Mountains & Valleys- Color 3rd place. See additional winners p. 5-7.

In Focus

June Virtual Program- Flash Photography for Beginners
with Eric Stoner

For many of us, getting our cameras off the "Automatic" setting was a big step towards improving our photography. Now it's time to take another giant leap by adding flash to our arsenal of photography tools. I have been asked by several members to bring a program dedicated to flash photography. It seems that many simply don't use flash because it is thought to be too hard to learn. Some have told me they have tried using flash and due to their poor results, they have not made further attempts at learning flash at all.

I was fortunate to locate a video of a recent training session at B&H Photo aimed at those of us who are interested in learning how to add flash to our photographic bag of tricks. Photographer, Eric Stoner recently taught this seminar to a group of folks,

just like us, who are interested in learning more about the basics of flash photography. We are thankful to B&H for allowing us to replay this presentation.

So, take a deep breath, get that flash out of your camera bag, and join us for the Huntsville Photographic Society Zoom meeting on June 8th at 7:00 pm.

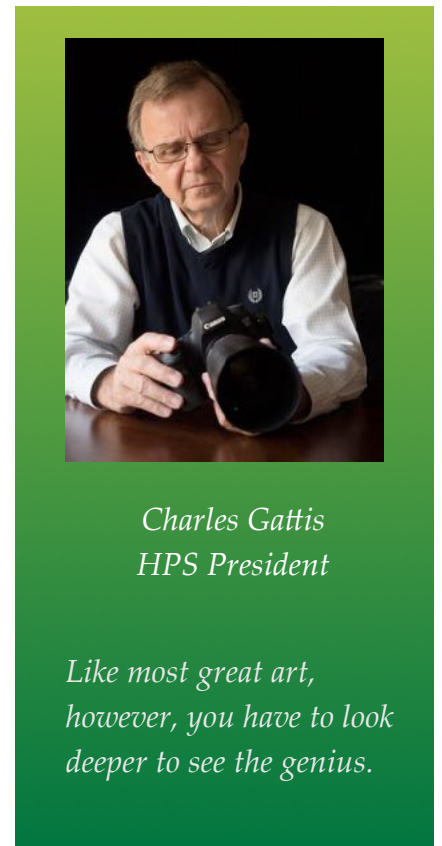## *From the President - "Some Thoughts on Expression"*

Having a love for books all my life and with a particular affinity for old books, I have found the internet with its ability to make world-wide book shopping available, one of the great marvels of our modern age. With the click of a mouse, I can order used and affordable books from musty and unremarkable used bookstores in England, France, Russia, and even China (assuming I could read Chinese).

Through this marvelous, new-age invention, I found a used copy of Henri Cartier Bresson's photographs contained in a book entitled, "Henri Cartier Bresson, City and Landscapes." Can you believe such a prize came to my door from some out of the way bookstore located on a back alley for a mere $26.95!

I will have to admit that for a long time I failed to see Bresson's genius. At first, his photographs looked like snapshots—the kind of thing I might take while taking a stroll through the city. The photographs are simple, almost mundane images depicting everyday life. He photographs the kind of scenes we might see anywhere, every day and pass up as a subject simply not worth immortalizing in a photograph.

Charles Gattis
HPS President

Like most great art, however, you have to look deeper to see the genius.

Like most great art, however, you have to look deeper to see the genius. The eye is drawn immediately, without exception in every instance to the subject—and the way Bresson directs the eye through a series of subconscious mechanisms is indeed pure genius. As I look at his images, I am not sure that his techniques can be learned—most likely they are just felt mysteriously and understood solely by the artist.

I love the way he sees the unique in the ordinary. His creative way of using light and shadow to control the movement through the image is amazing. His photographs have the ability to capture your attention. You just want to sit and stare for a while. The

viewer knows he or she is witnessing something anyone could have seen on the day the image was captured, and yet through Bresson's eye and his camera, you are seeing it in ways that no one else could see. It's called expression—Bresson's expression—the expression of an artistic genius!

In the forward to the book, Erik Orsenna, speaks of Lao Tzu's protestations when the Chinese changed from expressing their thoughts in knotted strings and moved to the new invention of writing. Lao Tzu, as a philosopher, believed that written language had the potential of moving out of reality and giving us the ability to conjure up things that do not exist. For philosophy, reality is the "gold standard," and the ability to produce what is not real opened the possibility of philosophical "inflation."

Lao Tzu's comment was, "I shall make them go back to knotted string." Orsenna says that Bresson does this for photography and for art. He boldly forces us to deal with reality—even commonality—while at the same time showing us the extraordinary that exists in the ordinary.

I'll leave you with one more quote to ponder from Orsenna's forward, particularly in light of last month's competition topic, "Mountains and Valleys." "This is the essence of landscapes;" he says, "they are echoes of the never-ending dialogue between being and doing; between people, who want to leave their mark, and the earth, which offers them only the topmost layer of its skin." I found it interesting to look at Bresson's landscapes as I considered that point of view.

Enjoy this time of "isolated" shooting.
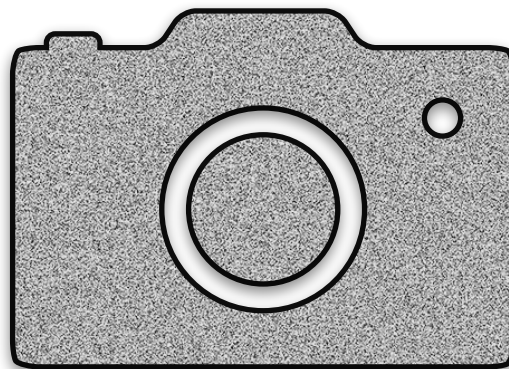
May Competition Results
Subject - Mountains & Valleys
Judge- Joe Fikes

	Color Digital (87)	Monochrome Digital (78)
1st	Chris Baker	Joe Matus
2nd	Margaret Phillips	Margaret Phillips
3rd	John Shriver	Doris Leverett
HM	Matt Bevill	Margaret Todd
HM	Barb Montgomery	Chris Baker
HM	Earl Todd	David Blue
HM	Barb Staggs	Emily Saile
HM	Jeanne McDowell	Ernie High
HM	Joe Matus	
HM	Allen Gary	
HM	Joy Henderson	
HM	Julia Gary	

Cindy Shaver- June Competition Judge Subject-Animals

Cindy Shaver supported the Huntsville Photographic Society as one of our judges for the 2019 Best of Year competition. Serving Huntsville and surrounding area for ten years, Cindy Shaver provides fine art as well as cotemporary images. Cindy specializes in wedding and portrait photography, including senior, family, and pet portraits. Cindy has the skills to create amazing

Name	2020 Points	2020 Wins
Christopher Baker	23	9
John Shriver	16	6
Eddie Sewall	14	3
Susan Chi	13	5
Julie Gary	13	6
Matt Bevill	12	5
Earl Todd	12	5
Joy Henderson	11	5
Margaret Phillips	11	5
Barbara Staggs	11	4
Charles Gattis	9	5
Emily Saile	9	5
Allen Gary	8	3
Martha Teal	8	4
Margaret Todd	7	3
Ernie High	6	2
Joe Matus	6	2
Henry Smith	5	2
David Blue	4	2
CT Chi	4	4
Virginia Gilbert	4	1
John Dilllingham	3	1
Doris Leverett	3	1
Tom Bryant	2	2
Diana Davidson	2	2
Alan Forney	2	2
Alice Searcy	2	2
Jim Smothers	2	2
Jim Spinoso	2	2
Sam Alexander	1	1
Liz High	1	1
Thomas Johnson	1	1
Jeanne McDowell	1	1
Hank Miller	1	1
Barb Montgomery	1	1

images.

Cindy has earned numerous awards including the following:
- 2020 Grand Imaging Award finalist in the senior portrait category in International Print Competition.
- 2017 and 2018 Mississippi and Alabama Master Photographer of the Year.
- 2016 Bronze medalist in the International Print Competition.
- 2016 Earned a Master Photographer degree.

Samples of Cindy's work can be viewed at her website – www.cindyshaver.com We welcome Cindy as our judge on June 22, on the topic "Animals."

Members will be able to attend the digital competition through Zoom. An invitation will be sent out to all members on or near the date of the competition (June 22).

Color Digital 1st place by Chris Baker

Monochrome Digital 1st place by Joe Matus

Color Digital 2nd place by Margaret Phillips

Monochrome Digital 2nd place by Margaret Phillips

Color Digital 3rd place by John Shriver

Monochrome Digital 3rd place by Doris Leverett
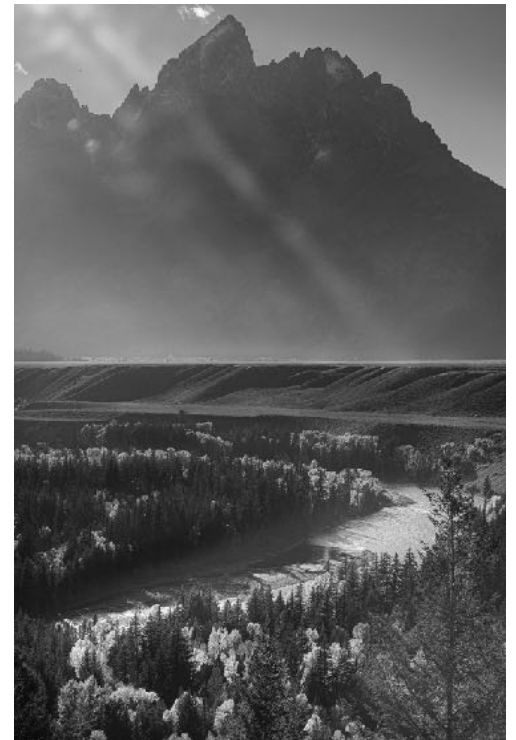
Color HM by Matt Bevill

Color HM by Joe Matus

Monochrome HM by
Chris Baker

Color HM by Barb Montgomery

Monochrome HM by Margaret Todd

# *How To Outline Objects in Photoshop* *by Tom Bryant*

This is an interesting effect to make a photo look like a pen and ink drawing. Here is one easy way:

1. Open in Photoshop
2. Duplicate layer or make Smart Object so it is editable.
3. Go to Tilter/Stylize/Find Edges
4. While the mask is up, erase out areas you do not want outlined. Clean up any spots, ghosts, etc. that have shown up. Use one of the Darken blend modes, and Layer Opacity to fine-tune the amount.
5. Run Find Edges again if the effect is not strong enough.

Example from Barb Staggs

Hint—If you are desperate to sharpen a soft photo, a light application can make it look sharper.

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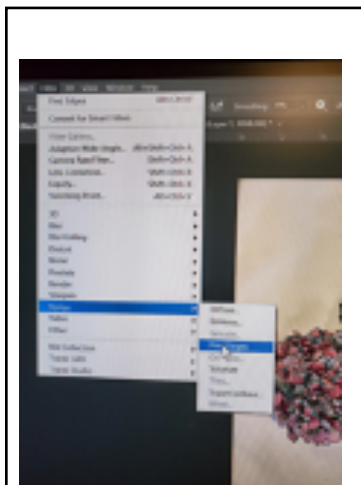
Photoshop Screen shot

Initial Image

Example After 3X Find Edges. Note dirt and ghosts

Officers of HPS

President: Charles Gattis

Primary Competition Officer: Steve Mitchell

Digital Competition Officer: Chris Baker

Competition Records Officer: Eddie Sewall

Program Officer: Roger Hunter

Outreach & Activities Officer: Rosemary Davidson

Workshop Chairman: Jeanne McDowell

Publicity Officer: Sam Tumminello

Treasurer: Emily Saile

Communications Officer: Geri Reddy

Historian: Tom Bryant

Exhibition Officer: Bob Gower

PSA Representative: Lee Pratt

Webmaster: John Shriver

Non Board Positions

Membership Officer: Bess Wills

Mentor/Novice Program Officer: Vacant

HPS meets the second and fourth Mondays of the month, 7:00 p.m. at the Huntsville/ Madison County Library Main Branch, 915 Monroe St.

Website: www.huntsvillephotographicsociety.org
https://www.facebook.com/groups/399566463394251/ (closed group)