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**Subject:** March 8, 2016 Meeting Minutes of the Jefferson County Photo Club  
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The March meeting of the JCPC was held Tuesday, March 8, 2016. Topics of discussion included:

Melanie mentioned that there was a new [www.meetup.com](http://www.meetup.com) group in Martinsburg that was advertising shootouts for boudoir and pinup types of photos. It is advertised with 2 models and 9,000 sq. ft. of studio space. The organizer is Wendy Lee and the cost is \$175 for 4 hours if signed up before April 1.

Kurt sent out an email to the group regarding the The Farmland Protection Board looking for some shots of Civil War battlefields in Jefferson County. If you have any you'd like to share with them, contact Liz Wheeler at [farmlandprotection@jcda.net](mailto:farmlandprotection@jcda.net).

There has been some slight changes in our upcoming meeting schedule:

- April will be our club competition, which will also be our showing at the Fire Hall Gallery. Please bring your work, framed, matted and ready to show, to the April meeting. Sizes can range from 11 x 14 to 16 x 20 and should be something you have not shown before. The folks who attend the April meeting will vote on their top 3 submissions, and the one's with the most votes will win a ribbon. We will leave our work there to be displayed through the weekend of April 15-17, 2016.
- May will be a seminar on How to Keep Inspired and Macro Photography.
- June will be a critique session, so please bring work that you would like to have critiqued.
- Diana Cooper, a nature and wildlife photographer, will come talk to us about Wildlife/Nature Photography in October. If you want to see some of Diana's work, check her website <http://gallery.coopercaptures.net>.
- Frank Ruggles, a landscape photographer, from Great Falls, VA, will come talk to us about Landscape Photography in December. If you want to see some of Frank's work, check out his website <http://frankleeruggles.photoshelter.com>.

The rest of the schedule remains the same.

There will be a full month showing of the club's work in September at the Fire Hall Gallery. The club decided that we should show a couple of photos each, that show what we are best at. Along with our work, each photographer should provide an Artist Statement. Sample of Artist Statements can be found here: <http://digital.photoshelter.com>

Statement. Sample of Artist Statements can be found here: <http://digital-photography-school.com/6-tips-for-writing-an-artist%E2%80%99s-statement>. Please let Melanie, Kelly or Rip know in advance if you will be participating in the September showing so we can determine how many photos we can accept.

Rip mentioned that there is a Juried Photography Exhibit which will be on display June 8- July 9, 2016 in the Berkeley Art Works gallery. Entries are open now through April 18. Details and online entry instructions visit [artworks.berkeleyartswv.org/photo16/](http://artworks.berkeleyartswv.org/photo16/).

Stephanie mentioned that The Western Maryland Scenic Railroad has acquired the C&O 1309 Steam Engine, which was the last steam locomotive built for a domestic railroad. Once the renovations to the engine are complete, the Railroad will be operating every weekend, May - September. The cost has not yet been determined (but may be \$180 for an all day excursion) but you can find out more information at <https://www.movingfullsteamahead.com/content/co1309>. This would be a perfect shoot out opportunity.

Lastly, there is an exhibit at the Washington County Museum from the Cumberland Valley Artists and Photographic Salon. There are many photos on display and is worth checking out.

### **Printing, Matting and Framing - by Melanie Brownsmith and Rip Smith**

Melanie and Rip led a very informative discussion on printing, matting and framing your photos for display. There are many options available and only some were captured here.

#### **Printing**

There are only 2 options for printing your work: doing it yourself or sending out to a processor to print for you. You need to ask yourself "what do you want your final product to look like" and adjust your work accordingly.

Print yourself can be expensive, especially if you don't do a lot of printing. Printer ranges from \$265 to \$2500 and up. Cartridges for the printers can run \$85 and up. If you don't use your printer often, your cartridges can dry out, and if you use it a lot, you will run out quickly.

Rip suggested that when looking at printers, you want to go with one that is a pigment printer, like an Epson 2000 or 2100. Epson seems to have better quality. Pigment inks will last longer than other types. Rip also stated that you need to make sure you get your digital files right and that your editing skills should be good.

There are literally hundreds of paper available for printing photos but only to major types: Matte (softens blacks) or Glossy - luster/satin/semi-gloss, etc. (deeper blacks). When using Gloss, look for D-Max or Maximum Density. Thin paper can cause your framed work to have a wavy look to it. A thick paper is better. When printing photos, especially for showing your work, you want to make sure you use the same paper for all of your work. This will make sure your photos look consistent.

If you send out to a lab, you can check to see if they offer swatch books of the types of paper they offer. Some of the labs you can check out are: MPix Pro - [www.mpix.com](http://www.mpix.com), Bay Photo - [www.bayphoto.com](http://www.bayphoto.com), for creative print processing, you can try Automated Photo Technology - <http://automatedphototechnology.com>.

### **Matting and Framing**

When choosing a mat, you should go one size bigger than the size of your photo. Poor presentation can make good photos look bad. Use the best materials that you can afford - this includes mats as well as frames. Use archival materials - they will last much longer, this includes paper, mats, and tape (AC Moore or Michael's carries acid free tape). Make sure you use acid free mats and backing boards and reinforcement tape to hold your photo to the mat. Mats should be a 2 to 3 ratio. Be aware that you use mats that fit your image. Ph neutral will help to preserve your work. Make sure to hang your wire so that it never shows above the top of your photo frame.

Frame moldings will vary greatly. Don't distract from your work with your framing and matting. Keep your lines clean, and your presentation simple.

I think that's it for now, unless someone has something to add. Our next meeting will be held at the Fire Hall Gallery on April 12, 2016. Don't forget to bring your work, framed and matted, ready to hang, for the exhibit to be shown in April.

Thanks,  
Kelly