

Focal Plane

A Publication of the Ridgewood Camera Club

Volume 70 Issue 7

March 2007



March Calendar

7 Executive Committee
14 Program Fun with Photoshop
21 Pictorial Competition
28 Nature Competition

Marianne Badala
Florence Robin, NJFC
Judge David DesRochers
Judge Ben Venezia NJFC

From the Editor

Have you noticed? The days are getting longer that means spring can't be far away.

But mother nature can't always be trusted. For that reason I included the very official snow policy on page 4 just in case we are getting a snow storm in March.

Thank you Stanley Kantor and Chick Chakarian for contributing articles this month. There are only three more opportunities to enter articles before the end of another camera club season. Just think people as far away as Hoboken, Florida or even China can read your article.

In order to fill the rest of this column I will show you some images of an amazing Amaryllis.

Dieter



Jerry's Tech Tips

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.

Chick Wrote

Our lecturer for March 14th is Florence Robin, NJFC of Cherry Hill, N. J. Her show will present interesting techniques to create new images.

The title of her show is "Lets Have Fun in Photoshop".

Chick

Focal Plane

Dieter Steinmeyer

Editor

201-652-3031

dsteinmeyer@verizon.net

Website - <http://www.ridgewoodcameraclub.org>

Monthly Bulletin of Ridgewood Camera Club

Member PSA & NJFCC

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Vinnie Kempf

Techno Editor

MR LENS FLARE

2005-2006

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How We Spent Our Vacation

Last September 15th, we set out on our yearly cross country motorhome trip to visit our two children in California, stopping along the way, as usual, to visit national parks and other photogenic areas. Our first stop was in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, rumored to have Autumn leaf displays that rival or beat those in New England.

After arriving there, 1200 miles from home, we noticed that our vehicle had developed some serious front end problems.



Luckily, we found an excellent repair facility within walking distance from our campground. We spent the next four days there. Those four days felt like forever. Florence told the mechanics that we would tell our friends that this is where we spent our vacation! However, after those four days, we discovered that the area's reputation for fall foliage is valid. The leaf displays were brilliant, long lasting, and everywhere.

After leaving Michigan, we visited California's Mount Lassen Volcanic National Park, an area not well known outside of California. There, we found beautiful mountain scenes, and a thermal area similar to, but in some respects prettier than those in Yellowstone.



When we left the national park, we went to God's Country (the north California coast) where our children live, and had a wonderful visit with them.

We returned home on November 15th, after driving 10,000 miles.

By Florence and Stan Kantor

Our 24th – A Dual Projection International

Ridgewood Camera Club took immediate action to take advantage of the option of going Dual Projection. This meant we would receive digital as well as slide film entries to our International.

The response to our International from photographers domestic and foreign provided us a slightly higher total entry than last year. The first increase in years.

The purpose of an International is to provide an exhibition of its top scoring slides. This to energize you in to doing more in your photographic hobby. For the entrants into an International, the goal is to get acceptances. 30 to 35 percent of the entrants earn acceptances.

To reach the one star level, you need 30 acceptances using, at least, six titles. To get to two star, requires 80 acceptances using, at least, 16 titles. The three star level is reached when one has 160 acceptances with, at least, 36 titles. The four star level is reached when one has 320 acceptances with at least 64 titles. Five star requires 640 acceptances with, at least, 128 titles. Marie is five star in this division, I am four star. Marie is also 4 star in Nature. Marjorie Forrest in now going for her second Galaxy. That is a whole new ball game. All previous titles no longer count. Marjorie has stars in other divisions, too.

A successful salon is only possible when club members pitch in to make it a success. We have that kind of members and hence have the successful International respected world wide.

Chick



What is It?

The Nature Division recommends exhibitors use descriptive titles on images they submit to International Nature Exhibitions. Cute or incorrect titles can actually hurt an image's score when titles are read during judging, a common practice for Nature Exhibitions. Outside of exhibitions, the Nature Division encourages nature photographers to know about their subjects to help them take strong storytelling images of these subjects instead of just "Here I Am" shots. Guide books are not always sufficient for this.

The Nature Division Identification Service helps PSA members who submit their Work on Nature Subjects to be correctly identified. Images submitted for identification may be slides or electronic, with electronic images preferred. If the subject of a slide cannot be immediately identified, it will be scanned and the original image returned to the member so it will not be tied up or possibly lost. Images definitely do not have to be competition quality but they should be sharp enough to reveal details necessary to distinguish one species from another. A series of images of the same subject from different angles or that include habitat and potential food sources provide the service even more clues. Please indicate the location and the time of year that the image was taken when submitting images. Note that location and time for images taken at a zoo is not very helpful. Under those circumstances it is best to go to the Zoo Staff for help in identifying your subject. Please contact Daniel Charbonnet, ddrc3@msn.com, to find out how to submit images for identification and to find out what additional information is required to accompany the image.

Jerry

To All RCC Members:

In the event of winter weather conditions that would require the cancellation of our regular club meetings, please follow these procedures.

As RCC President, I will contact the chairpersons responsible for judges or presenters and the RCC website to determine the need to cancel a meeting and inform everyone of the decision. We will try to make cancellation decisions by 5:30 pm in order to provide adequate notice to everyone. This is especially true for judges or presenters that may need to travel a long distance to come to our location.

Once a decision has been made to cancel a meeting, Vinnie Kempf will update the RCC website with the cancellation notice and the appropriate chairperson will contact any visiting judges or presenter. All Executive Board members will be notified of the cancellation.

Other RCC club members should use the RCC website as the primary source of cancellation information.

The website Cancellation page can be found at http://www.ridgewoodcameraclub.org/meeting_cancellation.htm

If you don't have access to the website, then you can call any Executive Board member to find out the status of the meeting.



NJFCC**Marie Kane**

The New Jersey Federation of Camera Clubs Tops in NJ – Nature competition was held February 21st at Ridgewood

Of the 32 entries from RCC, 12 received recognition! The results are shown below.

Merit Awards:

Connie Fox Black Crowned Night Heron
 George Hall Great Egret in Flight
 Peter O'Malley Eurasian Eagle Owl

Honorable Mentions:

Jerry Fornarotto Argiope Spider Wrapping a Hornet
 Rich Gheno Langur Monkey Nursing Her Infant
 Norman Johnson Cougar on Kill
 Marie Kane Bull Elk
 Karen Kruger Reddish Egret under Canopy
 Camille La Placa-Post Barn Owl
 Maggie Molino Munching on a Stick
 Toby Spector Question Mark Butterfly #2
 Laurie Spina Just Chillin

Many thanks to the members of RCC for assisting in the setup and running of the competition.



CLASS A - February 2007

	P	A	N	T
V. Kempf	66	25	68	159*
R. Gheno	66	25	66	157*
P. O'Malley	68	20	69	157*
M. Forrest	71	17	67	155*
M. Molino	69	20	65	154*
T. Spector	72	20	62	154*
M. Kane	68	19	64	151*
A. Parseghian	64	21	66	151*
C. Fox	59	21	68	148*
C. LaPlaca-Post	66	22	60	148*
D. O'Malley	67	18	59	144*
F. Crommelin	68	20	55	143*
D. Steinmeyer	63	17	63	143*
A. Gunther	50	16	60	126*
N. Johnson	57	-	66	123
A. Simpson	64	7	39	110
J. Fornarotto	65	-	42	107
A. Vaccaro	40	18	39	97
G. Hall	38	20	36	94
F. Helfst	22		66	88
N. Merena	36	-	50	86
F. Lopez	36	-	19	55
J. Schilling	35	-	20	55
J. Levine	18	-	18	36
K. Licht	17		18	35
D. Phillip			21	21
J. Becker			19	19
A. Chakarian	19	-	-	19

CLASS B- February 2007

	P	A	N	T
J. Placer	62	19	56	137*
S Szostak	58	21	54	133*
K Kruger	63		67	130
L Spina	45		39	84
R Kane	21		37	58
E Dong	25		11	36
C Redding	16		18	34
E Marchese	20	6		26
G Hawthorne			18	18
M. Redding	12		6	18
J Bookman	16			16

Totals

Prints February 2007

Class B Black & White

Eric Dong	21
Joe Placer	14

Class B Color

L. Spina	72*
A. Gunther	63*
J. Placer	30
S. Szostak	23
J. H. Dong	21
G. Hawthorne	19
B. Chan	18
M. Jones	14

CLASS A PRINTS B&W

P. O'Malley	71
M. Forrest	70
R. Gheno	66
J. Schilling	65
F. Lopez	58
C. Fox	49
B. Kane	23
C. LaPlaca-Post	12
A. Vaccaro	8

Color

R. Gheno	73
S. Kantor	72
P. O'Malley	72
C. Fox	70
F. Helfst	70
F. Kantor	70
M. Forrest	68
C. LaPlaca-Post	65
F. Lopez	63
A. Parseghian	63
A. Chakarian	62
J. Schilling	60
N. Johnson	40
A. Vaccaro	32
B. Kane	25
M. Molino	24
D. Steinmeyer	18
B. Winston	6

We meet on the 2nd, 3rd & 4th Wednesday of the month at 7:30 pm
The Woman's Club of Wyckoff, 176 Wyckoff Ave. Wyckoff. NJ
Guests are always welcome at regular meetings

Assigned Subject for the 2005/2006 Season
Creative



Ridgewood Camera Club

**19 Smithfield Rd
Waldwick NJ. 07463**