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November Workshop & Dinner Meeting

November 13 - Workshop

PSA Judging
 Program: "How I did That"
 Vandana Bajikar
 Host: Ann Husk

November 25 - Dinner Meeting

Program: "Hawaii" Dave Weber
 Host: Bill & Char Zimmerman



KODAROAMERS

November 2014 - Volume 2, Issue 4

President's Message

Eleven members participated in the first of four PSA/PID competitions.



The six images advancing for the November session of the Group C judging are from Laurie Bergner, Wyn Knapp, Janet Bremner, Mabel Lux, Mike Lux and Vandana Bajikar. CICCAsalon will be judging the fall Salon on November 1st in Champaign at the Urbana Free Library near Lincoln Square. The address is 210 W Green St, Urbana, IL 61801. Judging will start at 9:00am

KodaRoamers has been notified that we have been selected to judge the January PSA/PID Competition for Group E. We will do this at our February 12th workshop. These will be images from approximately 25 clubs from around the world.

Thanks to Jane Camp from Heartland Community College for her informative presentation on the history of photography and how digital has changed the way images are archived and displayed. Thanks also to David Scoates for sharing his images on North Carolina, Florida, and Alabama

If you would like to contribute to the newsletter please send your articles, images, ideas, and/or suggestions to Carrie at kodaroamersmail@gmail.com

Club Calendar

November Workshop:

Thursday, November 13, 2014 7:00 pm our second of four PSA contests.

Submit up to 4 images sized to 1024 x 768 maximum. Number as follows: Image number (01 - 04)- your competition number-title ie: 03-55-Sunset

Submit your images to Vandana Bajikar at the following email vandana.kodaroamers@yahoo.com by 6:00 pm Monday, November 10, 2014.

Our program that evening will be "How I did That" by Vandana Bajikar commenting on the taking and processing of her winning Salon print. Hostess is Ann Husk

November Dinner:

Tuesday, November 25, 2014 6:30 pm

Dave Weber will take us to Hawaii. Bill and Char Zimmerman are our hosts. Make your reservations by November 21st to wazoo47@gmail.com or charz4@hotmail.com



Past Issues of the Newsletter are available at:
<https://sites.google.com/site/kodaroamers/downloads>

Officers:

President - Mike Lux
Vice Pres - Denise O'Brien
Treasurer - Mike O'Brien
Secretary - Mabel Lux

Committees:

Chaplain

Herb Knudsen

Courtesy

Richard Hoffman, Mabel Lux

Publicity

Denise O'Brien, Mike O'Brien

Newsletter

Carrie Olson, Herb Knudsen

Membership

Ed Sams, David Scoates, Tracy

DeWeese, Debbie DeWeese, Sandra

Robinson, Jim Kirk, Andrea

Monninger, Mark Cooper, Eff

Embree

CICCA Rep

Andrea Monninger, Vandana Bajikar

PSA Rep

Mike Lux, Vandana Bajikar

Projection

Mike Lux, Andrea Monninger,

Vandana Bajikar, Prasad Mocharla

Club Salon

Vandana Bajikar, John Vogel, (Prints)

Mike Lux (Digital)

Challenges

Mike Lux (I74),

Andrea Monninger (Peoria)

Nominating

Mike Lux, Past-Presidents

Equipment

Denise O'Brien

Webmaster

Mike O'Brien

Facebook Administrator

Andrea Monninger, Mike Lux

Merit Awards

Roger Bunting

Competition Numbers

Meng Horng, Mike Lux

Historian

Doris KupperSmith, John Vogel



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Volunteer Opportunity

Hearthland Head Start is looking for volunteer photographers to help them celebrate their 50th anniversary of services to low income families. Head Start is asking Kodaroaders members to participate in the following:

1. They would like to show pictures of presently enrolled children (need photographers to go to Head Start classrooms in McLean and Livingston County) and past participants.
2. Scan old photos into digital format.

Schedule of events:

- November 20th, Anniversary planning/kick off at Annual Meeting, 6:00 p.m. at ISU Alumni Center, Main Street, North Normal.
- March – Art Fair (display pictures taken of children/families and children's art activities at the McLean County Art Center).
- May - Community/Volunteer recognition ceremony.

If interested in helping, phone Darlene Weber 309- 663-2779 for more information.

Getting to Know One Another will return next month in the December issue.



Challenges

- **Peoria:** Preliminary judging for "Moment of Reflection" will be at our December 11th workshop – so keep working on your images. *Images must have been taken after January 14, 2014*
- **Champaign:** "Sunset to Sunrise" *Images taken after May 9, 2014*

CICCA Salon

CICCA will be judging the fall Salon on November 1st in Champaign at the Urbana Free Library near Lincoln Square. 210 W Green St, Urbana, IL 61801. *Judging will start at 9:00am*

Treasurer's Report: September 23, 2014

The club began the 2014-2015 club year with \$2071

date	ck #	debit	credit	balance	comments
				\$1,870.79	October Beginning Balance
09/23/14	1297	\$632.00		\$1,238.79	Wesley Methodist Sept dinner
10/02/14			\$841.00	\$2,079.79	Sept dinner (47) ~7 mbrships, 3 hats -- 17 items
09/23/14	1296	\$20.00		\$2,059.79	CICCA
			\$60.00	\$2,119.79	3 memberships (pending deposit)
					Ending Balance

Studio Lighting Photo Shoot

The fall photo shoot will provide an opportunity to photograph models with studio and continuous lighting set ups. The set ups, models, and a variety of props will be provided.

The workshop is open to Peoria Camera Club and KodaRoamers Club members only.

The workshop is free but to help cover model and refreshment expenses they are asking for a maximum donation of \$10 per person.

Saturday Nov 8, 2014 9am-4pm - Immanuel Lutheran Church - 4911 N Knoxville Ave, Peoria



New Members

- Mike Flood, 817 Sheridan Rd, Normal 61761, 454-4831, mikeflood35@gmail.com
- Dan Fernandes, 1207 Chatham Lane, Bloomington 61704
- Linda Humphrey

Buy/Sell/Swap

If you are looking to buy or sell any photo gear send your info to Carrie at kodaroamersmail@gmail.com and you can list it here!

Save the Date

Quad Cities Photography Club - Gregory Basco presentation

Join us for an inspiring day with Greg Basco. Saturday December 13, 2014. *Photographing Costa Rica: Creative Techniques for Dramatic Rainforest Images*

Veolia Wildlife

Photographer of the Year and Nature's Best Windland Smith Rice award winning photographer Greg Basco takes you on a visual tour of Costa Rica. Photographing the country from coast to tallest mountain for his new coffee table book, Greg used a number of creative in-camera techniques to capture Costa Rica's stunning biodiversity. In this presentation, Greg gives an overview of the amazing nature found in Costa Rica and then takes a closer look at how he photographed everything from tiny poison frogs to jewel-like hummingbirds to elusive jungle cats to dreamy coastal scenes. You'll come away from this talk with a new knowledge of tropical ecosystems and some new ideas to put into practice for your own photography.

Event hosted by Quad Cities Photography Club. <http://www.qcphotoclub.com>

For more information about Greg visit his website at www.deepgreenphotography.com

Seminars

If you missed the Tony Sweet seminar in Peoria, you have another chance Sunday, December 14, 2014 at HeClicksSheClicks.com (enter Center of Photography tab then Schedule on the top) to register.



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From our trip to Middle Fork Fish & Wildlife Preserve and Kickapoo State Park

Submitted by Ed & Marilyn Sams

Last weekend we took a discovery trip to Kickapoo State Park which is located just west of Danville, IL. It was a welcome surprise. The trip took only one hour and ten minutes from south Bloomington. We spent over three hours there and yet covered only half of the park.

This was once a large strip mining area that has slowly recovered to its natural state. The park encompasses over 2,600 acres and has approximately 12 ponds, some large and some small. The Vermillion River runs the length of the park. Four miles to the north is yet another park. It is the Middle Fork State Fish and Wildlife Area. A nice bonus.

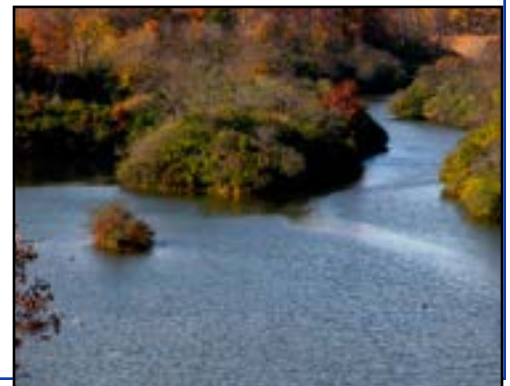
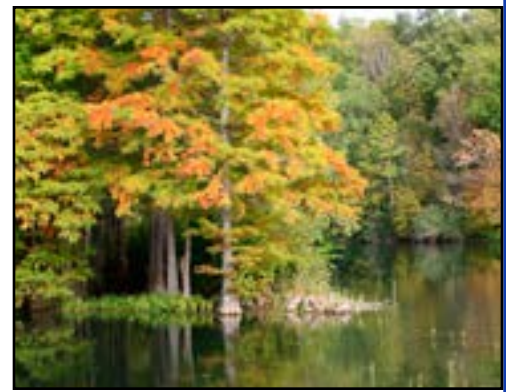
Activities include canoeing, kayaking, fishing, and hiking. While not as spectacular as Starved Rock, the variety of water, wild life, and diversity may make it a superior photography venue.

The park can provide a very nice outing. Get there early and drive around to the various sights checking out the best photo ops. Then enjoy hiking, boating, and picnicking while waiting for the good light to take some photos. Be sure to pick up a map and also check it out on the internet.

We highly recommend it.



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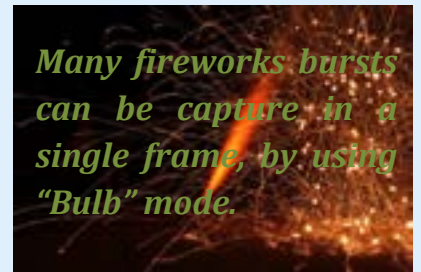


Photography Tips & Tricks

Photographing Fireworks

submitted by Prasad Rao Mocharla

4th July and other Fireworks events attract most of the photographers. The fireworks are the most inspiring, beautiful and photogenic; at the same it is challenging; there are several opportunities to experiment with long exposures, flux muscle with your creativity. This is one of the cases where fully automatic mode may not be very helpful.



Your Location matters:

Make sure that you have clear and unobstructed view of fireworks. To obtain such a location, arrive early; however, don't choose too close to the place from where fireworks will be launched. The closer you are to fireworks launching area you need to aim upwards to capture the fireworks; you may need very wide angle lens to capture multiple bursts in one exposure. The other factor that would affect the exposure is downwind. Thinks to remember while obtain a good location don't become an obstruction/disturbance to people around you.

At these events following thing may be helpful to keep yourself comfortable –

- A bottle of water.
- Camping chair
- Insect repellent and
- A flash light

Also following camera gear –

- A wide angle lens preferable 24-70MM or 10-22 MM if you are planning to include surrounding area with the fireworks.
- A Telephoto lens ... my preference is 70-200 MM.. you may have different lens.
- A cable release or IR remote shutter release. This is required to minimize the camera shake.
- Use a combination of self-timer with shutter release.
- A solid tripod
- One or two fully changed batteries

Camera Settings:

Exposure modes

DON'T SETUP YOUR CAMERA EXPOSURE DIAL TO AUTO .. either set camera to bulb mode or twist your camera mode dial to manual "M".

Shutter speeds

This can be a subject of long and lengthy discussion; mostly the value based on the picture you want to photograph; it can be any value from 1 second to full 30 second or longer. A long exposure is standard for the firework photography.

ISO

Though you will be shooting into dark sky; it is good idea to have ISO setup as low as possible – 50, 100 or 200.

Lens apertures

As you are turning camera mode dial to “M” you need to set-up aperture and shutter speed. You want to stop down the lens aperture to f/11 or lower. The smaller aperture reduce chances of over exposed or washed out picture if there are multiple bursts; and you get the light streak with well saturated vivid colors.

White Balance

Most of the time auto white balance does the good job. To make sure that you are not surprised with weird color cast in all of you fireworks picture; reset White balance to auto before you start shooting. There are different opinions about the subject. Some say if you are shooting in RAW auto whit balance work well and you can correct later in post-production; other “daylight or tungsten.”

Focusing

In this area everyone says focus to infinity. How to do it – In general, there is a distance scale printed on them for this purpose, however, some lenses do not have this scale in that case turn the focus ring clockwise until it stops. Now set the lens to “MF” mode and do not change this until you are done shooting fireworks.

The above camera control options to set up optimum exposure are good beginning points; however, consider some of the Image Control options (**Highlight Tone Priority, Long Exposure Noise Reduction, and Natural picture Style**) which may affect the image quality.

Last but not least is picture composition - that is, the placement and arrangement of subjects in the image- fireworks is no different. The fireworks pose a challenge here, because there is nothing till fireworks explodes in the sky. My suggestions is watch for first two or three burst and try judge the total area they are taking up and how high fireworks are exploding. Based on your judgment of the fireworks area and type of picture you are planning to capture, decide whether to use wide angle or telephoto lens.

Based on your first two or three shots, consider whether you want to change the orientation to be horizontal or vertical see how much of the frame is filled and which orientation will be effectively fill the subject and background information.

For information about fireworks displays through the end of the year click the following link.

<http://fireworksinillinois.com/by-date/>

PAINTSHOP PRO – tutorial

You'll want to snap photos, but if you're not careful they may not turn out quite as vibrant as you remembered.

In this tutorial I'm going to light up some firework photos with depth and color by blending multiple layers. Your family and friends will be blown away.

Now, if you've used layers in PaintShop pro, you will already be familiar with how to add and manipulate images in the layers palette..



Just a quick refresher: if you do not see this palette, launch it by clicking the **F8** key on your keyboard.



Once you see this **layers** pallet, we're ready to add a whole new color dimension to our fireworks photos.

Firework photos are dramatic, but if you've shot fireworks from the ground you simply don't have the time to do anything fancy. Usually, I would use the HDR feature on my camera if I wanted to make my photos pop. But fireworks change in a fraction of a second and that's not enough time for this feature to work.

So what I'm going to do instead of creating an **HDR** image by combining the best attributes of multiple exposures, is use one photo with added layers.

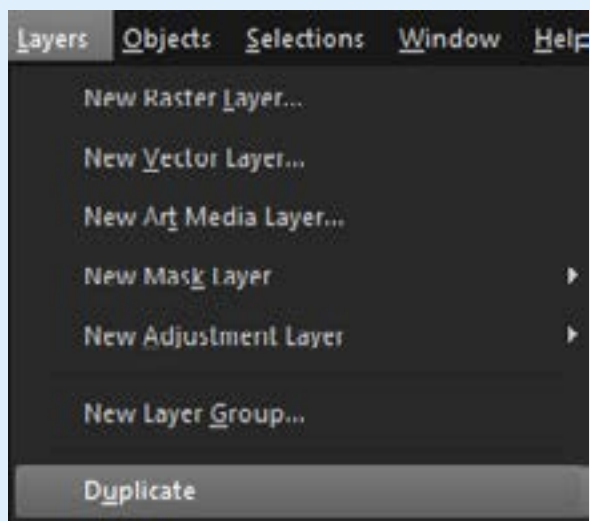
Each layer will add depth and color, and then we'll merge them into one spectacular result.

So let's get started. We want to make our fireworks pop!

The first thing you're going to need is the original image you took at the fireworks display.



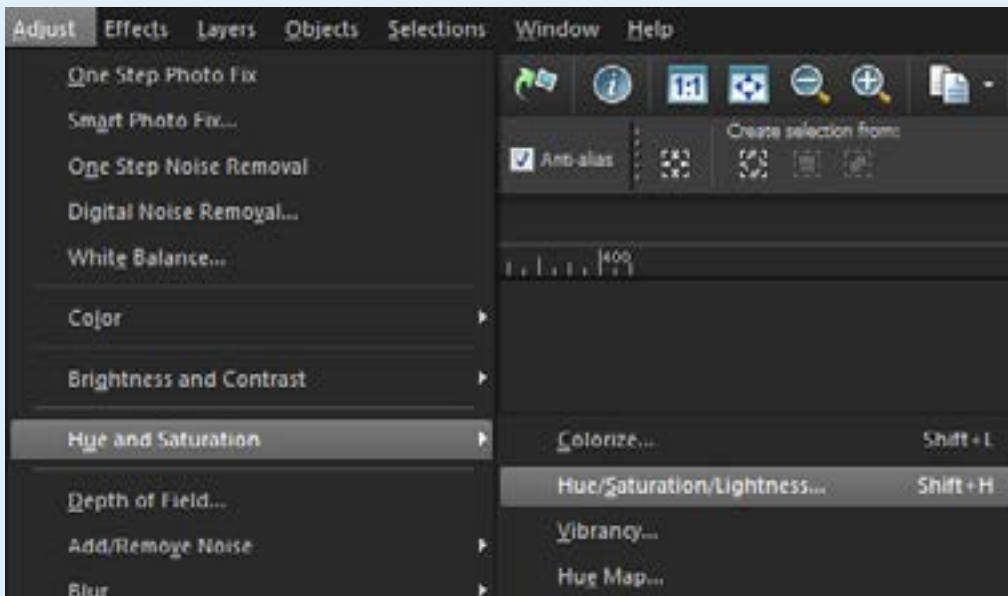
Next, I'm going to do is go to my layers pallet here, right click on the background and select **Duplicate**. Alternatively, you can select **Duplicate** from the **Layers** menu. Re-name this layer to "Multiply" and I'll set the blend mode for this layer to, you guessed it, **Multiply**.



This isn't necessary but it does help keep things organized.

Next, duplicate the background again, drag it to the top and I'll call this one "Vibrant Blur".

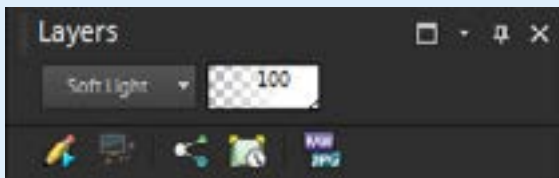
The "Vibrant" name explains it for this layer. You'll want to really increase the photo's color vibrancy. Go to the **Adjust** menu and use **Hue/Saturation/Lightness** or **Vibrancy** from the **Hue and Saturation** menu. You don't need to be shy, I'm using both to give this a real burst of color.



Now go to **Adjust, Blur and Gaussian Blur**.

The amount of blur needed is really going to depend on the size of the photo so there is no real right or wrong number here so just drag the slider until your image looks like this.

So we have two layers, why not three! I'll duplicate one more copy of the background, name this one **Soft Light** and drag it to the very top of the **Layers** palette.



I'm going to soften the differences between the three layers with the blend mode **Soft Light** to really show off that amazing contrast of light against the black background.

If you find that the image is a little too blurry you can always lower the opacity of that layer by dragging the **Opacity** slider over to the left.

When you have the image the way you would like it you can right click on any one of these layers and select **Merge All Flatten** and then save the image in **JPEG** format.

It's just that easy to make your fireworks photos pop!



Prasad Rao Mocharla
Mocharlap@gmail.com

MENTOR PROGRAM



The first year of membership can be confusing and you may find it discouraging to deal with questions on your own. Meeting with a mentor for orientation only takes a short while and will get you up and running much sooner, and make you more certain in dealing with club activities. The combined wisdom of the mentors is extensive, and they all want to help make a stronger club by helping you.

Below is a list of Mentors versed on various subject matters. If you have questions on your camera, Photoshop or Lightroom, please contact one of the individuals below for one on one help.

KODAROAMERS MENTOR LIST				
Mentor	Contact	Camera	Computer	Software
Vandana Bajikar	vandana_bajikar@yahoo.com	Nikon	PC	Photoshop, PSP
Roger Bunting	buntingrk@gmail.com	Canon Panasonic	PC Panasonic	PS3, PSPro XV, Irfanview, My Slide Show
Tracy DeWeese	deweesephoto@yahoo.com	Nikon	PC	ACDSee, Photoshop, Perfect Resize and others
Jim Finch	jm_finch@msn.com	Canon	PC	Photoshop Perfect Photo Suite
Todd Guttschow	toddg@connectingpoint.com	CT2i	Mac	Lightroom, i Photo
Ann Husk	amhusk@frontier.com	Canon	Mac	Lightroom, Photoshop
James Kirk	jamesjkirk@comcast.net	Canon Olympus	Mac	Lightroom, i Photo
Wyn Knapp	wynknapp@me.com	Canon	PC Mac	Lightroom, NIK, Photoshop, Topaz Simplify
Mabel Lux	mlluxarch@msn.com	Nikon	PC	
Mike Lux	mlluxarch@msn.com	Nikon	PC	Photoshop
Andrea Monninger	andreamonninger75@gmail.com	Pentax	PC	PS elements, Lightroom
Denise O'Brien	dobrien@tri-valley3.org	Canon	PC	PS5, PS Elements
Mike O'Brien	mobrien53@frontier.com	Canon	PC	PS5, PS Elements
Ed Ramos	papiramos@hotmail.com	Canon	PC	Lightroom, Photoshop
John Vogel	jvogel1770@aol.com	Nikon	PC	ACDSee, PS Elements