



The Sioux Projector

The Official Newsletter of the Sioux Falls Camera Club

<http://www.siouxfallscameraclub.com>

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October 2008 Edition

Fall Fling Edition

******NOTE MEETING LOCATION CHANGE******

The Sioux Falls Camera Club will now be meeting at the Oak View Public Library, located at 3700 East Third Street, which is just north of our former meeting place at the Kenny Anderson Community Center.

Meetings will start at 7 p.m.

Tuesday, October 7th

Dory Erickson will show a series of old slides of Sioux Falls and old vacation shots from the 60's and 70's that were purchased at an auction. Although the photographer is unknown, it should be interesting to take a look back to see what changes have taken place over the last 40 years. Who knows, maybe they were taken by a former SFCC member!

Val Goering will be providing the tasty treats.

Tuesday, October 21st

This will be the second month for the new group critique sessions. Each member is invited to bring one image to share for an evening of creative learning! Be sure to provide the technical data for your images and be prepared to discuss your inspiration for your particular shot.

Ken Starkenburg will provide refreshments.

Sioux Falls Camera Club 2008-2009



Officers and Board Members for 2008-2009

President (Interim):	Roger Rose	605-271-3226
Vice President:	Sandy Tebben	605-743-2044
Secretary – Treasurer:	Linda Rensberger	605-361-2708
3 Yr.:	(1 yr. remain) Eric Merrill	605-339-3075
3 Yr.:	(2 yr. remain) Don Rensberger	605-361-2708
3 Yr.:	(3 yr. remain) Sarah Lynde	605-641-1413
1 Yr.:	Roger Rose	605-271-3226

Chairpersons

Programs:	Steve Thompson	605-528-3675
SFCC Prints & Slides:	Roger Rose	605-271-3226
Newsletter Editor:	Marty DeWitt	605-594-8198
Club Historian:	Ken Starkenburg	605-338-0209
Hospitality:	Val Goering	605-335-3834
Promotions/Website:	Amy Vander Vorste	605-366-2213
	Sarah Lynde	605-641-1413
N4C Entries:	Ron Balthazor	605-371-1607
N4C Digital:	Eric Merrill	605-339-0187
Points & Awards:	Jim Stone	605-339-0187
Sioux Empire Fair:	Roger Rose	605-271-3226

Feel free to contact the board members or chairpersons concerning Camera Club business.

Dues

Individuals: \$18.00 Family: \$27.00

Please pay Linda Rensberger, Secretary-Treasurer

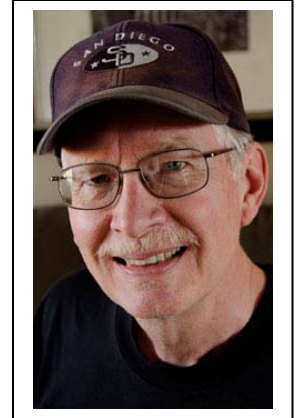
The Sioux Falls Camera Club meets at 7:00 P.M., the first and third Tuesdays, September through May, at the Oak View Library, 3700 E 3rd Street, Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!

The Sioux Projector

The Sioux Projector is a monthly publication, (except for July and August), of the Sioux Falls Camera Club, Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Newsletter Deadline is the second Tuesday of the month. Contact editor Marty DeWitt at martydewitt@hotmail.com.

THE New/OLD/NEW PREZ SEZ!



At our September 16th meeting, five brave members presented their work for the club's first attempt at "critique night." Each presenter gave a little background information about the photograph, including ISO, shutter speed, and aperture settings as well as lighting and composition concerns.

After a close inspection of the photographs, the group provided feedback, mostly positive and constructive, on the strong points of the photo and possible modifications for improvement. I found the entire process to be potentially an excellent way to gain unbiased opinions and suggestions on how to make a photograph more appealing.

I think most of us often wonder if a photograph we've taken is good enough to enter into competition or perhaps even good enough to sell. Our family members are not the best source of feedback because if they often tell us what they think we want to hear. Comments from judges, whether local or from N4C, are usually so abbreviated they create more questions than answers.

On this first attempt we viewed only prints, however, at our October critique night, you will be able to bring either a print or a digital file. I will discuss this in more detail our October 7th meeting.

On another topic, I am curious as to what programs and activities you might like to see the club attempt this year. Is there some type of photography or photo technique you would like to learn more about? Let me know what you want so we can provide information and programs more meaningful to you.

See you at the next meeting!

Roger Rose, Interim President (IP)

New SFCC Website!

Amy has been working on the website and is now ready to add links to members' websites. If you'd like a link to your site, send Amy an email with your website URL. If you'd like to see the updated camera club website, you can see it at: <http://www.siouxfallscameraclub.com/>

Amy is also open to ideas of what else we can do with the site. (She hopes to start looking into galleries if there's enough interest) Please let her know of your great ideas!

Latest Tips from the PUG!

From Amy VanderVorste

Here are the Photoshop User's Group tips from the September 30th gathering. There were some great tips and discussions! We even had some time to tinker with images people brought in.

Hope you enjoy the tips. See you there next time. (Or you'll miss out on the popcorn, seeing the tips live, and the great discussion!)

Tips Presented by Roger Rose

1. The Cheesecake shot - high key images. Roger showed us how he processed his cheesecake shot from the last club meeting's member critique.

He had a nice shot with cheesecake on a white plate with a mug all on a white background. But he really wanted to focus on the cheesecake and have more of a "high key" look. To achieve this effect he did the following:

- Open a new file the same size as the original image, with a white background. Then copy the original image layer into the new image file. You can click in the image layer in the original file and drag it to the new file.
- Copy the bottom white layer and place it on top of the image layer. CTRL J on the white layer is a quick way to do this.
- Bring the opacity of the top white layer down a bit so you can see the image layer below it.

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- Create a mask on the white layer. (Click the "Add layer mask" button - the one with the square and a white circle on it, in the layers palette.)
- Choose the color black and a soft (hardness = 0) large brush. (Black in a layer mask will allow the layer below to show through in that section, instead of the top layer.)
- Make the opacity very low on the brush. Roger set it to about 12.
- Ensure you have the layer mask selected in the layer palette, and brush in the areas you want to show through the top layer.
- Keep brushing until you have the effect you want.
- If you need to redo an area and cover it more with the top layer, use the brush on the mask with the color white.

2. Enhancing the background on an image Roger had a snapshot of a cat and showed how he modified the background to be light brown and lightly textured to create more of a focus on the cat than the background.

- Repeat the first two steps above.
- Put a brown layer on top this time.
- Repeat same technique as tip #1. (Use a mask to have the subject - the cat in this case - show through the brown layer.)
- Use a contrasting colored soft spatter brush (Roger used white) to texturize the background lightly.

Tips Presented by Dave

1. Using "Quad Tones" to make Black and white or toned images.

Have a copy of your image open.

- Convert your image to grayscale. (Image->Mode->Grayscale is one way.)
- Then Image->Mode->Duotone
- Set the Type to Quadtone
- Click Load and find the quadtone presets: (They are likely in Program Files/Adobe/ (Photoshop program Directory) / Presets/Duotones/Quadtones if you have a windows machine.) We chose the Pantone Quadtones and the last one available in the listing. It gave a nice sepia tone. Tinker with the other tones to see what effects you get.

Tips Presented by Amy

1. "Spotting" your images easily.

Here's an easy way to check your image for spots and dust. I saw this tip on Photoshop Killer Tips. <http://www.photoshopkillertips.com/archives/497>

- Open your image and zoom in to at least 100%.
- Notes: The "Home" key on the keyboard will take you to the top left corner of the image. And the "End" key will take you to the bottom right corner of the image.
- Pick a corner to start in. Then use the "Page down" or "Page up" keys to scoot down or up in the image and check for spots. Add Shift to the "Page up" or "Page down" key and you scoot over and (left or right respectively). And you can use just the "Page up" or "Page down" keys to go through the next column in your image.
- An alternate to this method is to use the navigator palette and scoot the little viewing box around.

2. Applying layers of changes to another image.

- Open both your images. In image 1, create a layer group (click the button that looks like a file folder in the layers palette). Make your adjustments in there.
 - I did a quick vignette. To do this, zoom out so your image is all showing in the window and create a new layer and choose the gradient tool. (It's on the same button area as the fill/paint bucket tool.) Choose the black to transparent gradient. Click the reverse check box.
 - Click in the center of the image, hold and drag to well past the image. Adjust the opacity as necessary.
 - I did a quick levels adjustment layer too.
- Ensure your new layers that modify the image are in the group.
- SHIFT+CTRL and drag the layer group to new image. It will place and center the layers for you.

3. Black and white adjustment layer. (My current favorite way to convert to black and white, although I'll have to play with the duotones that Dave showed us.)

- Have your image open.
- Click on the adjustment layers tool in the layers palette and choose black and white.
- Tinker with the sliders until you have the contrast you want. (Note the colors that your image is predominantly covered in will be the sliders you want to tinker most with. If your image has a lot of red - tinker with the red, yellow and maybe the magentas first.)
- You can also use the auto button and tinker from there.

Memory Cards in Bulk!

From Eric Merrill

(Note: Eric Merrill has been snooping around lately for great deals on memory cards. And we all know how cheap he is! Here's his latest find. If you're interested, act fast because it ends October 11th!)

Thought I'd pass this along... Lately, I've been buying memory cards whenever Sandisk has a rebate going. Last time, I had to wait several months, and call back, but I did get my rebate.

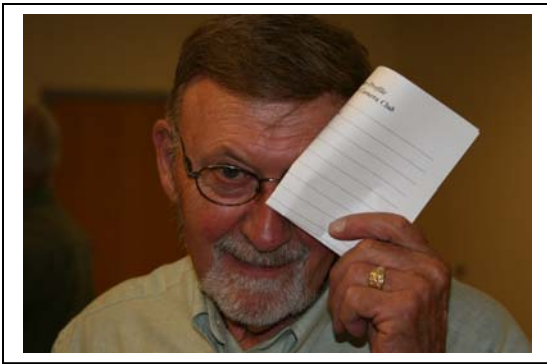
<http://www.adorama.com/IDSCFE38G30M.html>

Buy one for \$16.95.

Or buy 3 for \$10.85 after rebate.
That's right...\$3.62 each.

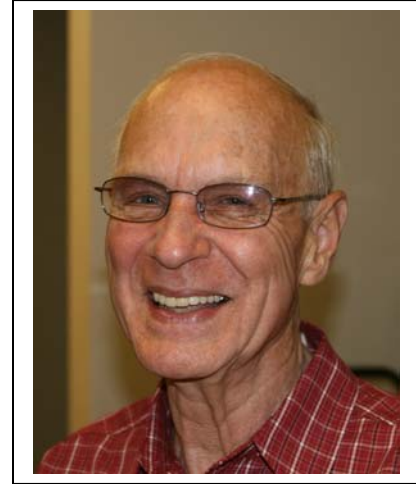
\$56.95 X 3 = \$170.85.

Sandisk will give you \$160 back on the purchase of three. Sweet!



SFCC Member "ON A MISSION!"

SFCC member Don Rensberger has been a dedicated club member, and has given generously of his time over the years. Lately, Don has been sharing his service in other parts of the country, doing his part to assist those in need. He recently served for 2 1/2 weeks with the Red Cross in Houma, Louisiana helping with the devastation following Hurricane Gustav and Hurricane Ike. Don's team worked with food distribution, going to the coastal areas with a mobile feeding unit to feed the hungry. Last year he went to California to assist with services for those displaced by the many forest fires. At that time he worked in providing temporary shelter for victims. Don finds working with the Red Cross very interesting and rewarding. Next time you see him, give him a pat on the back!



Member Honored!

Another dedicated and long-standing SFCC member, Ken Starkenburg, received the President's Volunteer Service Award on September 27, 2008. Ken was recognized for his lifetime of volunteer service to the Sioux Falls community. The ceremony included breakfast (Ken will do almost anything for food, you know.....) and a presentation of a medal and letter from President George W. Bush.

"Monthly Themes for 2008-2009"



- October* - Halloween
- November* - In Motion
- December* - Inspiration
- January* - Candle light
- February* - Love & Romance
- March* - Spring
- April* - Wet Stuff
- May* - Anything Goes



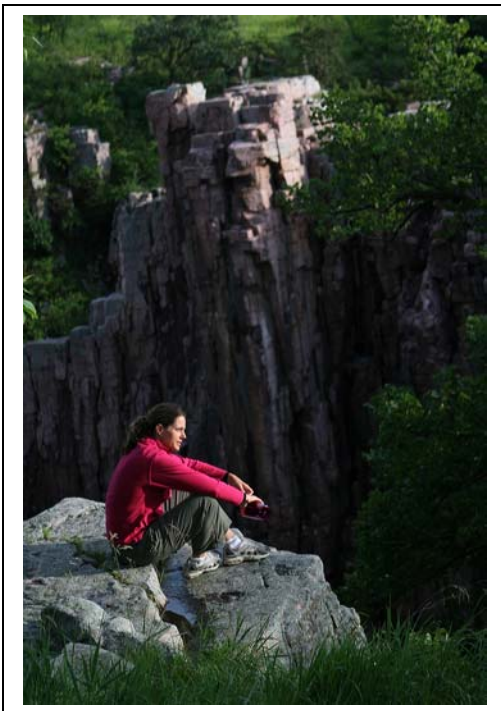
NAC Digital Results

September Digital Pictorial (DP)

- | | | |
|------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| 2nd | “All Ears” | Roger Rose |
| 37pts | “Blissfully Unaware” | Eric Merrill |
| 36pts | “Beauty That Starts From Inside” | |
| | | Amy Vander Vorste |
| 33pts | “Tired of Tourists” | Ron Balthazor |

September Digital Nature (DN)

- | | | |
|------------|----------------------------|----------------------|
| 2nd | “Geese in the Mist” | Ron Balthazor |
| 22pts | “The Catch” | Eric Merrill |



Smithsonian Photo Contest

The Smithsonian has announced an exciting photo contest. Entries are being accepted in the categories, The Natural World, Americana, Altered Images, Travel and People. Check out their contest site at:

<http://photocontest.smithsonianmag.com/v6/>

Take Your Best Shot!

By Marty DeWitt, SFCC Editor

I, for one, hope you made time this last month to get out and explore. I have seen a real increase in the number of people venturing out to the parks with cameras in hand, and have had the pleasure to see some of their shots and listen to their stories. It’s been fun.

This time of year is special, not only for the fall colors, but also for the abundance of wildlife, the brilliant sunsets (I’m assuming the sunrises are pretty wild, too... but I don’t see many of them...), the morning dew, the gatherings of birds making ready for their journey south, and so many other natural scenes just waiting to be captured. Also, it seems as the days get shorter, the light gets even richer, and the many scenes around us take on a whole different appearance.

It’s also time to start thinking about that special shot for your family Christmas card or letter. Why not try something different this year? Rather than the standard “everybody does it” group shot on the stairs or the front porch, why not get a little more adventuresome this year? Find a neat setting in a park or by a downtown storefront. Arrange yourselves around a unique sculpture. Experiment with some of your new PhotoShop skills and create different effects or borders for a new “look”. The opportunities are only limited by your imagination.

Basically, it’s time to spread your wings and try something new. Play with different angles, different lighting effects, variable depth of field, and you just might be amazed. And who knows, you might even end up having folks ask you to take their pictures, and a whole new world of fun might open up before you.

**Remember- Happy “Clickers”
Take Better Pictures!**

The Fine Print – The opinions expressed in “Take Your Best Shot” are those of the SFCC *Sioux Projector* editor, and not often (but occasionally I get lucky) those of the SFCC and its awesome photographers. Corrections, rebuttals, and certainly kind words are graciously invited but, depending on my mood, may or may not be published in future issues. Got a better idea? Think I’m all wet? Bring it on!!!