



Friday 4 January

Members' photos rule the day

The 4th of January meeting features members photos in more ways than one. As usual we start at 9:15 sharp.

The meeting will highlight a popular activity from last year. Members are asked to bring in up to three of their recent photos. The club will then break up into groups and discuss the photos. Some will command "oohs" and "ahs" while others will have aspects from which we can all learn.

The prints should be as large as possible so that a good discussion can take place. Ideally the discussion should focus on how a good photo can be turned into a great photo.

Each group will then select a number of photos which the whole

club will then view on the screen and discuss.

In order to show these photos on the screen members should also bring them in digital format on an otherwise empty memory stick.

To start the meeting we will have a slide show of the assignment photos "Children". Ken will go over some recent initiatives and outline our thoughts for a shoot-out in February. Marg will continue her series of Hints and Tips.

This is our first meeting of the year so it is a good opportunity to bring in your photos.

The mentors will be there at 8:30 to answer any of your camera questions.



"Covered Bridge Wakefield" by Frank Bohm

Month	Assignment	Deadline	To be shown
Dec.	Children/Open	30 Dec.	4 Jan.
Jan.	Interesting Shapes /Open	27 Jan.	1 Feb.
Feb.	Open	27 Feb.	1 Mar.



"Look no hands"
by Dawn Bennett

New submission policy for sending in monthly photos

As John Williamson outlined at the last meeting we are getting so many photos that the end of meeting review is taking too long.

In the future all submitted photos will be in the opening slide show and also be included in the web page photo gallery. However, only one photo will be included for the end of meeting member review. To make that happen, you must indicate in the body of your email submission the photo you wish to have included in the end of meeting slide show/discussion.

Remember you can only send in 3 photos. This month's topic is "Children" so there is lots of opportunity to send in photos of the kids and grandkids particularly with Halloween and Christmas just behind us. There is also always an "open" category every month.

SUBMITTING YOUR PHOTOS

1. Shoot your pictures at the largest resolution possible.
2. Use an email program and "Attach" your images 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. Rename it. e.g. **Snowdrift by Joe Green.jpg**
5. In the body of your email indicate the photo you want in the final slideshow.

Check out these free photo editing options

If you didn't get Adobe Photoshop Elements or Corel Paint Shop Pro for Christmas you might want to try one of these free alternatives

Photoshop Express

<http://www.photoshop.com/tools/expresseditor>

Photoshop Express, the online version of Adobe's familiar Photoshop Elements, feels polished, like a commercial program. You get all the basics—crop, rotate, red-eye removal, and exposure correction, for example.

GIMP

<http://www.gimp.org>

GIMP has tools used for image retouching and editing, free-form drawing, resizing, cropping, photo-montages, converting between different image formats, and more specialised tasks. Animated images such as GIF and MPEG files can be created using an animation plug-in.

Paint.Net

<http://www.getpaint.net>

Paint.NET is free image and photo editing software for computers that run Windows. It features an intuitive and innovative user interface with support for layers, unlimited undo, special effects, and a wide variety of useful and powerful tools. An active and growing online community provides friendly help, tutorials, and plug-ins.

FastStone Image Viewer

<http://www.faststone.org>

It has a nice array of features such as image viewing, management, comparison, red-eye removal, emailing, resizing, cropping, color adjustments, musical slideshow and much more.

IrfanView

www.irfanview.com

IrfanView is a freeware/shareware image viewer for Microsoft Windows that can view, edit, and convert image files and play video/audio files. It is noted for its small size, speed, ease of use, and ability to handle a wide variety of graphic file formats, and has some image creation and painting capabilities.

FotoFlexer

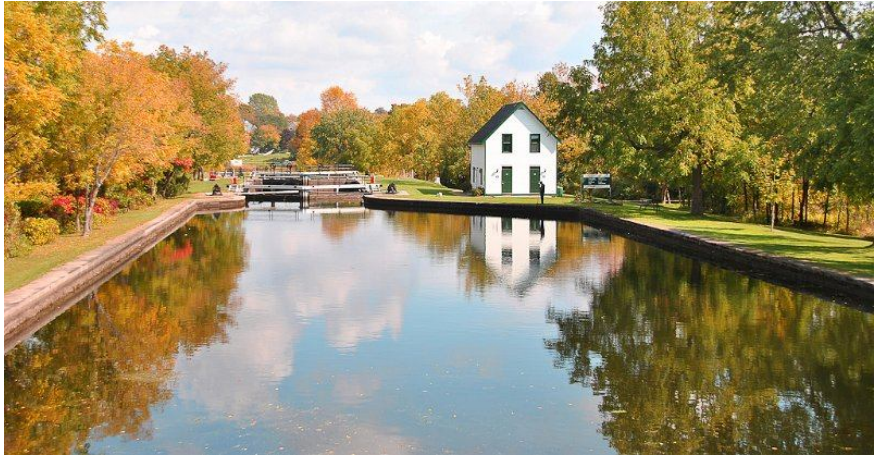
<http://fotoflexer.com>

The FotoFlexer photo editor lives entirely within a Web page—you have nothing to download or install—yet its power rivals that of commercial programs. In addition to simple tools to tweak your photos, such as a one-click Auto Fix button, red-eye correction, cropping, and exposure controls.

Windows Live Photo Gallery

<http://bit.ly/aYKjbc>

This is a free program you can download as part of [Windows Live Essentials](#), or on its own. Photo Gallery combines a photo organizer—with all the essential photo editing tools, like cropping, color adjustments, exposure tools, and noise reduction.



"Merrickville" by Cheryl Wilson



"Lost in the Leaves" by Alice Guenther



"Mill of Kintail" by Dan Barnaby



"Jocko's Beach" by Paul Lamoureux

Many reasons to visit our web site

The photo club web site is a trove of information. With a pull down menu you can access all the old newsletters.

In addition with another pull down menu you can view 20 galleries of members' photos of assignments and shootouts. As each new assignment is concluded it will be added to the gallery.

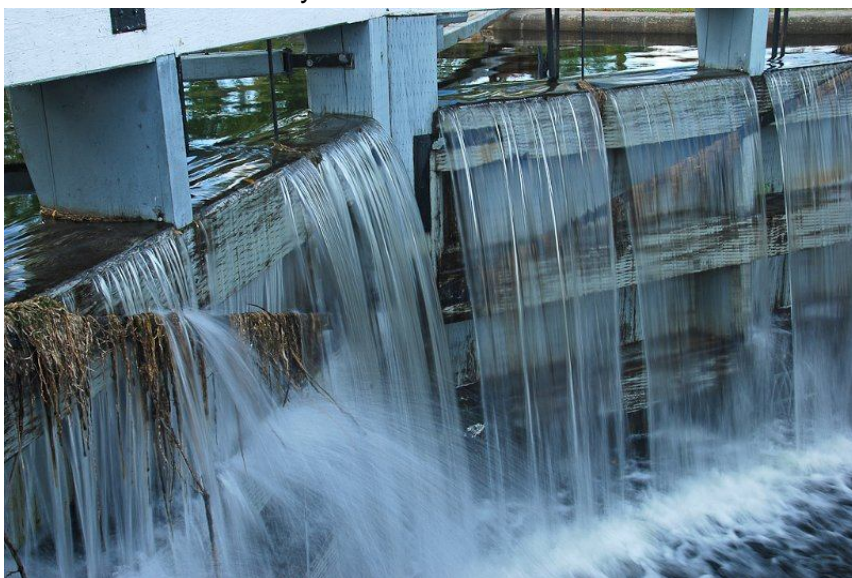
Once in the gallery you need only click on the thumbnail image to see it larger. This also brings up details such as the ISO, exposure, etc.

Finally a third pull down menu brings up past meeting resources such as presentations, links, etc. John Williamson's presentation on **"Painter Essentials"** from the December meeting can be found here.

There is also a section which explains how photos should be submitted.

One of the most useful areas is at the bottom under "Useful Links PDF". This feature is a gold mine of tips, articles, stores, pod casts and much more. There is also a link to our mentor list and their particulars.

The website is easily accessible from the www.kanataseniors.ca site and then it is just a matter of clicking on Activities followed by Camera Club.



"Canal gates at Merrickville" by Ken Wilson

Marg's Hints and Tips

We are continuing this Photo Workshop, which started with Workout 1: Light Awareness, then Workout 2, Edge Mania.

WORKOUT 3: FOLLOW THE BOUNCING FOCAL LENGTH

Zoom lenses are the most common type of lens photographers use today. There's certainly good reason for that: the ability to change focal length as needed makes it much easier to capture exactly what you want from a scene. You can get a wider view when the scene demands it, or you can zoom in to capture a detail as needed,

Focal lengths can do a lot more. They can change a perspective, alter the mood and expand your picture-taking responsibilities beyond wide or narrow views of a scene. This exercise will push you to find new ways of working with your lenses.

EXERCISE: Zoom the zoom lens.

WHAT YOU NEED: A camera and a zoom lens. Do this exercise in any convenient setting.

WHAT TO DO: For this exercise, you're constantly moving your zoom from its widest to its most telephoto positions.

Start out taking a picture with your zoom at its widest position. Find a compelling picture that seems to work with that wide setting. Keep it at the wide setting and move toward or away from your subject until you get the picture you want.



Next, zoom your lens all the way to its maximum focal length and find a new picture.

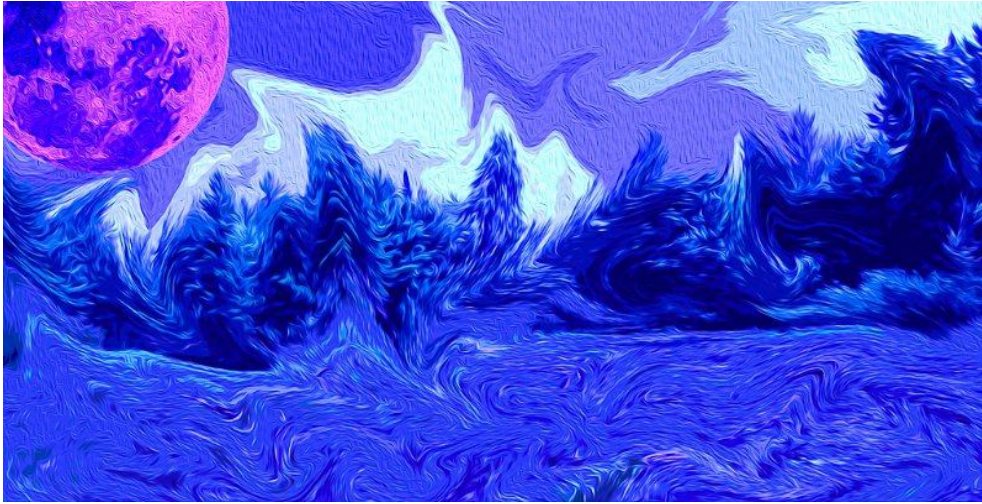
Once again, change your position relative to the subject rather than changing your focal length. This can be interesting to try with the same subject that you shot with the wide zoom setting, or just look for something completely different that seems appropriate to the zoomed-in focal length.



Continue to shoot at least 20 to 30 photographs where you alternate from wide-angle to telephoto perspectives for each photograph. Your picture sequence will be wide, telephoto, wide, telephoto and so on.

REVIEW: This is an amazing exercise. It's challenging because it forces you to look more at photographs based on focal length, rather than simply using a zoom to frame a subject.

Compare how the wide-angle settings change the look and feel of the photographs to the results of the more telephoto settings used when you zoomed in. You'll learn a lot about how your focal length can affect both subject and a scene.



“Enchanted Forest” by Horst Stiebert

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 am before each meeting and during coffee break. The mentors are also willing to help you at home or by telephone if you have a question or problem.

It would help if you could bring your camera manual.

Setting the ISO may improve your photos

by [Darren Rowse](#)

In Digital Photography ISO measures the sensitivity of the image sensor. The same principles apply as in film photography – the lower the number the less sensitive your camera is to light and the finer the grain. Higher ISO settings are generally used in darker situations to get faster shutter speeds (for example an indoor sports event when you want to freeze the action in lower light) – however the cost is noisier shots. 100 ISO is generally accepted as ‘normal’ and will give you lovely crisp shots (little noise/grain).

Most people tend to keep their digital cameras in ‘Auto Mode’ where the camera selects the appropriate ISO setting depending upon the conditions you’re shooting in (it will try to keep it as low as possible) but most cameras also give you the opportunity to select your own ISO.

When you do override your camera and choose a specific ISO you’ll notice that it impacts the aperture and shutter speed needed for a well exposed shot. For example – if you bumped your ISO up from 100 to 400 you’ll notice that you can shoot at higher shutter speeds and/or smaller apertures.

When choosing the ISO setting I generally ask myself the following four questions:

1. **Light** – Is the subject well lit?
2. **Grain** – Do I want a grainy shot or one without noise?
3. **Tripod** – Am I using a tripod?
4. **Moving Subject** – Is my subject moving or stationary?

If there is plenty of light, I want little grain, I’m using a tripod and my subject is stationary I will generally use a pretty low ISO rating. However if it’s dark, I purposely want grain, don’t have a tripod and/or my subject

is moving I might consider increasing the ISO as it will enable me to shoot with a faster shutter speed and still expose the shot well. Of course the trade off of this increase in ISO will be noisier shots.

Situations where you might need to push ISO to higher settings include:

- **Indoor Sports Events** – where your subject is moving fast
- **Concerts** – also low in light and often ‘no-flash’ zones
- **Art Galleries, Churches** etc- many galleries have rules against using a flash
- **Birthday Parties** – blowing out the candles in a dark room

ISO is an important aspect of digital photography to have an understanding of if you want to gain more control of your digital camera. Experiment with different settings and how they impact your images today.

From: <http://digital-photography-school.com/iso-settings#ixzz2Fjyyq2FG>



“Blue Jay on Log” by Fraser Campbell



“Effes kitten sunbathing in the sun” by Amy Lo