

February 2013
SNAP SHOTS
NEWSLETTER

Meetings: 7:00 pm
2nd and 4th Thursdays
at: [Perfect Light Camera & Supply](#)
Located: next to Verizon in the Teton
Village Mall
2169 E 17th St. in Idaho Falls



HIGH DESERT PHOTOGRAPHERS

www.highdesertphotographers.com



PRESIDENTS CORNER:

I love... is February's photo theme for the club. Now this certainly opens up a whole realm of possibilities for the creative photographer. Using our skills to photograph something (or someone) we love should invoke a little passion about getting the perfect shot. After all, when you love something (or someone) you want to present 'it' in all its glory. I thank Maria Rizzi-Grandi for the suggestion to go with this theme. I personally love coconut cream pie, owls, otters, light painting, waterfalls, auroras, old cars, ;-)

Debby

UPCOMING EVENTS:

14th Feb –Technique Night – Custom Bokeh

28th Feb – Critique Night

Camera Trivia: *Who invented the phrase "say cheese" while taking a photo of someone, and why?*

1. *Saying the word "cheese" usually forms people's mouths into what appears to be a smile-like shape. The creator, if there is any single person, is unknown*
2. *The term was coined impromptu by a dairyman who was trying to photograph his favorite jersey cow*
3. *Eastman Kodak discovered that yelling 'Cheeezzz' is 10 times more fun than yelling 'Pruunnees'*
4. *It was developed by an astute politician to deliver an automatic smile when having their photo taken.*

Are you looking for photo opportunities? Check out the [Photo Ops](#) link on our web page

FOCUS STACKING or IMAGE STACKING

Focus stacking or image stacking is a digital image processing technique which combines multiple images taken at different focus distances to give a resulting image with a greater depth of field (DOF) than any of the individual source images. Focus stacking can be used in any situation where individual images have a very shallow depth of field. Examples of when you might want to try this technique include:

- Landscape photography: one may wish to obtain a vast depth of field, while also avoiding softness at the focal plane due to diffraction. This can enable a much larger and sharper print than otherwise possible.
- Macro photography: one may wish to achieve a greater depth of field than otherwise obtainable using the lens's maximum f-stop (often f/22 or f/32 with SLR cameras).
- Low-light photography: one may want to avoid a prohibitively long exposure time. Alternatively, one may wish to freeze motion in part of their image (such as with a moving subject), but also to preserve an expansive depth of field in other parts of the photo (without resorting to using a flash).



"Iris – Focus Stacked"
by Colin Young

Technique

The starting point for focus stacking is a series of images captured at different focal depths; in each image different areas of the sample will be in focus. While none of these images has the sample entirely in focus they collectively contain all the data required to generate an image which



"Meet James..."
By Anita Burke



"January Sunset"
By Carl Ball



"Angelic"
By Jessica Tate

has all parts of the sample in focus. In-focus regions of each image may be detected automatically, for example via edge detection or Fourier analysis, or selected manually. The in-focus patches are then blended together to generate the final image.

In photography

Getting sufficient depth of field can be particularly challenging in macro photography, because depth of field is smaller (shallower) for objects nearer the camera, so if a small object fills the frame, it is often so close that its entire depth cannot be in focus at once.

Depth of field is normally increased by stopping down aperture (using a larger f-number), but beyond a certain point, stopping down causes blurring due to diffraction, which counteracts the benefit of being in focus. Focus stacking allows the depth of field of images taken at the sharpest aperture to be effectively increased. The images at right illustrate the increase in DOF that can be achieved by combining multiple exposures.



"[Electronics Devices](#)"
by Thomas Bresson

Focus Stacking software

Special software can be used to re-align separate images. These might include TuFuse, Helicon Focus, CombineZM or some combination of Adobe Photoshop's Auto-Merge and Auto-Align features. Fortunately, all of these produce very similar results when aligning images. In Photoshop, you can use either "File > Automate > Photomerge..." or "Edit > Auto-Align Layers..."

For examples of some outstanding focus stacked photos, check out [59 Fiercely Focus Stacked Photos](#).



"[Phidippus clarus?](#)"



"In with the New"
By Debby Tate



"Sunrise View of the Tetons"
By Linda Jamison

By Jeremy Royall

My own attempt at focus stacking gooseberry leaves was not quite perfect but fun all the same. I used six different images with different focal points on my camera. A note to self – you will want to do this in manual mode. Aperture mode will result in different light metering. Shot was taken with a Canon T2i, and a Canon EF 100 mm macro lens. A tripod is a must. Natural lighting on this one (we were out in the field).



[Gooseberry Leaves](#)
By Debby Tate

CLUB NEWS:

FEBRUARY TECHNIQUE NIGHT:

Bring your cameras! This is technique night and we will learn how to create custom bokeh. Bokeh – the word comes from the Japanese word 'boke' meaning blur or haze. In photography this term relates to the aesthetic quality of the out-of-focus areas of an image, which in turn is determined by the way the lens renders those areas.

A 50 mm f1.8 lens is highly recommended. Three stations will be set up to allow each photographer to practice shooting. We will do this using a round-robin style. Bring a small foreground object you would like to photograph. Think creatively about how the bokeh lights or custom bokeh shape will fit into the photograph.

The following is an example of bokeh, and the same shot with a custom heart shaped bokeh. That February theme – I Love...



WEBSITES OF INTEREST:**Focus Stacking and Depth of Field**

<http://www.cambridgeincolour.com/tutorials/focus-stacking.htm>

Focus Stacking – a macro photography technique

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fJiEw4VCcYU>

59 Fiercely Focus Stacked Photos

<http://gizmodo.com/5529710/59-fiercely-focus-stacked-photos>

Local Camera Stores

<http://www.perfectlightstore.com>

<http://www.farrsjewelry.com>

Camera Repair

<http://www.idahocamera.com>

Camera Reviews and Comparisons

<http://www.dxomark.com>

HDP CLUB OFFICERS 2012-2013:

President	Debby Tate	527-3202	pohtateohs@gmail.com
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Director	TBD		
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Webmaster	Debby Tate		
Newsletter Dir.	Ernie Tate		tcs@atcnet.net
Special Asst	Steve Ridges		the_ridges@hotmail.com

CLUB DUES

Dues for 2013 must be paid in full before you can participate. Please bring your checks, made out to High Desert Photographers to a meeting, or mail them to:

Debbie Crawford:
1185 N Boulevard
Idaho Falls, ID 83402
\$20 - Person
\$30 - Family

CLASSIFIED ADS

- Nothing this month!

Trivia Answer: *No one is sure* when or where a photographer first asked his subjects to state the name of the delicious dairy product, but we do know that when you say "cheese," the corners of your mouth turn up, your cheeks lift and your teeth show. It looks like a smile, and since smiling is what we do in pictures, the instruction seems pretty practical. For an interesting and humorous story about this vernacular expression, checkout the link below for a study on its origin.

--brought to you by mental_floss!

Reference: <http://mentalfloss.com/article/21357/why-do-we-say-cheese-when-having-our-photo-taken>

HDP Members who are FLICKR Junkies:

Ball, Carl	www.flickr.com/photos/skiusa1
Balmer, Christopher	www.flickr.com/photos/Phlyfsh
Blacker, John	http://www.flickr.com/photos/jblackpixs/
Brubaker, Adam	http://www.flickr.com/photos/tiedtonature/
Burke, Anita	http://www.flickr.com/photos/anitaburke/
Downs, Farrell	www.flickr.com/photos/Lazydphoto
Ellwein, Gary	www.flickr.com/photos/Nodakbopa
Gribble, Carolyn	www.flickr.com/photos/59092011@N05
Jamison, Linda	www.flickr.com/photos/smithjamison1
Koepsells, Hans	http://www.flickr.com/photos/hansek/
Langley, Greg	www.flickr.com/photos/mountain-image
Neeley, James	www.flickr.com/photos/jpn
Peterson, Chuck	www.flickr.com/photos/petechar
Phillips, Barbara	www.flickr.com/photos/bob_r_ann
Place, Justin	http://www.flickr.com/photos/hamerspud/
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Tate, Ernie	www.flickr.com/photos/t8t0hs2
Tate, Jessica	www.flickr.com/photos/t8ter22
Woodhouse, Mike	http://www.flickr.com/photos/eyezaya50/
Yeates, John	www.flickr.com/photos/john_d_yeates
Yeates, LeAnn	www.flickr.com/photos/65740162@N03