



## 3 December meeting to feature slide shows

The camera club has another busy and informative program lined up for its December meeting. The meeting starts at 9:15 sharp in Hall C.

Included are two member slide shows from Phyllis Steele and Marg Jackson. Fraser Campbell will then give us some hints on the use of flash.

We all know that the sun usually rises everyday and that it will probably come up in the east. John Williamson will show us how to scientifically know where and when it will come up and how to use it for light and shadow in photography.

The November assignment "Line Design" will also be featured in a slide show and discussion.

If time permits John Williamson will also demonstrate the effects of the "quick fix" feature in Photoshop Elements.

- 0915** – Opening slide show
- 0925** – Opening remarks
- 0930** – Slide shows from Phyllis Steele and Marg Jackson
- 1000** – Coffee
- 1015** – Camera feature – use of the flash
- 1030** – Marg's hints
- 1040** – Ephemera (predicting the sun)
- 1110** – Assignment (Line Design) slide show and discussion



"Wakefield train" by Michel Lanthier

## Submitting photos is simplified

Send them to  
[cameraclub@kanataseniors.ca](mailto:cameraclub@kanataseniors.ca)

The assignment for the month of November is "Line" and allows you to us your imagination. Your

submission will be used at the next meeting and be published in the website photo gallery. You must send photos to the above address no later than 30 November using the following naming format: e.g. **Elevator Door by John Smith.jpg**.

The photo should be at least 1MB in order for the photo to be projected clearly. If you need help renaming your photos or re-sizing them to meet these guidelines, please contact one of the mentors. or email me with your query.

Month	Assignment	To be shown	Deadline
<b>November</b>	<b>Line Design</b>	<b>3 December</b>	<b>30 November</b>
December	Holiday Lights and Decorations	7 January	4 January
January	Winter Activities	4 February	1 February
February	Windows – looking in – looking out	4 March	1 March



**Henry's Presentation.** At our October meeting Henry's Camera staffers Quinn and Steve provided the club with an overview of new cameras, bags and tripods. This photo was "stitched" from two photos in Photoshop Elements.

Visit our web  
page  
At

[www.kanataseniors.ca](http://www.kanataseniors.ca)

then select

**activities**

and then

**Camera Club**

## Erasing and formatting a memory card

Many digital camera owners don't understand the difference between erasing and formatting a memory card. Both methods of deleting images should be used.

Erasing can be done whenever desired, such as when your card is at full capacity and you need more space on the card. A memory card should be formatted several times a year, particularly if its performance seems sluggish. Format more often

### Erasing a memory card

When you erase a memory card, individual photos are deleted from their directories on the card. You can erase one image at a time, or erase all images. However, any images that have been designated as protected, won't be removed during the erasure process.

### Formatting a memory card

Formatting, on the other hand, deletes all images from a memory card, even the ones that may have been protected. It recreates the file system including new directories and folders where images are saved on the card.

Unlike erasing, formatting improves the overall performance of a card.

It's best to erase and format memory cards in a digital camera, not via a computer. If you plan to use a memory card that was previously used in another camera, particularly if it was made by a different manufacturer, format the card in the new camera before taking any shots.

Formatting and erasing a memory card is done through the main Menu. The functions are generally accessed in Playback mode, though they can be accessed in other modes on some cameras. Since the steps vary from camera to camera, check your manual for specific instructions.

.....From: <http://www.digicamhelp.com>



**"Fall 2010" by Marie Jacob**



**"Late Spring" by Sarah Trant**

## An easy way to resize your photos

In Windows XP there was a free add-on from Microsoft that made it very easy to reduce the resolution and thus the size of one or more image files. It was called "Image Resizer" and is still available on this web page:

<http://bit.ly/1WKmCs>

Sadly the original Windows XP version of Image Resizer isn't compatible with Vista or Windows 7 and Microsoft never released an update.

A new version, that is compatible with both Vista and Windows 7 has just been written by Brice Lambson and is available here:

<http://imageresizer.codeplex.com/>

It is used exactly like Microsoft's original. First select one or more image files then right click; select "Resize Pictures"; select the desired resolution and click "OK".

## Camera setting presentation is now on line

Our last meeting featured a very informative PowerPoint presentation from Fraser Campbell on the basic camera settings.

It included such Settings as Macro, Portrait, Landscape, Night etc.

This presentation can now be accessed from the Camera Club website under the "select a newsletter" pull down menu.

It is in pdf format so it can be read on any computer.

Thank you Fraser for putting this together.



## Marg's Hints and Tips

### Controlling the Elements.

There are many photographic methods you can use to organize the elements of the scene into an effective composition. Your approach to any specific method should be based on how the principle of visual dominance affects the intended theme. Photography requires you to make many decisions. Here are some of the critical ones.

....Choosing an appropriate subject, one that expresses your purpose most forcefully.

....Adjusting the camera position for the best angle on the subject.

...Selecting the camera-to-subject distance (if using zoom, how far do you want to zoom)

...Timing the moment of exposure to capture the scene or subject when it best expresses your purpose.

...Using the most appropriate film and filtration. (if using a polarizer to eliminate glare on water or foliage)

...Selecting an appropriate focal length. (this applies to DSLR where lenses can be changed)

...Planning the shooting session for the best light (early morning or late afternoon)

...Adjusting the camera position for the appropriate angle of light (do you want backlit, side light or light behind you)

...Select the degree of exposure (the duration of exposure is controlled by the shutter (fast for birds, slow for silky waterfalls)

...Choosing an aperture that produces the necessary depth of field (small F # for blurred background and larger F # for landscapes)

Choosing a shutter speed that controls motion (higher for birds in flight)

...Selecting the degree of exposure (the duration of exposure is controlled by the shutter)

These are all things to consider when doing photography. Just try to concentrate on one or two at a time. Eventually it will all fall in place.

# Tips for photographing Christmas lights

## Camera Support

You'll need a tripod.

If you don't have a tripod, you can use a bean bag set on a newspaper vending box, parked car.

## Tripping the Shutter

Pressing the shutter release with your finger may cause camera shake. Use a remote release or the camera self timer.

## Flash

Don't use your flash.

## Exposure

The automatic exposure system will be confused by the large areas of darkness in the scene. Your photographs will be overexposed. You have several alternatives.

### *Exposure Compensation*

There's a feature on your camera called exposure compensation. Look for a button with a +/- icon, or check your camera instruction manual.

Experiment with different amounts of over- and underexposure.

### *Manual Exposure*

You can use the manual exposure mode (M). Start with these settings if you're using a point-and-shoot camera, and bracket.

ISO 100	ISO 200	ISO 400
f/2 at 1/2 of a second	f/2 at 1/4th of a second	f/2 at 1/8th of a second

If you're using a DSLR, start with these settings, and bracket.

ISO 100	ISO 200	ISO 400
f/5.6 at 1/15 <sup>th</sup> of a second	f/5.6 at 1/30 <sup>th</sup> of a second	f/5.6 at 1/60 <sup>th</sup> of a second

## Focal Length

Often, there are Christmas lights close to the camera, and lights in the distance. You can blur the distant lights more by using a longer focal length. Zoom the lens, or press the telephoto side of the rocker switch. The amount of blur of distant objects

is controlled by the focal length, not by aperture and depth-of-field.

## ISO

ISO is a measure of how sensitive the camera sensor is to light. A low ISO number means that the sensor is less sensitive to light. Use an ISO between 100 to 400 to avoid getting noise.

## Histogram

If your camera can display histograms, check to make sure your photographs aren't overexposed, a vertical line on the right side of the histogram graph.

## Night Scene Mode

Your camera may have an exposure mode for night photography.

## Focus

If your camera has difficulty focusing, it's probably because the scene is too dark, or doesn't have enough contrast of tone or color. Do one of the following.

- Switch to manual focus.
- Point your camera at something in the same plane where you want the focus, that's brighter and contrasty. Press the shutter release halfway, and hold, to focus the camera. Then, while

still holding the shutter release halfway down, point the camera to where you want to frame the scene and press the shutter release down completely.

## Flashlight

Bring a flashlight so you can see your camera controls more easily.

## Batteries

If it's very cold, carry a spare battery in an inside pocket.

If the battery in the camera fails due to the cold, switch the batteries.

## Time of Day

The best time of day for night photography is right after sunset.

While the scene will look too bright to your eyes, the scene will start looking like night more quickly for your camera's "eye."

Wet sidewalks and streets will reflect the lights, adding interest to what will be large expanse of darkness.

## Avoid

Don't breath on your camera lens or view finder.

From <http://www.photokaboom.com>



"Caught in Flight" by James Wiper