



## Friday 4 October

# Member photo discussion for October meeting

The October meeting will highlight a popular activity from last year.

Members are asked to bring in prints of photos they would like to show and be discussed as to how they might be improved. The club will then break up into groups and analyze the photos with a critical eye.

So here is the deal:

- Up to 2 photos
- Should be recent
- Any subject
- Prints – larger the better (8 x 10)
- In addition, a digital copy on a flash drive

Members should keep in mind that this is learning exercise. As a guide, Clark Mishler's key elements of a good photograph can be found on page 3.

The aim is to show how an ordinary photo can become a good photo, and how a good photo can become a great photo.

Photos will be shown on the screen later in the meeting and John Williamson will try to demonstrate with one or more photos ways to improve them. As such, members should also bring them in digital format on a memory stick so that they can be presented on screen.

To start the meeting we will have a slide show of the assignment photos "Patterns and Repetition".

We will also have Marg's Hints and an instructional video.

As usual the start time for our meeting is 9:15 sharp. Members are encouraged to come earlier to meet with the Mentors and discuss any photography news and issues.



"Cormorants Maine" by Frank Bohm

## Send in your "Pattern" pictures

There were a lot of photos submitted by members for the Open House and our September meeting. Don't stop now, keep submitting them.

The assignment for this month is Patterns or Repetition. It is easy to find subjects: apples in a store, fence posts, cars in a parking lot or petals on a flower. Share your experiences by letting us see your

photos. The Open category is also always available.

The photos will be shown at our October meeting and some will also be published in the November *shutterBUG*. The deadline for submissions is Sunday 29 September.

The table below left shows the topics for upcoming meetings. You can start shooting for any of them now.

The aim is to get you taking photos.

## How to submit your photographs

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](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. Rename it.

Shot as: **IMG0912.jpg** (straight out of the camera) – Renamed as: **Green Tulips by John Black.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. In the body of your email indicate the photo you want in the final slideshow.

Month	Assignment	Deadline	To be shown
Sept.	Patterns/Repetition	29 Sept.	Fri. 4 Oct.
Oct.	Diagonals	27 Oct.	Fri. 1 Nov.
Nov.	Open	1 Dec.	Fri. 6 Dec.
Dec.	Shadows/Silhouettes	29 Dec.	Fri. 3 Jan.

Point and shoot cameras only

# Beaver Pond shootout Thu.10 Oct

Shootouts have always been 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 on Thursday 10 October and hopefully still feature all the fall colours at the Kanata Beaver Pond.

This shootout is for Point and Shoot cameras only to be fair to everyone.

We will meet in the parking lot at 8 a.m. to pair up before we get started. (See the maps on the right.)

There are trails on both sides of the Beaver Pond and you can walk all the way around. In addition to the pond there are lots of trees, rocks and wildlife.

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



## PhotoResizer does a whole lot more

Recently I had 30 photos all named by the camera as IMGxxx and in excess of 5 MB each. I needed to send them to a web site in a reduced size format and also rename them to something recognizable.

Looking around the internet I came across FastStone PhotoResizer. It has 5 stars on CNET and a lot of very favourable reviews on other sites.

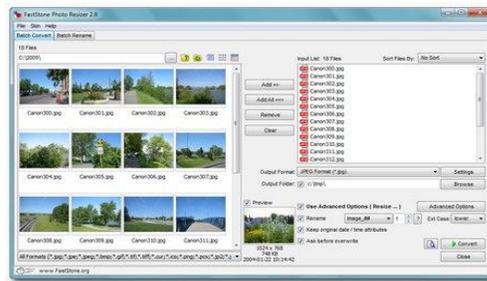
The program outputs files in the most popular formats, including TIFF, GIF, JPEG, and BMP even PDF. Besides its batch-conversion skills, the application also can rename pictures in bulk. This program lacks any sort of fancy image effects, but you can make basic tweaks, including cropping, rotating, resizing, adjusting an image's color and even adding a watermark.

In short it can do a whole lot more than resize your photos. It has a simple to use interface that guides every user to perform their desired tasks through simple drag and drop commands.

To access the special features you

need to click on "Advanced Options" in the lower right menu section. The more advanced features are a bit tricky but you can soon get the hang of it.

There is a free download for non-commercial use at [www.faststone.org/FSResizerDetail.htm](http://www.faststone.org/FSResizerDetail.htm)



## Club website has useful information

The photo club web site is a trove of information.

One of the most useful areas is at the bottom under "Other Resources -- useful links PDF". This feature is a gold mine of tips, articles, stores, pod cast and more. Other tabs get you to the photo gallery and previous newsletters.

The website is easily accessible at the [www.kanataseniors.ca](http://www.kanataseniors.ca) site and then it is just a matter of clicking on **Activities** followed by **Camera Club**.



"Deer Isle Maine sunset" by Martha Bohm



"Morning Glory" by Phyllis Steele



“Summer Sunflower” by Anne Jones

## Some photocomposition ideas

Here are three tips which should help you to improve any photograph.

### Shoot both upright and horizontal frames

For static subjects, it's worth trying to shoot both upright and horizontal versions of the same scene. This only takes a few seconds, and you may find that the format that you initially chose wasn't the best option for that particular scene or subject after all. It's also a great habit to get into if you are thinking of selling your shots, because it doubles your potential market for not much extra effort.

### Ruthlessly kill any clutter

Keeping the scene simple is one of the best ways to focus attention on your main subject. Achieving this takes a little practice, so get into the habit of looking around the whole scene to avoid objects that divert attention from the subject, or clutter things up (cars, poles, trees, stray people, etc).

### Remember the framing rules

Getting into the habit of positioning your subject a third of the way into the frame, using lines to lead the eye into the picture and including foreground interest, are simple ways to get effective shots. These classic rules won't guarantee ideal composition, but they will definitely help.



“Ready Set Go” by P. Lamoureux

# Marg's Hints and Tips

## Tips for Better Fall Photography

The most difficult part of photographing fall colours is timing. Some years are good, some are bad, and once in a while it just couldn't be better.

- Overcast, even drizzly days are best to photograph Fall colours, as it produces glowing colours. Be sure not to include grey skies in your image. Water reflections are best done in the shade on clear days.
- A polarizer filter is useful to cut down unwanted reflections from wet foliage or wet rocks.
- When possible, try contrasting orange, red and yellow foliage with green, whites or black. A single red, orange or yellow leaf may even look more colourful on a black, wet rock.
- You may extend the season by photographing leaves on the ground.
- Fog, frost and water drops can all lead to rewarding images, so keep an eye on the weather.
- Insects and spiders are particularly easy to photograph since cooler night temperatures keep them still for the first few hours of the morning. Often dew-covered, these subjects can provide spectacular close-ups.



## Elements of photography from Clark Mishler (Alaska video)

- angle of view
- use of backlight
- diagonals
- motion
- s curves
- patterns
- selective
- contrasts
- color
- stop Action
- frames
- silhouettes
- scale
- negative space
- dark-light-Dark
- human element
- crop
- camera tilt
- rules of Thirds
- humor

## Making your camera battery last longer

Here are a few tips for getting the most out of your batteries:

### Check your batteries before starting your trip

Batteries lose their charge continuously, even if they are sitting idle. So, it is a good idea to carry a spare battery. Alkaline batteries are extremely stable and will only lose 1 or 2 percent of their total capacity over a year. It is a good idea to carry a spare battery.

Rechargeable batteries, however, are far more volatile and lose about 1 percent per day (so a fully charged battery would be depleted after 3 or 4 months just by sitting idle in your camera). Keep that in mind when you grab your camera bag before your next trip.

### Store batteries in the fridge

You have heard that batteries stay fresh longer when stored in the fridge. That is true but there are some caveats.

Store bought batteries will not be affected much by this process. Rechargeables, however, will retain over 90% of their charge for a full month when frozen.

### Warm batteries for better performance

If you are shooting outdoors in winter your battery might expire



“Big Rideau Dusk” by Doug Brittain

fairly quickly because the cold impedes the electricity-generating chemical reaction in the battery. Batteries discharge better when they are warm, so if your battery quickly dies due to the cold, remove it from the camera and warm it up using your hands inside your jacket. That may allow you to take a few more pictures.

### Use your camera to shoot pictures, nothing else

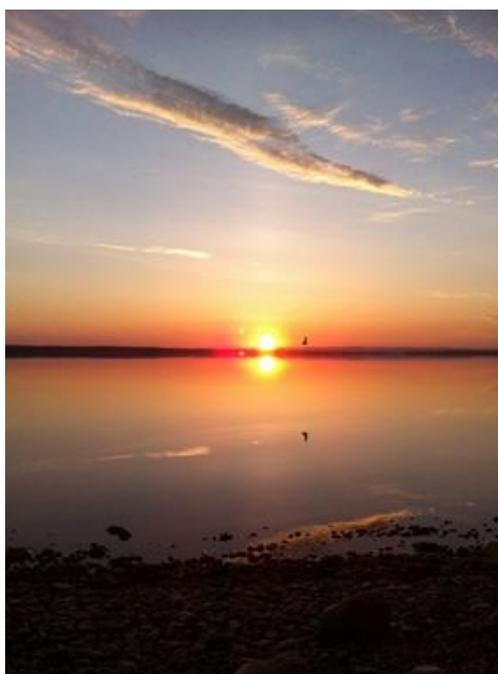
Since everything you do with your camera uses battery power be careful using all the extra

features of your camera. So, if you have only one battery and no ability to charge up, don't use these extra features. Specifically, don't use your camera to review photos, delete images from the memory card, or record audio annotations about each photo.

Also, be aware that long exposures – night shots, blurry waterfalls, etc. – use significantly more power than faster, ordinary photos. Don't let that stop you from taking them, just be aware that you won't be able to capture as many photos as usual.



“Harp Strings”  
by Diane Helmus



“Solstice Sunrise”  
by Mavis Pritchard



“Blue Heron”  
by Peter van Boeschoten