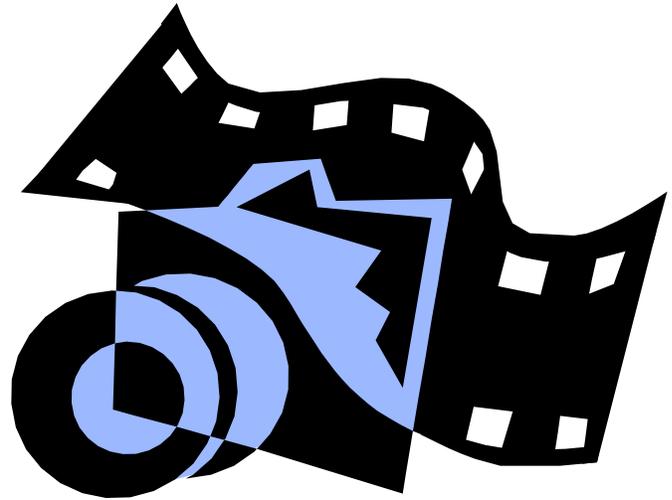


Olympia Camera Club Shutterbug Times

www.olympiacameraclub.com
Celebrating 70 years of photography



March Issue
Volume 70, Issue 3

*March General Meeting
Refreshments
Shelia Fraser*

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March General Meeting Pet Photography

by Frank Townsend

Are your photos of Fluffy or Phydeaux everything you want them to be or are they simply snapshots with a lot of green eye or big nose? This month we are fortunate to have Alan Niles of Cascade Photographic tell us how to improve on our Pet Portraits. Alan has made his living as a photographer since 1986. He holds the Fellow of Photography degree from the Professional Photographers of Washington. He has taught many seminars to other professionals from around the Northwest. Alan has been honored with merits and trophies in state and national photographic competitions as well. His career has taken him all around the country photographing hundreds of weddings, thousands of

high-school seniors, families, and pets. He has been commissioned by corporations such as Hasbro, Whirlpool, The U.S. Navy and others. Alan's greatest gift is his ability to find beauty in his subjects and environment, in difficult cases as well as spectacular ones, under pressure, or in adverse conditions.

As one who has attended a one evening course in his studio, I can personally attest to Alan's professionalism and his art. If he can make this old man look good he can do anything. Join us Monday, March 28 at Roosevelt Elementary to pick up some pointers on taking better pet pictures. Also I am looking for one or two volunteers to bring their dog (or very well behaved cat) to the meeting as a model. Give me a call if you are interested.

OCC Judges F 67

by Frank Townsend

On February 21 three members of the Olympia Camera Club devoted a major part of their President's Day Holiday judging the F 67 Camera Club of Bremerton's annual Salon. Donna Butler and Bonnie & Terry Liberty judged 65 prints in 11 categories ranging from General to Portrait, Landscape to Architecture, Travel to Still Life

(well, you get the idea). The three not only had the formidable task of picking first, second, third, and honorable mention in each category they also chose best color, best black and white, best of show and several special categories. While this is an annual event for the Bremerton Club, this is the first year our club has been asked to judge, an Idaho club has had the pleasure for the last several years.

Presidents Corner

By Dave Simmerman

Will March come in like a lamb or a lion? Personally, I am hoping for a lamb, but you never can tell with this Pacific Northwest weather. Besides, it's my youngest daughters' birthday (*who will be four*) and mine (*not telling*).

In my last article, I talked about "Identity" and this article will follow the same genre. To put it simply, I guess I am trying to find the club's best interest and discover my identity at the same time. I'd like to think of myself as a starter of good things and visionary. I never realized how much I thought about the art of photography and what I could do to enhance the lives of those who cherished the "Stage of Light." The Olympia Camera Club has helped me achieve or rekindle some of those thoughts or dreams I have.

The camera club, as you know, has been around for seventy years and we, as members, carry on the dreams of our fore-fathers. I guess my question is "Who will carry on our legacy?" Well believe it or not, it will be our children and their children's children! So, I am thinking about starting a Youth Services program for the club.

The Youth Services program would teach our young people (ages 10-18) about basic photography.

They would learn about composition, lighting, f-stops, exposure, and other basic information. It would not matter what medium they choose to use. It will be all about capturing the light and the best way to do it. I would propose a special membership price just for students. The Youth Services chair would coordinate with the local schools and let them know all about our Youth Services program and facilitate with the membership for volunteers. Members from the club would be the teachers and supply subjects about basic photography. We as a club have a wealth of information among the members and our youth would benefit from it. The group would meet once a month, on an evening, for a couple hours and learn photography by doing concept. They would bring their own gear and our members will show them how to use it to the best of its ability. The course pace would be slow, so that everyone understands and gets the concept.

Well, this is just an overview and I would encourage any feedback.

*Keep the Photographic Spirit in
your Heart and the Camera to your Eye!*

Dave Simmerman

Member Spotlight : Ernie Brooks.

OCC: How did you get started in photography?

EB: I followed in the footsteps of both my grandmother and my father, who was a professional photographer and traveled the world for Burpee Seed Company. In 1945 he founded the Brooks Institute of Photography in Santa Barbara.

OCC: How long have you been a photographer?

EB: I took my first picture when I was in kindergarten. It was a picture of the entire class and the teacher standing in front of a slide. I sold 15 prints from that negative! By the time I was a teenager my fingernails had turned brown from working in the darkroom with my dad. I've always had a love of art and design and really wanted to become an automobile designer. After 5 years in the Airforce, both aerial mapping and piloting, I decided to become a professional photographer and enrolled in my dad's school.

OCC: How did you first hear of OCC?

EB: How long have you been a member? I first heard of it through my friend, Sally and have been a member for just over a year.

OCC: Is there a photographer you admire?

EB: Many. But I have been fortunate enough to have been mentored by some great men. Boris Dobro, for one. Armando Salas is another. Ernst Hass and I've collected Ansel Adams, Steichen and Stieglitz. Why? Because of the way they look critically at light and composition. I really

can't relate to some of the photographic styles I see today. They're too "off the wall" which they call "creative".

OCC: Have you had any photographs published? Tell me about the experience?

EB: Since I have been a professional photographer the answer to that question is obvious. Many times. The most memorable, of course is usually the first time. It was a photograph I did for an assignment, of marigolds (coincidentally it was for Burpee Seeds). I submitted it to the L.A. County Fair and it received Best of Show and eventually wound up in the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

OCC: What is your favorite subject to photograph?

EB: The underwater realm soon became my favorite arena and my favorite subjects are marine mammals. Since I spent most of my time in the waters around Santa Barbara, Harbor seals soon became my favorites as they are playful and inquisitive. I fancied that one in particular came to know me. There's a cute story that I'll relate at the meeting.

OCC: Tell me about something odd you have photographed?

EB: The Shroud of Turin, the purported death cloth of Christ, in 1978. And 3 days prior to this assignment for National Geographic, I was submerged in Subiglool beneath the North Pole.

OCC: Tell me about your favorite photograph?

EB: I'm still looking for it.

(Continued on page 4)

March 2005						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
Feb 27	Feb 28	1	2 5:30 pm Business Meet- ing	3	4	5
6	7 7:00 pm Appreciation Group	8 6:00 pm Digi- tal Imaging Group	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17 	18 Newsletter Articles Due	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28 6:30 General Meeting	29	30	31	Apr 1	Apr 2
Apr 3	Apr 4 7:00 pm Appreciation Group	Apr 5	Apr 6 5:30 pm Business Meet- ing	Apr 7	Apr 8	Apr 9

The Bridges of Lane County: A Journey

by: Kathy Morris

I hope you are planning to join me when I travel to Cottage Grove, Oregon, on my second trip to some of the covered bridges in and around Lane County, Oregon. This trip will commence at 7:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 16, 2005, and we will return to Olympia sometime in the late afternoon or early evening on Sunday, April 17, 2005. It's about a four hour drive to Cottage Grove. I will be staying at the Comfort Inn, located in central Cottage Grove. Rooms are very reasonably priced, the hotel hot tub will be open for relaxation after a long day of shooting, and a full complimentary breakfast (including biscuits and gravy) is served from 6:00 – 9:00 a.m. on Sunday. If you would prefer to stay at a different lodging, go to www.stateoforegon.com, click on "Travel Oregon," then "Lodging," and follow the links to "Cottage Grove." A total of thirteen lodging facilities are listed there, including some B & Bs.

While there are twenty covered bridges in Lane County, some, I feel, are more photographically interesting than others. The bridges I would like to visit are: Goodpasture, "Lane County's most visible and probably most photographed covered bridge"; Currin, Chambers, Mosby Creek & Dorena (all in very close proximity to Cottage Grove); Pengra, "a photographer's delight"; Lowell, "the widest covered bridge in Lane County";

Deadwood, another "photographer's delight"; and Lake Creek, located in a "very photographable rural setting." To learn more about these, and other further flung bridges, go to www.lanecounty.org/About/default.htm or, from www.lanecounty.org, click on these links: "About Lane County" and "Guide to Covered Bridges." There you will find images and descriptions of the bridges as well as driving instructions.

I would like to pre-arrange carpools, so please let me know if you are even considering going, if you would prefer to drive or be a passenger and/or if you plan to drive separately and meet us down there. The purpose of pre-arranging carpools is so we can, hopefully, meet at a member's house and avoid leaving our vehicles in the Cooper Point Safeway's parking lot for anywhere from 32 to 35 hours on the weekend. I can be reached at 360-943-3934 or via e-mail, klmorris@comcast.net.

The day I spent photographing the bridges of Lane County (and I went to only those in close proximity to Cottage Grove) was one of my best days of 2004. So, I hope you will join me when I attempt to expand my range and capture the magic again.

Digital Imaging Group

March 8 Meeting Agenda

The March Digital Imaging Group (DIG) meeting will be devoted to two main topics:

1. The Third Personal View Project (All, 35 Min.)

Members will present their photos for the third Personal View project. For more details on the project see the DIG article in the January newsletter.

2. The Digital Slide Show of the Olympia Ethnic Celebration Photo Shoot (All, 60 Min.)

Nine OCC shooters participated in the photo shoot at the Ethnic Celebration. We will use member photos to select candidate images and prepare the rough layout for a DIG-sponsored digital slideshow that will be presented at an OCC general meeting this spring. We will also use this session as a refresher on how to use the slideshow software. Here are the details:

- Using the slideshow software
- Reviewing images and demonstrating software features
- Collectively choosing images and doing the rough layout for the slideshow
- Determining what needs to be done to finalize the slideshow and making individual assignments
- Setting agenda for April DIG meeting to complete slideshow
- Reviewing workflow for preparing images for presentation (see article below)

If time permits we will add a third topic to the agenda:

3. Intermediate Photoshop/Elements: Image Construction (De La Cruz, 25 Min.)

In this session Jeff will show how he constructs a single image from multiple images.

PREPARING IMAGES FOR PRESENTATION AT DIG MEETINGS

Large files take a very long time to load into the computer. This wastes time in the meetings and disrupts the flow of presentation. Also, there are optimum image sizes to use with the digital slideshow software that produce the best looking and fastest loading images. Please follow these general guidelines in the future. We will be covering this topic at the March meeting, so if you have questions, please bring them to the meeting.

At a minimum, all image files should be 8 bit JPEG and compressed at a Quality Level between 8 and 10. RAW files and 16 bit files should not be used.

For best results, especially when images will be presented using the slideshow software, follow the instructions below. If you are not ready to do this or don't want to take the time to do extra work on images that you are not sure will end up in the slideshow, just save your image as a JPEG file at a Quality Level between 8 and 10. This will reduce the time it takes to transfer files. However, all images will need to be downsampled as described below for the final show. We will go over the workflow at the March DIG meeting.

The maximum size of the slideshow images as they are presented is controlled by the slideshow software and the resolution of the monitor/projector. This means that we can set the maximum display size in the software to 800X600 and images larger than this will be downsampled automatically. Images smaller than 800X600 will be upsampled, which is not a good thing. If we don't set a maximum display size in the software, images will be displayed at the default display area setting of the monitor/projector. This can be a problem if the display area is larger than the image size, e.g. display area is 800X600 and the image is 640x480. In this case the image will be upsampled (bad).

HERE IS THE WORKFLOW:

1. Do all image correction and manipulation with a RAW, PSD or TIFF image but don't sharpen the image. Convert the file to sRGB before working on it if it is not already in that colorspace.

2. Save the image as a master in PSD or TIFF format.

3. Rename the image, convert to 8 bits if necessary and flatten it.

4. Resample the image so that the largest dimension of the image is either 800 wide or 600 high. In no case should the largest dimension be less than 800 or 600. For example, for an image with a width of 1920 and a height of 2560, height is the largest dimension. Change the height to 600 and Photoshop will automatically change the width to 450. Be sure that the Constrain Proportions and Resample Image boxes are checked.

5. Sharpen the image after resampling. Save this image as your downsampled master in PSD or TIFF format.

6. Open the downsampled master and save the image under a different name as a JPEG at a Quality Level between 8 and 10.

NEW CANON DIGITAL REBEL ANNOUNCED

The spectacularly successful Nikon D70 Digital Single Lens Reflex (DSLR) camera may be facing some serious competition from the just announced sub-\$1,000, eight-megapixel EOS 350D DSLR. For more information go to this link: <http://www.dpreview.com/articles/canoneos350d/>

As always, I urge you to wait for the reviews of the production camera before making a purchasing decision.

NEW YORK TIMES ARTICLE ON 8-MEGAPIXEL CAMERAS

This informative article, which has a comprehensive review of the latest 8-megapixel cameras, is required reading for anyone thinking about buying a digital camera. The article can be viewed at:

<http://www.nytimes.com/pages/technology/circuits/>

Member Spotlight : Ernie Brooks.

(continued from page 2)

OCC: What cameras have you used?

EB: 8 x 10, 5 x 7, 4 x 5 and everything else. The longest lens I've used is a 25" Zeitz. For my underwater work I mostly used a 70mm Hasselblad superwide, 38mm fixed lens.

OCC: What camera do you currently use most?

EB: Because I no longer have vision in my "shooting eye", I've lost the desire to photograph. But I haven't lost my interest in photography. I enjoy mentoring.

OCC: Have you helped anyone else get started in photography?

EB: I can hardly look at a magazine without coming across the name of one or more photographers who have passed through Brooks Institute. Of course the students I worked with the

most were interested in underwater photography, David Doublet, Norbert Wu, Cathy Church, Chuck Davis.

OCC: What photography tips would you have for the club?

EB: Submit. I look forward to being with an intimate group the size of the OCC. It's so much more satisfying to see the faces of your audience than to look out into blackness.

February Business Meeting

Meeting minutes were read and approved.

Treasurer's Report

554.58 beginning balance
233.02 Dues collected
54.39 January Newsletter Expenses
17.48 February Newsletter printing costs
7.40 stamps
708.33 ending balance

General Meetings

- February 28th - Dave Simmerman will set up his studio lights and give a hands-on presentation on imaging with light. Also, there will be a presentation on digital touch-ups if time allows. The purchasing committee will present the recommendations for the purchase of a digital projector to the club.
- March meeting - Cascade Photography is tentatively set to give a presentation on pet photography.
- April - Sally Vogal will present on behalf of Ernie Brooks since Ernie will not be able to present. No topic has yet been decided.
- May - Digital group will present
- June - member sharing

Social Programs

- Kathy has organized a trip to the covered bridges in Oregon on April 16th and 17th.
- Frank and Terry Townsend will host an overnight trip to Silver Falls in May.

Newsletter

- Jim would appreciate members submitting articles for the newsletter. He's looking for both regular columns and one-time articles.
- Jim is also looking for someone to sign up to submit the photo tips for the newsletter each month.
- The club will be purging the member files before the March newsletter, removing people who are no longer members from the distribution list.

Website

- We had 1429 visits in January. The Gallery, About Us, and Digital Group had the most hits.
- The Gallery needs some new images. Images should be sent to Dave, no more than 800x600, 72 dpi.

NWCCC

- Bob Kletsch has not yet received a bill from the counsel for dues. Dave explained that the Council has a new Treasurer. Dave will inquire about the bill.
- Dave asked if the club would like to sponsor a director's meeting. Those present voted yes. The open months are March and May. We will volunteer for March, since the May meeting will include voting on images. Terry Liberty will check on booking the library for the meeting. Kathy Morris volunteered to organize a field trip in conjunction with the meeting, possibly to the Nisqually Wildlife Refuge.
- Ann Rockway asked about the results of the council survey of clubs and what they expect from the Council. Terry wasn't sure. It was suggested that we raise the question at the meeting.

Community Liaison

- Bonnie and Terry Liberty offered the use of their scanners to Fred Fiedler in order to help him update and preserve a Bluebird slide presenta-

tion. We may want to arrange to have him present the show for the club.

- Ann Rockway asked if Capital Land Trust finished the brochure. No one has seen it yet.

Old Business

John Hough spoke on behalf of the Nature Photographers of the Pacific Northwest (NPPNW), requesting that the club sponsor Tim Grey for a Photoshop class on April 3rd. Tim Grey will be presenting at the NPPNW conference on April 2nd. In addition to Tim Grey's presentation there will be judging of images. John has set aside 5 minutes on the agenda Saturday to present the club's work with Capital Land Trust. If the club were to sponsor Tim Grey for the Photoshop class, the class would be open to 30 people, and the charge would be \$30 per person. Tim Grey has asked for a \$500 honorarium plus lodging for the class. The club would cover those expenses and then collect the \$30 per person.

There was a lengthy discussion followed by a motion to sponsor Tim Grey. Rick Sandler proposed an amendment, requiring that the club obtain a letter from the NPPNW stating that the NPPNW will guarantee that our club will not be out money, should the class not fill. The letter would also state how many seats would be reserved for the OCC and state that the OCC would receive any excess proceeds. There was a lengthy discussion on the proposed amendment. The officers voted on the amendment, which passed 2-1. The officers then voted on the motion as amended, which passed 3-0. Once the OCC receives a letter from the NPPNW, we will send the funds.

Artswalk

Donna Butler and Dottie Hall have signed up for a table at the YMCA for Artswalk. They have paid the \$15 entry fee and offered the table as a possible way to fund-raise for the digital projector. They have also volunteered to man the booth. Members could donate prints, which would be sold at Artswalk. There was a motion to have the club participate, which passed.

Club Identity

Dave Simmerman suggested creating a club patch. He will present the recommendation to the club and ask for a decision at the February general meeting.

Digital Projector

- The recommendation for the purchase of the digital projector suggests two phases. The first phase includes buying a projector, a screen, and Photoshop Elements. The second phase would be the purchase of the laptop. For the first year, the club could borrow a laptop from a club member or purchase a used laptop and then sell it once the club was able to purchase the new one.
- Raising dues will not cover the costs. The club will also ask for contributions. Any amount not covered by contributions would come from the treasury, not to exceed \$900. Bonnie will look for future fundraising possibilities.
- The recommendation document as amended will go out to members.
- We also need a custodian for the equipment and a policy for the care of the equipment.
- There was a discussion of raising the dues because generally costs have gone up. The increase could also help cover the costs of maintenance for the new equipment. The group decided that dues should not be raised to more than \$22 per year. This issue will be presented to the club and put to a vote.
- Rick will send the recommendation document to club members by email and hard copies to those members who don't have email.
- There was a motion to approve the recommendation document as amended. The motion was approved unanimously.

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Olympia Camera Club Newsletter

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FIRST CLASS

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