Jefferson County Photo Club
Minutes
April 11, 2023

Attendance: John Kracke, Doug Allmond, Mary Jo Bennett, Ellen Hardesty, Alice Newton, Mike Keefer

The meeting started off discussing where to find the best Blue Bells which are now in full bloom.

Photo Ops:

May 20 or 21 Shepherds Town Back Alley Garden Tour and Tea. $30
April 29 - 30 Shenandoah-Potomac House and Garden Tour
April 15 - Leesburg Flower and Garden
April 23 – Blue Grass Festival at the Mountain Lake Club $60 for three nights
August 26 & 27 - Martinsburg Air Show Celebrating 100 years
Maryland Federation ? Art Wolfe,

John Kracke mentioned that a Meter shower can be seen on April 22nd. He suggested that you set your camera to Manual, open the shutter for 8 seconds, then experiment with an Fstop of 1.2, 3.5 or 4.5.

This month was a double header for our challenges - Motion and Shooting Through. Members proved that they are up to the challenge when it comes to creativity and technique. Kudos to everyone! Alice Newton returned this month and was impressed with the increased skill level of the Club members.

Next month's challenge will be "Bracketing /HDR"
There are several programs you could use to get an HDR (high dynamic range) image such as: Canon Digital Professional, Arora, Nik, Luminar

Doug Allmond has provided some information about the Bracketing Challenge. If you haven't received his email, I am including it in the minutes, below, for your convenience.

This month's challenge is "Bracketing". I have put together a demo to illustrate the concept of bracketing and added a little extra piece on creating an "HDR" image.

Bracketing:

There are many situations where choosing how to set exposure can be a real challenge. You can encounter a bright sky and a dark object in the same scene. So, if you expose for the sky, the dark area will be gone and, exposing for the dark area will result in a blown out sky.
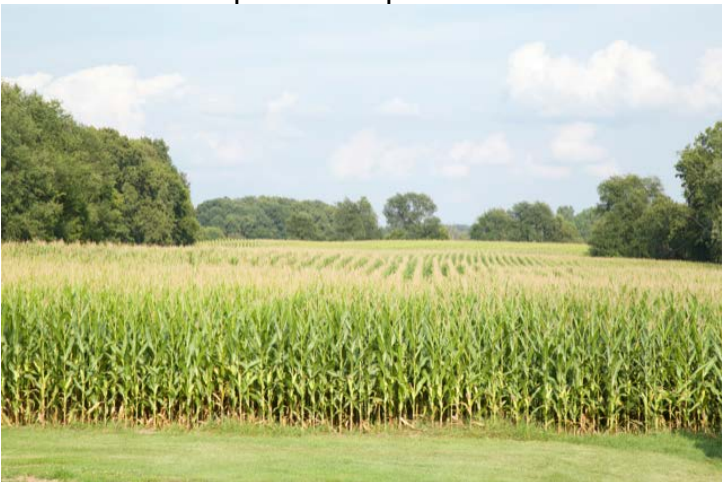
That is where "bracketing" comes into play. Rather than taking one shot and hoping for the best, many photographers will deliberately underexpose the shot and also overexpose it numerous times. The hope is that one of the exposers will be printable. In this example, I used one stop increments and only did three exposers.

Below is an example of a series of bracketed shots of a corn field.

This is a normal exposure:

This is one stop over exposed:

This is one stop under exposed:

While none of the shots are perfect it may be possible to get a good image from one of them by doing a good bit of processing.

However, there is an alternative. It is called HDR (High Dynamic Range).
There are several software packages that have the ability to combine multiple exposers of the same scene and produce one image.

This is an HDR image of the three shots from above:

As you can, see the result is remarkable.

Obviously, HDR can only be done in the digital world. It is possible to use film but it would needed to be scanned first.
Some newer digital cameras have a built in option to do HDR in the camera by shooting three images and combining them internally.
The cameras I use only produce a JPEG version of the HDR whereas, the software that combines three (or more) can use other formats.

HDR software is available from several vendors. I use Aurora, Luminar, and Canon Digital Photo Professional 4.
Adobe, Photomatix Pro, and Lightroom Classic, among others also sell HDR software.

I will have HDR software available for demonstration at our next meeting.

I hope this information is helpful,
-doug