

THE PROCESS OF PHOTO CRITIQUING GUIDELINES
PHOTO CLUB at NATURE CENTER OF SHAKER LAKES

- Photo critiquing is a LEARNING PROCESS
 - Critique: an analysis, assessment, evaluation, appraisal, judgment and comment about a work of art
 - It is meant to be cooperative not competitive
- The presentation process
 - Photo to be placed on easel where everyone can see
 - Photographer presents to whole group
 - Presentation can be varied as individual wishes and could cover:
 - Where taken and under what circumstances i.e., time of day, location, etc.
 - Type of camera (film, digital, etc.)
 - Focal length of lens, aperture, shutter speed, type of film, etc.
 - Printing process
 - Hand printed, computer generated, lab-printed
 - Film: Silver Gelatin, Ciba, Color C, Polaroid,
 - Ink jet, laser, etc. with Photoshop or other program
 - Manipulation in printing process
 - Intent of photo
 - “I was trying to _____” / “I was interested in _____”
 - Emotional aspects
 - Expression
 - Technical aspects, e.g., focus, exposure, composition, color, contrast, cropping, etc.
 - How well do you think you succeeded in accomplishing your intent?
 - Open process up for discussion
 - Try not to be defensive
 - Hear how others react to your photo
 - Solicit comments on any and all aspects of photo
 - Idea is to learn how to improve you work, your expression and your art both technically and esthetically.
- The observers response to the image presented:
 - Concept is to better both your observation and verbal expression skills
 - “You can observe a lot by just watching” Y. Berra
 - You can say, “I don’t like it” BUT you must then tell the presenter why in detail and what you might do differently.
 - You can say, “I like it” BUT you must then tell the presenter why in detail and what caught you imagination.
 - Give your first impression – does the image have an impact? Does the impact have lasting power?
 - Are there trouble areas or spots? What would you suggest to help or correct the problem(s)?
 - The idea is to learn to be analytical, to express yourself, and to respond in a helpful manner so that both you and the presenter can grow esthetically and technically.
- After discussion, presenter should give a short review of comments about the photo and any comments he/she has about the process.