

Dedicated To Excellence In Photography

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<http://www.islandphotogroup.org>

December 2003

Candid Photography

by Russ Popeil



The Holiday season is upon us. I believe that it is a good time to take candid shots of the family and friends. The possibilities are endless for candid pictures. First let's define a candid shot, as a picture in which the subject is unaware of the maker taking the picture. Many opportunities can be found indoors and will require flash. Follow these few simple guidelines to improve your shooting technique.

1. Use a flash and bounce it off the ceiling. This will consume about one stop of light but your pictures will look more natural. Direct flash can be very flat and is known as harsh lighting.

2. Use a medium telephoto, around 100mm, this is an ideal portrait lens.

3. Allow the people (especially children) to get use to you and the camera. Once they relax your pictures will improve.

Not all opportunities will be indoors. When, and or if, we get a fresh new snow, candid photos of children playing can be very exciting. Remember the following:

1. The vast amount of white snow will fool your meter into under exposing, so you must add in some light (1-2 stops).

2. A fill flash will open up the shadows on the subjects allowing for a more pleasing composition.

3. When taking your camera in from the cold, allow it to acclimate so that condensation will not form on your camera or lenses.

Shooting year round only requires a little imagination.

Good shooting!

Russ

What's New

IPG Workshop Meeting	December	1
PFLI Honors Night	December	5
Long Island Photoshop Meeting	December	10
PFLI Competition Night	December	12
IPG Critique Night	December	15

Quick Tips for December



In general, good pictures result from careful attention to some basic elements of composition, together with appropriate lighting and an interesting subject. There is, however, no "right" way to take a picture. Listed below are some suggestions for taking better photographs.

Point of Interest

Identify a primary point of interest before taking the picture. When you've determined which area is the most important to you, you can compose to emphasize it.

Simplicity

Be sure that only the things you want the viewer to see appear in the picture. If there are numerous objects cluttering up the background, your message will be lost. If you can't find an angle or framing to isolate your subject, consider using depth of field control to keep the background out of focus.

Contrast

A light subject will have more impact if placed against a dark background and vice versa. Contrasting colors may be used for emphasis, but can become distracting if not considered carefully.

Balance

Generally, asymmetric or informal balance is considered more pleasing in a photograph than symmetric (formal) balance. In other words, placing the main subject off-center and balancing the "weight" with other objects (smaller or lower impact) will be more effective than placing the subject in the center.

Viewpoint

You can often change a picture dramatically by moving the camera up or down or, stepping to one side. One of the best ways to come up with a prize-winning photograph is to find an "unusual" point of view.

IPG Information

Meetings

Our regular meetings will be held from 7:30 - 10:00 PM on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month, except for holidays, at our meeting room located at:

Ellsworth Allen Park
101 Motor Avenue
Farmingdale, NY 11735

ISLAND PHOTO GROUP

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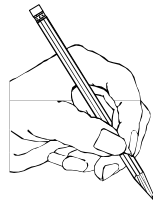
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President's Message

On Thursday November 20th, the executive board of Island Photo Group held its first quarterly meeting. I think that we had a very productive session. All of you should have received a copy of the meeting minutes from Phyllis via e-mail. The one major topic of discussion revolved around the need for us to build up our treasury. It would seem that when we set the club dues at \$20 per year we were a bit optimistic. We do need to purchase a projector as well as a screen sometime in the near future. In view of this, we will be increasing the dues to \$30 per person per year beginning in January 2004. This means that all members will need to give Hank \$10 next month. If anyone has any questions please don't hesitate to ask.



Charlie Bowman, IPG President

Since this is the last issue of our newsletter before the holidays, I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of you and your families a very happy holiday season.

Charlie



"One Step Beyond"
Digital Photo Exhibit
by
Robert L. Makely

Epiphany Restaurant
284 Glen Street
Glen Cove, NY 11542
516-759-1913

September 1st 2003 Thru March 31st 2004
"Presentation" Date: To Be Announced

Island Photo Group Critique Nights

Critique Nights will be held
the 3rd Monday of every Month

All IPG Members can submit 2 photos in each
of the following categories:

Color Prints, B&W Prints and Slides

Members will be classified as either an
"A" worker (advanced) or "B" worker (beginner)