LET THERE BE COLOR
By
Stan Gendelman

If you are like some digital camera enthusiasts you like to print your own pictures. If you look very carefully at the colors after printing and then look at the pictures on the screen, you may notice that they are not exactly the same.

Why? Assuming the white balance of the monitor is good, then the variation is due to the colors put into the ink cartridges. Not all magenta, yellow or cyan are the same as the colors generated by the CRT or on the LCT screen. There is yet another monkey wrench that's in the equation, the paper.

Try printing your pictures on Photo Matte paper and then on Photo Glossy paper. You will be surprised that there is a difference in color and quality. Most professionals in the photo printing business prefer matte paper. The colors stand out and are more vivid. But what if the colors are not the same or what you expect?

The solution is simple. Get a test target. One can be downloaded from the internet by going to google and searching for free test targets; **OR** use a page from a magazine. The picture should have a lot of sharp vivid colors. Make sure your picture has blues, reds, yellows and greens. You can scan this picture and experiment by printing the picture on different types of paper.

By all means take photos of your test target and run prints. Make sure you use natural illuminating the picture.

Now, what to do if your printer isn't printing the right colors. Go into your printer preference tab and look for adjustments so you can control the various coors. Try different settings, such as vivid, hard, normal, best. Some printer software gives you the ability to vary the color density for each color. This is usually found in one of the advanced tabs of printer preference. You don't have to print a full page to test your results. If you make your prints small you can print on different sections of the paper. This way you can use the same sheet over again. The motor used in printers are stepping motors and will very accurately place the print where you want it.

Who's ink are you using? All OEM inks are the right color. Some 3rd party inks are NOT.

Finally, remember you can always take your flash card to one of the photo printing stores and have them do it. NO FUN!

Chocolate, Everyone?

Chocolate: Here today .... Gone today!

If it ain't chocolate, it ain't breakfast!

There's nothing better than a good friend, except a good friend with CHOCOLATE

Nuts just take up space where chocolate ought to be.

I could give up chocolate but I'm not a quitter.

Put the chocolate in the bag and nobody gets hurt.