**Image Editing and Skillset Highlights**

*Along with the listed projects below, taking, uploading, editing, and exporting pictures is a weekly activity for me. I am always taking batches of photos, perfecting them, and exporting them with my watermark for my portfolio. I consider myself an expert when it comes to photo editing, and continue striving to learn new techniques and master my current skillset, in order to create great final images in a timely manner.*

***JULY 2013***

In July 2013, I was a photographer with Lozilu for the Haverhill, MA Women’s Mud Run. I was stationed at the finish line and directed to snap a photo of every runner as they crossed. The result was over 3600 images, which required organizing, cropping, enhancing, and uploading among other things. I was given 48 hours to complete edits and have the images uploaded to the Lozilu site. This was an enjoyable experience, and it showcased my time management skills, my ability to stay organized and calm under pressure, and my talent with image editing, exporting and uploading.

***AUGUST 2013***

I was hired to snap photos of various water sports at Lake St. Catherine in Vermont. I spent the better part of a day on the back of a boat taking photos of friends who were water rafting and skiing. I was able to capture about 300 images. Upon returning to NH, I spent about two days editing and narrowing images, which utilized my skills in light and color balance, as well as sharpening. I exported the images and uploaded them to a dropbox that friends could access to view the images.

***SEPTEMBER 2013***

Because my fiance and I wanted a more personal engagement shoot, I took our engagement photos myself. To do so, I mounted my camera to a tripod, and used a wireless remote which controlled the shutter and flash. Between our two sessions, I had taken around 600 images. Because the images were so important to me, I spent the better part of 3 days perfecting them. This included using a lot of basic skills, such as cropping and color and light enhancement and balancing. For about 50 images, however, I applied more advanced abilities, including blur corrections, masking, layer manipulation, color selection and isolation, etc. I also copied some images with a black & white or sepia effect, and including a little vignetting on some copies. Capturing our engagement pictures proved to be a great experience both as a photographer and image editor.

***NOVEMBER 2013***

I was hired to photograph and edit an engagement session for a couple in Nashua, NH. It was a cold and rainy day, and while the ambient light was great for shooting, it didn’t lend itself to the ‘warm, lovey’ photos the couple was after. I spent the following day editing about 350 images, where I layered a warmer filter on most images, enhanced color temperature and intensity where needed, used blur and sharpening tools, and played around with black & white, sepia, and vignetting as requested. The result was favorable, and the client ordered over 100 digital copies of the edited images stating they couldn’t believe how warm and sunny I made the photos look.

***DECEMBER 2013***

I was hired to photograph for two hours of a family holiday party. Lighting was the most challenging element while shooting, as it was a dark room with a disco ball and varying red/green/blue spot lights circulating the space. Most of the shots were done in ‘manual’ mode with increased ISO and shutter speeds. The result was great- about 150 fun, brightly colored shots. Upon editing the images, I tweaked the contrast and color levels most, but also balanced light and sharpness where needed. I later uploaded the photos to a dropbox where family could view and download the finished collection of photos.

***May 2014***

I was hired to photograph for four hours of a Green Mountain College graduate and his reception party in Vermont. One key photo that the family especially wanted was of the graduate shaking hands with the dean and accepting his diploma. This required my being in the ceremony tent, in the aisle, using a long distance lens, and precise timing. The tent was awkwardly lit, as it was dark inside, but light flowed in through the windows of the tent, making metering a real issue. I adjusted metering manually, upped the shutter speed and lowered the ISO, and was able to get about a dozen photos of the graduate as he crossed the stage. These required editing skills such as contrast tweaking, light selection, noise reduction and increased luminosity, as well as various temperature alterations. The reception party was another challenge. In the beginning, it was overcast, then it was very sunny, then the daylight faded into a night scene over the 3.5 hours of my shooting. The result was about 400 images which all required individual correcting. The overcast shots were warmed, brightened, and sharpened; the sunny shots were metered, had the exposure lowered, and the contrast altered; and the duck and night shots were warmed, sharpened, softened, balanced, and brightened respectively. When all was said and done, the proud family had around 450 images of their graduate, delivered on DVD.

***June 2014***

I was hired shoot some photos of an idyllic seacoast harbor for a customer. I had waited for the right conditions, and was rewarded with a rare sight- evening fog rolling over the water and between the sail boats and yachts, while the sun set. Though there were a lot of corrections made during shooting, many adjustments were made in post processing. I wanted the fog to stand out, so I added a soft layer over many images, as well as a focused light layer on the subjects (boats). I upped the blacks and shadows, and I lowered the whites and highlights, which lead to a stunning contrast between boats and water and the fog and blue skies. Some images also required sharpening. And in almost every image of the 80 I took that day, I used Photoshop to remove various buoys and speed boats that didn’t quite match the composition of the photo. The final result was a series of stunning and very idyllic New England harbor photos, and a happy customer who, to my surprise, ordered five prints.