



Collins Photo Club

This Month

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From the President

Those of you who would like a “*hands on*” experience with some of the clubs equipment, can do so at our regular club meeting November 17, 2005 in the Main Plant cafeteria. Doug Hoeger and myself will be setting up the Novatron with accessories, backdrops with supports, light meter, and tripod for your use during the first part of the meeting and afterwards as needed. You will use the light meter, set the lights, place your camera, and experience making your own portrait shots. There will be two young models available for you to get experience in posing models. If you prefer to bring your own model you are free to do so. You need to bring your own camera, film if you use it, and tripod if you have your own. See Jessica's VP column for other meeting details including photo theme.

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Our Next Meeting

Interested in learning some basics about portrait photography? Not Sure what sort of equipment is available through your membership in the photoclub? Then the meeting this November is for you! Dave Detwiler and Doug Hoeger will bring a sample of the club's more portable equipment to the main plant cafeteria to set up for some hands-on experience. We'll provide a backdrop, flash, and a stool for the "model." Please intend to bring your camera, film (or memory card!), tripod, and maybe a guest to photograph! If you know someone who is interested in photography or what the Collins Photo Club has to offer, let them know about this meeting!

This is the perfect opportunity to see one of the ways the Collins Photo Club can benefit you!

Please feel free to bring photographs to share to any meeting. One of the great benefits of belonging to a club is showing off your great photos or getting help from fellow members in a friendly way on how to make your photos better. If you don't have photos to fit the theme, you are still encouraged to bring them! The theme for November is "Fall and Thanksgiving." This could range from your favorite barn in a setting autumn sun, a photo of the Thanksgiving table set for a meal, or anything else you can think of!

Jessica Trbojevich, CPC Vice President

October Presentation Notes

In October, Stu, the general manager of Porter's Camera Store, introduced the club to Porter's store history and philosophy as well as offered the Collins Photo Club a courtesy discount. He encouraged our members to check out the Discussion Forum available through Porter's website and to communicate any suggestions or photography needs through him. We also had a show and tell of members' photos after the conclusion of Stu's presentation.

Meeting Minutes for October 2005

Meeting started at 5 with guest speaker from Porter's.

We had 14 in attendance. Meeting minutes were approved. David handed out an agenda for the evening meeting and also a club survey for those of us who didn't respond to his earlier email.

Doug Hoeger reported that the contest photos are in frames and will be on display at the Main Plant and across for the ARA at the Collins Road Plant. The photos will be rotated for up to one month. Doug needs to get with Pat Boland for a contact person's name from ARA.

Would anyone be interested in taking a mat, mounting and framing class at Kyle's Framing, if so contact with Dave Detwiler or Kyle Robinson at Kyle's.

Would we like to have more than one photo contest a year?

Do we need to purchase more display boards?
Decided we need to check pricing before purchasing.

Web page needs to be updated. Web master is working on this.

Have a photo shoot some where, either at night or weekends. Group member should lead if they know the area.

Set up lighting equipment for club to learn how to use the equipment.

Dan Mussel to show club members how to use the scanner in the dark room, will need to pick a date that will work.

Discussed meeting someplace other than the Rockwell cafeteria. Any ideas as to where and how much rent will be etc.

Kris Hoeger

Dues

The FY06 paid membership list is attached. If you know someone that hasn't renewed, please remind them. See last month's newsletter for the FY05 members.

The current members list will be distributed to local merchants that offer a club discount on Dec 1.

Treasurer's Report

Nov-05

INCOME

October Ending Balance	\$469.05
New/Renewed Memberships	\$144.00
Total Income	\$613.05

EXPENSE

Gift Certificate for FY05 Contest Judging	(\$50.00)
Total Expenses	(\$50.00)

Balance as of 11/03/05 **\$563.05**

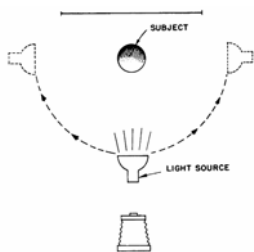
Patsy Boland - Treasurer

From the President - Continued

Since some of you might be a bit new at portrait photography, here are a few things to get you thinking about setting up the equipment. Ideally, portrait lighting should simulate the natural conditions of sunlight or a well-lighted room. The best preliminary study is to observe the highlight and shadow patterns on people's faces. This can be done both indoors and out, under any and all types of lighting. Since the sun is never below us and most indoor lights are above us, shadows cast upward on the face produce an unnatural effect that upset our sense of rightness. Good lighting will show the subject to advantage lending depth and expressiveness to their features. Poor lighting can distort features.

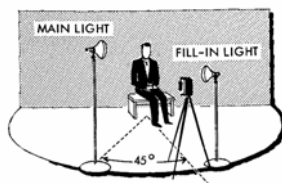
Even to the extent of making the subject unrecognizable in the photograph.

When using the Novatron you have the option of choosing between using one light, two lights, three lights, or four lights. No matter which choice you make, a light meter is your most effective tool in setting up your shot to get the best exposure.



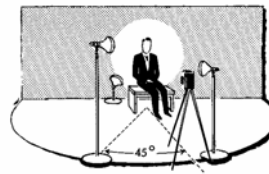
A single light may be used somewhere within an 180° arc of 5 feet or greater around the front of the subject. Notice carefully the highlights and shadows on cheeks, forehead, nose, and chin as you move the lamp

around the arc. The light is most commonly placed within the arc at about a 45° angle to a line between the subject and the camera.



A Basic Two-Light Arrangement

One simple, but effective, two light arrangement can be set up by putting one light (the "fill-in" light) at the camera, and another (the "main" light) high and to the side. The main light should be placed at a 45° angle from a line between the subject and the camera.



Three lights can be set up using the above setup and improving it with the addition of a third light. It is placed low and behind the subject, pointed at the backdrop or background. This controls the apparent brightness of the background and gives good separation between the subject and the background.

A fourth light can be added so there are lights on both the background and hair. The three light placements above can be used with the fourth light placed high shining down at the back and top of the subject's head. This light outlines the subject's hair and gives it more sparkle, separating it from the background. It is especially desirable when the subject has longer hair.

This should give you enough information to get you thinking about light and shadows as you look at people's faces between now and our meeting. We will step you through using a meter, using your camera with the lights, and posing a model. This experience will give you enough confidence to check out our club's equipment. We look forward to making 11-17-05 an enjoyable learning experience!

See you there with your camera and tripod.

David Detwiler
CPC President

Coming Events?

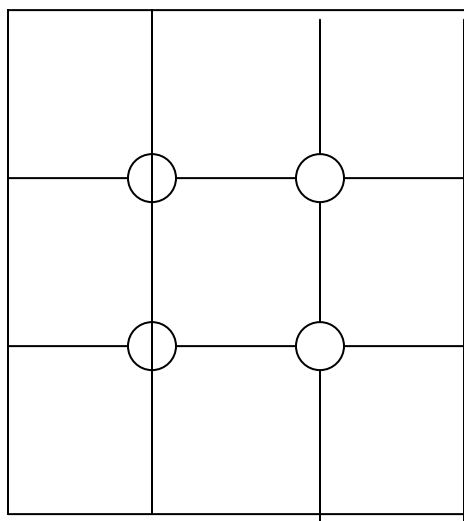
If you know of upcoming events of potential interest to club members, please send a short email with a description of the event, date, etc. A web link would be great. The item will be included in the next newsletter. bjbuelow@yahoo.com.

Composition Techniques

Back during the 2005 Annual Contest, our judge gave us excellent feedback on his reasons for making his selections. He continually referred to the "Rule of Thirds" in his composition analysis. Some of us have been exposed to the "Rule of Thirds" and still remember what it is, while the rest of us have forgotten. The following will be an attempt to help everyone brush up on "Rule of Thirds." It has been one of the many helpful tools for photographers to use in composition. It originated with painters as a

technique to make various layouts more appealing to the eye. As photographers took over the use of canvases with photographs, they borrowed the technique from painters.

“Rule of Thirds” is one of the most helpful techniques for positioning the main point of interest in a photograph. The picture area is divided roughly into thirds, horizontally and vertically. This is usually done with imaginary lines, although some photographers with medium or large format cameras actually draw four lines on the ground glass viewfinder. By placing the principal object of a composition somewhere near one of the four intersections indicated below and keeping the supporting lines and shapes in a balanced arrangement you are using the “Rule of Thirds”. Using this technique will help often strengthen an otherwise flat composition.



It is a mistake to follow this or any other “rule” blindly. Look to see what happens to a scene when you place your point of interest near one of the intersections and when you place the same element at an imaginary central intersection of one horizontal and one vertical line.

David Detwiler
CPC President

On The Web

Often, usually after shooting some disappointing images, I go searching the web for advice. Here are some links and tips for finding interesting photography information.

<http://www.nationalgeographic.com/paththeadventure/phototips/>

This site has good practical shooting tips. Many sections are multimedia (Realplayer) with comments from Mark Thiessen.

<http://www.nationalgeographic.com/photography/galleries/intro/>

Some wonderful shots! Its easy to spend a lot of time just browsing through the galleries.

If you haven't looked at Yahoo GROUPS, take a few minutes to do so. Groups are discussion forums. This requires that you have a Yahoo ID (free). Searching Yahoo Groups finds 248 hits for the word “Nikon”. There are 32 groups for Nikon D70. The following link is to a D70 group that has 3281 members. It is moderated, which cuts way down on spam and prevents discussions from becoming “heated”. You can search the message archives using a key word search. This particular group stays on topic and offers good advice and comments.

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Nikon-D70/>

There are 180 groups on “Olympus”, 726 for “digital camera”, 952 for “Canon” with many groups specific to each model.

It's best to look for groups that are “moderated” rather than just open. Also, look at the number of members. A group with >1000 members is going to be more active and potentially have more “experts” than a group with 50 members.

Barry Buelow
Newsletter Editor

FY 2006 Paid Members
as of Nov 3, 2005

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