

# Get close to improve your photographs

Moving in close is one of the most important guidelines in improving your photography. Most all 35mm cameras can only bring you in to within 24 inches of your subject. Being able to move in extra close — to only one or two inches — will open up new horizons for you. The world of close-up photography is exciting and rewarding and you will see things you never noticed before. With close-up photography, you can transform the ordinary into something beautiful. A single drop of morning dew clinging to the underside of a blade of grass, the delicate intimacy of a flower or leaf, a detail of peeling paint on the siding of a deserted barn — all can become magnificent portrayals of mood and sensitivity. Shooting close-ups is fun and easy and can be achieved with a minimal

investment. There are four types of close-up accessories from which to choose.

- **Close-up filters:** These are the least expensive means of taking close-ups and usually come in sets of three. They act exactly like magnifying glasses when screwed onto the front of your lens.
- **No. 1 filter** will allow you to focus to within 16 inches, a No. 2 to about 10 inches and a No. 3 to approximately six inches. Combining two or all three will enable you to focus extremely close to your subject.
- **Close-up rings:** Also called extension tubes, these rings are sold in sets of three. The idea is to attach one or a combination of the hollow tubes between the lens and the camera body. The further the lens is away from the body, the greater the



photography  
**Monte Nagler**

degree of magnification.

- **Extension bellows:** Here, a flexible bellows is placed between the lens and camera body similar to extension tubes. The advantages of bellows are that you have infinite latitude of lens to subject distances and you can achieve a greater degree of magnification than with either close-up filters or extension tubes.
- **Macro lenses:** A macro lens is a close-up lens in itself. Macro lenses can be carried on your camera as a normal lens and then can quickly be converted to a close-up lens without stopping to add accessories. Many of today's popular zoom lenses have a

macro mode which is fine but may not move you in as close as a pure macro lens. Remember that any exposure increase with close-up equipment is adjusted for automatically on cameras with through-the-lens metering. Depth-of-field is one of the most important factors to consider in close-up photography. As you know, the closer you are to your subject, the less depth-of-field you get at a given aperture. By the time you are very close to the subject, depth-of-field may be a mere fraction of an inch. Focusing thus becomes very critical and often a small aperture is a must. In addition, it follows that when an

image is magnified, the slightest camera movement will be exaggerated in the finished print. Therefore, a tripod is a necessity when shooting close-ups. When you move in close, details are magnified and surfaces can lose their texture unless you light them to accent their miniature topography. Therefore, aim for side or back-lighting to bring out and enhance pattern and texture. Usually, shooting in the early morning or late afternoon will do the trick. Close-up photography can be a fascinating experience. It will sharpen your vision, improve your knowledge and reward you with truly exciting photographs.

## Visiting Wright's architecture

If the metropolitan area isn't full of Frank Lloyd Wright fans, it won't be Lila Silverman's fault. As a member of the board of governors of Friends of Frank Lloyd Wright/Affleck House, she has planned a second tour to see Wright's architecture. This time it's a two-day bus trip, May 3 to 4, Plymouth, Galesburg, Kalamazoo, Grand Rapids and Okemos. Silverman, a Southfield resident, who with her husband, Gilbert, is a strong booster of the fine arts throughout the state, said she did what she was told was impossible. There are visits scheduled to Frank Lloyd Wright homes that have never been open to tour visitors before. "I took a list of 19 (Frank Lloyd Wright) houses and sent a letter to each and everybody said yes," she said. BECAUSE all of the owners were so gracious in their response, her problem was to narrow down the options into the best tour possible. As a result, she has picked one house in each area and where there are more nearby the bus will drive around so that Wright's concept for each community may be savored. The coach will leave from Lawrence Institute of Technology, LIT, in Southfield at 8:30 a.m. Saturday and stop first at the Snowflake House in Plymouth. There will be a stop at a second Wright-designed home in Galesburg, lunch in Kalamazoo and a stop at another residence in Kalamazoo. The house Silverman chose to visit in Galesburg is the one in which Wright always stayed when he was there. After Kalamazoo, it's on to Grand Rapids to see Calder Plaza and more outdoor sculpture throughout the city. There will also be a stop at the Grand Rapids art museum before dinner. THE TOURISTS will stay at the Amway Grand Plaza in Grand Rapids. The coach will leave at 9 a.m. Sunday morning for a visit to the Steeplechase House, an outstanding folk art collection and two Frank Lloyd Wright designed homes in Okemos before returning to LIT at 6:30 p.m. Silverman said she gathered as much information about Wright and these homes that she will be sharing that information with the travelers. The tour is limited to 35, there are already enough to make it a certainty. Those who are interested should call immediately, 358-0206, Ext. 2309. The cost is \$175 per person double occupancy, \$205 per person, single. The price includes a \$30 tax deductible contribution to the Friends of Frank Lloyd Wright/Affleck House. The Affleck House, in Bloomfield Hills, was given to the LIT School of Architecture by the Affleck family as a center for study. The Friends group is dedicated to the restoration and preservation of the house.



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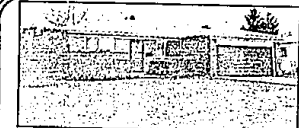
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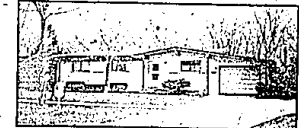
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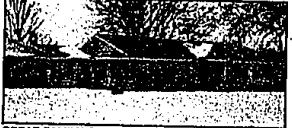
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