

## Videographers' Forum – May 3, 2016

Hi All, here are some notes from the discussions at our open forum. Only one more left in this series.

**Q:** A participant presented a video for comments and thoughts regarding the use of DSLR focus techniques.

**A:** The participant was using a DSLR camera with a telephoto lens. He was experimenting with using auto and manual focus. The subjects were geese and goslings grazing on a lawn. The best scenes were with manual focus of the subjects. It was suggested that the videographer might zoom into one subject and then back off to encompass the desired scene. This approach would work well since all the geese and goslings were in a tight group. The video had excellent clarity, color and focus in the final scenes. (Experimentation and getting use to his new DSLR).

**Q:** DSLR cameras versus Camcorders

**A:** The perennial discussion between using these types of cameras for videography. In the discussion it was brought out that for interchangeable lenses, the DSLR would be the best choice value wise. The trade off was the sound capabilities of the Camcorder which are superior to the DSLR. The DSLR can be compensated by using external audio equipment and using the "clap" technique to synchronize the sound and video. Interchangeable lenses are not yet available in lower cost Camcorders.

**Q:** DSLR cameras have limited recording time.

**A:** It was noted that most DSLRs will only record for 30 or so minutes before they reset and start a new video file. This causes a short "blip" in the video as the DSLR sets the file and begins a new one. One solution would be to script the video in a manner not to create blips. If recording a live event, then talk to the production people to find logical breaks in the play/presentation which will accommodate the record time limitation.

**Q:** A participant presented a video of an antique auto show.

**A:** There was a lively discussion regarding this video. The group felt that the video needed some introductory text so that the viewer would know what the video was about. The opening was a bit unconventional which also cast some confusion as to what the video was about. The videographer did a nice job of showing some footage as black and white and then switching to color. This contributed to the "old" look of the video. Once at the car show the video had some great compositions. It was suggested that subtitles would be nice to identify the autos. The group only watched the first five or so minutes of the half hour program.

I personally wish to thank participants who present their videos for group critique . . . there is no criticism in the group discussions, only constructive thoughts and ideas.

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