NOVEMBER - 2002
St. Albert Photo Club's Monthly Newsletter

THE LAST FRAME

November guest speaker Luc Guillemette peers through an Amethyst geode during his presentation of photographing mineral specimens.

POINT STANDINGS 2002 - 2003

Sieg Koslowski - 7
Debbie Tetz - 6
Allan Skoreyko - 5
Tim Schultz - 5
Gary George - 1

Points are based on:
3 points for 1st
2 points for 2nd
1 point for 3rd.

Barlite crystals, below, Occo geode.

Photographing crystals

Wednesday night's guest speaker was club member, Luc Guillemette who provided a talk on photographing mineral specimens.

His lens of choice is a microscope with tungsten slide film.

Having travelled extensively in search of various specimens Luc also showed the down and dirty of acquiring samples.

An avid collector for over 30 years, the presentation was informative and insightful into a world of microphotography.

To view some of his collection, Luc has specimens available at his store, Gemport, in St. Albert.

December Competition:	December Guest Speaker:	Tech Tips:	January Guest Speaker:	January Competition:
None	Christmas Party	Flash	TBA	Open

Flash photography basics

Manual Flash

When manual flashes are used on full power, they put out the same amount of light each time they fire. This capability permits repeatable effects whether made with a single flash or several flashes used in combination. Professional and advanced photographers use manual flash in order to achieve control of three essentials: depth of field, flash range, and, as mentioned, repeatable effects.

You must use an automatic or manual flash with a manual camera. When you work with a manual flash, you can calculate your exposures by using the scales on the back of the flash unit.

You can vary flash effects by moving closer to or farther from your subject without changing the shutter speed or f/stop. If you can judge distance well and the flash is fully charged when you fire it, you should get good exposures. Advanced, professional flashes that run on continuous AC current put out considerable amounts of light but work in basically the same way as the smallest manual flash.

Automatic Flash

Automatic flash units were first introduced in the 1960s. They work with all types of cameras and are the generation between manual flash and computer-controlled dedicated flash. A sensor on the front of the flash unit controls light output. After you set an automatic flash unit AND an appropriate f/stop on your lens, the flash unit gives good flash exposures without your having to reset it unless the flash-to-subject distance changes out of set range. This type of flash is still used with all manual cameras, and is very popular with news photographers.

Automatic flashes incorporate a built-in or removable sensor on the front. A thyristor, which is an electronic switch, controls the flash output. The thyristor causes the flash to cut off when the sensor judges that sufficient light has reached the subject for a good exposure. As always, flash range is determined by a combination of the power of the flash, the film speed, and the f/stop. selected.

Through the Lens (TTL) Flash

This mode signifies all flashes are made for use with a dedicated system – the camera, lens, and flash all interact with each other and are designed for either on or off-camera use. An in-camera sensor, usually placed near the film plane, reads the light reaching the film and a computer controls flash duration for a correct exposure within the effective range of the flash unit. With a manual focus camera, you may need to check the flash-to-subject distance and set an f/stop on the lens that is right for the distance. With newer auto focus cameras and dedicated flashes, this is automated as they determine the flash-to-subject distance.

One distinct advantage of using TTL is that exposure will remain accurate when you use a filter on the lens. Since light transmission is reduced when using filters, the automatic flash cannot correct for this as flash exposure is measured on the flash unit's sensor. Another advantage is when using bounce flash. Since the TTL's sensor reads exposure at the film plane, non-TTL system users must calculate to accommodate for the loss of light – i.e., opening up the lens.

Article- Derald Lobay

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PRESIDENT
Derald Lobay

SECRETARY
Gary George
TREASURER
Mary Ann Peterson

PROGRAMME DIRECTOR'S
Derald Lobay
Doug Poon

CLUB CONTACT
Doug Poon
(780) 459-7627
E-mail:
dpoon@telusplanet.net

THE LAST FRAME

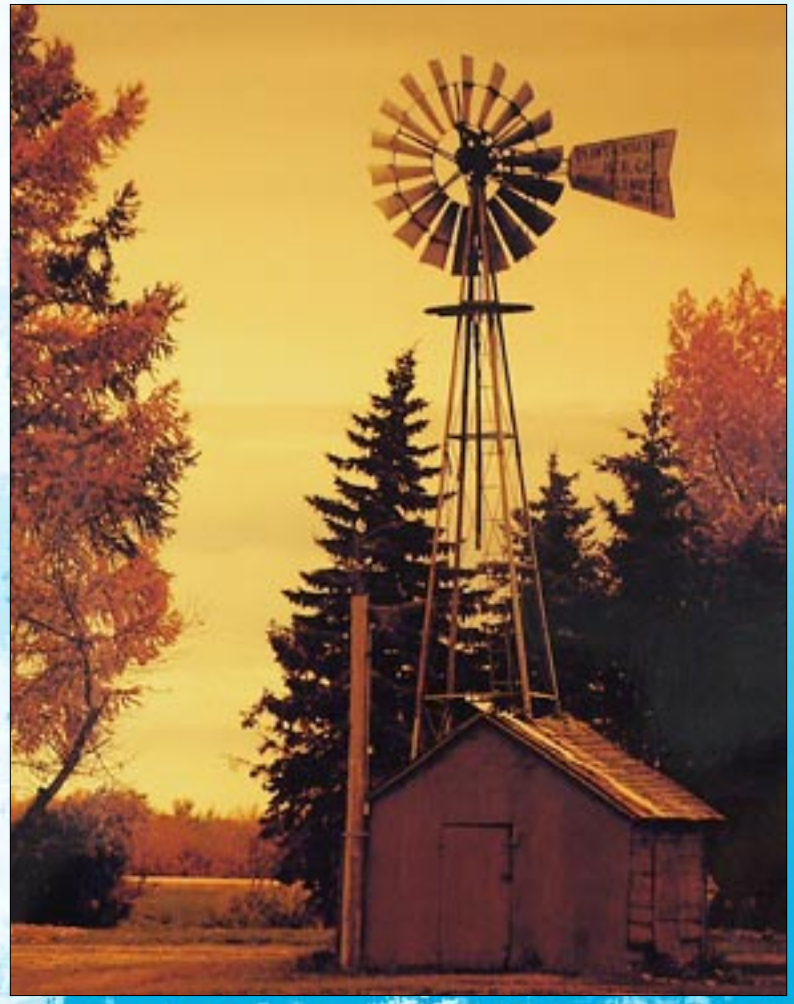
NOVEMBER COMPETITION
Windmills

CLUB MEMBERS WINNING MONTHLY PICTURES

1st Place Slide and Best of Show - Sieg Koslowski

Above
2nd Place Slide
Debbie Tetz

Right
3rd Place Slide
Sieg Koslowski



1st Place Print - Allan Skoreyko

2nd Place Print - Allan Skoreyko

3rd Place Print - Gary George