



# The IMAGE

## View from the Boardroom

by *Maryann Flick*

Have you asked yourself this question? Will better gear make me a better photographer? You probably know the answer is no, the equipment you use has little to do with your skills or creativity. Of course as your skills improve you will probably want better gear.

But many photo enthusiasts and photographer wanna-bes do think upgrading their stuff is going to make them better photographers. Let's look at this perception.

Suppose we give an amateur and a professional the same run of the mill P&S camera and send them out to shoot some street scenes. Who do you think will come back with the better photos? Which one would be considered the better photographer? Do you think if we gave the amateur a \$2000 camera and left the pro with the \$200 P&S, the amateur would come back with better images? Hard to say, but it's doubtful (especially since newer P&S cameras are getting better all the time!).

Now suppose we compare the amateur's images from the P&S to his photos from the advanced camera. The second set may be better; sharper, better exposed, nicer color. The amateur might conclude that the high-end gear has made him a better photographer. (On the other hand, in unskilled hands the more advanced gear may be too difficult to use properly and result in worse looking images compared to the simple P&S.) If we critiqued the two sets of images from the amateur as

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**Vice President**

Kerry McCarthy.....

**Secretary**

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

**Treasurer**

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

**COMMITTEES**

**Activities**

Nick Carlino .....203-484-4603

**Exhibits**

Allison Maltese .....203-458-7916

**Historian**

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

**Hospitality**

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

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

**Newsletter**

Lou Secki .....203-533-9568

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

**Publicity**

Colin Reeve.....203-421-7974

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**Webmaster**

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



SEPT. ASSIGNMENT

The September Assignment is "Framed" Give us your best take on a "framed" image. Have fun and post them to our flickr group.

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.

**Meetings**

**September 17, 2014**

Joseph Brunjes of Killingworth will tell us all about the art and technique of making tin type photographs, as well as a demonstration of the wet plate process (weather permitting) and he will take portraits of a few members of the audience.

**October 1, 2014**

John Patton will give the first half of the "The Bees & the Birds" presentation where he will share the techniques and equipment used in photographing butterflies and other small critters.

**October 15, 2014**

Mark Janke will give the second half of "The Bees & the Birds" presentation. Make will be discussing the "joys" of chasing down warblers and other avian specialties with telephoto equipment.

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

SEPTEMBER REFRESHMENTS:

September 17, 2014.....

October 1, 2014 .....

October 15, 2014.....

**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 (Open, Digital Art, Black&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](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 Wednesdays of the month at the new Madison Senior Center located at 29 Bradley Road in Madison, Connecticut.

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VIEW FROM THE BOARD, CONT'D

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taken by two different photographers, which one would be deemed the 'better' photographer? The amateur is the same photographer he was before he got the higher quality gear but one set of photos probably looks much better. It's all perception.

Higher quality gear cannot make you a better photographer but used skillfully can allow you to make better images, and the perception will be that you've become a better photographer.



WRITE FOR *THE IMAGE*

Help write our newsletter. If you ever wanted to see your name in print as a "by" line, now is your chance. Share breaking news pertaining to photography, write a review of some new piece of gear you bought, let the rest of the club know about a tip or trip you started using. You can share basically anything photography related with the rest of the club through the newsletter. All you have to do is write it up and I will publish it in the bi-monthly newsletter. Don't worry about formatting, just send me a text file and I will do the rest. Send your submissions to Lou Secki ([lou.secki@gmail.com](mailto:lou.secki@gmail.com)) with the subject line of "newsletter contribution."

We would also like submissions as "letters to the editor." Ask questions, make suggestions or just make a comment. Let the rest of the club know what you are thinking about and interested in.



CAMERA CLUB IDEAS

When it comes to places to shoot and things to do the club is always looking for new and interesting ideas. So, if anyone has any idea for meet-up/ shooting locations, workshops and/ or workshop leaders or even have any ideas on places we can go as a field trip let us know. Please contact Nick Carlino ([ncarlino@hotmail.com](mailto:ncarlino@hotmail.com)) and he will try to get them worked into our club schedule.



JOIN THE TEAM

With a new club season comes a new push to get more people involved in helping to run the club. We are always looking for volunteers to serve on the board or committees. Remember, this club is only as good as we make it. If you would like to help out or simply learn more contact a committee Chairperson or any club officer.

## TIDBITS #89 - STREET PHOTOGRAPHY

*By Archie Stone*

Street photography, in my humble opinion does not get the respect it deserves. Since I have been running the Shoreline Arts Alliance's Images photography show I have seen many street images that I would definitely place in the fine art category. I also use the "would I hang it on my wall" test and most street photography passes this test. In this years show we sold more street photography than any other category.

So what is street photography? You can find all kinds of definitions on the web and also a number of sites devoted to the art form. To me street photography is up close and personal taken on the street or in other public spaces, with or without people, that has a story to tell. It can and is usually candid but may also be posed. Garry Winogrand, a well known street photographer in his day considered any venue good for street photography as he loved Coney Island and would haunt any public place he felt he could find subject matter. The Museum of Modern Art in New York has a Winogrand retrospective hanging until September 21, 2014.

Street photography is a good reason to go to the MILC (Mirror-less Inter-changeable Lens Camera), as the body and lenses are much smaller than DSLRs and with a Prime lens (fixed focal length) of 35mm (full frame), 23mm (APS-C), 17mm (Micro 4/3rd ) it is also very inconspicuous. If getting that close scares you then go up one level and use a 50mm (full frame), 35mm (APS-C) or 25mm (micro 4/3rd). The prime lenses in this category also tend to be very fast having apertures of f-1.4 or f-1.8, which allows for higher shutter speeds or ISO. Do you have to get prime lenses to do street photography? No, any short zoom lens will do though you will have to contend with their slower aperture, usually a minimum of f-2.8.

I know, with these lenses you have to get really close to your subject, but that is what street photography is all about. [www.digital-photography-school.com](http://www.digital-photography-school.com) has an excellent article on street shooting and one of the things they offer is an experiment. You will see how little people really pay attention to other people while on the street. They recommend standing on a busy street corner and play statue, strike a posse. Most people will just walk around you and keep on going. Others may give you a weird look as they pass by but no one will get angry or upset. Another was to walk into an elevator and face to the rear. You may even talk to the people, but again they will ignore you or may even engage in a conversation.

The article also offered 10 points to good street photography.

1. A fast prime lens either 35 or 50 mm (full frame equivalent). Why? Less obtrusive and they have a faster aperture as in f-1.4 or f-1.8. This allows you to shoot at higher Shutter Speeds and or ISOs. Also with the wider lenses you can actually capture your subject without pointing the camera directly at them.
2. Get up close and personal as in 3 to 10 feet of your subject. With the 35 or 50mm (full frame) you are actually representing in the viewfinder the field of vision of the human eye.
3. Never leave home without it. How many times, especially with the large DSLR, have you left it at home only to see something you want to photograph, but had no camera.

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## 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](mailto: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.

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4. Disregard what other people think of you, especially if you are in a strange city by yourself. Do we really care what they think?
5. Smile, it is amazing what you can get away with if you smile. Also, if they see you taking their picture, don't turn away but, acknowledge them with a nod of the head or a tip of the hat, and a smile. At the same time if you see that they do not want their picture taken, and you will know, then don't!
6. While street photography usually is done on the fly, if you do see an interesting person and a nice back drop, ask if they would mind posing for you.
7. Be respectful of others. This goes for people moving around you, don't block the sidewalk, but most importantly your subject. This is especially true of the homeless or down and out. "Think about why you are taking the shot". If it tells a story then by all means go for it, but if all you are doing is getting the shot leave it be.
8. Look for juxtaposition, conveying humor, irony, beauty among the ugly or signs and people.
9. Tell a story.
10. Just go for it, and remember smile.

I took this directly from the website.

"So 35mm or 50mm ?

As you can see, there are both advantages and disadvantages to the use of these two focal lengths. None of them stands as better than the other one. Ultimately, it will come down to your shooting style preference and your personality, so ask yourself the following kind of question might:

- ❖ do you like to get very close to people? (35mm)\*
- ❖ do you shoot mainly portraits of people in the street? (50mm)
- ❖ do you prefer large depth of field (35mm) to blurred backgrounds? (50mm)
- ❖ do you live in an environment with narrow streets (35mm) or a lot of wide open space? (50mm)
- ❖ or even, are you tall ?

\* I have added the focal lengths.

If still undecided, you could carry both the 35 and 50mm focal lengths. I don't recommend it though. These focal lengths are close in field of view so it will be easier to make the two steps forward or backwards instead of losing time in a lens swap."

#### WE ALL HAVE TO PAY OUR DUES

With the start of another new club year comes the need to pay our dues. No really, the annual club dues are due at the first meeting. This year's dues are as follows:

- \$25.00 individual
- \$40.00 Family
- \$5.00 Student

2014-2015 MEMBER'S PROJECT

The members' project for the year is Song Titles. Your assignment is to make an image to go with each title. In the Spring of 2015 we will create a slide show of your results accompanied by the songs on the list. This will work best if we get a lot of members to participate! So please join in the fun!!! In the event there are too few images of some titles to make a decent slideshow, we may ask you for 2 per title so if you find a second shot you like, save it too. Your goal is to cover the entire list but if you only do a few it's better than not participating at all. You can listen to short clips of each one at the MP3 store on Amazon.com, but some should be familiar to you.

Song Title	Composer/ Artist
Alone	Kenny G
America	Simon and Garfunkel
Beautiful	Christina Aguilera
Blue	Joni Mitchell
Broken	Tift Merritt
Drive My Car	The Beatles
Every Ship Must Sail Away	Blue Merle
Harbor Lights	Bruce Hornsby
Have You Ever Seen The Rain	Credence Clearwater Revival
Here Comes The Sun	The Beatles
Lady Madonna	The Beatles
Lookin' Out My Backdoor	Credence Clearwater Revival
Macho Man	The Village People
Maple Leaf Rag	Scott Joplin
Past In The Present	Joshua Redman
Stairway To Heaven	Led Zepplin
Summertime	George Gershwin
Take Me To The River	The Talking Heads
The Long And Winding Road	The Beatles
Up Jumped Spring	Arturo Sandoval
Water And Stone	Catie Curtis
Young At Heart	Frank Sinatra

## COASTAL CAMERA CLUB 2014-15 SCHEDULE

**AUGUST**


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Board Meeting	Monday, 8/25/14 Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting
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**SEPTEMBER**


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Regular Meeting	Wednesday, 9/17/14 Our inaugural meeting of the season features a presentation by Joseph Brunjes of Killingworth. Mr. Brunjes will tell us all about the art and technique of making tin type photographs, as well as a demonstration of the wet plate process (weather permitting) and he will take portraits of a few members of the audience. Come prepared to learn what “real photography” is all about...and see some hauntingly beautiful examples of this unique black and white photography.
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**OCTOBER**


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Regular Meeting	Wednesday, 10/1/14 The two October meetings of the season will compare and contrast two techniques used extensively in nature photography, Macro & Telephoto. Entitled “The Bees & the Birds”, the 1 <sup>st</sup> program will be presented by John Patton. John will share the techniques and equipment used in photographing butterflies and other small critters. He will share the joys and frustrations of photographing subjects which have no particular interest in remaining in the cameras frame.
Regular Meeting	Wednesday, 10/15/14 The second half of “The Bees & the Birds” will be presented by Mark Janke discussing the “joys” of chasing down warblers and other avian specialties with telephoto equipment. The discussion will include some of the similarities and differences from the program on macro photography.

**NOVEMBER**


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Board Meeting	Monday, 11/3/14 Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting
Critique Meeting	Wednesday, 11/5/14 First of two critique sessions of members work. This is done digitally. All images must be sent to <a href="mailto:ccc.images@gmail.com">ccc.images@gmail.com</a> subject line “critique” prior to October 19, 2014. Naming criteria will follow NECCC rules. Those shooting slide or negative film should notify a board member to arrange for scanning.
Regular Meetings	Wednesday, 11/19/14 Jesse Thompson of Milford Photo presents a program on street photography. Get some ideas on how to take interesting, thought provoking images which tell a story (hopefully one where the subject doesn't angrily chase you down the street). Jesse will also share some info on the latest photo gadgets on the market that are available at Milford Photo. We're always looking for that little tool which will give us an edge to our shooting.

**DECEMBER**


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Exhibit Opening	Thursday, 12/4/14 Scranton Library Opening. Meeting will be held at the Scranton library, Madison, CT. In this reception, open to the public, the club will share some of its latest images and be able to discuss why the art of photography excites us so.
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## COASTAL CAMERA CLUB 2014-15 SCHEDULE, CONT'D

Regular Meeting                      Wednesday, 12/17/14  
 Potluck Christmas Party / Club fall project. Come and enjoy good food and conversation. Fall project TBD.

**JANUARY**

Regular Meeting                      Wednesday, 1/7/15  
 Hooray! It's hi-jinx time!! This year the theme will be how to interpret the histogram. We'll learn about photos which are mostly dark or light or all mid-tones and how to adjust our exposure to get the most from the light that we have. The different stations will provide examples for reading the tea leaves in our camera's histogram.

Competition Meeting                Wednesday, 1/21/15  
 Our first of two competitions. Digital images must be submitted to [ccc.images@gmail.com](mailto:ccc.images@gmail.com) subject line "competition." All images must be in by 1/10/2015

**FEBRUARY**

Board Meeting                        Monday, 2/2/15  
 Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting

Regular Meeting                      Wednesday, 2/4/15  
 Louis Secki will present a host of "how to's" concerning manipulation of photos for posting on the web site, submitting for competitions, resizing, etc., complete with champagne and live dancers ....(just kidding about the champagne).

Critique Meeting                      Wednesday, 2/18/15  
 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 Feb 2, 2015. Naming criteria will follow NECCC rules. Those shooting slide or negative film should notify a board member to arrange for scanning.

**MARCH**

Regular Meeting                      Wednesday, 3/4/15  
 Judy Kells will discuss the ins & outs of travel photography featuring her trip to Tanzania. If you are planning a trip to Timbuktu or just to Vermont you'll find some good tips on saving the essence of your experiences with photos.

Regular Meeting                      Wednesday, 3/18/15  
 40 Slide Review

**APRIL**

Competition Meeting                Wednesday, 4/1/15  
 CCC/SECC Joint Competition at SECC.

Regular Meeting                      Wednesday, 4/15/15  
 Painting with light is a simple and fun way to do something creative and different with your camera. Allison Maltese and Louis Secki will share their experiences and experiments with us on how to successfully paint with light and then we'll all try it out with the Madison green as our canvas.

**MAY**

Exhibition Opening                 Wednesday, 5/6/2015  
 Gladeview Health Care Center Opening. This reception is open to the public. The club members will be exhibiting images from any of six categories.

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## COASTAL CAMERA CLUB 2014-15 SCHEDULE, CONT'D

Regular Meeting                      Wednesday, 5/20/15.  
 Members' Spring Project. Photo Images to Match the Music. This will be a joint project with CT Valley Camera Club, hosted at CCC.

**JUNE**

Regular Meeting                      Wednesday, 6/3/15  
 Annual Meeting, Potluck Dinner. Members Show & Tell.  
 Board Meeting                        Monday, 6/8/15  
 Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting

**EXHIBITS**

Scranton Library  
     Hang                                Saturday, 11/29/14, Drop off 12:00-2:00  
     Judging                            Sunday, 11/30 or Monday, 12/1/14  
     Opening                            Thursday, 12/4/14, 6:30 to 8:00  
     Take down                        Saturday, 12/27/14, 9:00-5:00  
 Connecticut Hospice  
     Hang                                Saturday, 1/17/15, Drop off 12:00 – 2:00  
     Take Down                        Saturday, 2/28/15  
 Gladeview  
     Hang                                Saturday, 5/2/15, Drop off 12:00 – 2:00  
     Opening                            Wednesday, 5/6/15, 6:30 – 8:00  
     Take down                        Saturday 6/27/15