue, Carol	9	6
24	Brechbill, Shawn	9	2
26	McGuinness, Dave	8	5
27	Gardner, Pat	7	2
27	Green, Jerry	7	5
27	High, Ernie	7	3
27	Hughes, Beverly	7	4
31	Kress, Rick	6	3
31	Snoddy, Bill	6	3
31	Wolfe, Don	6	2
34	Staggs, William	5	3
35	Schumacher, Janet	4	4
35	Soracco, Paul	4	4
37	Ashley, Peter	3	3
38	Courtney, Bill	2	2
38	Felton, Doug	2	2
38	Tyler, Dorinda	2	2
41	Boyd, Joe	1	1
41	Buwalda, Alan	1	1
41	Callahan, Sharon	1	1
41	Clary, Richard	1	1
41	Courtney, Brenda	1	1
41	Fox, Bobby	1	1
41	Shetley, Andrea	1	1
41	Tumminello, Pat	1	1

# First Place Winners



First Place Slide by  
David Blue

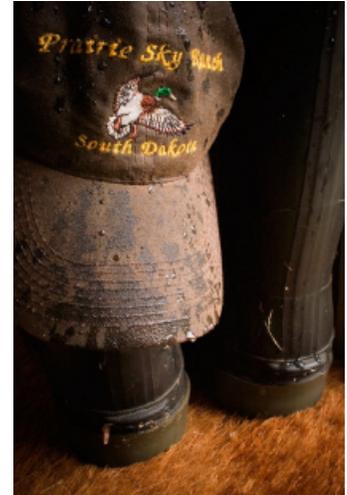


First Place Digital by  
Barbara Staggs



First Place B&W Print by  
Barbara Hitt

First Place Color  
Print by Sam Fara



## Reminder!

Attention all 2008 winners (1st, 2nd, 3rd, and HM), in order to be judged for the Best of Year competition, all winning entries in the prints and slide categories need to be turned into Sharon Callahan or Joy Henderson at one of the November meetings.

## Costco Sponsorship

Thank you, Costco, for sponsoring HPS monthly competitions! Prizes are awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners in each category. 1st place receives either a Panorama "12 x 36" or "12 x 24", 2nd place- "12 x 18", and 3rd place- "8 x 12". Prizes must be redeemed within 30 days or before the next month's competition (whichever comes first). Members should come to Costco photo lab to claim the prize.

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

## 2008 NATIONAL DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

Enter your favorite digital images to compete against the best photographers in the Army. Entry deadline is 7 Dec 08.

Categories: People, Place, Object, Military Life, Experimental, and "Theme" category- Animal Friends

Divisions: Active Duty and Civilians

Classes: Color& Monochrome

How to Submit: Access the contest website, complete profile, and upload your photos. Submission Period: 7 Oct. - 7 Dec. at <https://artscrafts.fmwrc.army.mil>

Contest information and assistance is available at Redstone Arsenal Arts and Crafts Center, Building 3615 Vincent Dr., Redstone Arsenal, AL. (256) 876-7951 or [redstone-mwr.art@conus.army.mil](mailto:redstone-mwr.art@conus.army.mil) or [gina.hurst@us.army.mil](mailto:gina.hurst@us.army.mil)

If you are not Army but are an eligible MWR patron, you must get a guest AKO account through your local Arts & Crafts Center or an Active Duty Army, Guard or DAC Civilian sponsor.

HPS disclaimer: HPS does not endorse, but only relays information that may be of interest to club members. It is members responsibility to review all the rules and regulations of contests.

### New Photo Editing Group *by Rick Kress*

#### Interested in comparing your photo editing techniques to others?

If yes, read on. I'm establishing a photo editing group for this exact purpose. There will be no judging or points or prizes. The idea is that everyone starts with the same image and improves it to the best of their ability.

All HPS members are eligible to participate. Participants will be asked to submit one of their own images to start with. I will select from this pool of "Starting Images". Once all images have been used, I'll request another batch from the group.

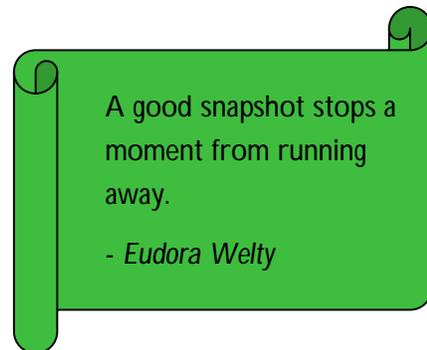
All participants will start with the same image . I will use

## End Of Year Awards Dinner

The End of Year dinner will be Dec 8th at 6:00 p.m. Dinner will be provided by Tony's Little Italy, and includes chicken parmesan and lasagna, with dessert from Costco. Tickets are \$8.00 and may be purchased from Dave McGuiness, HPS Treasurer, at either of the November meetings. The awards program will begin at 7:00.

## Member News

David Blue will have a photo in the WAFF (channel 48) 2009 calendar. The calendars are usually available in early to mid December. They will be free to the public as long as they last. Watch 48 or check their website for details on this year's locations.



an email list to notify people when a new starting image is available. They will download the image from the web, modify it, resize it, and email it to me . I will post all responses to our digital competition website, [www.HPSphotos.smugmug.com](http://www.HPSphotos.smugmug.com), along with the original image.

There are just a few more details to be finalized. Look for complete guidelines in a future newsletter.

# NOVEMBER 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10 HPS Program - Homework	11	12	13 ☉	14	15
16	17 Digital Pics Due	18	19	20	21	22
23	24 HPS Competition: Celebrate America	25	26	27 ●	28	29
30						

Phases of the moon - 27th: New Moon 13th: Full Moon

## Open HPS Board Positions for 2009

If you have wanted to get more involved in HPS, now is your chance. Experience not required. At the end of the year Andrea Shetley is resigning as President and Jerry Green is resigning as VP of Programs. For more information on either position, contact Andrea at [alshetley@hotmail.com](mailto:alshetley@hotmail.com) or Jerry Green at [gofish80@comcast.net](mailto:gofish80@comcast.net), or talk with any of the other board members.

### Submission Deadline for December Newsletter

Please send articles/info by Friday, Nov 28th, to [hpsnewsletter@yahoo.com](mailto:hpsnewsletter@yahoo.com).

### 2008 Meetings

Nov 10 – “Homework” - volunteer HPS members

Nov 24 – Celebrate America Competition

Dec 8 - Best of Year Program

Jan 26, 2009 – Sunrise/Sunset Competition

### For Sale

Canon EOS 30D (8.2MP): \$500  
 Canon EOS 40D (10.1MP): \$750  
 Canon EOS 5D (12.8MP full frame): \$1750  
 Excellent condition and lightly used.

Contact Don Wolfe at 881-7511 or [dwolfe@knology.net](mailto:dwolfe@knology.net)

## Huntsville Photographic Society

Von Braun Civic Center  
700 Monroe St  
Huntsville AL 35801



A member organization of P.S.A. and the Arts Council



See other winners from October competition, p. 5.

### 2008 Officers of Huntsville Photographic Society

President	Andrea Shetley	(931) 438-9339	<a href="mailto:alshetley@hotmail.com">alshetley@hotmail.com</a>
VP of Competitions	Sharon Tucker	(256) 852-8808	<a href="mailto:skmcallahan@bellsouth.net">skmcallahan@bellsouth.net</a>
Digital Competition	Rick Kress	(256) 890-0722	<a href="mailto:rgkress@knology.net">rgkress@knology.net</a>
VP of Programs	Jerry Green	(256) 536-9712	<a href="mailto:gofish80@comcast.net">gofish80@comcast.net</a>
VP of Activities	Robert Schuffert	(256) 881-1354	<a href="mailto:reschuff@knology.net">reschuff@knology.net</a>
Publicity	Sam Tumminello	(256) 534-1480	<a href="mailto:samjt@knology.net">samjt@knology.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)

Club Website: [www.huntsvillephotographicsociety.org](http://www.huntsvillephotographicsociety.org)

#### Meeting Information:

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

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.**