Friday 7 January

Learn how to make slide shows with music and action

"White Santa" by Peter van Boeschoten

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

Our feature presentation will be about making slide shows from your photos. Glyn Jones will start with basic slide shows with no editing and then move on to slide shows with pan and zoom effects, and the selection and addition of music. Finally he will show how they can be transferred to a DVD for TV based viewing and easy sharing.

The rest of the meeting will show members photos from the holiday assignment and also the "best ever" individual photos. John Williamson will again offer a short tutorial with Photoshop Elements.

0915 – Opening slide show
0925 – Presentation on making slide shows and saving to DVD
1000 – Coffee
1015 – Best Ever Photos and discussion
1050 – Photoshop Elements –Using the Guided Edit
1110 – Assignment (Holiday Lights) slide show and discussion

"Best Photo Ever" at January meeting

The club executive is trying to encourage more participation from all members.

They have thus decided to have a "Best Photo Ever" show at the January meeting. The intent is that everyone goes through all of their photos and selects the one picture that they like the best. There is no restriction on subject or when the photo was taken. It could even be a photo from pre-digital days.

Photos should be submitted with the same naming format as our normal submissions (see page 3) and should include "Best Photo" in the subject line of the email. As usual submitted photos should be as large as possible and not be reduced.

The aim of this exercise is to get more participation from the members. It will also demonstrate that you do not need expensive or most modern equipment to take a great photograph.

We all have several photos that we are particularly proud of and thus this is your opportunity to select the single photo that in your opinion you like most of all – whatever the reason.

It is hoped that all members will participate and submit their <u>one</u> best photo.

The deadline for submissions is the same as for the "Holiday Lights and Decorations", Tuesday 4 January.

Don't let us down.

Month	Assignment	To be shown	Deadline
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

Flash was popular topic last month

‘Using flash’ was the topic of a presentation Fraser Campbell gave to the club in November.

His full presentation can be found on the Camera Club web page in the Newsletter drop down box.

Following are some of the key aspects of his presentation:

Fill Flash
- Probably best use of a "pop up" flash
- In bright sunlight it will soften harsh shadows
- In backlit situations front of subject is in shadow
- Will even the light out in patchy light situations
- May "over brighten" scene
- Can be useful to create highlights (catchlights) in a scene
- Can help even out differences in colour temperature.

Automatic Flash
- Generally used when camera set to fully automatic
- Can be quite harsh
- May cause "red eye"
- Limited reach……5 metres

Take Control
- Try using a setting that does not automatically use the flash
- Use a filter over your flash to soften it (a Kleenex will work)
- Set Red Eye control to "On"
- Use a remote flash to direct flash beam

"Lines -4" by Amy Lo

High speed memory cards improve capture

The higher the speed rating, the faster a digital camera writes images to a card, increasing shot-to-shot time, which means fewer missed shots.

However, every digital camera is designed to work at a *maximum* speed that can be determined by checking the specifications in your camera manual. Using a memory card that has a higher read-write capacity than the camera will *not* improve performance.

Besides fast write-time, high speed memory cards provide maximum performance when using a high-speed continuous (burst) mode and shooting high resolution videos.

The write speed is usually indicated either as MB per second (MBps), 'X' (as in 133X, where one 'X' corresponds to roughly 6.66 MBps), or as a 'Class' value – Class 2, Class 4, Class 6, where the number indicates the minimum guaranteed speed in MBps. Speed of the card is critical as the camera is ready for the next shot only when the data of the previous shot has been written on to the card.

The prices of high speed memory cards have dropped significantly the last few years.

Find Sun angles for anytime, anywhere with handy tool

John Williamson explained how you can find sun angles, sunrise, moon angles and phases and a whole lot of other interesting details using the Photographer's Ephemeris. It provides mapping for anywhere in the world.

An iPhone version is now available as well.

It is a handy tool even if you don't use it for photography.

Download (free) at http://photoephemeris.com/

"Bike Rack"" by Cheryl Wilson

How to submit your photographs

We want you to send in your pictures for the monthly assignments and also for inclusion in our gallery on the Club website. So how to do that and what are the "rules"

In no particular order of importance:
1. Shoot your pictures at the largest resolution that your camera is capable of producing.
2. Use an email program and "Attach" your image directly. Do not use your web based image sharing mechanism. They often produce small sized images and fuzzy picture results.
3. Send your images to cameraclub@kanataseniors.ca
4. If you want your pictures included on our Photo Gallery, you must include your name as part of the image name
Shot as:
IMG0912.jpg (straight out of the camera)
Renamed as:
Fall Colours by John Williamson.jpg
Only photos identified with a title and the name of the photographer will be forwarded to the webmaster for inclusion in the Gallery.
5. Processing of your image in Photoshop is allowed and encouraged.

Since we have 2 categories for January, send in your submissions separately for each and have your email subject line indicate either "Holiday" or "Best Photo".

Meeting handouts, hints, links, now on the web site

There is a new drop down menu box on the web site.

Bill Robertson has added a "**Meeting Resources**" section at the bottom of the page with a drop down box.

There is lots of good information to be found here from the meetings.

Visit our web page at
www.kanataseniors.ca
then select
Activites
and then
Camera Club

Marg's Hints and Tips

WHAT TO SHOOT AT SUNSET
Besides just shooting the sunset itself, another great subject to shoot at sunset is silhouettes.

There are two basic rules to shooting silhouettes (1) make sure the subject (or the object) you're silhouetting is easily recognizable. I see lots of silhouette snapshot where my first thought is, "What is that thing?" Keep the object simple, and it will work much better. (2) Position your subject directly in front of the setting sun, so the sun is covered and helps outline your silhouette, then expose for the sky (this will pretty much make certain that your subject will appear in a black silhouette).

Silhouette Tip:
Keep an eye on lens flare when shooting silhouettes because you're basically shooting into the sun. You will see lots of classic silhouettes where the sun is peeking around the subject just a tiny bit, and that's okay, if you like that effect, but make sure it doesn't reveal too much detail in your subject they should remain black.

The Recipe for getting this type of shot.
Characteristics of this type of shot: the classic sunset shot, but not shot in the classic snapshot way.
1: Use the widest wide-angle lens you've got
2: What makes this work is the fact that the horizon line isn't dead centre (and sadly, dead centre is where amateurs work so hard to get the horizon line). When shooting a shot like this, make your choice between these two: (a) you want to emphasize the beach, or (b) you want to emphasize the sky. In most cases, since you're shooting a sunset after all, make the sky the star of the show by putting the horizon line in the lower third of the frame. Now, most people shooting sunsets don't include the beach at all – they are attracted to the sun and the horizon, so their sunset shots are usually made up of just sea and sky, but by including a little bit of beach, it helps lead the eye and tell the story.
3: It doesn't much matter which shooting mode you use, because there is no important object to focus on – you pretty much want it all in focus, so you can use Program mode or Aperture Priority mode with your F stop set to anything from F8 to F16 and everything will look sharp from front to back.
4: I know I've beaten it to death, but if you're shooting in low light: it's tripod time.

Mentors are there to help at each meeting

Since its inception, the club has had education as its theme. As such a number of members have indicated that that would be willing to help others with specific or more general topics dealing with either their camera or photography in general.

This mentor group includes very knowledgeable photographers who are willing to answer your questions and work with you on a one to one basis.

They are available at 8.30 am before each meeting and during coffee break.

It would help if you bring your camera manual.

"Christmas Concert" by John Williamson

"What ISO is best for my pictures?"

Changing the ISO setting on your camera changes the sensitivity to light of the image sensor inside of it. The lower number that you select the less sensitive the sensor is to light (and conversely the higher the number the more sensitive it becomes).

This is useful when you're shooting in different lighting situations – particularly when there's low light and you might not be able to use a flash (you'd bump up your ISO setting in this case).

The only cost of increasing ISO is that as you do it you'll notice that the 'noise' or 'grain' in your shots also begins to increase.

You probably won't notice this graininess on your images when looking at them on the LCD on your camera – however when you get them back to your computer they'll become noticeable with higher ISO settings.

As a general rule you should choose the lowest ISO possible for smooth and grain-free shots.

6 Questions to Ask to Help Choose the Right ISO

Of course when photographing low light scenes there may be no other alternative so I'd suggest asking yourself some of the following questions when choosing what to set ISO at:

- **Am I hand holding the camera**
- **Is my subject moving?** .
- **Do I need a big Depth of Field?** .
- **Can I use some Artificial Light?** .
- **Can I get away with Grain?** .
- **How big will the image be enlarged?**

Keep in mind that it's only when you shoot in a manual or semi-manual mode that you need to change ISO. When you're in auto mode or one of your camera's preset modes it will select the lowest one that it can for you.

Read more: http://www.digital-photography-school.com/how-to-choose-the-right-iso-for-your-digital-photography#ixzz18VvrJIgI

The Digital photography School website has a lot of free information for both the beginner and the more advanced photographer.

"Line Design 2" by Phyllis Steele