

Meeting Minutes

Date: February 24, 2018

By: Jean Davids, Secretary Monticello Camera Club (thanks to Val Somerville for taking notes)

The meeting began shortly after 7 pm and was presided over by Steve Fowler. There were 17 members and 2 guests in attendance.

The assignment for this month was Faces. It was delayed from the January meeting. We had 6 or 7 people who shared their images for this assignment. We also got to view two videos that Cindy Mendel had put together as part of that assignment. She did a great job on them.

Jean Davids shared a couple of the photos that Christopher Cline produces with his dog Juji. Jean asked if people were interested in having him share his process for producing these images. In them, he is smaller than the dog and it shows their adventures. He is game to speak to us and based on our group, they are eager to hear him speak. Jean will arrange this for this summer sometime.

Bob Somerville provided an update on the Photo Show. Bob has a display frame that they use for their business that they will make available for the weekend of the show. To display some of your work, please provide a Canvas or Framed photo with sawtooth or wire hangers on it for hanging. You should also tape a card with your name, etc, to the frame or edging of your work. This will allow people to see the work of our camera club members. The card on the frames will help us in getting your work returned to you if you aren't there when the show is wrapped up. Please email or call Bob if you have images to share so that he can plan for enough panels for the display. If you have any questions on this please contact Bob or Val Somerville. The image here shows what the display has looked like when we used it in the past. As regards clipboards, members can have what they want first of the large size and then we can try and sell/give away for donations. We can see what we can do with the smaller clipboards after the show is done.



The group also discussed what we should do with the photo display boards after we are done with them in May. We needed to finalize pricing of them so that Sanford can share the information with the Twin Cities Area Council of Camera Clubs (TCACCC) group to see if their member clubs would be interested in buying any of the boards. Pricing of \$200 for all of them was discussed. Jean Davids sent a note to Sanford (cc'd Bob) with information on quantity, pricing, and more details related to the boards. Now Sanford has what he needs to pass along the line. Now we wait to hear back.

Anthony Hall presented our topic of Travel Photography. In addition he shared an excellent video he produced on his recent trip to Oman and Tanzania. As best I could, here are the highlights of his talk:

- Figure out the equipment you will need to take with you. He took a mini-tripod that would easily fit in his luggage, for instance.
- Make a shot list based on research of the area.
- Scout your location using google maps, travel documents and hard maps or any other info you can find. Use apps that show where sunrise and sunset would be best taken.
- Find out what time of day activities are to happen.
- To make your photos stand out, take photos from other angles and not all eye level.
- He advises hiring a guide or driver. Said this can be invaluable because they will be familiar with the area, their customs and their language.

- Learn how to say certain phrases in the language of the area you are visiting. It can go a long way to show that you cared enough to try to learn some. He especially says learn to say those like “please, thank you, and where’s the bathroom”.
- Try different compositions and pay attention to the edges of the image.
- Don’t practice with your gear on your trip. Do all that prior to your trip so that you know exactly where all the controls are. Initially, he had bought a smaller lighter camera to take with but in the end he brought his usual camera because he didn’t want to find himself wasting time hunting for the controls.
- He found the touch screen and articulating LCD screen on his camera extremely helpful. With the articulating screen, you can lift your camera overhead to shoot over crowds.
- Found a rain cover very useful to not only keep a camera dry but to keep in cleaner in dusty situation. It also made the camera harder for someone to steal.
- Also suggests that you have a good pad for your butt, your knees or whatever else needs it at any given time.
- Used microfiber cloth to wipe up dust/dampness. It can also be used to keep it cleaner in your case when on the move.
- Another helpful item he used rather than dragging a bag with him everywhere was a good lightweight cotton photo vest. Pack it ahead of time and know where you have your equipment at (which pockets) to make searching for items a quick job. It can also help with saving extra weight in your suitcase
- He found it was more important to get the right light before sunset and after sunrise than to actually get those sun events themselves.
- Said to bring snacks so you don’t go hungry.
- Advised getting your establishing shots first and then going for all the other shots.
- Do shots in both horizontal and vertical.
- Recommended a book by National Geographic called “Ultimate Field Guide to Travel Photography”, use of maps to mark where you were, GPS on your camera to also show where you were, and the itinerary provided by travel guides.

Steve Fowler presented the following information:

- 3/25/18 from 1-3 pm – Northern Exposures Photography Club (NEPC) will be hosting their annual “Pictures in Paradise”. Annually, they take over the Paradise Theater in Mora to present the best photos their members have produced for the year. Popcorn is furnished for this free event as well. I (Jean D) have attended in the past and they have some excellent photography to share on the ‘big screen’.
- He shared the 2018 schedule for the Marjorie McNeely Conservatory Artist, Photographer & Family Photo Hours (located at Como Park). Cost is \$5 per person. Bring your own camera and tripod. The North Garden and Sunken Garden will only be open for artists and photographers during these times:

| Day | Date (2018) | Time |
|------------|--------------------|--------------|
| Saturday | Mar 31 | 8-10 am |
| Sunday | Apr 8 | 8-10 am |
| Sunday | May 6 | 8-10 am |
| Sunday | Jun 24 | 6:30-8:30 am |
| Sunday | Jul 22 | 8-10 am |
| Sunday | Sep 16 | 8-10 am |
| Sunday | Oct 21 | 8-10 am |
| Sunday | Nov 18 | 8-10 am |
| Saturday | Dec 1 | 8-10 am |
| Saturday | Dec 8 | 8-10 am |
| Sunday | Dec 9 | 8-10 am |
| Sunday | Dec 16 | 8-10 am |

2018 Camera Club meeting dates and topics

March

No meeting - attend the 15th and FINAL Monticello Photo Show at its new location, the Best Western Conference Room in Monticello. The dates of the show are March 17th & 18th.

April 18

- Assignment: Travel Photography
- Topic: Lighting Techniques
- Photographer of the Month:

May 16

- Assignment: Photos using different lighting techniques
- Topic: Drone Rules and Regulation - presented by Matthew Breiter
- Photographer of the Month:

June 20

- Assignment: Springtime and/or Birds
- Topic: Art in Photography - Steve Fowler will share his Art Wolf video on the topic
- Photographer of the Month:

July 18

- Assignment:
- Topic:
- Photographer of the Month:

August 15

- Assignment:
- Topic:
- Photographer of the Month:

September 19

- Assignment:
- Topic:
- Photographer of the Month:

October 17

- Assignment:
- Topic:
- Photographer of the Month:

November 21

- Assignment:
- Topic:
- Photographer of the Month:

December 19

- Assignment:
- Topic:
- Photographer of the Month: