



Catherine Gardner

4 May meeting features a desire to explore



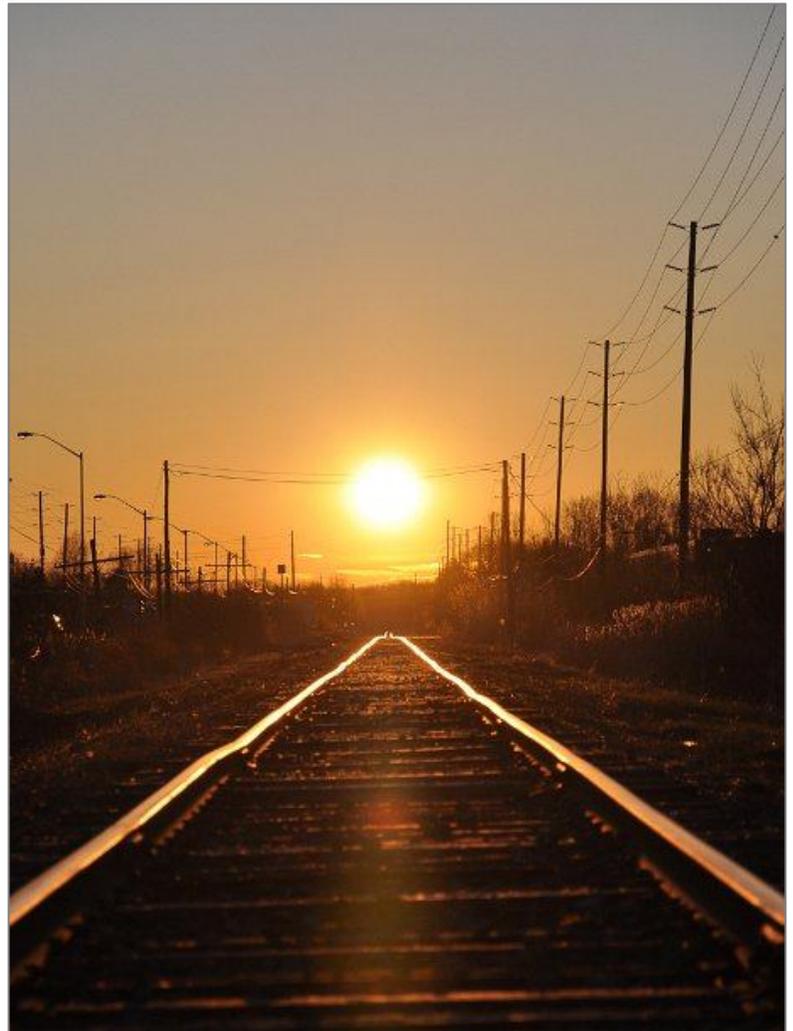
The May Digital Camera Club meeting has Catherine Gardner presenting some of her outstanding photos. Catherine has been featured on CTV's *Regional Contact*. She has a wide repertoire of photographic interests but her favourites are nature,

wildlife and photojournalism. She prefers to explore and find opportunities wherever she can find them. Her extensive photo gallery can be seen on her web site at <http://www.pbase.com/catherinegardner/root>

The meeting on Friday 4 May begins at 9:15 and will also include a review of the "open" category photos from April which we did not have time go over at the last meeting.



"Misty Morning" by Anne Jones



"Sunrise" by Bill Robertson

Send in your Spring Pics

"Spring" is probably one of our most popular and easiest assignments.

Everything is turning green and the flowers are beginning to bloom. The migratory birds have arrived and there is activity all around. What better time to get your camera out and take some pictures. Trilliums were already out at the Beaver Pond on 18 April..

The deadline for submission is Sunday 29 April so that they can be shown at the 4 May meeting.

Members can also get started on our final topic for the year – "Looking Up, Looking Down."

We had a great number of submissions last month and we will take the time at the May meeting to review them as well.

Submission guidelines can be found on page 3.

Month	Assignment	Deadline	To be shown
April	Spring	29 April	4 May
May	Look up/down	27 May	1 June

Flowers are a popular photography subject

Flower photography can be challenging, but is hugely rewarding. Learn the art of choosing a good subject and battling the wind.

Flowers are without a doubt one of the most photographed subjects. It isn't hard to see why - we are surrounded by them, and their wide range of colours, shapes, and sizes mean that you rarely have to venture far before you find one that catches your eye.

There are several principles that you can follow to give your flower photos more impact, capturing lots of detail and making them engaging to the viewer. By learning these guidelines, you'll be able to spot an underwhelming photo before you capture it, and reframe the shot in a more interesting way.

Choose Your Subject

Decide what the subject of your photo is going to be - is it a single flower, a bunch, or a whole field? You will usually get a more interesting photo by shooting a single flower, or a few flowers - larger amounts tend to end up looking cluttered, with no real focal point.

What is it about your flower that interests you most? It might be the head of the flower, individual petals, the leaves or something else entirely. Choose your viewpoint and composition based on this, getting in nice and close.

Don't be afraid to crop the edges off the subject; doing so often allows you to focus the viewer's attention even more closely on the real area of interest.

Colour is Everything

In flower photography, colour is one of the most important things to include. A rich, vibrant shot will look infinitely better than one which is dull and dreary. If shooting outside, choose a day with plenty of bright, natural sunlight to really bring out the colours in your flowers.

Get Set Up

Focusing is crucial to a good flower photograph - if your shot is even slightly out of focus it will carry significantly less impact. Switch your camera to manual focusing mode and really take the time to get your flower as sharp as possible. If your camera doesn't offer manual focusing, use macro mode so that you can keep your flower in focus even at very close range.

Open your aperture wide to throw the background out of focus. This will draw the attention towards the flower, creating a more engaging, intimate photo.

Wait. Then Wait Some More

Patience is a virtue when it comes to flower photography. Be prepared to spend a lot of time lying on the floor, finger poised on the shutter button, just waiting for your flower to stop swaying about long enough for you to photograph it. On mild days you hopefully won't have to wait too long, but sometimes the wind can be a real problem.

(From:

<http://www.photographymad.com/pages/view/flower-photography>)



“What a Feast” by Diane Helmus



“March Tacky Races” by Neil Barrett



“A Showy Woodstork” by Marg Jackman



“Indian River Sunset” by Phyllis Steele

How to submit assignment photos

We want you to send in your pictures for the monthly assignments and also for inclusion in our gallery on the Club website. So how to do that and what are the “rules”

1. Shoot your pictures at the largest resolution that your camera is capable of producing.
2. Use an email program and “Attach” your image directly. Do not use your web based image sharing mechanism.
3. Send your images to cameraclub@kanataseniors.ca
4. If you want your pictures included on our Photo Gallery, you must include your name as part of the image name

Shot as: **IMG0912.jpg** (straight out of the camera)

Renamed as: **Black Tulips by John Williamson.jpg**

Only photos identified with a title and the name of the photographer will be forwarded to the webmaster for inclusion in the Gallery.

5. Processing of your image in Photoshop is allowed and encouraged.



“Viet Nam Contrast” by Peter van Boeschoten

Marg's Hints and Tips

Look for bold vivid colours

One of the things to keep an eye out for when you're shooting urban and travel shots, are the bold vivid colours of the city. You will often find brilliantly coloured walls, doors, shops, signs, cars and bikes. Keep your eyes peeled for brilliantly painted walls (especially wonderful if you find someone working in front of the wall, or waiting patiently for a bus with the colourful wall in the background, or a bright yellow car parked in front of a bright blue wall).

If you are looking for these wonderful combinations while you are out exploring, you will be surprised at how often they will reveal themselves to you. By the way, I know I'm beating a dead horse here, but these colours look richer and have more depth in (you guessed it) great light, which generally occurs around dawn and dusk. Just remember, the next best thing to those two, is open shade.

Recipe for getting the flower shot

Characteristics of this type of shot – a flower fills the frame, background is out of focus, contrasting colours and interest through composition.

1. Shoot with a zoom lens - use your longest zoom to get in tight and get the flower to fill the frame.
2. Shoot at flower level. Set up your tripod so you are level with the flower, which requires you to squat down. Knee pads are great. Never shoot down on flowers.
3. Shoot in aperture priority mode and use the smallest number f-stop your lens will allow. The photographer in this case used f/5.6 to keep the flower in focus but the background out of focus.
4. If bees, or other insects, are flying from flower to flower, sit there patiently focused on the flower and wait till one lands and then press the shutter button.
5. You get great flower shots when the sun is tucked behind some fluffy clouds, because it diffuses the harsh direct light.

Visit our web page at
www.kanataseniors.ca
 then select **Activites**
 and then **Camera Club**



“Route 66 New Mexico” by Joyce Pedley

Many (good) reasons to visit our web site

The photo club web site is a trove of information. With a pull down menu you can access all the old newsletters.

In addition with another pull down menu you can view 20 galleries of members’ photos of assignments and shootouts. As each new assignment is concluded it will be added to the gallery.

Once in the gallery you need only click on the thumbnail image to see it larger. This also brings up details such as the ISO, exposure, etc.

Finally a third pull down menu brings up past meeting resources such as presentations, links, etc.

There is also a section which explains how photos should be submitted.

One of the most useful areas is at the bottom under “Useful Links PDF”. This feature is a gold mine of tips, articles, stores, pod cast and more

The website is easily accessible from the www.kanataseniors.ca site and then it is just a matter of clicking on Activities followed by Camera Club.

Mentors are there to help at meetings

Since its inception, the club has had education as its theme. As such a number of members have indicated that they would be willing to help others with specific or more general topics.

This mentor group includes very knowledgeable photographers who are willing to answer your questions.

They are available at 8.30 a.m. before each meeting and during coffee break. Whether it’s a problem with your camera, a question on technique or one to do with editing software there is someone there who can help you. The mentors are also willing to assist you at home or by telephone if you have a question or problem.

It would help if you could bring your camera manual.



Join the shootout in Kanata civic park on Friday 11 May

Shootouts have always been key feature of our photo club.

On Friday 11 May we will try a new location – but close to home.

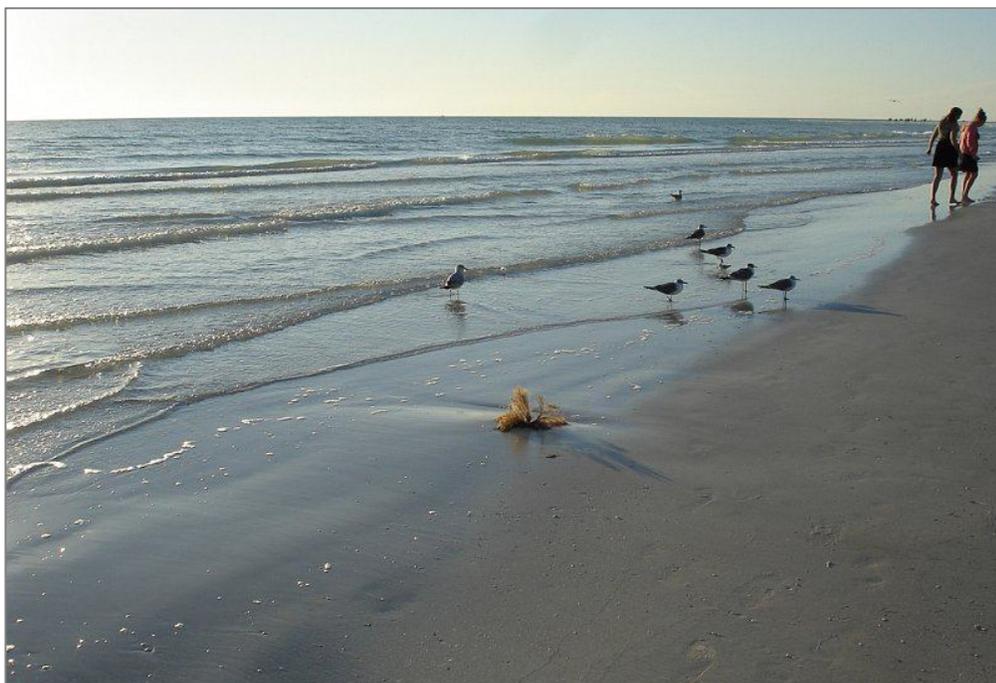
The Kanata Civic Park is located just across from the Centrum Shopping Centre but it is largely unknown and unvisited – it is a real jewel.

It features rocks, moss, trees and a large pond with geese. Hopefully by May there will be many wild flowers as well.

Park in the Best Buy lot and cross the street to go up the stairs to the park. There is a wide paved path in the park but also many improvised trails through the woods.

The shootout starts at 8:00 a.m. rain or shine.

Come out and join your fellow club members.



“Florida Beach” by Ingrid Weniger