

DEVELOPMENTS



Memphis
Camera
Club

April 2007 · www.memphiscameraclub.org

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The Big Apple Chapter 1

—Barry Siegel

In October of this past year, my wife and I went on a photography trip to New York City. Exhaustive research and planning for the trip was done by my favorite travel agent, Marlene. She discovered in her research that the Camera Club of New York was having an exhibition the night of our arrival, actually their 2006 National Photography Competition with entries from all over the United States. This is the camera club that had as its members or as exhibitors Alfred Stieglitz, Edward Steichen, Margaret Bourke-White, Edward Weston, and Ansel Adams among others. The camera club was founded in 1888 and you can read about its history here: http://www.cameraclubofnewyork.org/history_long.html By the way, the dues are \$75 a year so Blair and I don't want to hear any moaning again when its collection time this fall.

Getting around New York being what it is, we arrived toward the end of the exhibition. The room was quite meager, 14 x 25 feet in size, I think. The food and wine were long gone and even the cups. Now I see the purpose of those gallon size cups of emergency water rations that everyone seems to carry around these days. Well anyway, the judge (not judges) for the exhibition was Antonin Kratochvil, a world-renowned photojournalist. Kudos to him, for he must have skin thicker than the elephant that chased poor Charles Alexander out of that African bathroom! The awards were given for a body of work, not for a single photograph. Six photographs were the required submission, if I remember correctly. Well after my first stroll around the four walls of the exhibition room, I came away with the distinct impression that I knew what kind of photographs impressed Mr. Kratochvil. Yep, you guessed it, photojournalistic ones!

First place was awarded to Ghada Kunji. Her images were photographed in 1998 and documented faith healing ceremonies at a Pentecostal church in Virginia. Her images from the show are also in American Photo magazine Jan/Feb 2007 edition titled "Images of the Year" where she was also a winner in the photojournalism/documentary category. Quite an unusual coincidence, I think! If you don't have that magazine ask to see mine, or you can view one of her images here: <http://www.studiolighting.net/american-photo-images-of-the-year/>

Second place awards were given to Martine Fougeron and Holly Hinman. Martine Fougeron's images were of his own two adolescent sons, a fact I just discovered tonight. The first four images on his web page were some of the ones included in the show: http://www.martinefougeron.com/t_frameset.html Unfortunately, I was not able to find any web photos belonging to Holly Hinman.

The third place award went to Juliana Beasley. One of her photos from the show is on the front of her website here: <http://www.julianabeasley.com/> Her real claim to fame in my opinion though is the book she was selling at the show. Titled Lapdancer, Publisher's weekly describes it as "...a luridly shrewd pleasure". Her website explains

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MCC meets Twice a Month
1st Thursday: Competition
3rd Thursday: Program & Business
In the Longinotti Auditorium
behind St. Francis Hospital ER
West of Park & Ridgeway
At 7:00 PM

PROGRAMS FOR 2007

May 17: Commercial Appeal Staff Photographer —Alan Spearman

Second Thursday: Digital Photography Class

Fourth Thursday: Enthusiastic Photographer Class by Carl and Tom



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it best "In 1992, two years after graduating from NYU's photography program, Juliana Beasley, now 33, desperate to supplement her meager income, as a novice photographer in a competitive market, and inspired by the thought of good money at flexible hours, embarked on an eight-year odyssey as a professional nude dancer..." Marlene thought that her mother must have been so happy she got a college degree! I'm certainly relieved that Carl made it big in photography early in his career. Oh by the way, Marlene has a dozen signed copies of the book if anyone is interested. Well after all that, if you're thinking about entering their 2007 competition, I would think that images of pornography or those that ridicule red-necks or religion would stand a good chance of making it into the top ten. Shilesh, your pretty pictures haven't got a chance!



Wildlife Artist Charles Alexander

—Tom Richey

Charles Alexander returned Thursday night, March 15th, to show the second part of his trip to Africa. The first part was Rwanda and the Gorillas of the highland area. Focusing this time on Tanzania, he showed images from Tarangire, Lake Manyara, Ngorongoro crater and Serengeti wildlife parks. He included wonderful images of Lion, Elephant, Cape Buffalo, Giraffe, Wildebeest, Cheetah, Leopard, Hyena, Baboon, Zebra, and a variety of antelope and birds. In addition he told facts about the country, the parks, the people, the animals and the history while including anecdotes and tidbits of humor of his experiences and the people (the Masai, his guide and his help) that he met while there. He spoke of the rigors of traveling in this harsh (for a photographer) environment. Heat, dust and lack of modern amenities make it a real challenge to photograph in these areas. In addition to being extremely informative, it was really entertaining. Charles is headed back to Africa this October and we look forward to having him return and tell us about his exploits.

The Enthusiastic Photographer

—Tom Furlotte

What kind of photos do you like to take when it's raining? You don't take pictures in the rain?! Well, you don't know what you are missing. People go on with their regular activities when it rains, don't they? They shop and work and play; and you should take pictures regardless of the weather. The pictures you get will depend on your imagination and creativity. You could look for reflections in wet surfaces, misty landscapes, flowing water patterns, droplets on surfaces, people coping, cloud formations, lightning, wind blown motion, or any other thing you encounter or envision. That's the fun of it. The only limit is the one you place on yourself. Are you scared of equipment damage? Did you know that rain hoods can be had as cheap as two for \$6.00? You could consider them disposable if you choose not to carry around wet plastic.

What about at night? You don't have to stop taking pictures because the sun has gone down! Scenes take on a new look after dark. City lights create different moods and their reflections add interest. Darkness allows you to hide imperfections in a scene. The technique of painting with light gives you total control over what is seen and what is not seen. Fun techniques like recording star trails add a dimension to your picture that can only be seen by using the camera. Take some friends along to share the experience and, of course, for safety.

Do you ever get up early in the morning in order to capture life awakening? The sun rises in a blaze of glory and washes the world in warm light as the dew rises and you're missing it? What a pity! The light changes dramatically as the sun rises and photographic opportunities abound. Morning dew enlivens flower and foliage pictures. Dew can also hold butterflies, moths and dragonflies captive until their wings dry out and provide the enthusiastic photographer the opportunity to capture their image at will.

There is simply no bad time for photography if you are enthusiastic and open to possibilities. Carry your camera at all times. Keep your eyes and mind open. Allow yourself extra time to stop and photograph, or make a mental note to come back when the light is right. Try new subjects and techniques. You will expand your vision and produce many good pictures to show off to your family and friends.

April Photos of the month

Photography Competition



Nature (26)

"The Conversation"

Joe Sullivan – 27 Points (POM)

Color Open Print (13)

"Flames of Battle"

Jack Van Hooser – 24 Points

Color Scenic Print (11)

"Porter's Creek"

Dodie Bush – 25 Points



B&W Print (3)

"Cotton Fields Back Home"

Glenn Fuqua – 23 Points

Portrait (2)

"First Communion"

Joe Sullivan – 22 Points

Candid People (18)

"Digital Warfare"

Paul Fultz – 24 Points

Creative (2)

"Just Add Color"

Brenda Silberman – 25 Points

Assigned (15)

"Inspiration"

Brenda Silberman – 25 Points

Be a good Winner

Be sure to send your images to maryphotcollage@aol.com and ellen.isaacman@goodadvertising.com for the web and newsletter respectively. This applies to both the slide and print of the month as well as all category winners. Send your stuff.

Image size for newsletter

There has been a little confusion about what size to submit your images for the newsletter. Please go into PhotoShop and size your images at 300 dpi and make the longest side 4." Save this as a high resolution jpg and email it. Please name it the winning name.



"The Conversation"

Joe Sullivan – 27 Points (POM)



"Flames of Battle"

Jack Van Hooser – 24 Points

Special thanks to these Judges:

Utam Shah, Tom Richey, Carl Nielson and Pattie Possel.

There was a whopping number of photographs entered this month... 90 photographs!

A new addition (number of entries)

Please look at the titles of the categories, in parenthesis, is the number of entries in that category.

Check Our Website. It's Great!

www.memphiscameraclub.org

There is also additional information about dates of photo related events in the Mid South, field trips, etc at the website.

Show Up, Stay, and Play

—Brenda Silberman

Maybe it was February, or maybe it was just me, but the sense that my photographs were stale and that I was shooting less worried me. I went in search of a cure, for me that usually begins with a book. Luckily my search turned up three simple steps.

The worn black book that had lost its spine long ago but still held together thanks to stubborn glue and waxed thread was published in 1945. My dad had bought this copy of *This is Photography* at age 18. It was his first purchase for his new hobby. Surely there would be something helpful inside.

The first pages say that you are the most important part of your camera. A camera has no imagination and only sees what you allow it to see. Its purpose is to make a permanent record of what you saw, how you saw it and what you felt at that moment in time. If you are not present, with your unique point of view, there is no photograph. You must show up.

Once you are present, you must stay with it. Dewitt Jones, a photographer and columnist for *Outdoor Photographer*, was exploring the question of whether photographs are taken or whether they are gifts. He shared the story of shooting an assignment at a rodeo and due to limitations of crowd and lens, he had that unpleasant feeling that nothing was working. He changed locations, points of view, areas of interest and continued to shoot. Finally, a lone cowboy walked into his line of sight. His hat brim pointed down, face nearly obscured, unknowingly he paused long enough for Jones to get several shots and then continued on his way. Those were his best shots. A gift. If Jones had not had his camera ready, been exploring and attending, it would have been a gift that he couldn't have unwrapped. Working beyond the first grab shots, becoming absorbed and relaxed allows the world to work its magic.

The last lesson is one easily overlooked – play. Jones, in another column describes his dismay when a friend, a new photographer, decided to hold his camera out the window while driving and shoot randomly without looking. Jones scoffed until he saw some of the shots. One day while he was feeling uninspired in Yosemite (I find that hard to imagine) he thought about his friend's technique. He climbed behind the wheel and drove along shooting at the roadside. He'd stop every once in awhile and was amazed at the play of light and line as well as the softness of the images. He continued

April & May Birthdays

Dave Masterson	04/09
James E. Bucham	04/15
EstherKraft	04/19
CraigCollier	04/19
Tony Menne	05/05
Beverly Hammond	05/21
Pam Johnson	05/24
Ronnie Booze	05/26

Jimmie N. Knight

05/30



Happy birthday to you all!

and started to smile back at the other drivers who found his behavior a bit unusual. He says the best part was the ability to laugh and the sense of fun.

The sense of play and daring to ignore the rules is an antidote to staleness. Last week, lying under a cherry tree in Audubon Park, with my camera tilted at an odd angle and shooting randomly offered a wonderful sense of possibility. My lessons were simply to show up as myself, stay long enough to allow inspiration and opportunity to arrive, and to play.

Wings Gallery Exhibit Requirements, Guidelines and Dates to Remember.

—Quinn Strother

Exhibit Committee Co-Chairman

For those who are interested in participating in the Wings Gallery Exhibit, I've put together the information you need to know.

Members submitting images must be a cancer survivor, a past or present caregiver, or be working with cancer patients in a professional capacity.

An Artist Information Sheet and Release Form must accompany the entry. (One sheet per person with an attached list of up to 5 images.) These will be available at meetings.

All categories of images are acceptable except nudes. Please keep in mind that these are for the enjoyment of patients and their families and need to offer a pleasant distraction.

Any pieces sold will be subject to a thirty percent (30%) donation/commission fee to benefit Wings Cancer Foundation. All checks will be made payable to the artist.

Outside framed dimensions should not exceed 20" x 24"

October 4, 2007 – Date for submitting up to 5 images.

October 8, 2007 – Exhibit Committee and a member of the Art Selection Committee from Wings Gallery will jury the images.

October 18, 2007 - Images

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returned for framing.

December 6, 2007 - Images brought to meeting ready to hang. (Don't forget to put a wire on the back.) Nothing will be accepted after this date.

January 3, 2008 - Images will be delivered to Wings Gallery for hanging.

January 4, 2008 - Opening reception.

Those who will not be entering images can certainly be a part of this project in other areas such as donating reception food, helping deliver/pick up images, attending the reception and encouraging members to enter their images. As with all of our exhibits, this is a group effort that represents the many talents of the individuals that make up Memphis Camera Club.

Assigned Subjects for 2007*

- | | |
|----------|------------------------------------|
| June | Seven Deadly Sins – Illustrate one |
| August | Old - Not a person |
| October | Country Lane |
| November | Photo for a Holiday Card |

*Only images shot after February 2007 are eligible.

Additional high scoring photographs



"The Majestic Bald Eagle"
Bob Lussier – 26 Points



"Great Blue in flight"
Jack Van Hooser – 24 Points



"Music Man"
Jack Van Hooser – 25 Points



"Cotton Fields Back Home"
Glenn Fuqua – 23 Points

Additional high scoring photographs



"Goodnight, Petit Jean"
Mike Sorensen- 24 Points



"Digital Warfare"
Paul Fultz- 24 Points



"First Communion"
Joe Sullivan - 22 Points



"Deer at Dawn"
Ellen Cox- 25 Points