

Photographers should train, too

Photographers, like all creative artists and top athletes, require practice. A concert violinist works daily on hand and sound techniques. A gymnast practices routines constantly in order to perfect a performance. Photographers need their special kind of practice, too.

First, a photographer needs to

practice the technical skills necessary to make a picture. You must know the operation of your camera thoroughly. Use of shutter speeds, aperture control, proper focus techniques, characteristics of different films — all these and more must become second nature to you.

Knowing what each of your lenses

will do is important. Many shots that require spontaneity may be lost if you have to fuss and deliberate too long over the controls of your camera.

Second, and of utmost importance, is to practice seeing picture possibilities. A creative photographer sees picture potential in even the most ordinary of scenes. The creative photographer looks for the unusual, picks out small details, sees textures and shadows, responds to arrangements of color.

A CREATIVE photographer relates to his or her subject, even builds a relationship with the subject. You must learn to let your subject speak to you, and, in turn, you must learn to listen. Practice being open and receptive to the world around you.

Famous photographer Minor White once said, "The creative photographer must have a receptive state of mind, not unlike a sheet of

film itself, seemingly inert, yet so sensitive that a fraction of a second's exposure conceives a life in it."

Practice looking at things in new ways. Study your subject from all angles and in different lighting conditions. An unusual camera or different lens may be just the thing to make your photograph stand apart.

FINALLY, to stay in practice, use your camera often. A tennis player, for instance, will keep his skills by spending hour after hour on the court.

Similarly, you must keep in top photographic shape, by taking camera in hand and practicing on the abundance of subjects around you.

All of your shots may not be masterpieces. Maybe only a few images per roll will satisfy you.

That's okay. The important thing is to practice with your camera and let yourself be moved by the subjects that excite you.

©1988, Monte Nagler



photography

Monte Nagler



Monte Nagler saw a lot in this late evening scene of Lake Tahoe. His eye, and ultimately the lens, caught a dramatic arrangement of shapes and patterns that make an exciting backlit landscape.

short shots

Pictures using a new photographic technique will be a highlight of the exhibit of work by O&E photographer columnist Monte Nagler on Friday, June 3, at the Jacobson's store in Livonia, Six Mile and Newburgh roads.

While known primarily for his large-size images — which will also be on display — the exhibit will

show a unique process Nagler has been refining. The results are intimate, gem-like images that contain a singular impact not found in larger photographs. These limited edition prints are matted and mounted in elegant wood frames.

Nagler will be present to answer questions.

Design-your-own puzzles intriguing

MY THREE most favorite topics to write about are my family, art and food. Because I frequently write about diets, people often say upon seeing me for the first time, "Hey, you're not that fat."

I still don't know how to take that one. I need to lose 20 pounds to fit my doctor's height/weight chart.

I just tried a new diet where you listen to your body and eat what it tells you to eat. So I waited until I was hungry and then I just sat there and listened. It was 1 p.m. on a sunny day my body clearly said, "I need the cream in a Hostess cupcake. I require the chocolate cake in a Hostess cupcake (it does contain lecithin, you know) but pick off the white swirls coming from the top. I don't need the white icing today."

I followed my body's orders to the tee. Then I told me, "Salt. I need salt. That cupcake was an overload of sugar, I need meat and a pickle. Yes, fries and a burger with vegetables on it." After following the latest orders, I patted my tummy and thought, "Either I have a dumb body or this is a great diet."

I BEGAN to wonder when my body began to stutter. It just kept saying M&M's. . . M&M's would be all I need until dinner." Finally, when my body said, "Cola with Nu-

trawsweet," I knew something was wrong.

Later that night, I read over the diet plan and found that my body was supposed to say things like "I really want a stalk of celery. Then I want some fiber. Hey, let's go and eat an oatmeal cookie and then graze in the backyard." Well, I now have 22 pounds to lose, but it was fun.

I get just as excited over new art forms, techniques on products. Let me stress that new means new to me. Sometimes I am thrilled over something "new" that has been out for years.

Here's one thing that's a lot of fun: compose a puzzle. These are puzzles with nothing on them. You, the artist, paint the picture on the puzzle blank. All the pieces are slightly attached so you can draw or paint your picture and maintain perfect registration.

The puzzle blanks range in size from five-by-eight-inch; eight-by-10-inch to 11-by-14-inch. A new 15-by-20-inch will be available soon. The number of puzzle blanks also range from 12 to 154 pieces. The smaller sizes are also available in pastel colors.

These make for wonderful gifts for both adults and kids. With all our students at the Art Store & More, we have had adults make puzzles for



artifacts

David Messing

their kids and kids make puzzles for their parents.

My impression when first seeing the puzzle surface was that it was a slick of a surface for good artwork. However, after seeing over 100 puzzles in recent months I would say that watercolor Gouache, pen and ink, markers, air brush, films, dyes and acrylics work wonderfully on them.

SOME HAVE simply painted heart with an "I love you, Mom" on it for Mother's Day, while others do beautiful paintings. Simple or complex, 12-piece or 154 pieces, they all look great, are unique and most certainly are a well-received gift for a special holiday or occasion. They range in price from \$1.50 to about \$5.

As a post script, I called the manufacturer to thank him for his good product and the owner was excited to hear how we were doing artwork on them. I was (excuse the expres-

sion) puzzled at the comment and asked, "Well, what else do people do on these?"

He explained how people write letters on them, advertise and even print invitations on them. "After all," he said with a chuckle, "Who can resist putting a puzzle together to read the message?"

Let me quickly list on a couple other new-to-me items.

The makers of my favorite clay, Super Sculpture now have a clay that you bake in your home oven at 300-degrees for only 15 minutes. But instead of getting hard, it turns to a flexible rubber. It cost \$8.50 for a pound and is difficult to sculpture with but it is neat.

We have workshops that are new to me: paper embossing, acid etching of glass and mirrors, paper marbling, creative calligraphy, paper pop-up cards and watercolor techniques.

These are short workshops and they are fun and informative.



condo queries

Robert M. Meisner

Q. I am in the process of forming a corporation for the purchase of real estate and am concerned about the benefits which I can get as a corporation as opposed to a partnership, not necessarily from a tax standpoint. Can you be helpful?

A. The major benefit to forming a corporation, under the state law, is to insulate the shareholders from personal liability for the acts and deeds of the corporation. Obviously, there are ways by which a creditor of the corporation can seek to pierce the corporate veil to obtain personal liability for the shareholders by saying it is a under-capitalized corporation and/or the officers and directors of the corporation have personally committed a wrong by which they should be personally liable.

A corporate form of government, however, does provide benefits by way of insulation from personal liability, in most instances, as well as many tax benefits still attributable to corporations.

Q. Our business is experiencing problems in regard to collections from a condominium association. We have performed services for the association but have not been able to get paid by the managing agent. Do you have any recommendations? A. Write a letter to the board of

directors as well as the managing agent advising them of the rights that you have, including your right to file a mechanics lien and/or to otherwise to commence legal proceedings against the association, the managing agent and perhaps the board of directors, depending upon the circumstances.

You, as a businessman, should be made aware of the various legal alternatives you have to collect money, whether it be from an association or any other creditor. You should also be familiar, however, with the Fair Collection Procedure Act, which will be applicable to you. You may also wish to seek the advice of legal counsel in regard to the collection procedures best appropriate for you.

Robert M. Meisner is a Birmingham attorney specializing in condominiums, real estate and corporate law. You are invited to submit topics which you would like to see discussed in this column, including questions about condominiums, to him at 30200 Telegraph Road, Suite 407, Birmingham 48010. This column provides general information and should not be construed as legal opinion.

Select Properties from Real Estate One

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THREE BEDROOM RANCH on a great lot. Family room with cathedral beamed ceiling, wood windows, crown moldings, extra large laundry area can be transformed into 4th bedroom, office, den or hobby center. \$187,000. 477-1111.



COLONY PARK SUB. Just what you have been waiting for! 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths colonial in prime area of Farmington Hills. Central air, finished rec room, enclosed porch. Move-in condition. Immediate occupancy. \$152,500. 477-1111.



ABSOLUTE MOVE-IN CONDITION. New carpet, new vinyl floor, window treatments, finished landscaping. Fireplace in master bedroom, in-law suite, 4th bedroom with private bath. \$149,500. 477-1111.



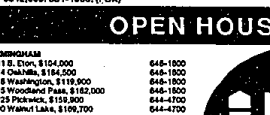
BRICK COLONIAL. Sharp 4 bedroom colonial in convenient Farmington Hills location. Central air, hardwood floors, 2 1/2 baths, family room with fireplace, formal dining room, eat-in kitchen, deck and full basement. Immediate occupancy. Move-in condition. Hurry on this one! \$136,900. 477-1111.



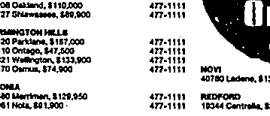
CROSSINGS OF FARMINGTON HILLS. Better than new 2 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath townhouse with basement. Living room with fireplace, 2 bedrooms, cathedral ceilings. All window treatments, stove, refrigerator, washer and dryer included. Central air, carpet. \$88,900. 477-1111.



TUDOR WITH POOL. Desirable Hunters Pointe. Wonderful private setting backs to wooded commons. Full finished walk-out with bedrooms, wet bar and full bath. A rare find! \$175,000. 551-1900. (JOF)



WILLOW HILLS. 1700 Woodgrove Lane, \$235,000. 648-1800.



FARMINGTON HILLS. 21420 Parklane, \$187,000. 477-1111. 21110 Ontario, \$47,500. 477-1111. 28221 Wellington, \$153,900. 477-1111. 13170 Armas, \$74,900. 477-1111.



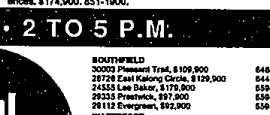
LYNDON. 16500 Ardmore, \$129,950. 477-1111. 15061 Nova, \$61,900. 477-1111.



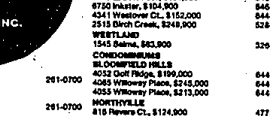
NORTHVILLE. 18729 Hayes Ct., \$92,900. 281-0700.



IMPRESSIVE PILLARED Colonial offers formal dining room, den, natural fireplace in family room, partially finished basement. Close to shopping, freeway access and all conveniences. \$174,900. 551-1900.



WATERFORD. 627 Woodbridge, \$175,900. 661-4700.



WEST BLOOMFIELD. 30023 Pleasant Trail, \$109,900. 648-1800. 28728 East Folsom Circle, \$109,900. 644-4700. 24555 Lee Baker, \$179,900. 659-2300. 25333 Preston, \$97,900. 659-2300. 29112 Evergreen, \$92,900. 659-2300.



WILLOW HILLS. 1700 Woodgrove Lane, \$235,000. 648-1800.



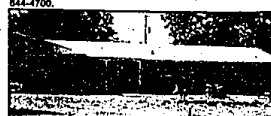
WILLOW HILLS. 1700 Woodgrove Lane, \$235,000. 648-1800.



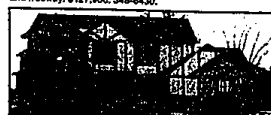
IMMACULATE RANCH with neutral decor, Italian marble fireplace, finished rec room with fireplace, interior, beautiful kitchen, newer dishwasher, attic cedar closet, newer roof, drive and more 2 car attached garage. \$85,900. 559-2300.



ONLY IN YOUR DREAMS! Cream put colonial with central air, security system, family room with fireplace and much, much more. All neutral decor, finished basement with office, 4 bedrooms and formal dining room. It's got it all! \$94,900. 644-4700.



WESTLAND. 1545 Balm, \$63,900. 329-2000.



CONDOMINIUMS. BLOOMFIELD HILLS. 4032 Duff Ridge, \$199,000. 644-4700. 4065 Wilbury Place, \$214,900. 644-4700. 4053 Wilbury Place, \$213,000. 644-4700.



WHITELY. 815 Powers Ct., \$174,900. 477-1111.



WEST BLOOMFIELD. 6154 Palomino, \$112,900. 644-4700.



WESTLAND. 1545 Balm, \$63,900. 329-2000.



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