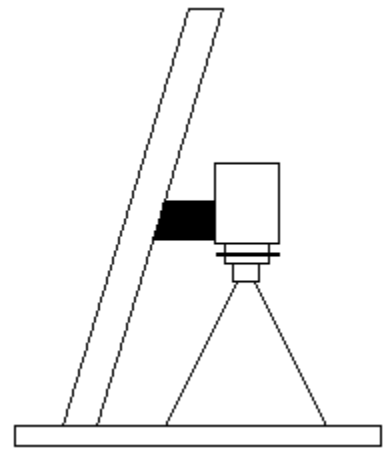


Contact Sheet

Journal of the Eastern Idaho Photographic Society
Vol. 21, No. 5
May 2009



The Eighteen-Month Pregnancy

About a year and a half ago, Rodney Jack led a field trip for fall colors into the Swan Valley, Sheep Creek area. I rather went along as an assistant to help with some of the questions from the students since they were spread out over a quarter mile or so of the area. It rained. It snowed. It blew. But we really had a good learning experience. We did more macro of the leaves, which were a deeper and richer color because of the water on them. We did not need the usual water bottle sprayer to get those types of effects since the water droplets were already present.

The sun did pop out for just a couple of minutes while we were in Swan Valley and the colors were so spectacular that we almost forgot to shoot any pictures. In fact, I had taken my old B&W film camera since I was just going to do a little macro work on the ground since I just knew the colors would not be any good. I had loaned my color digital to Rodney since he brought no camera since he thought that he was going to be teaching most of the day. Rodney was shooting photos like mad during that short burst of sunlight, and I borrowed my camera back for a short while so that I could claim at least some

color that day. Then the sun disappeared and I went back to B&W.

At the end of the field trip, Rodney took the cards from everyone's cameras; and we had a show and tell display with the projector at the college classroom. We ended up with some amazing images by everyone - - in spite of the extremely poor weather. Overall, it was a very good learning experience.

They wanted more photography and field trip experience. We decided to have a studio lighting workshop that I was supposed to teach. Since this would not be part of the EITC college curriculum, we thought that I could just do it some weekend at my house. I would give them a half hour lecture of the six students in my living room, and then have half of them use the studio lights in the living room and the other half on the light box in my dining room - - a neat concept. Since I did not have the use of a digital projector, I photographed all of the slides for this talk off my computer screen since I did a PowerPoint demonstration. We set this up tentatively for the first week in December.

Then I went to pot. I got extremely short of breath on any activity about Thanksgiving. Gained twenty pounds in two weeks. Doctors visits. Tests. Mitral valve rupture of chordae tendineae and severe heart failure. Heart

valve replacement in mid-December. (The things I will do just to get out of a lecture!)

Now jump ahead as eighteen months go by and we need a lecture for the Camera Club meeting in one week. I thought I could resurrect my talk for our first meeting in the Good Samaritan auditorium. But just a month before this talk, Marty and I had decided to move to Las Vegas (my son, daughter-in-law, **grandsons** had moved there two years previously) since their housing market prices had dropped 55% and the IF market had barely dropped. After I volunteered to give the talk, I realized that I had already packed all of my slides and computer discs with the talk on them. Therefore, a fast rewrite was in order. The original lecture was a Word Document for a hand out - - but it really was too technical of a presentation since my talk was to be supplemented by the things mentioned in the hand out. Too many facts that would lose the audience very quickly. Therefore, you got a total rewrite and the demonstration photos were from the Internet with a few that were still on my computer in a lighting workshop file. The PowerPoint presentation was a cut and paste from my lecture notes with the non-essential items just cut and deleted! So the painful delivery of these pregnant thoughts came after an eighteen-month gestation period.

Studio lighting principles exist without having a studio – or expensive lights. You just need to know how to control the light for your image. Light Temperature is the opposite of what you think. Start with a cold black box and heat the box up. The first color emitted is red, but box is at the coldest

temperature. Really get the box hot and it is a blue color.

Light Temperature

- Match Flame - 1700 Kelvin
- 100-Watt Incandescent Tungsten Lamp – 2865 K
- Sunlight: Sunrise or Sunset - 2000 K
- Direct Mid-Summer Sunlight – 5800 K
- Overcast Sky – 6000 K

Light Temperature filters will help you match your light source temperature to the film/CCD setting you are using. An 82A is bluish and will make the light hotter. The yellowish 81A filter will make the light appear more yellow (or cooler).

Number of lights to use can be as simple as the light from your window hitting the person, or flower, etc. Or you can have half dozen lights with reflectors, diffusers, filters. Remember that there is no best light for all subjects. But try to match the color temperature of all of your lights to the same output. To light ½ of your subject with incandescent lights (yellowish cast) and the other half with fluorescent lighting will create a nightmare of color to correct in PhotoShop.

The **Principles of Light** states that light falls off by the square of the distance. At one meter from the bulb, the light covers all areas of the sphere. At two meters, the light covers all areas of the sphere, but the surface area is now four times as large. Sunlight gives a false sense of the drop-off since after going 93 million miles, what is another foot or two! But in another 93 million miles, the light drop off from the sun would drop four times also.

A **Single Light Source** creates severe shadows created – unless you can bounce the light into the shadows. Use the ceiling as a reflector for your flash to

lessen the shadows. Use a white table to reflect light up toward the person when using a window for your light source. Use crumpled aluminum foil as a reflector, or a piece of foamcore, or a commercial reflector held by an assistant. Put a diffuser over the single light source so that the light doesn't create such severe shadows (principle of a softbox). **Shadows** can really be beneficial in that they show wrinkles in an older person to add character. They also add depth to picture and creates 3-D type of image. But they also may give too much character and be unflattering to many females. Shadows may make nose too big or may make extra chins more apparent.

You can **alter the light source** by moving closer – or further away. You can increase (or decrease) the amount of light the source emits. Also, you can add extra lights. You can use as many lights as you really want. Aim the light. Use snoots, barn doors, other concentrating devices. Another way of controlling the light is your camera. Open or close up the diaphragm of the camera. Expose the film/chip for a longer or shorter time period. Use a film (1600 ASA) that is more sensitive to a dimmer light – or a slower film (100). Use diffusers to soften the light onto the subject or use reflectors to bounce light onto the subject.

Most of the rest of the lecture was demonstration slides of the various ways to position lights to give better light on the subjects, along with a listing of the terminology used for the various lights. The complete lecture will be posted on our Internet site as a PowerPoint presentation so that you can revisit the lecture, if you aren't already asleep! I really liked the following two sources to further elucidate the subject:

www.lumitouch.com/benstudiotutorial/benji9.html - a very good tutorial online and the book, *Posing for Portrait Photography – a Head-to-Toe Guide* by Jeff Smith – lots of good images to make his points.

Club Notes

We also need to thank Farr's Jewelry for the use of the digital projector at the last Advancement Program as well as the lecture.

There has still not been a definitive listing of all of the images that will be going to the corridor in the hospital, but we are very close. We will try to cement those images together so that we can give the hospital group about thirty images for them to select from.

Advancement Program

The theme of the Advancement Program for May is: **Photographer's Choice**. Please bring three of your best images, slides, digital image files and join us at 840 East Elva in the Conference Room of Good Samaritan at 7:30 p.m. on May 21.

The remaining themes for this year are (alternate months are Photographer's Choice):

June: Hands

August: Interiors

October: Numbers/Letters

December: Lights

Dues are due! \$25 per year for the entire family. Thank you.

Monthly Meeting

Date: May 7, 2009

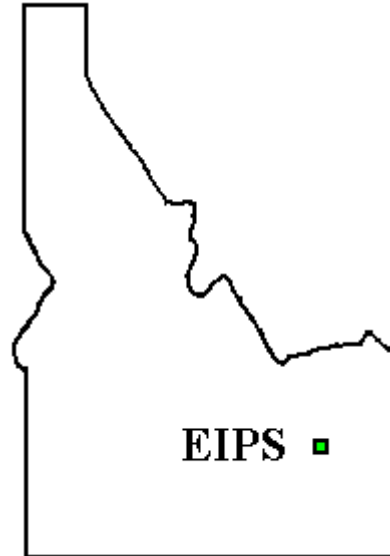
Time: 7:30 p.m.

**Location: 840 East Elva –
Good Sam Conference Room**

Program:

We really liked the room for the last presentation – and we are back again this month. I could not connect with the program chairman in time for this newsletter, but rest assured, **it will be an AWESOME presentation.**

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Graffiti

Note the new address. Our monthly charges for our room at the church kept going up and they wanted to shift us to a very tiny room. We are moving to Good Samaritan and the price is right - - FREE.

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. in the 840 East Elva conference room. We all become better photographers!

