

June, 2020



2020 Assigned Subjects:

Jun - Food

Sep - Cars

Oct - Doors

Nov - Pathways

## Inside this issue:

Current News 1

Educational Series 1

Photo Contests 4

Photo Opportunities 4

Photo Editing Feature 5

Product of the Month 5

Workshops and Tours 7

# Lebanon Camera Club

## News

**No June Meeting - Everyone Stay Safe and Healthy!**

Online Digital Competition—Food—  
submit photos per usual procedure

## Photography Educational Series—Moon Photography

Our moon is Earth's only natural satellite, and sits at an average distance of 239,000 miles from us. It orbits our Earth every 27.3 days, and the same side of the moon always faces us due to its synchronous rotation with Earth. There are eight different phases of the moon during its 29.53 day monthly cycle, and the most popular phase to photograph is during a full moon.

### It all begins with a plan and location

Planning is a big part of all photography and shooting the moon is no exception. Always spend a lot of time planning your moon shots, and this first begins with the initial idea of the shoot. You may want a wide shot of the moon rising over a land or a city scape or a close up with the moon large in frame. Either way always scout your location before the day of the shoot, and then work out what time and where the moon will be in the sky in relation to my shot composition.

Thankfully these days there are some great apps to help you plan your moon shots. PhotoPills, which can precisely calculate the timing and positioning of your moon shots, especially if you want to introduce a foreground object of interest into your composition, is only available on the iPhone, but fear not, if you have an Android phone, then there is another great app that does a similar thing called The Photographers Ephemeris.

### Lets talk about gear

A lot of people think you need to use a telescope to photograph moon images, but this isn't the case. All that is needed is a regular DSLR camera and a super telephoto lens. These lenses can be expensive - like a 600mm with a 1.4x extender, but you don't have to go out and spend that much money on a lens like this to take impressive moon photos.

A typical kit zoom lens around the 70-300mm mark will get you decent moon shots and also give you the versatility of shooting images of the moon that are wider. You could photograph the moon over a city skyline shot at 70mm, or get more of a close





*“What do we feel when we look at a good photograph? We just want to be there, right at the exact moment that photo taken!”*  
- Mehmet Murat Ildan



## Moon Photography cont'd.

up shot with your lens set to 300mm. Sure the optics aren't going to be as good as the more expensive prime telephoto lens, but you are still going to be able to get the shot.

Probably one of the most important pieces of equipment to use when photographing the moon, is a tripod. Since you are shooting with longer focal lengths, you need to keep your camera locked down as much as possible to prevent camera shake and get a sharp image, so to do that, a sturdy tripod is necessary.

### Camera

To get up close and personal with the moon, you should use a DSLR or mirrorless system. APS-C and micro four-thirds cameras are perfect because of their cropped sensor. The Canon EOS 1300D or Olympus OMD EM-5 Mark II are excellent choices. A 300 mm telephoto lens on a Canon APS-C camera body will give the same field of view (FOV) as a 480mm lens on a full-frame camera. On a micro four-thirds camera, the same lens will give a FOV equal to that of a 600mm on full-frame. A notable exception to the DSLR/mirrorless rule are cameras like the Nikon P900. This camera has a zoom lens equivalent to a 2000+ mm lens on a full-frame camera. With the cropped cameras and P900, you will easily fill the frame with a small part of the lunar surface.



### Lenses

As mentioned before, you need a long telephoto lens or zoom lens with a focal length of at least, 300mm. The moon is so bright that you do not need fast, expensive, telephoto lenses. Anything with an aperture of f/5.6 or f/8 will do. If you don't own a telephoto lens, legacy lenses such as the Canon FD 300 f/5.6 are viable options to cut costs.

Some lenses can take a teleconverter (TC). This is an optical element sitting between the lens and the camera to increase the focal length. It is important to use a TC that is designed for the lens you want to use.

These can be a cost-effective solution to increase your lens' focal length. However, they do reduce the amount of recorded light. A 1.4x TC will reduce your exposure by 1-stop and a 2x TC will cut 2 stops.

For a DSLR, the Canon EF 75-300mm f/4-5.6 or Canon EF 100-400mm f/4.5-5.6L IS USM is recommended. You can't go wrong with Olympus MSC ED-M 75 to 300mm II or Sigma 150-600mm 5-6.3 lenses for micro four-thirds systems.

### Telescopes/Spotting Scopes

If you are into bird watching or astronomy observations, you may already have a spotting scope or small telescope.

You can connect your DSLR to a scope via an adapter (T-to camera mount) by removing the eyepiece. There are even adapters that allow you to use your compact camera or smartphone to photograph the moon.

## Moon Photography cont'd.

### Accessories

Image stabilization makes it possible to take hand-held photos of the moon. But you should still use a decent tripod, like the dated Manfrotto 055XPROB, but the Manfrotto Manfrotto MT190XPRO3 3 is also a great option.

A sturdy tripod will make your life easier by allowing you to achieve a good focus and take sharper images. Use it alongside a remote shutter release with an intervalometer. This prevents camera shake and allows you to take a series of images for stacking.

If you are photographing with a telescope, you need a manual or motorised astronomy mount. These mounts allow you to track the moon's movement across the sky. My Skywatcher Star Adventurer tracking mount is perfectly suited for astrophotography with DSLR and camera lenses. Among other functions, it has star, moon and sun-tracking modes.

### The Importance of composition

As with all forms of photography, a good composition is going to set your photos apart from others, so it's important when you are scouting for your locations, that you find interesting angles and compositions that are going to differ from your every day photos of the moon.

I always try to introduce an element of interest to my moon shots, even if I'm just photographing the moon against the night sky - clouds are great for this. Other elements could include cityscape's, silhouettes, moon reflections on water, or even the International Space Station flying in front of the moon.

### You'll need to know about settings too

If you've ever stopped and actually watched a moonrise, you'll notice that the moon does move fairly fast - it takes around 2.5 minutes from when you first see it until it totally clears the horizon, so to get a sharp image, shoot with a relatively fast shutter, generally shoot around the 1/125 second mark. As for aperture, we are trying to get the detail on the moon as sharp as possible, so rarely shoot wide open and tend to settle on an aperture around f/9.0. As far as ISO is concerned, with the settings mentioned, go with a value around 400, but you can also push it to 800 to be able to use a faster shutter speed.

Using live view is a fast and easy way to get your exposure of the moon correct. It will give you instant feedback on any changes you make to the settings on your camera.

The moon is so bright that you can easily overexpose it. A good starting point is to set your camera in manual mode. Next, dial in a shutter speed of 1/125th of a second and set



*"Photography takes an instant out of time, altering life by holding it still."*

- Dorothea Lange



## Moon Photography cont'd.

the aperture to f/8 or f/11 and the ISO to its lowest setting. If you don't have a remote shutter, use the built-in 2-second timer to avoid camera shake. When checking the exposure, be sure your moon is sharp.

### Focusing

Thankfully the moon is a bright object in the sky, so even at night, you could use your auto focus for focusing your camera on the moon. Shoot when the moon is high in the sky: if you are after a shot of the moon with great sharp detail on its surface, you are best to wait until the moon is high in the sky. When the moon is low at moonrise and moonset, it is being distorted by atmospheric refraction, and even though you may be focused perfectly on the moon, the detail on the surface will look slightly blurry and out of focus.

If you want to get sharp moon photos, your focus needs to be spot on. Unfortunately, chances are the autofocus will have difficulty. So, switch to manual focus. Do not trust the infinite mark on your lens or the hard stop of the focusing ring. These are not reliable. Instead, use all the modern functions your camera has to help you focus. Features such as Live View, Magnification and Focus Peaking will all help.

With the camera on a tripod, frame an area on the moon with contrasted craters. Now, try to get their ridges as sharp as you can by focusing back and forth until you find the sweet spot. Achieving good focus can take time.

### Interesting Moon Photography Fact

The moon's orientation and direction changes depending on where you are in the world. To a lot of you, moon images may look upside down. That's because they were shot in the southern hemisphere, and you may be used to seeing the moon from a northern hemisphere's perspective. The moon also rises in a different direction - In the southern hemisphere it's from right to left. Close to the equator, it's pretty much straight up. And the further north you go into the northern hemisphere, it rises left to right.

### Seeing Conditions: Read Your Sky

Standing between you and the moon is the Earth's atmosphere. Clouds, haze, air turbulence, pollution, dust and humidity – all of these will degrade your image.

Try to photograph the moon when it is high in the sky. This way, less of the atmosphere will be in-between. Clear winter nights are your best bet for great visibility. But be careful. If you're photographing the moon from a city during the winter, avoid taking photos when the moon is low. The escaping heat from the roofs will create turbulence that will further degrade your view.

For the same reason, if you want to photograph the moon from inside your house, shoot through the window. If you open it, the thermal gradient between the air inside and that outside will create turbulence.

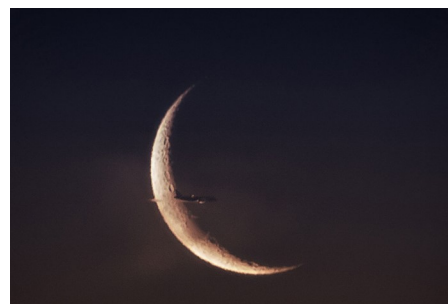
### How to Photograph the Moon During Different Phases

Every month or so, the moon goes through a series of lunar phases. These go from New Moon (not visible in the sky) to Waning Moon. The moon is also characterized by age (in days) and illumination.

During the year, the moon is visible at different times of the day. For more information, look at a lunar calendar. Or check the weather forecasts to know when it rises, sets and in which phase the moon is.

Each lunar phase affects the moon's shape and the number of visible details.

<https://expertphotography.com/how-to-photograph-the-moon/> and <https://www.popphoto.com/how-to-photography-moon/>



## Photo Contests

- **Rennen Photography**  
2020 Contest  
<https://photocontest-guru.com>
- **Great American Photo Contest** Monthly Baby Photo  
[www.greatamericanphotocontest.com](http://www.greatamericanphotocontest.com)
- **Photographic Society of America** = many different contests:  
<https://psa-photo.org/>

### Various Photo Contests (Many Different Topics)

- <https://www.photocontestinsider.com/>
- <http://www.voubs.com>
- [Www.viewbug.com/photo-contests](http://www.viewbug.com/photo-contests)
- [Www.photocrowd.com/photo-competition](http://www.photocrowd.com/photo-competition)
- <https://www.outdoorphotographer.com/photo-contests/>
- <http://www.photocrowd.com>
- [www.life-framer.com/](http://www.life-framer.com/)
- <https://www.fanartreview.com>

**Landscape and Nature Forum Photography Challenge—monthly theme and critique:** [https://www.facebook.com/groups/creativeraw/?utm\\_source=ActiveCampaign&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_content=March%20Photo%20Challenge%3A%20Color%20in%20Nature&utm\\_campaign=Facebook%20Group%20Contest](https://www.facebook.com/groups/creativeraw/?utm_source=ActiveCampaign&utm_medium=email&utm_content=March%20Photo%20Challenge%3A%20Color%20in%20Nature&utm_campaign=Facebook%20Group%20Contest)

## Photo Opportunities—These events may be cancelled or postponed

**June 5, 6, 7**  
**Annual WWII Weekend**  
Mid-Atlantic Air museum, Reading Regional Airport, Reading, PA  
[http://www.maam.org/wwii/ww2\\_sched.htm](http://www.maam.org/wwii/ww2_sched.htm)

**June 20**  
**Flying Circus**  
Golden Age Air Museum, Bethel  
<http://www.goldenageair.org/events.htm>

**June 13-21**  
**PA Laurel Festival**  
Wellsboro  
<https://www.wellsboropa.com/index.php/PA-State-Laurel-Festival>

**June 21**  
**FamilyFest**  
American Helicopter Museum, West Chester  
<http://americanhelicopter.museum/events/fatherfest-main>

**June 20 –Rose Garden Tours**  
**June 21—Free Admission for Dads**  
Hershey Gardens  
<http://www.hersheygardens.org/events-programs/2094>

**June 26-28**  
**Chester County Balloon Festival**  
Toughkenamon, PA  
<http://www.ccballoonfest.com/>

**June 27**  
**10AM-5PM**  
**Cherry Fair and Early American Craft Show**  
Schaeffer Farm, Schaefferstown  
[www.hsimuseum.org](http://www.hsimuseum.org)

**June 27**  
**PA Firefly Festival**  
Forest County  
<https://www.pafireflyfestival.org/>



## Photo Editing Feature of the Month-Photo Editing Software Review

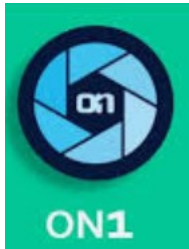


Luminar 4: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5Fh02scriZE&feature=youtu.be>

Luminar 4 Review: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6-sdxKDdTfU>

What's new in Luminar 4.1: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zyKtrM-QTc4&feature=youtu.be>

Another Luminar 4 Review: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9fZGP1HvCWs>



Is it worth the upgrade- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zP9j2q7a6uI>

Preview of On1—<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U43FfvK-IFU>

Comparing On1 to Photoshop and Luminar 4 : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SGMONKZ65Ec>

Review: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=USFuyVhFNg4>

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## Product of the Month-Moon Photography Equipment

Tips to photograph the moon: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fM68BTBl3uk>

More tips to photograph the moon: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p0DpbEtk7nc>

Smartphone and Telescope: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4QV4Gv8VXBk>

DSLR and telescope: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QWty\\_KoXgmc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QWty_KoXgmc)

How to use a telescope: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eoZyR7U8cuo>

## 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](http://www.wildlifeandnaturetravel.com)

### Art Wolfe Photography Workshops

[www.artwolfeworkshops.com](http://www.artwolfeworkshops.com)

### Don Smith Photography

[www.donsmithphotography.com](http://www.donsmithphotography.com)

### Brenda Tharp

[www.brendatharp.com/](http://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](http://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](http://www.photoworkshopadventures.com)

### Michael Francis Photo Shoots

[www.michaelfrancisphoto.com](http://www.michaelfrancisphoto.com)

### Osprey Photo Workshops & Tours

[www.ospreyphoto.com](http://www.ospreyphoto.com)

### Tom Dwyer Tours & Workshops

[www.tomdwyerphoto.com](http://www.tomdwyerphoto.com)

### Horizon Photography Workshops

[www.horizonworkshops.com](http://www.horizonworkshops.com)

Below is a link of online pdf files from  
past monthly meeting presentations:

[http://www.bellallum.kotay.net/public/  
program/LebanonCameraClub/](http://www.bellallum.kotay.net/public/program/LebanonCameraClub/)

## 2020 Officers

President: Paul Hess  
[rvdoc@comcast.net](mailto:rvdoc@comcast.net)

Vice President: Ed Gundrum,  
[ejgun@evenlink.com](mailto:ejgun@evenlink.com)

Secretary: Tammy Wolfe,  
[lebanoncamera@gmail.com](mailto:lebanoncamera@gmail.com)

Treasurer: Joni Bonus O'Ship  
[mjoship@comcast.net](mailto:mjoship@comcast.net)

Program: Keith Kotay  
[keith@kotay.net](mailto:keith@kotay.net)

Newsletter: Connie Fullenlove  
[connief922@gmail.com](mailto:connief922@gmail.com)

Competition: Melodie Bechtel,  
[melodiebee@gmail.com](mailto:melodiebee@gmail.com)

Community Affairs: Bill Sypher,  
[sypher1@comcast.net](mailto:sypher1@comcast.net)

## Meetings are the first Tuesday of each month!

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](mailto: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.