

This Month

From the President	1
January Meeting Notes	1
Club Info & Discounts	2
Using Histograms	3-4
Club Roster - UPDATED	5
Member Gallery	5
Membership Application	6

Think About It ...

The real voyage of discovery consists not in seeing new landscapes, but in having new eyes.

—Marcel Proust

From the President

At the January meeting Mike Haeder from Hall's Photo demonstrated studio lighting and posing techniques for those of us interested in becoming studio photographers. I'd like to thank Dave Detwiler for all the hard work that went into the meeting. We were planning to have the club's Novatron lights set up for members to try after Mike's presentation, but we didn't quite get everything together before the meeting started. I hope that those of you that brought your cameras along weren't too disappointed that you didn't get to use them.

One thing that surprised me at the meeting was the number of club members who raised their hands when they were asked if they owned digital cameras. It looks like most of the newer club members are digital users. I purchased a digital SLR last summer and I have to admit the ability to immediately see your photo is nice.

Digital appears to have completely taken over the consumer camera market, but from my experience the digital SLR cameras seem to assume you're going to spend some time processing the image in your computer afterwards. On occasion I get a photo that doesn't need tweaking, but most of time I need to adjust the curves to compensate for the underexposure the camera tends to provide. Of course, I should probably switch to using manual exposure to solve the problem, but I'm still learning how to use the automatic modes.

For the February meeting on the 17th we're going to PhotoPro for a tour of their lab. We'll meet in the store at 5:00 PM. Previously we've gone there after the store closes, but this time we're going to try it during the regular meeting time. Bring along some digital photos in

CD-ROM or memory card format and they'll show us how they make digital prints. If anyone has tried stitching images together in a panorama bring that along as well.

They have a new printer that can produce panoramas as well. We've got quite a few new members this year, so I hope we can keep holding interesting meetings for everyone. As always, if you have an idea for a meeting or a speaker let Dave or myself know. I hope to see a lot of you on the 17th.

—Jim Zelle, CPC President

Our Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be Thursday, February 17 at 5:00 p.m. We will meet at Photo Pro (address on next page - "CPC Discounts") and tour their processing lab.

January Meeting Notes

Meeting called to order at 5:00 p.m. with 10 members, 2 guest models and 1 spouse in attendance.

Membership is down this year, from 42 to 27.

The background stands discussed at the November meeting have been purchased and are available for checkout.

Our guest speaker was Mike Haeder from Hall's Photo in Marion. Mike attended Hawkeye Tech and has been a professional photographer for 27 years. Mike showed us some basic lighting and posing techniques (thanks to Dave Detweiler's niece and nephew – Felicia and Daniel – for being our models).

Hall's has gone to mostly digital in the studio but still shoots weddings on film. Mike says he feels a good studio will have a mix of film and digital. He likes the proven longevity of film.

Club Information

CPC Discounts

Please show your Collins Photo Club Membership Card to receive the following discounts.

Photo Pro
(319) 395-9121

153 Collins Road NE, Cedar Rapids

- 20% off film processing or second set free
- 20% off digital reprints and enlargements
- 15% off large format inkjet prints
- 20% off mats
- 10% off darkroom chemicals
- 10% off photographic paper
- Film at cost + 15%

Modern Gallery and Framing Company
(319) 366-7311

701 Third Ave SE, Cedar Rapids

- 25% off list price

Linn Photo
(319) 373-0658

1725 Blairsferry Road, Marion

(319) 396-3182

2405 Westdale Dr. SW, Cedar Rapids

- 15% off film processing
- 10% off chemicals
- 10% off paper
- 10% off film

Kyle's Framing and Gallery
(319) 377-5739

601 7th Ave, Suite A, Marion

(Between Sunbeam Outlet and Country Kitchen)

- 50% off matte board
- 30% - 50% off framing and glass

Perfect Edge - Custom Picture Framing
(319) 362-2119

1264 38th Street NE, Cedar Rapids

- 10% off any CR framing quote
- 25% off total order price

FY05 Club Officers

President	Jim Zelle	x 56798
Vice President	Dave Detwiler	x 59545
Secretary / Historian	Kris Hoeger	see roster
Treasurer / Membership	Pat Boland	x 54817
Equip. Checkout	Mark Bortz	x 54860
Exhibit Director	OPEN	
Newsletter	Dan Sandersfeld	x 52038
Webmaster	Cliffy Franzen	x 53725
Darkroom Coordinator	Kathy Rutherford	x 54113

To Become a Member

To become a member of the Collins Photo Club, complete the form at the end of the newsletter and send it to:

Pat Boland
m/s 124-213
Rockwell Collins
400 Collins Road, NE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52498
(319) 295-4817
pjboland@rockwellcollins.com

Buy and Sell

Your ad here.

Instant Exposure Check

How And Why To Use Your Histogram

—Uwe Steinmueller

Reprinted from the *Shutterbug* web site, December, 2004

Link to this article:

<http://www.shutterbug.com/features/1204instant/>

One of the main benefits of using a digital camera is being able to evaluate an image right after exposure in the LCD on the back. However, being so small, most LCDs are not as critical as you might like for checking sharpness or even expressions. Some allow you to zoom in, making them more useful in that regard. For me, the main advantage of the LCD is checking the exposure.

Just as with film photography, correct exposure is key to quality images. In some ways, overexposure is more problematic in digital, as the sensor tends to clip data above a certain threshold. Overexpose can result in lost highlight detail and tonal texture, and while there are ways to remedy this most corrections are at best difficult to obtain. But there is hope for exposure problems if you catch them using the histogram, a graphic representation of the gray scale values from 0 (black) to 255 (white).

“Expose To The Right” Rule

Is there an ideal histogram? It depends on the image contents and how the values are distributed, but in general the optimum histogram display would:

- 1) Not indicate any overexposure or lost highlight values.

- 2) Not indicate too much underexposure, as you may lose shadow details but more importantly get more noise.

In theory, the “perfect” digital exposure, as far as a histogram read-out is concerned, is as far to the right as possible where there is no chance of overexposure. In practice, obtaining this is not that easy. The overall shape of the histogram does not matter, as it merely reflects the tonal distribution of the scene you photographed. Nevertheless, slight underexpose is recommended to eliminate the risk any highlight clipping, something those who have mastered slide film photography will recognize and appreciate.

Color Channel Clipping

While most histograms in cameras show the histogram as gray scale levels we are dealing with color images, so we really have histograms of all three RGB channels. Some clipping can occur in the one or two color channels, a condition that might not be shown in the typical luminance histogram.

On the following page are four histogram examples (created in Photoshop) that show different image characteristics and the histogram basics.

(continued)

“In some ways, overexposure is more problematic in digital, as the sensor tends to clip data above a certain threshold.”

"In theory, the 'perfect' digital exposure, as far as a histogram read-out is concerned, is as far to the right as possible where there is no chance of overexposure."



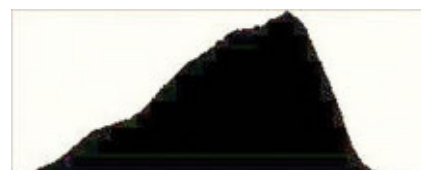
Histogram 1: Histogram indicating strong overexposure.

The highlights (right side of the histogram) are lost. This would be a candidate for deletion in all but a few very rare cases. Some might recommend to "burn" the photo in Photoshop. This is "faking" details in the highlights that are not there.



Histogram 2: Histogram indicating potential overexposure.

Here there's only a small spike in the highlights and it very much depends on the photo whether this is a problem or not. If the spike represents a real pure white – or an unimportant spectacular highlight – then this photo may be OK. Otherwise, you are in trouble. In these cases, if the camera has the ability to indicate overexposed areas, I would recommend viewing the camera's LCD preview with the highlight/overexposure indicator enabled.



Histogram 3: Histogram indicates good exposure.

Here the highlights are OK. You lose a bit of the dynamic range in the highlight area but Photoshop can correct for this. You should endeavor to get histograms like this. In principle, it is best to get as close as possible to the right.



Histogram 4: Histogram indicates strong underexposure.

Here the data in the shadows is lost. This is not the only problem because digital cameras show much more noise in the shadows. Even when the image is corrected, extended noise might show up in the mid range.

Club Membership Roster - FY05

[updated 1/6/05]

C = Contractor
E = Employee
R = Retiree
S = Spouse

Change of Address

Please notify the newsletter editor and membership coordinator of address changes.

Member Gallery

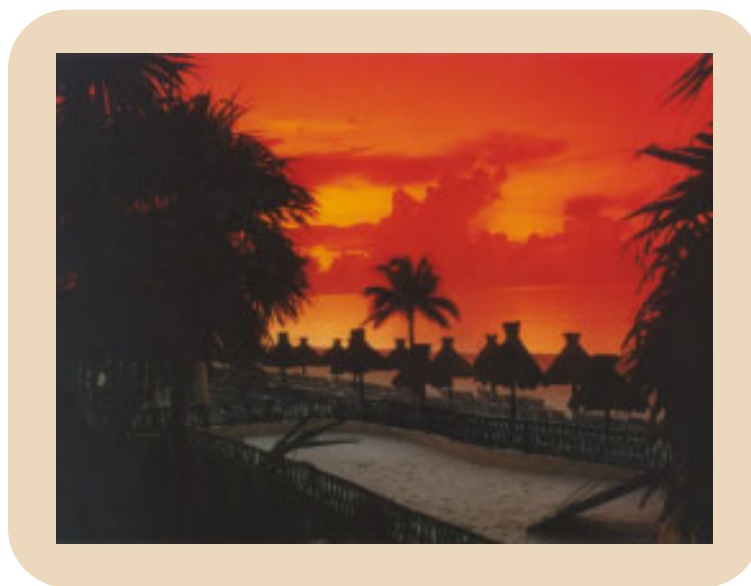
To be included, send your favorite image (in some digital format, please) to me at:

dasander@rockwellcollins.com

The Edge of Charley
by Dave Ster

capture date	Labor Day morning, 2004
location	Reef Club South, Cancoon Mexico
image source	Kodak color neg film, 200 ASA
camera	Rebel 2000
lens	Zoom, set to 28 mm
aperture	f/16
filters	Cokin graduated red filter and 2 sunset filters, stacked
note	Dave calls this photo the "Edge of Charley," because the clouds are at the edge of Hurricane Charley

Last Name	First Name	Mail Stop	Phone	E-mail Address	
Bjorseth	Bruce		393 6820	bpbjorseth@aol.com	R
Boland	Pat	124-314	295-4817	pjboland@rockwellcollins.com	E
Bortz	Mark	108-206	295-4860	mabortz@rockwellcollins.com	E
Bortz	Mary		294-1144	mary@planetbortz.com	S
Dams	Doug	153-250	295-1929	dedams@rockwellcollins.com	E
Davidson	John	137-137	295-0215	jhdavids@rockwellcollins.com	E
Detwiler	Dave	137-101	295-9545	djdetwil@rockwellcollins.com	E
Franzen	Clair (Cliffy)	105-152	295-3725	crfranze@rockwellcollins.com	E
Hamer	Gary	166-102	295-2498	ghamer@fmtcs.com	E
Hindman	Evan	105-191	295-5239	enhindma@rockwellcollins.com	E
Hoeger	Doug	166-109	295-5781	dahoeger@rockwellcollins.com	E
Hoeger	Kris		377-8263	Kris.Hoeger@vectorcorporation.com	S
Hofstetter	Scott	138-259	295-5699	sar-lab@msn.com	E
Johnson	Tony	192-	295-8639	tljohns2@rockwellcollins.com	E
Lang	Christy	108-176	295-7254	cmlang1@rockwellcollins.com	E
Meyer	Ron	108-205	295-0069	rmeyer@rockwellcollins.com	E
Mussell	Daniel	166-106	295-0700	dan4pack@inav.net	E
Paeth	Bill		396-6470	billpaeth@hotmail.com	R
Rand	Jennifer		366-6659		S
Rand	Tim	108-207	295-0059	twrand@rockwellcollins.com	E
Rutherford	Kathy	108-177	295-4113	eilers-sacora@att.net	E
Sandersfeld	Dan	124-302	295-2038	dasander@rockwellcollins.com	E
Schott	Deb	124-213	295-3867	daschott@rockwellcollins.com	E
Sliney	James G.	106-181	295-4229	mrwhiskers@fmtcs.com	E
Beckley-Sliney	Sharon L.			sunbird@fmtcs.com	S
Ster	David	106-132	295-2213	daster@rockwellcollins.com	E
Tichy	SuAnn	109-206	295-2421	smtichy@rockwellcollins.com	E
Xiong	Madie A.	192-104	295-0781	maxiong@mtu.edu	E
Zelle	Jim	124-313	295-6798	jazelle@rockwellcollins.com	E



Membership fee: \$16

For membership October 1, 2004 - September 30, 2005

Make checks payable to:
Rockwell Collins

Supplemental Activity Registration Form - please fill out completely

Return form and payment to:

Pat Boland
M/S 124-213
x. 5-4817

Name _____ Ext. _____ Mail Stop _____
Home Address _____
City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
Home Phone _____ E-mail _____

Membership Type	<input type="checkbox"/> Renewal	<input type="checkbox"/> New		
Payment Method	<input type="checkbox"/> Cash	<input type="checkbox"/> Check # _____		
Status (required)	<input type="checkbox"/> Employee	<input type="checkbox"/> Spouse	<input type="checkbox"/> Retiree	<input type="checkbox"/> Contract
Camera Equipment	<input type="checkbox"/> point & shoot	<input type="checkbox"/> 35mm	<input type="checkbox"/> digital	
	<input type="checkbox"/> medium format	<input type="checkbox"/> large format	<input type="checkbox"/> other	
Experience Level	_____ (rank 1-10)			
examples:	beginner = 1 -2	amateur = 3-5		
	adv. amateur = 6 - 8	professional = 9-10		

I would be interested in giving a presentation at a CPC meeting

I would like to suggest the following ideas for meeting topics, programs or outings:

I would like to join the Collins Photo Club because:

RELEASE

I understand that the above named activity is sponsored for recreational purposes only. I also understand the nature of the activity including its possible risks and voluntarily register for participation.

I hereby release Rockwell Collins, Inc. from any claims, demands or damages because of injury or death, other than customary and reasonable medical expenses under the existing company medical plan, resulting in any way from participation in this activity.

Signature _____ Date _____

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Office Signature _____ Date _____

Invoice # _____