



Shutterbug Times

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE OLYMPIA CAMERA



WWW.OLYMPIACAMERACLUB.ORG

February 2010 General Meeting— 4th Monday monthly Volume 77, Issue 2

Executive Committee

President

Wes Kirkpatrick
(360) 754-3925
ibhappy@pioneernet.net

Vice President

John West
(360) 459-3183
johnwest2@comcast.net

Secretary

Chris Weinreich
(360) 352-8183
Christianweinreich
@reachone.com

Treasurer

Shauna Kearns
(360) 866-9374
32instruments@comcast.net

Immediate Past President

Allen Raphael
(360) 459-9746
mallenphoto@comcast.net

The Relative Value of Critique and Competition

by John West

Vice President, Olympia Camera Club

As photographers I think we are all interested in creating the very best work that we can all the time. We are all artists trying our best to create that “wow” image that we can share with others or just hang on our walls and enjoy just for it's beauty alone. But if you are like me, the number of “keepers” you produce are low in number to the many so-so photographs you might shoot on any given day. It's true that sometimes a little (or a lot) of post production can turn a so-so image into a winner. That is all part of the creative process and who is to say which process has more value than another.

Producing better and better images over time is definitely a learning process that we all must go through to become the better artists that we all strive to become. And while I am content with the work I do today, I know that from time to time, I do see another person's work and say to myself, “Gee I wish I could produce an image like that. What do I need to do to learn how to do that level of work myself”. And yet, breaking through to that next level can be an illusive, and even frustrating, process. Unfortunately, getting stuck in an artist's block can also be part of that process. But fortunately, I have learned that what I need to do when I do get stuck is to share my ideas and my images with other people and more often than not, it is their feedback that provides the insight I need to move beyond my obstructing dilemma.

So, at least for me, sharing my images with other supportive artists, is an essential part of my growth process. That which is a blind spot for one person, can easily be successfully evaluated by someone else intent on providing constructive criticism. So critique has a value, especially if it is provided by someone we respect as being an artist with the talent to provide valuable insight and feedback in a way that will help us grow and produce better and better images.

And yet, critique can be a scary and emotional process as well. Negative criticism, or that which we perceive to be mean or negative criticism, can be an emotionally hard thing with which to deal. And as humans, we all make mistakes from time to time and giving unwanted

When out in nature, take only photos and leave only footprints!!

criticism of someone else's work can be one of those mistakes we later wish we hadn't made. This kind of thing happens to everyone at one time or another and we simply have to develop the emotional maturity to deal with it constructively when it happens. We have to learn to forgive ourselves and others and have the ability to emotionally step outside the situation, and gain the perspective we need to deal with the situation constructively so that hard feelings and misinterpretations don't ruin the valuable process that having one's work critiqued can be. How we decide to deal with this kind of situation really is a choice for good or ill, and it is a wise person who chooses the good in any situation, no matter how it was originally intended or perceived. I hope we all choose wisely and make critique a valuable and wanted thing that helps us grow.

And what of competition? I know that I have been reluctant in the past to enter any of my photographs into competition for fear of having them be negatively received or just somehow fearing that they are not good enough to win any kind of recognition. In other words, I want all of the photographs I submit to competition to be winners. I admit it: I am greedy. I want all of my images to be perceived as brilliant and deserving of that first place ribbon if not, indeed, the best of show. Unfortunately, this is just a little bit delusional, at best. It is a competition, after all, and the chances of winning are rare, as they should be. If everyone won, then no one would really win, if you know what I mean. And no one would become a better photographer in the process. And, admittedly, I have learned and been inspired by seeing someone else win with a better photograph than I know I could produce. I have had the joy of imagining how good that winner must feel to be chosen and recognized for the better work they have done. So if that is true, then there must be a value to not winning also. And maybe, just maybe, there is more value in being inspired and seeing a clear example of what it takes to make a better photograph than there is in actually winning. Maybe not winning, and just competing, is the more valuable process. Or at least as valuable a process. OK, let me win once in a while. I will still be happy just to compete whether I win or not. I think I will decide to be happy either way. I invite you to come join me and be eager to submit your photographs in the next available critique or competition.

Sincerely,
John M. West, Vice President

President's Corner

by Wes Kirkpatrick

As the club does every year we will be having our Member's Theme night this month and this is when 5 or 6 members give a wonderful presentation of their work; as always I am excited to see each of the presentations.

By seeing each photographer show their work it is my hope that this is two-fold. First, my hope is inspiration. Photographers such as our members have photographed in various locations or just have some photographs they have taken around the area; and they have reached a level of achievement in their own way in the world of photography and wish to share this with the rest of us. So it goes without saying having them share their images is so very special indeed. And I often find myself thinking it is others, that inspire us in so many ways to become better photographers certainly, but also inspires us to visit places we haven't seen before or try something different and take up a cause we haven't thought about for.

As for my second hope, excuse me if this is

a bit selfish, but my hope is by having our own members join us and share these presentations we will be encouraged to venture out, take those images and come back and share them with the club itself. In my view, our photography club is about its members. For those of us on the Board, our primary task is to provide that which benefits the members. Thus, by having these Theme Nights with us this February, I really hope our members and guests benefit; because when our members and guests benefit, the club benefits. And really, that is how it should be.

So whether you are a current, past or prospective member; I hope you find some time in your busy schedule on February 22nd at 6:30pm; and join us for what should be a wonderful evening of sharing.

Wes Kirkpatrick
President

The New Olympia Camera Club Logo Merchandise Is Available Now

by John West

The official Olympia Camera Club logo that was designed by OCC club member Tom Blankenship a year or so ago is something to be proud of. I think it is a pretty nice looking logo and I think it represents the club very well. So wouldn't it be nice if you could actually buy clothing that told the world that you belong to this great organization by having this logo emblazoned on your favorite shirt or hat?

Well now you can. The Olympia Camera Club has teamed up with local business, Creative Ink and Embroidery to add our logo (either silk-screened or embroidered) to merchandise you can order from Creative Ink, or have added to clothing you already own. Creative Ink offers several lines of clothing in their 430 page catalog, that including hats, t-shirts, sweatshirts, jackets, bags, sports apparel, dress shirts and sweaters, all of which can have our logo sewn or printed on it so that you can show your pride in your membership in our great camera club. Creative Ink also has an online catalog which you can visit at the following address: <http://www.companycasuals.com/CreativeInkandEmbroidery/start.jsp>.

So, has this peaked your interest and you would like to know more about how to order? If so, the easiest way is if you contact me, John West (your loyal club vice president) by email at johnmwest2@comcast.net or call me at 360 459-3183 and I can hook you up with a catalog or any other specific information you might need to get the job done. If you are brave and want to try to contact Creative Ink directly, you certainly may. Their phone number is 360 943-0487. Their email address is creativeink1@yahoo.com and their address is 1926 Steele St. SE Olympia, WA 98501. You can visit the home page of their web site at www.creativeinkandembroidery.com.

Needless to say, I was very curious to sample a couple of their products myself, so I ordered a baseball cap and a sweatshirt with our logo embroidered on them. I am very pleased with the quality of the products and the work, so today I went back and ordered a few more things. I will, of course, be showing them off at the next few camera club meetings and I will answer all your questions as best I can.

Club's Old Laptop Up For Auction!!!

We have completed the transition to our new laptop and it is time to send our old laptop to a new home. We will be auctioning off the old laptop at the March General Meeting. If you are interested in purchasing the old laptop, bring your checkbook that night. It will be a live auction, so if you miss the March meeting, you will not be able to bid. However, you may send someone to bid on your behalf. All proceeds will go back to the club so you know you would be supporting a good cause!!

Here are the laptop specs for those who are interested. Please let me know if you have any questions about the auction.

Dell Inspiron 2200 with 15-inch Monitor
Intel Pentium M 1.5GHz processor
504 MB of Ram
24.2 GB Hard drive with 13.4 GB free space
DVD/CD-RW DVD drive

Microsoft XP Home Edition (Service Pack 2)
Microsoft Office v. 2002
Adobe Photoshop CS (version 8.0)
Photodex ProShow v. 2.6

Shauna
Secretary

Olympia Camera Club Executive Board Minutes

by Chris Weinrich

Jan. 6, 2010, Mekong Restaurant

Meeting called to order by President Wes Kirkpatrick at 6:20 p.m.

Present were: President Wes Kirkpatrick, Vice President John West, Secretary Chris Weinreich, Treasurer Shauna Kerns, Frank & Terri Townsend, Marie Brown-ing and Bonnie Liberty. Also present was a new club member, Colleen Easley and her grandson, Zack Vaughn.

Minutes: John moved to approve the minutes and Frank seconded. Motion passed

Treasurer's report for December, per Shauna:

Beginning Balance	\$273.68
Income: Dues	\$340.00
Coffee kitty.....	\$5.00

Expenses:

Mailing Supplies.....\$15.00

Ending Balance\$603.68

Savings balance\$1369.46

Community Liaison -- Bonnie reported that the Olympia Capital Park Foundation wants pictures of the Olympia area for use in a calendar. Bonnie said that Terry will ask for a person to run a contest and send the 12 best photos on to the Foundation. They are especially interested in scenes from around Capital Lake and the harbor.

Wes said that the Port of Olympia will be having a tour of the port facilities for club members and would like pictures also. The tour will include going on board a freighter while it's being loaded.

Monthly meetings. John brought up the question of having a second meeting each month for educational topics. A discussion ensued but no conclusions were reached.

John also gave a rundown of the topics for the next six monthly meetings:

Januarymembers sharing
 February Tom Blankenship
 March a talk on framing
 April Becci Crowe talking about her
 trip(s) to Africa

MayNext Level group presentation
 JuneJeff Mitchell will talk on what he looks for
when he judges photos at the Thurston Co.
Fair.

John said that he may switch January and February programs to give members time to prepare their presentations.

Equipment -- John said that he will have to purchase MS Access for the club laptop at a cost of \$119. Terry needs it for updating the Fair

Salon program. Chris moved to purchase the Access program and Shauna seconded. Motion passed.

Field Trips: Frank said there will be a day trip to photograph Puget Sound lighthouses Feb. 13th, starting with the one at Boston Harbor and then continuing on to Seattle.

Newsletter: Marie will be taking over the newsletter from Wes in February. Wes, said he needs articles for this current issue by Jan. 11.

Photographic Society of America (PSA) contest -- Wes announced that PSA holding a contest and the club needs to name a coordinator quickly since the deadline for entries is Jan. 15. Wes will contact a couple of people.

Interclub/International photo competitions: A chairman is also needed for this five member committee.

Northwest Council of Camera Clubs (NWCCC) A person is need to coordinate the traveling prints for this next year.

Club emblems and badges: John reported that it would cost \$80 to do the set up for the machine embroidery for the club logo. Frank moved and Shauna seconded to spend the \$80 Members can then order shirt, vests, jackets, etc. with the club logo.

Meeting adjourned at 7:20

Chris Weinreich, Secretary



Feb & Mar 2010

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT WWW.OLYMPIACAMERACLUB.ORG

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 Business Meeting 5:30-7:30	4	5	6
7	8	9 Digital Meeting 6:30-9	10	11	12	13 Lighthouse Field Trip
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22 General Meeting 5:30-7:30	23	24	25	26	27
28	1	2	3 Business Meeting 5:30-7:30	4	5	6
7	8	9 Digital Meeting 6:30-9:00	10	11	12	13

Olympia Camera Club 2010 General Meetings

by John West, Vice President

This is the agenda as I have it for the upcoming year. I'll be updating it each month so that you can put the dates on your calendar and plan to attend.

Month	Topic	Presenter	Refreshments
February 22	Member Theme Night	OCC Members (5)	Wes
March 22	Framing	Nate Naismith	Linda Foss
April 26			Lynnette
May 11			

Refreshments for 2010 Digital Meeting

Month	Member
February 9	Gene & Linda
March 9	Linda Foss
April 13	Frank & Terri
May 11	Rich Busto
June 8	Linda Murphy



"Photography is a way of feeling, of touching, of loving. What you have caught on film is captured forever... it remembers little things, long after you have forgotten everything."

— Aaron Siskind

Community Liaison

Terry Liberty
libertyt@sprynet.com

Newsletter Editor

Wes Kirkpatrick
ibhappy@pioneernet.net

Webmaster

Nandita Adhia
Nandita@prodigy.net

Digital Imaging

Gene & Linda Pardee
gene@egp-photo.com

Social Programs

Frank Townsend
Fmtat3200 @cs.com

PSA Representative

Wes Kirkpatrick
ibhappy@pioneernet.net

Equipment Custodian

John West
johnmwest2@comcast.net

Thurston County Fair

Allen Raphael
mallenphoto@comcast.net

NWCCC Traveling Prints

Nandita Adhia
Nandita@prodigy.net

House

Shauna Kearns
32instruments@comcast.net

Video Group

Dottie Hall
dottiehall@comcast.net



h Hunt's Est. 1889
Photo, Video and
definitely **DIGITAL**

Call: 800-221-1830 • FAX: 800-336-3841
Ask for Gary Farber at extension 2332
Email: filmguygary@aol.com • www.huntsphotoandvideo.com

**5 REASONS
TO BUY FROM HUNT'S**

1. COMPETITIVE PRICING
2. PERSONALIZED SERVICE
3. CAMERA CLUB FRIENDLY
4. WE SHIP TO YOU ON LOCATION
5. SAME DAY SHIPPING UNTIL 3PM ET



Olympia Camera Club
PO Box 13333
Olympia, WA 98508-3333

◆ February 2010

