

Foothills Photography Group's Monthly Newsletter

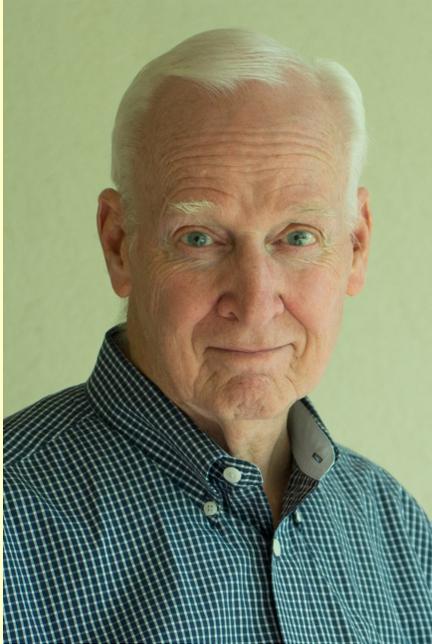
Volume 1, Number 5

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Focus on the
Foothills

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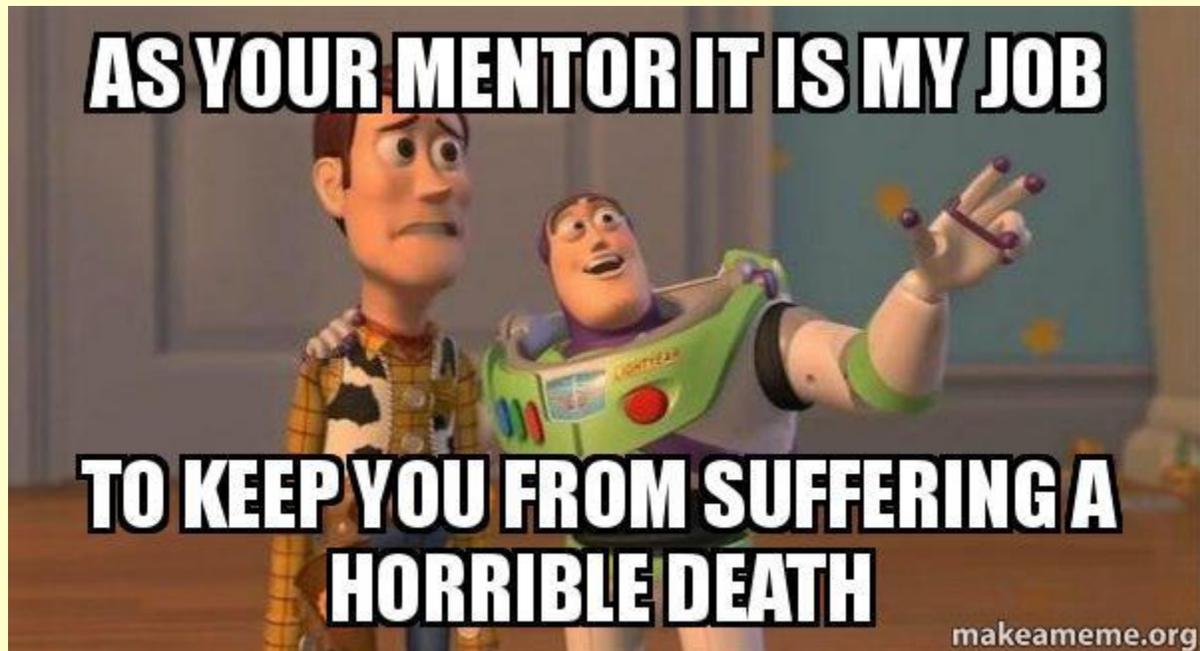
From the president...

Normally you wouldn't expect a board of director's meeting to be very exciting. You would be wrong this time. Last week's meeting was packed with enthusiasm, new ideas, and accomplishment. Here's a sample of what was discussed:

1. The membership wants more hands-on experiences. We'll have fewer outside expert speakers and more learning sessions.
2. The Mentor Program's value isn't being used enough. Look for emphasis at meetings and club communications.
3. The 10 minute "lesson" at club meetings will be moved up to the beginning of the program to give it more importance.
4. Students can have a greater impact on the club - and the club can impact them. We've made a place for a student liaison on the board of directors.
5. Plans are underway for the December meeting to be a Christmas party. (Mark December 15 on your calendar!)

And there was more. Foothills is a dynamic club - and it seems to be getting better as we (the board) learn our way.

Cover Photo: Bevel gears below Nora Mill, Helen, Georgia, by John Martin. Photo processed in Silver Efex Pro 2 to simulate Kodak Tri-X film. If you have an image you think would make a good cover send it to the newsletter editor: jmartin@hemc.net



Well, maybe not that ...but a mentor's job can be almost anything else.

The Club's mentoring program is ready to make you a better photographer. For example, we have mentors primed and ready to go in the areas of Photoshop, Lightroom, Canon cameras, Nikon cameras, flower photography, macro photography, landscape photography, street photography, problem fixing, etc.

Here is what we do not have is an abundance of MENTEE's. (Merriam-Webster says...one who is being mentored.)

This is how you become one: Contact Chuck Lotts at catandchuck@windstream.net or 404-452-0976. Chuck has the complete list of willing club members with skills to share. He will give you names and contact details.

Mentoring is a great way to casually improve your photography. Give it a try.

Carole Kropscot writes this column for the *PSA Journal*. She has given our club permission to include her articles in *Focus on the Foothills*.

Just for **Beginners!**

Basic Icon Shooting Modes

Cameras use a variety of shooting modes to set the exposure. The photographer must choose one of them. Then the camera automatically sets the appropriate combination of f/stop (aperture) and shutter speed for a good exposure.

Shooting modes are indicated by icons (small graphics) or letters on a dial, either on top or on the back of the camera. This mode dial differs on different cameras. The modes are explained in the instruction book for each brand and model of camera. These basic icon shooting modes base their settings on the scene. Commonly found icons are for portraits, landscapes, action (moving subjects), people in dark scenes, and close-ups. Sometimes, but not always, the camera manual will state what actual aperture and shutter speeds are used.

Icon shooting modes are used for convenience by both beginning and experienced photographers. For beginners without extensive knowledge about exposure, these icons are very helpful.

The icon of a lady's head is for taking portraits of people and animals. The camera sets a wide aperture for a sharply focused subject and a slightly blurred background.

The icon of a mountain is for landscapes. The aperture is somewhat closed down to create a higher depth of field, resulting in a sharp foreground and background.

The icon of a runner is for taking action shots of any moving subject so that the moving subject will be as sharp as possible. Although popular for sports, this mode works well for active children and pets. The camera sets a high shutter speed and a coordinating aperture depending on the available light.

The icon of a person with a star is for flash pictures of people at night, dusk, dawn, or in other low light. The shutter speed is reduced so that the background has time to be recorded instead of being dark, as it is with a regular flash exposure.

The icon of a flower is for close-ups of any subject. This mode allows the camera to be placed much closer to the subject. In all other modes, the closest focusing distance is much farther away. The shutter speed is chosen to coordinate with a wide open aperture (an f/stop with a small number).



Sept. 15th
NEXT MEETING
Commercial
Photography



Foothills Photography Group is a newly-formed club serving Habersham and surrounding counties. We invite you to attend this meeting, and join other photographers (beginners to professionals) as we learn, teach and enjoy photography.

For more information visit www.foothillsphotogroup.com
or email club President John Martin at jmartin@hemc.net

Join the
conversation



**Meetings held the 3rd Tuesday of each month at the Visual Tech Building at North Georgia Technical College in Clarkesville .
Social time 6:30pm Meeting starts at 7PM**



Ed Thompson began his career with photojournalism, shooting local news and feature stories for the AJC and The Sunday Magazine. Covering stories from the boardrooms to death row: movie stars to politicians. Ed then began his own business specializing in corporate photography for Fortune 500 companies in the beverage, energy, gold, and agriculture industries. Ed's passion for golf has led to many assignments including the a stint as the official photographer for the Atlanta Senior PGA stop, and assignments with individual players, manufacturers, and clubs.



It's about giving people who otherwise couldn't afford photography, a chance to capture a moment, a memory...and a whole lot more.

Help-Portrait is about **GIVING** the pictures, not taking them. These portraits aren't for a portfolio, website, or for sale.

Here are ways you can be involved:

Volunteers are needed to be runners, greeters, printers, and shooters' assistants.

Corporate sponsors are needed - paper, cd's, envelopes, food for guests and volunteers, bottled water, other drinks.

Getting the word out to churches and civic organizations - to make the service known to those who would benefit.

And you can always contribute money to cover those items that aren't donated.

The event is at NGTC on Saturday, December 5. Questions? Contact Sharon Alicea, 706.809.9866 or flaglady@gmail.com

This may make your Christmas!

A few snapshots...



For those of you who like the great outdoors - particularly the Smokey Mountains - you will be interested in this. Tyson Smith is publishing a free electronic magazine he calls the Smoky Mountain Journal of Photography. The topics focus primarily on nature photography, landscape, wildlife, and close-up, but also include the general area of travel and environmental portraiture. Your editor has checked it out and likes it! Here's the link: <http://www.smjop.com/>



The theme of the next Habersham Medical Center gallery is close to being announced. For this exhibit and all future ones the photographer will submit the photo electronically and the hospital will take care of the printing.



Foothills members will have a rare opportunity to photograph the interior of the historic Georgia Power plants at Tallulah Falls. This is thanks to the efforts of our member Rick Moorhead. Watch future editions of the newsletter and the club's Facebook page for details. (Wow. What a great benefit of membership!)



The club's December meeting will be a Christmas party. The date has been set for December 15. Tentative plans call for catered turkey and ham with potluck side dishes and desserts provided by the membership. More details to follow.



Ineja Wigington (a student at NGTC and one of our newest members) has agreed to serve on the Club's board of directors as a non-voting member. This action was taken by the board in recognition of the value the club can provide the students at NGTC's photography school - and the knowledge and creativity the students can bring to the Club.



Jim Loring does it again! Many thanks go to Jim for the presentation on black and white photography. Have you ever noticed how much more worthwhile a presentation is when the presenter really knows his stuff? Jim does. His examples were "spot on" and he has the technical background to make it understandable.



There is still time (but not much) to submit your black and white photos for critique at the September meeting. Send them to jmartin@hemc.net We've asked Jim Loring to chair the critique session. Who better? And...speaking of sending photos, I had to use one of my own for the cover this month. I would MUCH rather use yours.



Colby Moore will do a "10 minute" lesson on shutter speed at the September meeting. Notice that these "10 minute" lessons have been moved to early in the meeting.