



This month I wanted to give credit to the centuries long tradition of celebratory fireworks displays. The ephemeral nature of these events pairs nicely with the practice of being mindful. For the entire show, our necks are craned and our eyes are glued to the spectacle. I have heard a few remark, "If you've seen one, you've seen them all." I suppose, in a way, that's true. I however, never tire of watching the explosive and colorful waterfalls, or hearing the "pops" and "booms" that accompany them.

Photographing these displays are so much fun and fairly easy to accomplish. Using basic gear, including your tripod, camera of choice and your wide angle lens you can capture beautiful, colorful photographs to remember your summer highlights. I have not used my cell phone camera for this. If you have, I would love to see your results.



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Set your camera to manual mode. A slow shutter speed of around 3–5 seconds works well, but experimentation is fun too. ISO can be set to 100, f-stop between f8–f11. Sometimes I leave the camera shutter open and use a piece of cardboard to block the lens, thereby picking and choosing which designs I photograph. That way, you're able to layer several different displays onto one frame. Plan for an interesting foreground ahead of time. A lake or pond comes in handy, as well as people, architecture or trees. And then, there are times when I put my camera aside and just enjoy the show.

Happy Summer!!



My current exhibit is now showing at the Firefly Coffeehouse on 114 N. Main Street, Oregon, WI. To see more of my photographs and photo collage artwork click on my website link:

<https://suemerrittphotography.com> or email me @ suemerrittphotography@gmail.com