

Shutterbugs of Volo Bog

July 2019 Newsletter



Pelican – Joe Norton

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The Shutterbugs Camera Club meetings are held at 7 p.m. in the Visitor Center of the Volo Bog State Nature Area the 3rd Wednesday of every month, except in December. Everyone is invited to attend.

Membership is \$25 per year4/single, \$30 per year/ couple.

28478 W Brandenburg Road

815-344-1294

dnr.state.il.us/Lands/landmgt/parks/R2/VOLOBOG.HTM

[http:// shutterbugsofvolobog.com](http://shutterbugsofvolobog.com)

Refreshment Calendar

July - Bob Popelka

August – Pizza night

This month's meeting will take place on the 2nd Wednesday of July due to some scheduling issues. Members are encouraged to print photos of "Anything but Nature".

Thanks to new member Joe Norton for great pictures celebrating spring in Illinois.



White Pelican Raft – Joe Norton



Coyote Dinner – Joe Norton

Focusing on member, Robert Marx

Bob Marx gives us a good picture of his interest in photography with the following bio.

At the age of fourteen a friend showed me how to make contact prints in a bedroom darkroom. Amazed, I got a Brownie camera to take pictures and within a few years I had a 35mm Argus C3 camera, and a darkroom for B&W prints in our basement. That was used until I graduated from college and in the Navy. Then a Minolta SRT and several lenses were purchased for colored slides.

My first digital camera was a 2MP Canon A40 obtained in 2003, that was the beginning of my renewed passion for photography. As my interest grew, and skills improved, newer and better cameras were acquired. Several model Nikon DSLR 's where used, first a D70 in 2005, and a few years later a D90 and D300s with four lenses. Two years ago, a Fuji X-T2 mirrorless camera replaced all the Nikon equipment.

My primary interests are street photography and wildlife photography. The Fuji X-T2 with an 18-135mm lens was used for the Street image, at f5.3 1/500 sec and ISO 200. For most wildlife a 100-400mm lens, and when necessary with 1.4 teleconverter. The Wildlife image was taken set at 400mm, a distance of 60 ft f5.6 1/1000 sec and ISO 800. An 80mm macro lens is useful for both close up and portrait images. The Macro image was made using Focus Stacking, a composite of eight images blended using Photoshop. Settings were f9.0 1/60sec and ISO3200. For most landscapes a 10-24mm lens is used. For the Landscape image the focal then was 18mm, with settings of f18 1/25 sec and ISO 200.

I'm a member of several camera clubs both in Illinois and Florida where the winter is spent. Sharing knowledge and experiences with club members improves visual perspective, photographic skills, and techniques. Five years ago, I started a mentoring program for the Englewood Camera Club in Florida. Small groups to improve photographic techniques, and processing software were formed, and mentored by other knowledgeable members. The informal groups meet for several months each year. I encourage those who have a passion for photography to be actively involved with others having the same interest. For me it's been a wonderful life experience.



Landscape – Bob Marx



Macro Photography – Bob Marx

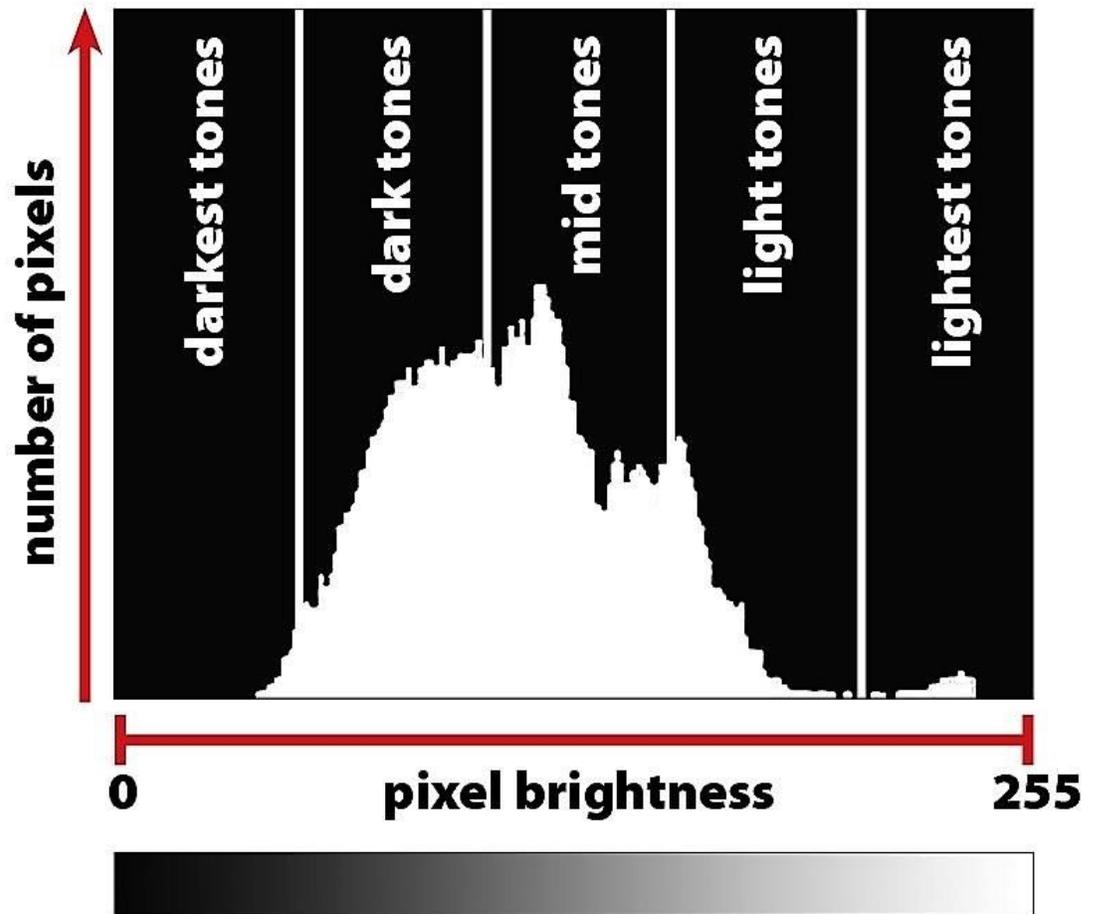


Street Photography – Bob Marx



Wildlife Photography - Bob Marx

Taking a look at Histograms:



Black is 0% on the brightness scale while
White is 100% on the brightness scale.

A Histogram is a graph that evaluates the photo you are taking. It shows all the tones in the photo and the amount of each tone starting with black on the left side, going to the right where it will end with the amount of white or highlights in the photo.

If the peak are clustered to the right and very high you can assume your photo has too much light in it, as in overexposed.

Similarly, if the peaks are clustered to the left you can assume you photo has too much dark in it, and is underexposed.

If your peaks on either side touch the top of the graph and seem to go off the page, then there will be problems is you plan to do post processing.

So how do you use this information? The following from Anne McKinnell might help.

[Anne McKinnell](#) is a photographer, writer and nomad. She lives in an RV and travels around North America photographing beautiful places and writing about travel, photography, and how changing your life is not as scary as it seems. You can read about her adventures on [her blog](#) and be sure to check out her [free photography eBooks](#).

When to use the Histogram

In the field, you can use the histogram in conjunction with Live View to see it before you make an image (or turn it on if you have a camera with an Electronic Viewfinder like many mirrorless models offer). You can also see it afterwards when you review the photo on your LCD screen. Either way, it's critical that you use the histogram to check your exposure while you're in the field. That way you have an opportunity to make another exposure while you are still on scene.

Don't rely on your LCD to give you feedback about exposure. It's great for checking composition and focus, but not exposure. That's because the brightness of your LCD has nothing to do with the brightness of your image, since you can adjust the brightness of your LCD. For example, you can brighten it so you can see it more easily outside on a sunny day. But then if you don't change the brightness back again and you look at it at night your images are going to appear super bright, when they actually are not.

[Rick Berk](#) is a photographer based in Freeport, Maine, shooting a variety of subjects including landscapes, sports, weddings, and portraits. Rick leads photo tours for [World Wide Photo Tours](#) and his work can be seen at [RickBerk.com](#) and you can follow him on his Facebook page and on Instagram at [@rickberkphoto](#).

The following from Rick Berk---

“Now, here's the big secret. If you use Live View on your camera, you can view a live histogram, that will update and reflect changes in exposure when your exposure changes. This means you can judge what your current exposure is, and watch in real time how changes to that exposure will affect your image. It's a great way to get a feel for how even a slight adjustment in shutter speed, aperture, or ISO can affect your exposure.”

Bottom line -----try using the Histogram on your camera and see if this changes the way you take pictures. Professionals probably know all about the Histogram but if you are an amateur this could make a difference. It's easier to read the information on the Histogram than it is to tell if your picture has the right exposure just by looking at it in the review screen.

The internet is full of tutorials and lessons on using the Histogram!



Moth on a Cow Parsnip – Carl Stineman



Jeramiah (was a bullfrog) – Carl Stineman

Summer Time Phone Photos:



Dandelion Fluff - Eileen Klehr



Wild Rose - Eileen Klehr



Utah Wildflower - Noelle Klehr

The Shutterbugs of Volo Bog is presently without a Secretary with the untimely passing of Marie Caviness.

The June meeting's plan of photographing birds cancelled due to rain. A small group met inside and informally chatted about things camera related.

Club President Michael Schmitt is working on an entry to the World Wildlife Stamp competition. He shared details of the competition and all wished him well in this challenging endeavor.