

Focal Plane

Volume 69 Issue 10

June 2006

Think:
Patterns and Creative
For Next Season

Have a Nice Summer

From the Editor

Where did the season go?

This is our last issue until September, not too far off really

Many thanks to all of you who contributed to the Focal Plane it was a great help to bring some variety to our news letter. Hope you all have a great summer and be able to take lots of pictures or do we call them images now. Don't forget the editor in the dark basement trying to put the Focal Plane together I will be looking for articles in September.

On page 7 you'll find an invitation to the Paterson Youth Photography Project. PYPP Flourishes under the dedicated leadership of Gwenn Levine with active support from Rich Gheno and Andy McDonough, all members of the Ridgewood Camera Club. I attended last year's opening and came away feeling good about what I saw. The kids created some great images. Very uninhibited since they don't worry what a judge would say. The pictures can be viewed until July 31st, but the opening adds a lot of extra ambiance to the event because you get to meet the kids and see how proud they are.

Dieter



Correction

Somewhere in the vast RCC. computer network an error occurred. Some bits and bytes got lost on Karen Kruger's total score for the season.

To set the record straight here are the corrected scores.

P- 60, N-70, A-11 Total 141

The faulty computer had its bit bucket emptied and the electrons polished.

Jerry's Tech Tip

Better color corrections

Choosing Image

>Adjustments>Auto Color automatically color-corrects your image. For better results, however, choose Image>Adjustments>Curves, click the Options button, and use the following settings: Find Dark & Light Colors, Snap Neutral Midtones, Shadow Clip .05, and Highlight Clip .05. Then turn on the Save as defaults checkbox and click OK. The next time you use Auto Color, you should get better results.

Greater sharpening control

For a more intense type of sharpening, use Filter>Other>High Pass on a duplicate of the layer that you want to sharpen. Change the layer's Blend Mode to Overlay, Soft Light, or Hard light. Smaller High Pass settings emphasize tiny details in the image where you need to keep the tiny details (such as wrinkles) unsharpened. You can reduce the opacity of the sharpening layer and mask areas to keep them from sharpening. It gives you total flexibility

Sharpening an image

When you reduce an image's size or import it from a digital camera, it usually needs some sharpening—the amount depends on the output method for the image. Several books recommend changing the image into Lab mode and only sharpening the Luminosity channel, but here's an easier way to do the same thing: Choose Filter>Sharpen>Unsharp Mask, apply the settings that you want, then choose Edit>Fade Unsharp Mask, and alter the Blend Mode to Luminosity. As an added benefit, you can also reduce the amount of the sharpening at the same time if you feel that you've applied too much.

Focal Plane

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Monthly Bulletin of Ridgewood Camera Club

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MR LENS FLARE

2005-2006

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President's Farewell Message

As another successful Club year draws to an end we have a great deal to look back upon and feel good about. Ridgewood Camera Club continues to grow and prosper both from a membership and a financial position. During the year we saw a steady move by our members into digital photography so much so that digitally projected images clearly outnumbered slide entries in our projected image competitions. This year the Club hosted the first ever New Jersey Federation of Camera Clubs digital image competition. Next year our PSA sanctioned International Salon will offer entrants the option of submitting digital images, something that should strengthen this premier competition and make it more attractive to competitors and ensure its continued success for years to come.

Our Club continues to be a force in the competitive arena. During the year members earned numerous ribbons in both slide and print competitions held by both the New Jersey Federation of Camera Clubs and the PSA. We were also successful in defending last year's win in the annual Tri-Club Competition by again walking away with the trophy in what was a close and very spirited competition that included both slides and digital images submitted by all three clubs.

The strength of the Club continues to lie in the Executive Committee membership. This year we tackled a number of controversial issues and came away with resolution on all of them. I personally want to thank everyone for the positive and constructive manner in which we dealt with these issues. While a number of positions on the Committee became vacant during the year others chipped in and filled the void. Help was extended by a number of caring people who made repeated contributions of their time and energy and this made possible such things as the Holiday Party and the weekly 50/50 fundraiser. And, continuing with the excellence demonstrated in the past few years, our Program and Workshop offerings were outstanding with the best of these being presented by our own members. Thanks to all for a job well done. You can be proud of your Club.

Have a safe and enjoyable summer. See you in September.

Fred

Print Competition Changes

I just wanted to summarize some changes for next season's print competitions, especially for those who have not yet read the changes posted in the competition rules. Some changes are meant to simplify & shorten the competition nights and other changes were specified by the NJFCC.

The first change is that we will only have two print categories next season – Color and Black & White (Monochrome). Within these two categories you can choose to submit either self processed “By Maker” or “Trade” prints. You will still be able to submit up to 3 prints in each category (max of 6 prints total), only now it will be just Color and B&W. We still want you to specify on the backs of your prints whether they are “By Maker” or “Trade” because the NJFCC will still compete in these categories and the print chairman needs to identify them properly.

The NJFCC print chairman wants to increase the number of prints that each club can submit for NJFCC print competitions (18 in each category), but to do that without breaking his back he has decided to reduce the bulk of the prints. What that means is the NJFCC will only allow prints to be submitted that are mounted with a single mat board as a backing with no overlaying cut-out mat over the print. There are different methods of mounting prints this way, such as mounting sprays and dry-mount tissues, but one of the best methods is self-adhesive mounting boards. Self-adhesive boards can be purchased from a company called Coda in Mahwah. For NJFCC entries you will only be able to use single standard weight mat boards, which means no heavy weight or foam core boards. RCC will still allow you to submit prints that have been matted with overlaying mats or foam core, but if your prints win awards they will not be eligible to be sent to the statewide competitions of the NJFCC. One way for our club to benefit from this change is to maximize the number of prints entered into our own club competitions in order to have a better chance of submitting the maximum number of prints to the NJFCC.

The last change that I want to mention is that although I have been honored to be the RCC print chairman for the past 5 years, I'm going to take a break from the responsibility at this time. Connie Fox is going to take over as the print chairperson. I wish her well in her new role and look forward to another great year of competition at the club next year. Hope you all have a great summer and come back with terrific new photos.

Peter O'Malley

Results of the Annual Competition

Black & White: Prints

HMs:

Water Lily Close Up	R. Gheno
Adorable Kitten	D. O'Malley
Barred Owl Portrait	P. O'Malley

Merit Awards:

Red Eyeglasses.....	F. Lopez
Portrait of Krisi	F. Lopez

Winner:

Virginia Through The Gates	P. O'Malley
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Color by Maker: Prints

HMs:

Night Flying Cecropia.....	M. Forrest
Day's End Draws Near, Emerald Lake	F. Helfst
Balcony in Scaicca.....	C. LaPlaca-Post
Dahlia.....	J. Levine
Inseparable	F. Lopez
Piano Key Butterfly	D. O'Malley
America the Beautiful.....	D. O'Malley
Pink Columbine	D. O'Malley
Portland Head Light at Day's End	P. O'Malley
Colorful Finch.....	P. O'Malley
African Papoose	A. Parseghian
Heron's Striking Thrust	A. Parseghian

Merit Award:

Grist Mill on Glade Creek.....	Fred Helfst
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Winner:

Babcock Grist Mill in Fall	J. Fornarotto
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Trade Prints

HMs:

A Wild Rose.....	Ara Chakarian
High and Dry.....	Ara Chakarian
Always Together	Fernando Lopez
Great Blue Heron at the Rookery.....	Della O'Malley

Winner:

Japanese Peony Detail.....	Della O'Malley
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Annual Pictorial:

HMs:

No. 116.....	J. Fornarotto
Babcock Grist Mill #2.....	J. Fornarotto
Spicebush Swallowtail	J. Fornarotto
Riders of the Summer Wind	R. Gheno
Late Autumn Stream	R. Gheno
Mating Skippers	M. Kane
Clematis Duo	D. O'Malley
Peony.....	D. Steinmeyer
Blue Iris.....	D. Steinmeyer

Winner:

Cactus Flower	D. Steinmeyer
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Annual Nature:

HMs:

Heron Take-off.....	C. Fox
Osprey Losing a Morsel.....	V. Kempf
Roseate Spoonbill	V. Kempf
Cormorant Drying Off	K. Kruger
Soaring Sea Gull	P. O'Malley
A Good Catch	D. O'Malley
View of the Totem Poles.....	T. Vari

Merit Awards:

Argiope Spider Wrapping a Hornet ..	J. Fornarotto
Female Eastern Bluebird with Caterpillar	J. Fornarotto
White Ibis in Grass.....	J. Fornarotto
Snowy Egret Catching Shrimp.....	P. O'Malley
El Capitan Snow Mounds	T. Vari

Winner:

Long Billed Curlew with Crab.....	K. Kruger
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Our Workshop on Saturday May 20



And it didn't rain



NJFCC TOPS Print Competition 2005-06

Mono

Honorable Mention

Virginia Through the Gate

Peter O'Malley

2nd Place Medal

Curves

Fernando Lopez

Color

Honorable Mentions

Three Orchids

Marjorie Forrest

Crane Flight Sequence

Douglas Goodell

Manikin

Kenneth Licht

Horse in Ice

Craig Reding

Please join us at a reception to kick off the annual exhibit of children's photography, entitled "Portrait of Paterson", by the . . .

Paterson Youth Photography Project (PYPP)

Time: 5:15 PM – 6:00 PM Preview & Refreshments
 6:00 PM – 6:45 PM Program

Date: Thursday, June 8, 2006

Place: Paterson Museum
 2 Market Street
 Paterson, NJ 07501
Exhibit: June 1 – July 31, 2006

RSVP: *No later than June 4, 2006*

RSVP to Gwenn Levine at
gkl@verizon.net or 201-391-7663
Leave message → indicate "PYPP reception" and
number of people who plan to attend

The Assigned Subjects for The 2006/2007 Season Are: Creative and Patterns

Fred Helfst will have an exhibit of color prints at the Glen Rock Public Library from June 1st thru to the end of the month. His photos, together with the work of another local artist, will be exhibited in The Gallery section of the library. The library is located at the intersection of Rock Road and Maple Avenue in Glen Rock, NJ. The parking lot is to the rear and is entered from Hamilton Avenue which also intersects Maple Avenue. Library hours are Monday - Thursday 9:00 am - 9:00 pm, Friday 9:00 am to 5:30 pm and Saturday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.

Chick Chakarian will be presenting my show on " Alaska" at the Ridgewood Library at 12:30 PM on June 21.

RCC. The traveling Ridgewood Camera Club print exhibit will be at the Hillsdale Library for the month of July. The library is at the corner of Yesler Way and Hillsdale Ave.



Ridgewood Camera Club

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