

Meeting Minutes

Date: May 17, 2023

By: Heather Reinhart, President (*edited by Jean Davids to fit format*)

Thanks everyone for handling my duties (Jean Davids)!! Greatly appreciated.

Kevin Juliot collected dues at the meeting (\$12). We still have 3 unpaid members.

The assignment was “Share before and after of edited photos”. There were no images to share.

We also discussed upcoming meetings. I will present on Action Photos on September 20. Kevin will present on Camera Raw on October 18. No one stepped up to present on photos in the dark (July) or lens calibration (August).

For Photos in the dark, we thought maybe we could find some videos on the subject and could practice right in the meeting room with the lights low since it won't be dark outside at our meeting time. Another idea was to watch videos about it during the meeting time and then, soon after, do a club field trip in the evening on a different night to practice shooting at night. This needs further discussion.

The topic was Electronic Flash. Jason at National Camera presented. Here are Heather's notes.

Jason from National Camera Exchange presented on off-camera flash.

When to use a flash?

- Mirrorless cameras do not have a flash and you must use an external flash.
- An external flash provides a good mix of ambient light and subject light.
- Jason showed examples of photos with and without an external flash outdoors.
- The closer the flash is to the lens, the more likely you are to get red eye. Off camera flash helps with this.

TTL – Through The Lens. This is a setting on your camera and is the flash's automatic mode. It reads the light and works on camera and off.

- In TTL mode, the flash fires twice.
- Good for easy and quick exposure changes.
- Camera detects the exposure of the background and the subject for you.
- Flash exposure compensation makes the subject exposure brighter or darker.
- Camera exposure compensation makes the background exposure brighter or darker.
- The negative of TTL is that you can get variation between frames.

Manual flash mode – Best to balance subject and background.

- Same result with every picture, consistent.
- The negative of manual flash is that it requires more time and thought, and you may need more shots to get it right.

Geode Number = subject distance times f-stop.

- He only touched on this.
- Higher geode number = more flash power.

Exposure triangle:

- Without flash - Aperture, shutter speed, ISO
- With flash - Aperture, shutter speed, flash power

- For the most part, shutter speed has no effect on flash power.
- Shutter speed adjusts the brightness of your background.
- Flash speed adjusts the light on your subject.
- ISO/aperture is global (background and subject).

General recipe for full manual flash

- Shutter speed 1/125
- Aperture f-5.6
- ISO 400
- Flash power 1/8

Technique for TTL

- With flash off, find background exposure in Aperture Priority on camera.
- Set shutter speed, aperture and ISO from desired exposure in Manual mode on camera.
- Turn on flash and dial in flash exposure compensation to desired exposure of subject.
- Max shutter speed should be 1/250 for flash to work.

He spoke briefly on Inverse Square Law of Light and said there are a lot of good YouTube videos on the subject.

- This refers to the amount of power light has based on proximity – putting the light closer to or further away from your subject.

Off camera flash allows you to control your shadows better.

- Flash can be closer to the subject, allowing it to be more powerful.
- Better modify the light to achieve the proper look.

High-speed sync – He did not discuss this much, but made us aware that it existed.

Rear sync – this is what Jason uses all the time.

- Flash fires at the very end of the exposure just before the shutter closes.
- Preferable for long exposures.
- Subject is lit by ambient light during exposure, which may cause motion blur, then is frozen on top of the blur by the flash. (example of skateboarder on top of blur)

Front curtain sync

- Flash fires at the beginning of the exposure. (Example of race car behind the blur)

Accessories to consider

- Radio transmitter and receiver
- Light stand
- Sandbag
- Umbrella adapter
- Speed ring for softbox
- Flash modifiers = flash bender, umbrella, softbox, beauty dish
 - An umbrella or softbox spreads light out and diffuses it (making it softer light)
 - Beauty dish provides harder light, but it easier for outside use because it's more solid than an umbrella.

After the presentation, Jason did a live demonstration of taking photos with off-camera flash. He went over different settings and different placement of the flash/flashes in correlation to the subject.

ALSO – National Camera will be holding an “Education Week” from July 31-August 6. Details are coming soon.

Calendar for 2023

June 21

- Assignment: Flash photo
- Topic: Free editing programs – Keven Juliot will present on a number of freeware versions of photography editing programs

July 19

- Assignment: July as a topic (fireworks, picnics, camping, anything that represents July)
- Topic: Photos in the dark - bring camera and play

August 16

- Assignment:
- Topic: Lens calibration

September 20

- Assignment:
- Topic: Action Photos (date not firm)

October 18

- Assignment:
- Topic: Camera Raw (date not firm)

November 15

- Assignment:
- Topic:

December 20

- Assignment: Top photos of 2023
- Topic: Holiday party, open discussion