

Meeting starts 9:15

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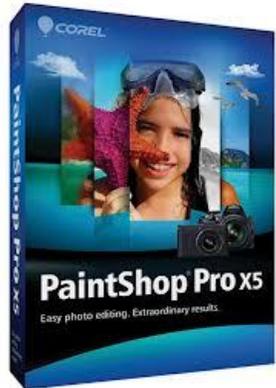
KATA SENIORS DIGITAL CAMERA CLUB



October 2012

Vol:5 No:7

## Corel PaintShop Pro to be featured on 5 Oct.



The photo club is delighted to have Roger Wambolt present at our October meeting to demonstrate Corel PaintShop Pro and Corel Painter Essentials. Roger is the Global Training Coordinator for Corel and is also the owner of ADART Graphics. He has authored many books and videos demonstrating Corel products. PaintShop Pro X5 is the latest version of its photo editing application for Windows. This release includes updates and refinements to features like layer

styles, brushes and HDR imaging tools. PaintShop Pro X5 also boasts new creative tools including Retro Lab, an Instant Effects palette and a Graduated Filter. Painter Essentials is an easy-to-use home art studio for drawing and painting from scratch, and turning photos into stunning paintings. Easily sketch, paint and turn your photos into paintings with this creative home digital art studio. A wide selection of brushes, paints, pens and paper textures lets you add unique touches to photos.



Roger Wambolt



"Dock Time" by John Williamson

## Send us your "door" photos for our slide show

The monthly photo assignments are there to encourage you to take photos. For our upcoming meeting in October the category is "Doors". Use your imagination there are antique doors, oven doors, trap doors and a whole lot of others. They will be shown in a slide show at the beginning of the meeting and then we will go over them again after the coffee break. Note that the deadline for submissions is Sunday 30 September.

Members may not realize it but many of the submitted photos were taken with ordinary point-and-shoot cameras. There is no need for fancy and expensive equipment. The aim is to get you out taking photographs. That is how we can learn from each other.

The table below shows the next assignment categories. You can start shooting now for any of them.

Details on how to submit photos can be found on page 3.

## Hog's Back Falls shootout Fri 12 Oct.

Shootouts have always been a key feature of our photo club. This year we are going to have three, with two being outside and one in the winter inside. Our fall shootout will be the week after our regular meeting and feature Hog's Back falls and the surrounding park.

many other photo opportunities with the many trees, rocks and fall colours. After the shootout we will be an opportunity to meet at the nearby Tim Horton's.

Take lots of photos and send them in so that we can view them at the November meeting.

It is planned to meet at 10 am. There is lots of free parking in a large parking lot adjacent to the falls.

For those needing a ride or wish to carpool it is planned to leave from the Seniors Centre at 9 am. There will be a sign up sheet at the next meeting. Besides the falls there should be

| Month | Assignment               | Deadline | To be shown |
|-------|--------------------------|----------|-------------|
| Sept. | Doors                    | 30 Sept. | 5 Oct.      |
| Oct.  | Animals/birds with water | 28 Oct.  | 2 Nov.      |
| Nov.  | Open                     | 2 Dec.   | 7 Dec.      |
| Dec.  | Children                 | 30 Dec.  | 4 Jan.      |

# Pre-flight checklist for photographers

By [Dave Johnson](#), PCWorld

They say the bumpiest part of any flight is when the human pilot turns off the autopilot and takes over the controls. Photography is similar: Your camera is generally a lot more knowledgeable about exposure controls than you are, and under typical conditions, it'll take better photos than if you tried adjusting the settings yourself. Don't get me wrong—I absolutely recommend [taking control of your camera to shoot better photos](#). But when you fiddle with your camera, that's when you can accidentally adjust settings incorrectly, leading to a ruined photo. This week: My preflight checklist of things to double-check to make sure your camera is set back to its "default" state for error-free photography.

## Why It's Important

Of course, you don't need to check all 10 of these every time you pick up the camera, and your own camera might not even support all of these features. But if you fiddle with any of these settings, there's a good chance you'll forget to set one or more of them back to the normal or default position when you're done. That can have disastrous effects on your next shooting session. Worse, it's not always immediately obvious what went wrong with a photo if you're not thinking about some obscure setting you changed two weeks earlier. That's why I tend to give all of my camera's most important settings a rapid "once over" when I take the camera out of its bag.

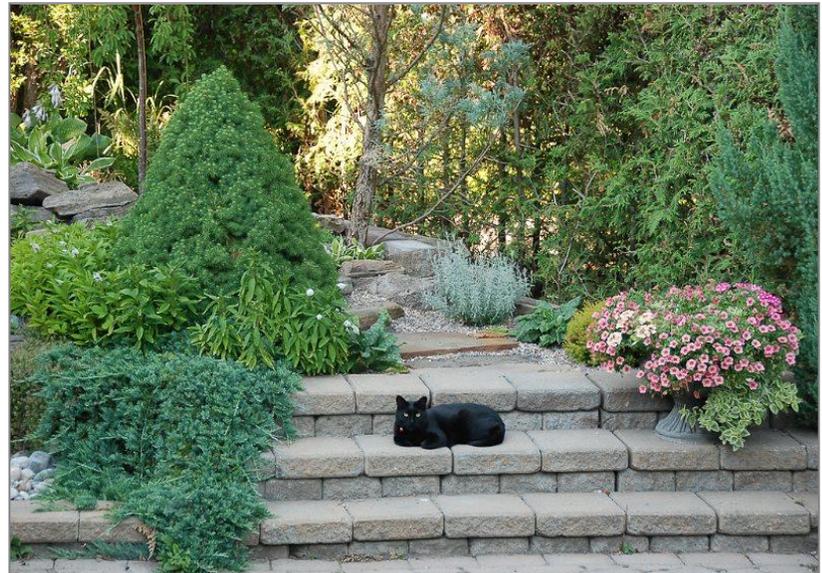
## 10 Camera Settings to Check

- 1. Exposure mode.** Even though I frequently shoot in [Aperture Priority, Shutter Priority, and Manual mode](#), I spin the dial back to Program every time. That way, if I'm surprised by an awesome photo opp and quickly capture a shot without thinking too hard about the camera settings, I know the camera will give me a decent exposure. If the camera's still stuck in Manual mode, the result will almost certainly be junk.
- 2. ISO.** I recommend that you [crank up the ISO to take low-light photos](#) rather than relying on the camera's flash. But when you're done, set it back to the lowest setting, or you'll end up with noisy or even overexposed photos if you accidentally take high ISO photos in daylight.
- 3. White balance.** Tweaking white balance can give you better color balance control for the specific lighting in a scene. But forget to set white balance back to Auto when you're done, and your photo might look like it was shot on Mars.
- 4. Exposure compensation.** That's the control that lets you over- or under-expose a photo in small increments. This is handy for adjusting for a strong backlight, for example. But leave the camera set to overexpose by one stop, for example, and all of your subsequent pictures will be overexposed.

*(continued on page 4)*



"Frog" by Bill Williams



"My domain" by James Wiper



"Great Blue Heron" Ian Buchanan



“Moraine Lake” by Phil Tughan

## How to submit 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 possible.
2. Use an email program and “Attach” your image directly.
3. Send your images to [cameraclub@kanataseniors.ca](mailto: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. e.g. Shot as: **IMG0912.jpg** (straight out of the camera)

Renamed as: **Snowdrifts 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 in Photoshop is allowed and encouraged



“Solitude” by Fraser Campbell

## Marg’s Hints and Tips

### EXTRAORDINARY LIGHT

You know the difference between front light, sidelight and backlight. You’ve heard about the need to capture the “magic hours” around sunrise and sunset. But to master light, the essence of photography, you have to move beyond these basics and learn the nuances - the subtleties that can make a dull image brilliant. Over the next few months, I will be giving you the various elements from this article.

### DIRECTIONAL SOFT LIGHT

Shade or overcast is perfect for flowers and fall leaves; the even light emphasizes colour. It’s also ideal for busy scenes, like forests, where patches of sun and shade would make the image too confusing. But soft light isn’t uniform or perfectly even - it’s always stronger from one side. If you’re observant, you can get the best of both worlds: directional light without harsh contrast.

Backlight penetrates translucent objects like leaves, flowers or grasses, making them glow. Hard backlight - the sun shining from behind - creates strong contrast. But some subjects, like flowers, look better with gentler light. Try putting the flowers in the shade, but keep most of the light coming from behind. This soft backlight makes the translucent flowers glow without making the image too harsh.

Sidelight brings out texture and form, showing the roundness of a tree trunk or ripples in a sand dune. Sunlight cutting across a forest scene might be too harsh or produce a confusing pattern of shadows, but soft light coming from the side highlights form and texture without the complexity.

Soft front light, where the subject is in the shade, but most of the light is coming from behind you, is the flattest, most even light you’ll find in nature, which makes it perfect for showing pure, vivid colours.

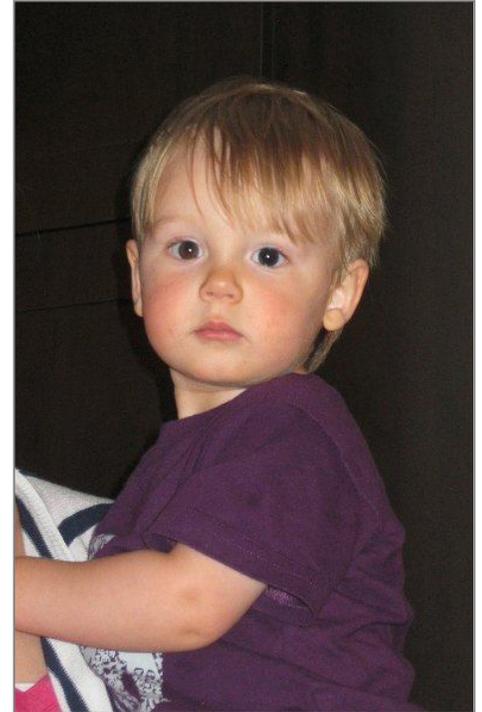
*All the photos in this edition are from the “Open” assignment*



“Independent”  
by Diane Helmus



“Nature Study”  
by Ann Williams



“Oliver”  
by Colin Brooker

## Pre-flight checklist for photographers cont.

(continued from page 2)

5. **Image stabilization.** Many cameras have an optical stabilization mode that reduces camera shake when you don't use a tripod. The effect is like shooting with a shutter speed up to three stops faster than you really are. If you have a digital SLR, this is often built into the lens. It's generally a good idea to turn off this mode when you use a tripod. If you don't, the camera might introduce "ghost vibrations" into your photo. It's easy to forget to re-enable this feature. Trust me: Vibration reduction doesn't do you any good if it's turned off.

6. **Bracketing.** Sometimes you can be too clever for your own good. You might occasionally use your camera's bracketing mode to take a series of photos at varying exposures, like one stop underexposed, one stop overexposed, and the ordinary exposure. This can help you nail the right shot in tricky lighting, or you might use the feature to make a high dynamic range photo. Regardless of why, don't forget to turn this feature off when you're done. I can't tell you how many times I accidentally left this on and spent the rest of the day taking photos that were alternately under- and overexposed.

7. **Focus.** The majority of the time, you probably leave your camera in

autofocus mode. That makes it hard to remember to turn autofocus back on if you ever disable it, such as to take photos of aircraft or fireworks (which are "infinitely" far away to your camera lens).

8. **Flash mode.** I'm a flash hater. My usual advice: Turn your flash off and leave it that way. But if you do use your flash, it has all sorts of options, including red-eye mode, rear curtain, and force-flash. You might also be able to fiddle with its intensity. Just don't forget that you changed something, because this is one of the hardest camera settings to troubleshoot since its effect on your photos can be somewhat subtle

9. **Shutter setting.** Your shutter

release might have a smorgasbord of settings, like single shot, quiet mode, rapid fire, and more. This setting isn't that dangerous because it doesn't influence your exposure much. But it can be embarrassing to snap a photo in a quiet place (say, a church or museum) and the camera accidentally fires off a dozen exposures in rapid succession.

10. **File format.** Finally, most people set their camera to shoot a single file format like [RAW](#) or JPG and never touch that control again. But if you find yourself switching between them occasionally, this is another good setting to double check.

(Original article from PC World at <http://bit.ly/ScjCJD>)

## 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 am before each meeting and during coffee break. The mentors are also willing to help you at home or by telephone if you have a question or problem.

It would help if you could bring your camera manual.

The mentor list with their interests and skills can be found at <http://www.kanataseniors.ca/pdf-files/DCC/Mentors%20List%20B.pdf>

Visit our web page at  
[www.kanataseniors.ca](http://www.kanataseniors.ca)  
then select **Activites**  
and then **Camera Club**