

The IMAGE

View from the Boardroom

by Maura Kelly

I have been a member of the camera club for 2 1/2 years and have learned a great amount of valuable information that I wouldn't have learned on my own time. The reason I joined the club was for that very fact as well as interacting with others who have the same interests. I bought my first DSLR about 6 months before my first club meeting and to tell the truth, I didn't know much about the technicalities of using a DSLR or the best way to take a photograph. I knew I wanted to learn these things, so I was excited to join a club where the possibilities were endless.

My interest in photography started as a kid, and once I found my parent's Pentax SLR from the 80's I knew I was hooked. I would be the one with the camera taking pictures during school trips, hanging out with friends and family and being outside in nature. Although I would use the Pentax a good amount of the time it really didn't matter to me what kind of camera I used. It could have been a point and shoot, SLR or even the throw-away cameras. I just wanted to be able to document everything I did.

Before joining I did a little bit of research a few years ago, wrote

Maryann an email and made it to my first club meeting in September of 2008. From that first club meeting to now and into the future I continue to learn something new every meeting and every time I talk to another club member. The first thing I learned, and quickly, was that photography isn't something that you are automatically amazing at. I figured I would just learn some new things, pick up my camera and be able take a great picture right away. Not so. Like everything in life it takes patience but the difference is it also takes a full memory card to get the right picture.

Many times when I tell someone that I am in a camera club one of the first questions is, what do you like to photograph? I find that to be a difficult question to answer because there are so many things to photograph, the choices can be daunting. Not to mention the plethora of cameras, lenses, editing capabilities, and equipment. So much, so little time. I have made a pact with myself for this upcoming year (and you are all witnesses) to get out and take more pictures. Being in a camera club brings so many possibilities to the enthusiastic photographer. It prompts you to

continued on page 3

Inside this Issue

Page 2

Flickr Update

February Meetings

Refreshments

How to name your files

January Competition Results

Page 3

Competition Results, cont...

Glennie Nature Competition

Page 4

Glennie Nature Competition

Competition Results Table

Page 5

Scranton Library Results

Page 6

Image Bank

What the Duck

Page 7

3D Photography

Page 8

Want to go to the NECCC
this summer?

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FEBRUARY
ASSIGNMENT

This month we bring you the assignment of "FOOD." That's right, we are giving you permission to play with your food this month. Go out and take some creative shots involving food, then upload them to your flickr account, and post the three best to the Coastal Camera Club's flickr group.

February Meetings

February 3, 2011

NECCC Pictorial Slide Circuit, A Judged show of work from 6-8 camera clubs with comments by an NECCC judge on each image

February 16, 2011

Second annual critique of members work. This is done digitally. All images must be sent to ccc.images@gmail.com with the subject line "critique" prior to January 21, 2011. Files should follow the CCC naming format.

Due to the fact there was no reminder in the January Newsletter of the January 21, 2011 entry deadline we have extended it until February 12, 2011

NEED MORE INFORMATION, TRY LOOKING IN ONE OF THESE PLACES:

If you need something, you can probably find it on the Internet. You just need to know where to look. For Coastal Camera Club information, please try these sites:

www.coastalcameraclub.org - the official club website

www.coastalcameraclub.wordpress.com - club blog

public.me.com/lou.secki - site to download club files

FEBRUARY REFRESHMENTS:

February 3, 2011.....Howard Margules

February 16, 2011.....Nick Carlino

Follow these rules when submitting any image to the Coastal Camera Club:

Files must be named using the following format:

X#\$Coastal\$LastName\$FistName\$ImageTitle\$YYYY-MM.jpg

Where X=the type of file (**O**pen, **C**reative, **B**lack&White, etc) and YYYY-MM is the year and month of the event you were submitting the file for. For example, O2\$Coastal\$Smith\$John\$The Red Barn\$2011-01, this is an image titled *The Red Barn* by John Smith of the Coastal Camera Club to be submitted to a competition in January of 2011.

Images must be submitted to ccc.images@gmail.com with the subject line indicating the event for which you are submitting.

If you have any questions, please contact Lou Secki at lou.secki@gmail.com.

The Coastal Camera Club meets at 7:00pm on the first Thursday and the third Wednesday of the month at The Meeting Room in the Madison Police Station located at 9 Campus Drive in Madison, Connecticut.

JANUARY 19, 2011 COMPETITION RESULTS

Here are the results from the January 19, 2011 In-House competition. However, before we get to the results, I would like to thank the judges from Castle Craig Camera Club for helping us out that night, Rose Walsh, Tom Flynn and Rob McFarland. I would like to remind everyone that they have the ability to mark their images so that the judges will be asked to give a critique of the submitted work. Putting the letter "C" on the back of your print will trigger a critique, and for the digital submissions, please put "C-" at the beginning of the image title. For example if the title is "Red Barn" and you wanted a critique, the title would actually be "C-Red Barn." If you have any questions please drop me a note at lou.secki@gmail.com.

Our club only has two competitions a year, one being our in-house competition and the other being a joint competition between our club and the Southeastern Camera Club. The latter competition floats from year to year between our club and theirs. This year they will host. On January 19, 2011, we only had 12 members participate. The last count of the member list has us right around 40 strong, so this means that only about 28% of the membership participated in the competition. While this makes for a shorter evening all around, it also means that almost three quarters of our membership are not taking advantage of a great learning experience. Having your work critiqued and judged helps you learn how to make better images. If anyone is unsure of how to prepare print or digital submissions, feel free to ask one of your fellow members and we will be happy to help.

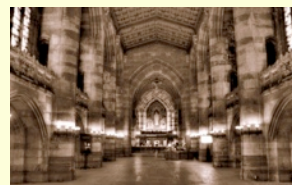
Our first competition under the new rules was a success. With two print categories and three projected categories we had some very nice work presented. There was a total of 78 images from 12 different makers.

VIEW FROM THE BOARD, CONTINUED

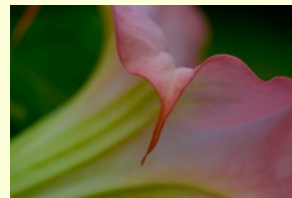
get out there and take photos so you can take part in the competitions and exhibits. There are also the lessons, meeting new people who are interested in the same hobby and get answers to questions you may have regarding photography.

So here I am, starting a new year, wanting to make the most out of this photography club. The only person that can get the photos to the computer, to get to the projection screen or exhibition wall is myself. □

The highest score of the night goes to Lou Secki with his image "Mysterious" in the Projected – Color Category with 28 points. To the right of this column are the First place images in each category. On the next page first, second and third place images in each category are listed. □

1st Place B&W Salon

The Sterling Library by Fred Rosenthal

1st Place Color Salon

Brugmansia by Dianne Roberts

1st Place Proj. Color

Mysterious by Lou Secki

1st Place Proj. B&W

Rampage by Fred Rosenthal



Maine Fog by Maryann Flick

GLENNIE NATURE COMPETITION

It's that time of year again: I am looking for the best nature images for the Glennie Nature Competition. For those who don't know, the Glennie Competition is a world-wide, digital nature competition hosted by the Merrimack Valley Camera Club in North Andover, MA. Last year they had 111 clubs from 7 counties participate. If you have a great nature image you would like us to consider for use as an entry from our club, please send it to

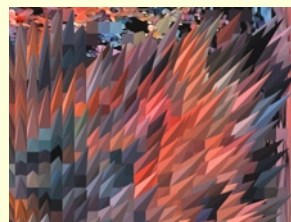
ccc.images@gmail.com with "Glennie" in the subject line. For information regarding the rules please visit www.mvcameraclub.org.

JANUARY 2011 IN-HOUSE COMPETITION RESULTS

Creative Projected			
Pat Anderson	Filtered Detritus	25 pts	1st
Maryann Flick	Pink on Pink	25	1st
Allison Maltese	Woodland Stream	25	1st
Maryann Flick	Antigua Arch	24	2nd
Pat Anderson	Modern Art	23	3rd
Color Projected			
Lou Secki	Mysterious	28 pts	1st
Pat Anderson	Artist at Work	26	2nd
Pat Anderson	Winter Coast	25	3rd
Black & White Projected			
Maryann Flick	Maine Fog	25 pts	1st
Fred Rosenthal	Rampage	25	1st
Lou Secki	Abby	24	2nd
Dianne Roberts	Windows	23	3rd
Color Salon			
Dianne Roberts	Brugmansia	27 pts	1st
Fred Rosenthal	The Great Hall	26	2nd
Lou Secki	Ana	24	3rd
Fred Rosenthal	The Big Apple	24	3rd
Dianne Roberts	Dew Drops	24	3rd
Black & White Salon			
Fred Rosenthal	The Sterling Library	24 pts	1st
Lou Secki	Abby	23	2nd
Fred Rosenthal	Pope's Guard	22	3rd

1st Place Proj. Creative

Pink on Pink by Maryann Flick



Filtered Detritus by Pat Anderson



Woodland Stream by Allison Maltese

SCRANTON LIBRARY EXHIBIT

The club would like to thank all members who participated in the Scranton Memorial Library Exhibit during December 2010. We would also like to extend our thanks to the judges, Marci and Frank James, members of the Canton and Charter Oak Camera Clubs. Below you will find the results for each category, and to the right, the winning images.

**Best Of Show****Nature**

- 1st - "Sayaca Tanager" by Mark Janke
- 2nd - "Life at 14,000 Feet" by Lou Secki
- 3rd - "Ringed Kingfisher" by Mark Janke

Landscape Seascape

- 1st - "Georgia O'Keefe Country" by Bill Boeckeler
- 2nd - "Yosemite, Dana Fork" by Maryann Flick
- 3rd - "East Middle Beach" by Russell Page

People

- 1st - "Emmy & Jim" by Sally Perreten
- 2nd - "Petra, Flutist" by Dianne Roberts
- 3rd - "Great Grandma" by Brenda B. James

General

- 1st - "Water Lilies" by Mark Janke
- 2nd - "Visitor" by Fred Spadaccini
- 3rd - "My Inner Tulip" by Sally Perreten

Enhanced

- 1st - "Once Upon A Time" by Sally Perreten
- 2nd - "Catch Me If You Can" by Brenda B. James
- 3rd - "Cactus Pinwheel" by Maryann Flick

Architecture

- 1st - "Outer Light" by Maryann Flick
- 2nd - "Barn, Lower Granville, VT" by Rob Nardino
- 3rd - "Church at Enders Island" by Bill Boeckeler

Best Of Show

"Fishers Island Sunrise" by Sally Perreten

The popular vote went to the image "Emmy and Jim" by Sally Perreten followed by "Beach Grass Silhouette" by Allison Maltese. □

Nature**People & Popular Vote****Landscape/ Seascape****Enhanced****Architecture****General**

IMAGES NEEDED FOR THE IMAGE BANK

Just wanted to remind everyone about the Coastal Camera Club Image Bank and our constant need for more images. About two years ago we started to collect images from members so the club would have a pool of images to choose from when we needed them for things like the "Glennie Nature Competition" and "NECCC Digital Circuit." We have quite a few images now, but we are always looking for more great works.

Since I collect images from members for competitions and critiques, I already have quite a few to choose from. If I see an image I think should be part of the CCC Image Bank, I just take it. If I see an image I think should be part of our image bank at an exhibit, I will usually ask the maker to send me a digital file for the bank. I also take unsolicited images if anyone just wants to send them in to my club gmail account, ccc.images@gmail.com.

Any time you are sending in images please remember to use the CCC naming convention:

X#\$Coastal\$LastName\$FirstName\$ImageTitle\$YYYY-MM.jpg

X = Type of Image (O=Open, C=Creative, B=Black&White)

= The number of the image if you are submitting more than 1 (in the case of images for the image bank they can all be 1)

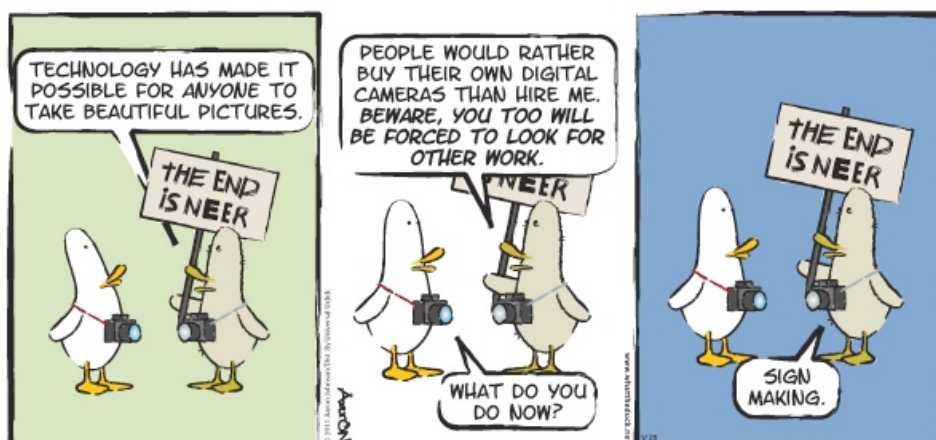
LastName = Your Last Name

FirstName = Your First Name

ImageTitle = Title of the image being submitted

YYYY-MM = Usually this is the year and month of the event for which you are submitting. For example, if it was a competition in January of 2011 you would enter 2011-01. In the case of images for the bank, simply enter the year and month during which you are submitting.

This helps me keep track of all the files and who is sending them to me. In addition, the use of the CCC naming format helps me when it comes time to create a printed list for use at competitions and such. If you have any questions or concerns, just let me know.



SO WHAT'S THE NEXT BIG THING IN PHOTOGRAPHY?

If you listen to the news coming out of CES (the Consumer Electronics Show) held early in January you might think it will be 3D cameras. Both Sony and Panasonic have announced 3D capable still cameras and I am sure more will soon follow.

3D technology seems to be all the rage in Hollywood these days with films like Avatar and Toy Story 3 being released in 3D. On top of that the television manufacturers have jumped on the bandwagon and have started to produce 3D flat screen televisions. Now, on top of all that we are seeing both video and still cameras capable of producing 3D images. So it looks like (for better or worse) 3D might be here to stay this time.



You tell me, is this a good thing or a bad thing?

As far as the photography is concerned, creating 3D images not anything new. Sir Charles Wheatstone invented Stereoscopy in 1838, which were the first type of 3D images.

Several factors come into play when we see depth and perceive things in 3D:

- Stereopsis - This is how we see depth. Because our eyes each see the same image from slightly different vantage points, our brain perceives that as depth.
- Accommodation of the eyeball (eyeball focus)
- Occlusion of one object by another - When we see an object in front of another we understand that one object is further away from us.
- Objects of known size - If we know the relative size of two objects how large they appear to each other in the scene gives the viewer a clue to how far away they are.
- Convergence of parallel lines - Picture yourself standing on the center line of a road looking into the distance. We know the sides of road are parallel and yet they seem to meet in the distance.

When we talk about creating 3D images we really talk about the first factor, stereopsis. Basically, what happens is different images are sent by each eye to your brain. Your brain then uses these slightly different versions of the same scene to perceive 3D. Devices used to do this are called stereoscopes. One of the simplest stereoscopes I can think of and one that most people will remember is the Viewmaster. These have been around since 1939, when they introduced at the World's Fair in New York as an alternative to a scenic postcard.

Besides showing people scenic attractions they were also used extensively by the US Military as a training aid until, ultimately ending up as a child's toy.

However, for the purposes of this discussion all we need to know is this simple device showed a different picture each of your eyes for the sole purpose of creating a 3D effect. The same thing happens when you put on those red and blue glasses, or in the modern theater the grey polarized glasses, to watch a movie, each of your eyes sees a slightly different image which tricks your brain into thinking the flat, 2D image, is really 3D.

So far this technology is being introduced into some advanced point and shoot cameras and some advanced video cameras. I'm not sure this will make it into our DSLR's any time soon. So why are some manufacturers adding this feature? Most likely it's simply to differentiate their cameras so they can sell more.

So, will I be first in line to buy one of these new cameras? Probably not. While I can appreciate the technology I think this is a little too cutting edge for me. Since it will be a while before everyone is able to view images created by these new cameras I think I will wait until the technology is a little more widespread.

Would you like a free registration to attend the NECCC Conference?

Each year NECCC allows each member club to select one of their camera club members to receive free registration to the next annual Summer Conference held at the University of Massachusetts. The next conference is scheduled for July 15-17, 2011. The free registration, however, only covers the registration fee. The recipient will be responsible for his or her own room, meals, and transportation. The following rules apply:

- Candidates must be at least eighteen years of age as of July 1, 2011.
- A candidate must be a member of an NECCC member Club in good standing (i.e. dues paid for the current year).
- Candidates must have never attended a previous NECCC conference.
- Selection of the candidate will be the responsibility of the individual clubs.
- Applications should be made by email from the club President. Applications will not be accepted after the deadline (March 1, 2011).
- The application cannot be transferred to another person. Once someone has been submitted, accepted and has received the key paper work, that person must register for the conference. If he/she cannot attend, another person cannot take his/her place. The club's courtesy enrollment for that year will be forfeited.
- NECCC decision in all matters relating to this courtesy enrollment will be final.

If you are interested in receiving this year's courtesy enrollment, please contact Maryann before March 1st!

Louis J. Secki
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Guilford, CT 06437