



ABC Photo Society, Inc.



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Sally and Ken Becker win the coveted “Eric Really Likes These” Awards

I try to use the front page of the newsletter to showcase members' winning images from recent competitions. But this time of year is devoid of contests, so I thought I'd spice up this spot with two of my favorite photos from our fall Projected Image Competition. Here are “Welding 101” and “Circles of Time.”





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Your 2016 Officers

President: Brandon Hirt

VP of Competitions: Sally Becker

VP of Programs: Marge Seymour

VP of Outings: Bob Airhart

Treasurer: Margie Navarro

Secretary: Loretta Storm

Assistant Treasurer/Secretary: Nancy Smith

Newsletter Editor: Eric Gaston

Don't Forget About Your Dues

***It's time to renew your dues for 2016. You can find the membership form on our website at:
<http://abcps.club/newsletters-and-forms/>***

Upcoming Meetings

March 7th: Pat Little "Inside the Judge's Mind"

March 21st: Ken Becker Curry Rail Photos

April 4th: Flower/Macro Photography Tips

Print Competition Turn-in

April 18th: Annual Awards Banquet

Harrisburg Camera Club's 6th Annual Light & Creativity Workshop

April 9th

Featured Speakers:

Parish Kohanim, Denise Silva and Ivan Rothman

Scheduled Workshops:

Twelve Tips on Taking Powerful Photos

Why to choose what when: Lightroom or Photoshop

Practical Advice from an Experienced Wildlife Photographer

Cost is \$70

<http://www.lightandcreativity.org/>



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Upcoming Events and Competitions

There are a few art exhibits coming up that our members should enter. We had members place in each of these competitions in 2015, and we'd like to take the top spots again this year.

Blair County Arts Festival - May 21st and 22nd

www.blaircountyartsfestival.org

Entry Deadline is March 14th

Art in Bloom Spring Art Show - April 23rd and 24th

http://ebensburgmainstreet.com/events/art_in_bloom.html

Entry Deadline is April 1st

Allegany National Photography Competition & Exhibition - April 9th to May 6th

<http://www.alleganyartscouncil.org/event.php?eventid=12952>

Entry Deadline is February 29th



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Member Q&A With Andy Dierks

Andy had a lot to say when he answered my questions. I didn't want to cut anything out, so this segment will be 3 pages long.

1) How long have you been into photography?

I re-started into photography late in life at age 45. I overheard a guy at work offering to sell his wife's old Minolta film system and bought it on a whim after the first guy refused it. One thing led to another, went deeper and deeper, and a fire was kindled from an accidental rediscovery. I was and still am very compelled to shoot and create.

2) What was your first camera?

My first experience with a camera circa 1966 was with a very trendy snot-green plastic Brownie shooting 126 black and white film. At the time, an impoverished 12 year old couldn't afford the film or the developing, so it went by the wayside. My first photo expedition was done using a bicycle to go shoot the trains nearby and I still love a good ramble with eyes open and antenna up.

3) What camera(s) do you shoot with now?

I have only the Nikon D3s, but may add something in the future. I am very compelled to do infrared with a conversion, just for art's sake, because it certainly isn't about to make much money.





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Member Q&A With Andy Dierks Continued

4) What is your favorite subject to photograph?

There isn't much I don't enjoy shooting and I like a wide range of opportunities to photograph. I nearly always like to shoot and sometimes challenged to expand by trying something new in subject or technique. I like to work with and photograph people in non-portrait work for stock use. Horses, trains, water, environmental, and a large catalog of nostalgia images have been the bedrock of earning a living at the art shows. There's a strong history line throughout the show work which comes from a life-long interest in history. I started in landscapes and still love our land here and in other places. Spinning up some abstracts can take you to another place mentally and artistically. The best time I've ever had with a camera was chasing a four year old around with a 50mm, which can be ridiculously fun.

Although there isn't much of it, I also like commercial shooting for businesses. It's a unique challenge to cipher their needs, then find a way to fill them while giving more than they expected, and your personality and rapport means a lot through the process. However, I don't care for really dry repetitive commercial product work in the studio that can make it challenging to stay on task. There isn't much creativity in it; you're mostly a technician. It's creativity and imagination that moves me forward and makes me the happiest.

5) If you were given the opportunity to photograph any place on the planet, where would you head to first?

There's sort-of-a list, and it's topped by anything Pennsylvania. Our home region is primarily why I'm a shooter today. I love this land and its people. Second on the list is anything to do with the Great Lakes, and there's a never ending LOT of that. I'm always up for a good junkyard shoot. Specific locations include Nevada Northern RR in Nevada, the abandoned town of Bodie, CA, the Pacific Coast Highway, and more. Currently about to go further into creating nostalgia themed studio work here as well using "picker" stuff. I have access to the mother lode of picking (it's not those TV guys...just ask), so the output is limited only by imagination.



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Member Q&A With Andy Dierks Continued

6) You're one of our only members who has a full-time job in photography. How long have you been shooting for a living, and what drove you to change career paths?

I've been shooting for a full time living since 2003 and I'm very thankful to still be doing it while learning and improving. It's a lifestyle, not a job, and it takes a tremendous amount of time. I've been both relentless and lucky too. Most of my business is in selling fine art at summer art shows like in State College, and I can be on the road 40 to 60 nights a year. It's been very interesting to learn how to retail and sell photography and have part time employees. The other part of the business is selling into publication through stock agencies online, which has resulted in being published in over half the countries of the world since 2007.

After working in a local warehouse for decades, when it closed I was resolutely determined to never work for someone else again. Another requirement was to earn a living in something that came from a core level that I could grow with, and luckily, I had the answer. I had no idea what I was in for, and earning a living creating images is still the biggest fish I've ever tried to land. I guess there's no backing up now...



*See more of Andy's work at
dierksphoto.com*

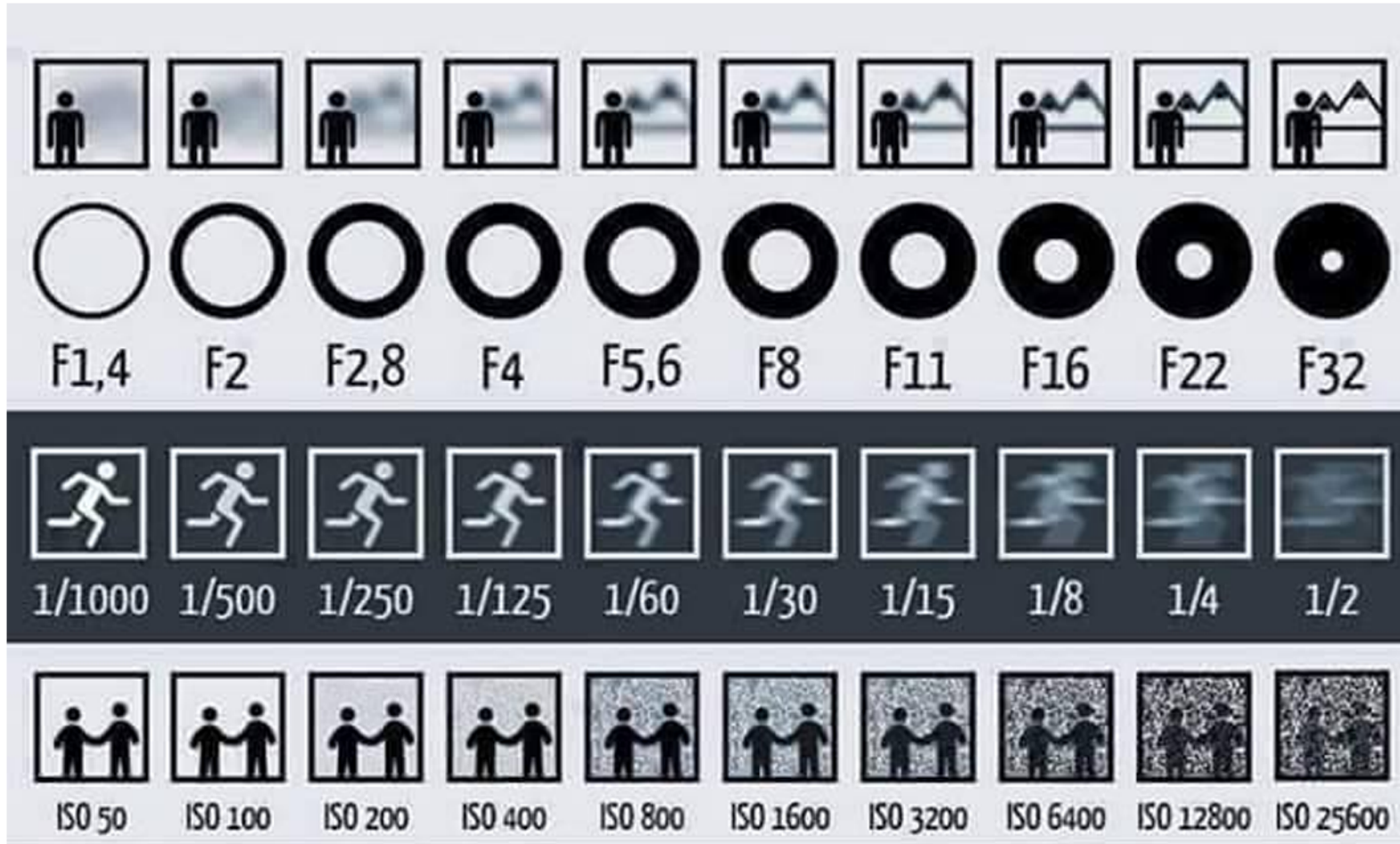


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A Picture To Show You Clearly The Effects of Aperture, Shutter Speed and ISO On Images





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Members' Photo Spotlights

Kirk Zembower captured Bob "The Iceman" Airhart photographing the Special Olympics Polar Burrrr Plunge out at Canoe Creek State Park. Bob's unique vantage point allowed him to get some great shots of the crazy people running through the freezing water.



Kirk Zembower Photography



©Bob Airhart