

inFocus

Newsletter of the Westchester Photographic Society

February 2023



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Everything Old Is New Again

Many of us got our start in photography with film cameras. 35mm film cameras, whether SLR, rangefinder, or compact point-and-shoots were very common. Medium format and even larger sheet film cameras were also around. Then digital cameras appeared on the scene and over time most of us switched to digital photography, whether point-and-shoot or DSLR, followed by mirrorless digital cameras, etc. Add in the ubiquitous phone camera, and as a result film photography has become a rarity.

Several years ago there was a resurgence in film photography. It seemed the younger generation of photographers got interested in it. Old cameras came out of storage, and got bought and sold online on auction sites and used camera sites. YouTube, Instagram, and other places were flooded with film photography related content, from scanned photos to reviews of old cameras, photography techniques, darkroom techniques both for developing film and printing photos, scanning techniques to turn film photos into jpeg files, etc. Film photography was popular again.

But in recent times, the price of film has gone up tremendously; some popular film stocks have been discontinued or are hard to find. Film photographers who were shooting on compact point-and-shoot cameras have now rediscovered compact digital point-and-shoot cameras. Old cameras from the early 2000s are making a comeback. They're being referred to as "digicams" and there are new communities popping up online for digicam enthusiasts who are producing "lo-fi" photos that resemble snapshots produced by compact film cameras.

If you have an old Canon PowerShot or Nikon Coolpix, or similar camera from the early 2000s, you too can try your hand at digicam photography to produce that vintage look. I have many older cameras that are still in working order and I like to use them occasionally, even before digicams became a thing.



Some of my older digicams, and a photo taken with the oldest of them, a 2-megapixel Canon PowerShot A200 from 2002.

Till next time, may you always see beauty in your viewfinder.

Fuat Baran, *President*

COVER PHOTO

GOING FISHING

By *Richard Micklish*

I took this shot about 15 years ago at the Amawalk Reservoir in Westchester County. On this day walking on ice was no problem. When I saw this person going ice fishing I could not resist taking his picture. I think the way he carried his tools made the shot.



inFocus

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Dick Budnik, Web Edition

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newsletter: infocus@wpsphoto.org
www.wpsphoto.org

Westchester Photographic Society
Meets 12 months a year, on Friday evenings at 7:30 pm (excepting school holidays). **Meetings are virtual now until further notice. Start time is 7:30 pm.**



Member of



FRIDAY EVENING PROGRAMS

February

- 3 Competition 4A
- 10 Chris Keeley, ["How to Use Off-Camera Flash"](#)
- 17 Cole Thompson, ["Why Black and White"](#)
- 24 Members Showcases

March

- 3 Competition 4B (Theme: Depth & Perception)
- 10 Irene Sacilotto, *"A Passion for Wildlife Photography, the Story Behind the Images"*
- 17 Silvie Epperly & Arnold Breisblatt, *"Preparing Images for Exhibitions"*
- 24 Competition 5A
- 31 Susan Magnano, *"Getting Unique Images with Long Exposures"*

April

- 7 No Meeting: Easter
- 14 Peter Lekos, *"How to Take Award-Winning Nature Images"*
- 21 Competition 5B (Theme: Dutch Angle)
- 28 Annual Members Meeting

May

- 5 Members Process the Same Image in Color and B&W
- 12 Competition 6A
- 19 Dawn Wilson, *"Nature Photography on the Road—a Year in an RV"*
- 26 No Meeting: Memorial Day

June

- 2 Members Process our Stock Pictures
- 9 Competition 6B (Theme: Still Life)
- 16 TBD
- 23 EOY Competition
- 30 TBD

Check the WPS website (wpsphoto.org) for recent changes.

Contact Information

Your comments and suggestions are always welcome and should be addressed as follows: If concerning the WPS Newsletter, In Focus, address comments to the editor at infocus@wpsphoto.org. If concerning our website, address comments to our webmaster, Dick Budnik, at webmaster@wpsphoto.org. All other comments should be addressed to our President.

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COMING UP



Chris Keeley on February 10

How to Use Off-Camera Flash

Chris Keeley, CPP is a wedding & portrait photographer based in Dover, New Hampshire. Chris began photographing weddings and portraits with natural light but quickly found he was limited by time of day, so he soon

fell in love with the freedom and power of off-camera flash. His work is characterized by cinematic lighting that is both imperceptible and dramatic.

In this workshop, Chris will cover the basics of how to use off-camera flash including balancing flash with ambient light, where to put your light, and Chris' go-to light shaping tools. The program will include a number of behind-the-scenes stories of how he lights his photographs. Examples will cover weddings, high school seniors, fitness, families, and more. No matter the genre you shoot, whether you're new to off-camera flash or have used it for years, you're sure to learn something new!



Cole Thompson on February 17

Why Black and White

Cole Thompson is uniquely unqualified to speak on photography. *I've never taken a photography class or

a workshop. I don't have a degree in art. I've never worked as a photographer. I don't have gallery representation. I'm not a Canon Explorer of Light. And I only have three lenses and none of them are primes.

Do I have any qualifications? Just one...my images. Nothing else matters.

In about 75 minutes, Cole Thompson will make the case that black and white is the perfect medium for any subject... except for one. Cole will show work from his various portfolios including: The Ghosts of Auschwitz-Birkenau, Harbinger, Ceiling Lamps, Moai, Sitting for Portrait, The Lone Man, Negative Intersections, and others.

Interspersed between the images, Cole will share his photographic philosophies, such as: Never listen to others, photographic celibacy, Cole's rule of thirds, equipment is overrated, vision is the most important tool in my toolbox, and many others.

WPS Competition Announcement

The WPS Board is striving to keep our club fun and viable. In an effort to advertise our activities the Board has decided to post winning competition images, as presented, on our social media pages, specifically on Facebook and Instagram. It will be assumed that members will be in alignment with this decision, as it is a way to potentially reach a broader segment of the general public. If you would prefer not to participate in this activity then you will need to inform the competition chair (Dennis Thornton) by sending him an email (dennist@wpsphoto.org). All efforts will be then made to cull your images from the postings. Participation will be general and not on an image-by-image basis. You may change your mind but conveyance of your wishes will need to be done in writing.

AREA MUSEUMS/GALLERIES

Metropolitan Museum
www.metmuseum.org
 Archives

Museum of Modern Art
www.moma.org
 Archives

International Center for Photography
www.icp.org
 Many Exhibits Continuing

Museum of the City of NY
mcny.org
 Many Exhibits

New York Photography Diary
<https://ny-photography-diary.com/exhibitions/current-exhibitions/>
 Many Exhibitions

WPS GROUP EXHIBITS

**Cancer Treatment and Wellness Center
 Northern Westchester Hospital**
What Can Grow—What Can Fly
 April 4-September 26

WPS FIELD TRIPS
<https://www.wpsphoto.org/members-field-trips>
More Photo Opportunities in the Field Trip area.

NOTICE
 This is notice that nominations are now open for WPS Board Elections to be held at the Annual Members Meeting on April 28, 2023.

SEMINARS/WORKSHOPS

Please log on to websites to see the entire schedules. Many events are available online. Also see last page.

Hunts
<https://edu.huntsphoto.com>

B&H
<http://www.bhphotovideo.com/find/EventSpace.jsp>

Adorama
<http://www.adorama.com/alc/events>

WPS MEMBER EXHIBITS

Stay tuned!

If you are a member and would like to participate in the NWH Cancer Center exhibition or have any questions, please send 5 pictures for review to abreis@aol.com.

The NWH Cancer Center is pleased to offer an exhibition by the Westchester Photographic Society titled:

What Can Grow – What Can Fly

April 4 – September 26, 2023



What Can Grow - refers to an image that shows a plant, flower, tree, fruit, vegetables or landscapes.

What Can Fly - can refer to a photographer's image of a bird or insect in flight, nesting or on the ground.

Northern Westchester Hospital Cancer Center, 400 Main St, Mt Kisco, NY 10549
 Telephone (914) 666-1200

Please call-in advance for admittance and exhibit hours.

FALL 2022 PHOTO EXHIBITS OF NOTE



Shop | Explora | Used Dept
[View on web](#) | Contact Us: 877-865-9088



Photo: Sam Hurd

B&H Photo Video Audio presents:

DEPTH OF FIELD

A Fashion, Wedding, Portrait & Event Pro Photography Conference

February 7-8, 2023

In-Person & Online Experience

B&W DIGITAL



Carlotta Grenier, First
Running Through the Snow

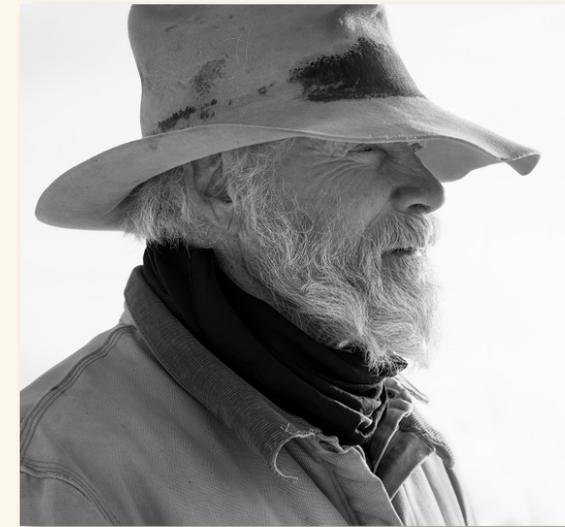


Dennis Thornton, Second
Male Lion



Arnold Breisblatt, Third
Bridge at Garth Woods

B&W DIGITAL



Carlotta Grenier, HM
Dennis from Alberta



Carolyn Colella
Kotton Kandy

THEME: LET IT RAIN

THEME: LET IT RAIN



Anastasia Tompkins, First
Lucky Rain Jerusalem



Roger Chenault, Second
Raindrops



Carlotta Grenier, HM
Cathedral in Edinburgh



Anastasia Tompkins, HM
Hospital Window



Dennis Thornton, Second
School Kids in Rain



Barbara Kapetanakes, Third
Rain at Harvard



Betty Leung
Reflection of a Ship

Digital Frames (Part 1)

By Scott Benowitz

Approximately two decades ago, back in the early 2000's, most of us were in the process of transitioning from ceasing using the 35mm equipment that we'd been using for many years and we were beginning to learn how to operate digital cameras and the various kinds of software that we use in digital photography.

Today, when we view the websites of camera shops and electronics shops or when we shop in camera shops and electronics shops in person, we see a wide variety of digital frames available for sale. Many photographers are now in the process of trying to decide whether to purchase digital frames for displaying some of our favorite pictures in our houses, our apartments and in our offices.

Digital frames do offer a number of interesting features that are quite impossible with conventional frames, but there are also still some advantages of conventional frames too. There are quite a few companies which manufacture digital frames, so I'll discuss some of the features that you may be interested in looking for if you decide to purchase digital frames.

Because there's such a wide variety of digital frames which are on the market now, I'm not going to attempt to compare specific models from the numerous electronics companies which manufacture digital frames. Rather this article will be a brief guide which is intended to give you some suggestions as to what to think about when you're contemplating going shopping (or e-shopping) for electronics items and you're contemplating whether or not to purchase digital frames, and which models might interest you.

Storage Capacity

The internal memory storage capacity in many of the digital frames which are available today ranges from 4 GB to 256 GB, and I expect that the internal memory capacity in digital frames which will become available within the next few

years will likely continue to increase. This means that the newer models of digital frames can hold more 10,000 pictures, depending upon the size of your photos.

The methods of input for uploading the pictures that you want to display into digital frames are as varied as the methods for transferring photos between cameras and computers, and the technologies are rapidly evolving, so I wouldn't be surprised if software engineers who work at electronics companies in different countries are presently researching new kinds of ports and interfaces which may become available soon. As of December 2022, most of the digital frames that are presently available have the options for you to upload your pictures into them by inserting an SD card (secure digital card) into them and you also have the option to upload your images by connecting your cameras, your computers or your external hard drives directly to digital frames via USB cords. Some digital frames also have the option for you to insert thumb drives into them and there are some digital frames that have the option for you to send your pictures from your computer to frames wirelessly (i.e. via Bluetooth or comparable wireless interfaces).

Most of the new models of digital frames will not have inputs for CF cards (compact flash). People who are still storing your photos on CF cards will either need to transfer the pictures that you intend to upload into a digital frame to SD cards or you will need to purchase a CF card reader/ adapter which will connect into a digital frame via a USB cord.

LED Monitors vs. LCD Monitors

The digital frames that are presently available are all going to have monitors which are illuminated by either liquid crystal display (LCD) illumination or they'll come with monitors which are illuminated by light emitting diode (LED) bulbs.

The differences between LCD moni-



tors and LED monitors are slight, but some people want their pictures displayed in a very specific manner in order to convey specific moods or feelings to the viewers. I highly recommend that you go to at least one electronics store in person and compare digital frames which include monitors which are powered by LCD illumination with digital frames which are powered by monitors powered by LED bulbs before you purchase any digital frames.

Some models of digital frames come with monitors which have HD resolution (high definition), and if this is a feature which is important to you, be sure to read the specifications of the models that you're considering purchasing closely to make certain that the model that you're contemplating purchasing has an HD monitor included in it before you order your digital frames.

Some Digital Frames Are Networkable

As of December 2022, the majority of digital frames which are currently available are not networkable, but some electronics companies are now manufacturing digital frames which can be networked. Depending on the house, apartment or office that you're intending to decorate, this feature may interest you. If you do opt to purchase a series of digital frames which can be networked, you will have the option to configure them so that some (or all) of the pictures that you want to display will be sent to some (or all) of the frames that you're displaying. If this is a feature which is of interest to you, look specifically for digital frames which can be networked when you're e-shopping from the websites of electronics stores or when you go to electronics stores in person to begin your comparison shopping.

Rotating the Images

With digital frames, you can display a combination of pictures that you've taken mixed with pictures that other people have taken, stock images, and any digital artwork that you've purchased. This will enable you to rotate pictures whenever you desire to do so—to fit your mood for a particular day or perhaps you may want to display certain pictures when you will have certain guests visiting you. With many digital frames you have the option to rotate pictures daily, hourly, or at any times that you program them to change between images.

Digital frames have the options available which enable you to configure them so that your images will rotate in any specific order that you set them, and some models also have a “randomize” or a “shuffle” feature which enables you to configure the frame so that your images will rotate in a random order, so you can be pleasantly surprised by the image that appears for display when you set it to rotate to the next image. If a “randomize” or “shuffle” feature is important to you, be certain that the models of digital frames that you're selecting include this option in them.

The Size of the Frame and Aspect Ratio of the Image on the Monitor

As photographers, we're always thinking about aspect ratios when we decide where to crop our pictures when we print them. When we print our photos for display, we always need to think about the differences between the dimensions of the monitors on our computers compared with the dimensions of the photo paper that we intend to print our pictures onto.

Among the digital frames which are presently available for sale, there's quite a variety of dimensions to select from. When purchasing a digital frame, you'll want to consider the outside dimensions of the frame based on the wall that you intend to hang it on or based on the shelves or the piece of furniture that you intend to display it on.

When you're comparing models of digital frames, bear in mind that the ex-

ternal dimensions of digital frames are not necessarily the same dimensions that the images that you display on the monitor are going to be. Some newer models of digital frames now have “fit” and “fill” options which are similar to the “fit” and “fill” options that we have on the monitors of our computers, which enable you to adjust the aspect ratio of the images that you're displaying in your digital frames, but many of the models of digital frames which are presently available do not include this feature.

If you purchase a digital frame which does not have a feature which enables you to adjust the aspect ratio of the pictures that you intend to display in it, then you will have to adjust the dimensions of your photos when you're creating your images in your computer before you upload them into your frames.

Some models of digital frames also have options which enable you to “split” the screen so that you can display two, three or four photos at the same time.

And again, if these are features which are important to you, then make certain that you're purchasing a model which has these features included.

Ability to Adjust the Monitor

With all digital frames, you retain complete control with the ability to adjust saturation, color balance, colors (sRGB), hue, tone, etc. Some frames have the options where you can adjust saturation, color balance, colors, hue and tone directly on the frame, while if you want to adjust saturation, color balance, colors, hue and tone on other digital frames, you have to do so by connecting your digital frame to your computer.

Because you're uploading your images into the frames that you purchase, you'll also always have the option to adjust the colors and the tones on your images before you upload them into your frames.

Remember, the monitor on your frame is not going to be the exact same monitor that is installed in your computer. The monitors in some models of digital frames can be calibrated in the same manner that we calibrate the monitors on



our computers (i.e. using color calibration software such as the software that X-rite manufactures, etc.).

AC Input and Battery Power Option

Digital frames aren't major drainers of power; it only takes a comparably small amount of wattage to power LED and LCD bulbs.

All digital frames come with AC cords which will connect directly into all standard 120V AC U.S. outlets and surge protectors, and for those of you who intend to spend enough time traveling overseas that you'll want to bring some of your frames with you, with most digital frames all you'll need to do is to connect the plug into a travel AC adapter and you'll be able to connect your frames into the AC outlets and the surge protectors in other countries.

Some digital frames also have the option to operate with batteries so there will be no visible wires when you display them. If this is a feature which is important to you, look specifically for digital frames which have a battery backup option when you're researching which models you'll be interested in purchasing. Some batteries will hold power before they need to be recharged for much longer than others, so in addition to checking to see if the models of frames that you're researching have a battery backup option, I recommend that you also read about the kinds of batteries that they use.

Compatibility and Interoperability

Photographers use quite a variety of cameras, equipment and software when we edit our photos, and the product design teams at the electronics companies which manufacture digital frames are well aware of this. Digital frames are designed so that regardless of what brand(s) of cameras you're taking your photos with, as long as you convert all of your images to JPG, you will be able to display your pictures in all models of digital frames which are presently available for sale. Whether you like to assemble your pictures using a Mac or Windows operating system, and regardless of what kinds of software you edit with, you will be able to display all of your photos in all of the digital frames available in 2023.

Part 2 appears next month.

inFocus

The Newsletter of the
Westchester Photographic Society

Ron Carran, editor

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