

Camera Capers



Ron Pettitt

NEWSLETTER OF THE
Kingston Photographic Club

322 DIVISION STREET, KINGSTON ON K7K 4V8

www.kingstonphotographicclub.ca

MEMBER



2009-2010 Executive & Committees

President - Bruce Millen	634-8910
1 st Vice President (Programming) - Geoff Chalcraft	767-3803
2 nd Vice President (Special Events) - Elizabeth MacDonald-Pratt.....	544-6940
Treasurer/Membership - Ed Fletcher	376-3606
Secretary - Sarah Larz	634-9730
Competition Chair/CAPA Rep - Bruce Gunion	544-2958
Library Show Coordinator - Julia Kalotay	549-1833
Newsletter Editor/Publisher - Nicole Couture-Lord	353-1210
Outing Committee Coordinator - James Sherk	384-7465
Webmaster/Public Relations - Geoff Chalcraft	767-3803

Meeting Location

General meetings are usually held at 7:30 p.m. the first and third Monday of the month from mid-September to mid-May. Unless otherwise specified, they are held in room 215, Dupuis Hall, Queens University, Division Street. There is a large parking lot at the rear of the building. Enter through the front door, go up the stairs, turn left around the stairs and go down the hall to the right.

Newcomers are welcome for two meetings before joining. Membership fee is \$55/individual and \$75/family.

What's new?

This year, we will have two NEW types of competition/challenge for our Club Members. The first competition is the MONTHLY THEMED COMPETITION and the second competition is the PHOTOJOURNALISM CHALLENGE. For more information, please see page 3 or visit our website.

Wine and Cheese Party

Monday, December 7th - 7:30 pm

This evening is a mixture of socializing and photo viewing. There will be delicious hors d'oeuvres to nibble and a cash bar. Members are invited to present short slide essays or show their latest prints. It will be held at the WO's & Sgt's Mess located at CFB Kingston. Tickets and directions will be available at Club meetings.



Cover Photo

Titled "Foggy Morning" by Ron Pettitt. Ron likes going out in the fog to look around for interesting subjects. On the water front, Ron wanted to capture the line of trees vanishing into the fog. The added bonus of the girl walking was great. (Pentax K100DS with a DA 18-55 mm lens at 55mm & f/8)

Program Hilites

Sunday, 20 September - Multi-Club outing hosted by the EAPA Club in Brockville. Format this year will be similar to last year with a lunchtime break / get together rather than meeting for breakfast. The **hi-lights of the rules** for this friendly competition can be found on page 4. For complete details, please visit our club website.

Monday, 21 September - Introduction to Club activities
Guest speaker: Jim Vance "Images of Kingston and beyond"
Jim will present various recognized landscapes and subjects taken in the Kingston area as well as some from far away. Come and enjoy the images as seen through Jim's eyes.

Monday, 5 October - Guest speaker: Simon Smith. Simon's Travels to Japan & France last year and Croatia & Bosnia this year. Simon lives in Glenburnie but spends a lot of time in Brockville and is also a member of the EAPA.

Monday, 19 October - Image Clinique, detailsTBA.

Monday, 2 November - Guest speaker: Lola Reid-Allin travelling through Old Delhi, Rajasthan & Uttar Pradesh by car, airplane and camel visiting Havelis (200 yr-old frescoed mansions), castles & fortresses (some of which are still inhabited), ancient cities, bustling markets & vast deserts. Journey ends at the holy city of Varanasi on the banks of Ganga Ma, the sacred Mother Ganges River.

Deadline for 1st competition.

Monday, 16 November - Results of 1st Club Competition with the judges' comments.

Monday, 30 November - Currently considering a trip to see the owls on Amherst Island.

Monday, 7 December - Wine & Cheese Party with members' slide show. Please see details on the left.

Monday, 4 January - Guest speaker: Garrett Elliott
Local man, Garrett tells us "How much wedding photography has changed in the digital age".

Monday, 18 January - Image Clinique, details TBA

Monday, 1 February - Speaker Bev McConnell
"Call of the Wild" - the wildlife in Omega Park, Quebec. Two short audiovisual shows, "Born to be Wild" and "Wolves of Omega Park", will be shown after a talking presentation.

Monday 15 February - University closed but may be meeting on a different evening or an outing - TBA

Monday 1 March - Speaker TBC. Deadline for 2nd competition.

Monthly Themed Competition

This is a competition with online submissions only, with a different theme every month through the season. The entire management of the competition will be online and reminders of deadlines will be promulgated on the club's website.

A maximum of three digital images, in colour or mono, per person per month may be submitted. They should be at 72dpi and be sent to gchalcraft@cogeco.ca, clearly identified with an image name, but preferably with no other identity (like a signature or watermark) on the photo. There will be a different theme each month, as shown below. Once the monthly deadline has passed, the images will be shown to an independent panel of judges who will award points, with a maximum of 5 points in each of the following criteria:

- Picture impact (overall creativity, originality, mood - the subjective things)
- Technical quality (sharpness, colour rendition, tones, etc.)
- Composition

The points will be given to Geoff by the judges and he will maintain a 'scoreboard' on the web page. Please do not submit images until the first day of the month in question.

Month	Theme	Deadline
Sept	Landscapes (includes cityscapes)	Sept 27
Oct	People & Portraits	Oct 31
Nov	Fall	Nov 29
Dec	3 of a kind (tie-in with a CAPA comp competition)	Dec 30
Jan	Digital manipulation & creativity	Jan 30
Feb	Animals (including pets)	Feb 27
Mar	Abstract/Creative	Mar 28
Apr	Architecture/Buildings	Apr 24

Programme/Schedule

There will be one prize for the member with the most points after the eight monthly competitions, and hopefully a prize for each monthly winner.

This is an early announcement - you could complete your eight assignments (with the exception of "Fall") in the break until our next meeting... it would be good to have NEW images i.e. from 2009/2010 but an older one is not a problem.

Photojournalism Challenge

Something very different that hopefully people will enjoy and benefit from this.

The idea for this is to provide a photo-essay - as if you were giving a pictorial back-up to a journalist covering a story, an event, a particular item of interest. What we hope to see is roughly 12 to 20 images that 'tell a story' or give a background to an event. The story could cover one day or many days, an area of personal or local interest.

Strictly speaking this is not a competition but there will be a chance to submit the whole story to the Annual Exhibition or perhaps to the AGM or Awards Dinner. Submissions can be prints, slides (digital or film), or even an AV Show. They can have accompanying words, commentary or music. Any extra instructions for how to view the images and text should be provided with the submission. It's hoped that even those who do not take part can be encouraged and inspired to try their hand at it in the future.

There is no 'start-time' for this, but we would need to see the completed work by March 2010, when it will be assessed by a panel of judges who have backgrounds in journalism and design.

Sending photos with email

Geoff sometimes asks for photos to be sent to him for competitions, slideshows or illustration purposes on web. Generally, it doesn't matter (to him) how big your picture files are, but your email provider may get indigestion when encountering huge files. So it's worth bearing these points in mind whenever you send photos.

However, just how 'big' is a 'big file'? There's no real answer to this, but it should be borne in mind that *No normal computer monitor can display at more than 100 ppi*. You will often meet the resolution of 72ppi - this is in fact the standard computer resolution - if a photo has a higher resolution it will not show any better on the screen. So Geoff asks you to *adjust the ppi of your photo(s) to a maximum of 100ppi, and preferably 72ppi*. (This is usually done in the Image/Size control of your graphics software). Other than that, there's no real limit in dimensions... set resolution at 72ppi and it will be small enough for email.

Attaching photos to email... Every email application will have the ability to add 'Attachments', usually via a menu item when creating the email. This is really easy - when you click on 'Attachments' you will have a dialog box asking for the location of the file you wish to attach. (You'll have to know where you saved the file.) You just find the file and click 'Attach' or OK. Another method uses what is known as "Rich Text", and you can place a photo within your text (it's technically still an attachment but it's just a matter of placing a photo in the text of the message).

PPSOP Photography tips (as written by Bryan F. Peterson - Founder of PPSOP)

1. Photographing shadows

As photographers, we are all not only familiar with light, but our very livelihoods depend on it. Charlotte Whitton, a Canadian feminist and twice Mayor of Ottawa once said; **Turn your face to the sun and the shadows fall behind you.** In other words, stay positive, look on the bright side.

IF we were to embrace this advice of Charlotte Whitton and apply it to our photographic efforts, we would always be shooting **backlit** subjects or scenes. When we are facing into the sun, we are looking at back light and unless we are really experienced in the matter of understanding exposure, most of us would surely end up with a plethora of silhouettes or exposures of subjects and scenes that are much darker than we wish.

Today's tip is NOT about overcoming exposure problems when faced with back light. I will save that for another day. Today's tip is about **IGNORING**, photographically speaking, the sage advice of Charlotte Whitton, choosing instead to follow the following advice: **Turn your face away from the sun and shoot the shadows that fall behind you.** If you do, you will have plenty of reasons to smile!

2. A White Balance suggestion

Low light and night photography do pose special challenges, not the least of which is to use a tripod, (assuming of course you want to record exacting sharpness) and some degree of mathematical skills (simple addition or subtraction) in some cases to come up with a correct exposure.

In my on-location workshops and in my on-line courses, students quickly learn just how much photographic opportunity exists before the sun comes up and after the sun goes down. And the rewards far outweigh the sacrifices. If it is your goal to record compelling imagery, and it should be, then low light and night photography are two areas where compelling imagery abounds. With a little planning and a little forethought, you can soon find yourself in countless locations to shoot some show stopping compositions.

One question that comes up often is that of White Balance and personally, I shoot 99% of my images in CLOUDY, when outdoors, 24/7, even if it's a sunny day. The CLOUDY WB setting offers up a richer, warmer overall feel to the image. But when I shoot at dusk, I will often switch over to the TUNGSTEN WB setting, and shoot an exposure or two. Then I can compare how the much deeper and richer dusky blue sky that results from shooting in the TUNGSTEN WB setting impacts the overall composition.

Granted if you are shooting in RAW format and forget to try out the Tungsten setting, you can always change it in post-processing, but for those of you shooting ONLY in JPEG format this is the time to try both Cloudy and Tungsten WB settings.

The TUNGSTEN WB setting is also called INCANDESCENT by some camera manufacturers and its WB symbol is indicated by that "lightbulb".

Multi Club outing 2009 (cont'd from page 2)

1. Images must be taken on Sunday, Sept 20, 2009 between 7:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

2. Images must only be shot in the following locations (ref Google maps link: <http://maps.google.ca/maps/ms?hl=en&ie=UTF8&msa=0&msid=109600242492999679963.00047042a557375a1b3a4&z=12>)

- Mac Johnson Wildlife Area (located north of Brockville is the main entrance to this conservation area but there is also parking and entrance to the trails on Centennial road. Both locations are on the map.)
- St. Peter's – Old Protestant Cemetery (cemeteries located south of highway 2 only)
- St. John's Baptist Church Cemetery, Lyn
- St. James Anglican Cemetery, Maitland
- Brockville Museum – 5 Henry Street, Brockville. Open between 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. only (no admission charge to photographers)
- Historic Downtown Brockville – between Buell Street to Park Street (east / west) and between James Street and King Street (north / south)
- St. Lawrence Park (525 King St. West, Brockville)
- Armagh Sifton Price Park / Blockhouse Island, Brockville

3. Each camera club submits 15 images for judging – 9 pictorial and 6 nature. Any manipulation or modification to the original image is limited to digital darkroom (contrast, brightness, colour correction) and must not alter the content of the original scene. All images must be titled and the photographer identified.

4. Images must be submitted in digital format. Submitted digital files are to be sized to no more than 1024 pixels on the long side for horizontal images and not more than 768 pixels for verticals at 300 dpi. Save in JPEG format. Ensure camera date and time is accurately set in camera before shooting image. Only images shot on Sept. 20th between 7:00 and 5:00 will be accepted for judging.

Images will be judged by 3 members of the Cambridge Camera Club.

Lunch – Keystorm Pub, 2 Courthouse Ave., Brockville, Ont. from 12:00 - 1:30.