

SHUTTERBUG

Volume 9 Number 10

NEWSLETTER

February 2017



‘Another Please’ by Jack Harynuk

Oceanside Photography Society 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

Meeting Times

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

Education Meetings take place on the third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm in the Windsor Room at the Qualicum Beach Civic Centre except during July, August and December.

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

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CONTACT DETAILS

For club executive contact information, upcoming general meetings, field trips, education meetings and assignments, please visit the Oceanside Photographers Society website.

<http://oceansidephotographers.ca/wp>

COVER PHOTO

Camera: Canon 5D Mark III

Lens: Tamron 150-600mm

Shutter Speed: 1/1000

Aperture: f8

Focal Length: 600 mm

ISO: 2500

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 Frieda at the membership desk to order another, or contact her at:
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 Society is a member of the Canadian Association of Photographic Art.



Creativity

By Bill Trace

Creativity is a gift bestowed upon those ready to accept the challenge, to go beyond themselves, to leave their ego behind and allow the magic of the mind to guide them to the genius of creation.

Creativity unlike the technical aspects of photography cannot be taught in the usual way, and like enlightenment, is a heightened state of awareness that must be nurtured and given the opportunity to surface and show itself.

To better understand the nature of creativity, it's helpful to recognize the characteristics of the "creative state" as it appears in other activities. One familiar example is what athletes call "being in the zone". This too is a heightened state of awareness, and as any athlete will tell you it is where they function at the highest level. While in the "zone" the athlete, a hockey player for example, doesn't see the other players as individual disconnected pieces of the play, they see the dynamics of the entire game, the flow, the developing play and with this insight are able to position themselves where the puck "will be" instead of chasing the puck where it is now. They are so focused on the play, they are oblivious to everything except the game.

Most of us have had this kind of experience. How many times have you been intent on a task only to discover hours have gone by unnoticed. Whether pursuing an artistic endeavor or some challenging task, your mind has been totally focused on the task at hand to the exclusion of all other thoughts.

So, if creativity is experienced as a "heightened state of awareness", how do we get to this state? First we must remove the things that will prevent creativity, worry, stress, distractions, time constraints, fumbling with the equipment, all these can dampen or destroy any hope of producing the magic image you are seeking. On the other hand factors that contribute to a good session include being completely engaged with the subject and exploring it from every viewpoint. It's important to follow your instincts, don't second guess where the session is going, just keep going and judge the outcome later. Let your mind wander, avoid rigid preconceived ideas of what you want, anything you do differently will help lead to creative outcomes. Ask a child to make a face instead of smiling, spend one hour photographing a single subject, a bicycle for example, with that much time you will be forced to try different approaches.



It has been said that "those who don't believe in miracles will never see one." Creativity is bit like that. If you set aside sufficient time, pick a subject that means something to you, then that "magic image" has the best chance of appearing. You'll know you have succeeded when the photo is so much better than what you are able to produce on your own.



Portraits

By Cliff Anderson

Per Wikipedia, a portrait is a painting, photograph, sculpture, or other artistic representation of a person in which the face and its expression is predominant. The intent is to display the likeness, personality and even the mood of the person. This is the approach that I have used for the majority of the last sixty years. I have taken informal and formal portraits on 35 mm, 2 1/4" square, and 4 x 5 format film as well as digital informal portraits. The images I have produced have been for personal use and for friends and relatives.



Generally, I use available light, preferably diffused light from windows in addition to ambient light from room lights for indoor exposures. This was a challenge in the past due to the nature and variability of photographic film and its limited sensitivity. However, the results were, in many cases, very rewarding. The photograph, "Girl with Cat," is an example from about forty years ago, shot on black and white 2 1/4" square film. The other portraits of children were taken more recently on a digital camera hand held and relying on available light.

"Haunting Eyes," was taken with 1/160, f 5.0, and ISO 6400.
"Angel Eyes," was taken with 1/200, f8.0 and ISO 2500.



Haunting Eyes



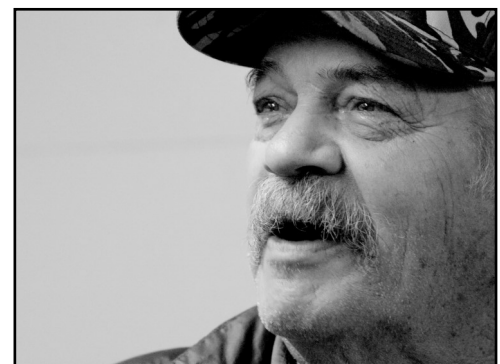
Angel Eyes

My informal portraits have been taken, in many cases, under very difficult lighting conditions and always less than perfect lighting conditions. However, they usually capture the essence of the subject. The three portraits of men were taken at an event where the main lighting was from overhead fixtures with side lighting from a window. The portraits were taken at a garage party held in memory of a good friend. The gathered group of men were telling fishing and hiking stories and consequently exhibited a variety of emotions. The lighting conditions were such that I was able to create informal portraits of various members of the group for their personal use. The images were taken over a couple of hours and I was so involved in photographing the subjects that I only had one beer and one piece of cheese! The images were taken with no additional lighting such as a flash. Thus, the subjects did not know when or if photos were being taken. The camera was hand held which allowed complete freedom of position to take advantage of the varying lighting conditions and posture of the subjects.

To capture an image, I find the camera must be set so the shutter speed is sufficiently fast to hand hold, the lens has a wide enough aperture to allow sufficient light into the sensor, and the sensor sensitivity must be such that these factors come together and compensate for the low light level. In this location, I had set the aperture at F5.6 and the shutter speed was set at a minimum $1/50^{\text{th}}$ of a second, and the ISO was set to float as high as 4800. Most of the shots with the aperture and shutter speeds mentioned had an ISO in the order of 2,000 to 3,000.

If you are going to shoot candid, informal portraits which are truly spontaneous, you are generally faced with less than optimal lighting. Often very pleasing, spontaneous, and emotional images result. To achieve satisfactory images: set the time the shutter is open (i.e. minimum $1/50$ seconds), enlarge the aperture (usually limited to F1.4), and increase the ISO to a value of 4800 or higher.

Since it is preferred to hand hold the camera and use a lens of 100 mm or so and since the f stop is limited by the lens construction to F1.4, the only solution is to adjust the ISO. Fortunately, many cameras are now provided with a setting where the ISO can be set to float between ISO 100 and ISO 4800 or more. I generally shoot with the aperture set at F5.6 and I allow the ISO to float to 4800. For most purposes, these settings give good results and allow me to capture fleeting images which often expose the subject's character and emotion. I usually convert the images to black and white which is a better format for portraits since the essence of the image is not masked by a patchwork of colored items.



Lions Gate Camera Club 'Celebration of Nature' Results



We are pleased to announce that the Oceanside Photography Society has placed well in the annual Lions Gate Camera Club photography competition! OPS was 12th out of 29 photography club entrants across British Columbia. In the individual placements, our technical director Jack Harynuk won 3rd place in the Mammals category with his image of a grizzly bear entitled 'Another Please'. Congratulations and well done, Jack, you have done yourself and the club proud!

Photo Back Story: Last October a group of 5 members made the trek to the Homolka lands up Bute Inlet. This year, the light was excellent. While there weren't as many bears and fish as in previous years, we were able to take our time as the bears ate the entire salmon. I was fortunate to be positioned to take a series of shots right down to the last bite and I was delighted that this final shot was a winner.

The Great Canadian Photo Contest - Maclean's Magazine

To commemorate Canada's 150th year, Maclean's is hosting a photo contest to highlight all of Canada's glory, called The Great Canadian Photo Contest.

For each month of 2017, McLean's is asking readers to submit photos based on a particular theme. They will publish the winning photos in their weekly tablet edition, and online every month. The winners will receive a cash prize of \$250. Any existing photo from your personal archive or any fresh work would be great to see.

At the end of the year McLean's will host a gallery show exhibiting all the winning work and will announce the single best photo of the year. Click on the link below for more information on how to submit and for the contest rules.

<http://www.macleans.ca/multimedia/photo/the-great-canadian-photo-contest/>

Killer Lightroom Tip - Type N for Nifty by Ed Dunnett

It is interesting to me how Lightroom seems to hide some of its best tips from view. I just got a wonderful one from Flipboard.

Often after taking a series of shots of say wildlife or even portraits I am not sure which one or ones to spend time on developing. It would be so nice to compare the whole series in Lightroom side by side so the winner stands out.

Well, there is an easy way. In the develop mode of Lightroom, first highlight from the filmstrip below each of the photos (shift click) you wish to compare then hit n. Magically they all appear side by side in the main Lightroom panel in the develop mode. The one or ones for you to work on usually stand out.

This is almost as useful as being able to type x to change the orientation from landscape to portrait or vice versa when cropping.

Sometimes the light in Lightroom hides under a bushel!

India

By Wayne Buhr

On November 1 2016, Pat and I flew to India for the 4th time and arrived in Delhi on November 2nd. Most of the images I made in Delhi were taken on a street behind the hotel. On November 4th, we hired a car and driver who took us to Pushkar for the annual Camel Fair. It's been estimated that upwards of 200,000 people and 50,000 Camels, Horses & Cattle have attended in the past.

We took a bus to Ajmer on November 8th for 1 night and the next day we took a train to our favorite city Udaipur. After 4 days in this beautiful city we flew to Kolkata. After 4 days in Kolkata we joined a tour with 11 others (including a guide) and during 13 days we visited: Jalpaiguri, Kalimpong, Gangtok, Darjeeling, Mughi Sarai, V aranasi, Lucknow and finally Delhi. We then flew to Mumbi for 3 days and then back to Delhi for our flight home.



STUMP A CHUMP

Question: How do I set up my camera to capture that 'fleeting moment'?

One of the most frustrating mistakes it is possible to make with today's complex and hi-tech cameras is to try to shoot a fleeting moment with the wrong settings on the camera. The wrong settings are usually there because the settings were changed during the previous shoot and not reset to default or optimum values. So the best way to avoid this frustrating mistake is to develop the habit of resetting the camera after every shoot, or before every shoot. I recharge the battery for every shoot and go through my checklist right after re-inserting the fully charged battery.

There are many variables that can be accessed and changed easily and these range from ISO, shutter speed and aperture to bracketing. Fortunately these settings can be reset using a simple and easily accessed routine, or by using the two button reset built in to most DSLR cameras. On Nikon cameras this involves pressing the two control buttons identified with green dots on the camera body. This may be for instance, the ISO and White balance control or any other combination of two buttons as defined in your camera's manual.

If your camera is not equipped with this easy and useful "Two-button reset" feature you will need to cycle through the controls either on the buttons or the menus to check and reset as required. Below is a checklist of controls and suggested "baseline settings" from which modifications can easily be made...

- Shutter speed - 1/250 sec
- ISO - 100 (or "auto" if available and applicable)
- Aperture - f/8
- Bracketing - off
- Bulb setting - off
- Multiple exposure - off
- "Scene" setting - or special effects - off
- PSAM control - "P"
- Memory card - Inserted and Formatted
- Battery - Fully charged
- Appropriate lens - Correctly installed with no error messages
- White balance - set to auto or as required
- Shutter function - single shot, slow or rapid release

So that's it! A fairly straight forward procedure that can and should be transitioned into a habit to ensure that the camera is set correctly for every shoot. For those of us that have to shoot without the services of a dedicated assistant, developing the checklist mentality is a sure-fire way to avoid frustrating and embarrassing mistakes!

Wishing you a chump free shooting experience!

Winners of Photo Assignment "Table Top and Miniatures"

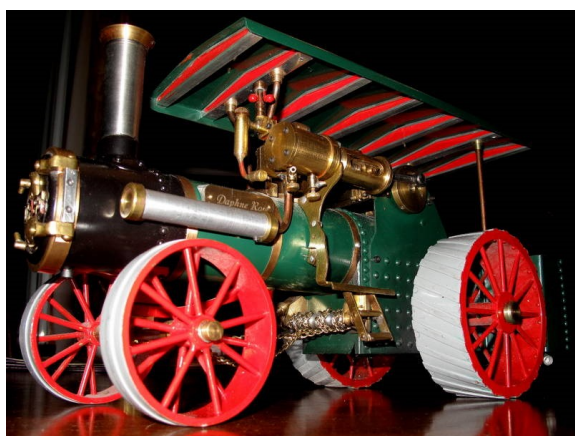
Colour



Last on the Stem
Frieda van der Ree



Second Place Tie
Angel Trio
Teresa Lange Kings



Second Place Tie
The Daphne Rose
Alan Smith



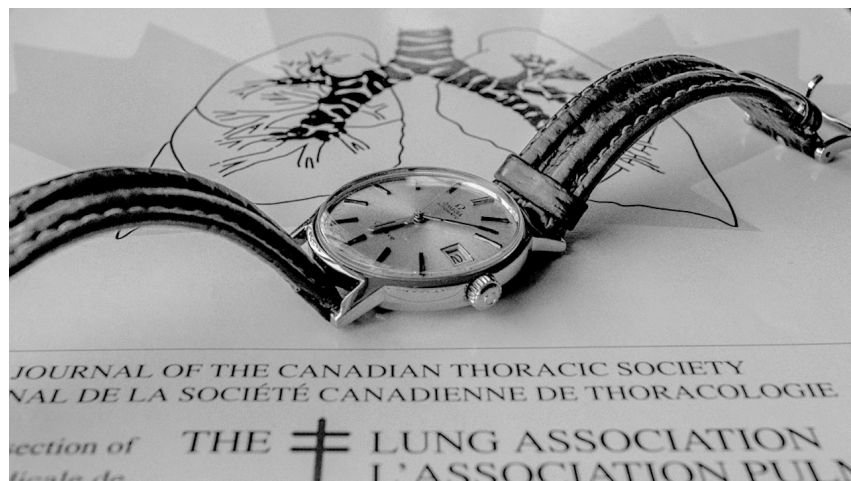
Armchair Halloween
Roland Semjanovs



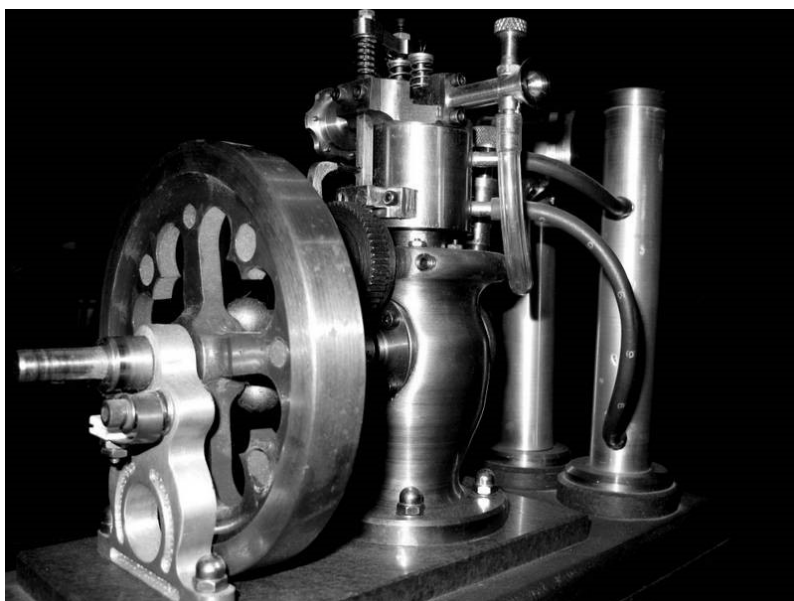
Winners of Photo Assignment “Table Top and Miniatures” Black and White



*Fork Sculpture
Frieda van der Ree*



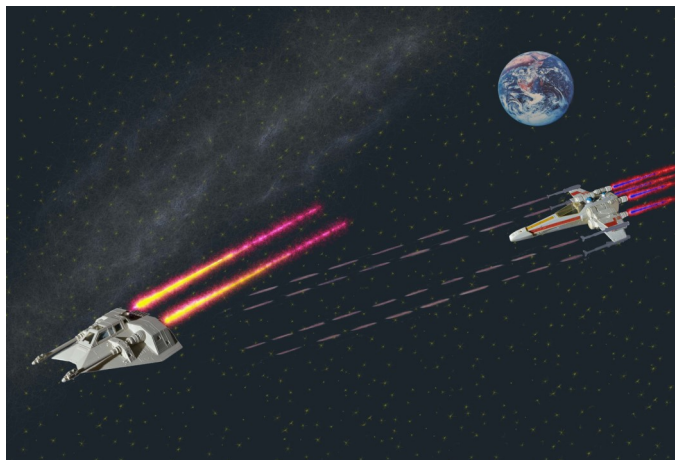
*Another Time
David Cotton*



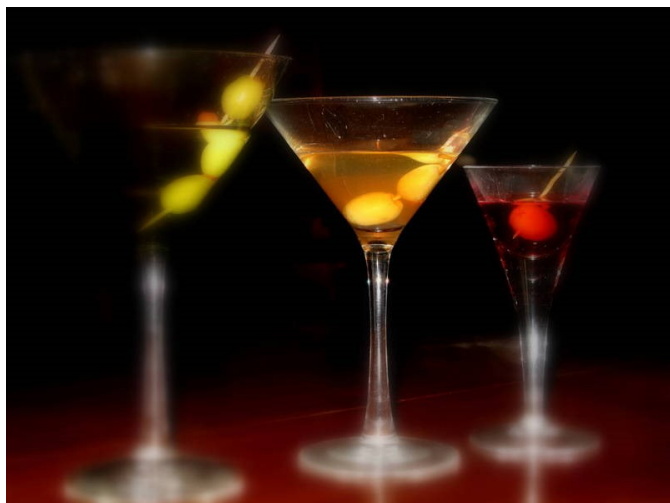
*Gas Power
Alan Smith*

Winners of Photo Assignment “Table Top and Miniatures”

Digital Art



Star Wars
Bill Trace



Feeling Woozy
Alan Smith



Third Place Tie
A Hard Climb
Roy Watts



Third Place Tie
Wistful
Beth Millar

RICK HULBERT WORKSHOP— SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB

When: 11 March , 2017

Where: Beach Club Parksville

Cost: Members \$45, Non members \$50

This is the last call for ticket sales to this exciting, informative and entertaining day with a tremendously enjoyable speaker. This will be a terrific day that will be especially useful to our newer club members as Rick deals with a myriad of philosophical questions as well as some important technical points that are instructive and useful in producing better photographs.

You might even get an "Ah- Hah!" moment during the day as most of those who attended last year's presentation admitted to. It's also a great opportunity to meet and mingle with other like minded photographers from all over the Island. Coffee and tea is provided morning and afternoon and there are also door prizes that will be given away at the end of the day. You could win a canvas framed print of your photo, for instance, as big as 24x36 inches.

There are still some 30 tickets available and we are looking to our members to step up and support the society's efforts to enhance your photographic experience. To obtain your ticket, please send a stamped self addressed envelope along with your cheque made payable to "Oceanside Photography Society" to John Critchley at:-

Rick Hulbert Tickets,
1596 Dalmatian Drive,
Parksville, BC, V9P 1Y7

or Call John at 250 752-2800 for more details or other inquiries. (Tickets may also be purchased in person from John at his home, please call or email first - ckuklbac@yahoo.ca)

This event is the major fund raising effort of your club for the year and we need to sell out the tickets to ensure we have enough money for upcoming expenditures, so please don't hesitate, and send in your cheque today!



Island Photography Workshops is bringing well-known photographer David DuChemin to Nanaimo on Saturday May 20, 2017 for a one day seminar. For more details see the IPW website at <http://islandphotographyworkshops.com/> and David DuChemin's website <http://davidduchemin.com/>

Oceanside Photography Society Executive 2016-2017

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Editor's Grab Bag

Finally it feels as if spring is here after what we on the West Coast experienced as an extreme winter. It's time to dust off the cameras, check out the equipment, charge up the batteries and get back out there and see what was hiding under the snow. The land is coming alive again. There are primulas and snowdrops lifting their heads, daffodils and hyacinths are starting to push their leaves tentatively through the soil. Oh yes and the winter's detritus is there as well. Don't let the yard work seduce you - ignore it and take advantage of the rushing water, the birds and wildlife returning to enjoy the grass and new growth. The mornings start earlier and the evenings linger. Dig out your rubber boots and a lighter jacket. Put away those once in 8 years winter jackets and snow boots and turn your face up to the sun. It's time to take some sunshine photos again.

I have nothing but admiration for you folks who got out there in the cold and dark mornings and took some spectacular sunrises and moody seascapes. Me, I'm more of a fair weather photographer. My hands get cold and in an effort not to annoy anyone with my whining I just don't go so I miss out on a lot of opportunities. I get to enjoy your efforts. They are beautiful.

We went down to Piper's Lagoon in Nanaimo yesterday and were delighted to see so many people out and about, many with cameras. It was a nice day for a stroll and even a nicer day to set up the tripod and check out Shack Island. I feel as if the blood is moving in my body and in my brain again. It's good to be alive and living in the beautiful corner of the world we call Vancouver Island. Hello spring - please stick around for a while.

Shelley Harynuk
Newsletter Director and Editor

