

In Pocus

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NIGHT PHOTOGRAPHY

by

Michael O'Brien, photographer and educator at George Brown College, Toronto.

Photographs made at night can convey a sense of mystery, excitement, and beauty rarely seen in daytime images. Learning to make strong nocturnal images is easy and fun but we need a different working method since the challenges we face at night are quite different than those of daytime photography.

For instance, exposures can range from 1/2 second to three hours depending on the circumstances. This means that hand holding the camera is out. We must do every thing we can to reduce camera vibration thereby ensuring sharp images. Following are a few ways we can do this:

- **c** Mount your camera on a sturdy tripod with a solid tripod head. Nothing will improve image quality faster.
- **c** Use a quick release plate so you can take the camera on and off the tripod easily.
- **c** Use a remote release cable.
- **c** If your tripod has a center column with a hook, then hang your camera bag or other heavy object from it to 'ground' the tripod better.
- **c** In strong wind prevent the cable release and camera strap from dangling or swinging in a way that may cause vibration. Even better remove the camera strap or replace it with a smaller (and less awkward) wrist strap.
- **c** When releasing the shutter avoid jolting or tugging at the camera with the cable. Be careful not to touch the camera in any way during the exposure.
- **c** Use the mirror lock up function on your camera thereby eliminating the impact made by the camera's mirror during shutter release.
- **c** When working with a long lens make sure the camera is steady and balanced by using the lens' tripod collar or a Wimberley sidekick.
- **c** If working on the city streets keep in mind that traffic causes vibration and this will transfer directly to the camera resulting in blurred pictures.

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

January 7, 2008 Program

"Photography Through The Ages"

Wayne Tester

January 21 Monthly Slide & Print Competition #5

> February 4, 2008 Program

"Early Morning Photography" by Scott Simons, Niagara Falls Camera Club

February 11 Monthly Slide & Print Competition #6

c Night photography with digital capture differs in a number of ways from that done with film. For instance, with digital we do not have to deal with the 'reciprocity failure' present in film. This means that night pictures made with digital have a different look and feel than those made with film. It took me awhile to get used to this, but now I love it.

Digital capture at night often results in 'noise' or graininess in the photos. To remedy this there is noise reduction software available. I use the NR feature in Adobe Lightroom with satisfactory results.

Finally, aproach night photography with a spirit of fun and experimentation. It takes some time before you understand how things will look. That's what makes it such an incredibly creative thing to do!







Cliff, Chris and Colleen Empey

































Monthly Competition Scores - January 2008

Slides

roup Name Entries Awar

Group	Name	Entries	Awards	Points
Bronze				
	Denis Audette	12	12	192
	Jacqueline Dingma	n 12	12	192
	Terry Babij	12	12	191
	David Andrews	12	12	182
	Lynn Audette	12	12	182
	Cliff Empey	12	12	174
	Donna Dalgleish	12	11	174
	Denis Grantham	12	12	173
	Steven Simons	12	12	172
	Peter Veillette	12	8	166
	Gerda Amoraal	12	10	163
	Jacqueline Kenned	ly 12	9	162
	Debbie Wright	11	9	159
	Dorothy Seabourne	e 10	8	136
	Derek Bottomley	9	9	135
	Caroline Meyer	9	8	126
	Kirk Stokes	3	3	48
	Ronda Burnett	3	3	40
Silver				
	Ken Borutski	12	9	166
	John Burroughs	12	5	151
Gold				
	Audrey Perry	12	3	144
	Dean Cruikshank	12	3	143
	Eugene Dickson	12	1	122
	Carol Jessop	12	0	121
	George Keeley	9	0	91
Diamond				
	Karen Fulham	12	9	186
	Leslie Khan	12	7	181
	Chris Empey	12	7	178
	Scott Simons	12	6	171
	Sharon Murray	12	5	163
	Laura Cardwell	12	3	153

Group	Name	Entries	Awards	Points
Bronze				
	David Andrews	8	8	128
	Jan DiMartino	8	8	125
	Peter Veillette	8	8	120
	William Stokes	8	6	102
	Dorothy Seabourne	e 6	6	88
	Kirk Stokes	6	5	84
	Bill Feder	6	3	70
	Derek Bottomley	6	4	68
	Robert Forsey	4	3	47
	Debbie Wright	2	2	29
	Jeremy Hutch	1	1	15
Silver				
	Denis Audette	8	8	128
	Terry Babij	8	7	122
	Lynn Audette	8	7	122
	Donna Dalgleish	8	6	110
	John Burroughs	8	3	94
Gold				
	Jacqueline Dingma	an 8	7	126
	Laura Cardwell	8	7	126
	Cliff Empey	8	5	111
	Carol Jessop	4	1	47
Diamond				
	Leslie Khan	8	5	119
	George Beehler	8	4	116

Monochrome Prints

Bronze				
	David Andrews	8	8	122
	Jan DiMartino	8	7	112
	Peter Veillette	8	6	100
	Bill Feder	6	1	61
	William Stokes	6	3	60
	Kirk Stokes	4	3	56
	Jeremy Hutch	2	0	19
Silver				
	Terry Babij	8	8	125
	Lynn Audette	8	8	123
	Denis Audette	8	5	116
	John Burroughs	8	4	100
	Derek Bottomley	2	2	29
Gold				
	Jacqueline Dingman	8	6	122
Diamond				
	Leslie Khan	8	6	124
	Chris Empey	8	2	104
	George Beehler	8	2	103

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