



The IMAGE

View from the Board

by Howard Margules

Have you ever noticed?

Having been in the club for a bunch of years, I have developed a number of observations about photography, much in line with those old enough to remember Andy Rooney's TV segment on Sixty Minutes, where he commented on his take on the state of the world. Some of his observations were valid; some where more tongue in cheek. So here are mine, and feel free to take or leave them as you see fit.

Observation Number One:

I have been to a number of exhibits by famous photographers. I recently saw one by Robert Adams, and observed that not all of his photos were good. He took many great shots, but also on display were images that would not score well in club competitions. Some where out of focus, some the exposure was off, and some the composition looked more like a snap shot rather than great photography. So why are his images in a museum and yours and mine are not? The reason is he was a pioneer, the first to systemically document the changes in the landscape of the west. He was the first at something, and he developed a unique theme. So he is allowed some goofs where we are not.

Observation Number Two:

I am still confused about what is fine art photography? We have been told that it boils down to "creating emotion." But does that definition really hold up? Basically, doesn't everyone in a camera club who submits a picture for competition or exhibit try to generate some emotion? They are not always successful, but to say that one image is fine art because it creates more intense emotion than another image leaves me hanging. There are some very poor images that create strong emotions. Sorry, but I think we need a better definition.

Observation Number Three:

I have observed there are images that look great printed and framed and score well in competition. But these same images submitted electronically, and

Inside this Issue

Page 2

Flickr Update

April Meetings

Refreshments

How To Name Your Files

Page 3

Ask The Board

Photography Exhibit

Page 4

Competition Results

Election of Officers

Page 5

Tidbits #84

End of Year Slideshow

Page 6

CAP Events

Page 7

Member's Spotlight

Photography Meet Ups

Cedar Hill Cemetary

Page 8

Flickr.com Images

Page 9

Summer Break

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

OFFICERS

President

Maryann Flick.....860-304-5693

Vice President

Lou Secki203-804-7479

Secretary

Howard Margules.....860-434-3550

Treasurer

Deanna Broderick.....203-458-7604

COMMITTEES

Activities

Archie Stone203-245-2381

Exhibits

Mark Janke.....203-457-1890

Historian

Joanne Volage.....203-245-8600

Hospitality

Julianne Derken.....203-318-0148

Membership

Paula Chabot.....860-399-5414

Newsletter

Lou Secki203-533-9568

Programs

Mark Janke.....203-457-1890

Publicity

Maura Kelly203-671-5909

Representative

Nick Carlino203-484-4603

Webmaster

Rob Nardino.....203-318-0831



SUMMER ASSIGNMENT

As we break for the summer I decided to give two assignments. The first assignment is pretty straight forward, "Aged." Decide what aged means to you and capture some images of it. The second one might require a little more interpretation on your part, "Near and Far."

As usual, have fun and be creative. When you get the shots, upload them to your flickr account, and post the three best to the Coastal Camera Club's flickr group.

June Meetings

June 5, 2013

Annual Meeting and Pot Luck Dinner.
We will also be showing a slideshow of member's work

June 10, 2013

Board Meeting

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

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 look here: www.coastalcameraclub.org - the official club website

JUNE REFRESHMENTS:

June 5, 2013.....Pot Luck (everyone)

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, Digital **A**rt, **B**lack&White, etc) and YYYY-MM is the year and month of the event for which you are submitting the file. 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 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 and third Wednesdays of the month at the new Madison Senior Center located at 29 Bradley Road in Madison, Connecticut.



SOME SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES REQUIRE PREPARATION. THIS LIST OF DATES WILL GIVE YOU SOME ADDITIONAL ADVANCE NOTICE:

GLADEVIEW TAKEDOWN 6/29/2013

ASK THE BOARD

By Lou Secki

The Coastal Camera Club's board would like to help answer any of those burning photographic questions you need answered. We would also like to make this a regular column, so send your questions to lou.secki@gmail.com with the subject line "Ask The Board," and we will do our best to answer your questions. Chances are if you have a question, someone else has the same one. So don't be shy - start sending in your questions.

PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBIT

Photography and the American Civil War
Metropolitan Museum of Art, NYC
April 2-September 2, 2013

More than two hundred of the finest and most poignant photographs of the American Civil War have been brought together for this landmark exhibition. Through examples drawn from the Metropolitan's celebrated holdings of this material, complemented by important loans from public and private collections, the exhibition will examine the evolving role of the camera during the nation's bloodiest war. The "War between the States" was the great test of the young Republic's commitment to its founding precepts; it was also a watershed in photographic history. The camera recorded from beginning to end the heartbreaking narrative of the epic four-year war (1861-1865) in which 750,000 lives were lost. This traveling exhibition will explore, through photography, the full pathos of the brutal conflict that, after 150 years, still looms large in the American public's imagination.

<http://www.metmuseum.org/exhibitions/listings/2013/photography-and-the-american-civil-war>

Note (from Maryann Flick): I went to this exhibit and it is well worth the time. The photos are amazing both technically and for the historic value of the subject matter. Sections are devoted to the battles, the soldiers and their life on the fields, slavery, Civil War medicine and other topics. The exhibit is well designed and documented. They even made the rooms into tents by draping the walls with canvas. It is a fascinating exhibit of photography from its very early years. I recommend it highly. Maryann Flick

SECCC/CCC JOINT COMPETITION (APRIL 3, 2013)

Prints

BLACK & WHITE

Mike Cohn	SECCC	Portland Bound At Dawn	29 Points	1 st
Sally Perreten	CCC	Panhandler	27 Points	2 nd
Cheryl Philopena	SECCC	Bushkill Falls	27 Points	2 nd

SPECIAL CATEGORY: PAIR

Howard Margules	CCC	Mo. & Child Ecuador	26 Points	2 nd
Drea Koval	SECCC	Ruby Slippers	27 Points	1 st

NATURE (NO HAND OF MAN)

Drea Koval	SECCC	Stair-step Falls	27 Points	1 st
Dianne Roberts	CCC	Ladybug Feast	26 Points	2 nd

OPEN/ PICTORIAL:

Fred Rosentahal	CCC	Nightfall	26 Points	1 st
Janet Donch	SECCC	Afterglow	26 Points	1 st
Mike Cohn	SECCC	Sunset S.F. Bay	25 Points	2 nd
Cheryl Philopena	SECCC	Lonaconig Silk Mill	25 Points	2 nd

Digital

NATURE:

Drea Koval	SECCC	Piedro Blancos Beach	26 Points	2 nd
Sally Perreten	CCC	Red Shoulder Hawk	27 Points	1 st
Bob Fedder	SECCC	Do Ya Think It's Gonna Rain	26 Points	2 nd
Maryann Flick	CCC	Bluebird	27 Points	1 st

PICTORIAL:

Lou Secki	CCC	Jess	25 Points	2 nd
Drea Koval	SECCC	Home Sweet Home #1	26 Points	1 st

SPECIAL CATEGORY (FLOWERS):

Mike Cohn	SECCC	Hawaiian Water Lily	26 Points	1 st
Dianne Roberts	CCC	White Begonia	25 Points	2 nd
Cheryl Philopena	SECCC	Purple Orchid	25 Points	2 nd

Thanks To All Who Participated!! Great Job!!

SECCC (Southeastern Connecticut Camera Club) (6 - 1ST, 6 - 2ND)

CCC (Coastal Camera Club) (3 - 1ST, 5 - 2ND)

ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND APPOINTED BOARD POSITIONS.

By Archie Stone

We are now finishing our 10th year with the same officers and board members. While the group currently in office continues to work well together and continues to improve the club, we are also starting to get "burn out" and could use some new blood to give us new ideas.

In the 22+ years that I have been in the club, I have served as an officer or member of the board for all but 6 years. Maryann, our president, has been in her position for all but about 2 years that she has been a member having moved up to president upon the sitting president moving.

We also have members holding both elected and board positions, and multiple board positions.

We go into March with nominations for officers and looking for volunteers to fill board positions. If you are interested in helping or running for an elected office, please contact Maryann Flick, president, or Archie Stone, past president.

TIDBITS #84

By Archie Stone

In the beginning we had 2 MB or less digital cameras. Now in DSLR full frame cameras we have 34 plus MB sensors. We also have a number of different types of digital cameras to choose from starting with the full frame DSLR down to the smart phone and everything in between to include I'm guessing, the kitchen sink.

All these different types of cameras are good for the consumer as you can pick and choose what type you want in what price range, but at the same time it is now a daunting task to make that selection.

In looking for a camera you need to sit down and determine what your needs are. Every parent, aunt and uncle or grandparent has suffered the frustration of missing the shot with on-the-go children using a simple point and shoot. Why, because the camera did not turn on quickly enough, or it was in sleep mode and did not wake up, or it would not focus or determine exposure so that the camera would fire? The same can be said of the wildlife and sports shooter.

So what do we do? Our homework of course. As pointed out, step one is set down your needs. Notice I said "needs," not "wants." One is a necessity; the other is if you have an unlimited source of income.

If you are shooting sports, wild life, have a need for lenses over 200 mm or are out in the elements, then the DSLR is the way to go due to it's larger sensor, faster start and quicker focus and exposure. Again, within this category you have choices to make as to sensor size and cost.

Cost is a driving factor as to how well it will handle the elements and how fast it will obtain exposure and focus. Also the DSLRs still have the greatest selection of lenses and the longest lens focal lengths. They also have the largest sensors, either full frame, APS-C or 4/3rds. The flash systems, either internal or external, also have the highest output.

Two more recent camera types are the mirrorless and EVIL (electronic viewfinder interchangeable lenses) systems. These systems have a lot of the features of the DSLR, but as they have done away with the big Through the Lens mirror box, they are much smaller and lighter, and the lenses are also smaller and lighter. The mirrorless bodies do not have a view finder but may have one as an accessory that fits into the flash slot. The EVIL system still has the built in view finder which may be optical, electronic (literally a video camera) or a hybrid in that it has both. Both systems may have cameras with either a fixed prime lens (permanently attached and only one focal length such as 35 mm), a fixed short focal length zoom lens or interchangeable lenses. Some have built in flashes but most have a hot shoe for an external flash.

The major disadvantage of this system when compared to the DSLR is the above-mentioned speeds and focal lengths of the lenses as most stop at 200mm. The speed issue is improving all the time, so soon that will not be a problem. The advantages are that they have the same sensor size and bells and whistles as the DSLR at half the weight and size but not necessarily for less cost.

Below this we have the advanced point and shoot, which has most of the functions of the DSLR but with a much smaller, (think size of your little, finger nail) sensor or smaller. Below that we have the point and shoot and now the smart phone with WiFi and the ability to immediately upload images to social media, usually in real time as I recently discovered when attending a wedding and then looking on "Facebook" and seeing the posting times. The younger generation was uploading images to their friends in real time.

What I look for in a camera

Sensor size, and I mean the physical size, not pixels. I have an advanced point and shoot with a small sensor, and it is just too small to get good enlargements unless used on a tripod with the self timer.

ISO, at least a useable ISO of 3200. When I say usable I want to be able to take noise-free images at that setting, not have a camera with an ISO up to 3200. Even the cameras that advertise ISO up to 25,000 plus are not really usable above 3200 for large prints.

Physical sensor size, sensor pixel count and ISO along with the in-camera processor are the determining factors as to how much noise you will have in an image.

A view finder, as you cannot get a sharp image holding the camera in two hands away from your body so that you can see the LCD screen. This is true even with an image stabilization system. It amazes me today to see people, even in

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

VIEW FROM THE BOARD, CONT'D

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

viewed on a projector, somehow don't generate the same impact and score far less than their printed version.

Observation Number Four:

It is very easy to drift into the "gear head mode" where you feel that you need every new gadget or technology that comes down the pike. It seems that this is a hard game to win since most of us don't have the resources to keep up with all that is new. There is a lot of great photography still generated by folks with film, and with cameras that don't have a million options most which are never used or mastered. I am not advocating going back to the Kodak Brownie but rather that when you find gear that takes satisfying images, don't replace it just to buy the latest and greatest new thing.

Observation Number Five:

Contrary to everything the experts say there is still plenty of excellent photography accomplished in an auto mode. Sure you don't have all of the flexibility, and you can't get every shot, but surprisingly with today's cameras you can shoot a lot of good photos in auto mode. I just saw a much acclaimed exhibit of photography all taken by simple cell phones cameras.

Observation Number Six:

We hear that you should take great images in the camera and not rely on processing to mend mistakes. We may not want to admit to the truth, but the impact of digital photography and computer processing has probably reduced the skills needed to take good pictures. The ability to shoot a gazillion shots of a scene quickly and inexpensively increases the odds that some of them will be good. Additionally, computer editing is so sophisticated and getting more user friendly that it is a lot easier today to cover up mistakes in Photoshop.

Observation Number Seven:

I may be wrong, but it seems to me that we keep seeing the same images over and over again in exhibitions and competitions. Occasionally I am also guilty of this, and I know folks enjoy winning ribbons, but my feeling is you will benefit more by getting additional feedback from submitting new photos rather than recycling old ones.

Finally, most photographers in camera clubs shoot nature photos more than any other category. There is nothing wrong with this, especially since many photographers took up photography because of their interest in nature. I suspect judges, too, favor nature photography over other categories.

UPCOMING CAP (CONNECTICUT ASSOCIATION OF PHOTOGRAPHERS) EVENTS

Finger Lakes Field Trip - June 20 - 24 2013

Redcoats and Rebels Field Trip - August 3, 2013

You can find more information at www.capinct.blogspot.com. You can also find the application to become a member on the website, and best part is annual dues are only \$8.

MEMBERS'
SPOTLIGHT

Members Mark Janke and Maryann Flick are showing their work at the Guilford Library through the month of June. Mark is presenting is presenting Iceland's Southern Shore, a collection of landscapes from the land of Fire & Ice. Maryann's work, "Water Views," is a collection of landscapes and seascapes featuring water. Please find some time to stop in at the library to view the show.

PHOTOGRAPHY MEET-UPS

This summer, Club member Fred Rosenthal has offered to run a few meet-ups to encourage and teach other members more about photography. The schedule has not been set yet, but look for emails in the near future with times and dates of meet-ups. These will be very informal groups, getting together to shoot, exchange ideas, learn something new and most of all, enjoy photography.

PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOP AT CEDAR HILL CEMETERY, HARTFORD

Cedar Hill Cemetery Foundation will be offering a photography workshop on Saturday, June 29 from 10:00 am to noon. Professional photographer Craig Norton will lead this inspiring workshop for all ages, cameras and skill levels. The workshop will begin with a short lesson on camera settings and then participants will explore Cedar Hill to learn about composition and practice new found skills.

About Craig Norton

Craig is a professional photographer with over 25 years of experience. His freelance work includes portraits, products, events and weddings. His fine art prints can be found in galleries and offices throughout the northeast. Craig has taught extensively, including offering workshops for the West Hartford Art League.

About Cedar Hill Cemetery

Established in 1864, Cedar Hill is an American rural cemetery encompassing 270 acres of landscaped woodlands, waterways and memorial grounds. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, Cedar Hill serves as a sanctuary for memorial artworks, Hartford history, welcomed wildlife, and many visitors who come to remember loved ones and tour the grounds. To date, more than 32,000 people have chosen Cedar Hill Cemetery as their final resting place, including J.P. Morgan, Samuel and Elizabeth Colt, John and Isabella Beecher Hooker, and Katharine Hepburn.

Workshop

The workshop fee is \$25.00; \$20.00 for Cedar Hill Cemetery Foundation members. They are offering the discounted price of \$20.00 to members of your camera club. Reservations are required as the workshop size is limited. For more information or to register, contact Beverly Lucas at blucas@cedarhillcemetery.org or (860) 956-3311.

Beverly Lucas

Director

Cedar Hill Cemetery Foundation

453 Fairfield Avenue

Hartford, CT 06114

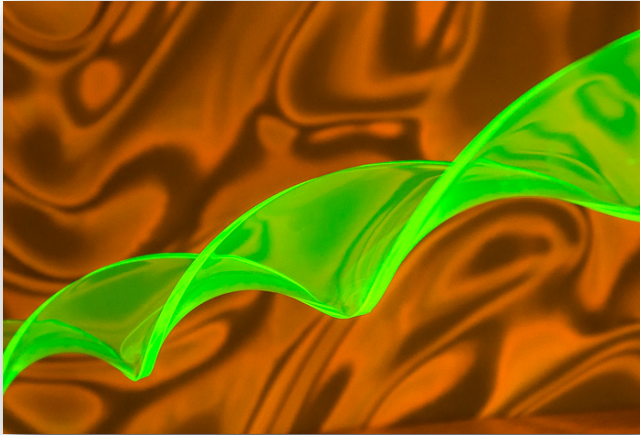
Phone: (860) 956-3311 ext. 224

Fax: (860) 956-3997

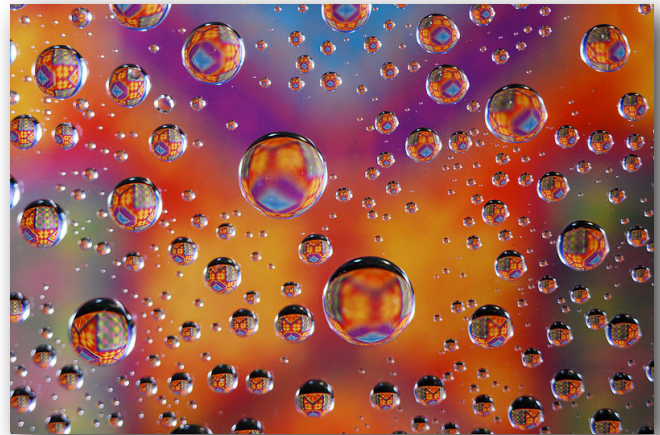
cedarhillfoundation.org



Here are a few images from the Coastal Camera Club group on Flickr.com. If you haven't checked out flickr yet head on over to <http://www.flickr.com/groups/coastalcameraclub/>, and see whats been going on. Names attached to these images are the flickr.com handles of the maker.



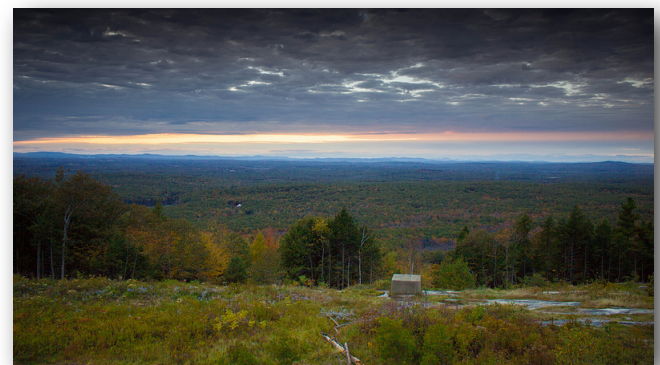
*by Maryann's*****Fotos*



by bluejay86



by Michael Kane Photography



by Michael Kane Photography



by KathyH9



by Michael Kane Photography

TIDBITS #84 CONT...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

A view finder, as you cannot get a sharp image holding the camera in two hands away from your body so that you can see the LCD screen. This is true even with an image stabilization system. It amazes me today to see people, even in camera ads, holding a camera in one hand and taking pictures. You have to wonder at the results they get.

Fast speed, and I am not talking shutter speed but fast turn on speed, fast sleep mode recovery and fast focus and exposure speeds. These factors directly relate to camera cost, the faster the speeds the greater the cost. Think computer as that is now what a camera is, in that if you want instant response you have to have larger and faster processors with a better operating system and that costs more.

Solid metal connection between the lens and camera body.

There are many other factors to consider in looking for a camera, so make your needs list and do your homework to include talking to others and going to a camera store and doing comparisons. By the way you can usually get the same price at a local store, such as Milford Photo, with their experienced staff, as you can at a discount store or online for the bodies and lenses. Accessories are a different matter. Sales tax is usually offset to some extent by shipping costs if you buy online. This morning, Monday, April 22, I heard on the news that the courts have now ruled in favor of sales tax on all Internet sales, which makes the brick-and-mortar store even more appealing.

If I were to purchase a new camera today, it would more than likely be an EVIL system. I believe that you get sharper images by holding the camera against your head using a view finder, think three point position, than at arms length looking at the LCD in order to see what you are photographing. I like the reduced size and weight of the systems, yet they have all the bells and whistles of the DSLR to include sensor size. Even though they only have lenses out to 200 mm with the crop factor of the APS-C and 4/3rds systems, this is a 300 or 400 mm equivalent.

SUMMER BREAK

After what seemed like a very long winter and a very cool spring, summer has finally arrived. Which means all sorts of fun summertime activities. It also means that as a club we will not be meeting until the third week in September. Until then there are plenty of ways to keep learning your photographic craft and stay inspired. One of the best ways is to simply get out and shoot.

One thing I have done was to give myself an assignment and try to shoot that in as many ways as I could. This could be something as specific as leaves or as broad as light. Whatever you choose, make sure it's something that you have available to you and can shoot whenever you want. I currently have two personal assignments: one is an ongoing assignment (Fire Hydrants), and the other is something I have just started playing with (Painting With Light.)

My ongoing assignment, Fire Hydrants, gives me something to shoot no matter where I go. They are everywhere. So many different styles and colors and shapes I never run out of shots. This one topic lets me work on many different aspects of photography. I can shoot the same hydrant in different light conditions, I can shoot the same angle on different hydrants, I can even position different people and objects with hydrants to create something new. Now, I will be the first to say that I am not going to get many shots of Fire Hydrants which I would want to hang on my wall or even put into a competition. But what it does for me is to practice different techniques and styles so that I can focus on improving my photography.

My new assignment, Painting With Light, is all about feeding my creative need in photography. Over the past year or so I have been in a creative rut. Doing research on painting with light and then going out and trying new things has really ignited some new creativity in my photography. It has also brought some passion back into my work.

So I say, "Give yourself an assignment" over the summer, and challenge yourself with something with which you strive to improve.