

DEVELOPMENTS



Memphis
Camera
Club

January 2007 · www.memphiscameraclub.org

MCC OFFICERS

President

Barry Siegel
(901) 755-2474
BBarmann@aol.com

Vice President

Ronnie Booze
(901) 789-9022
rbooze@ix.netcom.com

Treasurer

Blair Ball
(901) 624-0209
BBall2@midsouth.rr.com

Secretary

Angie Menne
(901) 757-4776
mennea@prodigy.net

Director

Brenda Silberman
(901) 754-5286
unsouthernbelle@aol.com

Director

Bob Laster
(901) 761-4058
bobresrad@yahoo.com

Competition Chairman

Dale Cox
(901) 757-0402
dale.cox@goodadvertising.com

Newsletter Designer

Ellen Cox
ellen.isaacman@goodadvertising.com

Website Designer

Mary Stubbs
Maryphotocollage@aol.com

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

A Higher Calling

– Barry Siegel

Having recently returned from my trip to Cuba, I couldn't help but think about my photography and its relation to society, especially those that I personally come in contact with. This was actually our second trip to Cuba, the previous one having been one year earlier to the day. Last year I was fortunate to have been allowed to photograph inside a barber shop. On that particular day, the barber happened to be cutting his son's hair, the latter being about 8-10 years old I would guess. Here is one of the photos I took that day. They look pretty happy, wouldn't you say? Another photo I took on that trip was this photo of a young Jewish girl celebrating the lights of Hanukah. I'll get back to these photos later.

You would have to be blind not to notice the poverty which exists in Cuba. Of course, we have plenty of poverty here in Memphis, too. Some photographers feel that documentation of these problems fills a need in society by bringing light to these issues which may have been ignored by the more fortunate in our society. They feel that by showing the need, the money is soon to follow. Perhaps this is true in some instances. Has a stirring photograph ever prodded you into sending a check to a worthy cause or even providing more direct assistance? I regret to say that in my case that it has not. But don't we all love to



photograph the unfortunate in our society? As my friend Grant told me, Barry, you like to photograph misery. We hold Dorthea Lange's photograph of the migrant mother up as an icon of photography, but when was the last time you waxed poetic over a photo of a stockbroker in a coat and tie? Guy Tal, an internet friend of mine whom I have never met, stated in one of the forums, "Yes - in America poor people from other countries represent "human drama." Local homeless people, however, represent a nuisance." How apropos!

Unlike here in America, cameras are relatively rare in Cuba, especially the 30 pounds of high quality optics that I brought. The government there is quite suspicious of photographers, especially journalists. Because of the scarcity of cameras and the high cost of producing prints, photographs hold a greater value there just like they did in our own country during the early part of the last century. Before leaving for our recent trip to Cuba, I had a few photographs printed on archival paper. Among them were the two photographs shown above. I made a return visit to the barber shop this trip, but on this occasion I came with the photographs of the barber and his son. If you think the father was smiling in the above photo, you should have seen his face after I gave him the photograph of him and his son! The Hanukah photograph had to be delivered by someone else and to my regret they forgot to give it to her on this trip, but promised to deliver it on their next one in a few months. This trip we met an elderly woman who had not seen her brother living in the US in recent years. I had taken a photo of her and she asked that we send it to him from the US, where the mail is more dependable. I also photographed our guide along with his wife and one of his sons, all in front of his newly planted garden of which he was so proud. He requested that we send the photos to his friend in another state. Of course, we will be delighted to do so. It's such a small thing.



PROGRAMS FOR 2007

January 29th Year End Competition Dinner:

Mark your Calendar
Year End Awards Banquet

Date: January 27, 2007,

Time: 6:30 PM

Location: Pete & Sam's on Park Ave.

Menu:

Combination Salad (Choice of Dressing)

1000 Island, Roquefort, Ranch, Bacon or Italian

Choice of one entrée:

Lasagna, Ravioli & Spaghetti, Veal Parmigiano, Chicken Cacciatore, Broiled Flounder 8 oz Filet (add \$1.00 to your meal price)

Side Orders (Choice of two):

Ravioli, Spaghetti, Spinach, Baked Potato, French Fries, Baked Potato

Drinks

Coffee, Tea, Soft Drinks B.Y.O.B. \$2.25 set up charge. Price: \$23.00 Must be paid in advance by January 18th to Beverly Hammond .



Nature Photographers Unite!

– Barry Siegel

Natures Best Magazine began a call for entries on January 8th, 2007. There is a special category for camera clubs and I think that MCC should enter into the fray. You can also enter simultaneously as an individual photographer. Winning photos will be displayed at the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History in Washington, D.C. I propose that the small entry fee for the club be split among the entering photographers and that the culling of the entries be done by a select committee of club judges frequently involved in nature photography (selected by our competition chairman, Dale Cox.) MCC entries should be ready for submission by March 31st. The application form can be found here:

http://www.naturesbestmagazine.com/pdf/2007_WSRIPA_guidelines.pdf

Last year's international award winners can be found here:

<http://www.naturesbestmagazine.com/index.php?nav=features#>

Get to work! The competition will be stiff!



Nature Photography in your own Yard

This article is for the birds, well, not really, it is about a few things I've learned and observed about photographing them over the years, by me, Bruce Johnson.

Several of our members have asked me questions about my "Setup," which is a work in progress. I'm always looking for ways improve my images and easier ways of doing it. Many ideas are tried and discarded; a few of them have proven worthwhile.

As in other types of photography, the same rules apply. Background and composition in nature photography are just as important. Posing and expressions, well, those are different matters.

I'll list most of what comes to mind and then follow up with some solutions that have worked pretty well for me. Some of my concoctions look like some of Rube Goldberg's drawings. Most of you youngsters probably have never heard of Rube. Here is a link to a website that is humorous and will give you a clue. <http://www.rube-goldberg.com/>

Attracting subjects: What species of birds or wildlife are you interested in? I would suggest starting off with the ones that frequent your yard or another area that is very convenient. I said very convenient for a reason, because it will take a lot of time and patience to get the participation and cooperation you need from your subjects. Read up on your subjects and find out what foods they like and their feeding habits.

If you have a window or doorway that you can photograph your set up from that will help tame down your subjects quicker and also keep you out of the weather while doing so. The west side of the house works better for morning photography.



Almost all my bird photography is in open shade. An overcast day is ideal. Early mornings and late afternoons are the best times for me. The light is better and the birds are more active.

The background, as always, will help make or break a good image. Light reflecting on something in the background, almost guarantees either a lot of work in Photoshop, or a ruined image. Most of my props are just pieces of a rustic post or limb, just big enough to cover what will be included

Continued on page 4

January Photos of the month

Print Competition



Nature (7)

"White On White"

Steve Copen – 24 Points

Color Open Print (11)

"Snappy Dragon"

Ann Moore– 25 Points

Color Scenic Print (9)

"Go With the Flow"

Tony Menne– 24 Points

B&W Print (6)

"Setting Sail"

John Stitt – 27 Points (POM)

Portrait Print (6)

"Sarah"

Beverly Hammond – 24 Points

Candid People (9)

"Blue Boy"

Glenn Fuqua – 24 Points

Creative (5)

"Reelfoot Montage"

Mary Stubbs – 26 Points

Slide Competition



Open Slide (12)

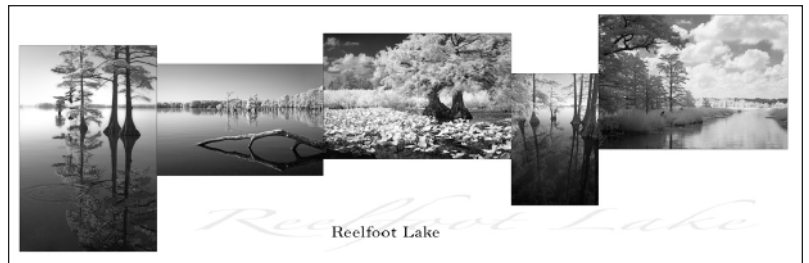
"Blue & Yellow"

Bob Laster – 27 Points (SOM)



"Setting Sail"

John Stitt – 27 Points (POM)



"Reelfoot Montage"

Mary Stubbs – 26 Points

New Members

We would like to welcome our new members. They are James Burcham, Robert Lussier, Neyle Sollee and Lea Black.

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.

Special thanks to these Judges:

Ellen Cox, Carl Nilson, John Stitt, Tom Furlotte and Ann Moore (Judge Selected from Audience). There was a whopping number of photographs entered this month... 53 Prints and 12 slides!

A new addition (number of entries)

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

Assigned Subject for February 2007 "Musical"

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.

Continued from page 2

in the image. The prop is mounted on an old tripod so it can be manipulated in height, tilt or rotation. I use a small piece of steel with two holes for wood screws and one hole is tapped and threaded for the tripod.

Holes or cuts are made in the prop in an inconspicuous place to hold seed. Many times props can be found with knotholes or cavities already there. These are better, because they look natural.

For those interested, email me at bruce.Johnson1@earthlink.net, I will provide additional information that is too lengthy to include here.

Bev's Trivia

Since our End Of The Year Awards are fast approaching, I've compiled a few facts from the past that I felt some of you might find interesting. There are a few voids in my information so feel free to fill in the gaps in the next newsletter. Our new members probably won't know some of the past winners, and the old members probably won't remember, but I thought it still might be fun. I wrote the facts as they were then. Much has changed:

- 1998** The Photographer of the year was Doug Brewer
The "A" category Print of the year went to Beverly Hammond
"South Main Memphis"
The "A" category Slide of the year went to Faust Reynolds
"Passages"
The "B" category Total Points went to Charlie Ritchie
- 1999** The Pres. kept the stats. and is no longer in the club
- 2000** The "A" Photographer of the year was Uttam Shah
The "A" category Print of the year went to Uttam Shah
"Where To Ma'm"
The "A" category Slide of the year went to Shilesh Jani
"Beach Colors"
The "B" category Print of the year went to Holly Dew
"He's Got the Whole World in His Hands"
The "B" category Slide of the year went to Gerry Hollenbeck
"Wild Rose"
The "B" Achievement Award went to Lynn Barton
A Special "Luis Prieto Memorial Macro Award" was given in honor and memory on our own Lou. It went to Bob Laster
The End Of Year entries in 2000 were 117 prints and 125 slides.

January and February Birthdays

Lea Black	
Charles Ritchie	
Jerry Penrod	01/03
Barney Street	01/11
Larry Hamilton	01/24
Brenda Silberman	01/27
Steve Stubbs	01/28
Neyle Sollee	02/12
Mike Sorensen	02/23



Happy birthday to you all!

- 2001** The Photographer of the year was ? (help me out here)
The Print of the year went to Brenda Silberman "Left Hanging"
The Slide of the year went to Shilesh Jani "Monday Morning Blues"
End Of The Year entries in 2001 included 97 prints and 87 slides
- 2002** The Photographer of the year was Bob Laster
The Print of the year went to Jenö Lehl "Nymph at Shelby Forest"
The Slide of the year went to Bob Laster "Ballerina"
End of Year Entries for 2002 were 61 prints and 45 slides
- 2003** The Photographer of the year was Barry Siegel
The Print of the year went to Shilesh Jani "A Family of Trees"
The Slide of the year went to Barry Siegel "Cedar Creek"
Achievement Award went to Judy Howard
In End of Year Entries for 2003 were 77 prints and 14 slides
- 2004** The Photographer of the year was Jenö Lehl
The Print of the year went to Dale Cox "Spirits of the Forest"
The Slide of the year went to Bob Laster "Storm Coming at Sunset"
Achievement Award went to Tony Menne
End of Year Entries for 2004 were 86 prints and 23 slides
- 2005** The Photographer of the year was Barry Siegel
The Print of the year went to Barry Siegel "Dew Dappled Lacing"
The Slide of the year went to Bob Laster "Morning Glory"
Achievement Award went to Blair Ball
The End of Year Entries were 11 slides and well over 100 prints
- On the 27th of January at Pete & Sam's Restaurant the new winners for 2006 will be announced. 146 total images were presented to our judges. VERY TOUGH DECISIONS!!!
Hope you enjoyed this bit of trivia and I do apologize for the gaps, but I simply did not have the information. If you have it, please let me know. Thank You, Beverly

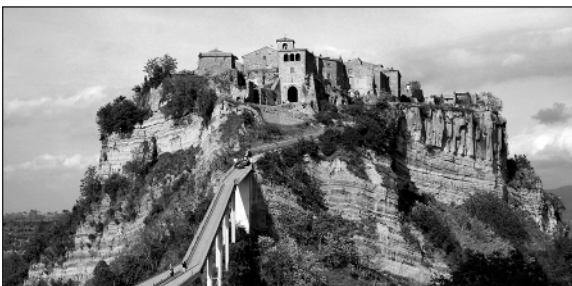
Additional high scoring images



"White on white"
Steve Copen – 24 Points



"Blue Boy"
Glenn Fuqua – 24 Points



"On a Hill Far Away"
Glenn Fuqua – 25 Points



"Tunnel Vision"
Glenn Fuqua – 24 Points