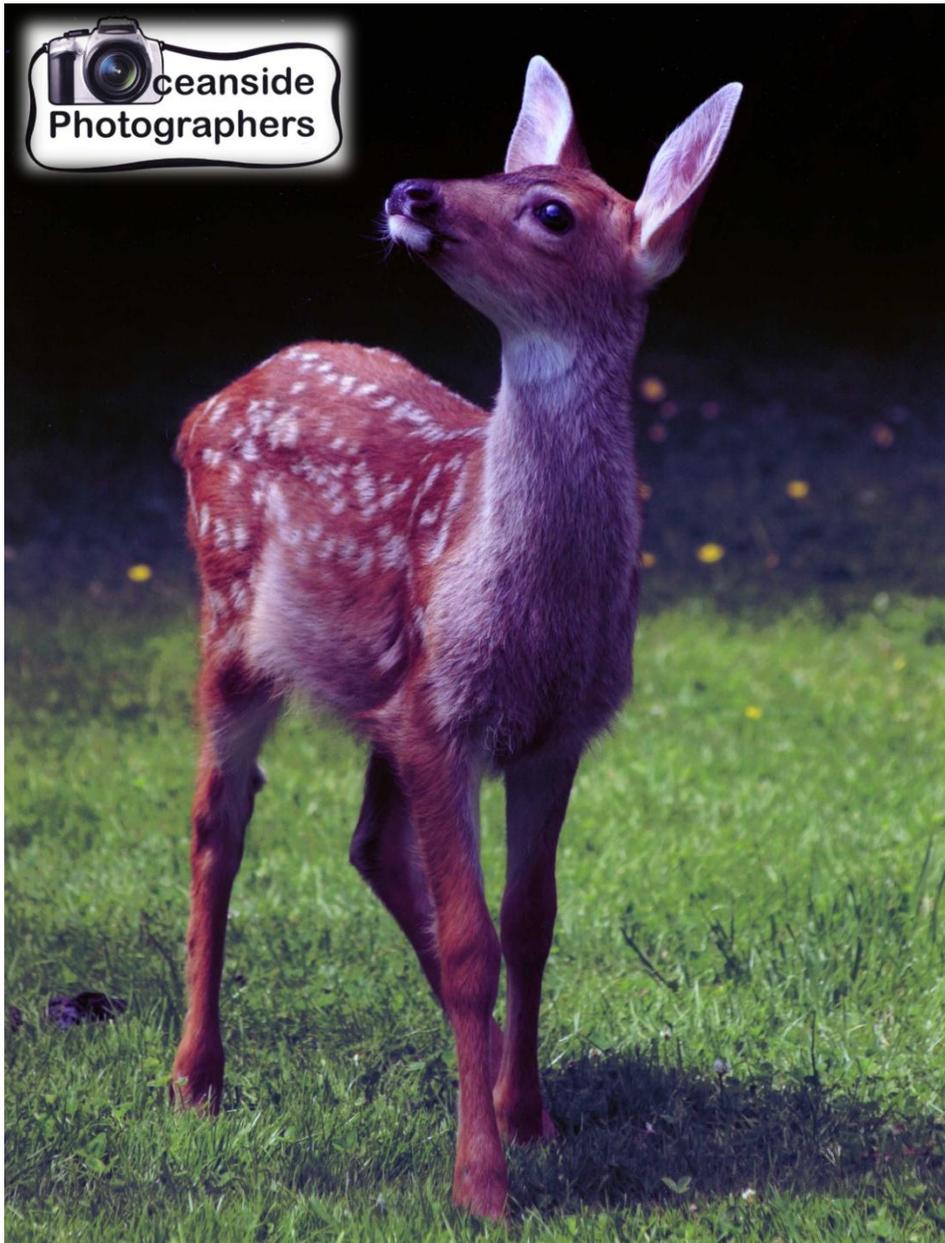


OCEANSIDE SHUTTERBUG NEWSLETTER



Volume 3 , Number 3 , July, 2010

OCEANSIDE SHUTTERBUG NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the newsletter of the Oceanside Photographers Club (OP). The OP meets on the first Monday of every month in the QB Baptist Church next to the train station 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 \$30 per person per year (May to Apr. 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. Members are required to sign a membership form.

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

EXECUTIVE (May 2010 – May 2011)

Management - Chairman	Dave Courtice
Vice Chairman	Randy Hall
Past Chairman.....	Dave Graham
Treasurer	Ed Mosier
Secretary	Frieda Van Der Ree
Directors - Exhibition	Lynn Bieber-Weir
Newsletter.....	Robin Pearson
Judging	Ed Mosier
Education	Libby Lovis
Program	Ken Davies
Under the "Program Director's leadership are;-	
Membership	Gail Courtice
Social	Susan Lightburn & Frieda Van Der Ree



QUOTE OF THE MONTH

When words become unclear, I shall focus with photographs.
When images become inadequate, I shall be content with silence.
~Ansel Adams

Cover photo ; "Fawn" by PAUL EDELENBOS

Oceanside Photographer's Club NEWS



PHOTO OF THE DAY

Congratulations to Phil Chabot for getting his photo chosen as the "Photo of the day" in a recent "Times-Colonist" newspaper.

METCHOSEN SUMMER SCHOOL OF THE ARTS (MISSA)

Three OP members; Gail Courtice, Diane Spence and Lynn Beiber-Wier will be attending a one week photography course in July to learn about light, colour and expression.

FIELD TRIP !!!

Club member Susan Lightburn took her camera (and husband I assume) on a tour of China from April 14 to June 1, 2010. Talk about "photo ops" !

WHITE RAVEN

OP member Robert Kerr spotted a white raven hanging around the QB cemetery. Might be worth checking out with camera in hand.

NORTH ISLAND WILDLIFE RECOVERY CENTRE

On **August 21** NIWRC will be free to all and our own Alan Cornall will be giving a free photo workshop. Well worth checking out.

This is a "Go Wild Artisan Festival" and for \$25 you can rent a 10' by 10' space for displaying and selling your photographs. For more info go to wildlife@niwra.org

PHOTOWORKS AT THE CHEESEWORKS

On **August 8th** the Cheeseworks at Morningstar Farm is offering our club a large space to display and sell our photographs. They did this last year as well and those of us who participated said that it was a very fun time. Some photos were sold too.

BEST OF OCEANSIDE PHOTOGRAPHER'S 2010

OP members may submit two digital images to Randy, with email subject line "October exhibit at OCAC". Images may be of any subject or theme. All entries must have been taken since June 1st 2009, and not have been previously shown at OCAC. The deadline for entries is **July 31st**. Full details have been sent to all members by email. If you need it sent again, contact Lynn Beiber-Weir.

MID-ISLAND PHOTO EXPO

The Ladysmith Camera Club and the Ladysmith & District Arts Council are jointly hosting a competition entitled "Mid-Island Photo Expo - 2010". Images for Round One are to be submitted digitally, via email, to submissions@LadysmithCameraClub.com. There is a payment of \$10 per image required. The deadline for submissions is **September 3**. This info was forwarded to us by Bob Belhouse (250) 245-5383.
Lynn Beiber-Weir

RANDY HALL is working on creating an Oceanside Photographer's Club web site.

JUNE FAVOURITES

1st – MARJORIE DUNLOP - *Oriental Poppy*

2nd – ALAN CORNALL - *Towhee*

3rd – PAUL EDELENBOS - *Fawn*

(see cover)



MARJORIE DUNLOP - "Oriental Poppy"

RANDY O'DONNELL

At last month's meeting, Randy O'Donnell gave an excellent talk and demonstration on how to take Family Portraits. This is Randy in action.





ALAN CORNALL - "Towhee"



PARTY COMING !

August 25

At Robin Pearson's beach front property
in QB on Wed. Aug. 25, 6:30 – 9:00. Bring your
spouse & potluck finger-food. Also your camera.



Contact Robin for Directions

CORRECTION to last
month's newsletter.
Page 7 photo – top
left is Diane Spence
not Elizabeth Fels.

This article was sent to me by Randy Hall. Both Randy and I later realized that this comes just after Canada Day fireworks but is an excellent article none the less. editor

HOW TO PHOTOGRAPH FIREWORKS DISPLAYS

1. Use a Tripod

Perhaps the most important tip is to secure your digital camera to something that will ensure it doesn't move during the taking of your shots. This is especially important in photographing fireworks simply because you'll be using longer shutter speeds which will not only capture the movement of the fireworks but any movement of the camera itself.

2. Remote Release

One way to ensure your camera is completely still during fireworks shots is to invest in a remote release device. These will vary from camera to camera but most have some sort of accessory made for them. The other way of taking shots without touching your camera is to use the self timer. This can work but you really need to be able to anticipate shots well and its very very hit and miss

3. Framing Your Shot

One of the most difficult parts of photographing fireworks is working out where to aim your camera. The challenge you'll face in doing this is that you generally need to aim your camera before the fireworks that you'll be photographing goes off – anticipation is key. Here are a few points on getting your framing right.

- **Scope out the location early** – Planning is important with fireworks and getting to the location early in order to get a good, unobstructed position is important. Think about what is in the foreground and background of your shots and make sure you won't have people's heads bobbing up into your shots.
- **Watch your Horizons** - One thing that you should always consider when lining up fireworks shots is whether your camera is even or straight in it's framing. This is especially important if you're going to shoot with a wide focal length and will get other background elements in your shots (ie a cityscape). As you get your camera on your tripod make sure it's level right from the time you set up.
- **Vertical or Horizontal?** – Both can work in fireworks photography but I personally find a vertical perspective is better – particularly as there is a lot of vertical motion in fireworks. Horizontal shots can work if you're going for more of a landscape shot with a wider focal length or if you're wanting to capture multiple bursts of fireworks in the one shot – but I don't tend to go there that often.

4. Focal Length?

One of the hardest parts of photographing fireworks is having your camera trained on the right part of the sky at the right time. This is especially difficult if you're shooting with a longer focal length and are trying to take more tightly cropped shots. I generally shoot at a wider focal length than a tight one but during a show will try a few tighter shots (I usually use a zoom lens to give me this option) to see if I can get lucky with them. Of course zoomed in shots can be quite effective also. They enable you to really fill the frame with great color. Keep in mind however that cropping of your wider angle fireworks shots can always be done later to get a similar impact in your photography.

5. Aperture

A common question around photographing fireworks displays is what aperture to use. Many people think you need a fast lens to get them but in reality it's quite the opposite as the light that the fireworks emit is quite bright. I find that apertures in the mid to small range tend to work reasonably well and would usually shoot somewhere between f/8 to f/16.

6. Shutter Speed

Probably more important to get right than aperture is shutter speed. Fireworks move and as a result the best photographs of them capture this movement meaning you need a nice long exposure. A great technique is to shoot in 'bulb' mode. This is a mode that allows you to keep the shutter open for as long as you hold down the shutter (preferably using a remote shutter release of some type). Using this technique you hit the shutter as the firework is about to explode and hold it down until it's finished exploding (generally a few seconds).

You can also experiment with set shutter speeds to see what impact it will have but I find that unless you're holding the shutter open for very long exposures that the bulb technique works pretty well.

7. ISO

Shooting at a low ISO is preferable to ensure the cleanest shots possible. Stick to ISO 100 and you should be fine.

8. Switch off your Flash

Shooting with a flash will have no impact upon your shots except to trick your camera into thinking it needs a short exposure time.

9. Shoot in Manual Mode

I find I get the best results when shooting in manual exposure and manual focus modes. Auto focusing in low light can be very difficult for many cameras and you'll end up missing a lot of shots. Once your focusing is set you'll find you don't really need to change it during the fireworks display – especially if you're using a small aperture which increases depth of field. Keep in mind that changing focal lengths will mean you need to need to adjust your focusing on most lenses.

10. Experiment and Track Results

Throughout the fireworks display periodically check your results to see that they are OK before shooting any more. Don't check after every shot once you've got things set up OK (or you'll miss the action) but do monitor yours shots occasionally to ensure you're not taking a completely bad batch. Also experiment with taking shots that include a wider perspective, silhouettes and people around you watching the display. Having your camera pointed at the sky can get you some wonderful shots but sometimes if you look for different perspectives you can get a few shots that are a little less cliché and just as spectacular. Most of the best shots that I've seen in the researching of this article have included some other element than the fireworks themselves – whether it be people, buildings, landmarks or wider cityscape perspectives.

Fellow OP members; *As editor of this newsletter, I am always looking for submissions from members. If you have any ideas of what you would like to see or articles of interest to club members, please forward to*
rockin.rob@telus.net *Thank you, - Robin*

JULY FIELD TRIP

**The Beach of Qualicum Beach. Sunday,
July 18, 2010 - all day, but try to meet for lunch
at the Shady Rest.**



"OP"

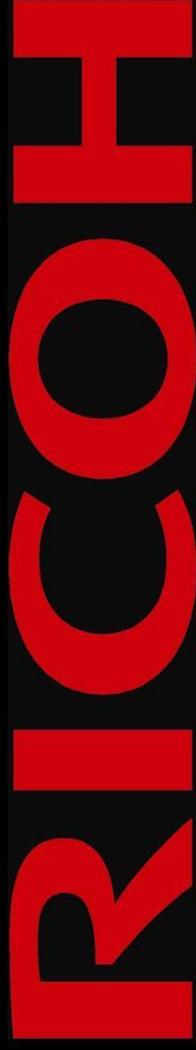
**NEXT MEETING -
Monday
Aug. 2, 2010 – 7:00 pm**

**At the Baptist Church
Behind the train
station in QB.**

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