



2009

President- Nancy Jacobek (njacobek @ aol.com)  
Treasurer- Henry Hart  
Newsletter/Secretary- Pat Centeno (PixelatedPat @ gmail.com)  
Program Chair-elect Jerry Hug  
Competition Judges- [OPEN]  
CACCA REP- Bob Benson & Dennis Arendt (alternate)

<http://www.PixelImageCameraClub.com/>

## November 17<sup>th</sup> Meeting

This month's meeting will be Pixel's competition night. The club will meet at 7:30 P.M. Remember, **ONLY PAID MEMBERS ARE ELIGIBLE** to enter club competitions. Dues are still \$20.00. **Remember to email images for the Digital Slide Competition this week, if you have not already done so.** The email address for your images is:

[pixelcc.dpi@gmail.com](mailto:pixelcc.dpi@gmail.com)

Meetings are held in the **Salt Creek Room** at **Friendship Village**, located at 350 W. Schaumburg Road, Schaumburg, 60194-3400. This is west of Roselle Road, past our former meetingplace.

### Coming Events

**November 17, 2009 (TUE) 7:30PM: Pixel Image Camera Club regular competition.**

**November 22, 2009 (SUN) 8:30AM-5PM: CAPs School (CACCA) will be held at Elgin Community College Business Center, 1700 Spartan Drive in Elgin, IL 60123. Doors Open at 7:30AM. REGISTRATION ALREADY CLOSED, but don't forget to attend if you are registered.**

## Notes from the October 27<sup>th</sup> Meeting:

President Nancy Jacobek is back from her extended trip out west and mentioned some of her adventures and those of other attendees. She also mentioned members who are ill or due for surgery in the upcoming weeks and distributed 'trick-or-treats'.

Despite our earlier concerns, the room at Friendship Village does have a screen (portable, not mounted). We learned that it is permissible to park along the curve out front, since the parking lot is not enormous. Hank Hart gave a treasurers' summary report. The upshot is that rental costs the equivalent of 2 members'-dues per month, so we may need to begin charging for our end of year pizza parties. We should also be mindful of ways to attract and recruit new members that are fun for all members.

Member Alan Cox recommended a military grade firewire/USB 500GB solid-state external harddrive from OWC (Other World Computing), after a mishap in which some of his regular drives fell and broke.

Jerry Hug presented his program "Open Forum on InfraRed Photography" to approximately 18 attendees. Dennis Arendt and Bruce Melmin added more information on both "Real" and "Fake" ways to achieve the InfraRed look during and after the presentation. We heard ideas regarding varying ways to shoot images as IR. Some involve real infrared, shot using a camera that has been permanently converted using a service (such as LifePixel, the place Jerry had used), but there are choices involved in the type of conversion: enhanced, extended color, strictly black and white and total spectrum conversion. He pointed out that an older digital camera can be used, such as the inexpensive Dimage 7—but not a "7i" or "7hi". Some conversions require supplemental use of special filters, some do the IR in the camera without additional equipment. Some filters cost about \$20 and others are much more expensive.

Jerry mentioned techniques that he uses to combine both HDR and IR simultaneously. He gets at least 3 shots, varying the exposure by 2 stops each time (2 stops under-exposed, at the correct exposure, 2 stops over-exposed.)

Some InfraRed looks noisy/grainy—which may be caused by the type of camera, but in many cases looks pleasant in the result. Still lifes look the best. Live models being photographed look best if they are towheaded pale Caucasian models, which causes the images to glow.

Tips made by the three of them: recommended shooting RAW to enable more potential to enhance them later, even though jpgs look better right out of the camera. Shooting IR at mid-day (12 noon to 2PM) is the best time. Harsh, bright light is desirable. Try to avoid windy conditions. Shoot overlapping panoramas, either horizontally or vertically (for tall subjects). Also, for more resolution, more pixels to work with later, the camera can be turned vertically, yet pano'd horizontally from left to right.

Jerry demonstrated a rope 'monopod' he uses to steady the camera for handheld shooting success: a bungee type cord attached to a piece that screws into the monopod hole. He steps on the other end and pulls the camera up to hold the line taut.

Concerning software, Jerry demonstrated some images that came out looking reddish just out of the camera. He used the Photoshop actions we emailed to members in the last email to enhance them. From 100 red and 0 blue, he switched to 100 blue with 0 red. He used Khromagery False Colours for the demo when he changed InfraRed color RAW and Jpeg files into blue skies, instead of the usual magenta look. The other IR action was one that needs a follow up with a Hue/Saturation adjustment layer. He also recommended using LightRoom for simple sepia toning with settings of Hue=50, Saturation=20 for a pleasing tan/beige look. He mentioned using RAW in Adobe Photoshop Bridge to apply a Preset for brown tone. He recommends Nik Silver Effects, too. Bruce Malmin mentioned Solar Pro.

Dennis Arendt presented a lovely show of panoramic IR images he had shot ALL ON THE SAME WEEK in September 2008! Venues included Chicago Botanic Garden, the Klehm Arboretum and Botanic Gardens in Rockford, Lincoln Park, and Morton Arboretum. They were taken as black and white in the camera, rather than being digitally enhanced from color after the fact. (They look black and white in the viewfinder, while using B & W mode.) Some images were taken as slow as 1/8 second handheld. He uses Photoshop's PhotoMerge command. Sometimes he tries other options within PhotoMerge, such as "Stitch Only" or, for a tree, "Cylindrical." To find out if your camera can shoot IR, hold a filter in front of the lens, have someone point a TV remote at the camera and click it. If you can see it, it can do InfraRed.

[DISCLAIMER: As always, please take my detailed notes scribbled in the dark as guidelines only. If you spot an error, contradiction or statement that makes absolutely no sense, I urge you to contact our talented and expert speakers directly with your questions for clarification. I apologize for any confusion or errors, but I figured that the notes I jotted could serve as a reminder for those who were in attendance and some basic information for those who were unable to be present.]

~Submitted by Pat Centeno, Secretary~

## **Framed Display for Friendship Village Gallery**

Thanks to my husband, Walter Centeno, who was formerly Pixel's club treasurer for donating some small-print sized (11x14") silver frames to start displaying our work in the gallery at Friendship Village. When the club purchases a more permanent set of frames, we will also be able to display our members' 16 x 20" large prints. The club has an "obligation" to our new hosts at Friendship Village. As part of our rental agreement, we will display some of our work for residents on a rotating basis. It will be nice to show off a bit, as well.

## **Robert Benson, A.P.S.A.**

Congratulations to Bob Benson, APSA, for being recognized at this year's PSA conference. He now has letters after his name to indicate he was made an Associate of the Photographic Society of America for his service in advancement of photography.

## **New Pixel Club Officer-elect**

Jerry Hug agreed to serve as the Chairman of Programming for Pixel Image Club. He already has a lot of ideas for activities to get us off to a dynamic start at our new location, many of which can involve Friendship Village residents who are interested. He suggested a class for residents with digital cameras on how to operate them, perhaps holding the class during daytime hours. Please be willing to come forward with a program, if he asks you to share your talents and ideas with the rest of the club. As we grow, we will be in a better position to afford to bring in a number of outside presenters, also. We may want to entertain the notions of meeting more frequently or during summer months to participate in new activities.

# VOLUNTEER NEEDED TO GET COMPETITION JUDGES

Our club needs a Judge Procurer to make arrangements for 3 judges every other month for our competitions. We currently have an open position. Bob Benson got us 3 people for our competition next week, but this position is vacant and needs to be filled. Bob is willing to help the new chairperson get started with ideas of whom to contact. Please volunteer to help and gain a position on Pixel Club's Board.

## Don't forget to enter the Projected Image competitions!

When we began holding our competition years ago, CACCA didn't have the DPI category set up to enable our work to "go down to CACCA", so our efforts were just seen on a local club level. This category is more important now than ever to the club, because nowadays we can compete with our work in CACCA, as we do with our prints. We were unable to hold one last time in September, remember, because of insufficient participation. **Remember to send your "digital slides" in right now for next Tuesday's competition: [pixelcc.dpi@gmail.com](mailto:pixelcc.dpi@gmail.com)**



Pixel Image has a club membership in the Photographic Society of America (P.S.A.) Many club members are individual members, as well. For details on P.S.A., consult the website: <http://www.psa-photo.org/>. A website for PSA Clubs is:

<http://psa-clubservices.org/index.html>