

Meeting Minutes

Date: February 15, 2017

By: Jean Davids, Secretary Monticello Camera Club

The meeting started at 7 pm and was presided over by Lynn Anderson, president. There were 21 members and 3 guests in attendance. One of our guests was a previous member from a while back who has rejoined the club. Welcome back to the club, Pat Arnold.

Ken Kvam informed the group that he will be retiring at the end of this month (February) and moving to Arizona. He will be resigning his post as Treasurer of the club. Thank you so much for your service, Ken!! We are seeking a volunteer to take over this position. Jerrie Ahrens has volunteered to take on this position. Jean Davids is researching when this position is up for election so the board can decide how best to handle this vacancy. *(Based on re-reading by-laws, Jean says that Treasurer as well as president and board member 1 are elected on even numbered years, meaning the Treasurer position won't be up for election until 2018. Currently, the board is in discussions on how to best handle this vacancy.)* Also of note: the position of Secretary (Jean Davids' position) and Board Member 2 (Jerrie Ahrens) are up for election in 2017. If you wish to run for either position for the 2017 elections in April/May, please let Jean Davids know as soon as possible.

Our photographer of the month was Jerrie Ahrens. She shared photos that she had scanned in from negatives and slides that she said helped to share an experience, a feeling of times past when building the cabin that they had up north. Everyone enjoyed seeing her photos.

The topic for the night was presented by Ken Bachofer. Jean Davids introduced Ken as the leader the Clearwater Photography Group and someone who regularly teaches classes at a variety of venues. Here's a link to an article that speaks of his work:

<http://www.westsherburnetribune.com/clearwater-news/photography-group-gets-started>. His topic was Useful Hints for Better Outdoor Photos and he shared many of his photos to demonstrate the ideas he was presenting. The presentation was great and included:

- Lighter Side of Nature – Be there and be ready
- It's All About the Light
 - Be aware of the quality and direction of light
 - "Good light" is morning and evening
 - Light from the side will enhance texture
 - Try to get a "catch light" in eyes
 - Catch that glow from back lighting
- Focusing Technique
 - Important to choose the proper focus point which normally won't be in the center
 - The camera will focus on the nearest objects
 - Some things MUST be in focus
 - Eyes
 - For scenics, important foreground objects
 - Focus then compose (press using half-press and hold and then recompose)
- Composition Basics
 - Some rules, break the rules
 - Consider the center of the photo; sometimes you want something there, sometimes not
 - Don't worry so much about 'rule of thirds' but rather just try "not centered"
- Exposure Compensation
 - Don't always trust your camera as it will be wrong some of the time

- Your camera guesses based on an average scene being 18% reflective
- The center of the histogram is 18% reflective/mid-tone
- Things that will be exposed incorrectly are primarily light scenes like snow and primarily dark scenes
- Exposure Compensation allows for up to 2 stops or more plus/minus from what the camera thinks it should be. Button is generally on top of the camera near shutter release.
- Ken shared examples of objects shot on a white background and how the whole background appears gray rather than white. Bumping it up +1 2/3 stops made the background accurately reflect the white background and colors of the objects.
- Ken shared examples of a black background with objects and how the whole background appears gray rather than black. Backing exposure compensation down -1 2/3 stops accurately shows background as black and proper color of objects laid on it.
- Metering techniques
 - Pay attention to blinkies/highlight alert – blown out areas of your photo that can be viewed from histogram preview
 - “Expose to the right” technique – can be very useful - look up on google
 - Sunsets can confuse metering – need to judge by preview and histogram to correct for what you want it to look like
 - Learn alternate metering types such as matrix and spot metering

Bob Somerville discussed the March Photo Show. Right now we are collecting photos and currently have 75 entries. We need to find a new location to store the display boards, stands and signs. If ANYONE has dry storage, preferably local to the Monticello area and mouse free, that we can use to store the boards, please contact Bob to let him know or you can relay it through Jean Davids who can forward your information.

Bob also talked about Bryan Hansel’s presentation in May on Advanced Composition. The class that goes along with his topic in the meeting will be from 3:30 to 6:30 pm and will meet at Ellison Park in Monticello and will cost \$50 to participate. He will need a minimum of 6 people to attend the outdoor class and then he will present on the topic at the meeting for our regular members and guests.

Lynn Anderson brought up that we need a topic for the April meeting. Larry Wilson volunteered that he has a friend who is willing to share how to put photos onto any kind of surface via a chemical process. He will let us know if he is available to present for our April meeting. If he is not, then we will bring in our cameras and/or gear to break into groups and ask/answer questions in an open forum style meeting.

There will be NO meeting in March as the Photo Show will be going on. Please let Bob Somerville know if you can volunteer to help out at the show.

April

Assignment: Exposure Compensation - bring in no more than 6 photos - 3 sets of before/after images

Topic: Friend of Larry Wilson’s will demonstrate putting photos onto any surface via chemical process (pending the okay by his friend). Otherwise, open discussions – bring cameras/gear to learn from others.

Photographer of the Month: Darrell Pikkaraine

May

Assignment: to be determined

Topic: Bryan Hansel - "Thorough Composition" which discussed a number of other techniques beyond just rule of thirds. He is available in May if we get enough members to sign up for a 2-hour class before/after the meeting. Bob Somerville will be organizing this. Pick up your Photo Show Entries - 1 hour prior to meeting others can pick up their photos