



SHUTTERBUG

Volume 8 Number 5

NEWSLETTER

November 2015



*29 Avenue Rapp in Paris , France and
Ooidonk Castle, Deinze, Belgium
Photographs by Shelley Harynuk*

Oceanside Photographers Club Welcomes Visitors

Visitors may attend two free meetings (either/or general meeting or education meeting) before deciding whether to join the club. Please check in at the membership desk as you enter. The annual dues are \$48 for the first year (which includes a name tag) and \$36 per year afterwards. Dues are prorated monthly for new members joining between June and April.

Meeting Times

OPC General Meetings are held the first Wednesday of the month from 7:00 to 9:00 PM in the East Hall at the Qualicum Beach Civic Centre.

OPC Education Meetings take place on the third Tuesday of the month at 7:00PM in the Windsor Room at the Qualicum Beach Civic Centre. Bring your camera and manual if you would like help.

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

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JOIN THE CLUB MANAGEMENT TEAM!

We are looking for members to participate in the Oceanside Photographers Management Team. Currently we have vacancies for a Program Director and a Social Director. Descriptions of the roles are on page 3 of this newsletter. Do consider taking part in a team that strives to initiate club activities that are both educational and enjoyable!

For more information, please speak with any of the management team at the general meeting or education meeting, or contact us at president.opc@gmail.com We would be more than happy to welcome and mentor you!

For club executive contact information, upcoming general meetings, field trips, education meetings and assignments, please visit the OPC website.
<http://oceansidephotographers.ca/wp>

THE SHUTTERBUG

This newsletter is published monthly via posting to the club website. Back issues can also be accessed from the website.

SUBMISSIONS

The newsletter team welcomes suggestions, questions, ideas and photos that illustrate club activities.

Sold an image? Exhibiting? Win a photo contest? Taking a photography related course? Been travelling and have a story and images to share? Other members would be interested in hearing about it.

Please send material to the Newsletter Team at newsletter.opc@gmail.com

CLUB MEETINGS

Please remember to wear your name tag to club meetings and events.

Lost your name tag? See Debra at the membership desk to order another, or via membership.opc@gmail.com

Due to allergies, asthma and other conditions, we request that you do not use any fragrance when attending club meetings.

AFFILIATIONS

Oceanside Photography Club is a member of the Canadian Association of Photographic Arts



MANAGEMENT TEAM ROLE DESCRIPTIONS

PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Duties include but are not restricted to:

1. Arranging for speakers
2. Coordinating with the Equipment Director to make sure that the necessary equipment is available for whatever speaker or education program is planned
3. Gather biographical information and arrange for the introduction of the speaker
4. Maintain an active database of possible speakers for both general club meetings and workshops

SOCIAL DIRECTOR

Duties include but are not restricted to:

1. Arranging social gatherings such as coffee sessions, pub lunches, picnics etc.
2. At each meeting providing coffee or other refreshments as recommended by the Management Committee



HOW ABOUT THAT TRIP TO EUROPE - EASY, RIGHT?

By Shelley Harynuk

When we were young many of us traveled to Europe in the 60s and 70s, hitchhiked, rode buses, cheap trains and stayed in hostels. Now we're older, wiser and hopefully have a bit more money to make the trip more comfortable and lots easier you think. Let me give you some pointers to get through some of the easier spots as well as some of the not so easy spots. This presupposes that you are not going to go on a tour.

Tip One - When you book your flight and you have to make a connection to another flight/airline, give yourself more time than you think you might need.

This will make you happy and your luggage happy too. We had 100 minutes to make a flight in a completely different terminal at London's Heathrow Airport. The change took 90 minutes - we just barely made it. Our luggage did not - Jack's luggage arrived a couple of hours late - mine decided to go on a vacation of its own.

Tip Two - When you pack put half of your stuff in your suitcase and half in your partner's suitcase and of course the same for your partner. Can't tell you how much it would have helped. (Jack wants to know how much constitutes half!!)

Tip Three - When you lose your luggage report it as soon as possible.

We were leaving Amsterdam the following morning so quickly checked back at the airport to see if my case had been located. Indeed it had but they had already sent it along to Brussels airport because that was our next stop. Keep in mind that we had been traveling since Tuesday and we were now at Thursday. Lots of back and forth with Schiphol Airport but then we ran out of people to talk to. Friday came along with the necessary shopping. That was kind of fun but it took a chunk of sightseeing time out of our plans. Saturday and still no word. Emails to British Airways, many many emails. Finally, after having given up on ever seeing my case again, on Sunday morning I received a call saying that they would be delivering my bag before 4 pm. So there went our last day in Belgium to waiting yet again. It did arrive by noon and was totally intact so we were able to go and do some sightseeing after all. We visited Ooidonk Castle and got one or two interesting shots. On Monday we headed to Paris by train.

Tip Four - When you arrive at a train station in Paris be incredibly aware of what is going on around you.

We have used three different train stations in Paris during our travels and in every single one, particularly the Gare du Nord, there were people out looking to steal from travellers. Take your hands or your eyes off your luggage for one minute and it's gone. We were fortunate enough to have been warned about this so we were fine.

Tip Five - If you are going to be in any large European city for more than a day or two take advantage of their transit passes. You can usually get them at any train station upon arrival or at the various airports.

Jack had researched the city transit system in Paris as we were going to be there for a week and found that if we had a head shot we could buy a week's pass to the entire transit system for less than 30 Euros each. This was fantastic - we rode all methods of transportation throughout the city and just hopped on and off where we wanted to go. We decided to take a boat trip along the Seine and discovered that instead of 16 Euros each, because we were pass holders it would only be 10 Euros.

Tip Six - Do lots of research before you go so you can find the special spots you won't find on a tour.

We had a couple of places we wanted to photograph. Having been to Paris for a few days last year we weren't as invested in the Eiffel Tower or the Arc de Triomphe. We noted down the addresses and made the effort to get there. One such place was 29 Avenue Rapp in the 7th arrondissement and not too far from the Eiffel Tower. The building which was built in 1901 is quite spectacular, was designed by Jules Aimé Lavirotte (1864 - 1929). Another place on our photography bucket list was the spiral staircase at the Gustave Moreau Museum, 14, rue de La Rochefoucauld. We also wanted to visit the Pere Lachaise Cemetery in Paris. It was like traveling to a different world. None of these places is on any guided tour so we set off to find them on our own. A tremendous sense of accomplishment as well as some memorable photos.



Spiral staircase at the
Gustave Moreau Museum
By Jack Harynuik



Door in the Pere Lachaise Cemetery
By Shelley Harynuik

Tip Seven - if you are unwell or have a minor health problem head straight for your neighbourhood Pharmacy. The Pharmacists are keen diagnosticians and can save you a trip to the doctor or the hospital as well as minimizing your discomfort.

Tip Eight - Don't hesitate to rent a vehicle - it is really quite inexpensive but always, always spend the extra on the GPS.

We had a vehicle in France for 10 days and put almost 2000 km on it. The gas cost the equivalent of \$150. and the car itself, including the cost of the GPS, was just over \$500. Canadian. We simply could not have gone anywhere particularly the small towns and villages, without the GPS. Be very conscious of the toll roads which are called 'Peage' in French. The toll roads are incredibly expensive but they are worth it if you need to get from point A to point B. Some accept Visa, many do not. Some only accept coins, some will let you use bills. We ended up carrying around a bag of Euros so that we wouldn't be caught off guard when we rolled up to the toll booth. Be very aware of the signs for which lane to be in.

Tip Nine - Learn a little of the language of the country(ies) you plan to visit and always be kind and respectful.

We have found that if we make the effort to speak the language, the people really can be very accommodating. We had a wonderful experience in Paris with the baker across the street from the apartment we rented last year and again this year. We went in every day and she could be quite grumpy but we were always polite, speaking as much French as we could. Bonjour Madame and Merci Madame. On the last day last year, we needed to get a taxi to the train station but had no idea at all how to get one. The hotel down the street refused us because we weren't staying there so we asked Madame the Baker. Oh my she was grumpy but yes, she would help us. As we waited she grew more and more agitated and I asked her if I could give her something for her trouble. Absolutely not she replied but her demeanor changed to one of kindness and helpfulness. This year we brought her a tin of maple syrup and saw her every day. On our last day there as we waited for the taxi which we had called ourselves (we had figured out the process), she ran out of the bakery and gave us both kisses and hugs and asked if we could be Facebook friends. Indeed we are now friends. A great experience.

Tip Ten - Relax and enjoy your holiday in Europe.

It truly is wonderful to be able make such a trip at least once in your lifetime so ask a ton of questions before you go, do your research, put on your adventurer's hat and you will be rewarded with a vacation you will always remember. Even when you encounter difficulties they just add to the memories, ones that hopefully you will be able to laugh at when you get home.

FIX PIX**Contributed by Michael Van der Tol**

Location: Cathedral Grove, British Columbia



Before



After

1. Original photograph shows the Before raw image straight from the camera, processed with Camera Raw's Default setting (Camera Profile ACR 4.4) then saved as a JPG.
2. The After image was processed through Camera Raw then Photoshop as follows:
 - a. Camera Raw: Contrast/Brightness improvements
 - b. Camera Raw: Opened up the shadows
 - c. Camera Raw: Warmed up the white balance
 - d. Photoshop: Localized sharpening
 - e. Photoshop: Localized Orton-effect on the background sunlit areas
 - f. Photoshop: Dodging and Burning on mid-ground tree trunks
 - g. Photoshop: Slight vignette

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STUMP A CHUMP!

Welcome to our new feature page in which you are invited to submit a 'how do I' photography question that is 'stumping' you. Please submit your question to newsletter.opc@gmail.com by the 15th of each month and read the newsletter issue at the end of the same month for your answer!

Question

We would like to photograph outdoor Christmas lights but need some help with camera settings, please!

Answer

Hello folks, *The Chump* here with a timely question concerning how to photograph outdoor Christmas lights. There are three scenarios that you might encounter:

- a. walking around your neighborhood with a camera on a tripod deliberately targeting displays on houses
- a. driving around looking at displays on a rainy night
- b. walking around without a tripod but intent on photographing the light displays

If the lights are mounted on trees and bushes they will move in any wind - but not enough to badly affect our pictures. Most streets have sufficient ambient light from street lamps to provide background lighting. I always feel that carrying a tripod around is too much work so I try to avoid that if I possibly can. Here's how.

Do you have a FAST lens? To qualify as FAST in this case it should be at least f/2.8 and preferably f/2, f/1.8 or f/1.4. If you have such a lens you are in good shape for all manner of night work and Christmas lights especially. Focal length should be in the 50 - 16mm range meaning normal to wide angle, with 35, 28, 24, 21 mm being ideal focal lengths for this type of work.

If the lens or the camera has image stabilization, you can get away with slower lenses in the f/4 range - I use my 16-35mm f/4 zoom for this sort of shoot, but the image stabilization adds a couple of (effective) stops to the bottom end making it equivalent to an f/2.8 or an f/2 lens. I will also use my 50mm f/1.8 lens but the field of view is not ideal. I think the wider angles of the zoom and the image stabilization make that a better choice for dark night photography.

I will now go through camera settings - I like to shoot these scenes in Manual, but if you have a "Night scene", "Fireworks" or similar setting on your scene mode, that should also work just fine. ISO - it is a good idea to use an elevated ISO to compensate for the lack of light. The question is, how elevated? This is a matter of taste and depends greatly on your camera and its performance at higher ISO

(continued on next page)

STUMP A CHUMP! - PAGE 2

Here's an example: if your camera has a highest setting of ISO 6400, I would suggest using ISO 1600, if your camera shoots at up to 12800, try ISO 3200. Just a suggestion - you will have to try a few and see which works best for you. Shutter speed as low as you can go and hold the camera steady maybe 1/60th sec or higher.

A quick recap, IDEAL equipment and settings:

24mm f/1.8 lens set to f/1.8 and 24 mm

Manual ISO 1600

Shutter speed 1/125 sec

Flash NOT required because using a flash will drown out most of the effect.

This is good for using a tripod:

Lens as above but stopped down to f/8

If you have a "kit" zoom lens this may be the best way to proceed

ISO at lowest (base) setting, 100, 200, 64 etc

Set the camera to BULB and choose a setting of 1/2 to 2 seconds.

EXPERIMENT with shutter speed until you get the effect you are looking for. Be aware that using long shutter speeds will burn out the individual bulb images. The good side is that you will get more ambient light from the coloured lights (and any street lights) which will give a different look to the isolated effect of a faster shutter speed. This method will allow you to include some of the background as well as the actual lights. A good technique!

Lastly, don't be afraid to try different settings. You may be pleasantly surprised by the results you get from experimentation!

If you are shooting from your car, use a higher ISO and shutter speed and try not to rest your camera or hands on the window ledge with the engine running. If you stop the car for a shot (as you should, as I am pretty sure that photographing lights while driving falls under the definition of distracted driving . . .!!) you can be confident of the settings I have given above - but as lights vary in intensity from dim to Christmas Vacation you must check your shots and adjust from scene to scene.

Happy shooting!

YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK - WYOMING

By Corrie Dekluyver

Yellowstone National Park inspires awe in travelers from around the world. Nowhere on earth are there as many active geo-thermal geysers. At the heart of Yellowstone's past, present and future lies volcanism. Huge volcanic eruptions have occurred here; the last one, about 640,000 years ago, spewed about 240 cubic miles of debris. The central part of what is now the National Park collapsed, forming a 30 by 45-mile caldera, a giant volcanic crater. The Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone River gives a deeper and spectacular view of these forces. The river's waterfalls highlight the boundaries of lava flows and thermal areas. Rugged mountains flank the Park's volcanic plateau.





Yellowstone's bountiful wildlife includes bison, elk, wolves, grizzly and black bears. There are often conflicts between humans and these animals. We witnessed an altercation between a small group of people and a magnificent bull elk in September, the rutting season.



In short; The Park is simply a landscape and wildlife photographer's dream.

My camera is a Canon Rebel T2i. I use mostly a monopod because of its simplicity, efficiency and lightness.

THE INTERESTING THING.....**By Les McLean**

It was an overcast day and that deep into the forest it was very dim so I tried something I've been working on to overcome limitations to depth of field (DoF).

With my camera I get 'noise' quickly when I try to up the ISO. I don't like to push my luck past 400 ISO. Even then I shot these images (three frames shot landscape stitched into a vertical panorama) at 1/15 of a second, very carefully. At the same time I was shooting wide open (f/4.5) using my 18 - 55 kit lens at 26mm. I chose to use such a wide angle because I knew that it would help with the depth of field.

In an attempt to further boost the still narrow depth of field I refocused in steps back with each frame. I knew that if I shot it in one frame the background would drop off too quickly, even at 26mm.

This is my adaptation of a technique known as Focus Stacking. The software most commonly used and designed specifically for this process is a program called Zerene Stacker. It's software and a process usually implemented to make possible detailed photos of insects and similarly sized objects allowing the whole subject to remain in focus in macro photography. Watching TV I noticed that in some programs they were using a technique to increase the sensation of depth by dropping down the exposure of the background in black & white and the saturation of the colours in colour images.

In my process I took the colour image and converted it to black & white in Photo Shop. Then I selectively added back colour using the History Tool (Ctrl + Y if you have this feature in your version). I returned back all the colour to the broken down wooden walkway and to varying degrees elsewhere. In this process I was also varying the Opacity and the Brush size to suit the area I was working on and the effect I was trying to achieve.

I was pleased to see that the depth of field held up all the way from the front of the wooden walkway to the far background.

On the next page are the three photos I used as components for the vertical panorama as well as the final version of the composite.

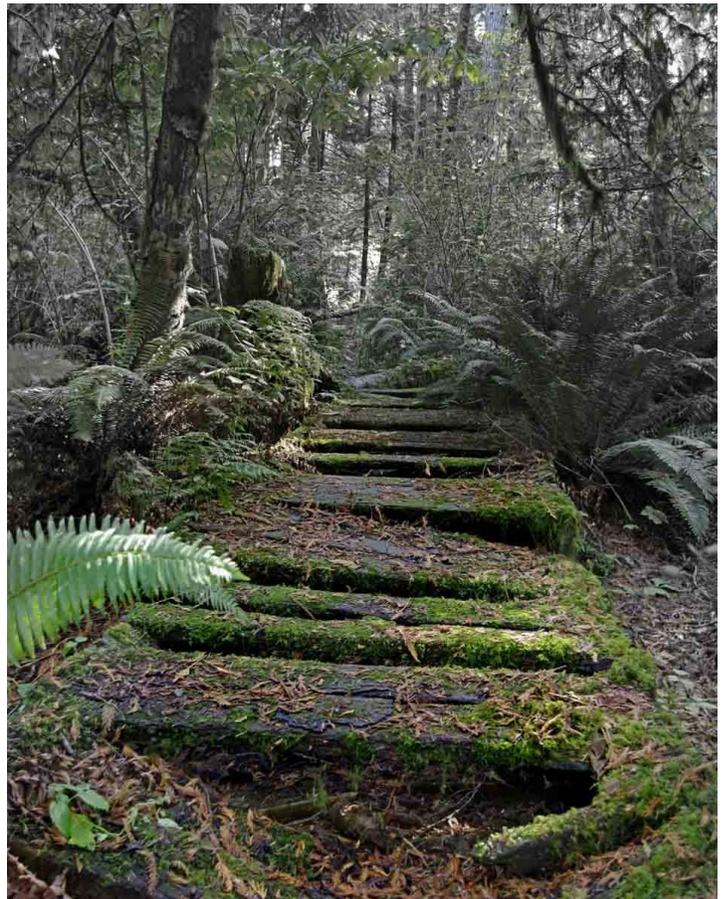


PHOTO ASSIGNMENT WINNERS

Photographers Choice

Category: Colour

***First Place
Chasing Salmon
Inge Riis McDonald***



***Second Place
Coyote Eye Contact
Cliff Anderson***



***Third Place
Stellar Sea Lions
Teresa Lange Kings***



***Honorable Mention
Eye on You
Peter Caljouw***



PHOTO ASSIGNMENT WINNERS

Photographer's Choice

Category: Black and White



*First Place
Atlantic Puffin Resting
Wayne Duke*

*Second Place tie
Towhee
Inge Riis McDonald*



*Second Place tie
Lunch Time
Peter Caljouw*



*Third Place
Please May I Have More?
Beth Millar*

PHOTO ASSIGNMENT WINNERS

Animals

Category: Digital Art

First Place
Stellar's Jay
Inge RiisMcDonald



Second Place
Great Blue Heron
Peter Caljouw

Third Place
Glowing Octopus
Vivienne Bearder



WEB LINKS FOR PHOTOGRAPHERS

At Oceanside Photographers Club general and education meetings we find that members will tell us about web sites of interest to photographers. We all know that there is a wealth of knowledge and creativity on the 'net', but we don't always know where to start looking. This page will be a regular feature in the newsletter, so if you have a particular web site you have found that you find useful or if you need help in finding a web-site on a particular photography topic, please contact the newsletter team at newsletter.opc@gmail.com

Winter is Coming - How to Take Care of Your Gear

A timely article from Light Stalking about how to avoid damaging your camera and lenses when taking photographs during cold weather. <http://www.lightstalking.com/winter-gear-care/>

Beautiful Hoar Frost Photography

Check out these beautiful images with a few tips on how to capture them in the Canadian Nature Photography site. <http://www.canadiannaturephotographer.com/hoarfrost.html>

Photographing Yellowstone National Park

In conjunction with the article and photos from Corrie DeKlyuver's trip to Yellowstone this month, we found several websites that give tips on photographing wildlife and nature pictures in the Park. <http://www.yellowstonepark.com/activities/photography/photo-tips/>

<http://www.yellowstonenationalpark.com/photowildlife.htm>

The City of Light - Paris

We must not ignore the wonderful architecture and interiors of Paris, as presented by Shelley and Jack Harynuk in their article this month, so here are a few websites offering advice on photographing that beautiful city.

A Photographer's Guide to Paris <http://photo.net/france/paris>

Better Travel Photos—Photography in Paris

<http://www.bettertravelphotos.com/photography-in-paris>

SPECIAL CLUB PRICE FOR PHOTO IDEA CARDS

At the November field trip lunch OP member John Mills showed some of us a special set of cards he had bought, designed to inspire photographers to try different types of 'assignments'. The cards were priced at US \$10 but mailing and import charges doubled the cost in Canada. Even so, several of us said we would like to order a set and John offered to contact the author of the cards, asking him to consider a group discount. Author Paul M. Kane readily agreed and depending on the number of orders said he might be able to offer us free shipping. A sweet deal!

About the cards: Each card in the deck of 52 lists a different photo 'assignment' with a description, example photo, suggestions for camera settings and for gear. The flip side features a photo-related quotation. The deck also contains several handy reference cards, including two 'white/black/grey' cards. The deck offers inspiration for a different photo shoot each week for a year. Draw them at random or take them in order.

If you are interested in a set please contact <mailto:newsletter.opc@gmail.com>.

John will be collecting money (the final price depends on number of orders) and sending in the order before Christmas.

A sample deck will be available for viewing at the December general meeting. Or click on: [Lightbox Photography Cards](#).



PHOTO EDITING PROGRAM FOR MAC USERS

John Critchley found a site for those of you who use MAC computers. It is a full feature image editor for MAC. This image editor lets you “enhance and touch up photos, sketch, draw and paint, add textures and shapes, apply dazzling effects and do so much more.”

To see an overview video and full specifications, go to <http://www.pixelmator.com/mac/>

EDITOR'S GRAB BAG

By Shelley Harynuk

Thought I'd share some obscure photography tidbits with you. Did you know that the "Right to Hunt" bill before the Wisconsin legislature could have an enormous impact on how wildlife photographers operate in that state?

The purpose of the bill is to ensure that there are fewer obstructions in the pursuit of fishing, hunting, and trapping activities. The bill's authors believe that wildlife photographers are one such obstruction, because the proposal makes it illegal to photograph hunters.

The proposed fines for photographing hunters are in the hundreds of dollars. In some cases, photographers could even be jailed simply for being in "visual or physical proximity" to someone engaged in hunting activities.

The bill was proposed in response to the actions of a Wisconsin group that calls themselves Wolf Patrol. Members of the group are opposed to the practice of using bear bait for hunting purposes, which is legal in Wisconsin, but which also attracts gray wolves. To help protect wolves, the group goes out to photograph and videotape hunters who use bear bait traps. Unsurprisingly, hunters who have been photographed and videotaped did not appreciate it, thus, the proposed bill before the Legislature.

If you think this is strange then the next story will make you shake your head in disbelief. A Taiwanese woman filed for divorce from her husband, claiming his obsession with photography was one of the primary reasons their marriage was on the rocks. The disgruntled wife cited a number of examples in which her husband's love of the lens went to an unhealthy level, including asking a physician to give their infant child a second injection so he could capture the moment with his camera.

In another episode, the wife claims to have found her husband taking photos of their crying baby at 2 AM rather than seeking to comfort the infant. Clearly, the husband was taking things a bit far. Maybe he will use his camera to document the divorce proceedings too!

So the lesson is that if you want to do Landscape photography in Wisconsin or take photos of your baby's first steps you might want to consider the repercussions of your decision. Jail and divorce - not what you think of when you set out to take some photos on a lovely day.

Thanks to Photography Talk <https://www.photographytalk.com/blog/5933-pt360-episode-11> for the information in this article.