

OCEANSIDE SHUTTERBUG

NEWSLETTER



Volume 3, Number 8, Dec. 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 Wednesday of May each year.

EXECUTIVE (May 2010 – May 2011)

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



Its easy to make a small fortune out of digital photography. First start with a large fortune.

- Anonymous

Cover photo by; SUSAN LIGHTBURN

Oceanside Photographer's Club NEWS



MEMBERS

Gail reports that we have 56 members at present.

SUGGESTION BOX

Don't forget; there is a suggestion box at each general meeting. If you wish to suggest changes/improvements to the club anonymously you may do so.

EDUCATIONAL MEETINGS

Each month there will be an informal meeting for those wishing to understand their camera or photo techniques better. Mentors are needed as well as people with questions. Libby will arrange for a location each month and Frieda will send out an email.

FEATURE TABLE

Starting in January we will use one table to display some aspect of photography hosted by a member. Penny Marshall will be the first member to use this display.

ANTIQUe CAMERAS

Also look for Ed Mosier's display of his antique camera equipment collection.



Myth:

Pixels are the little people in your camera that operate all the gears.

Fact:

The little people in your camera are known as pixies (with a few gremlins thrown in), not pixels. Pixel is short for picture (pix) element (el). It is the smallest, complete unit of information in a digital image. A single pixel contains the hue, saturation and tonal information for a single point in an image. For IT types, pixels and bytes are not synonymous. It takes one or more bytes to store a single pixel

Myth:

JPEG is the official file format for digital photography.

Fact:

There is no official format. The format one chooses should be based on how the file is to be used. JPEG is popular in point-and-shoot digital cameras, for email and web because it compresses the file and smaller files transmit faster over the Internet and more of them will fit on a single flash memory card. However, JPEG uses a lossy compression algorithm. Lossy methods achieve very small file sizes. But they do so by throwing pixels away each time the image is saved by an application. In addition, JPEG does not support layers. Digital master images are usually stored as TIFF or Adobe Photoshop PSD files.





Natural Bridge by ALAN CORNALL

NOVEMBER FAVOURITES

1ST – SUSAN LIGHTBURN
(See Cover)

2ND – ALAN CORNALL

3RD – LINDA LUNDBERG



Athelhampton, Dorset, England by LINDA LUNDBERG
ISO 160 F 4 (where "Sleuth" was filmed starring Michael Caine and Sir Lawrence Olivier)



Canon EOS 40D - F 9, 1/100 sec., ISO 200, focal length 26mm
Milner Gardens by TIM TULLIS

HONOURABLE MENTION

ALAN SMITH

TIM TULLIS



Canon G9, F 4, ISO 180 (in Wiltshire England)
Stourhead Manor and Garden by ALAN SMITH

HIGH SPEED PHOTOGRAPHY AT HOME



This is a glass of Champaign, being shot with a BB gun. You can use the technique described here to take pictures of exploding things like tomatoes, water balloons, watermelons, etc.

You can capture super fast movements using ordinary camera gear and a little home-made electronics. To do this we have to handle shutter lag, synchronize the flash and time the exposure to just the right moment.

The shutter lag of any normal camera is so long that it will be almost impossible to time the exposures. And how do you synchronize the flash with an exposure time of less than 1/6000 second? First the exposure is done in a completely dark room. This way the shutter can open without actually getting an exposure. The exposure time set on the camera just has to be long enough for the action to happen while the shutter is still open. Because the room is dark, the long exposure time will not have any effect on the final output (this is because no light enters the lens to hit the sensor/film). To actually get an "exposure", a flash is fired. The flash duration will now become the actual exposure time. So now we need to see how long it takes the flash to fire. It turns out that the output power of the flash actually effects the duration of the light. If you need exposure faster than 1/6000 second, the output needs to be reduced.

Now we only need to synchronize the flash with the action we want to capture. This can be done in several ways. For example synchronizing with a balloon puncture, can be done via sound. Impact-actions, like BB Soft air pellets, can be triggered with a mechanical switch.

http://www.diyphotography.net/diy_sound_trigger_for_sigma_ef_500_flash

Or you can fire the pellet through a cd jewel case and on to the balloon. When the pellet hits the cd-cover it's pushed on to the switch, which then triggers the flash.

The Gear;

Balloon, Digital camera, Tripod, Sigma flash, Home-made sound trigger, if you don't have an optical slave you can use the Universal Sound Slave Circuit, Needle (or BB gun), Black Bristol sheet.

The Setup;

The black Bristol sheet is used as backdrop. The balloon, flash, microphone and camera are placed like in the image below.

Gear settings;

Flash: optical slave and 1/16 output power.

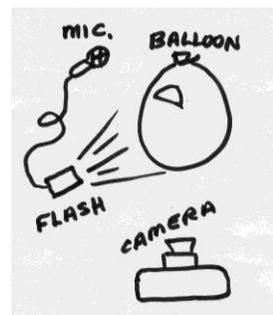
Camera: Exposure time is 1-2 sec. ISO 100-200 & Aperture f11-16 manual focus.

Microphone: The distance between the balloon and microphone, is used for synchronization. 50-70cm is good for balloon punctures.

Framing and Focusing;

While trying to stay within the best performance on the lens, either zoom or move the tripod until you have the desired framing. Focus can be obtained either automatic or manual, do remember to switch back to manual to lock focus, otherwise the camera will try to focus when the lights are switched off and the shutter is set to bulb. To fire the flash just clap your hands. Then review the image on the camera, checking for exposure, framing, focus and DOF.

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but

To get the correct amount of light/exposure, one can increase or decrease:

- The strobe distance to the balloon.
- The output power of the flash.
- The aperture on the camera.
- ISO sensitivity on the camera.

The test is repeated until satisfactory results have been reached and the real photo can be taken. This is done the same way as when testing, but instead of clapping the balloon is punctured with a needle.

One could also just fill the balloon with water and shoot it with a BB Soft air gun.

For more information go to;

http://www.diyphotography.net/div_high_speed_photography_at_home



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*
Thank you, - Robin

★ *The people with 1st place, 2nd place, 3rd place or honourable mention in a monthly assignment; please email me the pics in jpg format right away along with a description of settings and/or method used so that I can put them in the newsletter. Thank you. - Robin*

DECEMBER ASSIGNMENT

THE COLOUR RED

DECEMBER FIELD TRIP

Dec. 11 at QUALICUM or members may submit any images that reflect a seasonal topic during the holiday season.



NEXT MEETING
Wednesday,
Jan. 5th, 2011
7 PM at QB
Civic Centre

Merry Christmas & happy New Year

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The logo for AGS, featuring the letters 'AGS' in a white, serif font on a red rectangular background.The logo for RICOH, featuring the letters 'RICOH' in a large, bold, red, sans-serif font on a black rectangular background.

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