

# Meeting Agenda

November 7, 2018

Hobbyists Camera Club

## Meeting Agenda

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- ❖ Welcome
- ❖ Monthly Assignment slideshows
- ❖ November 2018 Photo Exhibition
- ❖ How to Manage the G.A.S.
- ❖ Choosing Between B&W and Color
- ❖ Photography Tips (*videos*)
- ❖ Monthly assignment

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# Monthly Assignment Slideshow



View slideshow at  
<https://youtu.be/hCfs4xoYehw>

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# Monthly Assignment Slideshow



View slideshow at  
<https://youtu.be/5VzUVIKktV0>

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# November Photo Exhibition

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## November Photo Exhibition

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- ❖ As you know, our annual Photo Exhibition is currently under way in the Auditorium of the Ridgewood Public Library (125 North Maple Avenue).
- ❖ This exhibition will be on for the whole month of November 2018.
- ❖ 22 members of our Camera Club are exhibiting some of their best work. All together, 44 photos in a variety of formats are shown.
- ❖ The exhibition is open 9:00am - 9:00pm on Monday-Thursday, 9:00am - 6:00pm on Friday, 9:00am - 5:00pm on Saturdays and 1:00pm - 5:00pm on Sunday.

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## November Photo Exhibition

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- ❖ I would like to thank Lou Karcher and the “hanging team” of Irwin Berkowitz, Joe Burns, Lou Fucito, Ara Hourdajian, and Lou’s wife Rosemary for all their hard work to make this exhibition a reality.
- ❖ I invite you, your family and friends to visit the Exhibition, one of the most appealing and interesting exhibits ever shown at the library.  
While there, please don’t forget to sign the guestbook.

## How to Manage the G.A.S.

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## How to manage the G.A.S.

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- ❖ As hobby photographers we have all experienced in different moments of our lives the G.A.S.
- ❖ **G.A.S.** stands for **G**ear **A**cquisition **S**yndrome.
- ❖ The syndrome can be explained as the desire of buying some new piece of equipment (camera, lens, accessory, etc.) hoping that this will magically translate into much better photos.
- ❖ No hobby is immune from G.A.S.: one can buy new golf clubs hoping for a better score or a new tennis racket to achieve better results, etc.
- ❖ The end result of G.A.S. can be a major damage to our wallets without significant improvements.

## How to manage the G.A.S.

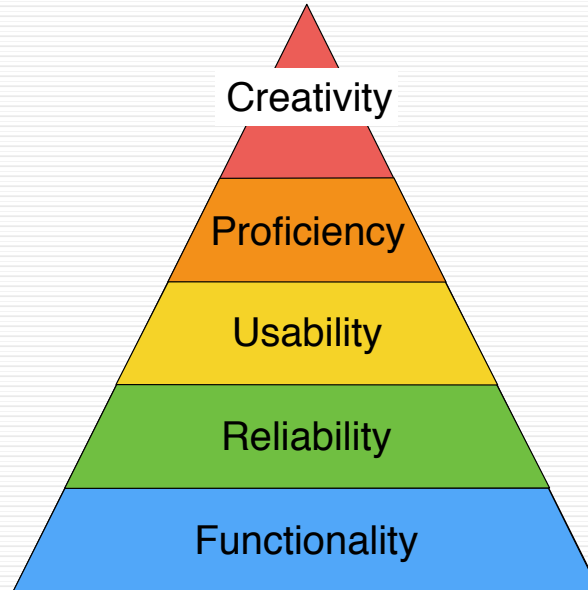
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- ❖ Managing G.A.S. can be challenging, since we are talking about an emotional behavior.  
The key to manage it is to move from an emotional behavior to a rational one.
- ❖ One tool that can be very useful to achieve this transition (emotional to rational) is the Hierarchy of Design.
- ❖ The Hierarchy of Design allows us to look in a rational way at different aspects of the equipment we own before going out and buying a new one.

# Hierarchy of Design

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The Hierarchy of Design has 5 components



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# Hierarchy of Design

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- ❖ **Functionality**: does the camera have all the key functions a photographer needs (shooting modes, autofocus, etc.).  
For all modern digital cameras the answer is YES.
- ❖ **Reliability**: does the camera work in all the conditions I usually take photos in.
- ❖ **Usability**: is the camera easy to use and master.  
Most modern digital cameras have plenty of features that most photographers don't use or even know they are there (especially if you don't read the manual!).
- ❖ **Proficiency**: does the camera allow me to take the photos I want to take.

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# Hierarchy of Design

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- ❖ **Creativity**: does the camera allow me to be creative in my photography.
- ❖ After analyzing all those five aspects the KEY question to ask yourself is:

Is what I have today (camera, lenses, etc.) preventing me to take photos I am satisfied with, where and when I want to take them?

- ❖ If the answer to the key question is NO, then you don't need to spend the money on new gear!

# Try before you buy

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- ❖ If the investment in the new gear is significant, I strongly suggest you to try it (rent it) before buying it.
- ❖ Try the new equipment in the photo conditions you are usually taking photos in:
  - ▶ just good light or low light
  - ▶ sports/actions photos
  - ▶ video
  - ▶ etc.
- ❖ Analyze the results to see if the possible improvements are worth the investment



## Try before you buy

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### Personal experience

- ❖ I was considering the new Fuji X-T3 (highly rated by all the “experts”) as a replacement for my six year old Nikon D600.
- ❖ I enrolled in a free B&H photo walk in Manhattan, where Fuji was letting photographers borrow the X-T3 for the duration of the photo walk.
- ❖ I took about 300 photos with the borrowed Fuji in the conditions I usually like to take photos in. After analyzing them at home, I could not find **any** difference in terms of quality with the results that I usually get with my Nikon.

## Try before you buy

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### Personal experience

- ❖ Granted the Fuji X-T3 is smaller/lighter and has better video capabilities (something I am not interested in) than my D600 but, these benefits did not justify a possible \$4,000 investment in a new system (camera & lenses).
- ❖ So I decided to keep my Nikon for the foreseeable future



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- ❖ So I decided to keep my Nikon for the foreseeable future **and ordered a new iPhone with a better camera the next day!**

## Choosing Between B&W and Color

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- ❖ As I mentioned many times in the past, B&W photography in the last few years is having a revival and this is probably due to a couple of reasons:
  - ▶ the desire/need to make the photos different
  - ▶ the availability of in-camera B&W shooting mode and quite powerful B&W image converter like Lightroom, Silver Efex Pro 2, etc.
- ❖ For many years I never shot or converted a photo to B&W.  
This year about 25% of the photos I decided to keep have been converted to B&W.

## Choosing Between B&W and Color

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- ❖ Deciding when an image should be converted to B&W and when it should be left in color could be somewhat difficult since there are no precise rules on how to proceed.
- ❖ In order to make the choice easier, the photographer should answer these three questions:
  - ▶ Does the image NEED color?
  - ▶ Are there interesting light or shadows?
  - ▶ Are there any interesting textures?
- ❖ The following video will provide us some tips on how to approach this issue.

## Choosing Between B&W and Color

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- ❖ Beside answering the three previously mentioned questions, I also follow this simple approach to decide if a photo will work in B&W:  
if the colors of the photo are just “blah” try the B&W version.  
In many cases you will be surprised by the results.
- ❖ In my personal experience this is particularly true with photos taken in cloudy, dull days.

## Choosing Between B&W and Color

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## Choosing Between B&W and Color

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“Better” B&W photo



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## Choosing Between B&W and Color

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“Blah” color photo



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# Choosing Between B&W and Color

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## Photography Tutorial *(video)*

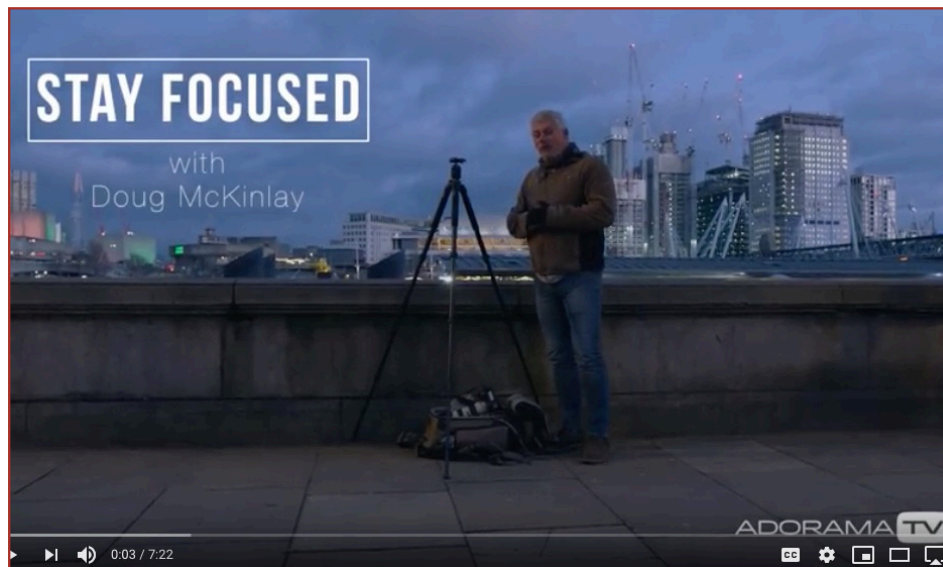
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Night Shooting

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# Night Shooting

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Watch video at  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sOFgEISbaQI&t=41s>

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# Monthly Assignment

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## B&W Conversion of Color Photos



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# Calendar

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**Wednesday December 5, 2018**  
Camera Club Meeting

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# Thanks

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