

# Meeting Minutes

Date: February 18, 2015

By: Jean Davids, Secretary Monticello Camera Club

Bob Somerville led the meeting in the absence of any club officer being able to make the meeting; a first in club history I believe. Jean Davids, secretary, was out sick. We had 11 members attend the meeting. When including the speaker for the evening, there were 12 attending.

Since only 1 person sent in assignment photos and Jean Davids couldn't make it, the Snow assignment photos will be shown in April along with the Open photo assignment photos.

Bob Somerville shared information related to where we are with the photo show. There are still a couple of slots we need to fill in for photo show. If you can help out, please let Bob Somerville know. Just before the meeting they let people drop off photos for the show. They collected photo entries from 3 people. The entries have been very slow so far and as of 2/23/15 there are only 74 entries in. A new email went out on the 23<sup>rd</sup> to all potential entrants to let them know they only have 5 more days to get their entries in. Carla Rodriguez has volunteered to display some of her information at the photo show. Lynn Anderson will coordinate getting that done.

I want to thank Val Somerville for the following notes regarding the presentation and other things that went on at the meeting. This set of meeting minutes could not be done without her help. Thanks Val!!

A presentation on Tintype Photography was given by Carla Rodriguez (arranged by Lynn Anderson). Her website is <http://www.carla-rodriguez.com>.

Carla showed a (Mark) Osterman House Video on Tin Type Photo taking and processing. She said it has to be set up with subject seated and ready before tin is prepped, photo taken and processed. Carla can do in about 7 minutes once all set from start of Tin prep to sealing.

Tin Type is a cheaper version of the old daguerreotype, which was silver.

Video showed steps of set up:

- subject posed
- coat the tin (Cullodion, which is the film negative equivalent)
- then silver nitrate bath in box at least 4 minutes (use goggles n gloves!)
- then shoot with wet tin - just a few minutes to do
- develop with the fix bath which brings out the image as solution is swished back and forth
- wash, dry and seal (flame was used to help dry)

These can last hundreds of years. Image is a mirror image. Camera sees upside down also so tricky if subject needs to move left or right. Can also be done on glass which provides a negative.

Southern idol of hers is Sally Mann. She does events for groups of 10 or so at her St Paul studio at discount (\$45 for first photo, \$25 for 2<sup>nd</sup> - for each subject as 4x5. For an 8x10 is \$80, \$40 for 2<sup>nd</sup>. Can book for 1 person for 1.5 hours at \$250-350 and will get about 8 tins that can be made in that time for one person or setting.

Carla showed her extra strong lighting and battery box she lugged in plus camera that is smaller. She left her large camera in studio. She had several samples with her for people to look at and she allowed people to look through her camera. She also took questions and answers which took some time. Overall, the presentation lasted about 1 hour.

From what I understand, it was a great presentation. I'm sorry more of us couldn't attend. I know I would have liked to attend. Larry Wilson also had his camera there to show. Thanks Larry for helping in the discussion.

Thanks Lynn for arranging this speaker.

Here are a couple of photos from the presentation that Val Somerville took. I am also including at the end of these minutes the Tintype Resource notes that Carla handed out.



## TINTYPE RESOURCES!

### Books/Guides

The Doer's Guide to Wet-Plate Photography – by John Coffey, good detail, also comes with dvds so you can actually watch him do this stuff. He's also pretty hilarious. Purchase here:

<http://www.johncoffey.com/>.

Basic Collodion Technique: Ambrotype & Tintype – by Mark & France Osterman. Nice place to start, not as much detail as John Coffey's manual but it fills in some holes he has and has a good list of recipes. They also host workshops! Purchase here: <http://www.collodion.org/pubs.html>.

### Online:

Collodion Bastards (Facebook group): This is an extensive FB group with over 3k members where people discuss recipes, help each other troubleshoot and post images. It can get confusing and some of the gentlemen on here can be rather ornery but it's a good place to ask questions.

Youtube – No, seriously, just search tintype on youtube and there are quite a few videos on the subject, lot of great explanations and demonstrations as well.

Chemistry: (wear goggles and gloves!)

Bostick & Sullivan: These guys are great for all things alternative! They also sell a starter kit of tintype that is highly recommended, and should get you making images. They also sell chemical ala cart for once you get more comfortable mixing things on your own and want to play with recipes. They also have workshops if you are willing to travel: <https://www.bostick-sullivan.com/>.

Art Craft: Really good source for silver nitrate, and for when you become more proficient mixing your own chemicals: <http://www.artcraftchemicals.com/products/>.

UV Photographics: Also great source for chemicals and pre-made collodion. They also have a starter kit: <http://www.uvphotographics.com/>.