



photography
Monte Nagler

Yule tip: Move close, get down.

The holiday season is upon us, and what better opportunity is there for recording happy memorable moments with your camera?

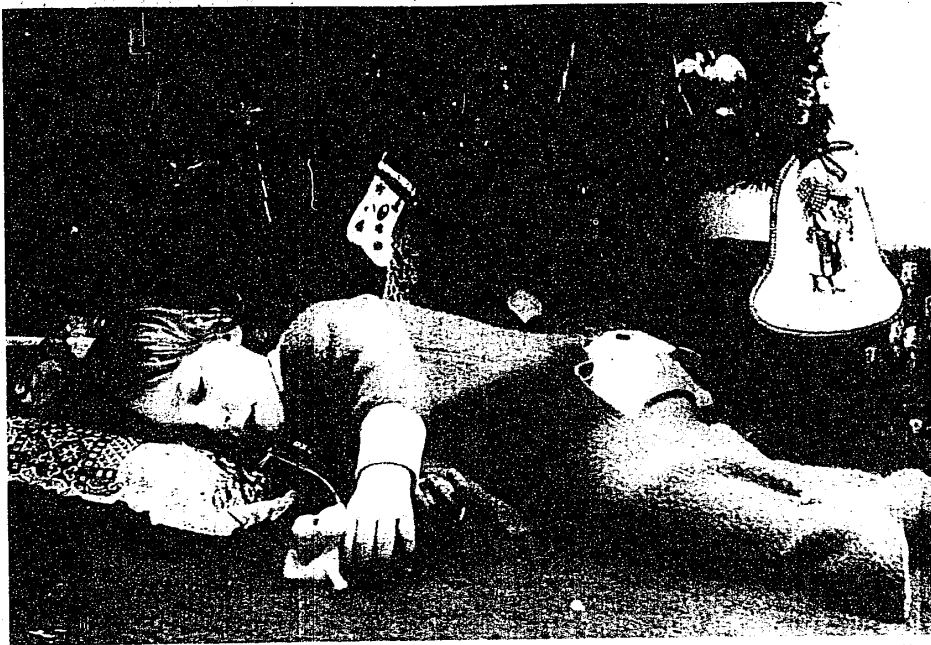
Make sure you've got plenty of film, fresh batteries for your camera and flash and get yourself in gear for some delightful picture taking opportunities.

Let's start with the kids, for they are certainly on center stage at holiday time. Children and Christmas go hand in hand, and no better chance exists for capturing their expressions of joy and excitement as holiday activities unfold.

The best time to snap the kids is on Christmas morning as they unwrap their presents under the tree. By moving in close and getting down on their level you will capture joyful expressions. The expressions will be natural, too, because in all the excitement the kids won't even know you're there.

DON'T OVERLOOK the rest of the family.

Group shots are important at Christmas. Getting everyone to relax is important and you can best do



Tuckered out after opening Christmas presents, little Chris King is a quiet model for a photo by available light. Marianna Letatni moved in close.

get down almost to floor level and included just enough of the tree to add mood but not enough to distract.

this by having everyone sit down in an informal pose rather than having all members of the family stand.

Just as with children, get the camera angle down to the level of the group for an more natural, flattering shot.

The family dinner provides good picture taking opportunities, too. After a couple of overall shots of the table, zero in on some particular activity such as the carving of the turkey or Junior's subsequent attempt to devour the drumstick.

There are some tips that will help you get better pictures at holiday time:

As always, try to single out a subject and express a main idea by moving in close. This will add the necessary impact to your photos.

Watch your backgrounds in the viewfinder, and try to eliminate distracting objects.

Because you'll be shooting mainly indoor pictures, watch your camera angle so that glare from windows, mirrors and glass-protected art work will

not be reflected into your camera and spoil a good shot.

Keep your eyes open for details to shoot that will add interest and excitement to your Christmas photos. Closeups of tree ornaments and lights, your child's colorfully filled Christmas stocking, or a beautifully wrapped and adorned present will give your holiday pictures an added touch.

USE THE PROPER FILM. When using your flash, daylight balanced film is in order. If shooting under indoor light, you'll need tungsten-balanced film or the proper color correction filter.

Because Christmas is a family affair, be sure to get yourself in some of the shots. This is easily done by using your camera's self-timer and a tripod. If you don't have a tripod, a steady table will do.

Congratulations to the many of you who will find new cameras and camera accessories under the tree on Christmas morning. Take time to read the instruction literature and start to use them well.

Monte Nagler. His exhibits continue through December at the Oak Park Public Library, the Blue Gallery in Ann Arbor, and the Runko Gallery in Chicago.

OCC registers for winter term

Oakland Community College will hold winter semester registration Jan. 3-4. Hours are 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. each day according to an alphabetical schedule.

Students may register at any of the four campuses. For registration information, call the admissions office at any of the campuses: Airport Hills campus at Port Huron, 832-1000; the Harbortown Lakes campus at Union Lake, 548-7115; the Central Ridge campus at Farmington Hills, 478-1410; or the Southeast campus system at Royal Oak, 332-1900. Classes begin at 1 a.m. Jan. 5.

Moral Perspectives

is on page 9B this week

The lighted candle sets the mood for this picture, tight cropping and good composition add impact. You'll need fast film, a two-second exposure and a steady model for a shot like this. (File photo by Fran Evert)

It All Began With a Gift...

And the world has never been the same since. True, then, as now, many did not recognize the gift, and others failed to see the importance of it, and some even responded with contempt. But to multitudes, the one gift has been life's focal point. It has to be us. The gift? Jesus Christ. The giver? Almighty God. The Event? Today we call it Christmas. And it all happened in Bethlehem in Judea almost 2000 years ago. Today he remains the world's greatest gift. We extend to all the best wishes of this season that means so much to us.

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