

Linden Lake Farm by Bill Conway was the 3rd place award for Advanced Digital in the December Experimental competition. See more winners on page 6.



THE VIEWFINDER

Happy New Year Everyone!!!

What to Get Yourself for Christmas

by Roz Kleffman

I've been thinking about some New Year Resolutions and decided that just one would suffice. I am adapting a resolution that everyone strives for in the new year—getting fit. Yes, even photographers need to get fit.

1. Take the camera bag out of the closet or off the floor. Open it. This is an aerobic exercise.
2. Start the New Year with fresh batteries. Get some new batteries for my flash and maybe an extra one for the camera.
3. Time to clean out that camera bag (or bags). Lighten that load. Remove all items that I never use anymore.
4. Plan to sell or recycle (i.e., give away) any items that I will no longer use. B-CCC will be happy to help with this project.
5. Update your home owners policy to include all your new camera gear. You did get some new gear for Christmas didn't you. If you do not have a policy that covers your gear—GET one now.
6. Sort through all your digital images and clean out the computer. You do not need every digital image cluttering your hard drive.
7. Plan to clean out your computer files at least once a month. YES, you need to.
8. Attend more club meetings this year.
9. Check your equipment. Look for broken straps, clips or zippers. Replace as needed.
10. Check your tripod to make sure all parts are working. Nothing like going on a field trip and discovering a faulty part.
11. Sign up for some field trips this year. B-CCC members are going to some great places.
12. Enjoy photography. Go to a museum or art gallery. It is good exercise for the mind and body.

May your New Year be happy and healthy.

JANUARY 2010

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GRANT PANEL

Roz Kleffman, Warren Wilson, Jeff Kendrick,
 Appointed: Clarence Carvell,
 Elected: David Hornick

Articles for The Viewfinder

THE VIEWFINDER is distributed via e-mail early in the month and at the first meeting of each month during the club year. Contributions of articles of interest to photographers are welcomed.

The deadline for submitting articles is the first Monday of the month prior to publication (ie, articles submitted on October 1 will be published in the November newsletter).

Articles should be sent via e-mail to

viewfinder@b-ccc.org attachments as MS Word, .txt, or .rtf files. Photos and illustrations should be separate attachments

Photographs should be submitted electronically as JPEGs with a “high” quality compression setting. The optimal photograph will be no more than 800 pixels in its greatest dimension.

Do not submit copyrighted material unless you also supply written permission from the copyright holder.

Membership Rates

- Junior (ages 12-17) \$5.00
- Individual \$25.00
- Family \$35.00

Meeting Nights

The Bowie-Crofton Camera Club meets the first through fourth Monday nights of each month September through May in the Fellowship Hall of the All Saints Lutheran Church at US 301 and Mt. Oak Road in Bowie. Meetings begin at 7:30. Visitors are always welcome.

Photographic Society of America (PSA)

The Bowie-Crofton Camera Club has been a member of the Photographic Society of America (PSA) since 1977. **Dick Whitley**, a PSA Region Director, is B-CCC’s representative to PSA.

For information regarding the benefits of a PSA individual membership and for PSA-sponsored events contact Dick Whitley (301) 899-6457 or e-mail psa@b-ccc.org.

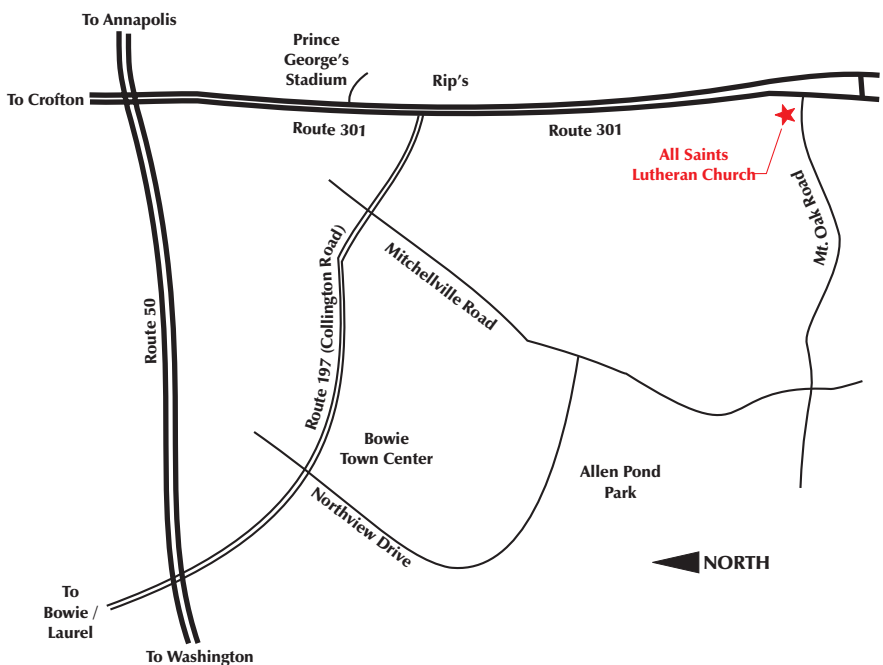


Photo Talk Meeting: January 11, 2010

Photography as a Tango with Truth: Fact or Fiction

by Steve Bruza, VP for Photo Talk

Have you ever been fooled by a photo? What about a sensuous monochrome image of a nude torso that you discover is actually the bottom of a green pepper? Or, a beautiful foggy sunrise that is in fact a distant single car headlight captured through a special filter. Today you can easily find many examples of such work by various photographers who constantly test the boundaries between fact and fiction. We will examine this topic at our Photo Talk on January 11.

The idea of a photo being 'fiction' is a challenging topic debated by camera clubs over the years. Clearly modern digital images manipulated by software have now made this common place but in the BC years (Before Computers) many of the greatest analog photographers used the magic of the darkroom to achieve similar results. The question for our Photo Talk is how this impacts our work, particularly as we prepare for reality-based themes like Travel or Nature. On one hand the purists will struggle to perfectly replicate the green grass of Ireland or capture the brilliant red color of rose petals with see on their monitors and prints. While others will deconstruct an image until it resembles

their own interpretation of a distant adventure or encounter with flora or fauna. What side are you on?

Added to this tango with truth is any bias a judge brings to a competition, so it is a never ending topic that we need to keep in mind during our critiques. The key is to recognize an issue of what is real in our photos will impact our approach even before we press the shutter. From our cameras to what we create as the final product, all elements combine to separate us from the apparent reality of the subject. And, we all know the carbon based element (you!) has supreme control of the output. So, as we talk about our work we should ask if the intent was to capture an accurate replica of what we saw with our eyes or did we what to take a viewer to another level of our artistic expression.

As usual we will also critique entries from the previous week's competition. My guess is we will have much to discuss concerning various interpretations of the Touch of Red theme. So please plan on being with us on January 11 as we try to separate fact from fiction.

Competition Meeting: February 1, 2010

Topic: Travel; Judge: Chip Bulgin

by Thelma Loret de Mola, Competition Assistant

It is with great sadness that we must change our previously scheduled judge for this competition. As our membership was notified, **Howard Penn**, long-time president of the Arundel Camera Club, died suddenly and unexpectedly. He had judged for us many times and was regarded highly for his sharp eye and his instructional skill. Taking his place will be **Chip Bulgin**, also of the Arundel club and its new president. Chip is on the staff of the Maryland Hall for Creative Arts and has a long and successful history in commercial photography.

Our topic is Travel and two rules apply: the photograph must be taken more than 50 miles from Bowie and within the past three years. Most of us have done a bit of traveling; let's show it off. The **Ernie Nagy** Memorial Travel Trophy will be awarded to the entry judged Best in Show.

Remember that print entries must be registered in by 7:25pm. Digital entries are due by midnight Tuesday, January 26.

Memo to Club Members

Subject: Funds Available Through Grant Award Program

by Roz Kleffman, President

Think about what educational program you would like to attend. Let the B-CCC grant award help you fund that dream. The B-CCC received an initial grant stipend of \$10,000. The purpose of this money was to provide monetary grants (money) to club members.

The amount of the yearly grant money was not to exceed \$2000. This would insure that the grant program would be in operation for at least 5 years. The grant has been operational for 10 years. Today, there is still money available in grant award fund.

To be considered for a B-CCC grant, the member must submit a grant application by the April 15 deadline and be a club member in good standing.

Grant funding is for educational purposes only. Yes, it is that easy. Please note: if you receive a B-CCC grant award, you must give a presentation to the club. You can do this in one of two ways: either on a Program night or an instructional How-To presentation.

Here is your chance to take a class and have the funding paid for by The Bowie-Crofton Camera Club. This is the time to invest in your photography skills. A little effort on your part may get you sitting in that class you always wanted to take. Applications need to be submitted to **Roz Kleffman** by April 15, 2010. You can find the application on the Web site.

Baltimore Camera Club Photography Seminar

Brenda Tharp — The Art in Photography

from the Baltimore Camera Club

Photographers want to create images that have impact – whether it's to win awards, be remembered, or purely for the personal satisfaction of having created an artistic photograph. In this inspirational and information-packed one day seminar, **Brenda Tharp** will discuss the elements that can make a picture more expressive, and how to incorporate them in any image you are creating.

Date and Location: Saturday March 6, 2010 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM. Kelley Hall on the Goucher College Campus, Towson, MD. Seminar fee is \$80 in advance (14 days prior), \$90 at the door

- + Make check payable to Baltimore Camera Club
- + Mail to Baltimore Camera Club to the attention of **Michael Boardman**, 6217 Northwood Drive, Baltimore, MD 21212

- + Tickets will be confirmed via e-mail with a confirmation number needed at the door.

Brenda Tharp is a nationally known photographer who specializes in both nature and the outdoors, and travel photography. She wrote and photographed *Creative Nature and Outdoor Photography* (2003), with a revision due out in March 2010. Brenda has written for *Outdoor Photographer Magazine*, *Apogee.com*, *PhotoMigrations.com*, and *TakeGreatPictures.com.*, and she conducts international workshops and leads photography tours on her own and for various organizations (including *BetterPhoto.com*). For more information, visit her Web site, <http://www.brendatharp.com>

What is PSA?

Promoting the Art and Science of Photography

by Dick Whitley, PSA Representative

The Photographic Society of America (PSA) was established in 1934 and is the largest association of its kind, bringing together professional and amateur photographic enthusiasts of all ages and levels of achievement. As a non-profit organization, its mission is to promote and enhance the art and science of photography in all its phases. PSA offers the opportunity to meet photographers from around the world, and to make new friends who share your interests.

Learn about the services of PSA by visiting its Web site: <http://www.psa-photo.org> and its new member web site: <http://psa-newmember.org>. If you have any questions or you would like to join PSA, contact **Dick Whitley** the club's PSA representative. If after viewing the PSA Web site, you decide to join online please use Dick's name as the person who referred you.

Program Meeting: January 18, 2009

Frank Lee — A Familiar Traveler

by Drew Kalocai, VP for Programs

I always enjoy dipping from the pool of wonderful photographers we have in our membership to do a program. I think we sometimes forget how passionate our fellow members are regarding their photography as we grow accustomed to seeing them nearly every Monday for several months. It will be a refreshing to see **Frank Lee** present images he was inspired to take at the Scenic Wildlife Photo Workshop presented by Rocky Mountain Outdoor Writers & Photographers. Frank attended the workshop on June 21 through the 25, 2009 at the Rocky Mountain National Park.

Frank was a Federal employee for 25 years working for the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) and the

familiar Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC). Frank retired in 2000 and began working for a government consulting firm in 2004. After retiring Frank and his wife, Ellen have mixed travel and photography. They have gone to China, Ireland, Italy, Alaska, Hawaii, New England and the American west. Frank works part-time as a photographer shooting events such as weddings, sports, parties and conferences.

The Rocky Mountain Outdoor Writers & Photographers can be reached at www.rmowp.org. Please join us on January 18 to see Frank Lee's images and hear his ideas.

How-To Meeting: January 25, 2010

Refined B&W Digital Print

by Janet Matthus, VP for How-To

With the latest generation of printers and the ever growing variety of high quality digital printing papers, you can now create rich black-and-white prints digitally. You can create digital prints with all of the tonal nuances and archival quality that used to only be available in the wet darkroom. High quality digital prints can be created from images from your digital camera, scanned darkroom images, and scanned negatives and slides.

The January How-To Meeting will show how to use your computer to digitally create refined black-and-white prints. **Bob Matthews** will share techniques he acquired at a recent workshop given by noted photographer, **George Schaub**. Topics will include a general work-flow for producing B&W images, techniques for converting color images to B&W, adjusting brightness and contrast, digital toning, scanning negatives and prints, and printing on the latest high-quality papers.



Club members (from left) Marion Shipman, James Carrington, Beth Fabey, Bob Matthews, Thelma Loret de Mola, Steve Bruza, Joe Rooney, and Warren Wilson pose after installing B-CCC's exhibit at the Bowie Ciry Hall.



(Above, top to bottom) Top Down Views, HM Advanced Monochrome, Steve Bruza; Smoking Sam, HM Advanced Color Prints, Mike Thomas; Bike Vortex, HM Advanced Digital, Steve Bruza; Remember Me, 3rd Advanced Color Prints, Bill Conway; Linden Lake Farm, 2nd Advanced Digital, Bill Conway.

Competition Corner

Experimental Theme Draws Interest for Second Year in a Row

by Zolt Levay, VP for Competitions

The December competition topic, experimental, proved to be something of a challenge, with a smaller number of entries than usual. But there was no shortage of interesting and beautiful images. For the second year in a row, accomplished photographer and teacher **Frank Van Riper** judged the competition in this theme. He provided a lot of great comments, positive feedback and constructive criticism. The pace of the competition permitted time for the photographers to make a few comments on each winning photograph, which proved to be an interesting addition.

Keep shooting and editing entries for the January competition, with the theme, "a touch of red." Remember that for this competition only, in the monochrome (black & white) print category, you may include red color in otherwise monochrome images. You may of course also enter a wholly monochrome print which may follow the theme more in a more abstract way.

Novice Digital (22 Entries)

- 1st Negative Restraint. . . . Robert Weston
- 2nd Post Stimulus Currency
..... Jim Norton
- 3rd Recliner from Hell . . . Miles T. Smith
- HM Tree in Fog Dena Selby
- HM The Wonderland Shoot
..... Robert Weston
- HM My Impression of Vargas_1
..... Donna Neal

Novice Monochrome (10 Entries)

- 1st Silhouettes on a Train. . . . Beth Fabey
- 2nd Bottle & Glasses. Tony Mallama
- 3rd Flowerbird. Edward Stern

Novice Color Prints (13 Entries)

- 1st Forest Floor. Robert Weston
- 2nd Sphere of the Protector. . . Beth Fabey
- 3rd Hydrangea Petals. Bob Matthews

Advanced Digital (22 Entries)

- 1st Snowflakes Marketa Ebert
- 2nd Linden Lake Farm. Bill Conway
- 3rd Pulaski Statue John P. Aikins
- HM Freedom Tower David Ebert
- HM Farming In Downtown Baltimore
..... George Smyth
- HM Bike Vortex. Stephen Bruza

Advanced Monochrome (17 Entries)

- 1st George A. Smyth III. . . George Smyth
- 2nd Discovery Clarence Carvell
- 3rd What Lies Beneath . . . Robert Weston
- HM Top Down Views Stephen Bruza

Advanced Color Prints (23 Entries)

- 1st Shadowfall. Clarence Carvell
- 2nd Torso Edward Stern
- 3rd Remember Me Bill Conway
- HM Smoking Sam Mike Thomas
- HM Abstract Oil #2. Chuck Bress
- HM Paw Paw Tunnell - West Entrance
..... Clarence Carvell



Member Profile

David Hornick

by Clarence Carvell



It's hard to remember when **Dave Hornick** wasn't helping to pass prints during print competition, helping to set up the competition equipment, helping with the slide projection competition or helping out with the digital competition. In his thirteen years as a member, Dave has been a Photo-talk chair, helped with various workshops, has been a recipient of the B-CCC Educational

Grant and winner of the Photographer of the Year Award in Black and White.

Photography has been in Dave's blood almost from childhood. We often hear of photographers becoming photographers because they were very active in another activity that was somehow associated with photography. Dave, on the other hand, comes from a long line of photographers. His family enjoyed air shows, something you don't find every weekend, but they went whenever they could find one – and they took pictures. So naturally, Dave had to have his own camera and he took pictures (and pictures and pictures).

As Dave tells it, in the early 90's he purchased an Ansel Adams calendar for his father. Seeing Ansel's work and the work of similar west coast photographers like Edward Weston, inspired Dave to read Ansel's series of books on photography and ultimately, to purchase a large format camera, a 4x5 Speed Graphic, along with everything necessary to set up a darkroom. And he is still taking lots of pictures, mostly black and white, and



processing them in his own, now well equipped, darkroom. He has used, among other things, panoramic cameras, 35mm cameras, 6x7 cameras, 5x7 cameras and even digital cameras, all the while collecting quite an array of trophies.

Dave's work frequently allows him time to photograph in some very interesting locations around the country, particularly in the southwest, which he claims to be his favorite place to go. I've followed him around on a couple of these trips and discovered how methodical he can be when conditions are right. Couple that with his enthusiasm for photographing and you have the makings of a real pro. He recently spent a cold night camping out in White Sands National Monument, just so he could add new images to his collection, which has now become a beautiful new book titled "The White Sands Portfolio".

Dave joined B-CCC in 1995. Belonging to the club has allowed him to meet many talented photographers who have helped him gain the kind of knowledge and experience necessary to make the superb images we have seen in competition. Dave has had his work in several exhibits including a couple with fellow photographers and several as part of the Maryland Photographic Alliance.

Dave and Joyce like to travel too, going to places that would seem a little off the beaten path for most of us. Joyce is a beautiful model and the three children have become Dave's favorite subjects. Look for more great things to come from the Hornick studio.



The Viewfinder

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Member Photographic Society of America since 1977
