



THE

LAST FRAME

May 2007

St. Albert Photo Club's Monthly Newsletter



To Tibet and Nepal

Neil Haggard and one of his images.

Neil Haggard, manager of Mountain Equipment Co-op, gave a presentation on May 9, 2007, to the St. Albert Photo club members of his beautiful and unusual slides of his trip to Tibet and Nepal.

Neil is an outdoor enthusiast, and especially loves climbing and/or trekking and biking.

He has also been an amateur photographer for about 30 years.

Neil travelled to Tibet and Nepal from September 22 to November 9, 2006, as he wanted to go trekking during one of the two trekking/climbing windows available in this part of the world – either in October or from March to the early part of May.

He spent four weeks above 4,000 metres and 10 days above 5,000 metres elevation.

Neil stated that “it is not your normal slide show”, as there was little commentary except for jpeg descriptions of the slides in their upper left-hand corner.

The slide show of about 320 photographs was accompanied by music from the regions to guide the viewer through the images and help him/her have their own experience.

It consisted of three sections - his

<p>JUNE GUEST SPEAKER None</p>	<p>JUNE COMPETITION Wind-up Dinner</p>	<p>Click here to access our website</p>	<p>SEPTEMBER COMPETITION “Open” Summer Images</p>	<p>SEPTEMBER GUEST SPEAKER TBA</p>
--	--	---	---	--



visit to Tibet, his trek in Nepal, and slides of people and unusual bicycles.

He also discussed photographic issues relevant to each segment and concluded by discussing causes in the regions for which he is trying to obtain funds.

Neil primarily used a Yashica FX SLR camera until switching to a Canon S2 IS three years ago.

He finds it much easier to use a digital camera and feels it also captures more of what he likes to see.

He only uses the camera's features and does not use a tripod or filters.

He likes using natural lighting for indoor shots, as he prefers the effect of the softer light, and uses flash sparingly only if the scene he is photographing is too dark.

Neil travelled in Tibet over many high passes over 5,000 metres in elevation to Zangmu, Tingri, Rhongbuk, Shiatse and Lhasa.

His photographs of Tibet consisted primarily of landscapes, rural settings, Buddhist monasteries and other important buildings.

His nature photographs included shots



of the tundra and desert like landscape, mountains, including views of the Kangshung North-East face of Mt. Everest, and passes adorned with prayer flags in the five primary colours.

Images of rural and village settings included scenes of a family working on their farm, yak dung drying, and the manufacture of woollen carpets in a village factory.

Some important and unique buildings that he photographed from the exterior and interior

included the Shiatse Fortress and Thanka wall, the Phalkor Chorten and Kumbumm in Gyantse and the Potala Palace in Lhasa.

Neil indicated that he protected his camera from the large amount of dust found in the region by making sure it was stored in a plastic bag deep in his pack when not in use.

He described the lighting in monasteries as horrendous, as there were multiple light sources from bare incandescent bulbs hanging from the

ceiling, bright colours, glossy paintings, and natural light.

He tried to compose his photographs to avoid the worst effects of this lighting and to use natural light if possible and flash only if necessary.

Neil also mentioned that he had to pay quite high fees to take photographs of monastery interiors.

On Nepal, Neil prefaced this segment by stating that there is very intense light at altitude, which is reflected in his Tibet photographs, as they tended

<p>St. Albert Photo Club</p> <hr/> <p>Vol:6 Issue:8 PUBLISHED MONTHLY September - June</p>	<p>President</p> <p>Derald Lobay </p>	<p>Treasurer</p> <p>Allen Skoreyko </p>	<p>Web Master</p> <p>Tracey Guzak </p>	<p>Club Contact</p> <p>Doug Poon 973-7035 dougpoon@shaw.ca </p>
--	---	---	--	---



to have fewer colours and were more washed out.

To accommodate this intense light, Neil decided to underexpose his photographs and he played with the contrast between light and dark.

Therefore, his Nepal photographs have more saturated colours, bluer skies and better contrast.

Neil took the majority of his Nepal photographs in the morning and early afternoon, as a convective build up started every day in the early afternoon and visibility was usually poor after about 2 p.m.

Neil traveled in Tibet from Lukla along the Dudh Kosi River and up the Dudh Kosi Valley to various villages, including Namche Bazaar, Kunde, Kumjung, Tengboche, Panboche, Dinboche and

Dugla.

From Loboche village, he trekked to the Mt. Everest's southern side Base Camp at Khumbu Glacier and to the summit of Kala Pattar (5,545 m.) before trekking back to Lukla.

Most of his photographs were of mountain scenes along his trek, including shots of his favourite mountain, Ama Dablam (means Mountain Broach in English)(6,837 m.), Mt. Everest (8,852 m.), Thamskerku (6,607 m.), Kwande (6,186 m.), and the Khumbu Glacier and Falls.

He also had a shot of Bryce Brown, Canadian physician, on the top of Mt. Everest which he obtained from the climber when he met Bryce at the Base Camp just after Bryce had summited Mt.

Everest.

The final segment of the slide show consisted of photographs of Tibetans, Nepalese and unique looking bikes that interested Neil.

Neil always asked people for their permission to take their photograph and stated that some people did not want their picture taken, others wanted to be paid and other posed for free.

He felt that his photographs of people who posed for free were the best.

In conclusion, Neil was a very well-prepared and knowledgeable speaker and was very enthusiastic about the subject matter and the plight of the Tibetan and Nepalese peoples.

The juxtaposition of rice

fields, prayer flags and monasteries against the backdrop of the Himalayan Mountains was very intriguing.

Neil is showing slides at various places primarily to obtain donations for various causes.

The Metro Cinema show obtained enough funds to buy a toilet and build a new tin roof for a Nepalese school 80 km. east of Kathmandu.

He was grateful for club members' generous donations that will go toward funding a Tibetan orphanage with 100 children to buy toilets and computers and expand the dining room.

Members who missed Neil's presentation can see it at the Grant MacEwan Mountain Club's meeting on June 6, 2007, 7:30 p.m. (non-members welcome) at the St. Faith Anglican Church Hall, 11725 – 93 Street.

Article- Erika Ewen

Final Club Point Standings

PRINTS

- 22 - Al Popil
- 15 - Sieg Koslowski
- 03 - Luc Guillemette
- 02 - Mark Williams
- 02 - Gary George
- 02 - Don Litven
- 01 - Derald Lobay
- 01 - Tracey Guzak

SLIDES

- 24 - Derald Lobay
- 16 - Sieg Koslowski
- 05 - Mufty Mathewson
- 02 - Erika Ewen
- 01 - Gary George

THE LAST FRAME

CLUB MEMBERS WINNING MONTHLY PICTURES



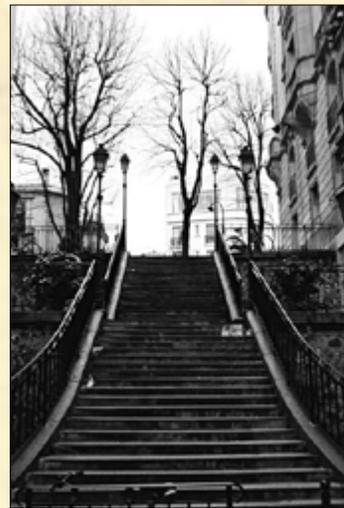
1st Place Print - Al Popil



2nd Place Print - Sieg Koslowski



1st Place Slide - Sieg Koslowski



3rd Place Print - Tracey Guzak



3rd Place Slide - Sieg Koslowski



2nd Place Slide - Erika Ewen