

Meeting Minutes

Date: April 18, 2018

By: Jean Davids, Secretary Monticello Camera Club

The meeting began shortly after 7 pm and was presided over by Steve Fowler. There were 16 members and 2 guests and our guest speaker (Wayne Mayer) in attendance for a total of 19 people.

We started the meeting with our speaker Wayne Mayer of Magic Moments Photography in Monticello. The topic was lighting but it had been left fairly open-ended. See notes below for details on his presentation.

The assignment for this month was Travel Photography. We had 8 people who shared their images for this assignment. Thank you all for your willingness to share your great photos.

Jean Davids discussed upcoming elections. She called for volunteers to be President. Heather Reinhart reluctantly stepped forward saying that she can only attend 7-8 meetings a year because of her schedule. Anthony Hall volunteered to help out with those meetings that she cannot attend so he is willing to act as a sub for her rather than having Jean have to do it. So, our club elected officers for 2018 into 2020 will be Heather Reinhart for President (replacing Steve Fowler and Anthony Hall acting as a sub for Heather as possible), Sherie Lockhart will be Treasurer (replaces Jerrie Ahrens) and Bob Somerville as Board Member at Large (replacing Arne Myrabo). All members will begin their service officially after the May meeting when they will be officially announced.

Bob Somerville provided an update on the Photo Show and our status with working with Sue Seeger, Art Consultant for Monticello. Bob and I will be picking up the photo displays from local businesses the first week of May. The boards and all photo show paraphernalia will be dropped off at the city designated location and officially become the property of Monticello. The photo show will probably live on in a very different format and may become a more local contest with the goal of winning photos being printed in the community guide. At least that is one possibility. Sue Seeger also mentioned that there will be a city "shimmer wall". It will be a 10 ft x 20 ft area where photos will be displayed in huge size. Should be interesting. Bob also mentioned that the Monticello Library is seeking help in featuring photography for one month which may include a display as well as tutorials that they hope the club will help present to patrons of the library. He will share more information as they get further along in their planning. They are looking at next spring, 2019, for this event.

Wayne Mayer on Lighting: (as best I could do taking notes)

He said, "Lighting is painting with light". He shoots mostly with the sun behind the subject giving them a hair light effect. He adds in a side light, a main light and a fill light. Tends to shoot portraits at 1/160th at F8.

He said that he primarily used High Speed Sync when he did wedding photography (doesn't do anymore) when the bride threw the bouquet.

When asked about LED lighting, he said this seems to be the trend and direction lighting is going. Previous lighting systems added a lot of heat to the area where LED lights stay cooler. Everyone is more comfortable without all the added heat of the lights. Can also use regular light bulbs as long as you white balance for them. If you do auto white balance, generally the color is off.

When doing custom white balance he said that the preference with Nikon and Canon digital cameras is to take a photo of a white card as opposed to a gray card (used previously for film). Also can fine tune white balance after you take a photo of a white card.

Uses gels on his lighting system when shooting on a gray background. Lemon Drop Backgrounds (local) can outdo what gels can do.

Sample packs of colored acetates are available that can be used on your flash head. This is a cheaper way to accomplish the gel look using a flash head.

Highly recommends using a light meter. A flash meter can read flash or ambient light whereas a ambient meter only reads ambient light and not flash.

Balanced lighting – balances the subject and background so they are all accurate colors.

Mentioned the Sunny 16 rule – F16, 1/400 exposure at 400 ISO.

Reflectors are good but tricky on angle especially if you only have one light.

Change only one thing at a time, test it until you have what you like.

Says that the image you see on the back of the screen isn't totally accurate to what you will see when shooting raw as it is translated already to a jpg file to view. Insists you must look at the histogram to really know how your photo will turn out.

Bare bulb for shooting in the shade gives even lighting but it must be positioned behind the camera or it will have a negative impact on the shot. A globe affixed to your flash head can also simulate this even lighting.

Wayne mentioned that he is looking for an additional shooter for a Little League shoot coming up around May 23-24th. He gave out his phone number for members to contact him for more information or to volunteer. The person selected will be paid to help out.

2018 Camera Club meeting dates and topics

May 16

- Pick up Photo Show Entries before meeting
- Assignment: Photos using different lighting techniques
- Topic: Annual Meeting
- Topic: Election Results
- Topic: Drone Rules and Regulation - presented by Matthew Breiter

June 20

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

July 18

- Assignment: Art in Photography
- Topic: Bob Somerville will give a quick presentation on how he did his photo “twirling” technique that won Creative Techniques in our photo show
- Topic: Christopher Cline - Freelance artist who will share his work that depicts a man (himself) and his very large dog Juji.

August 15

- Assignment: photography special effect using photo editing
- Topic: Group Q&A – bring in problem photos or questions and have a group discussion of solutions