

THE VOLUNTEER PHOTOGRAPHER



**I hear you are a photographer!*

Lois Lehman

OBJECTIVES

Famous photographers' ideas and quotes

Types of events

Preparation

Seek information

Post-Production/Processing:
PHOTOSHOP, Lightroom, or other software

Distribution of final images



MY PHOTOGRAPHY LIFE

John and I became PPC members 25+ years ago

Attended

- * Santa Fe Photography Workshops**
- * Rocky Mountain School of Photography**
- * Charlie Freeman Photo Classes**
- * Disney Institute Photo Classes**
- * Collin College Photo Classes**



Past Co-President of Plano Photography Club

Volunteer photographer for 6 organizations

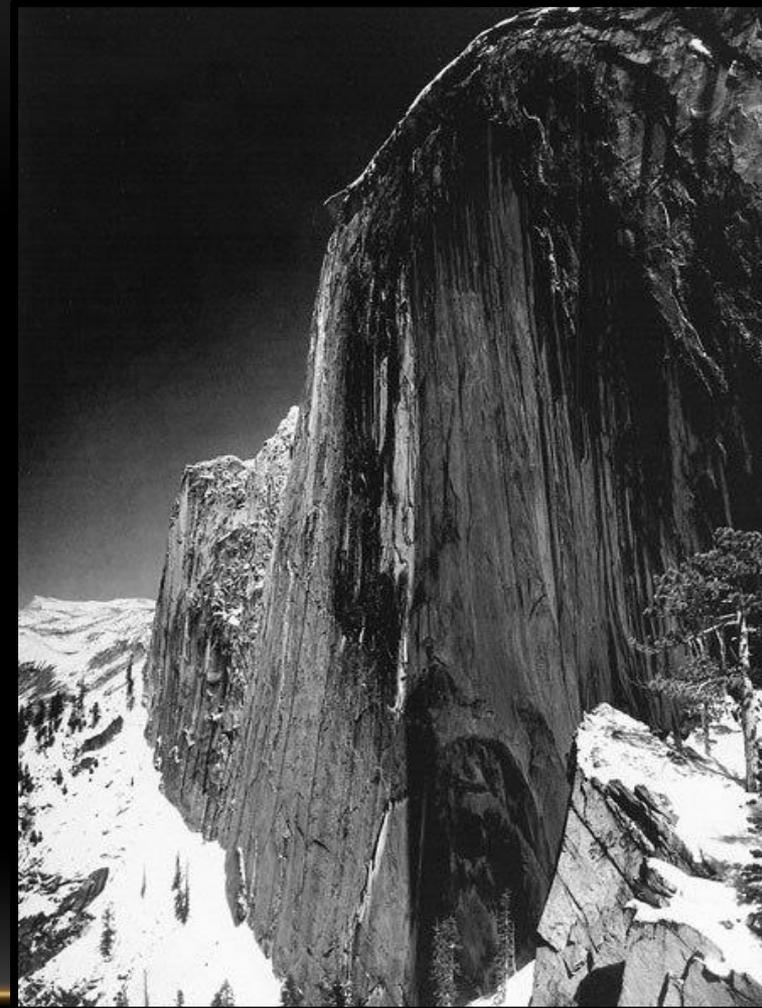
ANSEL ADAMS (1902 – 1984)

**50% of His Creative Process
Occurred in the Dark Room**

**He was well known for spending a
whole day in the darkroom, just to
produce one print.**

**He pioneered the zone system and did
what we loosely know today as burning
and dodging.**

**“There are no rules for good
photographs, there are only
good photographs.”**



ELIOT PORTER

PHOTOGRAPHER & CHEMIST (1901-1990)

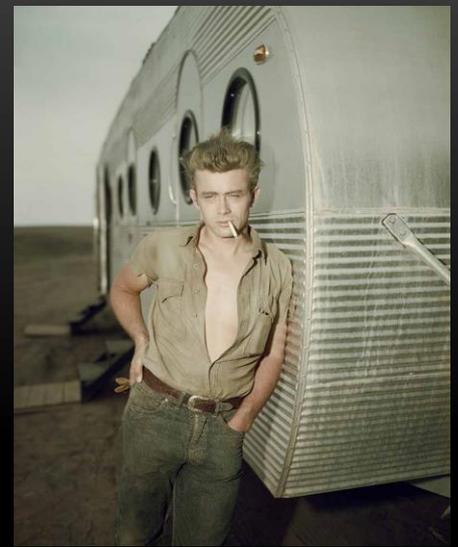
Used the Dye Transfer Process

This was a complex and labor-intensive color print process that allowed precise control over image color.

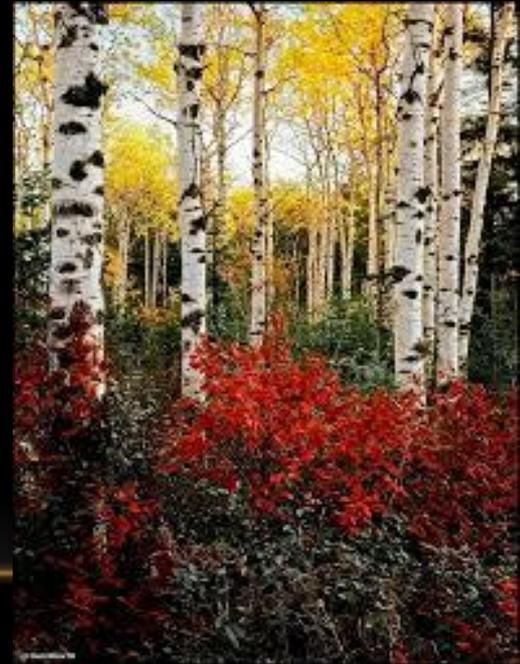
Each dye (cyan, magenta, and yellow) was adjusted separately, intensifying one while not affecting the others.

Dye transfer prints showed excellent color saturation and brilliance.

Today in Post Processing: We use contrast, texture, clarity, vibrance, and saturation



On-Line 1950's Photo



Eliot Porter's Photo

PHOTOJOURNALIST ROBERT CAPA (1913-1954)

**“If your photographs aren't good enough,
you're not close enough.”**



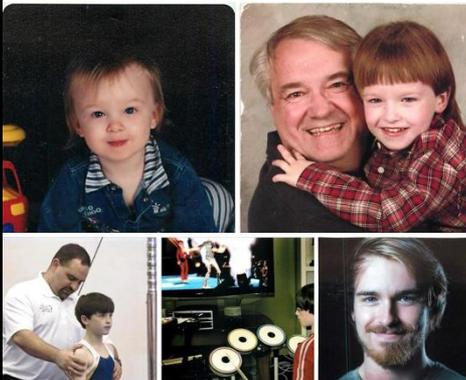
FIRST INVITATIONS MAY BE FAMILY AND SCHOOL EVENTS

Granddaughter, Cathar... Continue Reading



Lois Lehman is with John Lehman and Raven McCarthy.
May 19, 2018 · 🧑🏻‍🦱

Happy 20th Birthday to our grandson, Raven. We love you and are proud of your Parkour skills and coaching. Have a wonderful and joyous day.



Lois Lehman
June 17, 2013 · 🌐

We had a great Father's Day with John. We had steaks, gifts, cards, and a wonderful game of Monopoly. John is a marvelous Dad and Grand-dad.



Lois Lehman
October 4, 2018 · 🧑🏻‍🦱

Catharine Culver and The Colony High School Band (TCHS) at a band competition last Saturday. They made it to finals (top 10 bands).



ADVANCE TO PHOTOS OF SPORTS, NON-PROFITS, & BUSINESSES

Professional Groups

Non-Profits and Fund Raisers

Sports: Teams & Games

Architecture

Pets - Shelters

Neighborhood, Religious, Hospital, and Community Functions



Dallas County Medical Reserve Corp (MRC) prepares volunteers to help during disasters. Following Hurricane Harvey, many citizens wanted to help at shelters and other venues, but could not because they were not prepared/credentialed as a disaster volunteer. ... See More



PUBLICITY SHOTS - NOT PHOTOJOURNALISM

PJ has restrictions: No posing of subjects and no major editing of the image

Publicity Shots produce photos that people - organizers are happy to place on social media or to print

OK to (you should) post process to create the best image

You may need to be briefly intrusive to get the best photos of awards, VIPs, winners, etc.



PACK LIGHT AND BE COMFORTABLE

**Lots of walking, comfy shoes,
drink plenty of water, and
dress for weather**

**Fuji Camera – X-T3 mirrorless
Favorite Lens: 18 mm to 135 mm**

Bring a **Flash for Indoor and Outdoor events**

****Extras:** Camera sling holds extra batteries, memory cards, filters,
phone, ID, and money. Bring an extra lens as needed.**

Most events are casual. **Dress nicely as you represent the
organization. If in doubt, wear all black.**



#1 CHALLENGE

LACK OF CONTROL

Photographer Does
Not Control

Location - Time of Day

Weather - Agenda

Your lack of experience

Light: Indoors, outdoors, or both

Movement of people – ask about agenda

During quiet moments, stage some shots

But you are expected to make it work!



HOW MANY PHOTOGRAPHS

For 2-4 hour events, I take **150 to 300** images

When I see a photo-op, I take a set of **5-10** images (flash AND no flash)

I chose the best image of the set during post processing

I usually submit **60-90** final images

I only submit the photos I want seen

For large events, it is good to have a fellow photographer or two



SOME PHOTOGRAPHERS SUBMIT ALL THEIR IMAGES

I Don't Recommend This

Organizers may not have time to evaluate 200-300 images

They may not have good photo skills or equipment to choose the best images

There may be some photos that may 'embarrass' a subject

I don't want to see poor quality images with my name on them



MAKE YOUR IMAGES POP

Use Any Crop: Rectangle, Square, or Panoramic

Color Correct and Enhance

Crop, Clone, or Blur out Distracting Objects

Diminish White Distractions

Highlight Point of Interest - Vignette

DeNoise or Sharpen – Topaz Labs



WHO TO PHOTOGRAPH

Organizers/Officers of the Event

VIPs – Special Guests

Volunteers – Vendors - Sponsors

Attendees - Crowd

Kids

**Diversity - many
Cultures and Ages**

Signs

Get it All!



BE CREATIVE! USE RULES OF PHOTOGRAPHY

Rules of Thirds - Leading Lines

Look for “impact”

Change to B/W or Sepia



UP, DOWN, LEFT, & RIGHT WORK THE SUBJECT

**Old Statement: Amateur
will take 100 photos – a
professional will take
1,000**

**Bend knees – shoot low or
up**

**Stand on stairs – aim
down**

**Step to the right – step to
the left**

**Shoot wide angle – shoot
close up**



KNOW YOUR FLASH - USE FILL FLASH

**Auto flash does not always
make wise decisions**

**Flash may be needed both
indoors and outdoors**

**You need to take photos
quickly – volunteers and staff
are busy**

**Look around - keep you and
other people safe**

**It is easier to 'fix' a flash photo
than an underexposed photo**



TO CORRECT PROBLEMS

This is an adequate flash image: Sharp, Habitat logo on helmet, company logo on lanyard.



BUT.....

Image and skin color is flat –

Clone out flash reflections in goggles

**Teeth and whites of eyes are dull –
Dodge (10% lighter)**

**Telephone poles are a distraction –
Clone out**

Trash on ground – crop/vignette



SHARP IMAGES

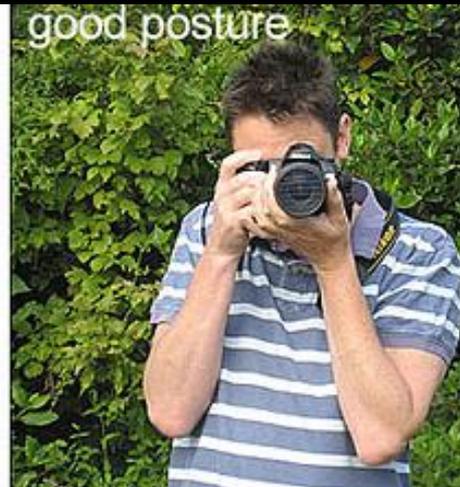
People are moving fast, hold camera **steady**

Brace against a wall, car, or tree

Make your body a tripod

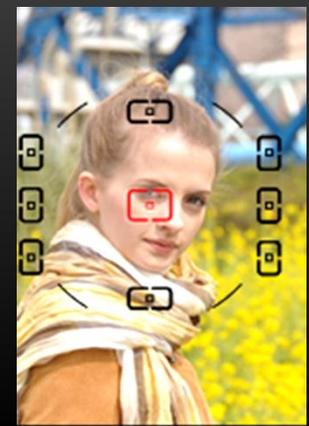
When hand holding your camera, recommend **1/250 to 1/1000 second**

Increase your **ISO** for quicker time



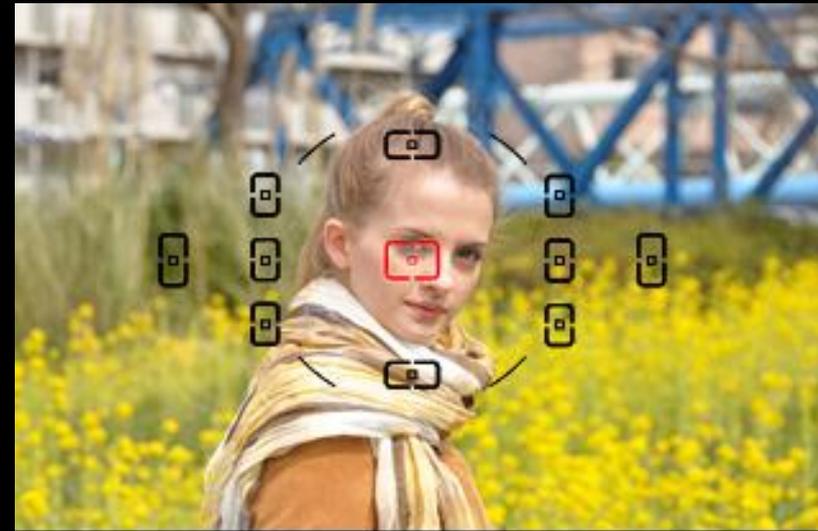
UNDERSTAND YOUR CAMERA'S FOCUS POINTS

Some cameras have only a **CENTER** focus point



Use **facial detection** – saves time.

You can move focus points – know what **YOU** want as Center of Interest



Rules of thirds can be fixed in post processing - off center (hard to fix busy background)

Remember, auto focus/face detection may not make wise decisions

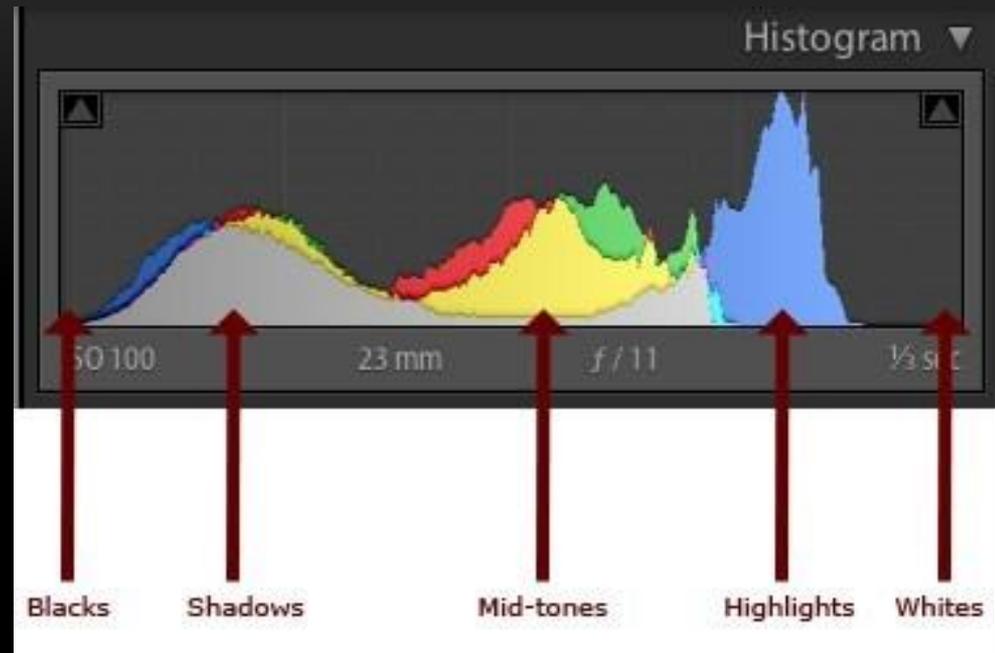


READ HISTOGRAMS

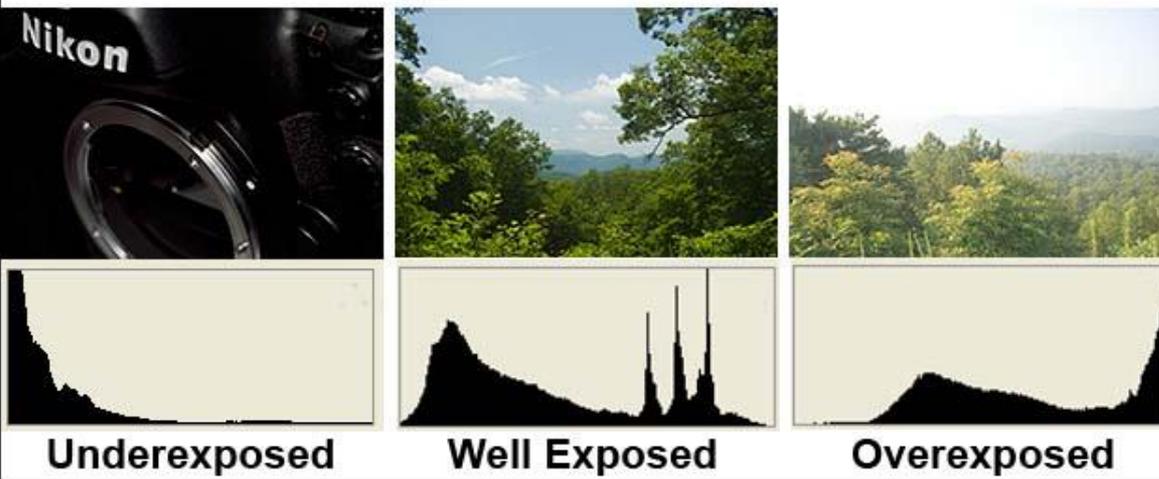
Black is left wall – means no texture

White is right wall – means no color

Remember, you may not get a 2nd chance

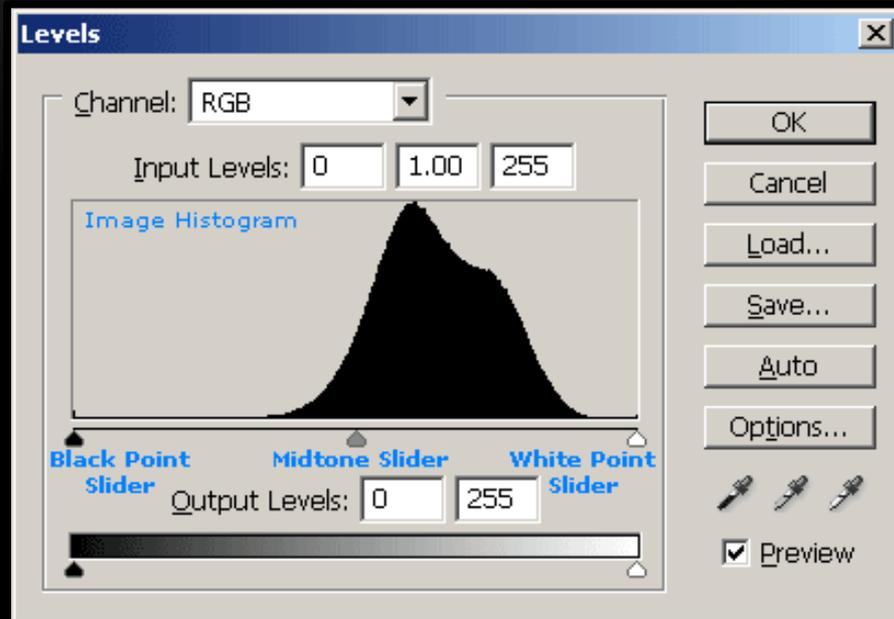


Histogram Basic Tutorial



Take occasional breaks to check photos and histograms

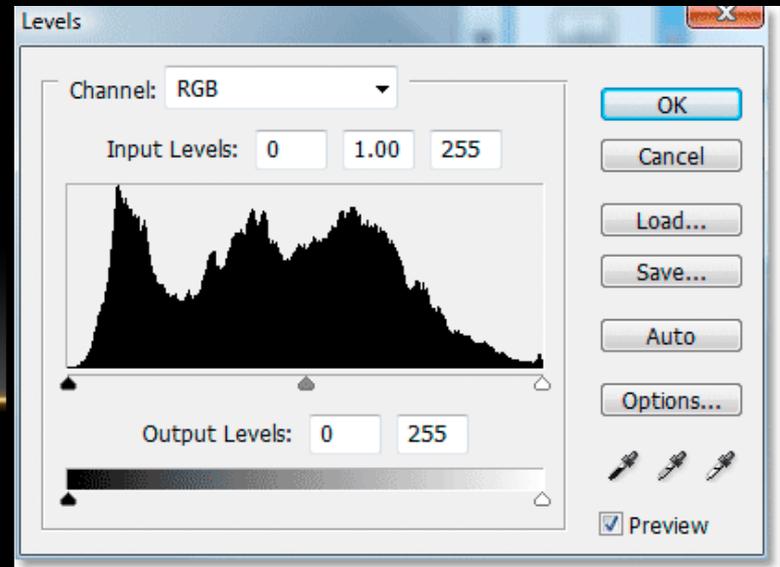
POST-PRODUCTION: LEVELS



**In PhotoShop - Click on
Image
Adjustments
Levels**

Hold ALT button and black point slider, image goes white, slide to center until dots appear

Hold ALT button and white point slider, image goes black, slide to center until dots appear



BUY, LEARN, & USE PLUG INS

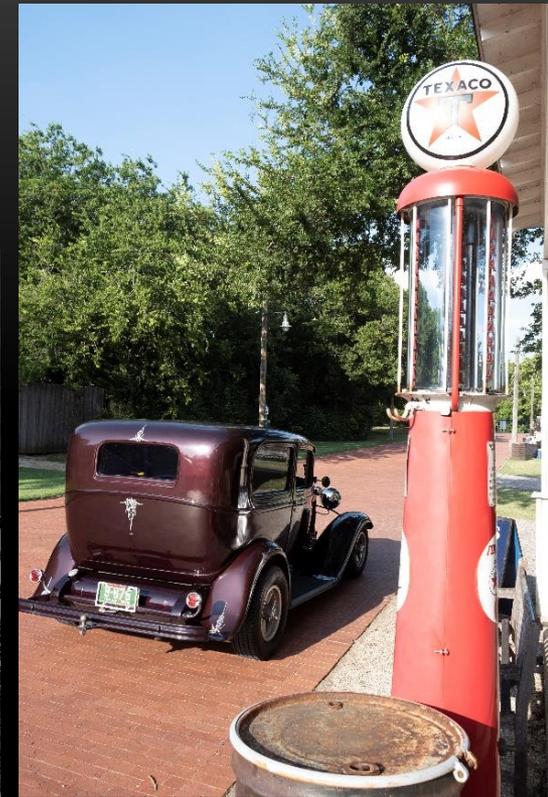
Reasons for B/W

Colors are flat

Wrong color for era
(1930s car)

Sky is dull

Also, street-lights
were removed



FAVORITE PLUG-INS

NIK Collection

Color Efex Pro 4

Silver Efex Pro 2

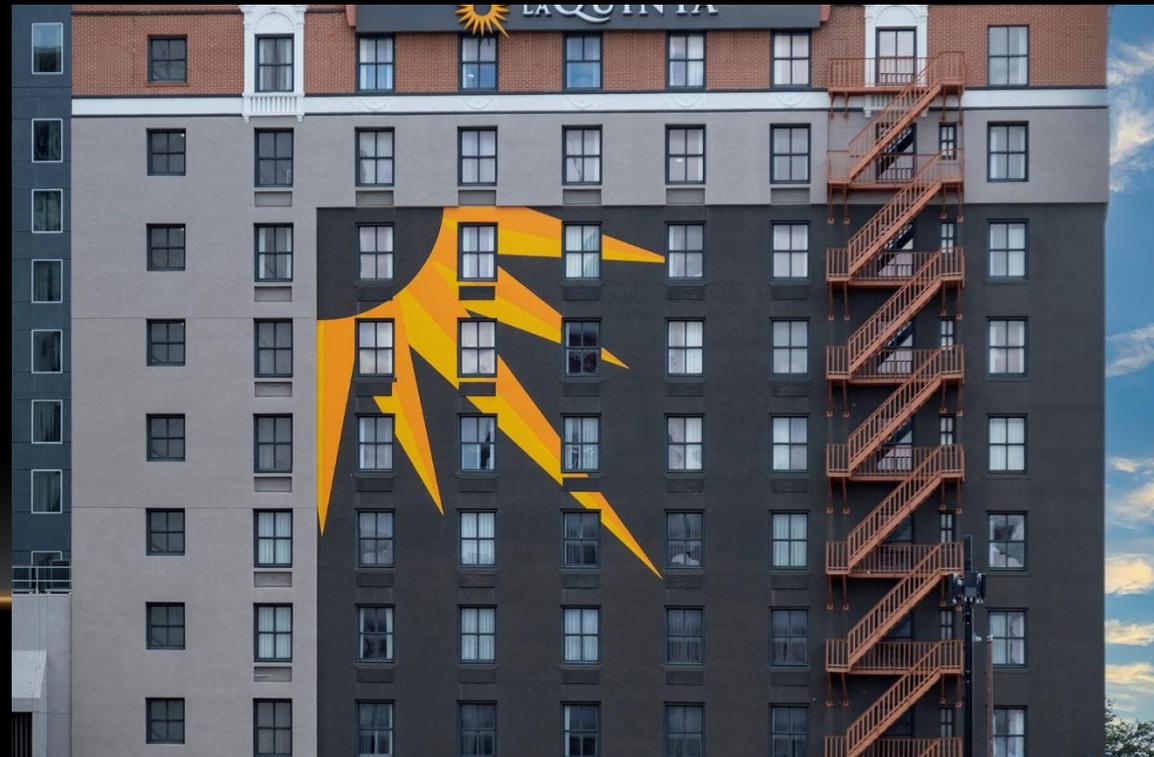
Perspective Efex

**Sky Replacement
(PhotoShop Edit)**

Topaz Labs

DeNoise

Sharpen



UNDEREXPOSED IMAGE

Corrections

In Raw: Increase exposure +150 to +200

Remove red mark below eye

Crop bowl

Darken floor and bowl

Use Topaz Labs to remove noise



USE **BURST** MODE FOR ACTION SHOTS



PHOTOGRAPHER NAME TAG

Tag explains to others...

Why you are taking pictures of their children

Why you sometimes give directions

Why you may have special access

Where photos are going



Lois Lehman

March 18, 2018 · 2

After 8 months of planning, City of Dallas Police/Fire Rescue and 30 agencies held a Mass Casualty Incident Drill. Several hundred Dallas citizens volunteered to come to the Majestic Theater with 100 victims 'injured' when the stage 'collapsed'. Four area hospitals 'received' the victims.... See More



GO EARLY TO NEW LOCATIONS

Check weather

Evaluate sun glare and shadows

Look for cute backdrops

Know where you need to stand

Be ready to give ideas to people



LABEL PHOTOS



DSCF1079.jpg (Camera Photo number)

Hard for organizers to know what and when of event.

LABEL EVERY IMAGE

Download and in Bridge - Batch Rename

1. **Your Name**
2. **Name of Organization and Event**
3. **Date**
4. **Photo Number**

After Post-Processing

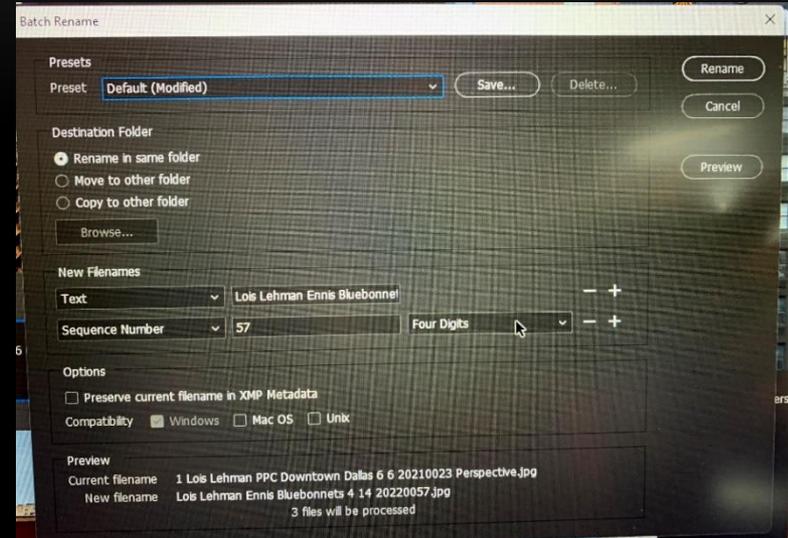
Do a Save As

Place an “A” or “1” before my name at full resolution (300)

If sending via social media, reduce resolution to 150

Do a Save As

Retitle with ‘150’ before my name



Keep your original image untouched!!



Treasure Hunt
Have fun digging for the following items:
1 Seashell
2 Pirate Coins
2 Shiny Gold Coins
1 Diamond

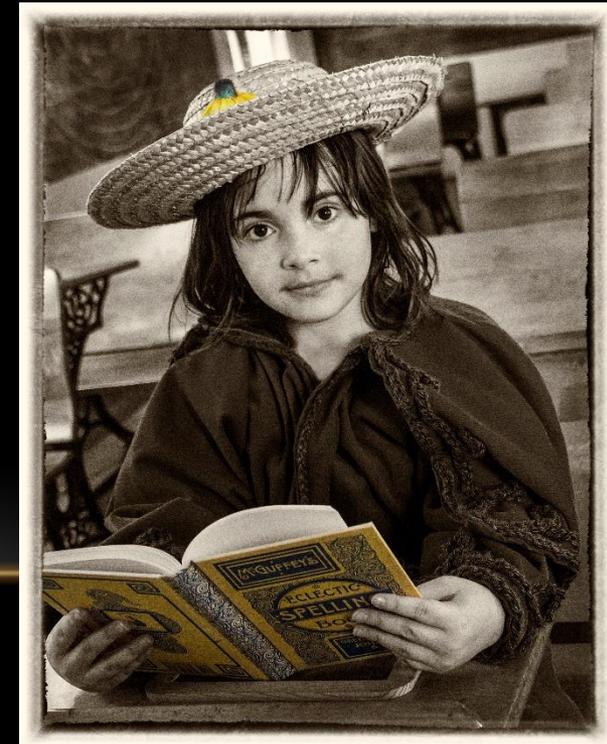
A Lois Lehman FBHP Mums and Sons 5 1 2022 002.jpg

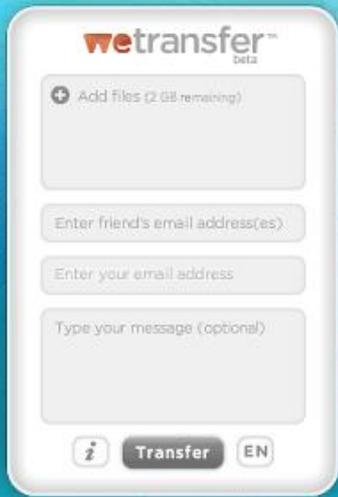
DISTRIBUTING IMAGES

Most organizations want **JPEG**

Find a system to transfer images at full (300) resolution. This makes them printable.

If using G-mail, after hitting send button, click on **“TURN LINK SHARING ON”**.





The easy way to send big files.

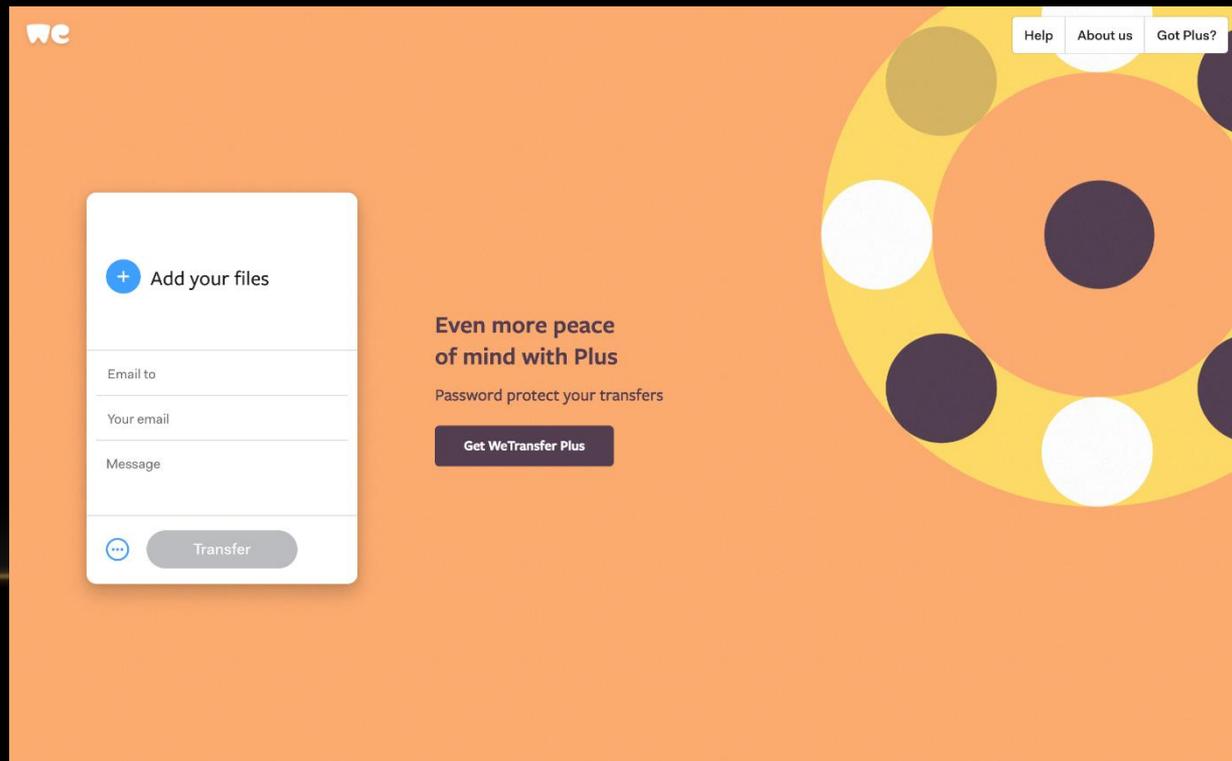
- It's free
- Send up to 2 GB
- No registration
- Simple & secure

WE TRANSFER
@
WETRANSFER.COM

FREE for basic Package – OK to Send up to 2 GB

Recipient has 1 week to Download

Can send full resolution photos



RELEASE PHOTOS TO ORGANIZATION

Some organizations may ask you to sign a photo release form

Or you may create your own

You can Google sample forms

I send a simple sentence on We Transfer or send the organization an email

My Release: Baseball Grounders may use, edit, print, and distribute these images to promote their team.



GOOD NEWS – BAD NEWS

Most Organizations

Are well organized

Experienced

Know what they want

Greet you – give you an agenda

Staff is nice

**Have knowledge of websites,
photography, downloading, etc.**

SOME ARE NOT!!



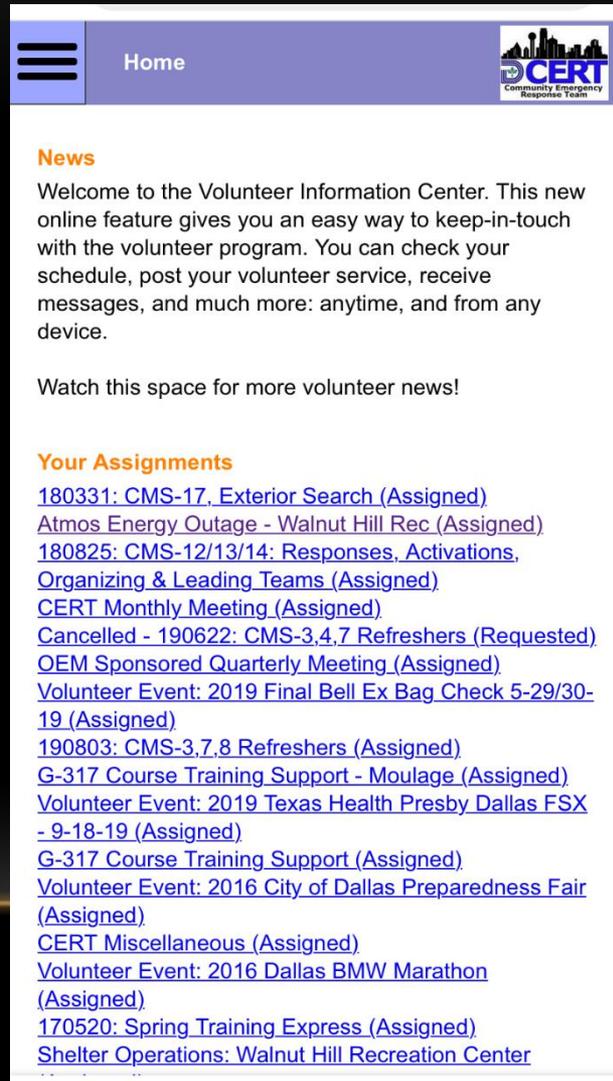
VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES ON COMPUTERS

Some agencies have
on-line schedules

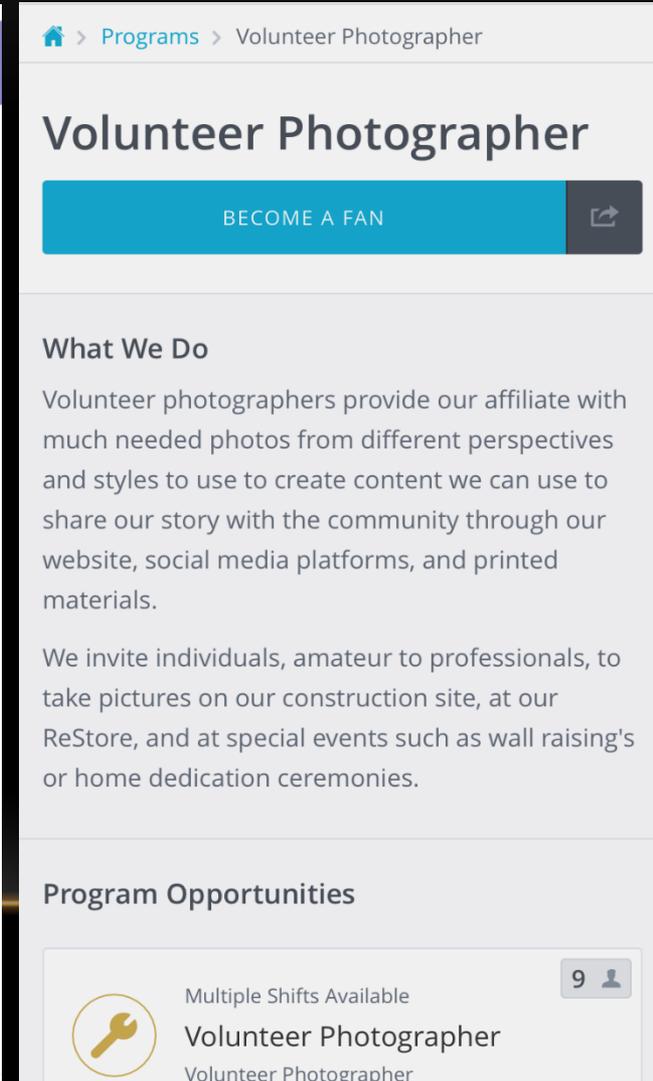
List their volunteer
opportunities

Send E-mails
reminders 1-2 days
prior to event

Keeps track of
your volunteer
hours



The screenshot shows a website header with a purple bar containing a home icon, the word "Home", and the CERT logo (Community Emergency Response Team). Below the header is a "News" section with a welcome message: "Welcome to the Volunteer Information Center. This new online feature gives you an easy way to keep-in-touch with the volunteer program. You can check your schedule, post your volunteer service, receive messages, and much more: anytime, and from any device." Below this is a link to "Watch this space for more volunteer news!". The "Your Assignments" section lists several tasks with status labels: "180331: CMS-17, Exterior Search (Assigned)", "Atmos Energy Outage - Walnut Hill Rec (Assigned)", "180825: CMS-12/13/14: Responses, Activations, Organizing & Leading Teams (Assigned)", "CERT Monthly Meeting (Assigned)", "Cancelled - 190622: CMS-3,4,7 Refreshers (Requested)", "OEM Sponsored Quarterly Meeting (Assigned)", "Volunteer Event: 2019 Final Bell Ex Bag Check 5-29/30-19 (Assigned)", "190803: CMS-3,7,8 Refreshers (Assigned)", "G-317 Course Training Support - Moulage (Assigned)", "Volunteer Event: 2019 Texas Health Presby Dallas FSX - 9-18-19 (Assigned)", "G-317 Course Training Support (Assigned)", "Volunteer Event: 2016 City of Dallas Preparedness Fair (Assigned)", "CERT Miscellaneous (Assigned)", "Volunteer Event: 2016 Dallas BMW Marathon (Assigned)", "170520: Spring Training Express (Assigned)", and "Shelter Operations: Walnut Hill Recreation Center".



The screenshot shows a website page for a "Volunteer Photographer" program. The breadcrumb trail is "Home > Programs > Volunteer Photographer". The main heading is "Volunteer Photographer" with a "BECOME A FAN" button and a share icon. Below this is a "What We Do" section with the text: "Volunteer photographers provide our affiliate with much needed photos from different perspectives and styles to use to create content we can use to share our story with the community through our website, social media platforms, and printed materials." Below this is another paragraph: "We invite individuals, amateur to professionals, to take pictures on our construction site, at our ReStore, and at special events such as wall raising's or home dedication ceremonies." The "Program Opportunities" section features a wrench icon, the text "Multiple Shifts Available", and "Volunteer Photographer" with a "Volunteer Photographer" sub-label. A notification bubble shows "9" next to a person icon.

FUZZY LEGAL ISSUES

Photographer **DOES** have copyright
of their photographs

BUT, who has access/shares your images?

I allow non-profits to edit, print, use and
distribute my images. They may also share my
images with other volunteers, vendors,
sponsors, VIPs, or attendees.

Attendees in public areas may be
photographed, but **when asked**, I will delete a
photo.

I **RARELY** get photo credit

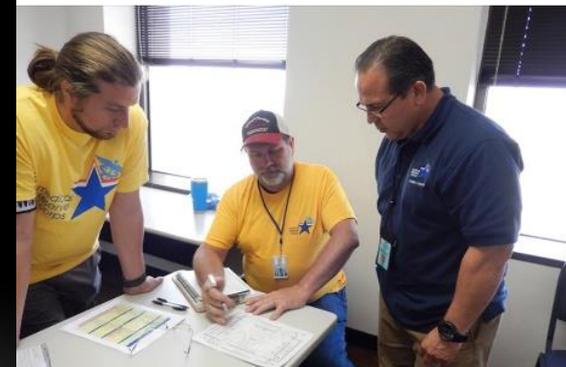
I do place some images on my Facebook or
Instagram – I tag the organization

Also, I enter them in PPC competitions



*Dallas County Medical Reserves Corps holds
Closed POD Drill*

Today, Dallas County tested MRC's ability to
dispense medical countermeasures to
affected populations quickly and efficiently,
which is crucial following a catastrophic
public health event.



TO FIND VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



Call/Google your favorite center: Big Brothers Big Sisters, Operation Kindness, North Texas Food Bank, Make-A-Wish, Habitat for Humanity, Dress for Success, In-Sync Exotics, Zoo, Soup Mobile, Schools, Theaters, Hospitals, etc.

SUMMARY

Crop, clone, and/or vignette

Try to tell a story, or be creative

Try not to embarrass anybody or the organization

Buy, use, and experiment with Plug-Ins

Create sharp images - read histograms – use flash as needed

OK to interact with subjects - pose

Use wide angle and telephoto lens

Have a plan on how you will distribute your photos to organizers

December 2011

Candlelight

Candlelight, our most popular event, has become a part of holiday celebrations for many families. Candlelight's glowing pathways lead to holiday traditions of early Dallas, donkey-pulled carriage rides, community entertainers, St. Nicholas, food, and festive fun. Each year, we build partnerships with community groups to decorate the buildings, and financially support and staff the event.



Lois ↑



Photo by Brad Walker



Lois ↑

Our History

Dallas Heritage Village and the land



on which it sits has a long and rich connection with Dallas history. Site of many firsts, this piece of land became Dallas' first city park in 1876. At the time, it was simply called City Park. The Cedars, an elegant neighborhood, home of many business and mercantile leaders, grew up around City Park in the 1880s and 1890s. The city's first zoo was located here and weekly concerts were given in the

THE END

Thank You for Watching



Chat Questions?

