

DEVELOPMENTS



Memphis
Camera
Club

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Club notes:

In the September Club Competition, we saw an outstanding example of lightning landscape photography by Jack Van Hooser. Since the meeting, I have heard a number of members both complementing the photograph and wondering how it was done. I thought I would do some research about technique and maybe Jack can update us on his technique if I am too far off. Here are some suggestions I found for lightning photography:

1. Use a tripod, cable release, and 70mm or greater focal length lens
2. Set the shutter speed to "B"
3. Set the ISO for 100 and aperture to f 8 (other sources use larger apertures)
4. Find a suitable vista that will allow viewing from a distance
5. Focus at infinity with autofocus off
6. Hold the shutter open for one or more strikes of lightning (more on timing to follow)
7. Close the shutter and repeat the preceding

Remember the good vista, watch the weather reports, and "be there" while the storm is passing. By there five miles is close enough. Lightning will make an exposure at almost any aperture but if one tries to lengthen the exposure by closing the aperture or by using a neutral density filter, the risk is that the bolts are thinner than desirable. If the storm is more than five miles away or filtered by smog, one might try f 5.6. If it is closer than 3-5 miles try f 11, but think of your safety first. Also shoot at night as it is easier to slow down the shutter speed. Daylight lightning photography can be done and also be impressive but might be more challenging with more ambient light present. A device called the Lightning Trigger can be attached to your camera and it senses the lightning in time to make an exposure. It can detect lightning up to 20 miles away. It might be a good idea to photograph close to your car. If you are working at the tripod and you feel goose bumps or the hair on the back of your neck suddenly tingles, lightning may soon strike very close. **JUMP IN THE CAR IMMEDIATELY!!** To estimate how far away lightning is, count the seconds between seeing the flash and hearing the thunder. Each 5 seconds equals one mile.

Observe the lightning for awhile before taking a picture. You will observe some cloud to ground (CG) lightning strikes very fast (fraction of a second finished and gone). Other CG bolts strike and pulse up to 2 seconds. Street lightning (anvil crawlers) sometimes last up to a second or more as it spreads across the sky. If the storm is "close" to you and you see it moving the exposure times should be at most be 15 seconds as the clouds will blur. If it is farther away the exposures between 20 seconds and 2 minutes might be tried.

Lightning Facts: Lightning is hotter than the surface of the sun--as much as three times hotter. An individual bolt can pack several hundred million volts at 10,000 amps, one trillion watts, briefly using more electrical power than is being used in the entire U.S. The agency FEMA quotes that there is an average of 66 people killed by lightning in the US each year. In 2004 there were 32 and 2005 there were 43 deaths.

MCC meets Twice a Month
1st Thursday: Competition
3rd Thursday: Program & Business
In the Longinotti Auditorium
behind St. Francis Hospital ER
West of Park & Ridgeway
At 7:00 PM

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PROGRAMS FOR 2006

October:

3rd Thursday: Charles Alexander: Wildlife Photography with a special view of the endangered lowland gorillas of Africa.

2nd Thursday: Digital Class—Scanners

4th Thursday: Class for Enthusiastic Photographers by Carl and Tom. Welcome back Tom !!

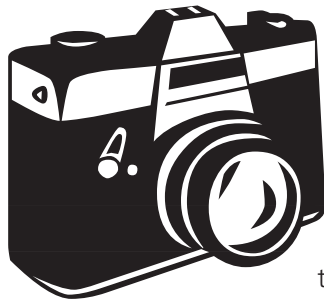


November:

3rd Thursday:

November will end the 2006 year for the Memphis Camera Club and is our time for electing new officers. In accordance with the by-laws, the slate of officers offered by the Nominating Committee for 2007 is:

President: Barry Siegel
Vice President: Ronnie Booze
Treasurer: Blair Ball
Secretary: Angie Menne
Director: Brenda Silberman
Director: Bob Laster



The election will be held on the 3rd Thursday in November at the business meeting.

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In 2005 there were 172 injuries related to lightning. People who survive lightning strikes suffer from a variety of long-term debilitating symptoms, including memory loss, sleep disorders, numbness, joint stiffness, muscle spasms and depression.

So, even more impressive that Jack captured such an impressive shot. In fact, Jack told me he was less than a mile from the strike. You might try some yourselves but be careful.

From the British Daily Mirror: Lightning Bolt Throws Photographer in the Air.

When the sky darkened and lightning began to flash, Kane Quinnell grabbed his new digital camera, hoping to snap some pictures of the approaching storm. He balanced his camera on his car, under the carport of his home and aimed the lens southward. "In the north you could see a few stars and it wasn't raining," he recalled. "The storm looked like it

was 5-10 kilometers to the south. I thought it was perfectly safe to be outdoors taking photos. I hit the exposure button several times and nothing. On the fourth attempt I hit the button and saw this lightning and heard the thunder. It was like a crack. The next thing I was about two meters in the air--it scared the _ell out of me." Mr Quinnell estimated the lightning struck about 20 meters away. Unhurt but buzzing with adrenaline, he rushed inside to check the photo on his computer. "I was amazed. It was the first storm picture I had really taken." He e-mailed the picture to friends and suspects one of them forwarded it to the Bureau of Meteorology, because someone from the Bureau called to ask if the shot could be published with 11 other spectacular photographs in the 2006 weather calender.

MCC Family Picnic!

On what was the most beautiful day of 2006, a group of photographers from the MCC got together at the home of Charlotte Zortman. There was a large amount of delicious food provided by club members and some tasty hot dogs and hamburgers provided by the Club. Thanks to Blair for acting as the grill-master for the event. In addition to food and fellowship, our hostess provided the group with ideas for fun outdoor games that members took to with gusto. Of course, there were many cameras present and those images should be available soon. "Thanks" to the members of the Field Trip Committee for organizing the event. A very special "Thanks" to Charlotte for opening her beautiful home to us for a very pleasant get together.



Photo by Angie Menne

Thanks To:

Congratulations to the Field Trip Committee and Carl for the fun evening Zoo Extravaganza. Also congratulations to all the club members for such fine photographs.

October Photos of the month



Print Competition

Nature

"Garden Poppy"
Barry Siegel- 27 Points

Color Open Print

"In Orbit"

M. J. Scanlon- 25 Points

Color Scenic Print

"Salt Spring Sunset"

Barry Siegel - 27Points (POM)

B&W Print

"Kudzu Dragons"

John Stitt- 27 Points Points

Portrait Print

"Father's Protective Watch"
Patti Possel - 24 Points

Candid People

"Hungarian Rhapsody"
Glenn Fuqua - 23 Points

Creative

"Fiery Skies"

Ronnie Booze - 25 Points

Slide Competition

Nature Slide

"A New Beginning"
Blair Ball - 21 Points

Scenic or Landscape Slide

"Golden Beams"
Blair Ball- 23 Points (SOM)

Open Slide

"Wing Walking"
Blair Ball - 23 Points



"Salt Spring Sunset"
Barry Siegel - 27Points (POM)



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Barry Siegel- 27 Points



"Hungarian Rhapsody"
Glenn Fuqua- 23 Points



"Father's Protective Watch"
Patti Possel - 24 Points



"Fiery Skies"
Ronnie Booze - 25 Points



Be a good Winner

Be sure to send your images to maryphotcollage@aol.com and ellen.isaacman@goodadvertising.com for the web and newsletter respectively. This applies to both the slide and print of the month as well as all category winners. Send your stuff.

Special thanks to these Judges:

Carl Nilson, Bob Laster, Dale Cox and Mary Stubbs. There was a whopping number of photographs entered this month... 60 Prints and 7 slides!

ASSIGNED CATEGORIES FOR 2006

November: Bonus Category worth 200 points in year-end competition and special recognition in January. Topic: Awe-Inspiring Image. The reviewer must say WOW in very way.

December: Most Effective Use of Color. This month will apply to competition points for 2007.

Check Our Website. It's Great!

www.memphiscameraclub.org

There is also additional information about dates of photo related events in the Mid South, field trips, etc at the website.

Competition Chair's Corner

End of the year competition.

The end of the year competition is coming up fast. January will be here before you know it. So now is a good time to get started getting your slides and prints ready for year end. They will be due to Carl Nilson not later than January 5, 2007. This year you may enter up to six (6) images that were in the 2006 calendar year's competition and scored a 20 or better.

We will have a special competition and prizes for new members that have been in the club less than one year (Dec 2005 – November 2006). They may enter in the new members' competition. New members are allowed a total of six images. The new member may divide them between the regular competition and the new member competition. For the new member competition the only requirement is that the image must have been entered in competition this year. The minimum score is waived. Any print going in the regular competition must meet the minimum score requirements.

Please burn a copy of your images to a CD so Carl can put together the slide show of all the entries. To project well your images should be reduced to a resolution of 100 DPI and resized to 800 pixels for the longest side and saved as a JPG file. Another way to get about the same thing is to save your image as an 8X10 JPG at 100 DPI. Bring the CD to Carl not later than January 5.

Let me know what you think.
Email me at dale.cox@goodadvertising.com

New and inexperienced photographers may find this list useful.

Photo Facts from 45 years experience:

1. A camera will roll from the seat in your car no matter how easily you brake.
2. Lens caps are consumed by unknown forces. Photo vests are inhabited by an unknown force.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"Photography is more than a medium for factual communication of ideas. It is a creative art."— Ansel Adams

For the non-landscape photographers:

"In the business of portrait photography, one must combine the artist and the craftsman."— Louis Fabian Bachrach

October Birthdays

Steve Copen	10/03
Judy Street	10/16
Charlotte Zortman	10/17
David Clark	10/18
Marlene Siegel	10/18
Mary Stubbs	10/20
Tripp Arena	10/22
Ray Albonetti	10/27
Gale Reeves	10/14



We missed Elias Collier whose birthday was September 24th. Happy birthday to you all!

3. Lens manufacturers embed a fingerprint in the center of each lens. These may briefly disappear when the lens is "Cleaned".
4. Camera bags are either too big or too small, but the perfect camera bag can be found. I have 10 of them.
5. The one piece of gear you leave at home will be the one piece you really, really need.
6. Camera repairs always take too long and cost too much. Conversely, the problem you are experiencing will not manifest itself on the repair bench.
7. Camera straps have an innate attraction for animals and small children. This force will cause them to migrate to the edge of any table in spite of being carefully placed in the center.
8. Cameras should always be loaded in anticipation of the prize-winning photo. Conversely, you will not remember what is loaded and your battery will be dead.

Feel free to add to this list as your experience grows.
Good luck, Tom Furlotte

Race for the Cure photographers meeting

Race for the Cure photo coordinator, Tom Furlotte, will hold a meeting with the members who have expressed their desire to participate in taking photographs at the Race.

The meeting will be on Sunday, October 22, at 2pm in the auditorium at St Frances Hospital.

Photo assignments will be given and a guide for coverage will be discussed. Examples of photos from previous races will be shown.