



# Making Pictures

## As we come to the end of another year...

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It is only fitting to recognize the many friends and students that supported me during 2011. You folks are the fuel that keeps me going. Words of appreciation are often heard, but they never grow old. You may never know how deeply thankful I am to have you a part of my life. I can only hope you find the glad tidings that I possess.

It has been many months since I put out a newsletter. The main reason I tell everyone is that I don't want to keep spamming my "peeps". Actually, truth be told, I do so much online presence between my Blog, Podcast, Gallery, and Facebook site that I sort of forgot about the newsletter. This is only the third issue this year. That's OK. This one will be a

doozy. I have a lot of information to convey. Hopefully, most of you will find the updates you have been asking about here. I have decided to make this newsletter abridged. By that I mean I will describe a few nuggets of key information in each article and then link you to the full story online. That should keep down the boredom and the huge file size.

Speaking of online, finally I updated and coordinated all of my online websites so that they are up-to-date and consistent. Better yet, between my three main sites, there is a common navigation bar at the top for maneuvering around. The idea is less confusion and quicker access. My websites are easy to find:

◆ <http://www.bobkulonphoto.com>



A back road find in the Boulder Mountain region

- ◆ <http://blog.bobkulonphoto.com>
- ◆ <http://gallery.bobkulonphoto.com>
- ◆ <http://podcast.bobkulonphoto.com>
- ◆ <http://facebook.bobkulonphoto.com>

In closing, Merry Christmas (yes, I still say that!) and Happy New Year. May you be blessed.

### What's Going On?

- Contest is Underway
- Great Courses
- Web fixes
- Gallery and Store
- Blog and Podcast
- Free Critiques

## My online gallery is open and ready for business

Would you believe that it has been over 18 months since I edited my main website! Oh my, everything was amiss. The pictures were obsolete. Even the navigation was broke. The links didn't work, and even worse, my course listings ended in 2010. People were constantly sending me messages to see

if I fell off the face of the earth.

Along with rectifying all of these issues, I made an executive decision to stop building and maintaining my professional online gallery. I used to use Smugmug and have I returned to them. This important decision came about for two logical reasons:

- ◆ I wanted to get all "flash" code off my websites. There are problems and I will just avoid them.
- ◆ Since I no longer participate in Art Shows, I needed some way for the public to view and purchase my work. Smugmug has a very professional storefront and great prints from Bay Photo.

Visit often, I will update as I go.

## Training at Dixie State College Community Education



Stop the car, pull over, get out, and savor the gran-

There will be a great assortment of photography and processing courses offered by Dixie State's Community Education Department. Let me tell you about my plans for the 2012 Winter/Spring semester.

Before every semester I change the courses I teach Here is my reasoning:

- ◆ **Stick with the consistently popular offerings.**
- ◆ **Drop or defer those offerings that are of limited interest.**
- ◆ **Add some new interesting courses.**
- ◆ **Adjust the course offerings for**

### seasonal interest.

With that in mind, you will see changes. Hopefully for those past students, you will find new offerings that augment your interests.

One thing you should be aware of: I only teach what I know. I do not try to hit on all the possible topics since I am not an expert in all areas. You can be assured that my courses are backed by years of first hand experience and knowledge.

If you check out the prices that these courses are offered at, the astute observer will find that they amount to about \$8/hour or less. That is an amazing value.

Over the years, my class sizes have increased. I am very grateful for word-of-mouth recommendations and repeat customers.

Beware of one little glitch. Usually, the mailed brochure from the college hits about the same week that classes start. Many people are unaware and miss out. I am giving you a "heads up" now on these courses so you can contact the Community Education department at (435) 652-7675.

Don't wait! Classes start on January 18, 2012. I hope to see you in attendance.

## Community Education Courses for Winter/Spring Semester

"You can be assured that my courses are backed by years of first hand experience and knowledge."

You can get a complete listing of these courses along with informative descriptions by linking up to

<http://wp.me/P5IaK-n0>

I know, it looks weird, but it is a shortcut. Trust me, you don't want me to give you the long URL.

Here we go...

◆ **Photoshop CS5 for Photographers**

◆ **Lightroom 3 Made Easy**

◆ **Creating Photocards**

◆ **Comprehensive Photography and Composition in a Day**

◆ **Photoshop Elements in a Day**

◆ **Buying a DSLR**

◆ **Cheap Tricks (saving a bundle)**

◆ **Studio Lighting in a Day (hands on)**

◆ **Time, Place, and Weather**

◆ **Air Show Photography**

◆ **Creative Photo Techniques (with field shoot)**

◆ **Going Pro**

◆ **Garden Photography**

◆ **Spring in the Desert (field shoot)**

Please contact the Community Education department at (435) 652-7675 to inquire and sign up.

## But Wait! There's More!



You don't find the image, the image finds you.

I am also doing some independent training events. Again, for complete information follow the link to

<http://wp.me/P5IaK-n0>

Here is what is in store:

◆ **Two-Day Workshop: The Digital SLR Deep Dive**

Held all day (and optionally evening) on 4/20/2012 Friday and 4/21/2012 (Saturday). Orientation get-together to be held Thursday evening 4/19/2012.

Sponsored by Hurricane Valley Arts Association. Contact Melani Wright at (435) 635-2568 for booking information.

◆ **The Apple Ecosystem for Fun Photography**

Two Tuesday evenings starting on January 24 from 6:30 to 9:00 at Bob Kulon's Home. Class limit is 6 people. Bring your iPhones and iPads if you have them. We have Wi-Fi. Call Bob at 435-275-5975 for prepaid reservations. Registration fee is \$35 in advance.

## The 2011 alumni student photography contest

As promised, all of my training students are welcome to compete in a year-end photo contest.

As the entries come in, they can be found at my gallery site:

<http://gallery.bobkulonphoto.com>.

Look for the gallery (near the top) that says **2011 Student Contest Entries**.

All alumni of my classes are welcome to enter their best picture for the year. (Email the jpeg file to [bkulon@hotmail.com](mailto:bkulon@hotmail.com). Do not exceed 3MB in size. Make sure your

file is converted to the sRGB color space.) Any type of photography may be entered – this is an open contest; there are no categories. The criteria for judging are:

- ◆ **Concept** – 10 points (Was the photo well seen and was the message original?)
- ◆ **Execution** – 10 points (Was the photography and processing effective?)
- ◆ **Impact** – 10 points (Did the composition and creativity catch the eye?)

The winner will win a 16×20 (or 16 x *whatever* size suits the image

proportions) Float Mounted Metal Print (made by Bay Photo Labs) of their winning photograph valued at \$165. You may only enter once. Contest closes on 1/7/2012. Judging will be by Bob Kulon and Jack Graham. The winner will be announced on 1/15/2012.

For complete details, hop on over to the blog article at:

<http://wp.me/p51aK-oo>

(I know, another weird URL.) I encourage everyone to enter. The field is not all that large and you may very well score a great print.



Get your game on folks!

## My Blog has its two year birthday

I have been a bit more aggressive at promoting my blog these days. I link to it on Facebook. I keep adding articles. As a result, I average about 50 hits a day. Check out:

<http://blog.bobkulonphoto.com>

Here's a rundown of some of the happenings:

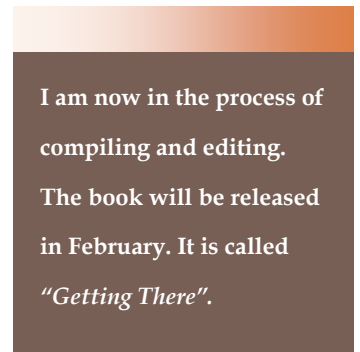
- ◆ Earlier this year I wrote and posted an entire book in something like 60 articles. Every day a new article went up. I am now

in the process of compiling and editing. The book will be released in February. It is called "*Getting There*". It describes a ton of methods for quickly and efficiently advancing your photographic skills.

- ◆ I wrote a satirical piece about my old Mamiya RB67 studio system. That article has gone viral on the Internet. After months, that still gets the most visits every day. If that's what it takes, I've had a lot more old

cameras in my day.

- ◆ Most of my other articles have been announcements. I did that because I didn't feel like bother you folks with frequent newsletters. These automatically post to my Facebook pages.
- ◆ Recently, I noticed that informative content was taking a back seat. I am now back in the saddle and posting articles of a wide range of topics, all centered around some concept in the world of photography.



## 18% Gray Matter Photography Podcast: 30 episodes already!

My partner in crime, Jack Graham, and I started a podcast back in January. The original concept was to make it satirical since together we behave like standup comedians. We still do that, but its in the outtakes, never to be heard in public. This is better for us all, trust me.

The parts we do release audio programing of a varied sort that

falls in the areas that we are most familiar with. Jack is the workshop guy; I am the classroom guy.

We have been very fortunate to have some luminary industry guests on several of our episodes. The audience likes this and frankly we all learn a ton. These are people like **Guy Tal, Bob Hitchman, and Mark Adamus** – accomplished folks that don't normally hit the

podcast circuit. Our next big undertaking is to hit the floor of the Consumer Electronics Show/ Photo Marketing Association in January.

You can listen to all past episodes (and subscribe) in iTunes. Just do a store search for 18% gray matter. Or go directly to our website at:

<http://18percentgraymatter.com>



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and the Southwest

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*The roots of my creative photography go back to the mid-70's when I became enamored with "the photographic life". I am motivated to create expressive images that evoke emotion from seemingly ignorable scenes. When I work with digital photography I am reminded that I finally have all of the resources one could ever hope for at my finger tips. Never before has it been so liberating to exert complete control over the creative process in continuity so that a concept materializes.*

*My current work is moving towards finding the chaos, design, light and pattern in nature, architecture, and the human condition. This may sound disparate; however, I strive to create thematic works that speak clearly without distraction. When people see my work, I'd like them to experience the atmosphere surrounding the scene.*

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## Critique sessions are back!



Hidden in Kayenta

This past summer I made an offer to my alumni (and current) students to meet with me for an hour for evaluation and advice. If I recall, about 20 folks participated. We did this in small groups. I do this during non-teaching days since that is when I have the time available.

At these sessions, I tend to point out your successes as well as areas for improvement. I am responsive to concept, message, scene framing, vantage point, composition, processing including tonal and color adjustment, presentation, and impact of the end result. If you ever watch me judge a contest, this is all the stuff I consider.

I will gladly work with you on any genre of photography. Long ago I did the portrait and wedding thing

so it is still in the back of my mind.

I decided to start the critique program up again in 2012. Here are the details:

- ◆ As before, there is no charge for this evaluation and coaching if you are a student of mine.
- ◆ I will be doing these session on an individual basis, not as a group. I feel this is the best way to provide advice.
- ◆ I expect you, the student, to have a prepared print portfolio. I don't want to do this on a computer screen.
- ◆ It will last about an hour.
- ◆ We will schedule this on a mutually agreed day, time, and location. My home is OK, but it can also be elsewhere like a coffee shop.

The following dates have been reserved for critique sessions. If you are interested and one of the dates fits your needs, contact me and we will make arrangements. (Let's make it clear, I expect you to remember to show up, OK?)

- ◆ January 28, 2012
- ◆ February 11, 2012
- ◆ February 25, 2012
- ◆ March 10, 2012
- ◆ March 24, 2012
- ◆ April 7, 2012
- ◆ April 14, 2012

Beyond that, I am not generally able to book critiques. Contact me at 435-275-5975 or by email at [bkulon@hotmail.com](mailto:bkulon@hotmail.com).