

Focal Plane

A Publication of the Ridgewood Camera Club

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Calendar for February 2009

11 Nature Competition	Judge	Roman Kurywczak
18 Program	Sardinia	Vincent Kempf
20 Workshop	Competition Image	Vincent Kempf
25 Ridgewood International Exhibition show.		

From the Editor

In this issue we would like to introduce to you Abby Beerman. Abby is a new and young member to our club, check out her credentials. In my opinion she is a very able competitor. Please welcome her.



Abby Beerman

Abby is a Junior at Glen Rock High School.

She has been interested in photography for many years with a special interest in black and white images.

She is the Photography Editor for the High School Literary and Art Magazine and the Secretary of the GRHS Photography Club.

Abby looks forward to the feedback from the competitions. The comments from the judges make her look at photographs in new ways and help her to understand how to look at photographs with an artist's eye.

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Monthly Bulletin of Ridgewood

Camera Club

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MR. LENS FLARE

2008-2009

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Ridgewood Camera Club



Breaking Free

The conventional wisdom among amateur photographers maintains that you should mount your camera on a tripod in order to obtain a good image. The problem with conventional wisdom is that it often results in conventional pictures. To take the creativity of your images to a higher level, I unabashedly propose the heretical idea of cutting the cable-release umbilical cord, tossing away your tripod (figuratively speaking), and experiencing the freedom of unfettered shooting. You may even find that, unencumbered by heavy equipment, your joy of the photographic experience is increased.

Of course there are times when a tripod is essential. Examples are in conditions of low-light, certain nature photography and macro work. But improvements in digital technology have made stationary shooting less critical than it once was. Better-quality, low-noise ISO sensitivity and image-stabilized lenses make hand-holding a camera a much more viable option than it once was. During post-processing the photographer has techniques for straightening horizons and cropping away distractions at the edges of the image frame that are so quick and easy to implement that the discipline once provided in the film era by using a tripod is largely negated.

I often see photographers so obsessed with setting up their tripod, making sure it's level, adjusting and readjusting the ball head, concentrating on that one set subject in front of them, that they miss out on a wealth of visual opportunities. Don't lock yourself into just shooting that lighthouse in front of you, take the time to examine the colors in the sand at your feet, the light reflecting off the sea, or the rapidly-shifting shadows cast across sand dunes. Become sensitive to the human story as it unfolds in the people about you and try to capture it. Shatter the rigidity of habit. Be open to finding something that has direct meaning for you or just has an inchoate resonance with your life experience -- something you can't express in words, but only in pictures. That's the real power of this medium.

Photography is as much about seeing as it is about technical skill. Seeing creatively is nothing more than being relaxed and open; looking around 360 degrees, with the freedom to see the close-up possibilities and the broad picture at the same time, viewing subjects from different angles and most importantly nurturing the spontaneity to react quickly to shifting lighting conditions and the changing relationships of subject matter. All these are made more difficult if your camera is attached to a bulky tripod. Sure, carry the tripod with you if you think you may need it -- and you might -- but only attach your camera to it after examining the totality of visual impressions surrounding you. You just may be surprised at what you find.

Print Competition

January 14 2009

Class B Mono

Honorable Mentions

Sam Ohan La Posada, AZ
 Katie Juhasz Walking in the Death Valley

Class B Color

Honorable Mentions

Sam Ohan Window Ice Crystals
 Lynn Ronan Inviting Lagoon
 Lynn Ronan Swiss Hillside
 John Paulyson Tiger Time
 John Paulyson What Do You See?
 Marc Beerman Blue Bird Couple
 John Paulyson Please...
 Bun Chan Brooklyn Bridge-125th Birthday
 Stephen Mantrom Bull Riding VII
 Karen Kleinman Moroccan Man

Class A Mono

Honorable Mentions

Della O'Malley Lantern with Rockport Harbor Reflected
 Della O'Malley Glade Creek Grist Mill
 Peter O'Malley Westminster Abbey Façade
 Peter O'Malley Amelia with Doll
 Peter O'Malley Beautifully Patterned Gull in Flight
 Vladimir Bykov Taltsi
 Connie Fox Half Dome, Yosemite

Awards

Eric Dong Uncle Li Smoking
 Fernando Lopez Taylor in Mommy's Lap

Class A Color

Honorable Mentions

Martin Joffe	Belmont No. 17
Della O'Malley.....	Barn Owl
Peter O'Malley	Pelican Portrait
Eric Dong.....	Sunset Claming
Jerry Fornarotto	Bass Harbor Lighthouse
Jerry Fornarotto	Wood Duck on Golden Water
Vladimir Bykov	LBI Lighthouse
Connie Fox	Blue Heron Along the Shore
Fernando Lopez	Framed Beauty

Awards

Rich Gheno	Lonely Vigil
Della O'Malley	Beautiful Clematis
Peter O'Malley.....	Woodstork Fishing with Reflection

Pictorial Competition

January 21 2009

Ark Gorban was judging

B Group

Honorable Mentions

Sam Ohan	Canyon Coffee Sky
Sam Ohan	Golden Chalice
John Paulyson	Will You Buy?
Bob Peltz.....	Dawn at Mono Lake
Lynn Ronan	Honfleur Harbor
Laura Warren	Halcyon Day
Laura Warren	Making Snow at Daybreak
Jane Kicks.....	Benches
Peter Brannigan	Barcelona 'Bic(k)ing'
Lynn Lander	Street Vendor Series - Faceless Transactions #1
Stephen Mantrom	Shawnee Bullrider XVII

Awards

Peter Brannigan.....	Savannah Street Musician
George Campbell	Winter
Cody Min	Billiards Shove
John Paulyson	Halong Thumb
Dave Pierson	come dance with me

A Group

Honorable Mentions

Vladimir Bykov	Snowball
Joe Cuomo	Cathedral Rock #3
Joe Cuomo	Rome's Backyard
Jerry Fornarotto	Lynx Stare
Marjorie Forrest.....	Orchid Lady
Connie Fox	Ear of the Wind, Monument Valley
Connie Fox	Half Dome
Rich Gheno	Arizona Skies #2
Rich Gheno	Peppas
Martin Joffe	Night Heron Feeding on a Crab
Norman Johnson	A Pair of Cougars
Marie Kane	Teton View
Stanley Kantor	Cat on a Window Sill

Florence Kantor	Pittsburgh Dusk
Vinnie Kempf.....	Snowboarder
Camille LaPlaca-Post.....	Orange Shutters
Joyce Levine	the newest fashion
Nancy Merena.....	Bar Harbor Boats
Maggie Molino.....	Pink Geometry
Peter O'Malley	Daytona Surfer
Della O'Malley	Monarch Resting on a Leave
Della O'Malley	Multi-Colored Iris
Don Phillip.....	Velvet Amaryllis
Joe Placer	Autumn on the Saddle River
Dieter Steinmeyer	only one way out
Tibor Vari.....	Lunchtime Flight
Tibor Vari.....	Yellow Leaf Road

Awards

Jerry Fornarotto	Lake MacDonald
Jerry Fornarotto	New Harbor
Connie Fox	Surfer
George Garbeck.....	Summer Peaches
George Garbeck.....	Taste of Winter II
Maggie Molino	Humble Beginnings
Joe Placer.....	Moon over White Sands

**Marie's
Image of the Month
For
January**



**Snowball
By
Vladimir Bykov**

We meet on the 2nd, 3rd & 4th Wednesday of the month at 8:00 pm
The Woman's Club of Wyckoff, 176 Wyckoff Ave. Wyckoff. NJ
Guests are always welcome at regular meetings

Assigned Subjects for the 2008/2009 Season
Waterfalls



Ridgewood Camera Club

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