

**Bob's Tips for Good Exposures
In Photographing Your Pottery**

- **Consider using your cell phone**, rather than a fancy camera. The iPhone, in particular, gives very realistic and vivid colors. The resolution is also quite good—excellent for our website.
- **Use a tripod** to get clear pictures. There are cell phone holder devices that attach to a tripod.
- Generally, the **White Balance** works best when set to Auto. Look it up in your camera's manual.
- If you are using a digital SLR camera, set it to **A-Dep (aperture-dependent or aperture priority)**. Then . . .
- **Set the aperture to the smallest opening possible** (which would be the highest F-stop number). This gives you the best possible depth-of-field—which means that both the closest and the farthest back parts of the pot are clear and in focus. If you have a Canon Rebel, as I do, this is done with the little wheel near the front of the camera, near the shutter button. See your camera manual, if you have trouble with this.
- Make sure that your **Exposure Compensation is set to 0**. Your camera manual will also show how to do that, too.
- **Set your ISO to 100**. (ISO is what we used to call “film speed.”) An ISO of 100 gives you the clearest pictures—but it requires longer exposures, which is why you need a tripod.
- On my Canon Rebel, I **set the Picture Style to Standard**. Yours may call for something different, like “vivid.”
- Set the **Image-recording Quality (the size of the image /number of pixels)** to the highest setting. This can always be downsized by the webmaster for posting on the web, but you will want to have the highest quality images you can possibly make for the originals.
- Most often, the images you take can benefit from “**post-processing**” in PhotoShop or (much less expensive!) PhotoShop Elements. There is also freeware on the web that will do much the same thing. Gimp is one such. (If you eventually decide to use Photoshop

Elements, you may want to take your pictures in RAW, which preserves a lot more detail, but you *have to* post-process them on a computer before they look good.)

- Your friendly **webmaster** may be able to help you with post-processing.