



Collins Photo Club

April 2001 Newsletter

**Next Meeting:
Program:**

APRIL19 5pm Main Plant Cafeteria
Annual Photo Contest

Inside this Issue: - From the President
- From the Editor
- Interesting websites
- Digital prints from slides
- Ten Photo Tips

Reminder: Photo contest entries due at the April 19 meeting. Judging will be done by Jim Slosiarek of the Gazette.

April 1, 2001

From the President

At the March meeting we had an interesting presentation from Dave Johnson of Photo Pro. He talked about new products and trends plus answered a lot of questions about the services Photo Pro has to offer the photo club members.

The April meeting will be the Annual Photo Contest. If you haven't entered before, I urge you to enter this contest. Even if you don't win, it's great practice to learn how to mount, mat and present your photos. If nothing else, show up to view the entries this year. There is always something interesting to see.

And if you don't want to enter your photos, be sure to bring samples of your latest photo projects or snapshots. It's always a good idea to bounce ideas off of fellow club members. Don't be afraid to share your photos with the club.

The schedule discussed for the upcoming year includes the following:

- April 19 - Turn in Contest Photos
- May 17 - Darkroom Meeting
- June 21 - Japan Slides (Pat Boland)
- July 19 - 5 Seasons Ski Show
- August 16 - Start One-Shot Contest
- Sept. 20 - Turn-In One Shot (Elections)
- October 18 - One Shot Slide Show.

Any comments, suggestions, or volunteers to help out with programs and club activities will be appreciated. It's never too early to start thinking about volunteering for a club office next September.

The film loading problems with the club's C330 camera are going to be addressed. Right now the plan is to send the camera in for an estimate to a Des Moines repair shop (Christian Photography) that came recommended.

Doug Dams
FY01 CPC President

From the Editor

I am still soliciting submissions from the members for use in the newsletter. As I mentioned last month, some submission ideas are: photo equipment wanted or for sale, short review of new equipment, books or a new film. Maybe you just tried a new technique and it worked great – or bombed out big-time.

My goal is to send out the newsletter on the first Monday of the month, so please have your submissions to me by the Friday before.

Digital Prints from Slides

Most of my photography is done on 35mm slides and as most everyone who also shoots slides knows, it is difficult to get a good print from a slide. For years I have been having my prints made by The Slideprinter (Denver, Colorado). I thought they did a decent job for a low price - \$5.50 for an 8x12 Type R print. A type R print is where the slide is projected through an enlarger directly onto the paper – no internegative.

Well, I just got my first prints back from a digital printing lab (Photo Imaging in Flowood, Mississippi). I was very pleased with the results! The tonal range and sharpness of the digital print is much improved over the Type R print. This improvement is without any computer manipulation, just a straight 4000 DPI scan and Lightjet print. It makes me want digital prints of all the photos I have hanging at home. Which brings me to the downside of the digital prints – the cost. The 8x12 prints I ordered were \$21 each.

I will continue to try to find similar quality for a lower price. Stay tuned...

Gary Hamer x8378

CPC PROJECTS

CPC ANNUAL PHOTO CONTEST

Entries due at the April 19, 2001 meeting

Who to call

President	Doug Dams	x51929
Vice President	Doug Dams (acting)	x51929
Secretary/Historian	Mark Bortz	x54860
Treas./ Membership	Kathy Rutherford	x54113
Equip. Checkout	Rick Nelson	x52864
Exhibit Director	Darlene Ealy	x55210
Newsletter	Gary Hamer(acting)	x58378

Change of Address

Please notify the Newsletter Editor of any change of address.

Contact Gary Hamer at 295-8378, email to ghamer@collins.rockwell.com, or mail to M.S. 137-154. *Thanks!*

CPC Member Discounts

• Photo Pro

Photo Club members can receive the following discounts and specials at Photo Pro, 153 Collins Road NE, Cedar Rapids. Note these specials are not valid with any other offer.

- Film Processing 20%
- Mats 20%
- Darkroom Chemicals 20%
- Photographic Paper 10%
- Film Cost +15%

• Mote Brothers Custom Framing

Photo Club members can receive the following discount at Mote Brothers Custom Framing, 701 Third Ave SE, Cedar Rapids. To receive your 25% off list price discount you **must** present your Collins Photo Club membership card.

Did you know...

Rockwell photo-finishing through Employee Services is now being sent to Linn Photo. This is because Qualex is closing their plant

on Boyson Rd. Sandi Strike in Employee Services encourages us to send her our feedback about the quality of service we receive from Linn Photo.

Interesting websites – at least I think so

www.photo.net good general photo information

www.photo.net/neighbor/ Here you can see how satisfied others have been, with: camera shops, photo workshops, processing labs, etc.

www.naturephotographers.net good nature site – lots of articles and a good discussion forum

<http://www.photopoint.com/phototalk/magazine/recent.html> articles on a wide range of topics

<http://www.nationalgeographic.com/photography/masters.html> This National Geographic site allows us to watch video presentations by some of their best photographers – right on our own PC

Congratulations Rick Nelson

Rick was a prize-winner in a photo contest in *Peterson's Photographic* magazine. His photo was published in the January issue.

Ten Tips for Better Photography

"The [35mm] camera is for life and for people, the swift and intense moments of

life." - Ansel Adams

1. Hold It Steady

A problem with many photographs is that they're blurry. Avoid 'camera shake' by holding the camera steady. Use both hands, resting your elbows on your chest, or use a wall for support. Relax: don't tense up. You're a marksman/woman holding a gun and it must be steady to shoot.

2. Put The Sun Behind You

A photograph is all about light so always think of how the light is striking your subject. The best bet is to move around so that the sun is behind you and to one side. This front lighting brings out color and shades, and the slight angle (side lighting) produces some shadow to indicate texture and form.

3. Get Closer

The best shots are simple so move closer and remove any clutter from the picture. If you look at most 'people' shots they don't show the whole body so you don't need to either. Move close, fill the frame with just the face, or even overflow it. Give your shot some impact. Use a zoom to crop the image tighter.

4. Choose A Format

Which way you hold the camera affects what is emphasized in your shot. For tall things (Redwoods, Half Dome) a vertical format emphasize height. Use a horizontal format to show the dramatic sweep of the mountains.

5. Include People

Photographs solely of landscape and rocks are enjoyable to take but often dull to look at. Include some of your friends, companions, family, or even people passing by, to add human interest. If there's no one around, include yourself with the self-timer.

Have you ever got your photos back only to discover that something that looked awe-inspiring at the time looks dull on paper? This is because your eye needs some reference point to judge scale. Add a person, car, or something of known size to indicate the magnitude of the scenery.

6. Consider Variety

You may take the greatest shots but if they're all the same type or style, they may be dull to look at. Spice up your collection by adding variety. Include landscapes and people shots, close ups and wide angles, good weather and bad weather. Take personal shots that remember the 'being there' - friends that you meet, your hotel/campsite, transportation, street or hiking signposts.

7. Add Depth

Depth is an important quality of good photographs. We want the viewer to think that they're not looking at a flat picture, but through a window, into a three-dimensional world. Add pointers to assist the eye. If your subject is a distant mountain, add a person or a tree in the foreground. A wide-angle lens can exaggerate this perspective.

8. Use Proportion

The beauty of an image is often in its proportions. A popular technique with artists is called the Rule of Thirds. Imagine the frame divided into thirds, both horizontally and vertically, like a Tic-Tac-Toe board. Now place your subject on one of the lines or intersections. Always centering your subject can get dull. Use the Rule of Thirds to add variety and interest.

9. Search For Details

It's always tempting to use a wide angle lens and 'get everything in'. However, this can be too much and you may lose the impact. Instead, zoom in with a longer lens and find some representative detail. A shot of an entire sequoia tree just looks like a tree. But a shot of just the tree's wide base, with a person for scale, is more powerful.

10. Position The Horizon

Where you place the horizon in your shot affects what is emphasized. To show the land, use a high horizon. To show the sky, use a low horizon. Be creative.

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