

Meeting Minutes

Date: October 19, 2016

By: Jean Davids, Secretary Monticello Camera Club

The meeting started at 7 pm and was presided over by Lynn Anderson, president. There were 13 members and 4 guests in attendance. That's not bad considering the last presidential debate was going on at the same time.

We started the meeting with our featured photographer, Larry Wilson. Larry shared photos of his camera gear through the years. This ranges the gamut from pin-hole cameras to film cameras of various vintages through digital cameras. He shared a few of his photo images as well. He did a great job.

Jessica Scott, BFA from the Minneapolis College of Art and Design in 2006, gave a presentation on artistic pictures/composing/framing and how to do basic critiquing. Here I will present some of my notes that I took and I will also post a handout that Jessica provided on Basic Critiquing.

Jessica first presented a series of photos taken by famous photographers. She asked us to look for things like "why did the person take the photo" or look for repetitions. You can create the scene or include objects in the foreground that reference the background. She shared photos that demonstrated different styles and purposes for the photo. She then reviewed the handout on basic critiquing that she provided. She said the key to critiquing is to put everything out there and to take everything with a grain of salt. She also provided some book recommendations. These include the following:

- The Photography Book by the editors of Phaidon Press (<https://www.amazon.com/Photography-Book-Editors-Phaidon-Press/dp/071483937X>)
- Ways of Seeing by John Berger (https://www.amazon.com/Ways-Seeing-Based-BBC-Television/dp/0140135154/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1477366346&sr=1-1&keywords=ways+of+seeing+john+berger)
- Art and Fear by Davids Bayles and Ted Orland (https://www.amazon.com/Art-Fear-Observations-Rewards-Artmaking/dp/0961454733/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1477366454&sr=1-1&keywords=art+and+fear+david+bayles)

She also discussed continuing education as a good way to learn photography. It was an excellent discussion as well on the topic and all in attendance enjoyed it.

The group then viewed photos on the assignment topic of "nature's patterns". Six members submitted photos. With Jessica's help, we had a fairly interesting critiques of photos submitted, after permission of each photographer first. It was a very good discussion of photos and what we saw in them and not just we like it. We had to say why we liked it. Everyone agreed they liked the discussion very much.

Bob Somerville discussed the need for a November Topic. He asked the members for ideas. We came up with the idea to do the topic of doing Single Lighting Setups. Members should bring in your personal lighting equipment to accomplish this and we will share them at the meeting. We are hoping we can talk certain members into sharing techniques for doing

product setups. Jean Davids volunteered to bring in a setup that one of our original members, Arvid Holt, had shared with us on how to DIY product setup lighting. If anyone else has interesting techniques, please bring them in and we'll share them with the group. Bob and Val also mentioned that Bryan Hansel has a class on "Thorough Composition" which discussed a number of other techniques beyond just rule of thirds. If we are interested in that topic then we can probably get Bryan back to talk to the group on that subject. Our December meeting topic will be Bob and Val sharing their Alaska photos. Bob said weather prevented it from being as productive as they hoped so if others have Alaska photos to share, please let him know and we can make it more of a group sharing of Alaska images. It's also our annual holiday meeting where we encourage everyone to order meals and it will hopefully be more of a social gathering.

Bob also mentioned it has been confirmed that the date of the Photo Show will March 19-20th in 2017 at River City Extreme.

In addition, it was again brought up that Bob wants to step down as Agenda Chairperson. He wants one or more people to step up so he can end that function at the end of the year. Lynn will appoint someone if no one steps up.

The meeting actually ran late and was adjourned around 9:10 or so.

One more post meeting announcement: Jessica Scott, Lynn Anderson's daughter, will be joining our club and has volunteered to take on the Agenda Chairperson position. Let's welcome her to the club and for her willingness to take on this position. Also, we owe a big thanks for Bob Somerville for his duty this past couple of years in arranging our assignments and topics for our meetings.