



Meeting Agenda

November 1, 2017

Hobbyists Camera Club

Meeting Agenda

- ❖ Welcome
- ❖ Monthly Assignment slideshow
- ❖ Drone Photography
- ❖ Mastering Camera Setting (*video*)
- ❖ December Photo Workshop

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Monthly Assignment Slideshow



View slideshow at
<https://youtu.be/O9bJEzEcUs>

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Drone Photography

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Drone Photography

- ❖ One of the most exciting developments in photography in the last year or two is the drone - high flying cameras that enable you to capture unique viewpoints of common subjects..
- ❖ Recently the cost of getting a camera into the air has dropped dramatically and if you decide to venture down this road, you won't be disappointed. Apart from the amazing images you will capture, they are also tremendous fun!

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Drone Photography



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Drone Photography

- ❖ Similar to camera equipment in general, how much you're prepared to spend will determine the quality of camera on-board, and the flying characteristics of the drone itself.
- ❖ There are low-cost models that will take very basic images, up to the big boys toys that will happily lift your prized DSLR up into the heavens.
- ❖ DJI with their range of models is the company that has the largest percentage of the market. Their Phantom range of drones are the first choice for many, and though they do make some high end-models, the Phantom 3 series models are the most popular drone in the world.

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DJI Phantom 3 SE Drone



- ❖ The Phantom 3 SE drone is the newer model of the Phantom 3 line. It has a list price of \$599. It takes 4K HD videos and 12 Megapixel photos with the integrated aerial camera.
- ❖ It can fly up to 25 minutes on a single charge and it has a 2.5 miles control range.

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Low Cost Drone

- ❖ If you just want to experiment with drone photography a very good low cost drone is the Altair #AAI08 Camera Drone.
- ❖ It can fly up to 10 minutes on a single charge and it has a 300ft control range.
- ❖ It only cost \$130 at Amazon.



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Drone Photography - Getting Started

- ❖ One of the big advertising features of most drones these days is their ease of operation. “Fly Straight Out of the Box” is a common term you’ll see, and in fact it is true.
Charge the battery, download the app to your smartphone, fire it up, and away you go.
- ❖ Regardless of how easy the drones are to fly, common sense and care is a big part of aerial flying.
You start with some limitations in place, easily set up on the smartphone app that runs the drone.
This is usually along the lines of limiting the maximum height you can fly, and also how far away you can send the drone.

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Drone Photography - Getting Started

- ❖ Always start somewhere wide open, such as a local oval or park, and spend time getting a feel of the controls before you even think about pressing the shutter button.
- ❖ At first, practice flying the drone with the onboard camera and gimbal removed (if possible).
- ❖ Always be aware of your location in relation to what's around you. As these cameras usually have a wide angle lens (20mm equivalent) it is easy to mis-judge your positioning when in close proximity to objects such as trees and buildings, especially if viewing the smartphone screen is your prime.

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Drone Photography - Rules

- ❖ There are no pilot requirements if you are flying your drone for recreational purposes. If the drone weighs more than .55lbs it must be registered with the FAA. The registration process is simple (it can be done online) and only costs \$5.
- ❖ While flying a drone there are rules that need to be observed to avoid getting in trouble:
 - ▶ Drones must always be in Line of Sight (LOS) - you should always be able to see it while it flies
 - ▶ You can't fly a drone higher than 400 feet
 - ▶ Never fly over groups of people
 - ▶ No flying anywhere near airports and other no-fly zones. There are online maps and apps for your phone that will tell you when you are in a restricted space.

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Aerial Photography

- ❖ Taking photos and videos with a drone is not different than to other forms of photography - it's still all about the light.
- ❖ At present, the built-in cameras on most drones are nowhere near the quality you are used to with your ground level camera.
However, the images are surprisingly good. Though only 12 megapixels, the fact that you can shoot a RAW file gives you more options to work with later on. The jpg files are also surprisingly good, especially if you have been flying in good light.

Aerial Photography

- ❖ Keep in mind that everything in your picture will be so far away that the focus will be at infinity.
You don't need a lot of deep depth of field for everything to be sharp.
- ❖ Consider Shooting in Automatic Mode.
There is enough to worry about when it comes to drones. You don't want to add exposure control to the list of issues to think about.
When you get more comfortable with the other controls, you can then set the exposure controls yourself.

Aerial Photography

- ❖ Bracket your photos.
One way to make sure you get the right exposure every time is to bracket your photos. Drone cameras are usually capable of doing 3-shot brackets. Use this to overexpose and underexpose your shots by a stop.
- ❖ Get multiple batteries when shooting with a drone.
Drone batteries typically last only 20-30 minutes. As you may also want to fly in a few different locations on the same day, you won't be able to charge your battery in between locations. Many drone photographers have three or four batteries (two is a minimum). A drone battery costs \$70-\$100 and up.

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Aerial Photography

- ❖ Watch out for the drone's blades in your pictures.
When you are flying the blades on your drone will be spinning. Remember that you will also be using an extremely wide angle lens. If you aren't careful, your picture will include the spinning blades. The best way to avoid this problem is to simply angle the camera down.
- ❖ Keep it low.
Your drone will fly up to 400 feet in the air. It is fun to fly it high, but for the best photos, you will not want to be anywhere near that high. Keep your drones pretty low to the ground (under 100 feet) to get the best shots.

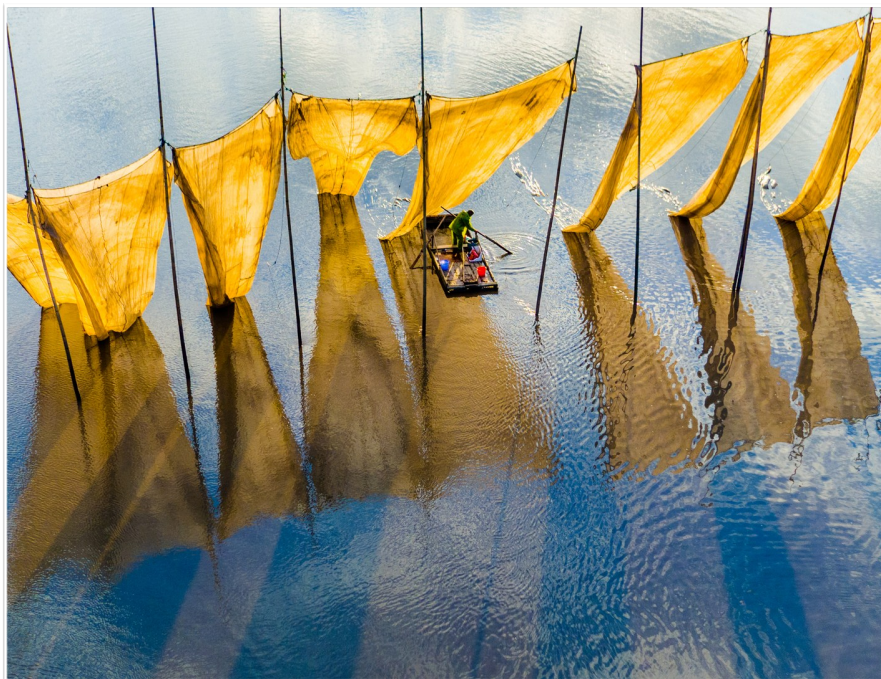
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Why Drones?

- ❖ Drones are fun, easy to fly, and they really add something to your photography. Is one right for you? The answer will be different for everybody, but if you are on the fence, just give it a shot.
- ❖ There is one simple rule that will make flying drones easy and safe: just stay away from everything. In fact, stay far away. Don't go anywhere near trees, buildings, power lines, etc.

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The Best Drone Photography of 2016



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The Best Drone Photography of 2016



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The Best Drone Photography of 2016



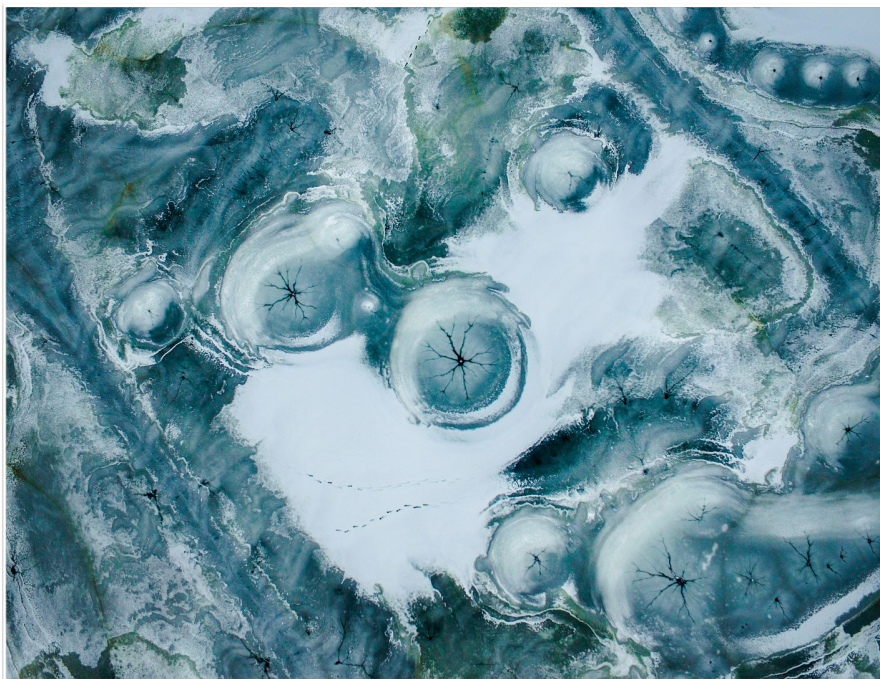
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The Best Drone Photography of 2016



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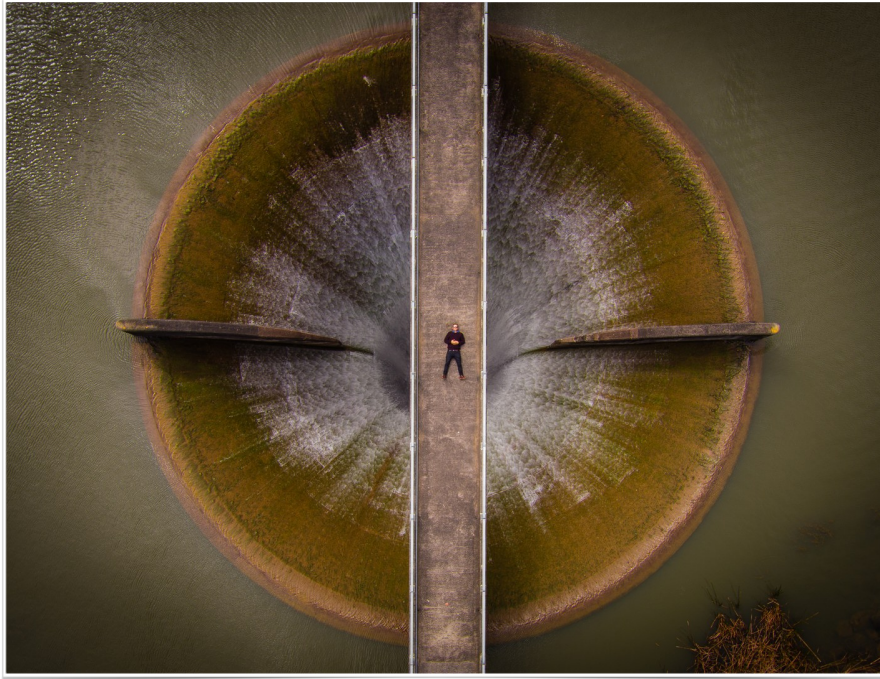
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The Best Drone Photography of 2016



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How to Fly a DJI Phantom 3 Drone

Watch video at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hFWZ7y2exc0&t=108s>

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Apps for drone pilots

- ❖ To improve and facilitate the flying of a drone, you can buy additional apps for your smartphone/tablet.
- ❖ One of the app you might consider is Airnest, an app that let you plan your drone flight in advance and then execute it automatically.
- ❖ The route your drone will take can be drawn with a swipe of your finger, and each point of interest is added by dropping a pin on the map. You can also select the altitude of each point.
- ❖ The app is only available for IOS and costs \$19.99.

Watch video at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oE4FKPLZ77s&t=1s>

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Drone Photography

- ❖ There are a lot very good site for drone photography. The two favorites are **fromwhereidrone.com**

GET MY FREE DRONE FLIGHT CHECKLIST & LIGHTROOM PRESETS!

Enter your email

GET FREEBIES!



FROM WHERE I
DRONE

Drone Photography & Cinematography Tips, Tricks & Inspiration



HOME | START HERE! - | DRONE BUYERS GUIDE | ABOUT | TIPS + TUTORIALS | INTERVIEWS - | CONTACT | DRONE GALLERY | MY GEAR

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Drone Photography

- ❖ The other favorite site is **drone-supremacy.com**



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IT'S YOUR ADVENTURE...
AND WE'LL BE YOUR GUIDE !

BROWSE THE BEST CAMERA DRONES

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Vindur

A professional drone video shot by Vadim Sherbakov. A semi-finalist at CineFest film festival in Los Angeles (drone film category). Vindur means wind in Icelandic.

Watch video at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Oy7LLB8mAIM>

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December Photo Workshop

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December Photo Workshop

- ❖ There will be no camera Club Meeting in December. Instead we are going to have a Photo Workshop managed by Bill Carbone and Bob Norelli.
- ❖ We will meet at 2:00pm in the Church Auditorium and from there we will go out to take photos of Historic Sites in Ridgewood (divided in small groups). In case of bad weather the workshop will be rescheduled.
- ❖ The photos taken during the workshop will be considered as the December monthly assignment.

December Photo Workshop

- ❖ Before the meeting, Bill & Bob will email you a list of sites to go photograph like:
 - ▶ Ackerman House
 - ▶ Ackerman-Van Emburgh House
 - ▶ Beech Street School
 - ▶ Paramus Reformed Church Historic District
 - ▶ etc.

Calendar

Wednesday December 6, 2017

Photo Workshop in Ridgewood

Wednesday January 10, 2018

Camera Club Meeting

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Thanks

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