

Travel Photography

Presented by Jim Craner

www.paws-photo.com
www.pawsphoto.wordpress.com

Getting Ready



Laying out gear in my office before a trip – YIKES!!!

Planning and Execution

- Research Locations
- Know Your Camera
- Have Enough Capacity
 - Memory Cards
 - Power
 - Other storage options
- Manage Risk
 - Avoid Single Points of Failure
 - Recovering 'Lost' Images
- Better Images – The Essential Techniques

Research Locations

- Web (Google Your Location)
- www.nps.gov (National Parks)
- www.fws.gov (National Wildlife Refuges)
- www.photographamerica.com (not free)

Photograph America (Robert Hitchman) is a fee-based site containing detailed and well-researched information

Storing, Optimizing, and Sharing Your Photos

Using Your Computer, or iPad™

- **Transferring Images**
 - Tether camera (looks like a disk drive to computer)
 - External Card Reader
- **Organizing, optimizing, sharing**
 - www.picasa.com (free)

Note: Nearly every notebook computer comes with some kind of simple photo editing software. Most cameras (even 'point and shoot') come with some kind of software to adjust images.

Power Considerations

- **Rechargeable Batteries**
 - Don't forget the charger
 - It make take overnight to recharge
 - AC/DC inverter maybe a good option for car/boat
- **Specialty Sized Batteries**
 - May not be available everywhere
 - Don't forget about the 'button' battery if your camera uses one
- **Overseas Power Issues**
 - Check voltage and plug conventions for your destination
 - Check chargers for allowable voltage input, may only need conversion plug
- **What drains batteries the most?**
 - Leaving the camera on
 - Excessive use of the LCD screen
 - Using the Flash unit

Manage Risk – Avoid Single Points of Failure

- Having only one camera
- Having only one memory card
- Leaving the camera manual home
- Not having additional batteries
- No plan for unloading memory cards
- Taking only shot of something important

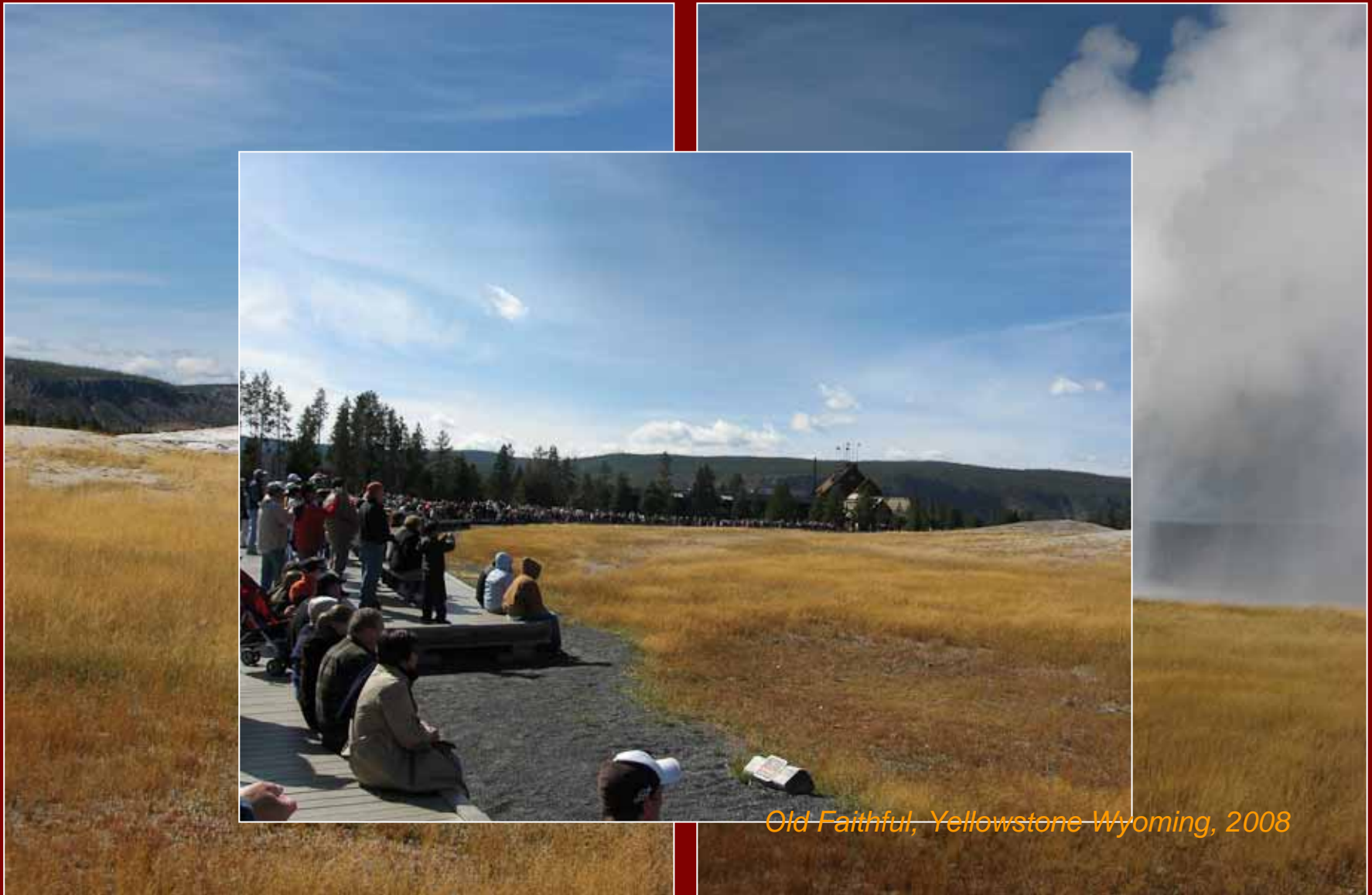
Manage Risk – Recovering Images

www.datarescue.com

Notes:

1. May require a card reader.
2. Attempts to find and recover 'lost' files on a memory card.
3. Downloadable software (free to try).

If you only take one shot, it will have to be your best!



Old Faithful, Yellowstone Wyoming, 2008

Compose your shot to get a sense of place!



Grand Teton NP, Wyoming



Which shot tells the strongest story? Why?



1



2



3

How could each shot be made stronger either 'in-camera', or later optimizing?

Composition – Horizon Line Placement?

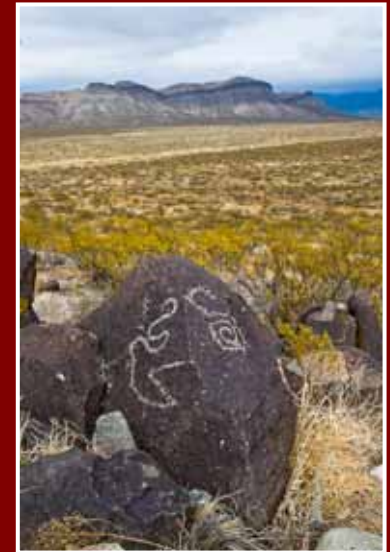


Center – Balance

*High or Low – Expanse, Scale, Drama,
Depth*



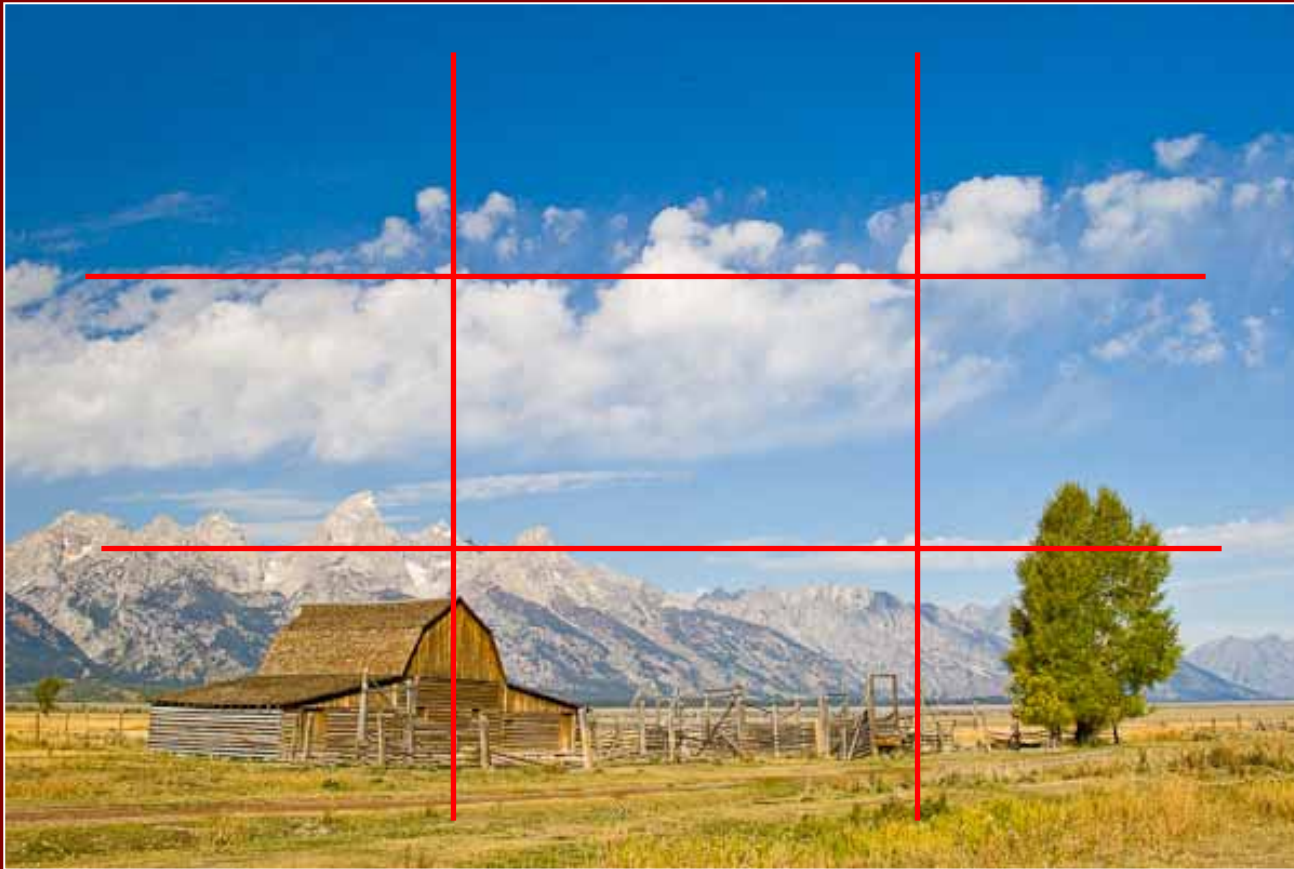
Composition – Foreground/Background Relationship



People At Ease Always Look Better



Composition – The Rule of Thirds



Using Software to Optimize Your Images



- 1. Remove digital noise, sharpen.*
- 2. Crop, adjust contrast and brightness, intensify color.*

Using Software to Optimize Your Images (cont'd)



Problems: Too much foreground and sky. Somewhat flat light.



Solutions: Dramatic crop, increase in brightness and contrast.

In Conclusion – 10 Short Tips

1. The best camera to use is the one you have with you.
2. Carry at least 2 memory cards, even if you don't need them for the capacity.
3. Have a second set of batteries even if yours are rechargeable.
4. Use the LCD to focus if you are very close to your subject (5' or less).
5. Beware of photographing people with very strong backlight.
6. The flash in you point-and-shoot is only effective at a distance of about 10' or less.
7. Watch the background, it's as important as the foreground.
8. Study the camera manual and carry it with you. Practice with your camera.
9. The most dramatic light is early morning and late afternoon.
10. Tell the complete story in one shot – who, what, where, when, why, how, etc..

Thank you. Enjoy your travels and you photography.