# Take better photos

# Kiwanis in pictures

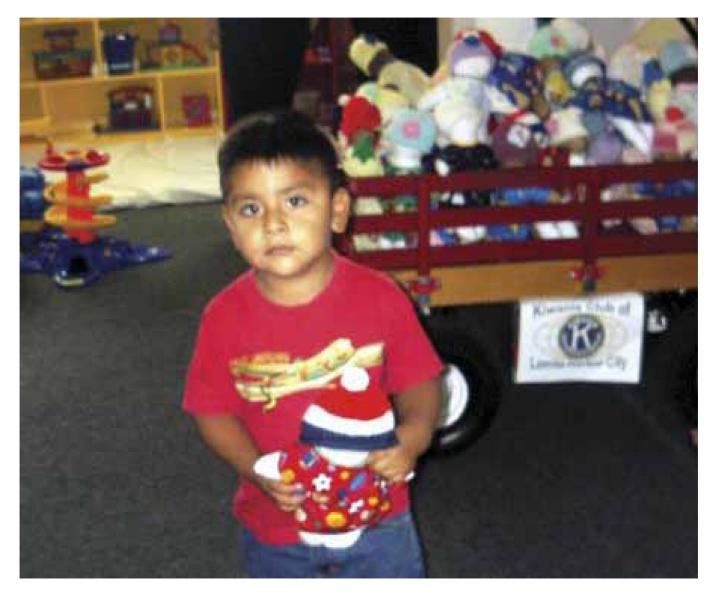
By Lynn Seeden

### What is a good photo?

It tells the story by itself.

If you have to over-explain what a photo is about, you didn't take a good photo. How to take better photos

#### **NO: Poor focus**







#### **NO: Poor focus**



### **YES: Focus**



# **NO: Poor lighting**



# **YES: Good lighting**



Faces should be lit, not left in the dark.

Use a reflector to light the face, if necessary (a piece of white cardboard will do).

Be careful, flash flattens faces.

## **NO: Poor lighting**



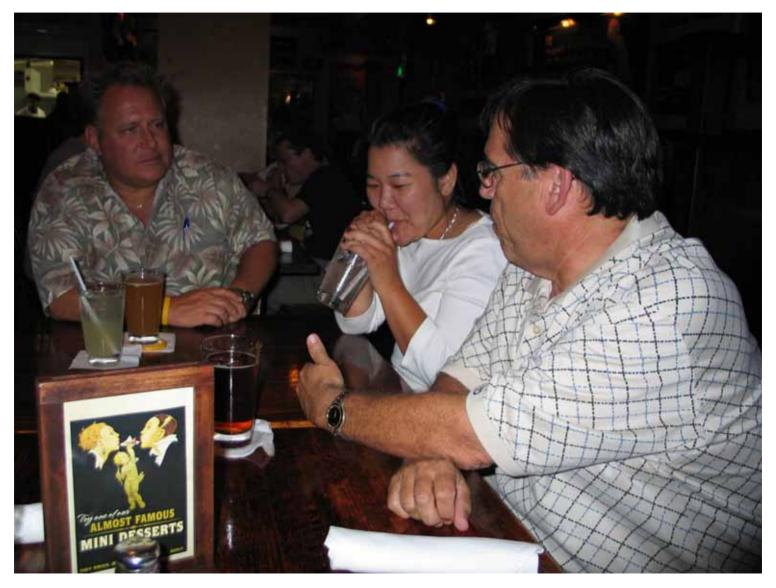
The last slide was badly back-lit.

The next slide is at the same bowling alley. The camera was adjusted for a more-natural lighting.

# **YES: Good lighting**



# **NO: Poor lighting**



# **YES: Good lighting**



# **YES: 1/3 rule**



#### 1/3 rule

# **YES: 1/3 rule**



#### 1/3 rule

### **YES: 1/3 rule**



# Keep your subject in either the left 1/3 or right 1/3

but never centered. On rare occasion, things are flipped, and the people become the background.

The next slide illustrates a Kiwanis art show. The art was the subject, and people were the background.

# YES: 1/3 rule (flipped)



#### NO: Backs to the camera



## Yes: Face the audience



#### **NO: Butts**



### **YES: Faces**



## **YES: Face the audience**



#### NO: People are too small, too far away.



## NO: Banners (or vests!)



### Banners don't tell the story



# This tells the story



# NO: Big checks



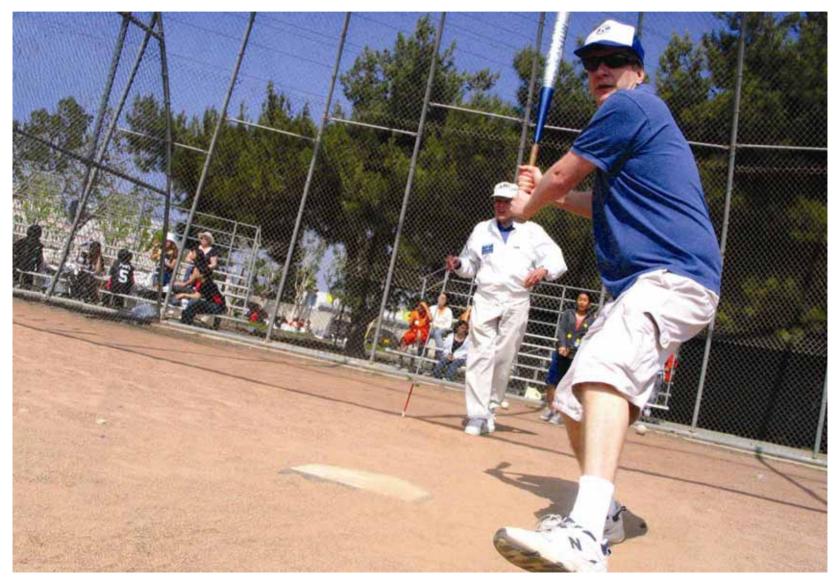
# **YES: Result of big check**



## **NO: Criminal line-ups**



## **YES: Show me action**



Don't take photos from far away.

Bring the person close to the camera and let the background be far away.

## **YES: Person is close**



## NO: Too far away



## Yes: Close up (this is the same room as the last slide)

## YES: close

## **NO: Poor composition**



That was a compelling event: Kiwanians lovingly serving meals to seniors.

# There was a great photo opp in this room ...

## Where was the photo?

#### The photo that COULD have told the story of this project was here...

Camera should have been on the other side of the table, shooting close.

Show only the hand serving the plate with the lady's face in background.

### Let's talk about your camera's settings ...

## Are you taking large photos?

#### **NO: Low resolution**



# Camera was set to take small photos. Not good.

## **YES: High resolution**



#### **TOO LOW:**

## Any photo below 1.4 megs

(So, 348 K is WAY too small)

300 x 400

#### **RIGHT SIZE:**

1.4 megs or more

1200 x 1600 pixels

1200 x 1600 or more

## **Photo basics**

- Focus
- **Good lighting**
- Composition
- 1/3 rule

**No butts** 

**No banners** 

No big checks

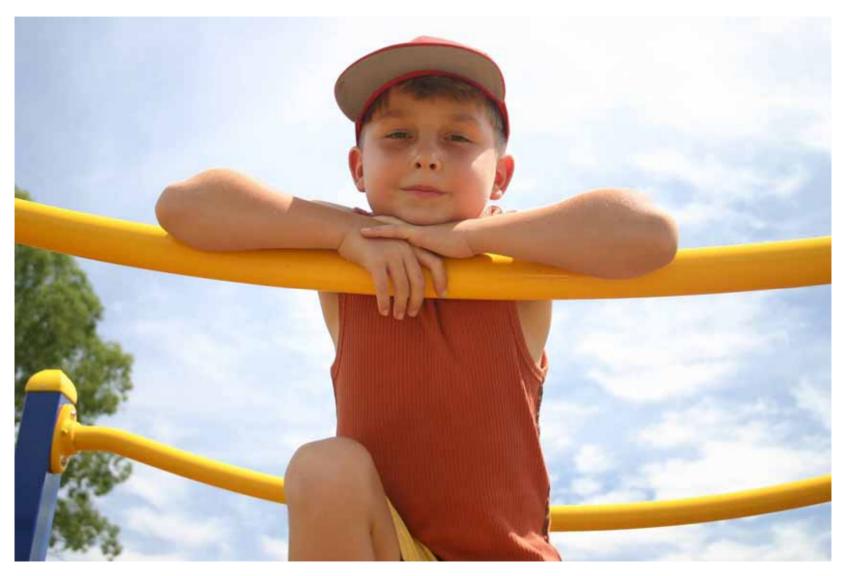
**No criminal line-ups** 

- Face the audience
- Children, compelling
- **High resolution**

## Show me children



## Show me faces



## Show me faces



## Show me action



## Show me emotion



## **Touch my heart**



## Show me Kiwanis



## The end

#### This presentation was compiled by LYNN SEEDEN, Bulletin Editor

California-Nevada-Hawaii District