



# The IMAGE

## View from the Boardroom

by *Allison Maltese*

### Photography and Personal Style

I have been thinking a lot this year about one's personal style as a photographer, especially as I work my way through my 365 project, which I began in April of 2011. I follow about 25 other members on the site, and we joke that we can tell who took which photo each day without even looking at the photographer's name underneath. The same thing happens at our club exhibits. You can usually guess whose are whose before the labels are applied. We each have a style of our own.

For me, photography is a way of seeing. It is a view of the world through my eyes and my lenses - my "spin," so to speak. Your style is built upon the basic choices that you make each time you capture a photo: your choice of subject, setting, lighting, focus, point of view, and technique. These all help determine your personal style, but there is still that one element that isn't so readily identifiable - even if all of the other choices were the same. That's your personal style, your interpretation of the scene, your unique point of view.

I see the world in patterns and colors. I am constantly framing pictures in my head whether I have my camera with me or not. My sense of style is closely linked to my academic background and professional training in graphic design and color supervision. Also, I grew up on a beautiful piece of land in rural Killingworth, Connecticut, and the connection to the natural world was formed from an early age. It is quiet and still there, and full of beautiful things to photograph.

So, I shoot colorful nature photographs that convey the serenity of nature but are often both artistic and documentary. Sometimes I make "straight" photographs, and sometimes I use the photograph as a starting point to build additional patterns through repetition, like my ongoing series of photo collages.

The more you photograph, the more your personal style will begin to evolve. Doing the 365 project was a good way to build up a body of work, to practice my

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## FEBRUARY ASSIGNMENT

This month we bring you the assignment of "Everyday Items But Different." What we're looking for are images of everyday items but with a little spin. Maybe its a fork near your computer mouse, maybe its your car keys on the bathroom vanity, just make it different. As usual, have fun and be creative, upload them to your flickr account, and post the three best to the Coastal Camera Club's flickr group.

## February Meetings

**February 1, 2012**

NECCC Pictorial Slide Circuit. A judged show of work from 6-8 camera clubs with comments by a NECCC judge on each image.

**February 6, 2012**

Board Meeting

**February 15, 2012**

Second annual critique of members work. This is done digitally. All images must be sent to [ccc.images@gmail.com](mailto:ccc.images@gmail.com) subject line "critique" prior to January 20, 2012. Naming criteria will follow NECCC rules. Those shooting slide or negative film should notify a board member to arrange for scanning.

## NEED MORE INFORMATION? TRY LOOKING ON ONE OF THESE SITES:

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](http://www.coastalcameraclub.org) - the official club website

[www.coastalcameraclub.wordpress.com](http://www.coastalcameraclub.wordpress.com) - club blog

<https://public.me.com/lou.secki> - site to download club files

## FEBRUARY REFRESHMENTS:

February 1, 2012.....Rich Forrest

February 15, 2012 .....Carolann Sawicki

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

Files must be named using the following format:

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

Where X=the type of file (**O**pen, **C**reative, **B**lack&**W**hite, 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.

Please remember the Maximum size for competitions is 1024 pixels wide by 768 pixels tall. If the files are to be used in a club critique they can be full size.

Images must be submitted to [ccc.images@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:lou.secki@gmail.com).

The Coastal Camera Club meets at 7:00pm on the first and third Wednesday of the month at the new Madison Senior Center located at 29 Bradley Road in Madison, Connecticut.

VIEW FROM THE BOARD, CONT'D..

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craft, to see what I liked to photograph, and to see what I was successful at doing. You can do the same thing whether you shoot every day or whether you build up a group of photos over a period of time. Preparing for a portfolio or a gallery show is another time when you can see what connects your best work. Judges often look for consistency in style as one of the criteria for acceptance into a juried show.

While consistency is a good thing, you might try to mix it up a little too. I tried an abstract black and white photograph on a whim this past week, and it turned out really nicely. Getting out of your comfort zone sometimes allows you to stretch yourself, and I bet these photographs will still have your own unique sense of style.

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## GEORGE LEPP SEMINAR

Milford Photo is sponsoring an all day seminar with George Lepp as part of the Canon Explorer's of Light programs. The date is Feb. 11 and the cost is a mere \$18.75. It will be held at SCSU.

I did not see anything posted yet on the Milford Photo web site <http://milfordphoto.com/website/publish/home/homeList.php>

George is a great speaker and his talks are always inspirational.

This is a link to his web site where you can see his work.

[http://www.georgelepp.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=119:milford-photo-presents-george-lepp&catid=1:workshops&Itemid=5](http://www.georgelepp.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=119:milford-photo-presents-george-lepp&catid=1:workshops&Itemid=5)

To access registration you need to go to the Milford Photography Group here <http://www.meetup.com/milfordphotography/> and join (free).

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## PHOTO ESSAY REMINDER

By Maryann Flick

I just wanted to send out this reminder about the project for the year. Some of the new members may not have gotten this information. For the May 17th meeting we will be viewing the photo essays you submit. The submission deadline will be at least a week before the meeting if not sooner.

I found an additional link that looks good, explaining the types of images that you should think about using for a photo essay.

<http://www.thedigitaltrekker.com/2010/05/the-photo-essay-give-it-your-best-shot/>

You may have images already that will make a good essay. You may need to supplement them. You may need to start from scratch!

Plan ahead. Don't wait to the week before they are due. Just like writing, you may want to go over it and make changes before it becomes your final product.

Give it some thought and make this for yourself not to satisfy the club assignment. I find when I make images for myself, they come out much better than if I am just doing it for the sake of fulfilling an assignment.

If you get photographer's block (like writer's block!) just try to think simple, minimal. Maybe you'll expand or maybe it will remain a very simple essay. There are no absolutely right or wrong essays.

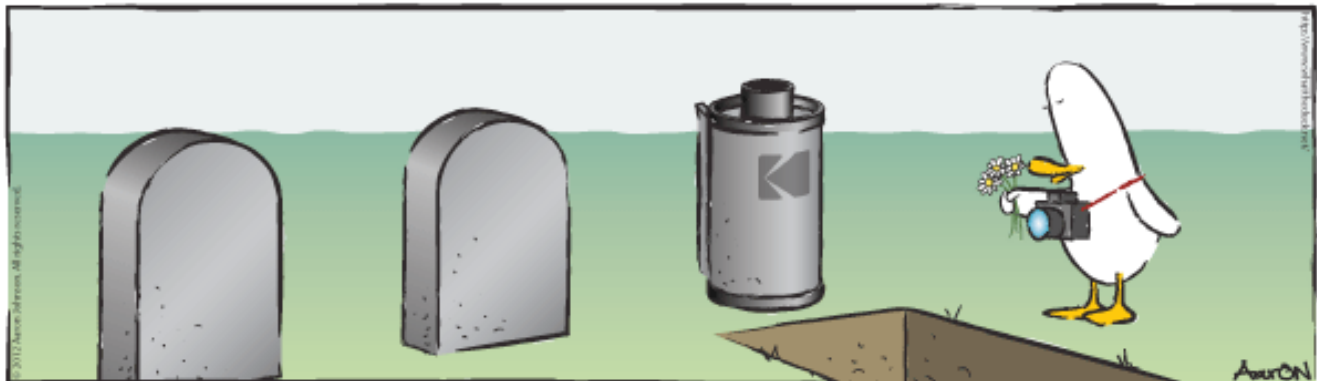
Give it a try.

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## FIRST COMPETITION RESULTS - JANUARY 19, 2012

Category	Place	Score	Title	Maker
Projected Open	1st	26	Chipmunk Sentry	Maryann Flick
	2nd	25	Hues	Rob Nardino
	3rd	24	Red Rocks	Bill Boeckeler
	3rd	24	Reflecting on the Getty	Mark Janke
	3rd	24	Brittany	Louis Secki
Projected B&W	1st	24	Water Lily	Maryann Flick
	1st	24	Melissa	Nick Carlino
	1st	24	Salzburg Cathedral	Fred Rosenthal
	2nd	23	Caitlin	Nick Carlino
	2nd	23	Ghost Shore	Rob Nardino
	3rd	22	He Shoots	Louis Secki
	3rd	22	The Town Hall at Montepulciano	Fred Rosenthal
Projected Creative	1st	25	Lupine Dream	Allison Maltese
	1st	25	Rocker	Louis Secki
	2nd	24	River North Chicago	Rob Nardino
	2nd	24	Spring Dreams	Allison Maltese
	3rd	23	Garden & Marsh Snow	Pat Anderson
	3rd	23	Coneflower	Maryann Flick
Color Salon	1st	27	Venice Canal Reflections	Fred Rosenthal
	2nd	25	Venice Gondola	Fred Rosenthal
	2nd	25	Swinging	Louis Secki
	3rd	24	Terracotta Pot in Water Drop	Dianne Roberts
	3rd	24	Hawk	Dianne Roberts
B&W Salon	1st	25	The Field of Miracles in Pisa	Fred Rosenthal
	2nd	24	French Perambulator	Fred Rosenthal
	3rd	21	The Diner	Allison Maltese

What The Duck

<http://www.whattheduck.net/>

WINNING IMAGES FROM THE JANUARY COMPETITION



First Place - Open Category  
Chipmunk Sentry by Maryann Flick



First Place - B&W Category  
Water Lily by Maryann Flick



First Place - Creative Category  
Lupine Dream by Allison Maltese



First Place - B&W Category  
Melissa by Nick Carlino



First Place - Creative Category  
Rocker by Lou Secki



## TIDBITS #78 - PARK PASSES

by Archie Stone (edited by Lou Secki)

Looking for some place to shoot. Taking a trip somewhere in the US? Try a national park or a state park for that matter. The National Park Service ([www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov)) maintains nearly 400 parks and over 500 national monuments. There are also some deals to be had.

**National Park Passes**

A pass is your ticket to more than 2,000 federal recreation sites. Each pass covers entrance fees at national parks and national wildlife refuges as well as standard amenity fees at national forests and grasslands, and at lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management and Bureau of Reclamation. A pass covers entrance and standard amenity fees for a driver and all passengers in a personal vehicle at per vehicle fee areas (or up to four adults at sites that charge per person). Children age 15 or under are admitted free.

**National Park Senior Pass**

- \$10 Lifetime pass
- For U.S. citizens or permanent residents age 62 or over.
- May be obtained in person at a federal recreation site or through the mail using this [application form](#). The cost of obtaining a Senior Pass through the mail is twenty dollars (\$20). Ten (\$10) for the Senior Pass and ten (\$10) for processing the application. Applicants must provide documentation of age and residency or citizenship.
- May provide a 50 percent discount on some amenity fees charged for facilities and services such as camping, swimming, boat launch, and specialized interpretive services.
- Generally does NOT cover or reduce special recreation permit fees or fees charged by concessioners.



The pass is non transferable, which means the spouse can not use your pass. I would recommend that you each get one especially as it is only \$10.00 each for a lifetime. More information can be found at <http://www.nps.gov/findapark/passes.htm> and there are even a few links to some FAQ's. There is also an annual pass available to anyone who is not 62 or over. The fee for the annual pass is \$80 and more information can be found at the above link.

**Connecticut Charter Oak Pass**

The State of Connecticut also has the equivalent of the National Park Service's Senior Pass, the Charter Oak Pass. This pass is free to any Connecticut resident over the age of 65. The pass for facilities with vehicle parking fees gets the car and all passengers in for free. The only exception is where a separate event admissions charge is in place. The pass also gets the pass holder into the following sites free.

- Gillette Castle – except the Christmas event
- Dinosaur State Park
- Ft. Trumbull State Park
- Quinebaug Valley Fish Hatchery for fishing

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TIDBITS #78 - PARK PASSES - CONT'D

The Charter Oak Pass can be obtained in person at a number of state facilities, go to [www.ct.gov/dep/](http://www.ct.gov/dep/) for a list of locations. You can also get the pass through the mail by sending a legible photocopy of your current CT driver's license (both sides) or other legal proof of age and residency to:

DEEP Charter Oak Pass  
State Parks Division  
79 Elm Street  
Hartford, CT 06106-5127

As with the National Park Service Senior Pass, the Charter Oak Pass is non transferable so if the spouse is over 65 get a second pass, especially since this one is free.

Happy Shooting!

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OUR NEW DIGS

On February 1<sup>st</sup> we will be moving into our new home, the new Madison Senior Center. Remember this also means that we will be going back to our regular Wednesday night schedule of the first and third Wednesday of the month. Here are a few quick pictures of the outside of the building. See you all there.



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NEW COASTAL CAMERA CLUB MEMBERS

Please help these new members feel welcome:

Nils Dailey  
596 Lake Drive  
Guilford, CT 06437  
[nils.dailey@gmail.com](mailto:nils.dailey@gmail.com)

Mike Kane  
5 Edinburgh Lane  
Madison, CT 06443  
[kane.mike8@gmail.com](mailto:kane.mike8@gmail.com)

## MINI WORK SHOP SCHEDULE

February 1, 2012 - Archie Stone will talk about Exposure

February 15, 2012 Archie Stone will talk about white balance

### Photo Opportunities

Please let us know if you are planning a little photography excursion and would like some company. In an effort to get club members out and shooting more we would like cultivate some spur of the moment photography related meet-ups. Let one of the board members know and we will try to get the work out for you. Obviously, the more notice you can give the better chance you will have of getting some other club members to join you.

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Louis J. Secki  
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