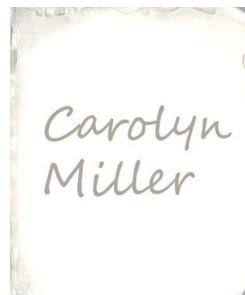


Profile for May 2021

Sibley Camera Club Addendum



Photography is a tool to express ourselves in many unique ways and the mind set responsible for this is as unique as each member of the club. I would like to thank Carolyn Miller for sharing some of her time with us as we get a glimpse of how she sees the world.

Malcolm McElvaney - How did you get started doing photography?

Carolyn Miller - My parents instilled their love of photography in me at an early age. They gave me my first camera when I was in fifth grade, but failed to give me a budget for developing the film. That changed quickly!! I helped in their darkroom and learned some of the basics. But it wasn't until my last child left for college in 2006 that I got serious about exploring the more serious side of photography. So what started as a hobby has continued to evolve into much more.

I'm assuming by more serious side of photography you mean doing commercial work. How much did your experience prior to changing direction help you transition?

Actually, by serious I meant exploring the more technical side of taking photos.

The passion I had was a huge help because it will always be what drives me to learn. The basic knowledge was a plus also. But I had to teach myself the technical side of taking photos whether that was learning portrait photography, light painting, etc.

Thank you for clarifying that for me, not sure why I had that impression. To me exploring the technical aspects of photography seems to give me more options to bring the image in my head out in a more complete way. What type of photography did you find the most challenging to work with?

It took me a while to get the hang of night photography. But friends, like Ken Zoller, were kind enough to share their knowledge and it finally all clicked together. It also takes

patience, which I don't have an abundance of most of the time. But with so many starry filled nights around Fort Davis, I have plenty of opportunities to practice.

As you have put in the time practicing these different types of photography have you found a benefit overall that you didn't expect?

Yes - very much. It is teaching me to stay in the moment. To enjoy and capture what I am seeing. When I am out doing photography I don't think about what I need to do the next day or how many deadlines I have. I just get absorbed in the moment. It is challenging enough to keep my mind focused.

Would you mind sharing a photo with us and filling in some of the story behind it?



This is a recent photo and one that I planned in advance. Although it is my six month old grandson and long legged son-in-law, it could be anyone. This little boy wants to be just like his daddy. So dads have a responsibility beginning when their children are young to be aware that they are watching and mimicking. I had to wait for the sun to almost set and to find the right background. Then working with a little one is always more challenging since he's just beginning to stand. I had my daughter just

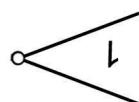
barely out of the frame to grab him as he toppled. But it's not just about the planning or the technical ability. Photos tell a story. I hope this photo does that.

What advice would you give someone trying to learn more about photography as they expand their skill sets?

My advice would be to keep taking photos often utilizing your new skill set. As I learned more about night photography if I had huge gaps in going out to take photos at night, I would have to rethink the steps. The more I practiced, the easier it was to retain. As you get the basics in any new branch of photography, then you can work with making it your own with your special touches.

Also, as busy as I am it is nice to take time to do something that is just for me. Something I love and find to be a good destresser.

Do you share your photos online? If so where might one find them?



You may find examples of my photography on my Instagram page @cmtxphotography. Or I have many friends that have added me on Facebook (Carolyn Nored Miller) to follow my photos.

