



The Image

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE COASTAL CAMERA CLUB

January 2010

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Coastal
Camera
Club



VIEW FROM THE BOARDROOM

By Lou Secki

In last January's "View from the Board" I talked about setting SMART goals for 2009. For those who don't remember SMART goals are ones that are Specific, Measureable, Attainable, Realistic and Timely. The hope was that by setting goals that fit these requirements you would be able to see the light at the end of the tunnel and feel good about the goals you set and actually achieve them. So how did you do? Specifically how did you do with regards to your photography? Did you meet some or all of your goals?

My photography goals were put on hold during 2009. The primary reason for this was other goals got in the way. Primarily, the goal of moving into the new house my wife and I have been building. Even that goal slipped a little. We set a goal for ourselves to be able to move in during the fall, that didn't happen. Deadlines seemed to slip and contractors seemed to take longer than expected at every turn. We actually just got moved in the Sunday after Christmas. Now we are still unpacking boxes and getting settled. The most over heard phrase at our house is, "where is the _____?" So, that goal outweighed everything else and all other goals took a back seat to the house.

Here we are in January of 2010, the start of a new year and a new decade. Take a look at the goals you set for 2009, make a list on paper. Did you achieve them? The ones you achieved, congratulations, put a check mark next to them. Were there some goals that you partially achieved? If so, flag them for follow-up during 2010. Were there goals which never even left the starting gate? These are the ones which we need to look at in-depth.

- The ones you achieved
Is there a follow-up? Can you extend this goal and do more with it for 2010? Was that goal a step towards another goal you can set up for 2010? Try and build on your success. Remember nothing breeds success like success.
- The ones you partially achieved
These are goals that you made progress on but could not finish for one reason or another. Look at why they did not get completed and carry these goals over to 2010. You were partially there in 2009 so it could be an easy win for 2010.
- The ones you didn't achieve
These are the goals that either didn't get started or were so far off you cannot even consider them partially achieved. Look closely at these; did they meet the SMART criteria. Maybe they were just bad goals for you. If your goal was to travel more and take pictures during 2009 maybe this was

(Continued on page 5)

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The Image is published monthly by the Coastal Camera Club. We welcome all members to contribute to the newsletter. The deadline for submissions is the third Friday of the month. Please e-mail all submissions to Louis Secki at lou.secki@gmail.com.

Membership dues for the Coastal Camera Club are:

\$35.00 Individual

\$60.00 Family

\$5.00 The Image

Happenings

Hospice Exhibit

Hospice Exhibit will run from January 9, 2010 through February 27, 2010.

Images

The Shoreline Arts Alliance will hold its annual Photography Competition and Exhibition will run from February 8, 2010—February 27, 2010

George Lepp Seminar

George Lepp will be giving an all day seminar at the University of Connecticut, "Captured the Possibilities"

Remember

Check www.coastalcameraclub.org for more updated information on all activities.

January Meetings

January 6th

Harold Shapiro, Will speak on night photography. Harold is a commercial and fine art photographer residing in Guilford, and The Chair of The photography department at the Creative Arts Workshop in New Haven

January 20th

Our First of two in-house competitions. Special Categories; for prints it's Fountain(s) and for digital it's "Fun"

Informal one on one critique at 6:30 pm

Flickr Group Update—January 2010

OK lets get 2010 off to a good start. Lets get our flickr group up and running. The only way to do that is to have participation from all of you.

For January the topic of the month is "Black & White." this was the topic Maryann had picked for December before I posted something else in the last newsletter. These can either be "classic" black and white images or they can be color images which are primarily monotone. Go ahead and start converting some images and sending them in.

Editor's Note

We have finally moved into our permanent home. Thank you all for your patience with me during the craziness which was 2009. I am sure there will be more craziness to replace the craziness we just finished with but at least I am settled and can unpack our things.

Here is my new permanent address:

400 Goose Lane
Guilford, CT 06437
203-533-9568—Cell Phone

Regards,

Lou Secki

The Coastal Camera Club meets at 7:00pm on the first and third Wednesdays of the month at The Depot Meeting Center on Route 79 in Madison, Connecticut.

Tidbits 57 David Middleton “Part 2”

By Archie Stone

Major editing by Mark Janke

Continuing with notes from the David Middleton seminar.

Light is what makes a photograph. A great scene in bad light will always be mediocre, while a mediocre scene in great light will be a good photograph. He favors early morning and late afternoon for landscapes and general shooting. Bright overcast days for close-ups, macro and intermediate scenes such as a woodscape. He also likes rain and fog to add drama to the image. He does most of his stream photography after a rain and while still overcast as the rocks are all wet and reflective and the contrast is low.

He always shoots in RAW, mostly set to aperture priority, to get the depth of field that he wants. He uses matrix or evaluative metering which selects the shutter speed to go with the aperture he has chosen and he uses auto focus. He uses the Matrix or evaluative setting for his metering as he has found them to be very accurate. Remember, he is an old film shooter so he can also use his institutional knowledge and exposure compensation to adjust the matrix or evaluative reading based on his past experience. This is a total change from his film days when he set the aperture, shutter speed and focus manually and used spot metering to get the correct exposure.

To protect his highlights he carries a permanent exposure compensation of $-2/3$ stops for most of his photography. This way he does not blow out (over expose) his highlights and he then makes the final exposure adjustment on the computer. Note that while the concept has merit, the amount of permanent exposure compensation must be decided upon for each camera and each photographer. Remember that the goal is to get it right in the camera. He watches his highlights and especially the “blinkies”, though he was quick to point out that not all blinkies are bad and that in order to capture the subject properly exposed you may have to accept highlights with no detail. In one image of a farmer sitting in the milking barn reading a newspaper, the window behind him was totally white with no detail. This was also the light source used to light the farmer with fill light being reflected off of the newspaper back into the farmers face. Needless to say the farmer and the area around him was properly exposed, you could still see some of the window frame but where the light came through the glass was totally empty of anything except the white.

One of his zingers for the day was his definition for “HDR”, when he said “HDR is Latin for ‘the light sucks’”. You need HDR when the contrast of the light between the highlights and shadows exceeds the ability of the sensor to record it.

For those who do not understand HDR, a little explanation is in order. Every capture medium, whether film or digital sensor, has a dynamic range. The dynamic range is, simply the whitest white and the blackest black that can be captured and still have observable detail. With print film the DR was about 10-11 stops, with slide film it was about 5 stops and with digital it is 5-8 stops. “HDR” is a process where you expand beyond the dynamic range of the sensor either on the computer; or, in camera by shooting one image over exposed to capture the shadow detail, one underexposed to capture the highlight detail and one on the meter reading to capture the midtones. The three images are then merged in the computer. Of course a tripod helps.

He in general, will over expose fog shots by +1 exposure compensation to compensate for meter error.

To be continued.



Exhibition Notice—Connecticut Hospice

Dates: Setup –January 9, 2010 @ 12:00 to 2:00 PM.

Bring your images between 12:00 noon and 2:00pm

We will hang the images between 2:00pm and 4:00om

Exhibit Takedown is February 27, 2010

Exhibit Format: This exhibit will be run very differently from our usual exhibits.

- First, no formal judging.
- Second, no formal categories. Instead, each exhibitor....you, will be able to hang their photos as a grouping, maybe with a common theme, so that maybe your photos tell a "story" if you choose.
- Rules about matting and framing are the same as usual for exhibits.
- There is no Reception or Opening planned.
- When the time for the hanging occurs, I'd also like each person to give me a SHORT write-up about you and what the photographs are all about. Again, this is not required, but it would be nice to have a short write-up to go with the photos. This will go into the show program.
- Everyone is assigned wall space of 5 ft in length by 3 ft high. (Arrange the photos you want to exhibit on the floor at home, to see how you can fit into the allotted space.) Bring a "map" of how you would like your images hung when you drop them off.

Send your write-ups to Mark Janke or Louis Secki via e-mail so they can easily be placed into the program

From New Haven and Points South:

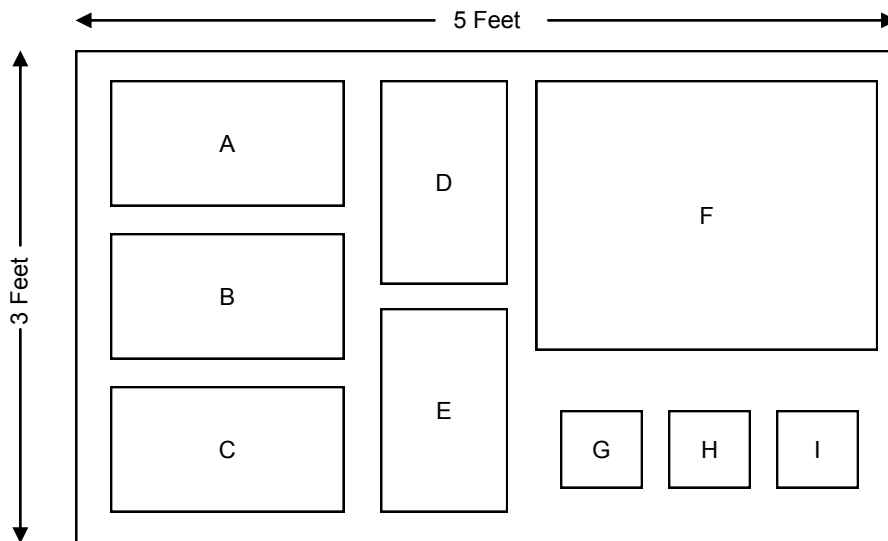
From I-95 going North, take EXIT 53. At end of exit bear right at light . Go under the underpass in the left lane. At light, take a left on to Short Beach Road for approximately 1 mile. Take left onto Double Beach Road and continue to Connecticut Hospice entrance (Gatehouse) on left.

From Hartford and Points North:

From I-95 going North, take EXIT 53. At end of exit bear right at light . Go under the underpass in the left lane. At light, take a left on to Short Beach Road for approximately 1 mile. Take left onto Double Beach Road and continue to Connecticut Hospice entrance (Gatehouse) on left.

From New London and Points East:

From I-95 going south take EXIT 54 (Cedar Street). At end of exit take left and get into right lane. At the bottom of the hill, at the light take a right and go through 3 lights on Route One. In the left lane, go under the underpass. At light, take a left on to Short Beach Road for approximately 1 mile. Take left onto Double Beach Road and continue to Connecticut Hospice entrance (Gatehouse) on left.



This is an example of an "Image Map." We need something like this when you bring your images to the exhibit. Yours can be hand drawn, but it is important as it will be the only thing we have to go by when we hang your images. We will also be putting this map into the show program so visitors can identify your images.

View from the Boardroom, Continued...

a good goal until the economy tanked. If your goal was to travel more and take pictures for National Geographic maybe this was a poor goal because it might not really have been achievable. If you think they can be saved by all means put them back in the lineup for 2010, if not toss them.

- **New goals for 2010**

These will be your new SMART goals for this year. In addition to these being SMART goals, you should also set three levels of goals. Make some easily attainable goals. These goals should be something you are pretty sure you can do without much trouble. When you achieve them, you feel good about your goals in general and it gives you more confidence for your other goals. Your second tier goals should be your "real" goals. These are the ones that will be a challenge for you but are things you really want to achieve. Finally, set some stretch goals. These are the ones which will put you to the test.

Don't be too hurt if you don't achieve them, after all they were supposed to be a stretch, but if you get these done, WOW! Personally I have two photography related goals for 2010. Number one, I am going to take more pictures. Starting in February, I am going to try and take pictures every day. Number two, I am going to be more active on flickr.com. If anyone else wants to share their goals for 2010 I would be more than happy to post them in the next newsletter. Send your goals to me at ccc.images@gmail.com with the subject line "2010 Goals."

First In-House Club Competition

The first in house club competition is scheduled for January 20, 2010. The special print category is "fountains" and the digital/slide special category is "fun".

If you have prints to turn in please be at the Depot between 6:30 and 7:00pm so that we can process them and start the meeting at 7:00pm. On the back of each print should be the maker's name, title and an arrow indicating the top of the print. Please do not use any marker that will show through the print paper.

For all digital and print categories and requirements go to <http://public.me.com/lou.secki>. You can copy and paste this address to your browser as it is also the newsletter site, save it as a bookmark. You will find a set of the competition rules posted for downloading. Both the competition and digital rules are also posted on the club website, www.coastalcameraclub.org. Click on the competition link on the left.

All digital images are to be sent to ccc.images@gmail.com with a subject line "competition" **by January 16, 2010**.

Connecticut Audubon Photography Contest and Fundraiser

The Connecticut Audubon Society has announced their 2010 photography contest, exhibit and sale, "Our Natural World".

Anyone interested in entering this contest should go to their website www.ctaudubon.org/visit/glastonbury.htm for information and forms. Enter the web address exactly as shown, look in the right hand column for the link to rules and forms. Acceptance of prints is January 10-16, 2010 with the exhibit February 2-27, 2010 at the Audubon Center in Glastonbury.

January Meetings—Refreshments

At each meeting, members are responsible for bringing a snack of some sort. Drinks, cups and paper goods are supplied by the club and brought each meeting by the hospitality chair.

January 6th

Mark Janke

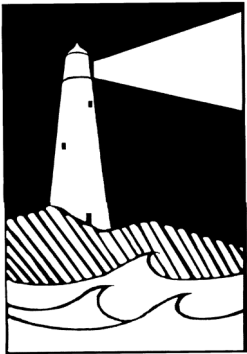
January 20th

Carol Ann Sawicki

Deanna Broderick

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Founded 1990

First Class Mail

The Image is published by the Coastal Camera Club

Address correction requested