



Meeting starts at 9:15 in Hall B

Birding legend to present at 13 April meeting



"Lake in Winter" by Ken Wilson

Slide show and assignment photo deadline is Easter weekend

Due to the Easter weekend delaying our meeting to 13 April, you have an extra week to get your photos in for the slide show and gallery. The subject is "open". Thus you can submit any photo taken during the past 3 months on any topic.

The assignment for May is "Spring". You can start now, as there should be lots of opportunities to get outside and take some spring photographs.

Spring activities, flowers, birds and almost everything green are prime possible subjects. If you have

packed your camera away for the winter now is the time to get outside and experiment, explore and expose some photos.

Many of our recent submission have been from the same members. We hope that we will see some entries from our newer members. There is no need for a fancy camera, just get out there and shoot. The shutterBUG will make every effort to include your photo in print.

Submissions are due by Sunday 8 April so we can show them that Friday at our meeting.

Submission details are on page 3.

The camera club is delighted to be able to have Tony Beck speak to us at our April meeting.

Mr. Beck is renowned for his bird and nature photographs. An Ottawa native his award winning work appears in many books, websites, newspapers, magazines & calendars.

He teaches Birdwatching and Nature Photography courses both independently and through a variety of institutions. An enthusiastic and skilled Naturalist-Tour-Guide, he regularly leads groups to exciting destinations all across North America, the Tropical Pacific, Africa, Neotropical America and Polar Regions.

He is a friend and regular contributor to Elizabeth Le Geyt's *Ottawa Citizen* bird column.

Mr Beck has had his photos published in more than 20 magazines including *Time* and *Canadian Geographic*. He has also contributed photographs to more than 15 books on birds.

This is a wonderful opportunity for members of the Seniors Centre to hear and see Mr. Beck's over 30 years of experience with birds and with photography.

The meeting starts promptly at 9:15 with a slide show of members photos and Mr. Beck will commence his presentation immediately afterward. It should be not only entertaining but also informative.



Tony Beck

Month	Assignment	Deadline	To be shown
March	Open	8 April	13 April
April	Spring	29 April	4 May
May	Look up/down	27 May	1 June

The “Golden Hour” in photography

If there's one thing that can make or break a photograph more than any other, it's lighting. You might have the most incredible landscape or stunning portrait model, but without the right quality of light you can still be left with a flat, dull, and uninspiring photo.

This is particularly true in outdoor photography - it can often be difficult or impossible to use artificial lighting to illuminate your subject, so you're completely reliant on the natural light.

As a result, it's critical to find the right time of day to shoot your outdoor scene.

Thankfully, professional and amateur photographers have been thinking about this problem since the invention of the first camera, and have found the perfect solution - the so-called "golden hour".

What is the Golden Hour?

The golden hour, sometimes called the "magic hour", is roughly the first hour of light after sunrise, and the last hour of light before sunset, although the exact duration varies between seasons. During these times the sun is low in the sky, producing a soft, diffused light which is much more flattering than the harsh midday sun that so many of us are used to shooting in.

This type of light produces less contrast, reducing the chances of losing parts of your subject in strong shadows or blown-out highlights. The warm glow adds a pleasing feel to the scene, and the long shadows help to pick out details, adding texture and depth to the image.

As an added benefit, there are generally fewer people around at dawn and dusk than there are at other times of the day, giving you a chance to capture your images in relative peace.

When to Use It

The golden hour rule can be applied to any type of outdoor photography. As well as the more obvious subjects such as landscapes and city scenes, it also works well for outdoor portraits, shots of flowers and plants, and even certain types of still life such as cars.

Professional photographers swear by this rule, and many follow it so rigidly that they even go as far as refusing to shoot outdoors at any other time of the day. You don't need to be quite so strict, but bear in mind that these guys are called experts for a reason, and their advice is usually worth following.

(One of many tips in:
www.photographymad.com)



“Winter River” by Anne Jones



“Winter Wonderland” by Fraser Campbell



“Winter Log Pile” by Phyllis Steele

For portrait touch-ups

Whiting teeth is easy and effective

After the eyes, teeth are what viewers are most drawn to when looking at portraits of people. For the best possible presentation, you might want to brighten them up a bit.

There's no one-click tool to whiten teeth, but it's not hard to do with the tools found in most photo editors. In Photoshop Elements, zoom in on the teeth and then choose the Sponge tool (which you can find in the cubby just above the color tool at the bottom of the toolbar).

In the Tool Options palette at the top of the screen, set the size of the Sponge so that you can paint on individual teeth easily. Also, make

sure that the Mode is set to sure that the Mode is set to Desaturate. Now look for the yellow parts of each tooth and use the sponge to paint it. You should see the tooth turn a bit gray. To whiten the gray teeth, go back to the cubby where you found the Sponge and select the Dodge tool. Set the Range to Midtones and make sure the Exposure is about 10 percent. Now just paint the Dodge tool over the teeth to change the gray to white. (For more detailed instructions, read "[Whiten the Teeth in Your Portraits](#)".)

From David Johnson, PC World
at <http://bit.ly/H68bVn>

How to submit your assignment photos

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"

1. Shoot your pictures at the largest resolution possible.
2. Use an email program and "Attach" your image directly.
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. e.g.

Shot as: **IMG0912.jpg** (straight out of

the camera)

Renamed as: **Snowdrifts 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.

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

Marg's Hints and Tips

HOW TO BE READY FOR "THE SHOT".

When you're shooting city or travel photography, you're looking for "the shot". So how do you stay ready to catch a photo that just appears on the scene? You shoot in a mode that lets you concentrate on one thing – getting the shot. When you are walking the city streets, you shoot in program mode. Although this goes against all sacred rules of photography, except the one that says getting the shot is more important than the mode you shoot it in. So, switch the digital camera's mode dial to program mode (which sets both the aperture and shutter speed for you, without popping up the annoying on-camera flash every 2 seconds like the auto mode does) and get the shot. Now, if you get to a scene that isn't changing for a few minutes, you can always switch back to aperture priority (or manual) mode and take creative control of your shot, but for quickly getting the shot as you roam through the city, there's no more practical mode than program mode.

IS IT BETTER TO UNDEREXPOSE OR OVEREXPOSE?

There some theories bouncing around a few of the photography forums on the Web that claim that you should underexpose by a stop for digital photography. First off, let me say this: your goal is to get the proper exposure. That's our goal. Always, but if that is not possible, if given a choice between overexposing (a photo that's a bit too light), and underexposing (a photo that's a bit too dark), go for overexposing – you will get less noise. That's because noise is most prevalent in the shadows, and if you have to lighten an underexposed photo in Photoshop, you are lightening (increasing) the noise in the photo. So if you'd rather have one or the other - overexpose (but again, our goal is to do neither). That's why we bought these fancy cameras with their highly advanced metering systems.

Note: You want to spend your Photoshop time being creative and having fun, not fixing things you should have done correctly in the camera.



"Watson's Mill" By Doug Brittain

Mentors are there to help at meetings

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

This mentor group includes very knowledgeable photographers who are willing to answer your questions.

They are available at 8.30 a.m. before each meeting and during coffee break. Whether it's a problem with your camera, a question on technique or one to do with editing software there is someone there who can help you. The mentors are also willing to assist you at home or by telephone if you have a question or problem.

It would help if you could bring your camera manual.

Meetings have four tables

At our meetings we have up to four tables set up. One is set up for registration and info items. We also have a table where those who want to bring in their prints for display.

The mentors also usually have a table which they call "the Help Desk".

Finally we have a table for those who want to sell, trade or give away equipment or magazines which they no longer need.

Do check off your name on the Registration table. It gives us a count and also ensures that we have your name and email address correctly.



"Deer feeding on sunflower seeds" by Amy Lo



"Icy pine branch" by Louise Robert



"Reflective" by Marg Jackman



"Boy sledding" by Sue Carey

All the photos in this edition are from the "Winter" assignment theme.