

Meeting Minutes

Date: August 19, 2020

By: Jean Davids, Secretary

The meeting started just after 7:00 pm and was presided over by secretary, Jean Davids. We had 8 members in attendance. This was our 2nd meeting since February 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. It was great to see everyone again. I know of two members who simply forgot the meeting was that night. Guess we all got out of the habit of coming to meetings...

The assignment for the night was "Shooting on the Fly". We had 4 members who shared their photos. Thanks to all of you for that. There were some great images.

The first topic for the night was **Panoramic Photography**. Jean Davids shared a video by Hudson Henry – "[Approaching the Scene 023: Creating Panoramas, Lago Torre](#)", Unfortunately, we all found it rather lacking and it raised a question related to his mention of parallax. So, Jean found this additional video that she sent out in an email to all members that would better address setup for doing panoramic photos. It is called "[How to photograph Panoramas - Complete guide](#)" by Gary Gough. Jean tried to explain some of the concepts and other members added in what they have attempted to do. Jean also promised to add in further explanation of the parallax effect in panoramic photography. Here is a link to "[Panoramic Photography No Parallax - Find the Nodal Point - Panorama From Shoot to Edit in Lightroom](#)" by **OliH Photography**. I found it very good. In addition, he demonstrates how to stitch it together in Lightroom. He explains many of the things that I mentioned in the meeting so I won't repeat them here. The one thing that Hudson Henry mentions is that he uses the grid view for his camera. That means that when you look through the viewfinder on your LCD screen, you will see the grid representing the rule of thirds. This helps you keep your horizon line even as you shoot. It is not as necessary when using the nodal slider or other tools to control parallax. Generally speaking he keeps the horizon line on one of the 2 horizontal lines but as always, rules are made to be broken for different scenes. I found one more video titled "[Shoot Multi-Row Panorama & how to avoid Parallax](#)" by **OliH Photography**. In this he talks about lenses to use and what things to have in mind. He always shoots in manual and vertically and never horizontally. He says to expose to the brightest area of the scene. It is also very important to level the tripod to insure the image is level as well. You won't lose as much of the image to cropping as you will if it is level. One of our members mentioned cropping an image as a pano versus combining images into a pano. He explains the difference in pixels and details available to you in your image.

Here's a link to what a nodal slider is and finding them on Amazon.

https://www.amazon.com/s?k=nodal+slider&ref=nb_sb_noss_1. He uses the Really Right Stuff brand which is more expensive but also good quality. Myself, I go for adequate. Your choice because I am not advocating for any particular brand.

Our next topic was **Abstract Fireworks Photography** presented by Bob Somerville. As background information for you all, Bob uses a technique that was shown to us several years ago now by former member Carol Heesen. I looked for a link to how to do this technique and found a link on Nikon's website related to "Taking Pictures of Fireworks" by Lindsay Silverman. In it they present a small section called "[Card trick for maximum camera steadiness](#)". This is the technique that Carol taught us

and that Bob uses. For those who missed this meeting, I am providing a link to a video that demonstrates some of these techniques. "[Creative Tips for Explosive Fireworks Photography](#)" by NZ Photo School. I am also detailing some of the tips that Bob gave us for how he does it. Bob shoots with a tripod and an ISO of 200, uses aperture of F4, white balance of Sunny, and Bulb for shutter speed. He generally shoots to start with out of focus and then focuses in to Infinity setting for focus. He uses a zip tie attached around the focus ring of his lens to provide a convenient handle for turning the focus ring quickly to where he wants it. He also uses a tripod remote to control the exposure time. For editing, he does cropping and adds lots of sharpness. Sometimes he adjusts the color as well. He shared a series of photos that he took of fireworks in Monticello, Big Lake and Elk River this year. Great presentation Bob! Thanks for sharing.

Possible schedule for remainder of the year.

2020 Upcoming Agenda

September 16

- Assignment: Summer or - Edited panoramic photo
- Topic: Editing/Assembling Panoramic photos if needed Q&A/Demo??

October 21

- Assignment: Edited panoramic photo or Fall photo.
- Topic: To be determined

November 18

- Assignment: To be determined
- Topic: Legalities of Photography

December 16

- Assignment: To be determined
- Topic: Holiday gathering to include family (Covid allowing)