

FOCUS.. CLICK.. DEVELOP..

Photography Newsletter



April / May 2007
Volume 2 No. 4
Editor: Teresa Pearson
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Editor's Comments

Spring is here and what great photo opportunities exist! I know it is sometimes hard to get up early in the morning to get the sunrise pictures but surely you can manage to get up and get a picture between 8 and 10AM, because that is one of the ideal times to take pictures. If there is no way that you can make yourself get out of bed, then you are set to get the sunset pictures. During and just after sunrise and just before and during sunset are the best times of day to get your pictures because the sun is not directly overhead or creating shadows. Of course you know to help eliminate shadows; you just turn your flash on.

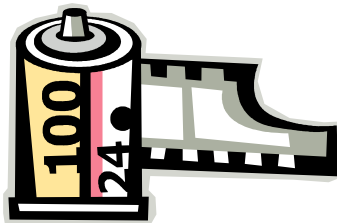
I have been trying to get all different kinds of outdoor photos from animals, flowers, the sky, and action photos of balloons taking off. It is quite a challenge.

I have also been trying to follow along on the lessons at porters.com.

If you run out of fresh or new ideas of something to photograph, try looking at different photo websites to see what others do or check out some contests.

Until next time, keep your camera close and anticipate the next great shot!

Teresa



Suggestions

The end of school is near and so is Easter, May Day, and Memorial Day. You might try shooting:

- Easter egg hunt
- Easter basket with goodies
- Family activities
- Flags at the cemetery
- Decorations at the cemetery
- Ceremonies or parades

For a story board, you might try:

- Planting and harvesting the garden or flower bed
- Planting and harvesting of a hay or wheat field
- Preparations for a family vacation
- The family vacation
- End of school year activities



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Shooting Tips

What I hope to demonstrate in this section is the idea of filling the frame or cropping. Look at the picture below....



This is a “nice” picture of a flower but what are you trying to show or tell the person looking at the picture?

Now look at the picture below...



This picture is a little more interesting especially if you were trying to show the center of the flower or how pretty the flower is. Notice in this picture, there is not a lot of “trash” in the background or surrounding the flower to take away from its beauty. The “trash” in the other pictures is the flower pot in the background, the gravel, and the dead leaves on the plant. Notice also the shallow

depth of field which caused the flower to be in focus and the gravel surrounding it to be blurred.

Resources

Do not forget to check out your local library and county extension office for more information on how to take better photographs.

At www.porters.com under the message board, there is a Back to Basics for Photographers class. It is for both film and digital cameras. It has different lessons to go through and you can also receive feedback. I subscribe to their newsletter and have found it to be informative. You might take a minute and browse the website.

Every day it seems there is another book or magazine out that teaches photography. Check out your local library or book store.

Events/Contests

www.porters.com has a monthly calendar contest. Check to see what the next theme is.

Town Square magazine is looking for photos and stories about happenings in small towns. Check out www.townsquaremagazine.com for information on how to submit your photo or story.



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Test Your Knowledge

1. A process that inserts pixels of color to gradually blend two contrasting colors is
 - A. Dithering
 - B. Color depth
 - C. Artifacts
 - D. Lossy
2. For macro photography, the camera can be steadied by
 - A. A beanie baby
 - B. A bag of rice
 - C. A tripod
 - D. All the above
3. An image that overlays part of the picture and can identify ownership of the picture is a
 - A. Dither
 - B. Lossy
 - C. Watermark
 - D. Artifact
4. What is determined by the number of possible colors stored in memory used to define each pixel?
 - A. Lossy
 - B. Color depth
 - C. Artifact
 - D. Focus
5. Distortions as a result of lossy compression are
 - A. Downloads
 - B. Packages
 - C. Artifacts
 - D. Crops
6. To compensate for depth of field issues,
 - A. Crop closely
 - B. Use low light conditions
 - C. Photograph the subject as “flat” as possible.
 - D. Use a tripod
7. What eliminates camera shake for close up shots?
 - A. Macro lens
 - B. Lossy compression
 - C. Cable shutter release
 - D. Telephoto lens
8. Any effort to reduce the file size of a picture is referred to as
 - A. Optimization
 - B. Pixelization
 - C. Artifacts
 - D. Graphic
9. The larger the color depth, the
 - A. More colors
 - B. Less colors
10. Employers usually seek photographer applicants with
 - A. A good technical understanding of photography
 - B. A “good eye”
 - C. Imagination and creativity
 - D. All the above
11. Grayscale photos are usually smaller file sizes than similar photos.
 - A. True
 - B. False

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Just For Fun

A P E R T U R E A G B C
D U I E H N G F E N D K
J E J D S D K L M I N R
U S T N S E R Q P T O A
S O E I U R V W N H X M
T L B F A E Z I Y G G R
A C F W C X R D E I N E
B A I E G P B F E L I T
L M L I F O C U S T T A
E E M V D S H I O N H W
C R S Y L E X I P O G M
A A P N M K L J X R I O
M A E O P Q R S E F L O
E N E T V W U X R Z E R
R G D H F N E Y E A D K
A L I G S L D C V B I R
J E S U N S E T O M S A
K S B A C K G R O U N D

See if you can find these words in the puzzle:

Adjustable camera	Aperture
Background	Body
Camera angles	Close up
Darkroom	Film
Film speed	Focus
Frontlighting	Lens
Overexpose	Pixel
Print	Sunset
Sidelighting	Underexpose
Viewfinder	Watermark

Answers to Feb/Mar Test Your Knowledge.

1.B, 2.D, 3.C, 4.D, 5.C, 6.B, 7.A, 8.B, 9.A, 10.B

Answers to Feb/Mar Just For Fun

Express Yourself In Photography

Contest Updates

Several of our readers have submitted photos to the Ranger Rick magazine contest. Remember if your photo is picked, please let me know and we'll mention it in the next newsletter.

P.S.

If one of your photographs or an article you have written is published in a newspaper or magazine or wins a top award in a contest, let me know and I'll publish it in the next newsletter.

If you have an idea for a photograph or a technique that has worked for you, let me know so we can share it with others.

Don't forget that if you have any questions or suggestions, you can e-mail me at photoks4h@hotmail.com for instructions on how to get published in my newsletter, submit a suggestion, or for answers to your questions.

