

Filters help bring out star quality



FOCUS ON PHOTOGRAPHY
MONTA NAGLER

Perhaps it's time to become a photographer of the stars. Not movie stars or constellations, but stars, added to your photographs, by means of a star filter.

A star filter is an inexpensive addition to your photo equipment that can add a special burst of excitement to your shots, whether color or black or white.

A close inspection of a star filter will reveal a miniature window screen imbedded in the glass. This screen acts on any light highlight to

produce a starburst effect in the finished picture. And because you always see directly through the lens on your single-lens-reflex camera, you'll be able to preview and adjust the star effect before you snap the shutter. Star filters come in four-, six- and eight-point designs, depending on how much of a burst you want. I prefer the simplicity of the four-point star, which easily adjusts to any angle.

Here are some subject ideas that work well with star filters. Sparkles in the lake or ocean caused by a descending sun will produce dazzling photos with a star filter, especially if you place a silhouetted subject in the foreground such as a seagull perched on a piling or tree branches framing the

seascape.

Reflections in shiny objects such as chrome will give that added flare to your pictures. Street lamps at night combined with a star filter will generate an ambience not attainable in any other way.

And, of course, the sun itself photographed through a star filter will result in a breathtaking shot.

Remember, a star filter can be used in combination with other filters. If, for example, you want to darken a blue sky with a polarizer or use any of the filters designed for black and white film, just attach the star filter directly over the other filter being used and you'll be pleasantly surprised with the results.

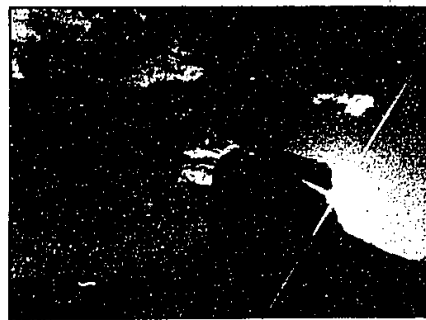
Always reach for the stars in your photography. And to help along the

way, use a star filter.

Short shot

Monte Nagler will conduct a photography workshop 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 12, at Kensington Metro Park. The important aspects of photography will be covered in a brief program at the park, followed by hands-on shooting experience by each participant. Participants should bring their own brown bag lunch and loaded 35mm cameras. Register before Tuesday, Sept. 8. For registration information, call city of Southfield Cultural Arts at 354-4717, or Nagler at 661-0826.

Monte Nagler is a fine art photographer based in Farmington Hills.



Shining example: Monte Nagler attached a star filter to his lens and waited until the sun just peeked around this butte to produce this dramatic photograph. It was taken in Monument Valley.

Give objects whimsical look

Mixed media artist and cartoonist Nancy Drew, who took art lessons from sculptor/painter Glen Michaels at the Cranbrook Academy of Art in Bloomfield Hills when she was in elementary and high school, will transform any portable object with her whimsical paintbrush in a five-hour paintathon from 5 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 12, at The Real Nancy Drew shop in the 12 Oaks Mall in Novi.

For prices starting at \$40, the public may bring any favorite object, such as a chair, lamp or raincoat, and watch while Drew perks it up with her colorful paints. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Neighborhood Revitalization Project of the Lighthouse of Oakland.

As a special bonus, Drew will paint portraits on 100 percent rag paper (22 by 32 inches) for \$100.

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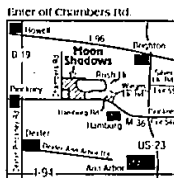
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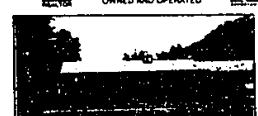
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