



Nature Photo Times

Member: Photographic Society of America & Twin Cities Area Council of Camera Clubs

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THE TWIN CITIES AREA COUNCIL OF CAMERA CLUBS, INC. PROUDLY PRESENTS

SPRING BREAK 2002 - 17TH Annual Conference of Photography

Featuring: Digital, Nature, Stereo, Portraiture and Creative Photography Workshops

Highlighting: Portrait Photographer: Alan Forrest and Nature Photographer: Ron Bolduan

Saturday April 13, 2002

Anoka Hennepin Technical College

Since 1966, Alan Forrest has been recognized as a leading figure in the field of Fine Art Photographic Portraiture. He studied and worked in the field of theater and as a cinematographer for 12 years. In 1966 Alan Forrest Photography was opened, specializing in Fashion Photography and Glamorous Portraiture. Open for questions at the end of program.

Ron Bolduan is from New Ulm. A nature photographer that communicates with nature. He can give you a nature stroll in the Minnesota Valley that will take your breath away. Birds, beavers and deer to colorful landscapes, flowers and trees. Lots of fun things to see and do. Listen to him share information and learn his techniques. Open for questions at the end of program

Early bird registration deadline is March 23, 2002. The one-day event is on Saturday, April 13 at the Anoka Hennepin Technical College, 1355 West Hwy. 10 in Anoka, MN. Registration begins at 7:30 AM

AGENDA

8:15 AM Alan Forrest, portrait photographer

9:45 AM - SESSION ONE OPTIONS

- Two hour traditional approach to slide show production - Mike Prokosch
- Buying the right digital camera for you - Darrell Tangen
- Stereo photography - Ed and Connie Lower

• Marketing your photography

11:00 AM - SESSION TWO OPTIONS

- Building a slide show, part 2. Power Point techniques - Mike Prokosch
- Digital photo editing and digital issues, W.R.T. Prints - Dave Schoon
- Minnesota Wildlife Connection (photograph animals outside) - Lee and Sandy Greenly

11:00 AM to 1:00 PM - Vendor booths in lobbies of the college

12:00-1:00 PM - Lunch. Soup and sandwich included in registration fee.

1:15 PM - Ron Bolduan, nature photographer

3:30 PM - SESSION THREE OPTIONS

- Digital output on-line - Darrell Tangen
- Black Light Photography - Ed and Connie Lower

• Table Top Photography - Jim Foell

• Polaroid Transfers - Christopher Grey

4:45 PM - SESSION FOUR OPTIONS

- Develop a Personal Web-Page - Doug Congdon
- Hand Coloring Black & White Prints
- Close-Up Photography - JoAnn Kuntemeier

Remember to bring camera equipment for hands-on workshops!

The cost for MNPC members is \$45 if you register before March 23 or \$60 if you register later. Add \$7.75 if staying for the buffet following Spring Break.

Stay for the show! The Interclub photo contest awards will follow the buffet. Members may bring Interclub entries to the MNPC meeting on February 20. Rules and entry forms are available online at: www.cameracouncil.org or from MNPC member Mariann Cyr. Nancy Salinas of Faribault is the chair of Spring Break 2002.

RMSP "Festival" in St. Paul

The Rocky Mountain School of Photography is coming to St. Paul April 6-7. The two days of lectures, demonstrations, and slide examples are designed to develop your skills and expand your knowledge. Courses aimed at all levels, from beginners to burgeoning pros. Individual One Day: Pre-registration: \$85, at the door: \$95. Individual Both Days: Pre-registration: \$135, at the door: \$145. Groups of Five or more (pre-registration only): One day: \$60 per person, both days: \$100 per person. Call 1-800-394-7677, tell Cheri you are a member of The Minnesota Nature Photography

Club, and receive the group discount. (Thank you Mary Kay Bertas for making this arrangement.)

Each day there are three classroom sessions. During each session three topics are taught simultaneously in different rooms. You attend one class of your choosing each session. Those who attend a second day, have an opportunity to learn three additional subjects. There is no need to sign up for specific classes ahead of time. You may choose them on the day of the festival.

Classes include: Camera Basics / Zone System for Color / People Photography /

Intro to the Digital Darkroom / Choosing Films / Creative Techniques in Color / "The Myth of Talent" / Landscape Photography / Composition / Travel Photography / Filters for Color Photography / Beyond the Basics of Exposure / Composition / The Business of Photography / Presentation Techniques / Intro to Flash Photography / Macro Photography

For more information contact Rocky Mountain School of Photography, 210 N. Higgins Ave., Suite 101, Missoula, MT 59802-4443, 406-543-0171 or 800-394-7677, email: rmsp@rmsp.com.

Motion Pictures

Ron Winch

It was only yesterday - plus thirty years - that I focused the 400mm lens on a staggered line of geese at Silver Lake. F22 at 1/15 would almost guarantee sufficient depth to record a sharp image on Kodachrome 64. I was loosening the ball head to reframe the scene when, from somewhere out of the frame, a great rush of wings leaped from the glassy surface and beat their way skyward.

Instinctively I crouched, raising the lens to follow two geese as they winged skyward against a background of autumn cottonwood and silver maple. The motor-drive

chattered as the camera panned along with the birds. Ten seconds and fifteen frames later, it was all over. Reflecting on the moment, hoping that I had maintained focus and---. Oh no! Fat chance of any good images at 1/15 second.

A week later I anxiously retrieved the yellow box from the mailbox. Examining the images on the light table

yielded a pleasant surprise; relatively sharp images of geese against a painterly streaked background. Of the thirteen slides, three were keepers. One later made a half page in a prestigious national sporting magazine, and through the years had many more uses - including advertising.

Photographer Ernst Haas and noted German wildlife artist Manfred Schatz became my silent mentors as I studied their published works. Much later, in 1997, Art Wolfe gave the world a great photographic version of motion in his book *Rhythms from the Wild*. And, of course, Franz Lanting is always pushing the limits. Today, cameras with rear curtain sync invite the exploration of a whole new field of motion photography.

How does one tune in to this exciting aspect of photography? Several points need to be examined before the plunge.

1. Is your main goal competition or personal growth? Salons and competitions may not be ready for this yet, but new skills raise your personal growth another notch.

2. Are you satisfied capturing frozen moments in time, or would you like to show the passage of time?

3. Are you a gambler? Results are unpredictable and surprising. The number of keepers is generally quite low compared



to your normal shooting. However, the rewards can be outstanding.

Interested? Okay. Follow along and see what it takes in equipment, technique and attitude. In the beginning you'll need to see results quickly. Try anyplace where there is lots of repetitive activity, i.e. horse shows, rodeos, skateboarding, rollerblading, track meets, local ponds with abundant wildlife, or better

yet, try Silver Lake in Rochester with its thousands of wintering geese. Experiment with backgrounds. A solid blue sky does wonders for blurred wing beats. A broken landscape of trees and foliage allows for streaking backgrounds, making for a more dynamic photo.

The required equipment is already in your camera bag. Useful lenses can range from a 20mm for windblown grasses in a landscape to a 600mm for bird and animal captures. A tripod mounted camera eliminates the up and down motions when panning with the subject and keeps the motion flowing in one direction - thus emphasizing subject motion and minimizing any distortions.

Shutter speeds can range from a high of 1/125 for a fast action tele shot down to several seconds. For my style of shooting, speeds of 1/8 to 1/60 work well. Just remember, this is not written in stone - it simply works for me.

The most important equipment in this or any photographic endeavor can be found directly behind the viewfinder. It is the imagination and ability to visualize the action and the moment you hope to capture.

Most of us have recorded the motion of flowing streams and waterfalls. Now try to illustrate that same idea with a moving subject. The rewards are great. Give it a try.

January 2002 Salon

Judges

Dottie Lillestrand and Vijay Karai

10s

Neavin, Terry - Jumbo Rocks in Joshua Tree

Neavin, Terry - Prairie Smoke

9s

Scholljegerdes, Florence - Wild Rose in Rain

Samuelson, Tom - Fall on Oberg Mountain

Samuelson, Tom - The 3 Stools

McDonough, Jean - Whitesands #1

La Mere, John D. - Mountain Goat Kid

Hahn, Jeff - Fly

Goossens-Bryan, Betty - House Finch #1

Fleury, Cynthia - Pink Lupines

Ellenbecker, Dave - Show Lady Slipper Group #6

Cyr, Mariann - Nootka Lupine #1027

Cyr, Mariann - Rabbit Brush & Bluff

Cleveland, Ron - Alaska Range Talkeetna, AK

8s

Scholljegerdes, Florence - Bellwort #3

Nelson, Vern - 10 pt. White-Tailed Buck

Nelson, Vern - Mourning Cloak Basking on Rock

McDonough, Jean - Egret with Stick

Jenkins, John - Color of Autumn

Harlow, Jerry - MI Lake Superior Sunset
Gladitsch, Marilyn - Snapping Turtle Digging Nest

Galambos, Ted - Butterfly on Flower

Galambos, Ted - Goose on Lake Harriet

Fleury, Cynthia - Mushrooms

Duncan, Jim - Southwest Scenic #3

Bohlke, Dale - Oak Savanna Sunset

Bohlke, Dale - Tamarack Dawn

Bertas, Mary Kay - Antelope Canyon

Anderle, Steve - High Falls

Know your System

John Pennoyer

Over the years I have been telling my wife that “cold” is a state of mind. If a person will forget about the cold and have their mind concentrate on something else, it can be very easy to ignore the cold. Well on this cold January morning I was trying to do just that. The temperature was about -12 F and I was standing by the Mississippi River photographing trumpeter swans. The last hour or so was pretty quiet with very little action.

My frozen fingertips were buried in my heavy mittens, which were tucked under my armpits. To keep my toes warm I was constantly doing some type of dance in the same little circle. I am sure if any of the occupants in the neighboring houses were watching me, they would have been totally amused.

As I looked up the river I saw a small group of trumpeters flying towards me. I quickly took my hands out of the mittens and concentrated on this small group of swans. My meter was already set to -.3 EV, my focus was set to Dynamic, and my motor drive set to Continuous and as the swans approached, the AF locked on the lead swan. At the appropriate time I held the shutter down and fired off about 10-12 frames before they moved past me. I was sure that I had just taken the best photo of the day - four swans grouped tightly against a nice blue sky.

The story about cold and “state of mind” is definitely true because I now had this nice warm feeling throughout my body. But five minutes later my hands were tucked in my armpits and I was again doing “the dance”.

Over the years in teaching my photo workshops, one of the things that amazes me is how little some photographers know about their equipment. Why would a photographer purchase state of the art equipment and not learn how to use it. After all of those years of using a totally manual camera, I never realized how many photo ops I missed with it. Now I am certainly glad that I used this manual system because it really allowed me to understand “exposure”. However, with this new equipment we can now take photos that are very difficult to do with manual systems. But in order to do this we must be very intimate with our own particular camera system. We must then go out in the field and ex-



periment with this system. So how do we get to know our systems? “READ THE OWNER’S MANUAL”.

Yes, it is that simple! Reading the owner’s manual is the best way to get to understand your camera and become a better photographer. When I set my focus to Dynamic, that means that as the swans move within my frame, the AF will switch to a different AF sensor which will always keep the focus sharp. Setting motor drive to continuous will allow “Focus Tracking”.

Whenever I photograph birds or animals, I always set my mode to Aperture Priority. That will allow a photographer to select the aperture and the shutter speed will automatically be set to the fastest allowable speed. Also pre-setting the Exposure Value based on your subject and background will allow the photographer to concentrate on composition and not have to worry about exposure. To try and do this all at once with a manual camera system is next to impossible with any type of accuracy.

Some of the basic questions a photographer should ask themselves about their

camera system are:

Do I know how to——

1. Switch from Auto focus to Manual focus?
2. Change my EV (exposure value)?
3. Initiate Focus Tracking?
4. Change to various Modes (Aperture, shutter, and manual priorities)
5. Change my ISO settings for ease of pushing?
6. Initiate Auto Exposure Lock?
7. Change to various motor drive operations?
8. ????????????

Now if you can do all of this and more without ever taking your eye away from the viewfinder, you will certainly capture more images than you have ever done before. So if you do not know how to do some of these important functions, go get that owner’s manual and study it. Then practice with your camera and you will be rewarded with some stunning images.

Good Shooting!



New BH-3 compact ballhead from Kirk

Enterprises features full-size sure-grip knobs for easy control, even while wearing gloves. Weighs just 20 ounces. Height: 4.25 inches. Ball Diameter: 1.65 inches. Pan Base Diameter: 2.4 inches. Ball tilt: 45 and 90 degrees. Pan Base: 360 degree rotation with positive lock. Five-year warranty. All external components are crafted from tough 6061-T aircraft aluminum including the solid, captive-design knobs, and the internal metal parts are stainless steel and brass. The ballcup is a self-lubricating Delrin composite, and the tripod socket accepts 3/8-inch thread. The price of \$239.95 includes a special universal Arca-style quick release body/lens plate.

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Meeting on the third Wednesdays, Sept-May
at the Visitor Center of the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge, 3815 East 80th Street, Bloomington, MN

FIRST CLASS MAIL

February Program

Showing of Minnesota Botany Award Winning Slides

Tell a Story

Dale Bohlke

I frequently roam bookstores looking for a perfect book the way I roam the prairie looking for a perfect flower. Recently I found a fantastic photography book although there are no chapters on equipment, technique, or location. It is exclusively about composition, light, and visual poetry. The book was written for the landscape artist but the author's ideas can be easily transferred to nature photography.

We have all seen nature photographs that go beyond photojournalism and communicate on a deeper level. These photographs have impact! Transferring the ideas presented in this book to your photography will give impact to your slides. The Poetic Landscape, by Elizabeth Mowry (ISBN 0-8230-7067-4) can be found at Barnes and Nobles bookstores.

2002 COMO CONSERVATORY CAMERA AND ARTIST EVENTS

Dates when tripods and easels are allowed inside the Conservatory. Entry fee is \$5 per person.

WINTER FLOWER SHOW, Sunday, Feb. 17, 8-10:00 AM
SPRING FLOWER SHOW, Sunday, April 7, 8-10:00 AM
SUMMER FLOWER SHOW, Wednesday, June 12, 6:30-8:30 PM
FALL FLOWER SHOW, Sunday, November 3, 8-10:00 AM
HOLIDAY FLOWER SHOW, Sunday, December 8, 8-10:00 AM
For Information, call 651-487-8200 or 651-487-8201

Photograph Minnesota!

John Gregor of Coldsnap Photography announced a number of opportunities to learn and experience nature photography.

Winter Photography on the North Shore (in cooperation with the Grand Marais Art Colony)

Feb. 21-24 or 25, Thursday 2:00pm-Sunday 11:00am. Tuition - \$545.00 includes lodging and all meals. Extended workshop is an additional \$285.00

The Art of Seeing Photographically (Bloomington REI Store)

April 13, and September 21, 2002, 9am to 4pm, \$95 includes lunch.

Wildflowers of the Lake Superior Highlands (Wolf Ridge ELC near Finland, MN)

May 23-26, 2:00pm Thursday - 11:00 am Sunday. \$495 includes lodging and meals, dormitory style.

Sea Kayaking and Nature Photography (Voyageur's National Park)

September 1-6, 2002, \$795 includes kayak training, kayak equipment, lodging and meals. (50% deposit required). Maximum class size: 8 students

Lake Superior in Autumn (near Lutsen on the North Shore)

Sept. 26-29, Thursday 1:00pm-Sunday 11:00am. \$595 includes lodging and all meals.

For more information contact ColdSnap Inc., 3724 10th Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55407, (612) 822-2059 or visit their web site at http://www.coldsnap.com/html/s_index.html