

B. I. P. C.

**Bainbridge Island Photo Club
Serving Bainbridge and North Kitsap**

May 2009

**Wednesday May 13 Club Meeting
Competition Night at the Commons**

This is another competition month, and the Special Subject is “Three of Something”. E-mail your digital entries by May 8, and check in prints by 6:45 PM.

Field Trip!! Field Trip!!

Come join us for a PAIR of photo field trips this summer:

The first will be on Thursday June 11th. We will do the Seattle waterfront from the ferry terminal north to the Sculpture Park with a stop at Pike Street Market. In order to be at the Market while the vendors are still setting up and the crowds are not too large, we will take 7:55 AM Bainbridge Ferry. After boarding the ferry we will gather in the table area of the coffee shop

The second will be July 14th thru July 16th. How would you like to photograph at Art Wolfe’s favorite photographic site? Well according to Outdoor Photographer Magazine his favorite place is the Hoh River Valley and that is where we are going. We will stay in Forks the nights of the 14th and 15th. There is more than the rain forest to photograph. From Forks it’s about 20 miles to the Hoh River Valley, 15 miles west to the Ocean beaches and about 30 miles south to Ruby Beach. Also, there are lots of great photo places on the way to Forks which is only about 3 hours from BI.

Most of us will stay at the Olympic Suites Inn (<http://www.olympicsuitesinn.com>) but there are lots of places to stay in Forks.

When you are sure you will go on the Forks trip let me know so I can get more information to you prior to departure.

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Board of Directors Meeting

Monday May 18 at 2:00 PM in the small conference room at the Commons.

Digital Study Group

Thursday May 21 at 10:00 AM at the Madison Avenue Fire Station.

PSA Inter-Club Digital Competition

The results from the March round are in, and Patti Masden won an Award for her beautiful semi-silhouette of two boys on a beach, titled “Net Dancing”. Congratulations, Patti!

Here are the cumulative scores by club so far this season for our division:

Terra Australis Digital Image Group (Australia)	208
Nevada Camera Club	202
Cobb Photographic Society (Georgia)	195
Naples Camera Club (Florida)	184
Housatonic Camera Club (Connecticut)	183
Unlimited Vision Photo Club (Wisconsin)	183
Bainbridge Island Photo Club	181
Coastal Carolina Camera Club	181
The Photographic Guild (Nova Scotia)	180
Denver Digital Photo Club	179
Photographic Society of Chattanooga	178
Coral Springs Camera Club (Florida)	174
Image Makers Camera Club (Wisconsin)	173
Billings Camera Club	172
Houston Camera Club	172
Digital Imaging Photography Guild (Georgia)	163
Greater Bridgeport Camera Club	124
Schenectady Photographic Society	104

(It should be noted that the bottom two clubs missed a round and are entitled to submit make-up images in May, so their scores are not really comparable.)

For the final round this season in May, we have submitted images by Luba Fetterman, Alex Gil, Dorothy Matthews, Patti Masden, Jon DeArman, and Bob Oze.

Got a Gallery?

As you may know, there’s a place on the club website for members to provide a link to their personal photo galleries on the web, at sites like PBase, Flickr, and Smugmug. It’s another way to show off your work to other club members. So far, Mary Beth Abarbanel, Paul Brians, Alejandro Gil, and David Warren have links posted there. How about yours? Let David Warren know where it is, and he’ll post it for you.

Close-Up Lenses

Close-up lenses are a cheap and easy way to enhance the macro-focusing capability of any camera outfit. They are auxiliary lenses that screw onto the front of your regular lens like a filter, like reading glasses for your camera.

Like reading glasses, the power of close-up lenses is measured in diopters. A 1 diopter lens has a focal length of 1 meter; a 2 diopter lens has a focal length of 1/2 meter; a 3 diopter lens has a focal length of 1/3 meter; etc. So if the camera's lens is focused at infinity, with a 1 diopter close-up lens it is focused at a subject at a distance of 1 meter (from the front of the lens). With a 2 diopter close-up lens, it is focused at 1/2 meter, etc.

Courtesy of the laws of physics, if you stack multiple close-up lenses in tandem on your camera, you can simply add the diopters. So if you add a 2 diopter lens and a 3 diopter lens, that is equivalent to a 5 diopter lens, which will focus at 1/5 meter (if the camera's lens is focused at infinity).

But what if the camera's lens is not focused at infinity? Suppose, for example, that the camera's lens is focused at 0.5 meters (from the front of the lens). That is equivalent to having a 2 diopter close-up lens. If you add a 3 diopter close-up lens, that is equivalent in total to 5 diopters, so you are focused at 1/5 meter.

If your camera does through-the-lens viewing, through-the lens-focusing, and through-the lens metering, then what you see is what you get.

Optical purists will tell you that close-up lenses do not have the optical quality of real macro lenses, and that is certainly correct. But for macro photography, you usually want a small aperture, like f/16 or f/22, for adequate depth of field. And these small apertures minimize the optical imperfections. So close-up lenses often achieve quite acceptable results.

My 18-200 mm "do-everything" lens focuses down to 9 inches to fill the frame with a subject about 2.5 x 3.5 inches in size (at the telephoto setting). This is usually quite adequate, but occasionally I want to get even closer. So I tuck in a close-up lens that takes up next-to-no space or weight in the camera bag. It allows me to focus down to 6 inches and fill the frame with a subject only 1.5 x 2 inches.

Close-up lenses are often sold in a set of three (with three different diopter powers), starting around \$20 and going up to maybe \$100, depending on the diameter, optical quality, and brand name. In my case, I scrounged around in the stuff I already owned and found some close-up lenses, but they were a little too small in diameter to fit my current camera lens. So I scrounged a little deeper and found a step-down adapter ring that allows them to be attached anyway. The step-down ring causes some vignetting in the extreme corners of the image, but I can usually crop it out, clone it away, or just live with it.

Stan Johnston

The Club owes Dorothy Matthews a special "Thank You" for all her work organizing and setting up the photo exhibit at Bainbridge Bakers. Great job!

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sponsored by the
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Competition Corner

How the time flies! After this May's competition we will be half way through this competition year. The number of images shown are at least 30% more than last year. We have some brave new members who are offering some wonderful images for our judges to score. I say brave because to allow your pictures to be compared and judged in public is risky, but, you will learn to take better pictures, will be more satisfied, get more compliments from friends, and will be able to call your pictures images - a far cry from grab shots most people take.

This months special subject is 3 of something. Assemble 3 people, 3 animals, or 3 objects, take a picture and you are done. ---OR--- Take 3 pictures of one person, one animal, or, one thing and with the help of some post processing software, put together a 3 of the same or similar thing image. Here's a tip to help you make this easier. Keep the background as simple and uncluttered as you can behind your subject and try to keep the lighting as similar as possible. Join them together in one photo and submit.

Good luck from Chuck!

Projector Screen

We have ordered a new, larger, wall-mounted screen. It should be more convenient and show your images better, and we got a good price on it. Thanks to Norm Wooldridge for all his work researching and implementing it.