

Durango Photography Club Newsletter

November, 2016

November Meeting Featuring: *iPhoneography* — *Photographing and Editing With Your iPhone* By Pam and Doug Savage and Student Photographers

November Presentation

Have you noticed that some of the prize-winning photographs you've seen lately are the products of smart phones? Have you been curious how that happens?



Crested Butte, by Pam Savage with iPhone

Do you have some phone shots that you'd like to develop into masterpieces?

At our November 17 meeting, members Pam and Doug Savage, with some of Pam's students from the Durango Kids Camera Club, will demonstrate techniques for turning phone captures into art.

Their presentation will introduce iPhoneography with samples of images taken by well known photographers and award winning iPhoneographers. Then they'll present and demonstrate various apps for editing on the iPhone or iPad. Students from the Kids Camera Club will present a few of their photos and talk about their editing processes.

If you'd like to see some of your own iPhone pictures transformed, send them to pamsavage@hotmail.com for use as examples in the demonstration!

Pam is a teacher and the director of the Gifted Program at Durango's Liberty School, an independent school serving gifted children with learning disabilities and dyslexic and intellectually gifted students in grades 1 through 8.

Last Image Share of the Year

We don't meet in December, so this is the last chance to get feedback on your pictures before you make your photography resolutions for 2017!

Image Share is optional, of course: a casual and friendly session when we can learn by seeing each other's images and by asking for critique (or not).

There's no assignment, and this is separate from the iPhone editing demonstration, so feel free to bring whatever images you like from whatever devices you use.

To share up to three of your photographs, either bring them to the meeting on a flash drive or email them **by November 16** to VP Jerry Day: JerryDay474@gmail.com. It's often helpful if you can be ready to say a few words about how you shot each image and what post-processing magic you worked.

November Meeting Details

November 17, 2016

7-9 p.m.

Open at 6:40 for socializing

Pine Room, Extension Building

La Plata County Fairgrounds

2500 Main Avenue, Durango

Last Meeting of the Year!

Seeking New President for DPC Board

Matt Hoaglin will step down from the top DPC job next month as his one-year term ends and will return in January to the role of club vice president.

Current VP Jerry Day is leaving the board to travel in Japan and work on book projects next year.

That means the club needs a member to serve as president for 2017. The position involves:

- Receiving email on behalf of the club
- Calling board meetings when needed (usually every few months)
- Dealing with issues (never happens, says Matt)
- Acting as point of contact for exhibits
- Previewing the newsletter
- Making announcements at monthly meetings (third Thursday of every month except December; it's understood that everyone on the board has to miss a meeting from time to time)

Please think about taking a turn at this essential yet very reasonable job. If you can consider it and want to find out more, email matt@AllisonRagsdalePhotography.com.

As VP, Matt will resume lining up presenters for club meetings—arguably a more demanding gig than president. We thank him for taking it on.

And we thank Jerry for his leadership and the work he's done on program planning in the year now ending.

Early Heads-up on the February Photo Competition

We're coming up on those long, chilly nights that seem just made for fiddling around with photographs. So why not start now on prepping and printing the ones you'll want to show at the club's annual competition?

As always, the competition will be part of the DPC birthday party and potluck supper, scheduled for Thursday, February 16.

The January newsletter will detail the evening's program and food arrangements for the event.

For now, to help you get a jump start on your entries, we've listed the competition guidelines and categories below.

Durango Photography Club Annual Competition Guidelines

Number of entries: Up to three per member

Size: Maximum 16 x 20 inches *overall*, including *optional* mat and frame or backing material. Composites okay, but no collages of separate images within one frame.

Printing surface: Paper, canvas, acrylic, metal, wood

Eligibility: Open to members whose 2017 dues are paid by the time of the competition. Please plan to bring your \$20 annual dues (\$30 for a couple or family) to the January meeting, or write a check to Durango Photography Club and mail it to Gordon Greve, 387 Horse Thief Lane, Durango, 81301.

Judging: Members and guests at the dinner will vote to choose the top entry in each category and an overall Best in Show. Please don't reveal your name on the front of your photograph.

Winning images will be eligible for display at the Durango Recreation Center in May, and will need frames in that venue.

May yours be among them!

Competition Categories

Abstracts
Animals (wild or domestic)
Architecture
Close-up/Macro
Landscapes
People
Miscellaneous

Then Again, If You Wait ...

At our January 19 meeting, Paul Boyer will speak about his approach to judging the photography exhibit at the 2016 La Plata County Fair. May be a chance to pick up tips before the club contest!

Winning Winter Photo Ops

All we need now is a little snow, and the most magical season for photography will be here.

And apart from the sheer wow of winter, those of us who like to share our photos often find the season brings rewarding opportunities as every summer we see calls for photographs of snow scenes and winter fun.

There's nothing to compare with wandering around after the weather works its whimsy, or just playing amid luminarias and twinkle lights. Here are some events—more predictable than Mother Nature—that you can enjoy with or without your camera. With it, you may get the shots you'll be glad to have on hand next fall!

Festival of Trees, November 12. A benefit for people with disabilities that's also an early chance to photograph holiday light and color. In the Grange Event Center at the Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad, a co-sponsor. [Details.](#)

Polar Express Train Ride, November 19–January 3. Nighttime winter scenes, classic characters, and wide-eyed kids. How can you miss? [Book early](#) with the D&SNGRR.

Singing With Santa, November 25. Caroling and Christmas tree lighting at the official downtown holiday kickoff on the evening after Thanksgiving. Plus: a rare chance to snap the reclusive Mrs. Claus. [Details.](#)

Noël Night, December 2. An all-day shopping celebration that warms up at dusk, with downtown Durango dressed up in holiday style and live musicians at every turn. A “new, collaborative approach to parking” promises extra spaces, and the meter minders are backing off at 5 p.m. (Why not all day?) [Details.](#)

Cascade Canyon Train, November–April. A half-day trip on the D&SNGRR to a scenic spot on the Animas River, where you'll have time to photograph winter snowscapes and warm up by the fire. [Details.](#)

Christmas Tree Train, November–December. Special runs of the Cascade Canyon excursion, offering the chance to come home with pictures of a beloved holiday tradition as well as a u-cut white fir. Tree cutting permits will be for sale on the train. [Details.](#)

Evening of Lights at Aztec Ruins, December 8. The national monument illuminated by lanterns from 6–8 p.m. Early arrival suggested for best parking. [Details.](#)

Fireworks and Torchlight Parade, New Year's Eve. After dusk-ish on the beach at Purgatory Resort. [Details,](#) and click the Events & Activities link for other holiday and winter sports ops. (The beach?)

Winter Photographers Train, February 19. Ticketing information wasn't available in time for the newsletter. D&SNGRR suggests starting to call around the end of November for this annual sellout run. (970)247-2733.



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This Month's Supermoon: The Biggest. You Can't Believe How Big.

Though a day earlier than your calendar may show, November 13 is when this month's extra-bigly moon will look its fullest in the Americas, according to earthsky.org.

But because the moon hasn't been this close to Earth since 1948, both the 13th and 14th promise to be exceptional for photography.

For tips on how to photograph this lunar encounter, start with Michael Fry's [Moonstruck](#) post, then find more how-to on [Photography Life](#), and follow up with composition ideas from [PhotoPills](#).



July 2014 Supermoon, by Bryan Jones. Used under Creative Commons [license](#). Unaltered.

Apps like PhotoPills and Photographer's Ephemeris can help you determine when and where the moon will rise and set. In lieu of those, you can get a good idea where to point your camera by checking timeanddate.com.

If you'd like to go with a group, check into the monthly [full moon hike](#) with Durango Nature Studies. It's timed for moonrise and on for November 14.

Be ready for these extraordinary evenings; the moon won't be this close or look this big again for another 18 years. Shoutout to DPC member Fred Greeley for the timely advisory.

Photo Traditions We'll Celebrate . . .

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What to Watch for in Winter

As an example of what's in demand in the market for winter photos, here's an excerpt from the *Durango Magazine* August, 2016, call for images for its winter/spring edition (with thanks to Lisa Mackey):

Winter landscapes; scenics; activities; Mesa Verde in winter; D&SNGRR winter trains; Purgatory; downhill skiing; snowboarding; tubing; cat skiing; ski village; chair lifts; snowmobiling; skijoring; adaptive skiing; Nordic skiing; sledding; ice skating; ice hockey; ice fishing; snowshoeing; sleigh ride to dinner; sled dogs; winter running; snow sculptures; holiday decorations; anything Christmas—town or country; Snowdown. Downtown in winter; shopping; performing arts; gallery hopping; nightlife; pubs; music; party bars; also Trimble Hot Springs in winter; Silverton; Ignacio/Towaoc casinos.

Note: Snowdown 2017 is February 1–5.

. . . And One We'll Miss

Out of concern for staff members, Mesa Verde National Park has canceled its traditional December open house and luminaria event.

Spruce Tree House, where the park normally illuminates ancient cliff dwellings for an evening each year, has been closed to the public since late 2015 because the rock arch above is unstable.

Though last year the park went ahead with the celebration, Mesa Verde management this year decided it would be too risky to send workers into Spruce Tree House to place luminarias.

It seems uncertain the tradition will resume in 2017, as considerable study remains to be done before any decision about stabilization.

Read more about the [cancellation](#) and the [Spruce Tree House closure](#).



About 10 months a year, Durango Nature Studies leads a two-hour hike timed to watch the rise of the full moon. With a little luck, it's a chance for a nighttime snowshoe. The next occasion is November 14, coinciding with the supermoon (see page 4). [Get the details](#), and bookmark the page to watch for future dates. (Thanks to Yvonne Lashmett for the pointer and the pic.)

Post-processing Tips from Jerry Day

Jerry Day's demonstration of Adobe Lightroom technique at last month's meeting was packed with know-how. Beyond the mechanics, Jerry offered some insights into strategy for capturing as well as developing images. Here are some takeaways from his talk:

Pop for the glass. The quality of your lens makes more of a difference in your images than the quality of your camera, so budget accordingly. One advantage of a superior lens is the way it aligns color wavelengths to minimize chromatic aberration, the purple-to-green fuzziness that often appears on contrast edges and can be difficult to correct in software. Speaking of which ...

Set the fuzz-fixer to "on." Chromatic aberration is never a good thing. In the Lightroom Develop module, always check the Remove Chromatic Aberration box. Easier: Set a default so it's always on. Can't hurt. Often helps.

Clarity is your secret weapon. Think of the Clarity slider in Lightroom as a tool to add punch. ("Punch" was Adobe's working name for the feature, Jerry said.) Moving the slider to the right enhances midtone contrast and is good for textures, landscapes, and travel images.

Flatter the face. In a portrait of a man, increase Clarity to enhance that chiseled look. But when your subject is a woman, move the slider to the left for a softening effect.

There's no shame in sharpening, but ... Sharpen detail-rich subjects more than people. All images need

Contests: Colorado Color and Beyond

This month we offer one opportunity close to home and one that's really out there, plus a little creativity tickle.

Colorado in Color. *Colorado County Life* magazine's 2017 photo contest takes the hues of the state flag as its theme, with an entry category each for Blue, Red, Gold, and White. Photos must have been taken in Colorado and submissions are due **December 16**. [See how to enter](#).

Gates of the Arctic National Park. If you're selected for this park's artist in residence program, you'll spend eight days next summer above the Arctic Circle in the Brooks Range of Alaska. The award includes bear safety training. Submit your application by **November 30**. [Find out how to apply](#).

Storytellers. An intriguing concept from a California gallery, worth a read for ideas. Deadline **December 9**. [Take a look](#).

some degree of sharpening, Jerry said, but the amount depends on the content and where the image will be seen.

Know your audience. It's the first rule and the last. People who view Jerry's photos of trains like to see the details, so he may brighten an image and make selective tonal adjustments to bring out features. A different editorial use might call for another approach.

Jerry's How-to Book List

A half-hour demo barely scratches the surface of a program like Lightroom or Photoshop, so Jerry offered a list of books he frequently turns to when processing his photographs. Links here go to Amazon.com.

[Photoshop CC Book for Photographers, 2015 Release](#). Martin Evening.

An update to that version came out in August, 2016:

[Adobe Photoshop CC Book for Photographers: 2016 Edition—Version 2015.5](#). Martin Evening.

[The Adobe Photoshop CC Book for Digital Photographers \(2014 Release\)](#). Scott Kelby.

[The Adobe Photoshop Lightroom CC Book for Digital Photographers](#). Scott Kelby. Also for Lightroom 6 users.

[The Digital Negative: Raw Image Processing in Lightroom, Camera Raw, and Photoshop](#). (Second edition.) Jeff Schewe.

Durango Photography Club User Guide

Durango Photography Club Officers

President

Matt Hoaglin

matt@AllisonRagsdalePhotography.com

VP & Program Director

Jerry Day

JerryDay474@gmail.com

Secretary

Mary Brisson

dgophotonews@gmail.com

Treasurer & Membership Co-Chair

Gordon Greve

ggreve49@gobrainstorm.net

Membership Co-Chair

Eric Pahlke

pahlkee@aol.com

Webmaster

Tim Hamza

webmaster@durangophotographyclub.org

Officer at Large

Howard Rachlin

rachnews@mydurango.net

Officer at Large

Marc Saphir

saphirm@hhdcco.com

All of us on the board appreciate hearing from you with your suggestions, program ideas, occasional attaboys/attagirls, and offers of help to keep our club moving forward.

Newsletter Submissions: Please Note New Address

Text and photos for the monthly newsletter are due the first of the month. We want to hear about your shows and awards, suggestions and discoveries.

If you have an idea for an article, kindly get in touch before writing it. Content is subject to editing, and the board or editor may use discretion about what to include. Please send suggestions and submissions to:
dgophotonews@gmail.com.

Images Online from DPC Members

Enjoy these websites showing work by club photographers.

Barb Grist	barbaragristphotography.com
Barbara Lawson	sanjuanimages.com
Carol Lewin	carollewin.zenfolio.com
Howard Rachlin	HowardRachlin.com
Kathy Myrick	flickr.com/photos/kathymyrick
Linda Pampinella	lindapampinella.com
Mary Anne Nelson	flickr.com/photos/maryannenelson
Matt Hoaglin	allisonragsdalephotography.com
Nancy Young	nancysyoung.com
Tim Hamza	fourtheye.aminus3.com
Walter Pfau	walterpfauphotography.com
Yvonne Lashmett	DurangoExposures.com

If you'd like to list your own site for the benefit of other members and interested visitors, please send the link to dgophotonews@gmail.com.

Our Forum in Yahoo Groups

Connect with other members to plan outings and trade information. Send and receive forum messages in your regular email program — no need to go to your browser.

To join, send a blank email to:

durangophotographyclub-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

To post, email:

durangophotographyclub@yahoogroups.com

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Members are showing great work at flickr.com/groups/durangophotographyclub. You can, too. Visit the page, then click the **+Join** button.

Changed Your Email Address?

Please let us know your new contact info so we can keep sending you the newsletter and announcements. Write to us at dgophotonews@gmail.com. Thanks!