

HypoCheck



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Editors Doug & Jaci Finch, APSAs

Is Photoshop worth \$500 more than Photoshop Elements?

by Carol McCreary PPSA
edited Doug Finch APSA

For most people, probably not; but for creative professionals such as designers and photographers most likely yes! Without question, if you are planning to enter the graphic design or photography business, you will need to know industry-standard Photoshop which offers many advanced tools and productivity enhancements over Photoshop Elements. If you are a home user or hobbyist, you may want to save your money and go with Photoshop Elements; it has all the features of Photoshop that you are likely to ever need and a much easier learning curve. Depending on your comfort with the computer, you may want to start with Elements moving on to Photoshop once you have built a level of confidence. *But before we get too technical, let's take a look at your needs, particularly if you are just getting started with digital photography.*

Contrary to the name, Photoshop is used by a large number of disciplines; many do not consider themselves photographers. This

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***Infrared Action w/ Photoshop CS3
by Carol McCreary PPSA***

January 13, 2009:

Competition: Prints - Monochrome A&B, Color A&B, Nature & PJ

Judges: Randy Carr, Ward Conway, Carl Bell

Program: Christmas & New Year's Party

Refreshments: Christmas & New Years Party with Lorraine Caddy and All Club Members

January 27, 2009:

Competition: Projected Images

Open A&B, Creative A&B, Nature & PJ

Judges: Ed Lamb, Carol McCreary PPSA, Tom McCreary PPSA

Program: Mike Zink & Rhone' Tromble, The Best Juneau, Alaska Has to Offer

Refreshments: Peggy McClanahan

Board Meeting: 7:30 pm, January 20

Home of Carol McCreary, PPSA
425 SW 53rd St.

All members are always welcome, please call for information.

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will become quite evident as you study the differences detailed below. Thus Photoshop is a computer program around which a total new discipline has been established, moving light years away from the black and white darkroom that formed the foundation of photography. And, just as you learned a new language to use the computer, you will learn a new language as you explore the digital camera, Photoshop Elements or the more advanced programs of Photoshop CS3 or, the latest version, CS4. So if you haven't used either of these programs, you have a great experience and a lot of fun to look forward to.

Let's take a quick look at what you want to do with your photography, at least in the beginning. In the club competition as well as PSA International Competition, the Nature and Photojournalism Competition Divisions, both projected and prints, restrict the modifications of the entry permissible to very much what was allowed in the darkroom. This means your needs will be limited to the very basic tools available in either program; thus Elements will likely work nicely. Likewise, in the open competition, many of the entries will not require significant modifications depending on the originality and creativity of the

photographer's original image for its uniqueness. Then as you learn new techniques, you can always go back and apply them to some of your earlier images very successfully. Remember, we are all learning, sharing and helping one another; some members have become quite skilled in one or both programs and are happy to help, just ask.

Now, here is a brief look at some of the applications of Photoshop CS3 and Elements; keep in mind the application being discussed and that the following was compiled from a number of different sources. Don't become concerned if you are not familiar with the application being discussed, it is only intended to give you an idea of the vast number of applications and the differences in the two programs.

Advanced Website Development

The only *must-have* tool in working with web page graphics is the Save-for-Web tool which both Photoshop Elements and Photoshop CS3 have. This allows you to control the compression settings of graphics for the web or internet applications.

However, Photoshop CS3 has built-in tools that make creating websites a little easier and faster. For instance, if you

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Christmas & New Year's Party - Food and Fun!!!

The club's rescheduled holiday party will be held at our next meeting, January 13. Everyone should plan on bringing one of your favorite dishes to share just as you were going to do last time before the bad weather (but hopefully a fresh one, not the one you made for the last party). Please call **Lorraine Caddy 769-5043** or e-mail her at cadman6@cox.net to join in the fun and let her know what you will bring. See you there.

Club Will Receive Commission from Red River Paper

Many of our club members currently order their printing paper from **Red River Paper**, now everyone has an incentive to do so. The club will receive a **6.5% commission** on orders placed. There will be two ways to place an order for the club to receive this benefit. Place your order using the club code: members should go to <http://www.redriverpaper.com/myclub> and **enter the code OKC** when the request comes up. This will take you to the *camera club landing page* where you can begin shopping. The other way for the club to receive the credit is to use our unique affiliate URL. As the address is too long to include in this publication, we will place it on our website; it will take you directly to the landing page without the need for the club code. There are larger discounts available for larger group orders if anyone has an interest. If you have any questions, please contact **Tom McCreary, 634-1817**. We want express our appreciation to **Tom** for working with **Red River Paper** to set up this benefit for the club.

Gulf States Interclub Competition

Gulf States conducts competitions every month that the club participates in. One month the competition is PJ and Pictorial Projected, the next month it is Nature and Pictorial Prints. We compete in all competitions except Color Slides. **Tom and Carol McCreary** are handling the entries for us this year and are always looking for images to submit. See pages 5 & 8 for September and November awards.

PSA Nature Division Announcement - *for your information*

The following has been added to the Nature Division's Code of Practice:

"The ethical nature photographer should neither participate in nor endorse the practice of sacrificing a living animal specifically for the purposes of photographing a predator killing live prey under controlled conditions."

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design web pages and you know something about *html coding*, you can use the Slice tool to *cut up* your page into major sections that it will need to be in for your web page. With the slice tool, you draw lines around the major sections you want as graphics and you can name each section and apply *alt tags* all within Photoshop CS3. Then you can export the file and it will set up your slices with the right names, file structures and alt tags that you can then use with *html editor*. For basic websites, you can even export the Photoshop web page design and convert it to an html file.

Another reason you would want to consider Photoshop is for creating *animated gifs*. (GIF: Graphic Interchange Format - A popular bitmapped graphics file format developed by CompuServe.) Unfortunately, ImageReady is no longer included with Photoshop CS3, but they've incorporated the same basic controls for creating animated graphics for banner ad, etc. In the new version of Photoshop there is a palette window called *Animation* where you can show or hide layers for individual frames in an animation. You can also control the frame rate and compression settings for your animated gif.



**Stamp Action w/ Photoshop CS3
by Carol McCreary PPSA**

Control

If you like having control over every aspect of your image adjustments, you won't find that in Elements, you'll have to go to Photoshop. Elements has good automatic tools for selection, touching up, filters and image adjustments, but Photoshop CS3 usually goes about five steps deeper in options for specific controls. If you're a serious photographer doing large size prints I doubt you'd be happy with the automated results from Elements. Adobe has even made many of these editing tools better with Photoshop CS3; the lighting controls, healing brush tools and cloning tools are vastly improved.

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"Club did well in Gulf States" Gulf States Interclub Competition - September



*B&W Prints - "Bent Tree" - 2nd Place
by Wally Lee*



*B&W Prints - "Infrared Train"
2nd HM , by Carol McCreary PPSA*



*Color Prints - "Gorilla Contemplating"
3rd Place, by Doug Finch APSA*



*PJ Projected - "Wheelchair Racers"
2nd Place, by Carol McCreary PPSA*

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Advanced Text Formatting

Elements has basic text options but not enough to satisfy the serious typographer. Tracking (space between letters), typing along a path, full justification and other advanced formatting is not possible in Elements. However, there are some simple text effects like warping text in Elements that make it fun for the hobbyist.

Offset Printing with CMYK

CMYK or process color is basically a different color format for offset printing. Graphic designers need this when using images in page layout programs like *InDesign* or *Quark Xpress*. Today most printers can print digitally so CMYK is not as important if you're designing full color brochures or flyers as opposed to catalogs.



"Megan" w/ Gold using Photoshop CS3 by Carol McCreary PPSA



"Playing Jaxs" w/ Sketch using Photoshop CS3 and Layers by Carol McCreary PPSA

Layer Masks

If you're creating web designs and graphics where you're doing a lot of experimenting and cutouts, you'll really appreciate layer masks. Elements has basic blending tools from one layer to another where you can blend two photos together, but nothing like Photoshop masking power. In Elements, if you want to cut out a person from the background for instance, you can erase the

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photos you don't want, but if you make a mistake or change your mind, there's no going back. In Photoshop, if you apply a layer mask first and then just paint in the mask, you can erase or show whatever you want at any time. The way masks work is anything that is black is hidden and anything that is white is shown. You can paint with different shades of black and it will affect the opacity of the layers. This gives you limitless possibilities.

Compositing

One interesting feature of Photoshop is its compositing capabilities. If you have multiple photos that are roughly the same, like a series of family shots that were taken at the same time, you can have Photoshop automatically align the two pictures and then you can just delete the parts in one photo you don't like. Facial expressions, vehicles, birds that fly through and ruin your scene, etc., are all removable.

Custom Automation (Batches)

Elements has some great basic tools for processing multiple files at once. With Elements you can rename files, resize images, convert files, apply *Quick Fixes* and add watermarking or captions to multiple images at once. This covers about

90% of the batching tasks people use. However, you are limited with just these options. With Photoshop, you can create your own automated *actions* to apply to anything you want. You simply start recording a series of actions (steps) you make to one file. Then you can apply those same steps to thousands of other images with the click of one button. Photoshop does the work for you. You could literally walk away, come back hours later and it would be done.

Elements

Photoshop Elements offers some features that are not available in Photoshop such as the cookie cutter tool, drop in frames, backgrounds, artwork, automatic red eye removal, Quick Fix mode and the Photo Organizer. The Photo Organizer (only in the Windows version of Photoshop Elements 3 and up) lets you organize your photos with tags, then search and share them. The Organizer also offers several types of creations for sharing your photos in slide shows, video CDs, cards, emails, calendars, Web galleries and photo books. In addition, most Photoshop-compatible Plug-ins and Filters will also work with Elements.

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Gulf States Interclub Competition - November



*B&W Prints - "Rock House" - 1st HM
by Tom McCreary PPSA*



*PJ Projected - "Icy Traverse"- 2nd Place
by Charles Taylor APSA*

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Summary

This is an overview of some of the major features you would get with Photoshop CS3 that you would not find in Photoshop Elements. In short, Elements is a much easier-to-use application with bright, easy-to-find intuitive buttons and simple instructions. Most everything is automated and that's usually a good thing for the scrap booker or photo organizer. Even graphic and web designers could do most of their image formatting and cleaning up and save \$500.

Carol McCreary's Summary

The details and information in this article was obtained from internet sources. If the info isn't relevant to you, I suggest you buy Elements which is easy to use and has many auto settings. Otherwise, go to the Photoshop Website to find out more about the details listed about Photoshop. I have both softwares but I use Photoshop CS3 more. I use actions a lot which isn't possible in Elements.

Carol McCreary PPSA

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Workshop Schedule

Photography 101 Workshop - The Photography 101 Workshop will meet at **10:00 am, Saturday, January 17th at Ed Lamb's house.** They will discuss cameras and computers. Should be fun, don't miss it. For info call **Ed Lamb at 721-4714** or edlamb25@att.net.

Photoshop Workshop - The Photoshop Workshop will meet at **7:30 pm on Friday, January 23rd at Tom and Carol McCreary's, 425 SW 53rd.** Please bring a digital photo and tell us the steps you used to create the final photo. Please contact **Carol or Tom at 634-1817** or tcmccreary@cox.net if you need information or directions. See you there.

Programs for January

January 13 - Christmas & New Year's Party - come celebrate and visit with friends.
January 27- Mike Zink and Rone' Tromble will uncover **The Best Juneau, Alaska Has to Offer.** From the moment they touched down through the Safari and Photo Tour, a Tracy Arm cruise along with their adventures up Perseverance Trail. They will highlight their face to face encounter with a black bear while hiking around the Mendenhal Glacier and you will be tempted by the unique tastes of the Alaskan Capital.



Oklahoma Camera Club, Inc.
Meetings 2nd and 4th Tuesdays
Central Presbyterian Church
Charter Member:
The Photographic Society of America
Member:
Gulf States Camera Club Council

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