

# DEVELOPMENTS



September/October 2009  
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MCC meets nearly every Thursday  
1<sup>st</sup> Thursday: Competition  
2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday: Digital Class  
3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday: Program & Business  
4<sup>th</sup> Thursday: Carl & Tom's Class  
for Enthusiastic Photographers

## To Converge or Not to Converge... That Is the Question

—Blair Ball

Many of us were transfixed to our TV sets in 1963 as we heard the infamous sound of the Zapruder 8mm film being played back on the death of J.F. Kennedy. For those of us old enough to remember...I guess I don't recall that, but I'm told about it by some of my peers. Anyway, digital technology continues to push the envelope leaving many a photographer to ponder where all this might take us. Does anyone really know?

Let's talk about the future by looking at the past. Five years ago, digital cameras were finally coming into their own, with good quality and good images. At that time, there were people still clinging to the belief that film would never be replaced by digital. I think the same discussion is happening now with stills and video. The future is not one or the other, it is both.

High-speed video allows consumers the opportunity to see things they could not see before with the naked eye. There's also a term for it in the output, merging stills and video into one result is now called "fusion". Think back to those five years ago and there was barely even a thought of something like YouTube (note: it launched in 2005) and now look at the use of video by just about everyone and the growth is stunning. Video used to be expensive. Video used to be only for those who could afford expensive equipment. Now, you can buy a Flip for \$200 and record 720 HD video anytime, anywhere.



Software programs can create video from stills, and pull stills from video. With the high speed still capabilities of this camera, and the HD video capability as well, do you think the line is being blurred between still photography and video? It's true that photography has "lost" some major figures to brief or long intervals when they've been distracted by film. Henri Cartier-Bresson was an assistant to Jean Renoir early in his career; Robert Frank and William Klein both devoted long portions of their careers to making mostly forgettable films.

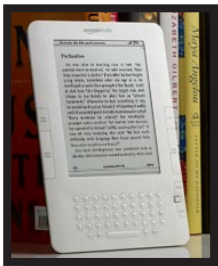
Then again, a number of fine directors started out as still photographers—Stanley Kubrick, Ken Russell, Arthur Penn, Zhang Yimou, Gordon Parks. None of those save Parks kept going as both. So who knows? Maybe some great directors of tomorrow will "find themselves" in the video capability of their still cameras, and go on to great things. In fact, it's probably inevitable—it will happen, at least in a few cases.

Most of us have gone from being a “film photographer” to being a “digital photographer”. In the future will our persona be a “still photographer”, “videographer” or something yet to be determined?

Imagine with me for a moment that all DSLR's in the future will have video capability with most being HD. No need for a mechanical shutter, a recycling memory buffer to constantly record images at speeds of 100+fps. The photographer finds moments in time and space and freezes them to share with others.

Whether we are still photographers or videographers, we are at the core *story tellers*.

Let's take another journey into what the future might hold with this convergence. Electronic paper has been talked about and is a reality today. This is a malleable plastic sheet as thin and flexible as paper that is capable of displaying changeable text and images. Now imagine a newspaper or a magazine where the pages are made of electronic paper and where the content is transmitted and updated wirelessly.



The Amazon Kindle electronic book is one such device - an opening salvo if you will. Ultimately we will have multiple screen pages instead of just one, and in color and with motion instead of B&W and just text. If you can visualize such a magazine / book / device, now think about what its content would be like.

Imagine if you will one of our gallery showings in the year 2012 where instead of a glossy still image of a river stream in the Smoky Mountains you actually have a mini-video. It looks like a still image, but swipe your finger on the page, or leave the page open for more than a few seconds, and a motion video versions begins to display.

**It will be forward-thinking photographers who can visualize how these new media will converge, and who will in turn invent the new visual language that will be needed while utilizing the exciting tools that are on their way.**

## Paul T. Brown

—Patti Possel

*New York Times* bestselling author Paul T. Brown of Brandon, Mississippi, is a widely published, award winning and nationally acclaimed wildlife photographer and writer. His work has appeared in such publications as *Field & Stream*, *Outdoor Life*, *Sports Afield*, *Sporting Classics*, *North American Whitetail*, *Buckmasters Whitetail Magazine*, *Turkey Call*, and many others.

Paul has earned numerous national and regional awards including honors from the Outdoor Writers Association of America and the Southeastern Outdoors Press Association. The Mississippi Wildlife Federation named him the 2003 Conservation Communicator of the Year. Alabama honored Paul in 1998 with their Conservation Communicator of the Year award.

Paul has also written three nonfiction books including *New York Times* bestseller *Escape in Iraq*. *Church of Lies*, chronicling former polygamist Flora Jessop's escape from an oppressive cult, is now in bookstores. Due out soon is *True Boo*, the autobiography of professional golfer Boo Weakley.

The most recent book featuring Paul's photography is *Conserving Wild America*, a beautifully illustrated, hardcover, 144-page book of his best work. Other books by Paul Brown are *Wildlife of the South*, *Paul Brown's Wild Visions*, *Freedom Matters*, and *Wild About Babies*.

I am pleased to announce that Mr. Brown will be presenting to MCC on Thursday October 15, 2009. Mark your calendars and plan on attending. I am sure the show will be fabulous! Some of his books and calendars will be available for purchase after the program.

For more information contact: Paul T. Brown, P.O. Box 5066, Brandon, Mississippi 39047, 601-829-1222 or 800-323-3398. Fax 601-829-1656. E-mail [paultbrown@bellsouth.net](mailto:paultbrown@bellsouth.net). Web sites: [www.trueexposures.com](http://www.trueexposures.com) and [www.prayingeagles.com](http://www.prayingeagles.com)

For information about Paul's new personalized calendar go to: [www.wildlifecalendar.com](http://www.wildlifecalendar.com)

## Call for Volunteer Photographers

—Tom Furlott

To all Memphis Camera Club Members:

You are invited to join as MCC fulfills our on-going commitment to provide photography service for the annual Komen Memphis-MidSouth Race for the Cure on Saturday, October 31, 2009 at the Shops of Saddle Creek in Germantown. The local Susan G. Komen Affiliate uses our photos to promote, advertise, and memorialize its largest annual fundraising event in its mission to eradicate breast cancer. Right now, lives are being saved locally by over \$750,000 of the 2008 Race proceeds granted to Mid-South agencies that provide diagnostic services, treatment, and education to women in need.

Several members have already signed on but there is still time to join us, to photograph Race day and other Race Week activities, and for all the post-Race activities listed below, like editing the photos. Consider helping with these projects even if your schedule conflicts with Race day.

The Race provides photo ops for every interest. Budding photojournalists and street photographers can hone their skills. There are kids galore just being themselves, stage performers, costumed individuals, vendors, and teams representing businesses, schools, churches, and families. There are athletes, runners, strollers, joggers and walkers. All around you are joy, sadness, poignancy, celebration and remembrance. Human-interest pix are everywhere.

For this early morning event, plan to be on-site from 6:30 AM until 10:30 AM. You will want your flash to start, for sure, and even after the sun rises, to help fill in the strong shadows from the low angled light. Guidelines and photo assignments will be given to all who participate at a short meeting on a date to be announced. Flash cards will be provided to all photographers.

After Race day, we need you for any or all of these tasks:

- photo editors to sort and file the images
- to assemble the photo albums
- experienced Video editors and / or DVD producers to put together a video slideshow

Thanks to all of you who have participated in past years, and those who will generously do so this year. Together, we will find the cure.

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## The Slate of Officers for 2009-10

—Tom Richey

Patti Possel has, due to some outside commitments, stepped down as Vice president

President	Blair Ball
Vice president nominations)	Open (we will need some
Secretary	Allen Sparks
Treasurer	Peggy Copen
Director	Paul Fultz (new)
Director	Dale Cox

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## August Speaker, Juli Eck

—Carolyn Furlotte

Juli Eck, owner of Watercliff Portrait Studio, introduced herself to MCC with a short autobiography. She turned to professional portrait photography in 1988 after obtaining a degree in psychology and working in corporate Human Resources. Juli's first pro jobs were shooting weddings for \$50 and \$150. After working for several studios and other photographers in Arkansas, she married and moved to Memphis in 2004. After surviving multiple breast cancers, Juli finally achieved her dream and opened her home-based Watercliff Portrait Studio in 2007. She concentrates on photographing children, families, and seniors. Later this year she plans to introduce a package for seniors in nursing homes. Juli describes herself as a "techno-phobe" who looks for easy-to-use software. Her favorite for business is Animoto.com which formats a slideshow with a video feel, available free for short presentations, or \$239 for a yearly subscription for longer videos. For her personal projects, she likes Apple's iPhoto and iDVD. Her camera is a Fuji S5. Juli displayed prints she has entered in PPA competition and even discussed their scoring. A geek tip she shared: when caught without a tripod, particularly in a home setting, unscrew the finial from a lampshade - most are the same size as a tripod table, and will stabilize your camera quite well. Be sure to choose a weighty lamp! Thanks, Juli, for an interesting presentation!

## God's Winged Creatures

—Tom Richey

It was, to say the least, an outstanding turnout at CBU's gallery for the first foyer show of the season. The crowd was estimated to be at well over 300 individuals during the evening. The show created and put on by photographers Allen Sparks, Joe Sullivan and Tom Richey was well received. There were many positive comments on the photographs, all featuring birds and flying insects as their subject. If you were unable to attend the opening, the show will hang until October 1st. The library is open during the week until 11:00pm. It closes early on Friday and is closed on Saturday. It reopens on Sunday from 4pm until 11pm.

## Member Birthdays 10/16 to 11/15

—Tom Richey

October

16 Judy Street  
 18 Marlene Siegel  
 20 Mary Stubbs  
 23 Elizabeth Stoddard  
 23 Charles Spencer  
 28 David Starnes

November

1 Bruce Johnson  
 4 Tom Richey  
 11 Jim Williams  
 14 Patti Possel



# SEPTEMBER WINNERS

September 2009 Competition			
Category	Winners	Title	Points
Assigned: "Southern"	Jerry Turner	Graceland	24
Black & White	Mary Stubbs	Early March Silhouette	25
	Paul Fultz	Golden Gate in the Fog	25
	Mary Stubbs	Dancing Clouds	25
Candid People	Rog Sphar	Teh Photographer's Assistant	26
Color Open	Joe Sullivan	Tranquility	24
	Patty McLaughlin	Bamboo Ceiling Reflections	24
Creative	Steve Copen	Hula Dancer	25
Digital	Allen Sparks	Male Wood Warbler	26
Landscape	Bill Belus	Stormy Rainbow	27
Nature	Charles Spencer	Wasp on Coneflower	27
Portrait	Patti Possel	Inquisitive	25
Digital of the Month	Allan Sparks	Male Wood Warbler	26
Print of the Month	Charles Spencer	Wasp on Coneflower	27

## Places We Worship

—Joe Sullivan

Ok everyone, we are on the clock. In August of 2010 we will need to have 30 to 50 images for the show at CBU. Even though we have about one year before the show opens, we only have about nine months to get it ready. We will need some time to do the selection and have time to get the work matted and framed.

Remember this is a Black & White exhibit. I am sure that it makes it difficult and uninspiring to some of you. The only thing I can say is “Take it as a challenge”!

This is a project that could make you get outside your comfort zone. Instead of photographing birds or portraits or racing or scenics, consider this as one of our assigned subjects and see what you can do with it. Remember that to a true photographer there is always something to photograph. If you have some doubts or concerns about shooting black & white, there are plenty of experienced members who will be glad to assist you.

## July Program

—Editor’s Note

With apologies to Curt Hart! Due to the make up on the August newsletter, we didn’t properly “Thank” Curt for being our July speaker. Curt did a very nice program on the sports figures that he has met and interviewed over his career in radio. While still active in that regard locally, he also teaches a class about baseball history. We “Thank” Curt for giving of his time and look forward to him doing something in the future on his Nature photography.

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### “Let Us Hear From You...”

The newsletter committee is always looking for articles and comments about photographic topics and issues. Write up an article! Send it to me as an email attachment. Get published, and share your ideas with our membership! ...*Tom*

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### October 2009 Competition

Category	Winners	Title	Points
Black & White	Peggy Copen	Nike at Ephesus	25
	Patti Possell	Flying	25
Candid People	Blair Ball	Cooper Young Mime	26
Color Open	Jerry Turner	The Great Hall	23
Creative	Steve Copen	Wood Wives	27
Digital	Paula Cravens	Old Teaching the Young	27
Landscape	Arn Vertrea	Bolt From the Blue	24
Nature	Charles Spencer	Grasshopper	27
Portrait	Blari Ball	Whiteface Clown	27
Digital of the Month	Paula Cravens	Old Teaching the Young	27
Print of the Month	Blair Ball	Whiteface Clown	27

OCTOBER  
WINNERS

## It's All About You

—Jill Griffith

This month it is all about you, Paula Cravens! Paula is a fairly new member to the MCC and is, of course, a welcome addition. Paula is an R.N., the wife of Greg Cravens, and the mother of two boys - ages 8 and 10. She is originally from Vicksburg, Mississippi, and has been in the Memphis area for approximately 25 years.

Paula shoots a Canon Rebel. She has one which is a typical digital Rebel, and she has one which has been converted to infrared. She truly is a fan of infrared and immensely enjoys getting out with that camera in particular. She became interested in photography when her parents bought her a camera and she started taking classes at Mississippi State. She took several photography/art classes at Mississippi State during college.

Her favorite type of photography is, you guessed it, infrared. She loves to shoot landscapes and monuments with infrared and enjoys shooting wildlife as well, but with her color digital camera. Her favorite mentor is Ansel Adams. Her particular interest in Ansel Adams' work is the crispness of it all as well as the watching and waiting he has done to capture his incredible photos. Paula also enjoys perusing really any photo that captures her interest, no matter who the photographer.

When asked where she might dream of traveling to and photographing, she particularly wants to go to Venice, Italy, and photograph the Venice Carnival. This is an annual event which is said to be a cocktail of tradition, entertainment, history and transgression in a unique city. It attracts thousands of people from all over the world each year. This carnival celebrates the passage from winter into spring, a time when seemingly anything is possible, including the illusion where the most humble of classes become the most powerful by wearing masks on their faces. The costumes are just astounding according to Paula and according to sources on the internet. The carnival dates back to 1296. There was an interruption of the carnival for nearly two centuries, but it was brought back into existence in 1980.

Paula believes that she finds her best shots "by accident." She likes carrying her camera with her consistently just in case.

Paula's favorite locale to photograph is a cemetery. She believes there are many lost forms of art to

be found there. She thinks Elmwood, here in Memphis, is amazing at all times of the year. Also on her list of favorite cemeteries is Metairie Cemetery in New Orleans. There are astounding statues there. She loves to photograph one in particular which is a weeping angel. This angel apparently has stained glass on or around it which reflects light and gives

the look of the angel weeping. She says it is very powerful.

Photoshop is also a great tool for Paula. She likes to "make her photos more artsy" within Photoshop to get a different twist. She gets her Photoshop experience from studying commercial art while attending Mississippi State.

Welcome to you, Paula Cravens!! The MCC will anxiously await more lovely pictures created by you.

## September Speakers

—Tom Richey

The program for the September business meeting featured three of our own members, Steve Copen, Bill Belus and Patty McLaughlin. The first was Steve Copen who talked about paper for printing and the luck he had with what he had bought from a company called Red River papers. Along with some handouts, he covered some of the various papers that are available on the market these days. Next up was Bill Belus who gave a short program about software that allows you to do programs with your images. The program is named "Photostory 3". Bill showed two short programs that he had put together using the software. Our final speaker was Patty McLaughlin who spoke on "My quest for 27!" She showed some of her images that scored 24 and 25, and asked for input from the membership on what may have been done to elevate them to a score of 27. We appreciate our three speakers and thank them for giving of their time to be presenters.

