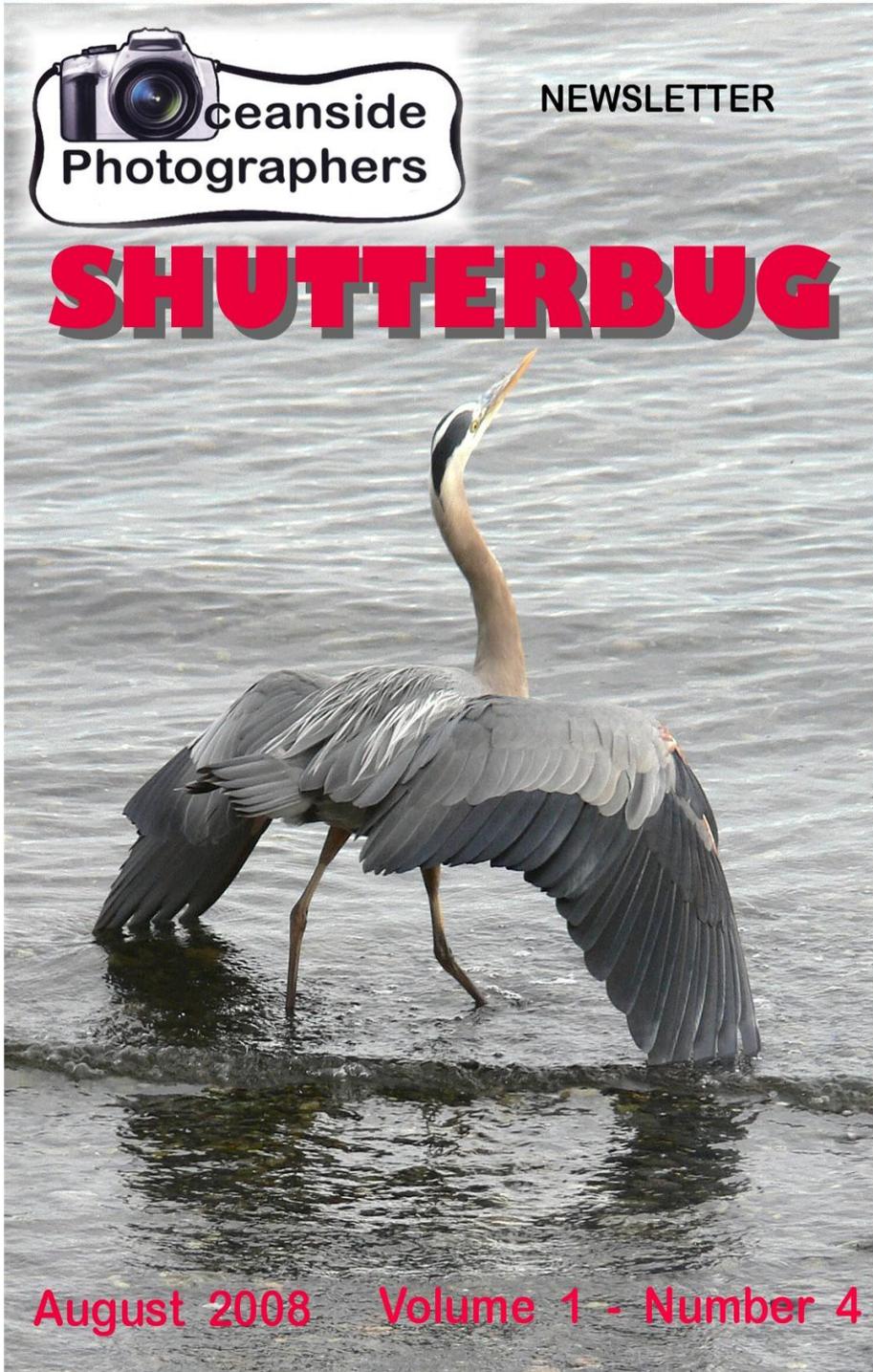




NEWSLETTER

SHUTTERBUG



August 2008 Volume 1 - Number 4

The **SHUTTERBUG**

- Newsletter of the Oceanside Photographers Club

Welcome to the "Shutterbug" – the newsletter of the Oceanside Photographers Club (OP). The OP meets on the first Wednesday of every month in the Qualicum Beach Civic Centre at 7:00 pm. Sometimes there is a computer program demonstration by a club member at 6:30 pm with the meeting proper following at 7:00 pm.

The aim of the club is to promote learning, sharing and the enjoyment of photography in a convivial atmosphere.

Membership is \$25 per person per year (May to April incl.) and is open to anyone interested in photography. Guests are allowed to come to no more than two meetings for free after which they must pay a membership fee in order to continue attending.

Election of officers is held at the annual general meeting on the first Wednesday of May each year.

EXECUTIVE (May 2008 – May 2009)

Chairman.....	Dave Graham
Vice Chairman.....	Rory Keogh
Treasurer.....	Gail Courtice
Secretary.....	Pauline Hannaford
Director	James Kennedy
Director.....	Hayley Tomlinson
Director - Shutterbug editor.....	Robin Pearson

DIGITAL PROJECTION IMAGES

At each and every meeting we like to show some digital images sent in by club members. These are shown using a projector. If you would like some of your images shown then e-mail them to Dave Graham at - djgrahamimage@gmail.com



THERE were so many people lining the sidewalks to view a passing parade that I despaired of ever getting a clear photograph. After making several unsuccessful tries, I noticed a woman focusing her lens directly at the heads in front of her. I was about to warn her that the shot was impossible when she screamed, "Everybody duck!" Spectators around and in front of her complied, giving her a clear view of the parade. She then thanked the bewildered crowd and walked away with possibly the best photo of the day.

FLUIDLENS

Fluidlens is a new type of lens for camera phones. It is made of liquid and it's just as small as a contact lens. However, it promises to offer an optical zoom of up to 10 times by altering its focal length by changing its shape.

"Currently there is no practical alternative to compensate for the fixed focus lens system where a camera lens, for example, is moved along a linear axis until the image comes into focus. This liquid lens, on the other hand, comprises only a droplet and no other cumbersome movable parts".

The Fluidlens will also enable camera cellphone makers to create slimmer devices with a longer battery life.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

One photo out of focus is a mistake, ten photo out of focus are an experimentation, one hundred photos out of focus are a style.

~ Author Unknown

Cover photo - "Proud Heron" - Robin Pearson

PHOTOGRAPHING CHILDREN

Take Time to Get to Know the Child

Most children let you into their world quickly. Before you start taking a picture, spend at least 10 minutes talking to the child. Ask questions about things that interest the child. Good openers include:

“Do you like bugs?” “Would you rather be a giraffe or a butterfly?” “What’s your favorite game?”

Pay attention to how the child responds. Does he/she make eye contact? Capture that confidence when you take his/her picture. Does the child laugh at the questions or seriously contemplate them? Look for that sense of whimsy or pensive side when you take the picture. Does the child doodle when he/she responds? Then look for ways to show the child is creative. Does the child twist her hair while she’s thinking? Great. Include that in a photo. If you’re taking photos of your own child, you already know your child’s personality traits, his/her habits, his/her facial expressions. Capture those instead of (or in addition to) a posed in-front-of-the-camera smile.

Observe, Observe, Observe

After you talk to the child, explain you’re going to get your camera ready and back away. The child will soon lose interest in you, giving you a chance to observe the child relating to the world. Inquisitive? Intent? Distracted? Capture that in your images. If you’re taking photos of your own child, try observing your child as if you don’t know him/her at all. You’ll probably see some things you haven’t noticed before.

Be Unobtrusive

Use a telephoto lens. The best photographs of children are those when a kid is acting like a kid. To capture that and all the emotions that go with it, you need to be an unobtrusive as possible. Use a telephoto lens so you can have some real distance between you and the child. This will help the child tune you out and do whatever he or she does best, whether it’s play, dream, run around, make up stories. Capture that. Alternately, move in close to the child to capture a curve of the cheek, curls tumbling down a forehead, eyes deep in thought.

Show the Child’s Environment

Try to take your photographs in a place that means something to the child. A bedroom, playroom, playground, field – all of these say something about how the child relates to the world. Does the child run freely across the open field or sit quietly reading a book? Does the child see how high he or she can climb a tree or does he/she prefer to lean against it and pet his/her dog? Is the child’s room spotless, showing the child’s organizational bent, or is it a wild jumble of clothes and toys?

Look for the Extraordinary in the Ordinary

Take photos of the child doing everyday things like eating breakfast, elbows on the table, hair not yet combed; sleeping, curled up with a favorite animals or spread eagle, blankets off, bold even in sleep; doing homework, scowling over a difficult problem or with one eye on the TV. These say a whole lot about who the child is, which is way more moving than a posed photo with perfectly combed hair and a brand new outfit.

Try Shooting in Black and White

This really adds drama. Check it out. You can have black and white prints made from color negatives. You can also turn digital prints into black and white either in your camera (depending on which camera you use) or in a photo software program.

Above all, respect the child’s world. It is complex, compelling, and very, very deep.

CHALLENGES & FIELD TRIP WINNERS FOR JULY, 2008



Penny Marshall - Brickyard & Schooner Coves



Gail Courtice - Seats With A View - "Slocan Lake

Brickyard & Schooner Cove

- 1st- Penny Marshall
- 2nd- Pauline Hannaford
- 3rd – Susan Lightburn
“PleasantView”
- 3rd- Ed Mosier

Seats With A View

- 1st- Robin Pearson
“Dinner’s Up”
- 1st- Gail Courtice
“Slocan Lake”
- 2nd- Penny Marshall
- 3rd- Susan Lightburn

Architecture

- 1st- Susan Lightburn
- 2nd- Ken Davies
- 3rd- Rory Keogh



Architecture - Susan Lightburn



Robin Pearson - Seats With A View - “Dinner’s Up”

This article is from CAPA - brought to my attention by Dave Graham

PUT THE NEEDS OF THE WILDLIFE FIRST

Betty Andres

With the coming of summer, many of us consider going out into parks and wild places looking for mammals, birds and insects to photograph. Successful wildlife photography is more than coming home with an excellent image in your camera. And while it is important to anticipate action, have good preparation, technical knowledge and quickness with your camera gear, it also requires a lot of luck.

There are many sources of information available to help us with equipment to use, but many don't discuss the greatest photographic asset – attitude towards the wildlife that you are photographing, along with empathy for their situation. Most successful photographers agree that it is empathy with their subjects that motivates them in their pursuit of wildlife photography; great photos simply follow from this feeling of closeness to their subjects. In addition to having the right equipment, there are three broad points to keep in mind in order to get those empathetic juices flowing during your photographic event and wildlife viewing.

First, ***put the needs of the wildlife first***. Do you know that wildlife is preoccupied with budgeting? Energy budgeting, of course! Whether at rest, while feeding, mating, even when playing, wild animals are constantly involved in gathering and expending energy in order to survive.

Second, your goal as a photographer must be to ***leave animals behaving naturally***, as they were when you came on the scene. If this does not happen and the animal changes its behaviour to accommodate your presence, then you have lost some of your success as a wildlife photographer. Coincidentally, it is in the best interest of the wildlife viewers and photographers to minimize their intrusion because tense animals limit their range of behaviour and thus limit opportunities to photograph them. As visitors to their habitat, their home, we must also accept that sometimes some animals will not be cooperative and will not be photogenic at all. As successful wildlife photographers, we must have the ability to recognize this and back off and give them space. After all, you may not be aware that the animal has had many cameras pointed his way before you came along and perhaps after you have gone. Remember, the animal's welfare is far more important than a photograph.

And thirdly, it may be that ***another approach is necessary***. That is, perhaps it is better to leave the camera alone for awhile and just quietly observe the events of nature around you until the animal feels comfortable with your presence and allows you into it's world. Empathy with wildlife is a little like letting a stranger into your house. It takes a little bit of time for you to feel comfortable with someone you don't know before you can relax and enjoy their company; likewise for the wildlife. The wonderful thing about nature and its events is that all of it is exciting, thrilling and stimulating to the viewer.

Let's all be successful wildlife photographers rather than photographers of wildlife this year.

Don't forget our 3 MONTH CHALLENGE - SUMMER

For the September meeting we want photos on the "Summer" theme.
These are to be taken during June, July and August 2008
Each member can enter up to 12 – 5x7 images
and 1 – 8x10 or 1 – 8x12 image

What is this ?????



THE CHALLENGES for August will be "*From the Garden*" and "*Three Items - found or arranged*" (ie 3 pens, three apples, three houses etc).

The August field trip will be a combined picnic - family welcome – and photographic scavenger hunt on Sunday August 24th. (At the moment it is set for Rathrevor unless anyone else has better idea).

Newsletter –

It was decided that last month's experiment of charging for the printed version of the newsletter is not the way to go. From now on the printed version as well as the e-mail version will be available free of charge to our members. If you wish to have extra copies for non members or if non members in attendance wish to have a copy, then those copies would be 50 c each.



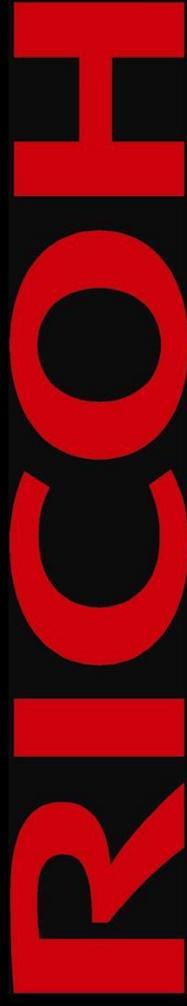
Next month we return to our normal venue. The September meeting will be on Wednesday, September 3rd, 7 pm at Qualicum Beach Civic Centre.

See you there.

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The logo consists of the letters 'AGS' in a white, serif font, centered within a solid red square.The logo consists of the word 'RICOH' in a large, bold, red, sans-serif font, centered within a solid black rectangular background.

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