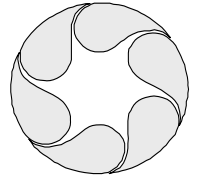


# The f – Stop



Newsletter of the Camera Club of Brevard

January 2009

Website - [www.ccbrevard.com](http://www.ccbrevard.com)

Email Address - [info@ccbrevard.com](mailto:info@ccbrevard.com)

**Camera Club Mailing Address**

Camera Club of Brevard  
PO Box 542  
Melbourne, FL 32902

**Club Officers**

<u>Title</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone #</u>
President	Richard Thomson	848-1110
1st VP. (Programs)	Darin Heinz	626-0558
2nd VP. (Field Trips)	Mark Mittleman	254-7722
Secretary	Shannon McGregor	868-1916
Treasurer	Dan Striby	725-9210
Display Coordinator	Lib & Hermann Schiefner	773-9505
Membership	Marsha Sea	254-9629
F-Stop Editor	Arnold Dubin	723-7787
Webmaster	Arnold Dubin	723-7787

**Membership Information**

Single	\$30 per year
Family	\$35 per year
Student (Full Time)	\$15 per year

For more information, call any officer listed in our club directory. Friends and guests are always welcome at our meetings!

**Monthly and Quarterly Themes**

<u>Time Period</u>	<u>Theme</u>
2009	
January	Backlighting
February	Having Fun
March- Quarterly	Food/Fruit/Veggies/Drink

**Calendar of Events**

- **January Meeting Date: Tuesday, January 6<sup>th</sup>**  
The first meeting of the year will be held on Tuesday, January 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:45PM. This will be the first meeting with the new 2009 schedule on the first Tuesday of every month. The location will be the Melbourne Library for all monthly club meetings.
- **January Field Trip**  
Our January field trip will be to the Viera Wetlands located at the very west end of Wickham Road. The Wetlands provide some of the most exciting bird and wildlife photography in the central east coast Florida area. It is becoming quite famous for it's birding photography. The date will be Saturday, January 17th and we will meet in the small sand/dirt parking lot just before you enter the main wetland area proper. The parking lot is just past the water plant's buildings. Time is 7:00am.

• **February Field Trip**

We will hold our second annual "Scavenger Hunt" in February. 2008's scavenger hunt proved to be a lot of fun. Last year, we met in downtown Melbourne, formed teams, captured various photographic subjects/themes, and then visited the Lagoon House where we viewed each team's photographs. Everyone who participated had a great time and expressed their desire to have another "hunt". So, if you missed last years, this is your scavenger hunt opportunity for the New Year.

• **January's Club Program**

The January meeting will be a entertaining meeting to gather some club activity information, to learn some interesting things about photography with a fun quiz, and view several slide shows. Gather your thoughts on what you would like the camera club to do for the New Year. We would like your ideas on future programs, field trips, and workshops. We will also choose the contest themes for the year. This is your camera club, and we want to have activities and contests you enjoy.

- **Next Board Meeting:** The next board meeting will be held on January 15, 2009 at 7:00pm. All club members are welcome to attend. Location is at Paneras, 275 E Eau Gallie Blvd in Indian Harbour Beach.

**November Program Review**

We had an interesting program during November's meeting. Many members provided questions pertaining to certain aspects of photography, and various club members answered these questions. I would like to thank the members who provided the questions and the members who answered them for the club. We learned how the multiplier factor for camera imaging works, what is "bokeh", how not to clean your DSLR pick-up chip, resolution comparisons for film and digital devises, color management, grey cards, and much much more.

**Announcements**

**Jeanee James** was selected by the Art Director of the King Center of the Performing Arts for a photographic exhibition featuring many of her outstanding and award winning photographs at the King Center. Jeanee, along with Jerry Hanzl will be the featured artists exhibiting through the month of February, 2009. The opening will be on February 5th 4:00 to 6:00pm. We hope you can attend. Click here for more details [www.ccbrevard.org/jeanee\\_invite.pdf](http://www.ccbrevard.org/jeanee_invite.pdf)

## Election of Officers for 2009

If you would like to help the camera club, run for office for the Board of Directors, or volunteer for the Executive Offices. The election will be held during the February meeting. Please think about how you would like to help the camera club. The more participation we have, the better the camera club will be. Please see any of the current Executive members if you would like to run for office.

## CCB Member Spotlight

If you would like to be featured in the "Spotlight", please contact Shannon McGregor or any executive member or email [info@ccbrevard.com](mailto:info@ccbrevard.com)

## Annie Leibovitz: Women, January 10th to March 8th

Noted American portrait photographer Annie Leibovitz has captured the images of our celebrity hungry culture. Her sensitive portrayals of actors, artists, celebrities, and of everyday women reveal a close collaboration between the photographer and the subject; showing the true personalities behind the public persona. This fantastic exhibit will be at the Brevard Museum of Art, 1463 Highland Avenue in downtown Eau Gallie. 321-242-0737. You won't want to miss it!

## Space Coast Birding & Wildlife Festival

**January 21 -January 26, 2009:** Space Coast Birding & Wildlife Festival. Titusville, Florida. There will be Field Trips, Seminars, Workshops, Pelagic Birding trip, Kayaking, Art Competition, and Keynote Presentations. 321-268-5224. Sign-up early to reserve you spaces.

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## Annual Print Competition and Party Recap

We had a great Party and Annual Print Competition in early December. Over 80 members, spouses, and friends attended the festivities, including a famous Dickens's Caroler. Our party room at the DRS Center was decorated with a holiday theme that got everybody into good cheers. The potluck format proved again to be a great success. The camera club sure has some great cooks as well as photographers.

Over seventy photographs were entered into the APC and all were displayed around the room. We had a slideshow showing many of the CCB field trip's photographs taken by members throughout the year including the member's themselves. All of the pictures entered into the Four Corners Challenge were also shown. One of our judges, Lloyd Berhendt, presented commentary for the awarded pictures. There were many great pictures entered in the competition and I'm sure the judges had a difficult time choosing the winners. I would also like to thank Marilyn Cook and Mike Brown for help in judging the photographs.

[Click here](#) to view pictures from the Annual Party and Print Competition.

## 2008 Annual Party Contest Winners

### Black & White



Arnold Dubin      Larry Davis      Al Rollins      Mark Mittleman  
2nd place      Honorable Mention      3rd place      1<sup>st</sup> Place

### Color



Earl Evans      Arnold Dubin      Jeanee James      Larry Davis  
1st - place      2<sup>nd</sup> - Place      3rd - place      Honorable Mention

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## Surfing Photography Field Trip Recap

In early November, many club members visited Cocoa Beach and photographed the Sean and Skippy Slater Surfing Invitational event. The weather was perfect for photography. We had the opportunity to see some world-class surfing, including 9-time world champion Kelly Slater surf at his best. There were all kinds of photographic opportunities besides the surfing.

For those who would like to photograph more great surfing, January 12-18th will be the perfect opportunity at Sebastian Inlet. The O'Neill Sebastian Inlet Pro Presented by Ron Jon is the biggest and most prestigious surfing contest on the US East Coast and one of the top three on mainland North America. The tournament will feature a field of more than 200 surfers from more than a dozen countries. Visit <http://www.sebastianinletpro.com/> for more information.



Photographed by Portia Chavonelle

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## SPOTLIGHT PERSON OF THE MONTH

**ED McEWEN**



Originally from Waverly NY, I have been a Brevard County resident since 1988. I am currently an account manager with Citifinancial.

When I lived in Tyrone PA in 1973, my neighbor was a photographer that did his own

darkroom work. After the first time I saw the image peak out from the developer, I was hooked. In 1980 I moved to Newburg NY, and got a part time job in a newspaper darkroom which was an “in” to take photos, too. I took all the West Point sports photographs for 8 years.

My first camera was a Canonet. Now I use a Nikon D300.

Today I enjoy taking photos of nature, wildlife and landscapes, and also like to photograph civil war re-enactments. If I could go anywhere in the world to take photographs, it would be Alaska.

Advice that I would like to share would be to learn your camera’s controls inside and out so that when the “decisive moment” happens, you are not trying to find the correct settings and miss it. Slow down and see the “Light” and enjoy, enjoy, enjoy..



**Cougar**

Photographed by ED McEWEN



**Going Fishing**

Photographed by ED McEWEN

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## CCB Member’s Accomplishments

Congratulations to Earl Evans, Mark Mittleman, Arnold Dubin, Al Rollins, Jeanee James, and Larry Davis for their winning photographs for the Camera Club of Brevard’s 2008 Annual Print Competition. The winning photographs were all outstanding. In addition, congratulations to all the camera club members for their fine photographs submitted for the contest. We look forward to next year’s competition.

## Member Accomplishment

Several CCB members took awards at the Indian River Photo Club 2009 Photographic Print Exhibit. Johnny Alives was awarded 1st place for his Still Life photograph “Beauty of Decay”. Earl Evans was awarded 3rd Place in the Scapes category for “Sunset at Lake Washington” and an Honorable Mention in the Scapes category for “Into the Valley of Fire”. Arnold Dubin took an Honorable Mention for his “Kissing Cousins” in the Nature/Fauna category. Also, in the Scapes category, Mark Mittleman received an Honorable Mention for his picture “Punting in the Rain”.

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## Local Events for Photographic Opportunities

**January 16, 17, 18** The 145th anniversary of the actual Federal raid on the town of Brooksville and the 28th annual Brooksville Raid, Brooksville, Florida. The Brooksville Raid is known as the biggest and the best Civil War Reenactment in Florida.

**March 27, 28, 29.** The 16th annual Battle at Narcoossee Mill. St. Cloud Fla. Sponsored by the Jacob Summerlin Camp #1516 Sons of Confederate Veterans. The Battlefield is on 150 acres of open and wooded land on the shore of East Lake Tohopekaliga.

## Upcoming Rocket Launches

**February 12, 2009:** NASA's space shuttle Discovery to launch from Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral, Fla., on the STS-119 mission to deliver the fourth U.S. solar array truss segment to the International Space Station. Time: TBD

**February 26, 2009:** A United Launch Alliance Atlas 5 rocket to launch the Pentagon's X-37B Orbital Test Vehicle space plane prototype from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station in Cape Canaveral, Fla. Time: TBD

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## Up and Coming Contests

As a camera club, the CCB will be entering the 2009 George Glennie Nature Exhibition sponsored by the Merrimack Valley camera Club in Massachusetts. This contest is a nature photography contest that has been limited to photography clubs located in the New England area. This year's competition has been broadened and the CCB is eagerly waiting to participate. Last year, 52 camera clubs participated in the Exhibition. CCB member's entries will be via email with all entries juried for inclusion into the contest. We are limited to entering 10 photographs. Think about the best photographs you want to enter. More information on this contest will be provided at the January meeting and on the CCB web-site. Visit this web-site to view rules and see the winning pictures from the previous contests: <http://www.mvcameraclub.org/comp-interclub/comp-interclub-01-glennie.htm>

### **Florida State Park Photo Contest**

The 2008 Florida State Park Photo Contest is now underway, and they have begun accepting Photographer registrations. Click here for more details: [www.floridastateparks.org/PhotoContest/default.cfm](http://www.floridastateparks.org/PhotoContest/default.cfm)

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## Workshops

No CCB workshops are planned for January

### November Workshop Recap

The workshop concentrated on providing some advanced uses of Photoshop techniques. Cathy Heinz provided a wonderful session on how to take portraiture photographs and subtly enhance the final portrait. Debby Hamilton and Marsha Sea showed us how to improved landscape photographs with the use of applying layers and working within these layers. Thank you Cathy, Debby, and Marsha.

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## Useful TIPS

### **Histogram to Avoid Exposure Issues**

**Dave Johnson**  
**May 10, 2005**

#### **Feature: Use the Histogram to Avoid Exposure Issues**

One of the most often overlooked goodies in your digital camera is its ability to display histograms. The function is frequently overlooked simply because it sounds intimidating. Histogram?

That sounds like a cross between something you did in 10th-grade math class and some sort of uncomfortable medical procedure. How can that be useful?

A histogram display, which is included on most digital cameras, provides a quick indication of your picture's exposure quality. Is it overexposed? Underexposed? Just right? The histogram knows, and it's eager to tell you.

### **Finding the Histogram on Your Camera**

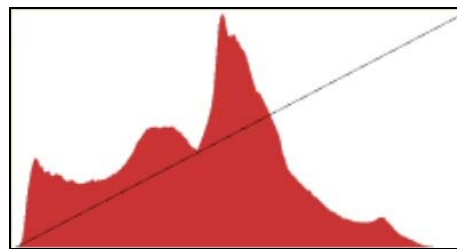
As I say, most digital cameras these days include a histogram display. Check your user guide for details. Most cameras overlay the histogram on top of the picture after it has been taken--so you'll see it on playback. On many cameras, you can turn on the histogram overlay with the same control that lets you change the picture you're previewing on the screen. There are even a few models that will overlay the histogram as you preview the scene before you click the shutter release. That's the best option, since you can see even before you take the picture if it will be well exposed.

### **Understanding the Histogram**

A histogram is a graph that displays how light is distributed in your picture. The left side of the graph represents the shadows, while the highlights are on the right. Here's what that means: If the histogram has a high peak on the left, you can deduce that a lot of pixels in the picture are dark, or in shadow. A peak on the right of the graph means that a lot of pixels are bright, or in highlights. Peaks in the middle of the graph represent pixels in the midtones of your exposure.

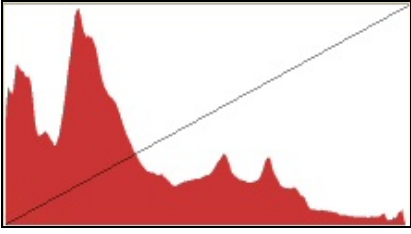
And here's the real key to unlocking the power of a histogram: There should not be any peaks that get "cut off" at either end of the graph, as if they want to continue past the edge of the graph. When the histogram starts or ends with a peak that's already in the air, then you know that color information has been lost because the camera's exposure settings weren't correct for that picture.

So let's apply this knowledge to some real histograms. Take a look at this one;



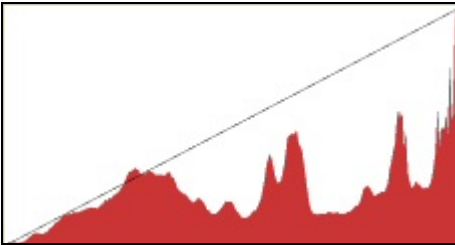
it's the sort of thing you're looking for. At the left side of the graph--the shadows--the graph starts at the zero point on the horizontal line and then curves upward. On the right side of the graph (the highlights) the little peak trails off to zero before reaching the far right edge of the graph. These shapes tell you that no part of the scene is over- or underexposed. The light is well distributed through the image. Overall, this shot should look good.

If you don't quite "get it" yet, that's okay--this histogram



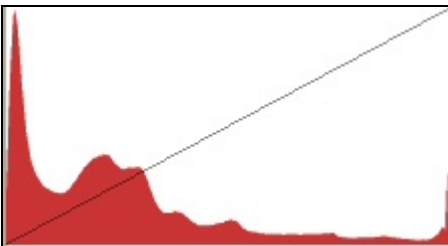
should help you understand the concept. In this underexposed picture's histogram, I see a spike in the shadows that starts "off the graph" to the left instead of rising from the horizontal axis. That tells me that this picture has lost data--perhaps quite a bit of it--in the shadows. Notice that there's also just a few pixels trailing off the right side of the graph, so a tiny bit of data might have been lost there as well. Ideally, the graph would blend into the horizontal axis before reaching the edge of the graph, but this looks pretty small and so isn't much cause for concern.

Here's a histogram of an overexposed photo.



Here you can see a pronounced spike in the highlights. Don't worry about the fact that the height of the peaks is somewhat low in this picture; that's not an indication of under- or over-exposure. All you should really worry about is whether they breach the left or right edges of the histogram.

Finally, photos don't get much worse than what this histogram



shows. There's very little information in the picture--it was taken in the shadows, without the benefit of a flash. So what do we have? Very little light information through the midtones at all. There's a deadly spike in the shadows at the left edge of the histogram, which guarantees that the picture is underexposed. Using auto-correction tools on this picture will promote a lot of digital noise, so the image isn't going to be very salvageable. But look at the highlight--there's a little spike there as well. This picture has a sunbeam in the middle of the scene, and that sunbeam has "blown out," or overexposed, a small portion of the image. I'd call it a total loss.

## Some General Advice

So what should you look for when sizing up your shots on the camera? Obviously, you'd like to keep the histogram from spiking at either extreme end of the graph, where you'll lose data and have under- or overexposed parts of your picture. Also, note that the particular shape of the curve isn't all that important--it can be shallow, curvy, flat, or some combination. The overall shape really just represents the specific light distribution in your photo, and that's as unique as a fingerprint. Finally, you'll get your best results when the graph sits as far to the right as possible--but without clipping the highlights. Overexposure is always worse (and harder to correct) than underexposure.