



Meeting Agenda

December 5, 2018

Hobbyists Camera Club

Meeting Agenda

- ❖ Welcome
- ❖ Monthly Assignment slideshow
- ❖ RPL Exhibition Recap
- ❖ WeTransfer
- ❖ “Tools” of the trade
- ❖ Chicago Photo Tour
- ❖ Going forward
- ❖ Monthly assignment

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Monthly Assignment Slideshow



View slideshow at
https://youtu.be/XfSu_LcILKY

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RPL Exhibition Recap

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RPL Exhibition Recap

- ❖ The recent photo exhibition at the Ridgewood Public Library has been quite successful.
- ❖ I would like to thank Lou Karcher for organizing it and for all the people involved (exhibitors, hanging crew).
- ❖ The variety of themes, locations, excellent quality of the photos, and some very nice framing produced a memorable show.
- ❖ We used every inch of space available. The hangers did a superb job of placing the wide disparity of frame sizes in an eye-pleasing manner that produced a very appealing panorama on the entire back wall and doorway of the auditorium.

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RPL Exhibition Recap

Visitors' comments:

- ▶ “Lots of variety & talent”
- ▶ “Wonderful diversity, extraordinary quality of thematic design”
- ▶ “Great work - each one! Good Eye!”
- ▶ “Great moments captured by all. Congratulations on a great show.”
- ▶ “Well done”
- ▶ “Fabulous art work”
- ▶ “Awesome!”
- ▶ “Awesome photos!”
- ▶ “Thought it is a wonderful exhibit by some very talented photographers - a very enjoyable visit to the Ridgewood Library”

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RPL Exhibition Recap

At the next meeting, please let us know:

- ▶ What did you like? What did you dislike and what recommendations do you suggest (e.g., the information in and the format of the flyer)? Others?
- ▶ Were communications to you adequate or inadequate? Recommendations for the future?
- ▶ Recommendations for future exhibits? E.g. venues and frequency, use of only previously un-shown images, providing a brief description (where & what) on labels in lieu of picture title, others?
- ▶ Eliminate sale offerings in the future?

WeTransfer

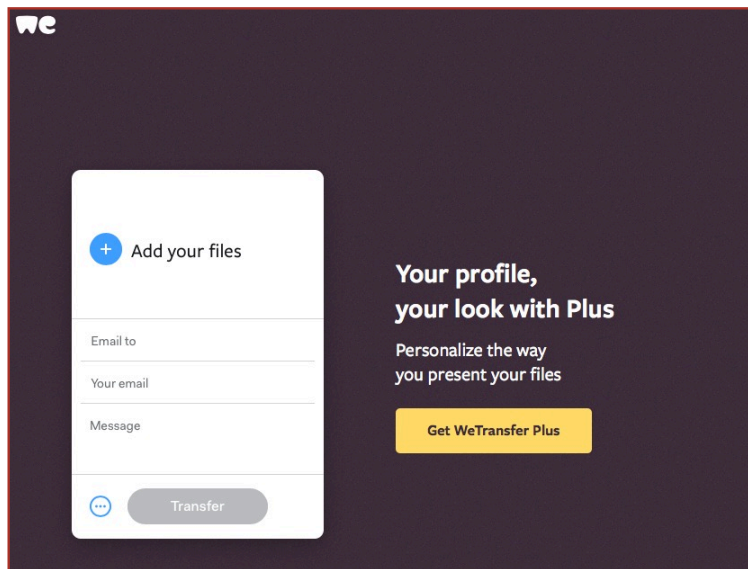
Transferring Photos

- ❖ One beauty of digital photos is that you can share them “easily” with friends and the whole world.
- ❖ There are many ways to achieve this “sharing” some easier than others (email, dropbox, Flickr, iCloud, etc.).
- ❖ While “easy” on paper, my personal experience is that some of you are still having issues while sharing with me your photos (files too small, missing photos, etc.).
- ❖ Elliot Ratchik brought to my attention an incredibly easy (and free) way to transfer files: **WeTransfer**.

WeTransfer

- ❖ What is WeTransfer:
 - ▶ is a cloud-based computer file transfer service
 - ▶ Free users can send files up to 2 GB
 - ▶ WeTransfer ‘Plus’ allows transferring without size limitations and offers features like password protection, channel customization and 500 GB storage
- ❖ Transferring files (photos) using WeTransfer is super easy:
 - ▶ visit the **wetransfer.com** site
 - ▶ Add the photos (files) you want to send
 - ▶ enter the recipient email address and your email address
 - ▶ click the Transfer button

WeTransfer “how to” Video



View video at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CwLH9O8a4UI&t=50s>

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WeTransfer

- ❖ When you've uploaded files using the free service, transfers are available for 7 days. After this week they are deleted to make room for new transfers on the WeTransfer servers.
Files sent through a person's Plus Profile (not your own), are available for four weeks instead of seven days.
- ❖ Even if you are quite familiar with other file transfer systems, I would like you to use WeTransfer to send me your submissions for this month assignment.

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“Tools” of the trade

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“Tools” of the trade

- ❖ Last month I spoke about how to resist the G.A.S. (Gear Acquisition Syndrome) in order to avoid spending money on items that you don't need for your photography style.
- ❖ Having said that though, I would like to mention today some of the **Must Have** or **Nice to Have** items that you should own to have the flexibility and ability to pursue your hobby at a higher level.
- ❖ If you don't have some of these items, they might be a great addition to your Holiday Gifts wish list.

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Must Have equipment

- ❖ In order to elevate your photography an **Interchangeable Lens Camera** is a must since it will give you the ability to use different lenses to capture scenes in a variety of situations.
- ❖ You might consider an entry level DSLR or mirrorless camera as your starting point.
- ❖ Decide first which lens is a must for the photos you want to take and then select the camera you can afford. Lenses are instrumental for the overall results. Remember that “you date the camera but you marry the lenses”.

Must Have equipment

- ❖ **A Sturdy Camera Bag**
A camera bag is an absolutely crucial piece of your kit. Fit is crucial for a camera bag, so definitely try it on before you buy it or at least try to order from a place that will let you return it within a reasonable timeframe so if you hate it, you can return it.
- ❖ **Extra Memory Cards**
Definitely you need more than one memory card (especially if you are shooting in RAW) and consider having a mix of large (64GB) and medium (32GB) capacity cards to protect your photos. Buy memory cards from reliable companies at reputable retailers (unfortunately “cheap” cards are quite unreliable).

Must Have equipment

❖ **Extra Battery**

For an extended shooting session an additional battery is a must as an insurance that you will not have to stop since your camera battery is dead.

❖ **Circular Polarizing Filter**

A circular polarizing filter is a must have. It can help you control reflections, add drama to otherwise-washed-out skies, and even cut down the amount of light coming in should you feel like using a wide aperture or long shutter speed on a bright day.

A polarizing filter has effects that can't easily be duplicated with post-production.

Must Have equipment

❖ **Backup Hard Drive**

Just as memory cards fail, so too do hard drives.

If your computer hard drive is the only place you're storing your photo files, a crash means they are gone.

The best way to avoid that is with a good backup drive (at least 1TB).

A possible alternative to a hard drive, is to store your photos in the cloud using programs like iCloud, Dropbox, etc. If you have a lot of photos you will need though, to pay for the extra storage capacity.

Must Have equipment

❖ **Photo Editing Software**

A Photo Editing Software is a must to really produce quality photos. If you don't have a "modern" Photo Editing Software (PS Elements, Lightroom, etc.), download the free trial version and then decide which one to buy.

Nice to Have equipment

❖ **A fast Prime Lens**

Every camera manufacturer offers a fast (f 1.8 or less) prime lens (35mm for DX format, 50mm for FX format) that will be very useful if you want to start exploring new photography tasks like street photography. These lenses are relatively inexpensive (>\$200).

❖ **Tripod**

If you plan to do a lot of landscape photography, slow speed photography or macro photography then a sturdy tripod is a must have (even if your camera has high ISO capabilities) in order to get sharp photos. Don't buy skimpy tripods since they will not guarantee a movement free setting for your camera.

Nice to Have equipment

❖ **External Flash**

An external flash is a useful tool, but it is good to have a firm hold on how your camera works before you start adding even more variables.

Then, when you are feeling comfortable, you can start adding flash and getting it off your camera, which takes things to a whole other level.

Nice to Have equipment

❖ **Neutral Density Filter (ND Filter)**

If you plan to do a lot of landscape photography, then a ND Filter is a must have accessory.

The ND filter is basically a filter that, placed before the lens reduces the amount of light making its way into the camera. Think of the ND filter as sunglasses for your camera.

ND filters allow you to use very slow shutter speed in daylight situations to “freeze” movements without overexposing the still elements in the photos (e.g. waterfalls).

ND Filter result



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Chicago Photo Tour

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Chicago Photo Tour

- ❖ Chicago is one of my favorite city and I am thinking of organizing a three day photo tour to the Windy City in May 2019. As you might know, this City offers thousand of photo opportunities from striking architecture to cityscapes and street scenes.
- ❖ During this tour, for two full days we will have Chris Smith as an instructor/guide. Chris is a professional photographer and founder of “Out of Chicago Photography Conferences”.
- ❖ If 6-8 members will attend this Photo Tour, the cost of the instructor/guide will be \$250-\$300 per person. Travel, lodging and meals will be additional.

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Chicago Photo Tour

- ❖ Possible itinerary
 - ▶ Monday May 6, 2019 Departure to Chicago
 - ▶ Tuesday May 7 - Full day shooting with Chris Smith (mostly walking around Chicago).
 - ▶ Wednesday May 8 - Full day shooting with Chris Smith (mostly walking around Chicago).
 - ▶ Thursday May 9 - Free photo shooting in the morning. Returning home in the afternoon.
- ❖ As always, spouses/companions will be welcome to join us in this Photo Tour.
- ❖ Please email me by the end of the year if you will be interested to participate to this Photo Tour so that I can possibly finalize it.

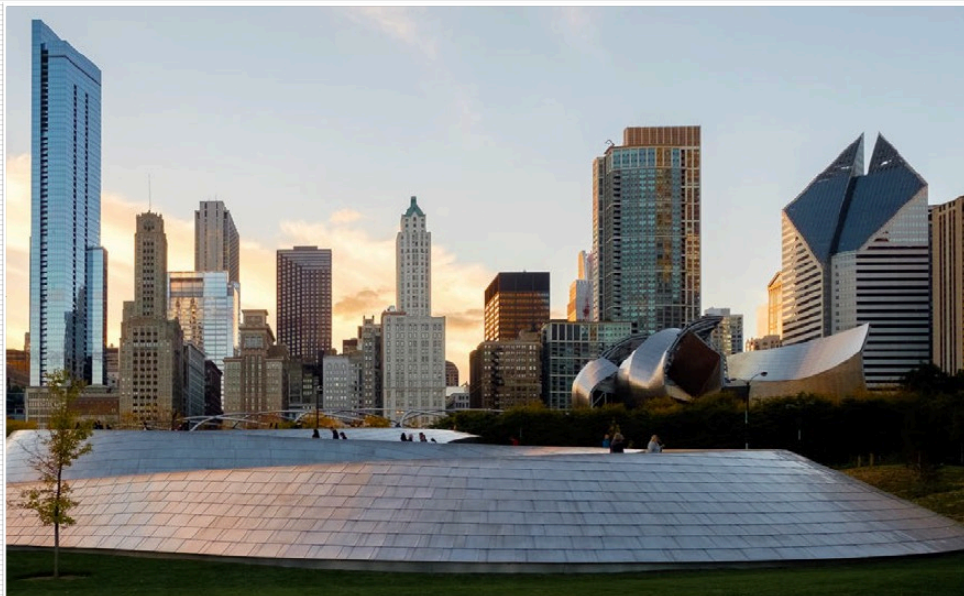
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Chicago Photo Tour



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Chicago Photo Tour



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Going forward

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Going forward

As we look forward to the next year activities for our Group, I would like you to think about two key issues:

- ▶ As requested by our Executive Board, each Club has to have a vice chairman in order to guarantee a smooth continuation of the club activities.
Therefore, we need to appoint a vice chairman of the Hobbyists Camera Club. Please let me know who is willing to fill this position.
- ▶ Things we should add/remove from our meetings to make them more appealing to you.
- ▶ Value of the monthly assignment.

Monthly Assignment

Monthly Assignment

Holiday Photos



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Calendar

Friday - Sunday December 7-9, 2018

NJ Camera Show - Unique Photo

Wednesday January 2, 2019

Camera Club Meeting

Hobbyists Camera Club



Thanks and have a great
Holiday Season!