

November, 2018



Lebanon Camera Club

News

November Meeting: Tuesday, 11/6/18 6:30 pm

Program: "Members Choice"

Digital Competition: (the usual Color, B&W, and Open divisions-two images max per division) will follow the program.

Assigned Subject: Reflections

Photography Educational Series—Drones

Why Buy a Drone?

Even if you have no good reason to justify buying one, you have to admit that drones are cool. Some models out there are glorified tech toys, but most models are fit for use in imaging and cinematic applications small and large. If you think you can use a flying camera in your next project, there's some good news—the tech has come a long way in a very short time. There are models on the market now that put earlier copters to shame in terms of video quality and stabilization.

And now the bad news. You get what you pay for, and if you want an aerial video platform that can capture stunning footage, you need to be ready to spend some cash. Because drones are such pricey propositions, it pays to do your research before buying one.

Types of Drones

The main classes of drones include multirotor, fixed wing, single rotor and hybrid designs. The type of technology used to keep the drone flying determines the type of drone. This is also the main contributor to how the drone looks.

Multirotor

Multirotor drones are the most popular types of drones that are used by hobbyists and professionals. Common applications of multirotors are varied, but include aerial photography, video surveillance and surveying to name a few. If you are looking to get a small camera in the air for a relatively short period of time, then a multirotor is the way to go. They give you much more control over positioning and framing the camera to get you that perfect aerial photo shot.



Inside this issue:

Current News	1
Educational Series	1
Photo Contests	5
Photo Opportunities	5
Tech Feature	6
New Products	6
Workshops and Tours	7



“When words
become
unclear, I
shall focus
with
photographs.
When images
become
inadequate, I
shall be
content with
silence.”—
**Ansel
Adams**



Multirotors can be further classified based on the number of rotors on the aerial platform. Tricopters have 3 rotors, quadcopters have 4 rotors, hexacopters have 6 rotors and octocopters have 8 rotors. Quadcopters are the most popular and widely used.

Things to Consider Before Buying a Quadcopter

Skill Level: If you have never flown a quadcopter before, then you need to get a quadcopter for a beginner, and learn how to fly. When you are learning to fly, you are going to crash your quadcopter many, many times. Some of these are going to be very hard crashes. So you need a quadcopter that can take this punishment. You do not want to be crashing a drone worth a few hundred dollars, so you do not want the best quadcopter. Be honest with yourself regarding the skill level of your quadcopter flying ability.

Price: You do not need to spend hundreds of dollars to enter the world of radio controlled quadcopters. It is possible to get a starter quadcopter for approximately 50 dollars. As you look to quadcopters with more features, then the price scales with every additional option such as GPS, longer range, smarter onboard flight computer, HD camera capability, FPV, and additional sensors. The mid-range price of quadcopters is a few hundred dollars, with advanced quadcopters obviously costing more.

Objective: It is important that you understand what you want to do with your drone. If you are looking for a drone that is easy to fly, then you do not need an expensive quadcopter with GPS and a HD camera. You will be better off with a drone for a beginner. However, if you eventually want to shoot aerial video, then you will want an advanced quadcopter with a camera. So visualize what you plan on doing with your drone, and keep this in mind as you plan your quadcopter purchase.

Rules and Regulations: You may think of a quadcopter as a toy, but your government aviation authority does not. There are rules to flying that extend to the operation of a quadcopter. Most of these are common sense, but you need to be aware of them. Also, if you live in the USA, you need to be aware of the registration requirements for flying a drone. Other countries are adopting regulations for aerial drones, so be sure to check before you fly.

Battery and Flight Time: The flight times for a starter quadcopter is about 8 to 12 minutes, while higher end drones can fly for 15 to 25 minutes. If you anticipate flying longer than these times, you should consider buying extra batteries and chargers for your quadcopters, especially since most batteries take at least an hour to charge. These are not that expensive, and you should buy the extra batteries when you get your quadcopter to avoid flight time disappointment. However, do not endlessly fly your drone. It is best to let it rest for 5 minutes between batteries, so you do not over-heat the motors.

Extra Parts: No matter how experienced of a pilot you are, you are eventually going to crash your quadcopter. As your flying experience increases, the crashes will happen less, but you can still expect a few. Knowing this, you should check how easy it is to get extra parts for your drone. Almost all quadcopters, from the cheapest to the most expensive, come with extra propellers. With extended use, you may need to replace a motor, or another part due to a break caused by a crash. Check the drone manufacturer website for how to order extra parts.

Often times a quadcopter will come with a camera built-in, but for those that want a higher-quality image or the ability to fly without the added weight, it makes sense to purchase a drone without a camera and stick on their own when they wish.

Drones cont'd.

Drone Cameras

GoPro HERO Series



The GoPro Series of cameras is the gold standard of action cameras (and drone cameras for that matter), so it only makes sense they'd be the best for drone footage as well. GoPro's are frequently paired with a high quality quadcopter, like the DJI Phantom 2, to maximize the air time and maneuverability.

If you are an experienced quadcopter pilot and have the money to spend, I'd recommend going for the top-of-the-line Hero4. It has all the tech specs you could ask for from an action camera, including 4k video recording at 30FPS, so it won't become obsolete for *at least* another 5 years.

Mobius Action Camera

If you're looking for a cheaper and more lightweight drone camera, or maybe one that could double as a dashcam, this camera is for you! It has an impressive 80 minute battery life despite weighing only 1.4 ounces, and shoots 1080p at 30 FPS! You would also have an easier time attaching this to a smaller drone, whereas something like a GoPro would weigh you down too much. Here's some great beginner quadcopters you could strap the Mobius onto. Check out the video below to see some impressive drone footage from such a small camera!



DBPOWER Action Camera



This camera (clearly a GoPro knock-off) is an amazing deal at the price. It offers many of the same features as a GoPro Hero for a much smaller price. This would be a great drone camera for someone starting out who wants to use many of the same mounts that a GoPro has, but doesn't want to risk losing such an expensive camera.

Top Selling Drones with Cameras

(click on link to check price and specs)

[DJI Mavic 2 Pro](#)

[DJI Mavic 2 Zoom](#)

[DJI Mavic Pro](#)

[DJI Mavic Air](#)

[DJI Inspire 1](#)

[DJI Phantom 4](#)

[DJI Inspire 2](#)

[DJI Phantom 3 Pro](#)

[Yuneec Mantis Q](#)

[Yuneec H520](#)

[U49C Red Heron Quadcopter](#)

[DJI Spark](#)

[U45 Raven RC Quadcopter](#)

[UDI 818A](#) (under \$200 – great gift!)

The Best Professional Camera Drones for Sale

PROFESSIONALS



DJI Mavic 2 Pro

CAMERA | 20 MP, 4K 10-bit Dlog-M
FLIGHT TIME | 31 minutes

PROFESSIONALS



DJI Mavic 2 Zoom

CAMERA | 12 MP, 4K Ultra HD
FLIGHT TIME | 31 minutes

FOR PROFESSIONALS



DJI Mavic Pro

CAMERA | 12 MP, 4K @ 30 FPS
FLIGHT TIME | 27 Minutes

FOR HOBBYISTS, PROFESSIONALS



DJI Mavic Air

CAMERA | 4K 30 fps
FLIGHT TIME | 21 Minutes

PROFESSIONALS, HOBBYISTS



Yuneec Mantis Q

CAMERA | 4K, HD
FLIGHT TIME | 33 minutes

FOR PROFESSIONALS



Yuneec H520

CAMERA | 4K / 2K / HD
FLIGHT TIME | 25 Minutes

FOR HOBBYISTS, PROFESSIONAL



U49C Red Heron Quadcopter Drone

CAMERA | 13MP, 4K @ 30 FPS
FLIGHT TIME | 15 Minutes

FOR HOBBYISTS



DJI Spark

CAMERA | 12MP Still Photos / 1080p/30 Video
FLIGHT TIME | 16 Minutes

FOR PROFESSIONALS



DJI Inspire 1

CAMERA | 12 MP, 4K @ 30 FPS
FLIGHT TIME | 18 Minutes

FOR PROFESSIONALS



DJI Phantom 4

CAMERA | 12 MP Adobe DNG, 4K @ 30 FPS
FLIGHT TIME | 28 Minutes

FOR PROFESSIONAL CINEMATOGRAPHERS



DJI Inspire 2

CAMERA | 30MP in DNG RAW, 5.2K @ 30 FPS
FLIGHT TIME | 27 Minutes

FOR PROFESSIONALS, HOBBYISTS



DJI Phantom 3 (Professional)

CAMERA | 12 MP, 4K @ 30 FPS
FLIGHT TIME | 23 Minutes

FOR HOBBYISTS, FPV RACING



U45 Raven RC Quadcopter

CAMERA | 720P HD
FLIGHT TIME | 7-9 Minutes

FOR HOBBYISTS



UDI U818A (Under \$200)

CAMERA | 2MP, 720p HD
FLIGHT TIME | 7-9 Minutes

Drones cont'd.

Photo Contests

Great American Photo Contest Monthly Baby Photo
www.greatamericanphotocontest.com

Various Photo Contests
<https://www.photocontestinsider.com/>

Smithsonian.com Photo Contest—deadline 11/30/2018
<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/photocontest/submission/>

Monthly Photo Contests (Many Different Topics)
http://www.fanartreview.com/page/photo_contest/photo_contest.jsp



“No place is boring if you’ve had a good night’s sleep and a pocket full of unexposed film” **Robert Adams**



Photo Opportunities

Fall Foliage in Pennsylvania Scenic Drives Around the State
<http://www.visitpa.com/season/fall>

November 3 – January 1 Koziars Christmas Village Display, Bernville , <http://www.koziarschristmasvillage.com/>

November 16 – January 1 Hershey Sweet Lights
<http://www.hersheypark.com/info/hours/sweet-lights.php>

November 16 – January 1 (Select days) Christmas Candelane, Hershey
<http://www.hersheypark.com/explore-the-park/christmas.php>

November 17 Holiday Parade and Tree Lighting Ceremony Lebanon
<https://lebanoncla.com/events/>

November 17 Conrad Weiser Homestead Candlelight Tours

5:30 to 8:00 PM
 28 Weiser Road, Womelsdorf, PA <http://www.conradweiserhomestead.org/events---news.html>

November 20 – December 30 , Holiday Lights in the Park, 6pm – 10pm, Coleman’s Park, <https://visitlebanonvalley.com/event/holiday-lights-in-the-park-coleman-memorial-park-2/>

Photo Editing Feature of the Month—Color, Hue, Saturation, Brightness and Contrast

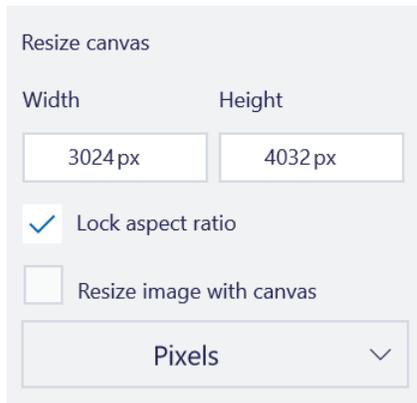
Why Would you Want to Reduce the Size your Images?

As the years pass, digital images are coming with higher & higher quality. Typically the higher the quality is, the higher the megapixels are, resulting in a large file size. When emailing digital images you don't want to attach a 10MB file- so you will need to resize it. Other hassles include uploading digital images to various social sites that have file size or dimension restrictions you will run into. Resizing your digital image will avoid these problems and make it easier for friends & family to view your digital image.

To understand what size you want, you need to understand what "pixels" mean. A digital image is made up of pixels or dots. The number of pixels per square inch is what makes up your dimension.

For example, a 12 Megapixel digital camera will give you the dimensions 4000x3000.

The image resize window will tell you what your current dimensions are set at. You can work in pixels or percents. Experiment with both.



I am going to change my width to 2000, which automatically changed my height to 1500. This is important to note, because if the box "Lock Aspect Ratio or Constrain Proportions" is unchecked, you will end up with a squished image. Having this box checked means that when you change one dimension, the other dimension will change in relation. Hit "OK" when you are done changing your dimensions.

If you don't have Photoshop or any photo editing software on your computer, you can use [Pixlr](#), which is a free online editor.

[Three Other Easy Ways to Resize Your Photos on a Mac](#)

Product Feature of the Month



Click on the links for a history of Canon cameras through the years.

<https://www.slrlounge.com/30-years-of-canon-eos-a-timeline-of-innovation/>

<https://www.the-digital-picture.com/Reviews/20-Years-of-Canon-EOS.aspx>

<https://www.usa.canon.com/internet/portal/us/home/about/about-canon/canon-history/>

Workshops and Tours

Apogee Photo Magazine

For more information log on to
[http://www.apogeephoto.com/
photography_workshops.shtml](http://www.apogeephoto.com/photography_workshops.shtml)

Wildlife and Nature Travel

www.wildlifeandnaturetravel.com

Art Wolfe Photography Workshops

www.artwolfeworkshops.com

Don Smith Photography

www.donsmithphotography.com

Brenda Tharp

www.brendatharp.com/

M&M Photo Tours

<http://www.mmphototours.com/>

Arizona Highway Photo Workshops

<http://www.friendsofhighways.com/>

John Shaw 2-Day Nature & Digital Photography Seminar

<http://www.photosafaris.com/>

Jack Graham Photography

<http://jackgrahamphoto.com/>

Rocky Mountain Reflections

www.rockymtnrefl.com/photographyworkshops.html

Slonina Photography—Explore Wild America

<http://www.sphotography.com>

Darwin Wiggett Tours & Workshops

<http://oopoomoo.com/workshopsandtours/>

Outdoor Photo Workshops

<http://www.outdoorphotoworkshops.com>

Photo Workshop Adventures

www.photoworkshopadventures.com

Michael Francis Photo Shoots

www.michaelfrancisphoto.com

Osprey Photo Workshops & Tours

www.ospreyphoto.com

Tom Dwyer Tours & Workshops

www.tomdwyerphoto.com

Horizon Photography Workshops

www.horizonworkshops.com

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Directors

2016-2017 Phylis Dryden
2016-2017 Rich Walter

2017-2018
2017-2018



If you would like to do a program on anything digital related or know someone who would, please let us know.

Or

If you have something of interest for our members, please email them to the Newsletter Editor, Connie at lebanoncamera@gmail.com.

MONTHLY MEETING
Be Connected. Be Heard. Be Informed.

Everyone is invited to attend our regular monthly meetings.

Unless otherwise noted we meet the first Tuesday at 6:30PM in St. Stephen's Christian Fellowship Church, 1100 Hunter Chase Lane, Lebanon PA.

Directions: From Rt 72 N of Lebanon where N 12th St becomes Jonestown Road at the McDonalds, follow Jonestown Road north past the Turkey Hill. Jonestown

Road will become Sandhill Road. Keep on Sandhill road until it branches to the left into Grace Avenue. Church is on the left 3/10 of a mile from the split *before* you pass Youth for Christ and Fisher Bus..

The club is a member of the Photographic Society of American (PSA).

Cancellation or last minute changes of events will normally be sent to members via email and broadcast on radio station WLBR, AM 1270.

Only members may enter competitions. Dues are \$25 per year and include the newsletter and monthly meeting minutes.

Digital Competition entries are due at least one day prior to the scheduled competition.

Competition Committee will keep winning Print entries for the end of year competition unless the member requests return of entries before then. In that case, the member would be responsible for re-submitting them for the end of year competition.

Products and services of interest to photographers are presented as a service without review or endorsement.

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Dates and times of events may change. Please check local listings.