Contact Sheet

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Advancement Program Banquet and Awards

The January meeting of the EIPS is our awards banquet for our Advancement Program which was set up about twelve years ago as a way to stimulate the growth of photographic skills in our members. We were very fearful about the mechanics of the Program since a similar program was the reason the prior camera club failed. It was set up so that only the best 10 - 15%of the images shown were awarded any points. This meant that for most sessions, the established members would be awarded points while the new photographer's images usually were judged such that they would not receive any points. Therefore, the rich got richer and the poor got poorer. There were arguments as to who would get to show their slides first since the order of presentation sometimes would give different scoring of the prints. New members were reticent to enter any images since they would be downgraded and not receive any points. Not a good situation!

At each meeting of our Advancement Program, we ask the participant to bring three slides or prints (8x10 or larger) to be evaluated by other club members. Two or three judges are selected from the participants in that session to critique each image rating the

photo from 6 to 10 points. We ask the judges to comment on what they liked about the image and also ask them to suggest what could be done to improve the image. In other words, we are trying to have a positive critiquing session. Since all members see every image, we have the advantage of finding out what other images might be available for us to see in this locality. Every other month is a theme presentation so that we can find out how differently we each interpret that topic. This also makes a scenic photographer shoot some still life or people pictures and the people photographer look at other parts of their viewfinder. Additionally, we would like for the image to have been shot within the last two years so that you continue to shoot photos and not just dip into your archives of past photos.

We give each participant an additional 5 points for presenting to that night's session. (If a person does their own darkroom work - or works on the image with their computer, an additional 2 points is awarded per image.) From the above data, you can see that we will usually get from 23 to 35 points in a session. To encourage members to participate in club field trips, we also give bonus points if the image was taken on a club outing.

If we present about 30 images for judging, the participant will have about 300 points at which time will feel that they deserve recognition in the form of a Certificate of Achievement. We really encourage all members to come each third Thursday at 7:30 p.m. to the Conference Room at 1900 Grandview and share their images with other members. All people benefit by the sharing of this knowledge. Even if you don't want to show your images, please come and observe what others are doing with their cameras. You will learn something new and exciting! Every year our membership changes enough so that there is a very fresh view of the world as seen through our photographer's minds.

For next year the themes will be as follows: February – Photographer's Choice March – **Texture** April – Photographer's Choice May - Snow June – Photographer's Choice July – **Motion** August – Photographer's Choice September – Water Falls October – Photographer's Choice November – Sports December – Photographer's Choice This year had one of the largest

number of club members who received an Achievement Award. There were 15 members who reached the next level of participation. They are as follows: 300 points

Dave Clayden Mary Clayden **John Stephens** 600 points Louise Clark

Mary Dunhour Chris Michelsen Tim Sommers

900 points **Mary Dunhour** Sam Hiatt 1500 points **Doug Jenson** 2100 points **Roger Heng Sue Heng** 2400 points Sue Heng 3300 points **Marty Larcom** 5400 points Jan Larcom

Remember that each 300 points is about thirty images. From the above we have had an incredible year with many different levels of participation. We want this to continue to serve you in a way that all of us will become better photographers. Thank you all - - and

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

Don't forget that dues are due! \$25 to EIPS keeps you in good standing. Please give your check to Doug Jenson.

Club Notes

Roger Heng has been checking with Eastern Idaho Technical College and they want us back for an encore performance. We have the month of March in their administration building. This has always given us a lot of exposure in our community. Also, the instructors of the photography classes take their students by the exhibit as a learning tool. There is enough room that we can hang about 150 - 170 prints, so there should be enough room for each

member to have at least 4-5 prints. This is not a juried show, but we would like to present just as good of quality to the community that we do in our October Juried Show. If you want to sell your images, you can include your business cards on the prints or frames.

Moat of the prints should have a smallest size of 8×10 and probably not larger than 16×24 . They should be framed so that they can be easily hung from their hangers. Further details will be discussed at our February meeting.

Please keep in mind that we have a way of getting your prints into the local Idaho Falls magazine - - but they have deadlines that mean that you will have to use last year's slides. (In the spring they want summer images, in the summer they want fall photos, etc.) They like slides that tell a story, are a very good scenic representation of our area, or show a little humor. If you present a digital image, the file size must be about 30 megs in size. Please bring some of these to the February meeting.

Still Life Workshop

Boy, did we have fun at our first meeting of 2004. We had four different setups available for the participants to try their photographic skills on. There were two light boxes with black velvet backdrops along with two studio flash units, one with an umbrella monolight and the other with a large softbox monolight.

In the past these workshops have always been some of our most popular sessions - - and this one did not disappoint. Someone brought an upper and lower jawbone of an animal to photograph. The light box was used with red spots from beneath the object with other red lights to get rid of some of the distracting shadows. Several club members were moving reflectors around to position the light better. Several members were lying on the floor to photograph the image up through the glass to make it appear to float in space. Now what happens when I move to the left a couple of inches - - let's see what it looks like when I include more reflections - - how about where there is no reflections - - and the creative juices continue to flow.

From past workshops we know that not all of the images will quite convey what was intended. But by the same token, there will be some presentations that will be spectacular. And maybe the next time you want to do an image, you may be able to incorporate some of these learned techniques into your image, knowing that this has worked for you - - or a fellow club member - - in the past, without having to waste any of your film.

Our New Meeting Room

Don't forget that we are at our new meeting facility on 1900 Grandview (SEE MAP BELOW).



Monthly Meeting

Date: Feb. 5, 2004

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Location: 1900 Grandview (see map on pg. 3)

Program: EIPS has had a display in the foyer of the emergency room of EIRMC. They want to print our images for us. Bring several slides of the hospital service area with you so we can determine which images can go to 16x20.

Graffiti

The Advancement Program theme for February is: *Photographer's Choice*. Bring your three best prints/slides and join us on February 19 at 7:30 p.m. at 1900 Grandview in the Conference Room. This would also be a good venue to see which prints you want for the March Show at EITC.

Since this is the start of a new year, please help our new officers know what you want to learn this year, where you want to have photo shoots, and what type of workshops you want. They will need your assistance at presenting meaningful programs. (Sometimes the presenter of the program learns more than the participants!)

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