

# Special Educational Meeting on May 21, 2024

(Note the changed times for the events.)

NIH Camera Club's May 21st Educational Meeting will consist of two activities. We will have a presentation on the elements of composition, **starting at 6:30** (see below for description). **Concurrently**, we will also have a buyer of used camera equipment who will be there to purchase any equipment that you might like to sell (See description as well as list below).

Both of these events will start at **6:30** at the Five Star Residence. We are hoping to have the selling/buying of camera gear take place just outside our usual room at the same time as the presentation is occurring inside our usual room. Note that the events will **start at 6:30, NOT at 7:00**. We anticipate that the presentation will go for about an hour, but the equipment selling will most likely take longer than an hour.

If you have used camera gear that you might be interested in selling, this will be an opportunity see what a professional buyer might offer. There is more info below, but I want to point out that the buyer is interested in not only digital equipment, but also film cameras. So this might be an opportunity to get some cash for your old film cameras!

## Equipment Selling Opportunity

The May Educational session is going to include an equipment purchasing event where members will have the opportunity to sell any old equipment that they no longer use. The person who will be buying the equipment is Arlene Sheras, who is a Buyer/Independent Consultant for Roberts Camera and UsedPhotoPro. A list of some of the equipment she is interested in, is below, but keep in mind that this list is not all inclusive. So if you have equipment that you would like to sell that isn't listed, still bring it to the meeting. Arlene will evaluate the equipment and then determine the price that she can offer.

Arlene is happy to talk to anyone before the event. If you would like to communicate with her, her email is: [asheras@robertscamera.com](mailto:asheras@robertscamera.com) and her phone number is 301-526-9065.

## **Educational Presentation**

In addition, there will also be a presentation by Michael Sheras (Arlene's husband). He is planning to discuss composition, including examples by several well known photographers. A description of his presentation is below.

# **ELEMENTS OF COMPOSITION SHORT COURSE OUTLINE**

## **Michael Sheras**

This is a course in photographic composition; In order to take good pictures, first you have to be able to see good pictures. If a picture is worth 1,000 words, this course will discuss the 1,000 words.

### **PART ONE – THE 9 RULES OF COMPOSITION**

Rule #0: Follow your eye; your eye enters the photograph from the left, it follows lines and seeks brightness and sharpness.

Rule #1: Leading Lines; How to make 3 dimensional objects 2 dimensional.

Rule #2: Shoot verticals for Impact and strength.  
(Horizontal compositions are more peaceful and scenic.)

Rule #3: Move subjects off center.

Rule #4: The rule of thirds. Each of the four points are called "golden mean points" and are best spots to place the main subject.

Rule #5: Move in close to your main subject (or have a distinct reason not to).

Rule #6: Relative Size; Make subjects different size to show depth.

Rule #7: Internal Framing; Use objects inside the main frame to frame your main subject.

Rule #8: The rule of odds; Use an odd number of main elements to make a stronger photograph.

Rule #9: Keep your horizons horizontal and your buildings vertical. Keep horizons straight and columns and buildings vertical for a more pleasing composition.  
You can utilize grid lines in your viewfinder to assist you.

Rule #10: Rules 1-9 are optional. Let your sense of good composition be your guide and break the rules if you feel your composition is as good as it can be.

## **PART TWO – 4 MASTERS OF COMPOSITION**

Master #1: Ansel Adams  
Principle of Composition: Previsualization  
Website:[anseladams.com](http://anseladams.com)

Master #2: Arnold Newman  
Principle of Composition: Environmental Portraiture  
Website:[www.arnoldnewman.com](http://www.arnoldnewman.com)

Master #3: Sam Abell  
Principle of Composition: Microcomposition  
Website:[www.samabell.com](http://www.samabell.com)

Master #4: Douglas Kirkland  
Principle of Composition: Passion  
Website:[www.douglaskirkland.com](http://www.douglaskirkland.com)

## **PHOTO EQUIPMENT THAT ARLENE IS INTERESTED IN:**

Some of the equipment that Arlene routinely buys is listed below. Keep in mind that this list is not all inclusive.

Most Film SLR Cameras

Higher quality film point and shoot cameras  
Higher quality digital point and shoot cameras (need to have a battery and charger to get the most value)  
Digital SLRs (need to have a battery and charger to get the most value)  
SLR Lenses (both film and digital)  
Mirrorless Digital cameras  
Mirrorless Lenses  
Many types of on Camera Flash  
TLR cameras (Rollei, Minolta and others)  
Rangefinder cameras (Leica, Canon, Nikon, Voigtlander, etc)  
Rangefinder lenses  
Rangefinder viewfinders  
Most medium format cameras (both fixed lens and interchangeable lens)  
Medium format lenses  
Medium format backs  
Medium format prisms and meters  
Many types of view cameras (both studio and field)  
Large Format lenses  
Motor Drives  
Battery grips (Manufacturer's branded ones)  
Many types of vintage cameras  
Hand held light meters  
Tripods (working ones from Gitzo, Manfrotto, Benro, Induro, Really Right Stuff)  
Studio Lighting (Profoto, Alien Bees, LED lights)  
Some types of accessories ( far too numerous to list... just suggest that they bring them along and I will decide when I see what they have)