



Shutterbug Times

February 2007

General Meeting— 4th Monday monthly

Volume 72, Issue 2

February General Meeting

By Dave Simmerman

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Portfolios, Galleries, and Curators! Where does it all begin? How do I start? What do I need? These are just a few questions that many of us ask when preparing our photographs for display. Well hopefully our guest speaker, Chip Van Gilder, can answer a few of those. Chip is a photographer / curator based out of Tacoma, WA. He owns and operates chipshotPHOTO.com and photographs special events around the area.

In the past, Chip has helped the Olympia Camera Club judge a couple of the Thurston County Fair Photography exhibits and always offer advice when critiquing the images. So come join us and learn a few things. Chip will also be talking about his Fine Art Panorama's and the concepts behind them. Meeting starts at 6:30pm and the main program by 7pm. See you there!

February Meetings

Digital Group meeting : February 13th @ 6:30pm – Apple Park Apt Clubroom - We will continue discussing basic workflow in the first hour and then prepping your images for a slideshow in the second hour. Bring images to share as well!

Video Group meeting: February 10th @ Dottie Hall's house – 10am – If you are interested Contact Dottie directly @ dottiehall@comcast.net

General meeting: February 26th @ 6:30pm - Roosevelt Elementary School – Chip Van Gilder, from Tacoma, will be our guest speaker. Bring images to share

"Only after we have let our minds and eyes deal intimately with the abundance of marvels around us should we attempt to photograph them."

-John Shaw

President's Corner

by Shauna Kearns

What talented photographers we have in our group! I really enjoyed each of the themed programs at January's meeting, each one evoking different emotions. I was moved by Chris' touching photos of his family and how he was willing to share this difficult time in his life with all of us. Chris has a special talent for taking beautiful candid's. I really admire that.

Kevin's images of the barn in the snow really stood out for me. I think because I realized just how cold it must have been out there. I have a barn in the snow picture myself and I know how frozen I got getting that shot! Each of Kevin's images was so carefully composed that I'm sure he was out there for a good length of time. That's dedication.

Dave's portraits always impress me. He puts so much time perfecting each one. I really admire his patience. Portraits are my favorite photos to shoot and I could really learn a lot from Dave.

I felt like I was actually in Alaska watching Terry's slideshow. I've always wanted to take a trip to Alaska myself and now I feel more prepared for such a trip, just by watching his slideshow! Terry has such a talent for capturing his traveling experience. It's like watching a documentary. I feel educated after his shows.

All of you inspire me. We will be having not one but two more member's themed program nights this year. I can't wait to see what those nights will bring.

"A great photograph is a full expression of what one feels about what is being photographed in the deepest sense, and is thereby a true expression of what one feels about life and its entirety." — Ansel Adams

Olympia Camera Club Executive Board Minutes

by Chris Weinreich

Olympia Camera Club Executive Board Minutes

Feb. 7, 2007, Mekong Restaurant

Meeting called to order by Pres. Shauna Kearns at 6:15 p.m.

Present were: President Shauna Kearns, Vice President Dave Simmerman, Secretary Chris Weinreich, Treasurer Robert Kletsch, Frank & Terri Townsend, Bobbie Rockett, Wes & Cornelia Kirkpatrick, Allen Raphael, and Donna Butler.

January Minutes: The January minutes were approved as read.

Treasurer's Report: Robert reported a January beginning balance of \$555.77 and income of \$520.72 from dues and a \$50 gift. Expenses were \$20 paid to the Northwest Council of Camera Clubs.

Upcoming Club Meetings: Dave said Chip Van Guilder of Stretching Photos of Tacoma is the scheduled speaker at the February meeting. Because of the response of members to be in the themed programs, Dave has scheduled themed programs for both the April and June meetings

Digital Group: Bobbie said the subject of the February 13th meeting will be part 2 of the managing basic work flow presentation.

NW Council of Camera Clubs is looking for people to judge photos and for a co-coordinator for the NWCCC-4Cs' 2007 conference in Hood River. The conference is a joint one with The 4Cs group. Anyone interested should contact Wes.

Club web site: Dave reported that the number of visits for January was 1904, up from December's 1800. The club site got 60 to 90 visits per day and the most visited site was the Gallery. Of the foreign visits, the U.K. is now number one and Romania is creeping back from 19 the position in November to 8th in December.

New Business:

Several items were touched on but no official action was taken:

*There is going to be an Elk Festival at Lake Quinault this spring

* Shauna asked if the club should start a group to critique members photos. Consensus was that it would be good, provided it was constructive criticism.

*The club is outgrowing its meeting space at the school and Shauna appointed an ad hoc committee to research other possible sites.

*Cornelia asked about the club having a swap meet or something else so members could sell off old equipment.

Meeting adjourned at 6:55

Chris Weinreich

"Meet the Artist"

This February we look at an exhibit by Donna Butler. Donna's photographs, approximately 35, are on display and a welcome addition to the Gloria Dei Lutheran Church community space. Everyone is welcome to visit the church between the hours of 9:00am and 4:00pm. If you would like you are more than welcome to visit the church on Wednesday evenings from 5:15pm view her photos and join her in a delicious dinner. There is no charge but donations are accepted.

ITEMS FOR SALE

The board has approved a space in the newsletter for all members to submit any items you may have that you wish to sell or trade, preferably photography related. When submitting your Ad there will be a minimal fee of \$1.00 which will go into the general fund of Olympia Camera Club to help pay for expenses at the general meeting, costs of newsletter printing/postage etc.

When submitting your Ad please include a complete description and condition of the item. Send it to the newsletter editor, Wes Kirkpatrick, ibhappy@pioneernet.net and also to the Treasurer, Robert Kletsch, rekletsch@juno.com.

Digital Imaging Group

by Bobbie Rockett and Kevin McNeil

Our next meeting of the Digital Imaging Group (DIG) will feature my illustrious co-chair, Kevin McNeal and his partner in shooting adventures (and our beloved vice president) Dave Simmerman. They will present part 2 of their basic workflow presentation in the first half of the meeting. In the second they will show us how to create a slide show with our digital images. And please don't forget to bring your images to share.

Over the past year our little group has steadily grown. Our last meeting was nearly standing room only!!! We have seen many new people who are interested in digital photography and I would encourage these folks to attend the general meetings as well. We have many fine film photographers in our club who have much to contribute in terms of experience and artistic expression, which is after all, what this club is about.

Our next meeting is Tuesday, February 13; at the Apple Park Apartments clubhouse at 6:30 PM. See you all there...

Web Resources

National Geographic Traveler recommends these Websites to improve our photographic skills - all reliable, honest and free:

FOR INSPIRATION:

1. www.masters-of-photography.com - Images by photographic greats, e.g. Ansel Adams.
2. www.loc.gov/rr/print/catalog.html - One million digitized images at the Library of Congress.
3. www.photomuse.org - Classic photos from New York's International Center of Photography and the George Eastman House.
4. www.corbis.com - 70 million images to see what a place looks like before going on a trip.
5. www.gettyimages.com;
6. www.magnumphotos.com;
7. www.viiphoto.com;
8. www.auroraphotos.com - Stock agencies for new ideas.

BEFORE YOU BUY NEW EQUIPMENT:

1. www.steves-digicams.com - 10 years' review of digital cameras.
2. www.cnet.com - Pro models & entry-level cameras, with user ratings & price comparison.
3. www.dpreview.com - New software as well as camera equipment.
4. www.slrgear.com - Single lens reflex accessories, especially lenses.

Grays Harbor Shorebird Festival

April 27-29, 2007

By *M. Allen Raphael*

EACH SPRING, hundreds of thousands of shorebirds stop to rest and feed in Grays Harbor estuary on their migration northward. Coming from as far south as Argentina, these Arctic-bound shorebirds are among the world's greatest migrants. This concentration of birds offers people a great chance to view a number of shorebird species, and with luck, to see the birds fly together in beautiful formations while trying to escape the fastest creature on earth, the Peregrine Falcon.

After the recent trip to photograph the eagles of Skagit River, I have decided to lead a trip to Bowerman airfield, home of the Grays Harbor Wildlife Refuge. The 12th Annual Grays Harbor Shorebird Festival will be held on the weekend of **April 27-29, 2007** in Hoquiam, Washington at the Grays Harbor Wildlife Refuge with headquarters at Hoquiam High School. There will be a keynote speaker and reception Friday the 27th as well as a banquet and auction Saturday evening. Other activities include guided field trips, lectures, exhibitors and vendors, nature fun fair, book signing by authors, poster contest, and lots more.

More information can be found at the website for the Shorebird Festival, www.shorebirdfestival.com from here you can learn more about the schedule, events, a list of the birds most likely to be seen and maps of the area.

I will have more information in upcoming issues of the newsletter and have a posting at the OCC web site. Looking for to seeing everyone there!!



Current Exhibitions at the Tacoma Art Museum Paul Strand: Southwest January 27 – May 23, 2007

Paul Strand is a seminal figure in the history of photography. Strand first journeyed to the Southwest in 1926. In New Mexico, Strand created images that spoke to the harmony of land and sky that he then pursued for the rest of his career. This exhibition presents many images for the first time as they are drawn from the artist's estate. They include dramatic landscapes, decayed ghost towns, the noble architecture of adobe churches, and his austere portraits of his wife, Rebecca.

The nationally traveling exhibition is organized by the Aperture Foundation. Local support is generously provided by The Paul G. Allen Family Foundation.

Mountaineers 2007 Basic Photo Course

The Seattle Mountaineers Photography Committee is getting ready for its **2007 Basic Photography Course**. Whether people are new to photography or want to brush up on their skills, this course will provide the information they need. This year, the Basic Photography Course is scheduled to run on Thursday evenings in March, with optional weekend field trips and indoor workshops.

If someone you know is interested in photography, why not purchase a **Mountaineers Gift Certificate** that can be used towards the Photography Course? This would be a great gift for any of your friends or family interested in photography and the outdoors. For information about the gift certificate, contact our course coordinator, Anne Smart, at 206-283-4973, or smartmccord@msn.com.

Please check out our attached brochure and feel free to e-mail it to anyone who you think would be interested. You can also find more information about the **2007 Basic Photography Course** on our website at www.mountaineers.org/photography. Registration is now open!

Thanks!

Bala Dodoye-Alali
Seattle Mountaineers Photo Committee
Marketing and Promotions Coordinator

Spirit of a Photographer

By Dave Simmerman

When do you inherit the true “Spirit of a Photographer?” After taking your first shot with your first camera! Getting your work published in a magazine or article! Or selling that first print to someone that enjoyed your style! Well, that may be true for some, but that was not my realization. Mine came a few weeks ago while photographing Cannon Beach, Oregon with a friend and fellow photographer. Here’s my story.

The day started out as any typical photographic journey begins, with Kevin McNeal and Dave Simmerman at the helm. Get up at some awful time in the morning and make it to your destination before the sun rises. Our target for this trip was to photograph some fog on the coast, in the morning, and then shoot sunset at Cannon Beach. All did not start well! We made it to the Astoria Bridge and too our surprise there wasn’t any fog. None! Nada! Zip! The weatherman was wrong again! That did not discourage us though. We spent the morning photographing the bridge and coastal areas near Ilwaco and Ft Canby. Still saddened with heavy hearts and lack of fog, we drove on. and made our way to the Cannon Beach area. Keep in mind that this was my first time ever being there, and I was amazed! I was in Awe! I thought to myself that this was going to be a great time! Little did I know that the events, which were to follow, would give me my “Spirit of a Photographer!” We photographed the Haystack

and Needles in true iconic fashion, but were holding out for the magnificent sunset which was about to be bestowed upon us. We clicked here, we exposed there, and we took every possible angle, but that was not good enough! We had to get more. We included people, we included ourselves, and even included a seagull or two in our shots, but still that did not satisfy us. Our only choice left was to get closer. Get that foreground view that lent itself to the ultimate image and drew you into the shot! Oh, I forgot to tell you that low tide was at 2pm and here we are at 5:30pm. Got the picture? And that’s when it happened!

A rogue wave, higher than normal, decided to come into our shot and I did not feel comfortable standing in it, so I started casually backing up. Not looking where I was going, my foot hit a rock and DOWN I WENT! Like a sack of potatoes and on my back. I immediately grabbed my camera and tripod and held it out of the saltwater, while getting pounded by the wave. Not only did the wave come from the front, it also came around from the right side of Haystack. It was a double whammy and I could not get up! My backpack and I were submerged in the water, which felt like an eternity, until the tide started to subside. There was sand where sand shouldn’t be. An unknown photographer rushed out to help me up and hold on to my tripod, while holding onto his own. I eventually made it to my feet and was soaked from head to toe. I don’t even remember thanking the guy who helped me, but I am sure I did. The first question I asked the group of dry spectators,

about 50 feet away, was “Did anyone get a picture!” and then proceeded to raise my hands into the air, as if I had just won the decathlon!

So in the true “Spirit of a Photographer” I set my tripod back up and began to shoot the sunset again. Oh did I mention that it was about 40 degrees outside! So that only lasted for a few minutes as I started to shiver and my camera remote was throwing fits from being in the saltwater. I eventually made my way back to the car and changed right there on the spot for the world to see. Good thing we didn’t park in some massive public parking area or someone would have gotten one hell of a show! Thank goodness I brought an extra pair of clothes with me, otherwise the ride home would have been dreadful. Thank you for listening to my true story and hope you got a little humor out of it. I now have the true “Spirit of a Photographer!”

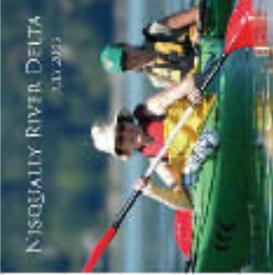
I can attest to the following: my boots are very waterproof as they held the water in not out, Tamrac makes a great backpack (kept my lenses dry), and saltwater can kill a cell phone.

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

*Dave Simmerman
Photographer*

Olympia Camera Club – Trip Planning for Upcoming Year 2007

As of 3 Jan 07

DATE All dates that apply to this trip	TRIP TITLE & TYPE Name of trip and if it's a day trip or overnight	TRIP INFORMATION Description of the event to include some of the who, what, where and when details	TRIP POC Who will provide trip information and act as trip coordinator
Any month of the year, coordinate with Gary at least a few weeks in advance to lock in the weekend date or just a paddle after work	Nisqually River Delta (half day or full day) 	If you are interested in either canoeing or kayaking the Nisqually River Delta either from the Nisqually Wildlife Research Center at Lure Beach (end of Meridian Road at public boat launch) or from Solo Point, this is the place to photograph Bald Eagles, Great Blue Herons, Harbor Seals, River Otters (if you're lucky to see them), ducks, geese, terns, gulls and shore birds by the hundreds, this is the place to do it without driving far at all. I can rent kayaks from the outdoor recreation center at Fort Lewis for \$20 each and a 2 person canoe for \$20. Tides are very important for what you will see. If you are looking to see lots of birds and the seals, check for a low tide paddle, if you want to see lots of water, check for the high tide time period.	Gary Ouellette (360) 507-3923 godigitalphoto@gmail.com
Jan-Feb (TBD) ?????	Glass Museum Shoot (day trip) 	Join us for a day trip to the Tacoma Glass Museum.	Rich Kalman

POC: OCC Social & Trip Coordinator, Gary Ouellette, 4616 Center Lane NE, Olympia WA 98516, 360-507-3923

Olympia Camera Club – Trip Planning for Upcoming Year 2007

12 Jan	<p>Skagit River Eagles (overnight)</p> 	<p>Travel to the Marblemount area of the Skagit River and photograph the migrating Bald Eagles as they feed on the salmon along the river beds. Depart 12 Jan from Wal Mart, time undetermined yet. Overnight at local lodge or cabins along the river for the 12th and 13th. More info to follow for club membership via email</p> <p>http://www.northcascades.com/rm.htm http://www.skagiteagle.org/ic/index.html http://www.skagiteagle.org/wildlife/index.html http://www.wildandscenic.com/skagit.html http://wdfw.wa.gov/wlm/research/raptor/eagle/eagle.htm http://wa.water.usgs.gov/realtime/htmls/skagit.html</p>	<p>Frank Townsend fmtat3200@cs.com</p>
Easter Time Period (TBD)	Fruit Trees of Eastern Washington (overnight)	Join us during the spring fruit flowering season as we attempt to capture all the beautiful blooms of our states fruit trees	Kathy
19 May 07	Portrait Shooting (day event)	Come and learn how to set up and shoot Portraits at an indoor studio. Bring your camera and bring yourself, be the photographer or the model or both! See Bonnie's address above in the OCC Yearbook event	Bonnie Liberty bliberty@sprynet.com

POC: OCC Social & Trip Coordinator, Gary Ouellette, 4616 Center Lane NE, Olympia WA 98516, 360-507-3923

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