

## 2018 Ocala Camera Club Themes

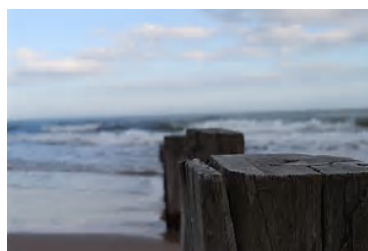
### January - Night Photography

Night Photography means photographs taken outdoors between dusk and dawn. Night photographers generally have a choice between using artificial light and using a long exposure, exposing the scene for seconds, minutes, and even hours to give the digital sensor enough time to capture a usable image. So, let's get creative! Do you want some detail set off by the surrounding dark of night or do you want to use the darkness to help with another technique like long exposure? Are you looking at stars or do you like surprising wildlife at night or maybe this is a good time for car taillight trails? Don't forget – use your tripod!!!



### February - Shallow Depth of Field

Using Depth of Field is a photographic technique using the difference between sharp focus and blur to your advantage when bringing out the best in your image. When a sharp subject is set off by a blurry background you leave no question as to what your center of interest is. Bokeh is out of focus points of light and can be a beautiful way to accent a subject. Technically Depth of Field is determined by aperture (f stop), focal length and distance to subject. If you have a large aperture (smaller f number) a smaller area will be in focus. A wide-angle lens tends to have a greater depth of field and a macro lens will give you a more shallow depth of field. Don't worry if you are using a camera or lens that does not give you this option; there are ways to 'create' this effect. Remember when we were using a printed blurred background behind a flower during a workshop last year. Think about ways to create a blurry background or a single area of focus for effect.



### March – Wildlife

Photographing animals is always a challenge and when they are not restrained by a leash or command it is an even bigger challenge. Remember a squirrel in your background qualifies just as much as a lion in a zoo. You need to create an image that shows wildlife in the 'best possible light.'

## 2018 Ocala Camera Club Themes



### April - Long Exposure

Have you seen the difference between a waterfall with silky soft water and one that has sharp frozen drops? Long exposure is the use of a relatively slow shutter speed against a certain subject to capture an image so that you can capture the movement. To have your shutter open for a longer period of time. This can capture and soften movement of clouds or water or give you deeper saturation at night. If you are trying to do a long exposure in daylight you need to think about using a neutral density filter or a polarizer.



### May - Landscapes

Beautiful landscape shots can take your breath away. This is a time when you want a great depth of field to keep as much in focus as possible. When composing your shot think about finding a foreground, middle ground, and a background. Landscapes are often seen as wide format but can be successful as squares or verticals too.



### June - Light Painting

Light painting is a technique where you light the image very specifically, rather than flashing the whole scene. You might be light painting a whole mountain with car headlights while shooting stars or you might illuminate a small area in a still life with a flashlight. Another type of light

## 2018 Ocala Camera Club Themes

painting is to do light graffiti. Plan your shot in advance so you know how long to expose and where your light needs to be. Don't forget your tripod! Go crazy and have fun with this theme.



### July – Trains, Planes, and Automobiles

Trains go choo-choo, planes go zoom zoom and automobiles go beep beep. This is a subject theme. For these images, you need to focus on the actual vehicle. While the scene may include people or surroundings, be sure they do not distract from the subject. Use good lighting and really make your mode of transportation the star of the image.



### August - Macro

Macro photography is extreme close-up photography, usually of very small subjects, in which the size of the subject in the photograph is greater than life size. Nothing makes your skin crawl like a zoomed in close-up of the face of a spider. Macro lenses will help here but you can also use cropping to get the same effect with other lenses. Pick your subject matter carefully and give it some real impact. Pay attention to focus and composition, a well-done paint chip macro shot can be as effective as a bug so think small and produce big.



### September - Reflections

Reflections are all around us. They can be found in mirrors, windows and water. Lighting and angle will be important with this subject. You might need to get low if you are trying to get a

## 2018 Ocala Camera Club Themes

reflection on a puddle. A reflection in a mirror might tell a marvelous story and sometimes the reflections that we least expect to see are the most powerful images.



### October - Action/Capturing Motion

To capture motion in a still image you are going to combine several techniques. If you keep your shutter open longer you can show movement but you will have to control the light. You might want to show streaks of movement like taillights on a dark road or you might convey the idea by freezing the action of a drip hitting a surface. Think about what you want and pre-plan how you can get the effect you are going for.



### November - Architecture

One of the challenges of capturing buildings is their size. If you are up close and lean to get the whole building in you might have to do some perspective correcting. Shoot for images that highlight something about the architecture like the lines and angles or the ornamentation or the aging. This subject can cover close-ups of architectural details to cityscapes as long as they highlight architecture.



### December - Best of the Best

This is the end of year competition where ribbon winners from the year will be compiled and presented to a panel of three judges. There is no theme or entry requirements.