

B. I. P. C.

**Bainbridge Island Photo Club
Serving Bainbridge and North Kitsap**

July 2007

THURSDAY July 12 Club Meeting **Competition Night at the Commons**

The Club meeting is moved to THURSDAY nights in July and August. July is a competition month, and the Special Subject is "Boats". So take a picture of whatever floats your boat, and check in your images between 6:15 and 6:45 PM. You can enter three images, in any mix of Specials and Generals, although you should include at least one Special in order to have your best shot at the Special Award. You can also enter up to three makeup images, all General, if you have not entered your full allotment of images in previous competitions this year. In addition, you can enter one "Creative" image. Remember to e-mail digital entries by Friday July 6, and bring or send the entry slips to the meeting. Print entries should have your name and the image title on the back, in addition to the peel-off entry slip.

Fourth of July

Each member is asked to bring ten prints for the public exhibit at the Commons for the Grand Old Fourth festivities, where the public will vote for their favorites. Mount them as for club competition, but put your name and the image title on the front of the mount or on a small card alongside. We will set up between 4:00 and 7:00 PM on July 3 and take down between 4:00 and 4:30 PM on July 4. If you can't come, please try to send your prints with another member.

BIPC has had the pleasure of welcoming several new members in recent months, including Larry Bergen, Liza Biscomb, David and Susan Bray, Robin Furth, Kendra Hansen, Patti Madsen, and Jerry Young.

July 14th Field Trip Reminder

Don't forget our photographic field trip to Hurricane Ridge. We are going on July 14th and will car pool as much as possible. I would expect to depart the Poulsbo area between 7 and 7:30 in the morning.

Please contact me either by e-mail (halmuhrlein@comcast.net) or phone (360) 297-2448 if you plan on joining us. If you have already let me know it is not necessary to do so again. I will get back to you with travel plans.

This is a location suited to several different types of photography. Which can be greatly influenced by weather, sweeping mountain scenes, wild life, wild flowers even people pictures.

Hal Muhrlein

August Slide Shows

For our regular meeting on August 9, we will feature "slide shows" or digital projections put together by some of our members. Those who are interested in presenting a focused picture story for all the membership to view, please contact Norm Wooldridge to let him know of your interest and probable topic. Each person will have between 10 and 15 minutes for their show. The subjects can range from a travel or trip overview to a single special topic. The latter could focus on a particular animal, hobby, technical subject, or most anything that has continuity of interest.

The presentations have proven to be very interesting and informative in the past, and we have no doubt that this will continue to be the case.

Please e-mail Norm at normwooldridge@comcast.net or telephone him at 206-842-7293.

Photo Exhibit

This is a Thesis Exhibit by the Photographic Center Northwest located at 900 12th Avenue on the corner of 12th and Marion. The Exhibit runs until July 11th, Tues. – Fri. 9:00 am – 9:00 pm, Sat. 9:00 – 5:00 and Sunday 12:00 – 5:00. Liza Biscomb, one of our new members, brought a brochure and it looked very interesting. She had been and found it pretty impressive.

Genevieve Moyer

Nature Photography

North American Nature Photographers meet August 10 – 12 in Vancouver, BC. See www.nanpa.org

Memory Card Capacity

How many pictures can you get on the memory card in your digital camera? The answer is surprisingly complicated.

Back in the days of film, I used to buy a “36 exposure” roll and find that I could get 37, 38, or sometimes even 39 shots. You might think that in a digital world, things would be more precise and predictable, but in fact they seem to be even more elastic.

For example, I have a 2GB memory card in my 6MP DSLR, and usually shoot on the “Large, Fine” JPEG setting. With the card freshly reformatted, the camera says I have 568 exposures available. After I shoot 10 pictures, it says I have room for 560 more, so it has already squeezed out space for two extra shots! The same thing continues, and on a recent trip I put 741 shots on it before the camera absolutely insisted that I put in another memory card.

So what’s going on here? Well, to start with, how big a gigabyte is depends on who you ask. A byte is almost always 8 bits these days, but a kilobyte can be either 1000 or 1024 bytes. Similarly, a megabyte can be either 1000 or 1024 kilobytes, and a gigabyte either 1000 or 1024 megabytes. So if you multiply it out, two gigabytes is either exactly 2 billion bytes, or perhaps 2,147,483,648.

However big it is, some of it is used for the file system which organizes the information on the card. My camera uses something called “FAT16” (File Allocation Table with 16-bit addresses) which is a relic from MS-DOS. (The original FAT12 was invented by a 22-year-old Bill Gates right after Noah’s flood.) Modern Windows PCs prefer NTFS, Macs prefer HFS+, and Linux UFS, but everybody can tolerate the old FAT16, and it is apparently good enough for digital cameras. Anyway, my newly formatted card seems to have a net available capacity of 2,030,731,264 bytes before any images are recorded.

But the big variable is the size of the image files. JPEG compresses files so that they take up less space while still looking good to the human eye. There are various degrees of tradeoff between small files and perfectly preserving image detail. And it also depends on the image. Images with a lot of fine detail take up more space. I did a quick experiment taking ten “complex” images (a thicket of tree branches) and ten “simple” images (an empty patch of blue sky). The complex JPEGs ranged in size from 2,934,006 bytes to 2,992,813. The simple ones ranged from 2,660,531 to 2,720,887. So the complex images are about ten percent larger.

The 741 shots from my recent trip averaged about 2,722,500 bytes, somewhere in between, but closer to the simple images in size. I guess I must like simple stuff. The camera’s initial estimate of 568 shots implies an average file size of about 3,575,000 bytes, which is much larger than even the most complex image I could readily find. The camera is being very conservative to make absolutely sure you don’t run out of memory capacity by relying on its estimate.

I also took a quick look at “Raw” files. Uncompressed raw would be about 9MB, but Nikon uses a supposedly lossless raw compression, resulting in about 5MB for simple images and about 7MB for complex ones. The raw files seem to vary even more in size with image complexity than do the JPEGs.

Stan Johnston

**Bainbridge Island Photo Club
sponsored by the
Bainbridge Island Senior Center
370 Brien Drive SE
Bainbridge Island, WA 98110**

**www.biphotoclub.org
webmaster: David Warren
webmaster@biphotoclub.org**

**President: Genevieve Moyer
V.P. Programs: Norm Wooldridge
V.P. Competition: Chuck Murphy
Secretary: Pat Egaas
Treasurer: Jerry Matthews**

**Newsletter Editor: Stan Johnston
editor@biphotoclub.org**

Competition Corner

There are two contests this summer that I recommend entering. It's fun to compare the scores contest judges give you with our club scores, plus, getting a ribbon now and then to drape over your pictures is fun.

The next contest is at the Kitsap fair. Entry dates are Aug. 11 & 12 at President's Hall on the fairgrounds. Fair dates are Aug. 22 - 26. They are generous with awards and it is not expensive to enter. For more information call 360 / 692-1018 or 271-8873.

The Puyallup Fair is next. This year as a resident of Wash. you can compete in the Wash. only contest or you can compete against the world You cannot enter both. I recommend Wash. only. For more information go to www.puyallupfair.com and enter the photo section.

I entered the "Silverdale in the Mall" contest and brought home several ribbons. No one else from the club entered; come on you guys - there are prizes to be won out there. Your images are as good as or better than most contest pictures.

Work, the next special is coming up. Your imagination will be challenged here. The obvious - pictures of somebody at work and the not so obvious like working at writing this article. This is work - how do you take a picture of it?.

Good luck from Chuck