



# Mile High Wildlife Photography Club

September 2010

Volume 34, Number 09

## Edit As If There's No Tomorrow by Russ Burden

(Editor's Note: This month's article and photos are courtesy of Russ Burden, reprinted from [www.takegreatpictures.com](http://www.takegreatpictures.com) . Please take a look at this website for more articles highlighting photographic techniques and ideas! )

*If you love the sound of capturing images at seven frames a second to the point at which you fill your buffer, you will have a lot of similars. Within each series, there will always be a few that stand head and shoulders above the rest.*



Digital photography has created a new phenomenon that I call "lead finger syndrome." What was once reserved for fast drivers and known as "driving with a lead foot" has now migrated into the world of digital photography. Being one from the "old days" of film I was certainly more conservative with both the frequency and duration of time I pressed the shutter. But given the fact that every digital capture is free, I'm much more prone to laying on the motor drive. I still haven't graduated to the ranks of a lead fingered photographer, but I do come back from a shoot having taken more pics than in my film days. While this certainly increases my chance of capturing that killer photo, the cause effect relationship presents a dilemma when it comes to editing.



What am I going to do with all these pics? Where do I begin my editing? Where will I find the time to sort? Where will I store them all.....? The questions go on yet the answer is relatively simple and two fold. 1) If you absolutely hate to edit, you have to find a compromise between how much of a lead fingered photographer you want to be relative to the amount of time you want to spend in front of the computer. If you return from every session dreading the edit, shoot less to make your job easier. If you decide to be a lead fingered champ, graciously accept the fact you'll stare at the screen toggling the right arrow and delete button a lot. 2) Edit like there's no tomorrow - If you love the sound of capturing images at seven frames a second to the point at which you fill your buffer, you will have a lot of similars. Within each series, there will always be a few that stand head and shoulders above the rest. Keep those and get rid of the rest. Shift-Click the throw aways and get rid of them in mass as it will allow you to more clearly evaluate the best ones. Be ruthless as nobody is going to buy the photo of the one that almost works.

Here's what I do. When I get back from a shoot, I do what I call a Quick Edit. I immediately discard the softly focused, poorly cropped, poorly exposed, eyes closed, etc. unmistakable throw aways. If I notice any killer pics, I assign them five stars. For this Quick Edit I'm doing the obvious for only the best and worst. The reason is I'm still too emotionally attached to the photos and if I try to rank them into a more fine tuned hierarchy, my sentiments, challenges to get the image, etc. get in my way and it becomes too subjective. With this in mind, I separate myself for a period of time and revisit each folder a month or so later at which point I can be much more objective.

When you've reconciled that it's time to perform a solid edit, as stated above, be ruthless with your decision to keep an image. Is it better than ones you already have of the same subject? Is it to be used as a place holder in that it's the best one you currently have of that subject? Is it technically and creatively sound? Does it have potential to be used in conjunction with another image in a montage? Does it have potential stock or sales likelihood? Is it one of the top five in a

series of twenty or more? If you answer YES to these questions, hold and rank the photo. If not, eliminate it from the folder. All this being said, there are many photographers who simply can't even get stand the thought of deleting their captures. If you fit this mold, get yourself some external drives and copy all your files to them so you feel secure. But on your desktop, cull the folders to make your everyday work flow that much smoother. Each of the three accompanying photos were the best in the series or circumstance from when they were photographed - trust me, many of the others were deleted.



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## Photo Opportunity Of Interest :

On **October 16 & 17** Joseph Van Os Photo Safaris ([photosafaris.com](http://photosafaris.com))—is offering a weekend nature and digital photography seminar with renowned photographer John Shaw in **Denver**. John will be presenting nature photography on Saturday and digital workflow and the digital darkroom on Sunday. We've held these seminars in numerous cities over the past few years and each one has been very well attended and received.

**Location:** Denver Airport Marriott at Gateway Park, Aurora, Colorado

**Dates/Time:** October 16 & 17, 2010, 8:30 AM – 4 PM

**Cost:** \$160 for one day, \$225 for the full weekend (add \$20 if registering at the door)

**Registration:** Call 206-463-5383 or register on-line at: <http://www.photosafaris.com/main/john-shaw-photo-seminars-2010/>.



Richard Seeley received Second place in Photography at the Magnolia Art Festival, Gloucester, Massachusetts with his image Motherly Moment:



Motherly Moment  
© Richard Seeley, All Rights Reserved



Reed Nelson's "Bosque Blast-In" won 1st place in the wildlife category of the Louisville Art Associations 19th annual national juried photography show. Image Submissions came from Hawaii to Maine.

Additionally, one of Reed's Images was selected for the 2012 "Inner Reflections" calendar. (distribution world wide) This is the first time one of Reed's images is published.

*Congratulations, Richard and Reed!*

### Upcoming TWE Fundraiser !

THE WILDLIFE EXPERIENCE has an upcoming fundraiser event that club members may want to consider. The **Boa Ball** will be held on October 9th, 2010, featuring a Cirque Nouveau theme, live & silent auction, entertainment and dinner. Together with previous events TWE hopes to raise over \$300,000 to help further the mission to instill respect for habitat and wildlife and inspire efforts to conserve for generations to come, through educational, interactive and entertaining experiences. Please see the related article on the next page requesting that club members consider donating a sample of their photography work for the silent auction.



### Hospitality for the September Meeting

**Raymond Cassel - Cookies/Snacks**

**Chris Frazier - Beverages**



## **Photo Opportunities Of Interest—Photo Contests**

### *Wyoming Wildlife Magazine Annual Contest*

Wyoming Wildlife Magazine's annual photography contest is an excellent forum to showcase your photo excursions to Wyoming. The rules and entry forms for the 2010 contest have not yet been posted on the website, but the 2009 rules are still available on the site:

<http://gf.state.wy.us/services/publications/index.asp>

### *2010 Audubon Magazine Photography Awards: Birds in Focus*

#### Call for Entries

Turn your love of birds and photography into a dream trip to the Galapagos, the Peruvian Amazon, or wild Belize, camera equipment, and iPod Touches preloaded with Audubon Guide apps in the second annual Audubon Magazine Photography Awards. Winning entries will appear in the January-February 2011 issue of Audubon and in Nature's Best Photography.

Information: <http://audubonmagazinephotoawards.org/>

Deadline: September 7, 2010

No purchase necessary. Contest begins 05/15/10 and ends 09/07/10. Must be at least 13 years of age and a legal resident of the U.S. or Canada (excluding Quebec) to enter. Entrants under the age of majority must get permission from their parent or legal guardian to enter the Contest and provide payment information. See Official Rules at <http://audubonmagazinephotoawards.org/rules.html> for complete details and how to enter without paying the entry fee. Void where prohibited.

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## **And a Charitable Opportunity to Share Your Photography ~**

The Wildlife Experience will be hosting its annual fundraising event, the BOA Ball, on October 9th. A silent auction will also accompany the ball. We are asking members of MHWPC to consider donating a photographic print for this benefit. MHWPC is looking for 5 members willing to help out. If you're interested, please contact Chuck Winter. Members can bring the images to the September meeting or just let Chuck know they are willing to help support TWE and he will arrange to pick up your prints.

The Wildlife Experience's information letter states "The silent auction is a highly visible attraction of the event, ramping up the evening by letting our guests get involved at all dollar levels, and providing an opportunity to put your name repeatedly before our guests. Your donation will be recognized in a number of ways including recognition in our Nov/Dec 2010 member newsletter, circulated to over 2,000 homes.

Since The Wildlife Experience is a qualified 501(c)(3), your donation may be tax deductible. All auction donations with a retail value of \$1,000 or greater will be acknowledged on the donor wall in 2011. We hope that you will consider supporting the signature gala of The Wildlife Experience with a donation of a silent auction item. To learn more about us, please visit our website at [thewildlifeexperience.org](http://thewildlifeexperience.org) or feel free to contact Flora Jane Schaller at 720.488.3359 or [fschaller@twexp.org](mailto:fschaller@twexp.org). "

# August Club Competition Results

Category: Wildlife

Judge: Jim Steinberg

## First Place



*Giraffe, Oxpeckers, & Drool* by Chuck Summers

## Second Place



*Feeling Better?* by Nancy Nelson

## Third Place



*Calling My Girlfriend* by Richard Goluch

## Honorable Mention



*Wood Duck Reflection* by Reed Nelson

## Honorable Mention



*Eared Grebe with Breakfast* by Bob Stocker

# August Club Competition Results

Category: Scenic

Judge: Jim Steinberg

**First Place**



*Cloudscape* by Lynn Bishop

**Second Place**



*Soft Curves of the Sand Dunes* by Reed Nelson

**Third Place**



*River Sunrise* by Bob West

# August Club & Masters Competition Results

Category: Open

Judge: Jim Steinberg

## First Place—Club



*Go Away* by Roger Kinney

## First Place—Masters



*Meerkat Running at High Speed* by Charlie Summers

## Second Place—Masters



*Kaleidoscoped Blackbird* by Jan Forseth

# August Masters Competition Results

Category: Wildlife

Judge: Jim Steinberg

## First Place



*Pika Running with Grass in Mouth* by Charlie Summers

## Third Place



*Snowy Egret Catching Fish* by Fi Rust

## Second Place



*Leaping Lambs* by Reb Babcock

## Honorable Mention



*Swift Fox Interaction* by Jan Forseth

# August Masters Competition Results

Category: Scenic

Judge: Jim Steinberg

First Place



*Cotton Candy* by Jan Forseth

Second Place



*Bare Tree at Sunrise* by James Hager

Third Place



*Lupine Raindrops* by Reb Babcock

Honorable Mention



*Hunts Mesa First Light* by Russ Burden

## At the Last Meeting

Our August meeting featured an excellent presentation by Jim Steinberg, a professional photographer based in Steamboat Springs, Colorado. Jim's presentation was a step away from the standard here's-some-of-the-places-I've-been style, and much more of a 'learning' opportunity for those present. Mr. Steinberg's message was to simplify one's photography, keeping in mind the basics of line, form, color, and shapes. Starting with fairly direct photos, such as a stairs to illustrate the concept of line, Jim showed these concepts in use in progressively more complex or rich photographs, showing how the basics still apply in a variety of subjects and environments to capture the eye of the viewer, lead the viewer from one part of the photograph to other parts, or lead the viewer into the photograph. By deliberately choosing compositional elements and planning the photograph, one can produce higher quality work and lessen the amount of post-processing needed.

Jim ended the presentation with a question and answer session, taking the time to answer a variety of questions about his work and the presentation. Jim also had copies of his most recent books available – a two volume set "Colorado Scenic Byways" and a companion Road Atlas & Travel Guide. The books were available for purchase either as a set or separately. Enough attendees bought the books that at least one was sold out. Jim graciously offered to ship copies to others wanting to buy. I bought the Road Atlas & Travel Guide and look forward to using this in my explorations of Colorado.

Jim also judged the monthly competition, and took more time than some in offering constructive pointers, having specific criticism of both the good points in a submission and areas for possible improvement, and referred back to the concepts in his presentation frequently. Please visit [www.jimsteinbergphotography.com](http://www.jimsteinbergphotography.com) and [www.portfoliopublications.com](http://www.portfoliopublications.com) for additional information, including upcoming workshops offered by this month's presenter.

Prior to the presentation, Matt had several announcements and bits of club news, including:

- ◆ The club is going to look into a possible calendar to benefit The Wildlife Experience. Ron Eberhart and Tammy Hammond volunteered to lead this effort.
- ◆ Photo contests currently accepting entries include The Lux Awards ([www.theluxawards.com](http://www.theluxawards.com)); The Wildlife Heritage Foundation of Wyoming ([www.whfw.org](http://www.whfw.org)), and the National Audubon Society ([www.audubon.org](http://www.audubon.org))
- ◆ Russ Burden announced a free offering by DPA featuring Lensbaby products and a tour of Denver Victorian homes.
- ◆ Our featured speaker a few months ago, Glenn Randall, has workshops in Rocky Mountain National Park this month. See the August newsletter for additional details.
- ◆ Club membership dues are expected to remain the same in 2011.
- ◆ The club will now offer a \$25.00 honorarium for all non-member presenters.
- ◆ This year's TWE exhibit featuring MHWPC photographers should be up sometime this fall.
- ◆ Next month's meeting (September) is in the Great Hall at TWE, not the theatre.
- ◆ And last but not least – all club members are urged to consider volunteering for 2011 positions in the club – a list of officer positions and team leaders is on the last page of every newsletter. Please contact Matt or a current officer or board member if interested in taking a role in the club next year!

## Library News from the Lamb's

Come by and check out the great resources we have in the Club library. At the last meeting we purchased the book, Colorado Scenic Byways with Photographs by our speaker last month, Jim Steinberg, and text by Susan Tweit. Wow! What a neat book this is for the library. I don't want to put it out because I'd like to reread it, take the roads and trails, and find the origins of the gorgeous photos. The foreword by Gov. Bill Ritter is an excellent tribute to our beautiful state. Also, the atlas which is part of the collection is an excellent resource. You will need to add this book (books ) to your collection. Contact me if you would like to put a hold on this for the next meeting. I will deliver it to you then.



We also have some excellent donated books about foxes, Yellowstone National Park, the Great Plains, and several DVD's of our National Parks. SO – COME AND CHECK US OUT! See you at the September meeting.

-The Lamb's  
(Thanks for the great programs, Chuck)

## Upcoming Programs

**September** Our September meeting will feature a program on photo opportunities by Friends of the Front Range Wildlife Refuges. Also scheduled: IGINW - "I Got It! Now What!", a program on web based sources for greeting cards, calendars, and photo books.

**October** Our October meeting will feature a presentation by Gordon and Cathy Illg on taking great bird photographs.

**November** This month will feature a program on Iceland by Steve Goodman.

**December** Meeting format / program to be announced.

## Digital Study Meeting

Our August meeting was a three-part Round Robin Presentation. Part one was "How to photograph using Hyper Focal Distance to maximize Depth of Field" by Matt Schaefer. The instruction featured both a PowerPoint presentation and handouts. The second subject covered the required hardware for making exquisite panos by Ron Eberhardt. The third part will demonstrated the ins and outs of how to clean your image sensor by Russ Burden, using actual cameras and the tools for the job.

Our September meeting will feature Match Grun. Mr. Grun will give a presentation on High Dynamic Range capture and processing, including how the human eye and camera perceive light and why the camera cannot match the human eye; HDR (High Dynamic Range) imaging or photography can help bridge the shortcomings between camera and eye. How do we perform this technique? What software is required to perform HDR? Post processing steps will be introduced and Match will provide resources for more information - books and websites.

All paid members are encouraged to attend the digital study meetings. The meetings start at 7:15 PM, normally on the 4th Wednesday of each month. Enter through the main entrance, not the doors used for accessing the theater. PLEASE NOTE!: Starting in July, the digital study meetings have moved to the Great Room at TWE. This is the room used for the club meetings when the theatre has not been available. This change in location is to accommodate the growth in attendance in the digital meetings. Bring a notebook and writing implement to take your notes! These meetings are a great opportunity to learn something new every month.

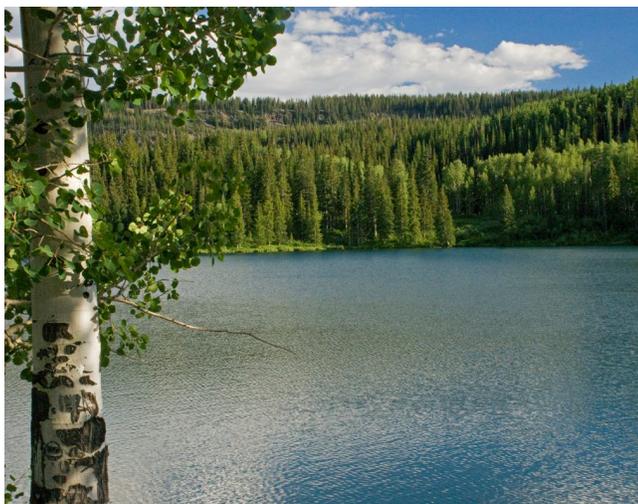


## Member Trips and Outings!

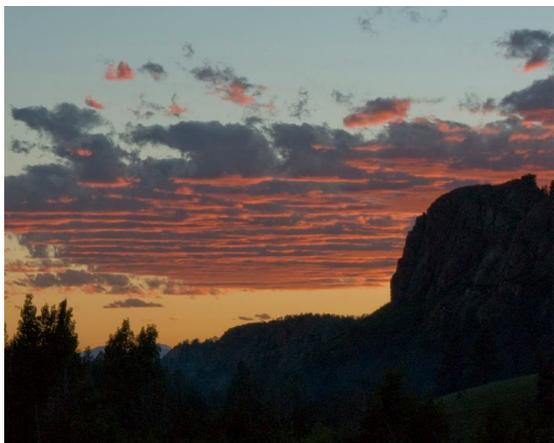
Russ Burden— I was teaching a specially designed Macro class for the Digital Photo Academy at Hudson Gardens. A very cooperative damselfly posed for some of us. It was one of those serendipitous moments. Two flashes and a 70-200 lens with a 5T close up filter.



Chris Frazier—Photo taken on July 17th at Mesa Lakes, Grand Mesa National Forest:



Chris Frazier—Photo taken at sunset on August 14th near Cripple Creek:



## News From Russ Burden—

The huge news I shared with some of you back in February regarding my articles on the Outdoor Photographer website has just gotten better. On the home page of the OP site, they are running a new feature called *OP Tip of the Week*. Every Monday I will have a new Tip posted. Needless to say, I'm very excited about this. If you're not familiar with Outdoor Photographer, it's by far the most popular magazine/website for photographers interested in photographing anything to do with the great outdoors.

Visit the Outdoor Photographer website [www.outdoorphotographer.com](http://www.outdoorphotographer.com) Go to the middle of the page to click on the *Tip of the Week* link. I encourage you to read the *Tip of the Week* and feel free to leave some positive comments. Please help spread the word that my articles now appear on line at the OP website. It's been in the works for awhile and now that's it's come to fruition, I'm ecstatic. Pay a visit every Monday to read a new Tip.

The more people who read the articles, the more will know just how much photography means to me. I'm hoping this helps reinforce to everyone just how important our wonderful art is and that I'd love to share my knowledge, enthusiasm and passion for it with each and everyone of you on a nature photography tour. Visit my newly updated website for all the details.

Thanks for helping get the word out about the *Tip of the Week*.

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## *Nature's Best Camera Club Entry* Submission News !

The Mile High Wildlife Photography Club has entered the Nature's Best semi-finals, and they'll be looking at our high-res images now. Keep your fingers crossed. Thanks again to all of you who helped put together this years submission.

- James Hager

## Member Workshops and Tours:

### Cathy & Gordon Illg – Workshops:

The Illg's can be contacted at:

Adventure Photography 303 237-7086 or

[gordon@advenphoto.com](mailto:gordon@advenphoto.com)

[www.advenphoto.com](http://www.advenphoto.com)

### 2010 Schedule includes:

- ◇ South Dakota: Badlands National Park, September 19 - 24
- ◇ Colorado: Colorado Color, September 26 - October 1
- ◇ Minnesota: Fall Wildlife, October 4 –7
- ◇ Bryce and Zion National Parks, October 31— November 5
- ◇ Costa Rica: The Cloud Forest, November 8 - 17
- ◇ Utah: Arches & Canyonlands National Parks, December 12 - 17

Coming in 2011—

Switzerland , Berner Oberland TBA

Yellowstone National Park, February 2—7

We are offering our NANPA discount to all club members also – \$50.00 discount on less than 5 day tours and \$75.00 discount on all other domestic tours.



## James Hager Photography - Small Group Photo Safaris

Visit [www.JamesHagerPhoto.com](http://www.JamesHagerPhoto.com), or email [James@JamesHagerPhoto.com](mailto:James@JamesHagerPhoto.com)

Tanzania in Feb 2011: 15 days of African wildlife during the wildebeest birthing season; Ngorongoro Crater and Serengeti National Park, Feb 5-19, 2011

Gorillas in Feb 2011: 5 days of photographing mountain gorillas in Volcanoes National Park, Rwanda, Feb 19-26, 2011

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## Mile High Travels and Tag Along Trips

Anyone interested in Mile High Travels or Tag-Along Trips can contact Chuck Winter.(303)972-2538, [cwinter80127@gmail.com](mailto:cwinter80127@gmail.com), or, [cwinter@mii-irmcc.com](mailto:cwinter@mii-irmcc.com). Future trips can also be submitted to the newsletter for inclusion in the next edition. For short -notice trips, consider posting a blog on the club website!

**SHARE THE FUN—JOIN THE FUN—ENJOY THE EXPERIENCE**

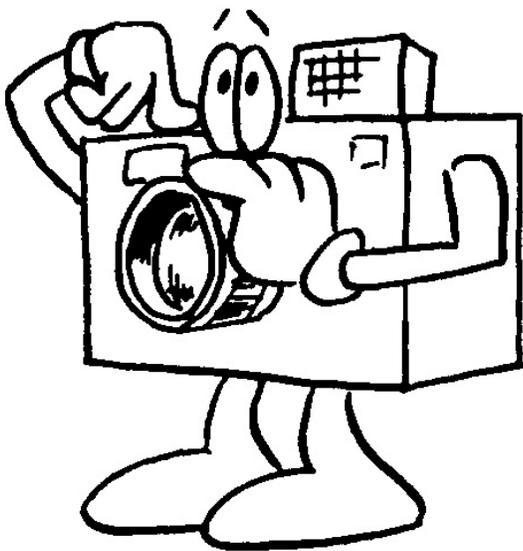
## Member Workshops and Tours (continued):

### Russ Burden's Photography Tours:

Visit [www.russburdenphotography.com](http://www.russburdenphotography.com). Or  
Contact Russ at 303-791-9997,  
[rburden@ecentral.com](mailto:rburden@ecentral.com)

#### 2010 Destinations include:

- ◇ Sept 24 - Oct 3, 2010 Tetons and Yellowstone National Parks in Fall - 10 days
- ◇ Oct. 19 - 24, 2010 Hunts Mesa - Aerial perspective of Monument Valley includes TWO days in Capital Reef National Park.
- ◇ Nov. 2 - 8, 2010 Bryce Canyon and Zion National Parks—Fall Colors
- ◇ Dec. 1 –7, 2010 Bosque Del Apache & White Sands National Monument.



### Mile High Wildlife Photography Club

**President:** Matt Schaefer

[mattscha@aol.com](mailto:mattscha@aol.com) 303-972-9882

**Vice-President:** Sam Fletcher

[shjf@aol.com](mailto:shjf@aol.com) 303-688-5107

**Secretary/Treasurer:** Patrick Devereaux

[Patrick@devereauxphoto.com](mailto:Patrick@devereauxphoto.com) 303-717-2436

**Newsletter Editor:** Chris Frazier

[newsletter@mhwp.org](mailto:newsletter@mhwp.org) 303-356-2399

**Webmaster:** James Hager

<http://www.mhwp.org> [webmaster@mhwp.org](mailto:webmaster@mhwp.org)

#### TEAM LEADERS

**Monthly Programs:** Chuck Winter

[cwinter@mii-rmcc.com](mailto:cwinter@mii-rmcc.com) 303-972-2538

**Membership:** Rita Summers

[ritasummers@gmail.com](mailto:ritasummers@gmail.com) 303-840-3355

**Special Programs/Field Trips:** Chuck Winter

[cwinter@mii-rmcc.com](mailto:cwinter@mii-rmcc.com) 303-972-2538

**Competition:** Russ Burden

**Competition Scoring:** Chris Loffredo

**Competition Entries/Judging Coordinator:**

Fred Stearns 303 400-0385

**Snacks/Greeters:** Nancy Stocker 303-759-4056

**Publicity:** Buzz Soard 303-779-9933

**Library:** Betsy Lamb 303-841-2565

#### BOARD of DIRECTORS

Rita Summers • Russ Burden

Chuck Winter • Chris Loffredo • Ron Eberhart

#### September Meeting

Wednesday, September 8th

7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

at

#### THE WILDLIFE EXPERIENCE

10035 South Peoria

Competition: Wildlife, Scenic, & Open

August Attendance: Approximately 50

#### September Digital Training Meeting

Wednesday, September 22nd

7:15 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

Please send your articles and input to

[newsletter@mhwp.org](mailto:newsletter@mhwp.org).