**PKG Meeting Minutes—2-25-21**

The meeting commenced at 6:30 PM. We had a total of 20 participants, including one guest.

Lillian Lewis was given a camera by her husband; now they are both getting into photography. They upgraded their first cameras and she now shoots a Sony A7III and he has a Sony A6000. Lillian is mainly interested in landscape and macro and her husband is into astrophotography. She found PKG through an internet search. Bob explained the organization of the club and the activities in which we engage while Peggy told her how to become a member.

Our guest speaker was Marty Welter, who is currently the membership director for WI PSA. He discussed Luminar and showed many of the features of the program, editing photographs as he went along.

Peggy said we have 21 paid members at this time. Kelly, Mary and Roberta still need to renew—Marlene has done so. We have $1597.55 in the Treasury with $39.12 in PayPal. Beginning in March anyone who has not renewed will be unable to enter our competitions or exhibit at Sazzy B’s and will be dropped from the PKG membership email list.

For the POTM competition we experienced unusual phenomena—seven entries received one vote each and the remaining 13 votes when to one photo. The topic was In Black & White and Kathy was the winner with her photo of an amaryllis. She received the plant for Christmas, placed it in her window and photographed it in all stages of development using live view. The entry was shot at 1/20 second on f/8 at ISO 500 with a 70 mm lens. Congratulations, Kathy, on your beautiful winning image.

Kathy—(1st)

Marlene, Doug, Erick, Glen, Linda, Tineke, Chip—(2nd)

March’s topic is ***Out in the Elements,*** described as *seasoned or otherwise affected by the weather*. It is basically the weathered topic used in the past. Erick mentioned rust and wood left out in the weather, but there are many other subjects that have been changed by the elements.

***Photo Abstraction*** is the topic for April. **This is an in-camera assignment, so the image must be taken with your camera and not created through an editing program.** There was some discussion of what constituted abstraction and even the examples Erick found brought disagreement, particularly those that showed a recognizable object such as a building. Here is one definition:

Abstract photography, sometimes called non-objective, experimental or conceptual photography, is a means of depicting a visual image that does not have an immediate association with the object world and that has been created through the use of photographic equipment, processes or materials. An abstract photograph may isolate a fragment of a natural scene in order to remove its inherent context from the viewer, it may be purposely staged to create a seemingly unreal appearance from real objects, or it may involve the use of color, light, shadow, texture, shape and/or form to convey a feeling, sensation or impression.

Below are some links. As you look through the examples you will see some that do not qualify as abstract. The natural world is full of abstraction. A photo of a rock is not abstract, but isolating the patterns of that rock might be. You can set up a photo to be abstract such as paint in water and next month’s speaker may show us how. This is a particularly exciting topic because we do so little of it.

https://www.thephotoargus.com/abstract-photography-ideas/

https://photographylife.com/abstract-photography-tips-and-ideas

https://expertphotography.com/abstract-photography-examples/

https://photography.tutsplus.com/articles/70-stunning-abstract-photographs--photo-8826

https://www.adorama.com/alc/abstract-photography-for-beginners-9-tips-for-capturing-stunning-abstract-images/

https://www.ephotozine.com/article/23-amazing-examples-of-abstract-photography--26020

https://iphonephotographyschool.com/abstract/

The Sazzy B gallery was changed two weeks ago. There are 17 photos from 11 makers. The next change will be in May.

Bob asked for feedback on Glenn Bartley’s bird photography seminar. Everyone thought it was good and that he spoke in terms we could all understand. Bob said Linnea would let us know if his notes will be available or when the webinar will be posted for review.

The fourth Saturday is the WACCO Digital Forum and Bob will send out a link. Over 100 people have signed up for the WACCO Bryan Hansel presentation on March 6th from 9 AM to noon. The cost is $25. Here is a link: https://wacco-spring-seminar-hansel.eventbrite.com

Erick said one of the scoresheets for the PSA Club Showcase is already filled out, but you can delete the numbers and fill in your own scores. Please return them to Erick in the next few weeks.

Next month Scott McNeill, a PSA and North Shore member, will speak for an hour on three different topics. He is very creative and has perfected some exciting set-ups for making abstract images. Thanks, Chip, for bringing him to PKG.

In April we will do some photo critique by asking for volunteers to submit a total of around ten photos and discussing them. As we make suggestions Kathy will use Lightroom to edit the images for improvement per our suggestions.

There are no photowalks at this time but we are all looking forward to them as the weather warms up and the pandemic slows down.

Erick asked Marty about the PSA website competition. Marty encouraged us to enter in order to get feedback from the judges about our website. He also thought we had a chance of doing well in the competition and told him to fill out the entry form by March 15th.

Bob asked if the Zoom invitation was any easier to follow. Tineke said she had some trouble. Thanks, Kathy, for creating a template for the invitation.

Our next meeting will be held via Zoom March 25,2021, 6:30PM. An invitation will be sent to members before the meeting. Hope everyone will be able to attend.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:57 PM.

Trish