

Minutes of April 11, 2007

Next Meeting: May 9, 2007

Program: Multi-Agency Church Fire Seminar

Location: 6133 River Road, Rosemont IL

Time: 0830 to 1600 hours

Advances in Digital Photography

President Kushner opened the meeting at 0920 hrs.

?? Welcome to all members, new and old.

?? A motion was made, and 2<sup>nd</sup>, to accept the March Minutes. The motion passed.

?? A motion was made, and 2<sup>nd</sup>, to accept the Treasurers Report. The motion passed. A full copy of the report is available on our website.

?? In spite of a spring snow fall over 60 members were in attendance.

?? Nominations for the Harry P. Schaefer Award have been received and reviewed. The recipient will be announced at our May Seminar.

?? The Fire Chiefs for the Libertyville, Northbrook and Des Plaines Fire Departments have announced that they would be retiring in the near future. On behalf of the entire membership we wish them the very best.

?? President Kushner welcomed back devoted long time member Richard Burton to our meeting.

?? There have been numerous chimney fires caused from the failure of the owner to properly maintain their fire places.

?? **Fires: Hanover Park** had a garage fire that was attributed to carless use of smoking materials. **Highland Park** investigated a basement fire that had been caused by carless use of smoking materials. **Des Plaines** determined that a fire which occurred inside a travel agency was caused by an energized refrigerator. A **Northbrook** restaurant fire has been attributed to a natural gas malfunction. Also related to fires was discussion involving the gas company's tendency to remove natural gas appliances while the investigation is in progress. Member consensus was that the gas companies do not have the authority to remove these items without the authority's approval.

Our speaker was Sandy Weiss of Packer Engineering. Mr. Weiss recommends that users of digital photography establish a "best practice" protocol in regards to saving photos. Mr. Weiss also recommended the following tips:

- ⚡⚡Keep additional fully charged batteries available at the scene
- ⚡⚡Keep additional formatted memory cards available at the scene
- ⚡⚡Only use approved cleaning devices to clean the camera lenses or case
- ⚡⚡Prevent any condensation from entering the camera case (a plastic bag will suffice)
- ⚡⚡Airport x-ray equipment will not adversely affect memory cards
- ⚡⚡X-ray equipment used by the Federal Government will adversely affect memory cards
- ⚡⚡Power off the camera before removing the lens or memory card
- ⚡⚡Check your manufacturer's documentation to determine default settings needed for your particular photograph
- ⚡⚡The mounted flash is limited and you may require a diffuser to provide the necessary lighting

- ☞☞ Always provide a beginning middle and end to your photographic history
- ☞☞ Always tell a story with your photographs
- ☞☞ Always use a suitable reference measuring device
- ☞☞ Always take a photograph with the reference measuring device and one without the reference measuring device
- ☞☞ Do not use any colored protective lenses for digital photography
- ☞☞ Only use ultraviolet and polarized protective lens covers

Mr. Weiss graciously provided his e-mail address if any members have additional questions  
Mr. Weiss can be e-mailed at [sweiss@packereng.com](mailto:sweiss@packereng.com)

Thanks to Mr. Weiss and his organization for allowing him to come and speak to the Strike Force.

**Don't forget to register for the May 9, 2007 seminar.**

Respectfully Submitted,  
John T. Gilleran  
Secretary F.I.S.F.