

Focal Plane

Volume 67 Issue 3

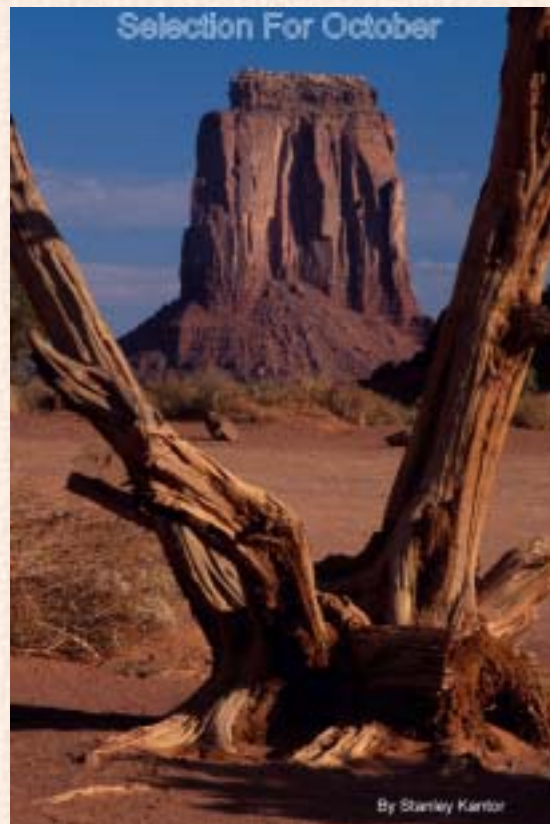
November 2003

A Publication of the Ridgewood Camera Club

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



November 2003 Calendar

- 05 Executive Committee MTG..... Host: Stanley & Florence Kantor
12 Nature Competition (N2)..... Judge: Howard Knauer
19 Print Competition (Pr-2) Judge: Heinz Otto
26 NO MEETING HAPPY THANKSGIVING

November Workshops

7. Flash Photography.....Vinnie Kempf
21. Slide Critique..... Marie Kane

November Field Trips

15. Bronx Zoo Donna Young

Happy Thanksgiving

Letter to the Editor:

A Modest Proposal

Caused in part by increased membership and participation in competitions, the trend over the last couple of years has been toward longer club meetings. This is not a good thing. Guests get up and leave halfway through meetings, the gentle sound of snoring harmonizes with the whirr of the projector and the refreshment chairperson may soon have to consider breakfast fare in lieu of cookies and soda.

I would like to present a modest proposal to streamline meetings: eliminate the awards presentation that takes place at the beginning of each meeting for last weeks regular in-club competition winners. I know this may sound like heresy, but think about it for a minute. This is a triple redundancy. The award-winners have already received recognition for their work on the night of the competition (which is more meaningful since the audience has actually seen the works being heralded); secondly, these winners will have a permanent record of their scores on their file card; and thirdly, their achievements will be trumpeted to the world via the Focal Plane, so who needs those little strips of cardboard? (The only good use that I've found for them is as bookmarkers). With the increased number of awards being granted, this could easily shave 5 – 10 minutes off meeting length as well as save the club the modest but unnecessary cost of printing these strips. Of course, the announcement and presentation of awards for outside competitions and special events should be continued as this is the

primary source of that information.

I would wish the powers-that-be to take up this suggestion at their next pow-wow, with the added hope that any discussion resulting from this proposal would not add too much to the length of that meeting!

-- The Nikonoclast (signed)

From the Editor.

Thanks to our contributors this month, Bob & Jean Bader, Alice Gunther and Pat Gordon. At first I thought to spread these three articles out over the next three issues, but then again I am sure somebody will come forward with something for next month. We had another successful field trip this month, come on out and join us sometime, you might like it.

Dieter

Photo Ops.

The photo ops are getting a little more scarce this time of the year.

The frost covered weeds and grasses or even bare trees with the right kind of light on them are not bad. If the weather gets too bad there is the Bronx Zoo with some good indoor exhibits or you can practice portraits with window light. There is no reason to let the camera get dusty just because it's winter time.

Focal Plane

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Monthly Bulletin of Ridgewood Camera Club

Member PSA & NJFCC

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2003-2004
Club Officers

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Marie Kelleher

Competition Secretary
Helen Chakarian

Competition Secretary
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Pictorial Competition October 22, 2003 Judge: Dr. Phil Echo

Class B

Honorable Mentions

- Purple Velvet Iris C. LaPlaca Post
- A Gathering Storm J. Placer
- Always Together.....F. Lopez

Awards

- Prisoner in Fortress, Cortona, ItalyP. Gordon
- Misty Morning..... N. Merena

Class A

Honorable Mentions

- Islander Fish Pier..... L. Vinecour
- Sand Shadows L. Vinecour
- Water Lily F. Alam
- Liquid Gold V. Kempf
- Rock Climber Yosemite J. Fornarotto
- Fall Comes to Stony Brook R. Gheno
- Monument Valley Mittens..... S. Kantor
- Bleeding Heart #3..... V. Kempf
- The Gorge at Queeche, Vt. D. Phillips
- A Classic New Hampshire Stream..... T. Vari
- Canoeing for color..... R. Gheno

Awards

- Sea Holly V. Kempf
- Pinnacle National Monument..... S. Kantor
- Mono Lake Tranquility T. Vari
- Curves at Paria Canyon T. Vari
- Striking Dahlia D. O'Malley
- Peacock Feather..... J. Fornarotto

Sponsors

The Executive Committee had a great idea a few years ago to assign each new member a sponsor. The purpose of the sponsor was to provide each new member with an initial friend to make them feel at home, to acquaint them with other club members and to answer or direct any questions they might have concerning photography or the club. There was however one minor flaw, we forgot to tell the new members about their sponsor! We are going to correct that flaw and new members will be made aware of their sponsors and introduced to their sponsor by the Membership Chairman. We will also put new member's sponsor's names on the website, in the Members Only section on the Sponsors page, so in case you forget their name you can look it up. Any member who joined in the last few years desiring to know who their sponsor is can contact the Membership chairman. Loretta Lembo, and she will look it up from their membership application and inform them. We will also update the website with that information.

PSA Competition Results For October 2003

- A.Gunther..... Lake Superior Sunset 12
- D. Steinmeyer..... Pasque Flower 13
- R. Gheno Autumn Angling 12
- H. Becker Mt. Edith Cavel..... 11
- P. O'Malley Dogwood Pair 11
- L. Becker A Peaceful Pond..... 9



Print Competition October 08 2003

Judge: Keli Dougherty

Class B

Black and White

Honorable Mentions

Mid Morning Mooring..... K. Licht
Dry Dock Lift K. Licht

Awards

Visiting Rockport K. Licht
Paterson Falls #10..... B. Ullman

Color by Maker

Honorable Mentions

Even in a Drought F. Helfst
Peacock's Posterior J. Levine
Paterson Falls..... J. Levine

Awards

Beauty in the Pond F. Helfst
Sunrise Smokies #6..... B. Ullman

Trade Prints

Honorable Mentions

Monarch.....D. O'Malley
Wisp in the Canyon..... A. Parseghian
Lion Closeup.....D. Young
Cruiser ButterflyM. Kelleher
Snapshots.....A. Parseghian
Heron on the HuntD. Young
Stargazer LilyD. O'Malley
Tying Up.....A. Chakarian

Awards

Tomato Study..... A. Parseghian

Class A

Black and White

Honorable Mentions

Pensacola Pelican D. O'Malley
Clematis.....D. O'Malley
ArchesD. Steinmeyer
Moment of Prayer..... M. Molino

Awards

Artist Stuart Kaylin.....G. Garbeck

Color by Maker

Honorable Mentions

Burrowing OwlJ. Fornarotto
Lake Como HuesG. Garbeck
Aztec LilyD. Steinmeyer
Lighthouse in Watercolor.....J. Fornarotto
Scenic ZionD. O'Malley
Stargazer Lily.....P. O'Malley
BloomingM. Molino
Great southern WhiteD. O'Malley
Through A Glass DarklyG. Garbeck
Row upon Row of Hoodoos.....P. O'Malley

Awards

Still Life Study F. Alam
Dragonfly D. O'Malley
Monarch on Coneflower.....P. O'Malley



Class A October 2003

CLASS A	P	A	N	TOTAL
V. Kempf	48	0	25	73*
J. Fornarotto	44	0	25	69*
S. Kantor	47	0	22	69*
T. Vari	46	0	21	67*
R. Gheno	40	0	21	61*
P. O'Malley	39	0	22	61*
D. O'Malley	39	0	18	57*
D. Steinmeyer	40	0	17	57*
J. Becker	35	0	21	56*
D. Phillip	39	0	17	56*
M. Kelleher	34	0	21	55*
A. Simpson	33	0	22	55*
A. Parseghian	35	0	18	53*
A. Gunther	35	0	17	52*
R. Bader	32	0	16	48*
F. Alam	39	0	0	39
L. Vincour	39	0	0	39
D. Friedman	19	0	19	38
A. Chakarian	36	0	0	36
G. Levine	18	0	17	35
T. Spector	18	0	17	35
B. Bain	20	0	0	20

Class B October 2003

	P	A	N	TOTAL
C. La Placa Post	38		17	55*
M. Badala	33		16	49*
L. Lembo	34		15	49*
B. Fox	22		17	39
D. Young	39			39
N. Merena	38			38
P. Gordon	20			20
F. Lopez	19			19
J. Placer	19			19

Class B Prints October 2003**Black & White by Maker:**

K. Licht	25*
B. Ullmann	23*
J. Levine	13*

Color by Maker:

F. Helfst	24*
J. Levine	22*
B. Ullmann	22*
K. Licht	19*
B. Fox	18*
B. Winston	13

Class A Prints October 2003**Black & White by Maker:**

G. Garbeck	23*
D. O'Malley	23*
P. O'Malley	21*
F. Alam	20*
R. Gheno	20*
J. Schilling	19*
M. Molino	8
D. Steinmeyer	8
J. Fornarotto	7

Color By Maker:

D. O'Malley	25*
P. O'Malley	25*
J. Fornarotto	23*
G. Garbeck	23*
M. Molino	22*
D. Steinmeyer	22*
F. Alam	21*
R. Gheno	21*
J. Schilling	21*

PRINTS - TRADE - OCT. 2003

A. Parseghian	25*
D. O'Malley	23*
D. Young	23*
A. Chakarian	22*
M. Kelleher	21*
A. Gunther	20*
B. Fox	18*

* Denotes entered 3 slides in all competitions

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This past summer, Jean and I went three times to assist Gwenn Levine at the Paterson Youth Photography Project. We were greatly impressed how Gwenn handled the two classes of children between the ages of 10–14. What marvelous patience she has.

Just a short synopsis of what is done. Each student is loaned a camera and film, and taught how to use it and care for it. There were classes on composition and simplifying. The students experimented in class taking photos of each other. There was a class on critique, the difference between criticism and critique. The student was asked to identify their best photo and say why. They went on several field trips that were near the YMCA, such as the County Administrative building, to the downtown area taking portraits and people.

Gwenn took the film after each class and had it developed so they could see it the following week. The children would print their names on the back of their “best” prints and leave them with Gwenn and Russ (the other teacher)

The children were allowed to take the cameras home and experiment taking photos of family and friends etc. At the end of class season when cameras and cases were collected, each student received an album for their photos. Each student showed his or her selected photos in their album and told what they have learned. Each student received a prize for funniest, most creative, most original, most serious, most beautiful, most unusual, etc.

After the course was over the children’s photos were exhibited at the Paterson Museum where the best photos were matted and framed and hung up for all to see. Family and friends attended with complimentary words from many dignitaries from Paterson and local colleges. I do not know any of the others except our Richard Gheno who has given his time and effort to this project. Once more we want to say how extremely impressed with the project and the handling of it by Gween Levine.

Jean and Bob Bader

Eastern State Penitentiary: Sunday, September 28 & Manhattan Bridge/“DUMBO” – Brooklyn/Brooklyn Bridge/ Chinatown: Saturday, October 18

When the calendar of events was published this past September, I was delighted to read the Club was going to have field trips. If you are a brand-new member (I joined in November 2002), a field trip is definitely a great “ice-breaker”; the RCC members are very friendly and quite helpful in answering all photography questions. The word “attitude” is not in the RCC vocabulary.

After visiting ESP and having the distinct honor of being one of The Jailhouse Ten, I was hooked and couldn’t wait to hear where we’d be going next. While at the “Big House”, we were able to roam freely and photograph to our hearts content. There was always an RCC member nearby to offer advice on how to or what to capture on film. The prison is now a museum and will be refurbished in due course, so I found it fascinating that we saw it in its as-is state. We took a brunch break and enjoyed a great meal at Jack’s, a former old firehouse across the street from ESP, returning to the jail to finish taking last-minute photos before heading home.

As with the ESP trip, the DUMBO field trip was also outstanding. We parked the cars on the outskirts of Chinatown, walked through the area and meandered across the Manhattan Bridge, affording us the opportunity to take photos of the streets below, as well as the East River. And since we’re all chocoholics, a visit to Jacques Torres, the famous chocolate shop in Brooklyn, was a must for their to-die-for hot chocolate and a “bite” to eat before fine-dining on the Brooklyn pier of slices of pizza from Grimaldi’s Pizza (another landmark), followed by home-made ice cream. While on the pier, we had an impromptu “photo session” with a fun group of members of a wedding party. On a solemn note, we also photographed the damaged Staten Island Ferry as it was going up the East River. We then crossed the Brooklyn Bridge into Chinatown, “snapping” away until we arrived at our cars.

If anyone would like to take a one-day vacation, an RCC field trip is the ticket. Once the camera is in our hands, we become children for the day. If you enjoy looking for new photo ops at every turn, congenial company, an abundance of laughter and delicious food, I’ll see you on the next field trip.

Pat Gordon



Members of RCC on the coast of Oregon

From left to right Marie Kelleher, Joan Oppen, Elodie Driscoll (life member), Marianne Badala, Marie Kane and Alice Gunther.

This summer Marie, Joan, Marianne and Alice signed up for a Phototreks tour of the coast of Oregon. They were surprised to learn that that the other two members of the tour (It is limited to seven.) were also RCC members, Marie Kane and Elodie Driscoll who is a life member of RCC. They all arrived in Portland, Oregon on August 15, the day before the tour was to begin so they had time to take a tour of Portland a beautiful, clean city.

The next day they joined the tour and drove south to the California border and began to move north along the Oregon coast enjoying the invigorating, clear weather and the many sea stacks along the way.

Lots of photographs were taken and you should be seeing them in competitions.

Our Bridge Walk Fieldtrip October 18



Not shown is Steven Basch and Nancy Lamb who took the picture

RCC November Field Trip With Donna Bronx Zoo

Date: Saturday November 15th (Rain date Sunday November 16th)

Meeting Place: Fleet Bank Parking Lot - Northeast corner of Garden State Plaza (we will set up car-pools)

Time: 9:15 a.m.

After two very exciting field trips, this month we are going to stay a little closer to home and have a more relaxed pace for our field trip. A familiar field trip destination, the Bronx Zoo at over 100 years old is considered the flagship of the largest network of metropolitan zoos in the country. It is the heart of the Wildlife Conservation Society, working to save wildlife and wild places around the globe. We will have the opportunity to photograph any number of the 4,000 plus animals at the zoo including the Western lowland gorillas in the Congo Gorilla Forest and the spectacular tigers at the newly opened Tiger Mountain.

Cost of admission is \$8/\$6 for seniors. There is an additional charge of \$3 for the Congo Gorilla Forest. Parking is \$7 per car. Zoo hours are 10-4:30 p.m. We will have lunch at the zoo.

There will be a sign up sheet on the piano at the November 12th meeting. You can also call me or send an email to let me know if you're coming. I hope that we will see some of our new members this trip!



Ridgewood Camera Club

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