

OCEANSIDE SHUTTERBUG NEWSLETTER



Volume 3 , Number 5 , Sept, 2010

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www.oceansidephotographers.ca

Welcome to 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 \$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
Program	Ken Davies
Under the "Program Director's leadership are;-	
Education	Libby Lovis
Membership	Gail Courtice
Social	Susan Lightburn & Frieda Van Der Ree



Here are Dave Courtice's pictures of the OP Club "garage sale", Aug. 28

WE TOOK IN OVER \$1000 !!!!

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

**I know you have it in you to be a great photographer.
Go out and conquer.**

Yousuf Karsh

Cover photo; "TESS & JAKE" by LYNN BIEBER WEIR

Oceanside Photographer's Club NEWS



JUDGING DIRECTOR

Paul Edelenbos has been assigned as assistant to Ed Mosier.

FUTURE PROGRAMS

Program director Ken Davies has a full slate of presenters up to the end of the year. September, Randy Hall will talk about the new website and uploading to Picasa; October, Alan Cornall will talk about framing and mounting; November, Craig Carmichael will discuss his photography business; December will be devoted to a social evening with a slide show.

BEST OF OCP

Exhibition director Lynn Bieber-Weir has the results of the voting for submissions to the Best of OCP, to be mounted at the OCAC Gallery in October. Pictures selected were;- Paul Edelenbos (004), Ken Davies (005), Tim Tullis (011,014), Frieda Van Der Ree (020), Linda Lundberg (021), Wayne Buhr (023, 028), Ed Mosier (027) and Phil Martins (030).

THE CHURCH

The OP club will be sending out a thank you card and a donation of \$50 to Pastor Walker of the Baptist Church for the use of the Church for our meetings.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership co-ordinator Gail Courtice informs us that we have 51 members in the club at the present time.

AUGUST BEACH PARTY

This was a big success with around 35 people attending. As the sunset was producing great colours in one direction, the full moon rose in the other direction to the sound of many camera clicks.



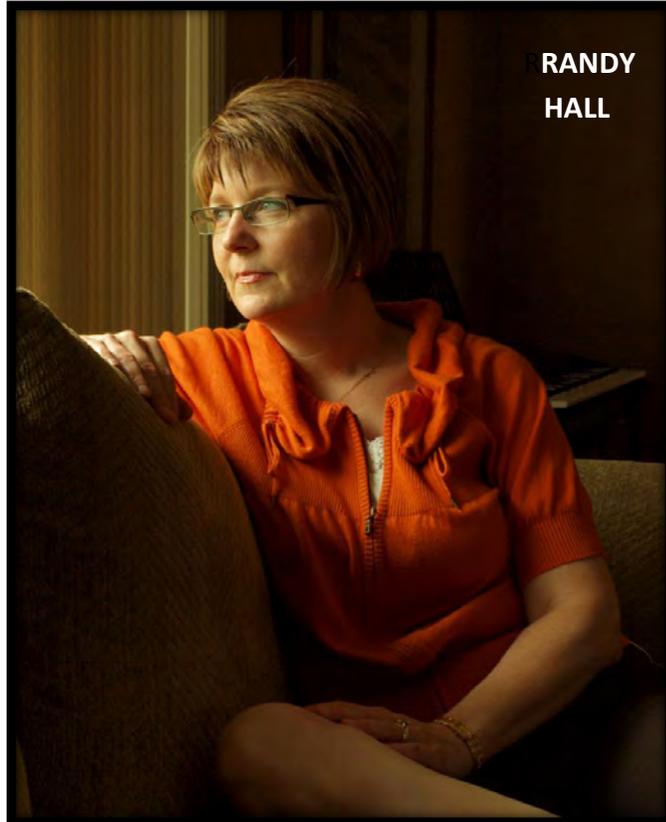
**FRIEDA
VAN DER REE**

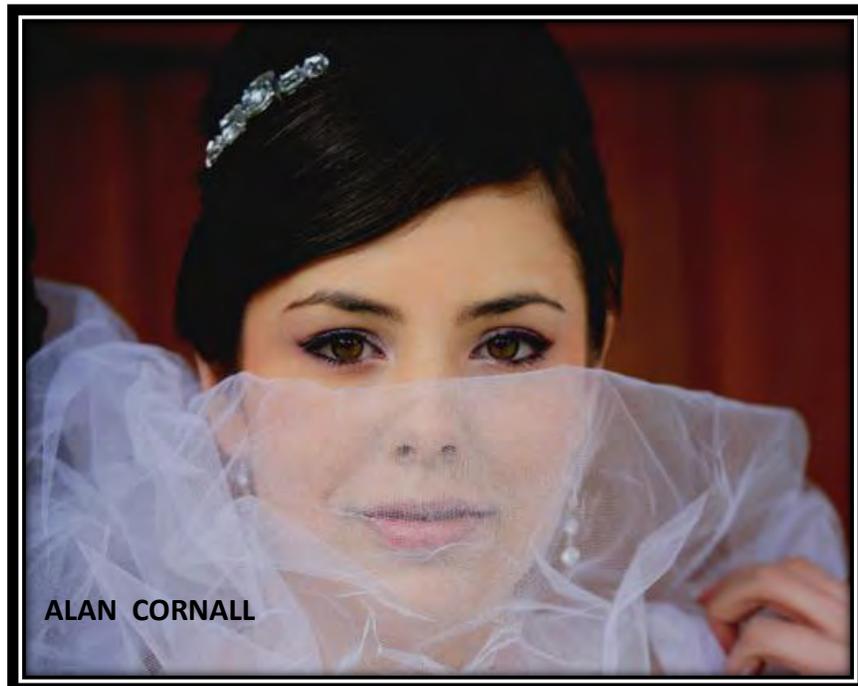


AUGUST FAVOURITES

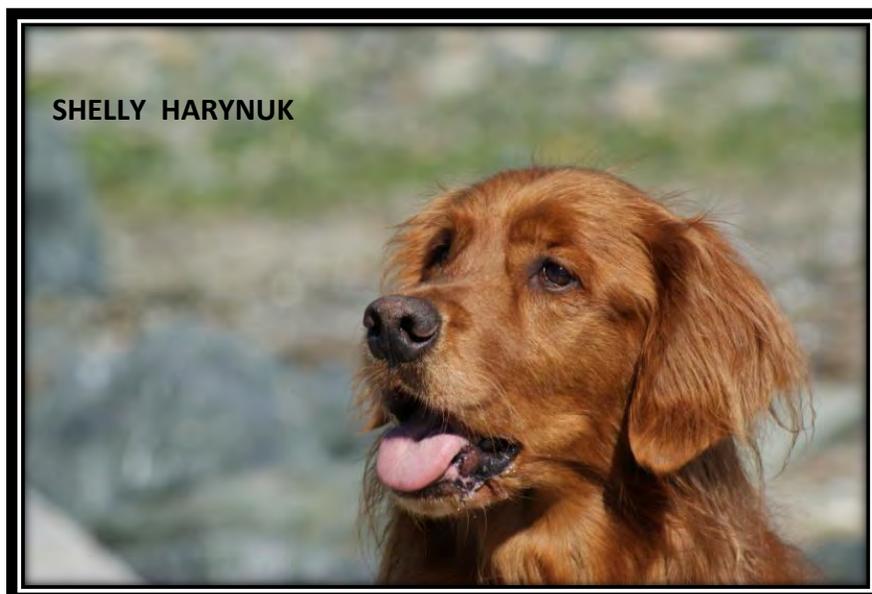
- 1 - Lynn Bieber-Weir "Tess & Jake"
(on the cover)**
- 2 - Randy Hall "His Wife"**
- 3 - Frieda Van der Ree "Mikey"**

**RANDY
HALL**





HONORABLE MENTION
Paul Edelenbos
Shelly Harynuk "Jasper"
Alan Cornall "Holly Eyes"





PHOTOGRAPHING BEACH SCENES

FIND AN INTERESTING SUBJECT

Find a point of interest and base photo around that.

When photographing beaches it can be our **first instinct** to just point the camera at a large expanse of sand or sea and shoot away. This might look great at the time, but it often produces a disappointing, flat-looking photo which lacks an interesting focal point.

Therefore the first thing to do is find something of interest which will act as the **main feature** in your photo, then base your composition around that. Here are some ideas:

- **Sand** - Being a soft substance, beach sand is constantly being pushed by the waves, blown by the wind and trampled under foot, creating an ever-changing array of interesting shapes and textures. Look for eye-catching dunes, or channels where water is flowing back to the sea. Also consider man-made sand structures such as sand castles and sculptures, and find a way to base your beach photo around them. Beaches are full of interesting subjects.
- **Rocks** - Beaches are full of rocky areas, from craggy cliffs to clusters of rock pools to smooth, wave-worn pebbles. Each has a distinct appearance and a different visual appeal. A personal favourite of mine is taking a close-up photo of some rounded pebbles in the wet sand.
- **Debris** - The ocean washes all sorts of interesting debris onto beaches, such as chunks of driftwood or intricate shells. You can photograph them as they lie, or arrange them into a more abstract pattern for a close-up shot.
- **Wildlife** - Beaches are packed full of wildlife if you look in the right places. Rock pools are often teeming with creatures, such as starfish, crabs, barnacles and birds, which can make great beach 'character studies'.
- **Water** - Of course water is an important part of any beach, and can really add to a photo. Crashing waves, streams and tranquil pools all make perfect focal points.
- **Man-made objects** - Most beaches, particularly in touristy areas, contain some man-made structures, such as beach huts or fishing boats. Because they are constantly exposed to the elements they're often quite battered by the weather, giving them bags of character.



COMPOSITION

Lead the viewer's eye into your beach scene.

As with any type of photography, composition is an important part of beach photography. Look for a composition which will **lead the viewer's eye** into the scene. This can often be best achieved by including some sort of foreground interest, or by using leading lines, such as the curving shore line or a trail of seaweed, to create a path into the photo.

When shooting a beach photo which includes the sea and sand, remember the **rule of thirds** and place the horizon off-centre in the frame. This creates a more balanced, natural looking shot than if you placed the horizon smack in the middle of the frame. Also make sure your horizon is **straight**.

LIGHTING

Sunrise and sunset give the most dramatic lighting.

Most people photograph beaches in the middle of the day, when the sun is glaring. The problem with this is that it can produce some very **harsh lighting**, with very bright highlights and very dark shadows. This will give you a photo with lots of contrast, making it easy to lose detail in either the bright or dark areas. Instead, try shooting around **sunrise and sunset** for a softer light quality with less contrast. These times of day also produce some fantastic colours, with long shadows that bring out the beach's texture, adding depth.

USE A POLARIZING FILTER

Polarising filters work wonders in beach photography, enhancing the **rich blue of the sky** and generally making the colours more bright and vivid. They can also be used to affect the appearance of **water** - turn the filter one way to reduce reflections, allowing you to see right through the water to the sea bed, or turn it the other way to increase the water's 'sparkle'.

GETTING THE EXPOSURE RIGHT

Exposure can be tricky to get right in a beach photo.

Sand, like snow, is a highly **reflective** substance, sending a lot of light to your camera's sensor. If you put your camera in auto exposure mode it will often over-compensate for this brightness, underexposing and leaving you

with a dark and dull beach photo. Try adding a stop or so of exposure compensation to restore the natural vibrancy of your beach shots.

For areas with lots of **contrast**, such as the border between brightly lit sand and a shadowy area, you probably won't be able to exposure both areas properly. Choose which area you want properly exposed and use **spot metering** to make sure it comes out right.

Shooting your beach photos away from the bright midday sun will also help you to expose the whole scene properly.

PROTECT YOUR CAMERA FROM SAND

One of the surest ways to **kill your camera** is to get sand inside it. Keep this in mind at all times when shooting beach photos and do your best to protect it - always wear the safety strap around your wrist or neck so you don't drop it, put it in its protective bag whenever you aren't shooting, and never, ever put it down in the sand.

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.robin@telus.net Thank you, - Robin



Here are a few of Dave Courtice's pics of the lucrative garage sale.

We took in over \$1000 !!!!!



Thanks to Diane Spence for supplying The venue



**Next Meeting ;
First Wednesday of Oct.
OCTOBER 6, 2010**

**Qualicum Beach
Civic Centre
7:00 pm**

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The logo for AGS, consisting of the letters 'AGS' in a white, bold, serif font, set against a red rectangular background.The logo for RICOH, consisting of the letters 'RICOH' in a large, bold, red, sans-serif font, set against a black rectangular background.

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With this ad receive 10% off normally stocked computer accessories