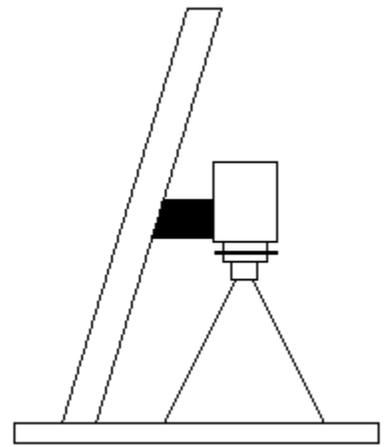


Contact Sheet

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Essence of the Photographic Experience

We are going to change out the photographs that we have in the corridor at the Eastern Idaho Regional Medical Center in the very near future. This has been a very good exposure for our club and we have had a couple dozen of the images sold to the people who have to go the hallway to get to work, to the Emergency Room, or to the lab and X-ray. The frames and matting have been provided by the hospital; and this time around, they are even covering the printing of the images. But they need our new images to fit the current framing and format - - seventeen as landscape and eight as portrait in their orientation. Therefore, the December meeting was a presentation by various club members of what they would like to hang.

And this was the essence of our club's purpose and existence - - sharing images and discussing the various photos to decide which would best represent this region to the people who traverse the hallways of the hospital. What an incredible set of images we saw that night! We have always stressed that this is a learning environment; and that the more images we present, the more

that we **all** learn. Sometimes, we forget what incredibly beautiful area of the world we get to call our home and this came to the fore by the photographs that our members have captured. Exotic locations have our focus since the local areas are "routine" in our mindset, but these images show that our eyes have been open when we have our cameras in our hands. It truly is going to be very difficult to pare the images we saw down to just twenty-five prints. Probably, we will present the hospital with about 40-50 images and let them whittle the numbers down. But one criterion they need to follow remains that each club member will have an image at the end of the selection period.

These images will be taken to 16 x 20 sizes and be viewed by people that are only a couple feet away. Therefore, the image has to be tack sharp, and if done digitally, there must be no jags from pixilation. Amazingly, the images shown at the meeting all met these severe clarity expectations. Since I am one of the members who still shoots most of their images in the silver-based format, this clarity convinced me that I need to get more involved in digital photography. Maybe I will be converted to the digital world.

The energy and excitement in the room all night long with the spirited discussion reminded us all why we have

enjoyed the camaraderie of the camera club for all of these years. This is the essence of EIPS and the reason for our continuance.

Merry Christmas and have a happy holiday season!!

Club Notes

The nomination committee for the selection of the officers for next year is finding it difficult to meet since everyone is visiting relatives and friends at this time of the year. Therefore, we will not have our election of officers until the Advancement Program meeting at the next meeting. Please accept the office when the committee calls since there are not a whole lot of extra hours that come with the office. The past officers have been very good at helping the next year's officers in their duties.

We need to discuss at the next meeting about whether we want to change the location of our meetings. In the past our meeting room charge was on a voluntary basis, and our newsletter costs took much of our dues, we had very little left over to pay for our meeting room. By going to electronic newsletters to the majority of our members, our costs have dropped from \$54 per month down to \$17 per issue. Therefore, we may be able to afford to stay at our current location. Doug, our treasurer, was not at our last meeting to ask his input. This discussion was tabled until our January meeting.

There was some discussion that maybe we should increase our dues since there were going to be more charges for the room at the church. However, with the economy slumping, we would prefer

to leave our dues at their current level, just \$25 per year for the family.

Advancement Program

As in past years the January Advancement Program is our annual awards banquet. This has been a good year for us with a lot of excellent images. Thanks for sharing your work with your fellow photographers. For the banquet, please bring a potluck dish and your table service for yourself at 7:00 p.m. on Jan. 15 in our meeting room. The club will provide drinks. Remember that spouses are welcome since this a social event.

We try to give you some lead-time to get the images for our Advancement Program themes. Below are the themes for 2009. Please note that these categories were taken from the categories that you can enter in the Eastern Idaho State Fair. In this way, images shown in the Advancement Program can be used for your fair entry in September. Shooting some themes that you normally don't shoot will make your work better in all aspects of your work. Not only does it expand your horizon but you learn skills that can be adapted to your main area of interest. Also, the topics are broad enough to find many avenues of expression. We will try to schedule some our lectures and field trips to fit into the presented topics to make these themes easier to do.

You best learn photography with your camera in your hands and we hope that you will find these challenging, and yet, something that will keep your interest. Enjoy!

January: Advancement Dinner

February: Automobiles
March: Photographer's Choice
April: Humor
May: Photographer's Choice
June: Hands
July: Photographer's Choice
August: Interiors
September: Photographer's Choice
October: Numbers/Letters
November: Photographer's Choice
December: Lights

Lots of choices! Have Fun!

The Advancement Program has always been a work in progress and we have modified it several times over the years to make it better for the people who want to participate. In fact, we even gave extra points for being a judge when no one would volunteer for that task in the early years of the club. This year we went to all members being the judge for each image and an average for image being presented as the total. When I total the prints for the year, I will try to take the partial amounts into account.

In the past we have given extra points to those who have done extra work on their images in the darkroom since it would take from 30 to 60 minutes to get a good image - - and this was a good learning tool for the photographer. A really good negative made a good print very quickly, but a difficult negative was a bear to achieve any image at all. But now, the darkroom is virtually dead with papers and chemicals disappearing from the marketplace. With the shift toward digital images and the use of PhotoShop, we need to find a way to award those who are doing extensive work on the images.

And yet there are problems with this approach. If you have a really good image on your shot and you just have to press the print button on your computer, should this person be awarded extra effort over the person who had to correct many areas of an image in PhotoShop? How can you tell? The end point may be the same. Since we now use a projector for the digital files, maybe there should be extra points for the ones that are **printed** because of the **extra cost** of printing an image. The print should show better resolution than is available in the projected image. Also, it can be hard to evaluate the projected image since it many times is so different from the one you see on the computer screen! Please give me some input about extra points for PhotoShop work on digital images.

Field Trip

We did Christmas lights around Idaho Falls as our field trip this month. With the snow on the ground, this was much more effective than when we tried to do this a few years ago. Somehow, green grass (really dark at night) did not fit our preconceptions of a snowy effect in our pictures. Also, the previous Christmas lights field trip was done in the pre-digital era of photography, and we did not get as high of percentage of good images as on this trip.

Please help our field trip coordinator with suggestions since each of us have our favorite areas to go for images in this areas. With gas prices finally coming back down again, we hope to schedule some of our trips further away from Idaho Falls.

In that same fashion, please help the program chairman with finding and/or presenting lectures in your photographic expertise area. Each person in the club has knowledge that can help other members and we need to continue to share that information.

Monthly Meeting

Date: Jan. 15, 2009

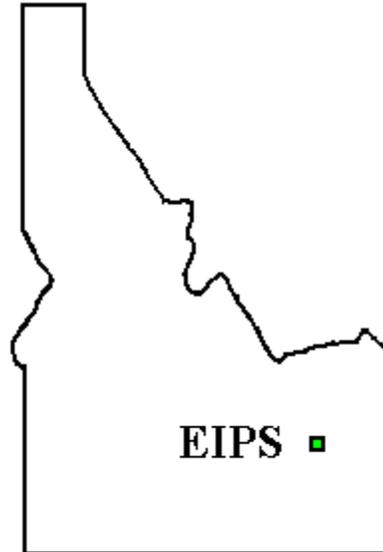
Time: 7:00 p.m.

**Location: 1900 Grandview
– Conference Room**

Program:

Please note that the lecture meeting is cancelled since the first Thursday is January 1! We felt that attendance would be very limited! Advancement Banquet on January 15. Bring potluck dish and your table service. Drinks provided by the club.

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Graffiti

EIPS is a group of amateur and professional photographers who have joined together to further the art and craft of photography. Please join us and expand your horizons. Sharing knowledge makes all participants better at their craft. We meet on the first Thursday of each month for our educational lecture. Then the third Thursday is our Advancement Program where we share some of the images we have done. We meet at 7:30 p.m. [7:00 Jan. 15th meeting] at 1900 Grandview Ave in the conference room. You will be a better photographer as you learn from us and we learn from you!

DUES ARE DUE!

Contact Doug! \$25 per family per year! What a deal!

