



# InFocus

April, 2009

## Newsletter

### March Meeting

The March meeting night brought us a hint of spring weather. We had a very busy night with one new member and the turning in of the 2009 Scavenger Hunt photos. Will Michael, our judge for the contest, was also present and provided valuable input into our discussion.

The plans are final to have a fund raiser at the Bloomsburg Renaissance Jamboree. Funds will be raised to purchase a projector for the Library. We will use it for meetings and the Library will have it available for its affairs. More information on this is below.

The evening started by handing in the contest photos, we then reviewed them to look at all the wonderful work everyone had done. Will Michael is now in possession of the photos and we will announce the winner at the April 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting. Be sure to check out Will's web site at: <http://www.willmichael.com/Site/Welcome.html>

After reviewing the contest entries we entered a discussion regarding getting the correct exposure when shooting. The main subject seem to center on the advantages of shooting in camera raw format. Using camera raw enables one to adjust white balance and exposure after the shot. We also discussed using the camera's auto bracket function. This is particular useful to create a HDR composite using the various software packages on the market. Maybe someone will be able to demonstrate this at a future meeting.

### April Meeting Assignment

We have decided to start doing monthly assignments to review at the next meeting. For April the topic is "April Showers."

Photos should be shot in March or April of 2009. Please don't bring old photos. The objective is to dust off your camera and shoot. The fun is reviewing at the meeting and seeing how everyone interpreted the theme; share and learn. When you see a great photo, finding out "How'd you do that?" is the real learning experience.

### Renaissance Jamboree

As you all know, I have been borrowing a PC projector to use at the library. Since we don't have dues, a treasury, by-laws, or officers yet, it's hard to budget for one and maintain an ownership. By having the Library purchase one, we avoid the ownership issue, have a projector for our use, and benefit others that may use it at the library. We probably need to raise \$750 to make the purchase. How can we do this?

That's how I introduced this topic last month. We are now down to commitment time. **I NEED SOME VOLUNTEERS TO HELP WITH THIS VENTURE.**

We have received permission from the Library board to raise money in their name. We will sell 4 x 6 photos of kids with costume props provide by the Costume Shop in Bloomsburg. We have fairy wings, pirates hats, sailor hats, nurse hat, biker hat, bunny ears, butterfly wings and many others. I also have cardboard easel frames and

several backgrounds. I also am providing a 10 x 10 canopy, table and a photo bin.

In addition, if you have prints to sell we can hang those or add them to the bin.

If you can help at this affair, or can offer your prints, please call Steve Varonka at 784-4561. I NEED TO KNOW YOU WILL HELP. PLEASE CALL ME.

### What do you want from your club?

There are now 20 of you out there that were interested enough in CMPS to fill out an application to join this group. Our meeting turnout has averaged 5. The Forum posts are receiving no responses. The Gallery contains only 5 albums. We have an event coming up on 4/25 and need some help.

It's time to ask yourself what is it that I want out of a photography club? Please, we need to know what to do that will entice you to devote some time to your club, even if that's only attending a 2 hour meeting. We need ideas for programs. We need ideas for contests. Do you want to learn post processing? Do you need more on composition or exposure? You need to speak up, your silence is deafening.

I started this venture thinking that most photographers want to get better, and the way to get better was to meet with other photographers to share our talents and look for ways to improve. I think most of you feel the same way. If you do, then it's time for you to speak. You can speak in several ways. Post on the Forum, put an album in the Gallery, come to a meeting or volunteer to help at the Renaissance Jamboree. This club needs you to survive. We need your talents.

If there is something that you can help with, please let me know. I can use someone to continue on with this newsletter. I can use help coming up with a ½ hour program for the meeting. I can use help with club publicity. We can still keep this informal. Positions will be designated until such time as we feel it necessary to establish a treasury. With money handling, comes by-laws. Personally, I would like to see us stay informal, but that will not ensure that we are creating something that will last.

I'm not sure if you've noticed, but Columbia Montour Counties have begun to recognize the arts. Photography should be a part of this renaissance. You can help by

your presence and participation. If you have an idea, bring it forth. Complacency will bring us down.

Something got you to fill out the application. Now you can help fulfill that wish.

Call me anytime at 784-4561, Steve.

### Seminar Topics

Do you know anyone that can present a seminar for us? Here are some thoughts.

- 1 What makes a good photo?
- 2 When do I modify my camera's suggested exposure?
- 3 What lens should I buy?
- 4 How do press photographers work?
- 5 Shooting weddings?

### Club Activities

- 1 Table top night – everyone brings something to put on the table and shoot.
- 2 Portrait Night – everyone brings a costume or prop and we shoot each other's portraits.
- 3 Photo excursions – where?

