



“Soma R&B”, by Stefan Kaben, won Honorable Mention for Advanced Monochrome in January’s “Persona Abstracta” competition. See more on pages 4-8.



THE VIEWFINDER

Comments From the President

“Photography is a way of feeling, of touching, of loving.”--Aaron Siskind

by Jeanine Cummins, President

Welcome back to our February edition of the Viewfinder. Your patience is appreciated as we launch this edition.

Thank you, Warren, for agreeing to be the editor.

As we start this new calendar year, Does photography matter to you? Can you name three ways photography motivates you? Digital Photography School wrote about nine reasons photography matters.

- Photography helps us see the beauty in a complex world.
- Our photographs tell us what is important to us.
- Photography documents the world as it is.
- Photographs are a part of our legacy.

- Photographs allow us to share and communicate.
- Photography makes us artists.
- Photography allows us to express ourselves.
- Photography has the power to move us.
- Photography can change the world.

Interesting food for thought photography, should be more than pressing the shutter.

Please continue to submit your images to Denise Hill, our Photographic Society of America (PSA) rep, to submit to the PSA contests.

The Maryland Photography Alliance (<https://www.mdphotoalliance.org/>) will host another Black and White photography contest beginning February 15. The theme is People. Additional information to follow.

Continued on page 3

Calendar:

February 5	Competition	Theme: Travel
February 10	Field Trip	B&O Railroad Museum
February 12	Photo Talk	TBD
February 19	Program Meeting	Ed Palaszynski: Who You Are
February 26	How-To Meeting	Phil Columbus: Digitize Slide/Prints

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Bowie-Crofton Camera Club

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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 second Monday of the month prior to publication (ie, articles submitted in early October will be published in the November newsletter).

Membership Rates

Individual	\$40.00
Family	\$55.00

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.

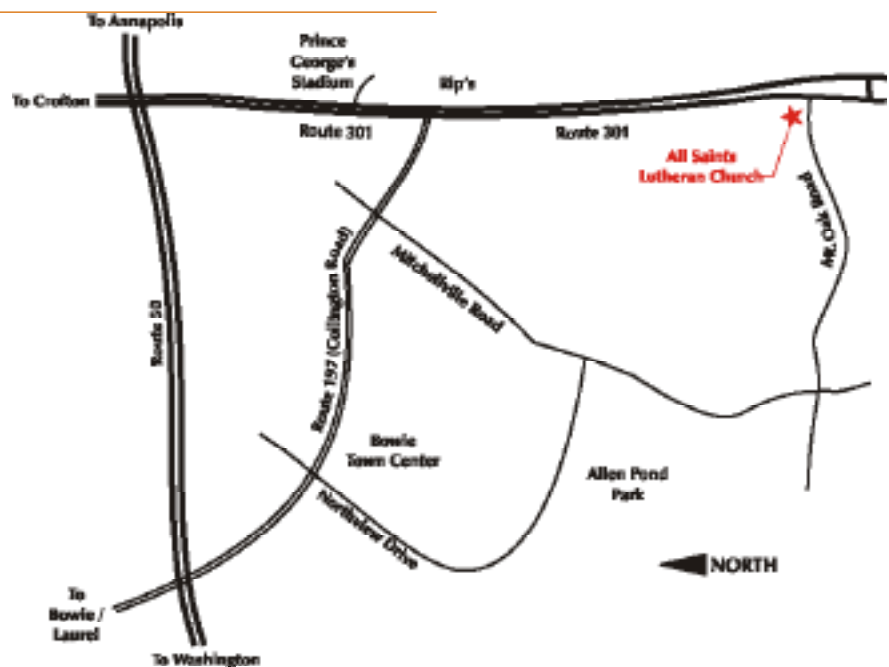
Articles should be sent via e-mail to viewfinder@b-ccc.org. Attachments as MS Word, .txt, or .rtf files are acceptable. Photos and illustrations should be separate attachments.

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.

Photographic Society of America (PSA)

The Bowie-Crofton Camera Club is a member of the Photographic Society of America (PSA) and of the Maryland Photography Alliance (MPA).

For information regarding the benefits of a PSA individual membership and for PSA-sponsored events contact Denise Hill (301) 809-1399 or e-mail psa@b-ccc.org.



Comments From the President - continued from page 1

by Jeanine Cummins, President

Our February competition is Travel. Images must be taken more than 50 miles from Bowie. They should capture the feeling of the time and place and portray the land or culture or people visited.

The February field trip will be to the B & O Museum in Baltimore. Leslie Ferrari is the field trip leader, look for her article in the Viewfinder.

Ed Palaszynski is our Program speaker discussing "Who You Are". Phil Columbus is presenting a How-To about digitalizing slides and prints.

As you can see, there are plenty of opportunities to show your work and learn. "Shoot" consistently and study your craft and instrument. Study other photographers who photograph in a genre that interests you or catches your eye. Frank Stewart, who recently had a special exhibition at the Phillips

Collection, has a photo-a-day challenge that is simple; the idea is to photograph daily. If you want to get better, you must do the work.

Happy New Year everyone!



Meeting Schedule for Remainder of Club Year

Keep track of which meetings are in-person, and which are virtual only

by Vincent Ferrari

Please look over the schedule for the remainder of the club year, and especially note which meetings will be held in person, and which will be virtual only. In person meetings will be hybrid, so they can also be attended virtually.

Competitions: All competitions for the duration of the club year are in person.

- February 5
- March 4
- April 1
- May 6
- End of Year Awards – June 3

Photo Talk: All Photo Talk sessions will be held via Zoom only.

Program Meetings:

- February 19 – Roland Shainidze – Virtual
- March 18 -Ronald Beverly - In Person
- April 15 – Annual Slideshow – In Person
- May 20 – Wayne Thomas -Virtual

How-To Meetings:

- February 26 – Stephanie Johnson -Virtual
- March 25 – Geffrard Bourke – Virtual
- April 22 – Leon Smith – In Person
- May 20 - Turk/Smale – In Person

Any changes going forward will be announced.

Competition Corner

January 8 "Persona Abstracta" Competition Results

by Charles Jemmott, VP Competition

Sharon Thorpe was our judge for the January "Persona Abstracta" competition. We submitted 79 images (69 Advanced, 10 Novice) for Sharon to review.

Sharon provided excellent feedback for every image, detailing the story the image told her. Per Sharon, the winning images made her wish to learn more about the subject of the image.

Congratulations to all the winners, and good luck to all in February's "Travel" competition; (please enter prints)!

March Competition Judge

Theme for March is Out of Focus.

by Charles Jemmott, VP Competition and Mark Franco

March's theme is Out of Focus: Integral to the subject, not just bokeh.

Mark Franko is a career Navy aerospace engineer who has worked in numerous tactical aircraft programs. He is currently a deputy program manager at DARPA.

Mark is an avid outdoor photographer with interests in aviation, steam-powered railroads, lighthouses, old neon signs, and the National parks. His work has been publicly displayed in MD county and federal buildings, and published in multiple national railroad periodicals. He is a charter member of the St. Mary's county camera club.

His photography work has been published in national magazines and publications, and displayed in local public MD buildings and regional museums. He enjoys photographing steam railroads, lighthouses, aviation and historical recreations.



More Competition Results on page 5.

Competition Corner

January 8 Competition Results, continued

Competition Standings Following the January Competition

Advanced Color Prints

William (Bill) Bailey46
 Karen Smale16
 Jeanine Cummins11
 Stanley Turk8

Novice Color Prints

Beverly Shomo.1

Advanced Digital

William (Bill) Bailey.41
 Charles Jemmott.24
 Monica Hawse21
 Kim Kowalewski17

Novice Digital

Javia Walters.41
 Sharon Ruhly.34
 Alice Collins.20
 Renee Butler.20

Advanced Monochrome

William (Bill) Bailey27
 Stanley Turk.26
 Albert Alexander6
 Karen Smale.5

Novice Monochrome

Beverly Shomo5
 Alice Collins.1

Novice Digital (10 Entries)

1st The Path Less Traveled ...Javia Walters
 2nd Mist of SelfRenee Butler
 3rd Chopper DreamsJavia Walters

Novice Monochrome Prints (0 Entries)

Novice Color Prints (0 Entries)



Chopper Dreams, 3rd. Novice Digital, Javia Walters



Cool, 1st. Advanced Color Prints, Jeanine Cummins

Advanced Digital (39 Entries)

1st My Big ToeWilliam (Bill) Bailey
 2nd February StormWarren E. Wilson
 3rd Steve at Salmon GlacierDena Selby
 HM The WinnerBill Collins
 HM Hold upJeanine Cummins
 HM Let There Be WaterWilliam (Bill) Bailey
 HM My BuddyBill Collins
 HM Shadow RiderStephen Bruza
 HM Working HandsRobert H. Eubanks
 HM Outdoor WeddingWarren E. Wilson

Advanced Monochrome Prints (17 Entries)

1st RecitalWarren E. Wilson
 2nd Silhouettes on the Lake...Vincent Ferrari
 3rd Havana Night Travel . . .Bill Collins
 HM Soma R&BStefan Kaben

Advanced Color Prints (18 Entries)

1st CoolJeanine Cummins
 2nd StatuesqueVincent Ferrari
 3rd No Doubt.William (Bill) Bailey
 HM Beautiful Melodies. . . .William (Bill) Bailey

More Competition

Photos

on page 6.

Competition Corner

January 8 Competition Results, continued

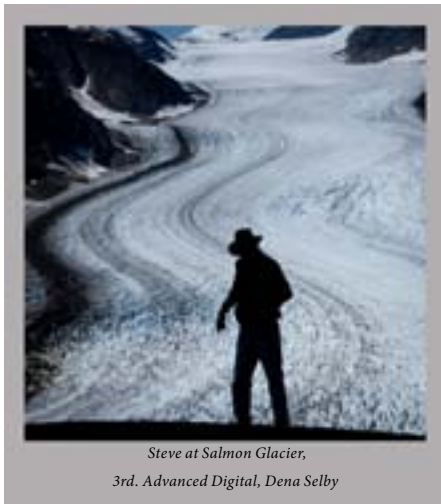


*My Big Toe, 1st. Advanced Digital,
William (Bill) Bailey*

William (B)



February Storm, 2nd. Advanced Digital, Warren E. Wilson



*Steve at Salmon Glacier,
3rd. Advanced Digital, Dena Selby*



The Winner, HM Advanced Digital, Bill Collins



*Working Hands, HM Advanced Digital,
Robert H. Eubanks*

More Competition Photos on page 7.

Competition Corner

January 8 Competition Results, continued



*Let There Be Water, HM Advanced Digital,
William (Bill) Bailey*



Recital, 1st. Advanced Monochrome, Warren E. Wilson



My Buddy, HM Advanced Digital, Bill Collins



Outdoor Wedding, HM Advanced Digital, Warren E. Wilson



Silhouettes on the Lake, 2nd. Advanced Monochrome, Vincent Ferrari



Havana Night Travel, 3rd. Advanced Monochrome, Bill Collins

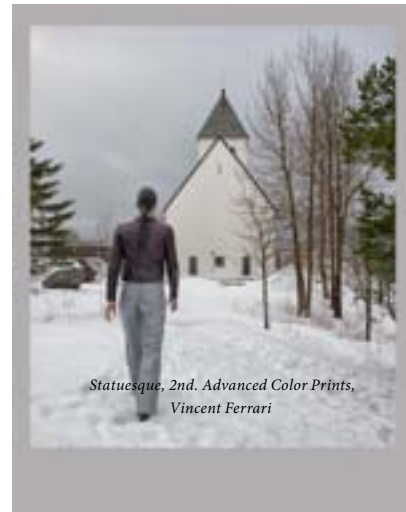
More Competition Photos on page 8.

Competition Corner

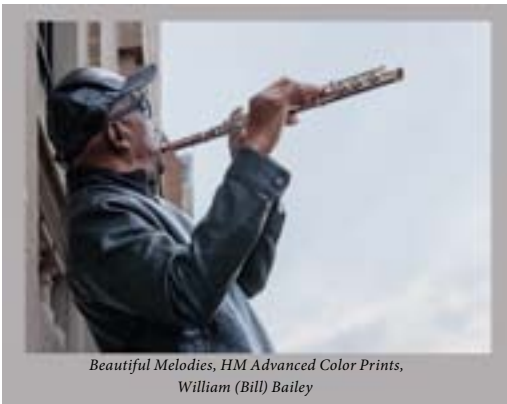
January 8 Competition Results, continued



Soma Re&B, HM Advanced Monochrome, Stefan Kaben



*Statuesque, 2nd. Advanced Color Prints,
Vincent Ferrari*



*Beautiful Melodies, HM Advanced Color Prints,
William (Bill) Bailey*



*No Doubt, 3rd. Advanced Color Prints,
William (Bill) Bailey*



*The Path Less Traveled,
1st. Novice Digital, Javia Walters*



Hold up, HM Advanced Digital, Jeanine Cummins

Out and About

What B-CCC members are up to this month

by Warren Wilson, Editor

Five club members—Vincent Ferrari, Stefan Kaben, Kim Kowalewski, Stanley Turk, and Warren Wilson—are exhibiting at the Lowe House Office Building, located at 6 Bladen Street, Annapolis. The exhibit is open 9am-

5pm, Monday through Friday. The exhibit Collective Ground runs January 11-April 10, 2024. (Note: Security requires a valid ID, such as driver's license.) Should you need more information, call 410-841-3392.

Upcoming Events

News about non-club related photographic events

by Warren Wilson, Editor and Vincent Ferrari

NECCC is sponsoring a free mini series of webinars on judging Nature Images following the Photographic Society of America's new Nature Rules of Competition. The webinars are scheduled once a month for an hour-long presentation followed by time to answer questions.

Although these webinars are following PSA's rules which are more restrictive than B-CCC's, and are meant to instruct Nature judges, all photographers who enjoy participating in Nature competitions could learn what many judges are looking for when determining winning images.

The next webinar in this series is scheduled as below:

When: Feb 24, 2023 07:00 p.m. EST.

Topic: NECCC Judging Mini Series - Making Competitive Nature Images

Register in advance for this webinar:

www.tinyurl.com/45zppn2j

Save the dates for Coastal Camera Club's Virtual Beach Bash in February 2023. The Virtual Beach Bash is set for Saturday February 25 and Sunday February 26, with exciting speakers Colleen Miniuk and Joe Edelman. Coastal Camera Club is providing these sessions at no charge. For detailed information about the event and our speakers, you can check their website at:

www.coastalcameraclub.com/activities/photo-beach-bash/

The Maryland Photography Alliance (MPA) will be hosting another photography contest soon. This one is the 2023 Black & White Contest. The submission

period will begin on February 15, and winners will be announced during April's "Odyssey of Light" seminar. More details will be announced soon. For now, there is some info on Facebook at the following link:

www.tinyurl.com/3yy2cund

Photography tips in short, free videos:

<https://www.outofchicago.com/blog/>

The Future of Orchids

This is a current exhibition in the Kogod Courtyard of the Smithsonian Association, will be on display until April 28, 2024.

<https://gardens.si.edu/exhibitions/future-of-orchids/>

Photography is welcome. But, tripods and similar devices are prohibited.

Tips from Joe Reardon

From Joe Reardon, you'll find tips for all—from beginner to advanced, covering subjects such as bokeh and silhouettes.

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Free alternatives to Photoshop:

This is a link to an article posted on Facebook by the Arundel Camera Club.

<https://www.diyphotography.net/best-free-photoshop-alternatives-for-2024/>

February Field Trip - Feb. 10

B&O Museum Fieldtrip, Baltimore, Maryland

by Leslie Ferrari, Field Trip Leader

On February 10, 2024, the B-CCC will be returning to the B&O Museum in Baltimore. We'll meet when the museum opens at 10:00 am. Admission is \$20 adults/\$17 for seniors. If you wish to take a one mile train ride, the cost is an extra \$5.

The museum contains the most comprehensive collection of historic early American locomotives and rolling stock through modern times in the world. The museum is also home to over 6,000 small objects covering every facet of railroading. With both indoor and outdoor exhibits, weather is not an issue. At noon, there is a turntable demonstration in the roundhouse, which I would encourage.

The café is currently closed, so lunch will be at Zella's Pizzeria which is a 10 minute walk (0.2 mi) from the museum, at a time agreeable to the group.

February is also the beginning of the Lunar New Year celebration. If folks are interested, the Walters Art Museum has a free interactive exhibit and is open until 4:00 pm. The Walters Museum is around 1.5 miles from the B&O, so people may want to drive. Pay parking is available nearby as well as some free street parking.

Annual Slideshow--April 15

by Vincent Ferrari

B-CCC's Annual Slideshow Presentation

The date for our club's annual slideshow presentation is coming up fast! This year's event will be on Monday, April 15. So, if you are interested in producing a show, now is the time to get to work on it. If you have any questions, or need help in any way, please don't hesitate to contact me at: vincentferrari@gmail.com.



The city event for the Lunar New Year is at the Inner Harbor. The performances require tickets which are sold out. I am including the link in case anyone is interested.

Remember to complete/update your emergency medical form which can be found on the B-CCC website under resources. Complete

and print the form, put it in an envelope, label it and pop it in your camera bag. In case of emergency, we'll pull it out and give it to the paramedics.

B&O Museum

<https://www.borail.org/visit-the-bo/>

Zella's Pizzeria

<https://www.zellaspizzeria.com/#home>

Walters Art Museum

<https://thewalters.org/event/lny2024/>

Lunar New Year Inner Harbor

Also, if you are interested, I posted a short video with some tips and suggestions about creating a show. You can find it at this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V9P9vziQVKs&t=13s>

I am looking forward to seeing your shows.

February How-To Meeting - Feb. 26

Philip Columbus: Digitize your slides or prints

by Karen Smale, VP How-To

How To Digitize Old Photos

Do you have a closet full of old slides, prints, or negatives that you long to digitize? Our How-To speaker for February is Philip Columbus and he will help us to learn how to do just that! This How-To meeting will be on February 26 via Zoom.

There are three objectives in his presentation. First, we are going to explore what it will take to organize the old photos you have in such a way that digitizing them is as painless as possible. As we all know, if you fail to plan you plan to fail. While we are tempted to just throw ourselves into the digitization process, it's best to take some time up front to inventory what we have and put together a plan to make the process go smoothly.

The second is to discuss how modern photographic software enables us to collect and manage large numbers of photos. This software and the internet enable us to collect, curate, and share our photos with friends and family around the world. So, while we won't

be doing tutorials on how to be an expert in Adobe Lightroom or Photoshop, we will see how these tools can assist us.

Finally, we will see what some of the new digital cameras and lenses offer us in their ability to quickly and accurately digitize our old images. The current generation of digital cameras and lenses can produce high quality reproductions of old negatives, slides and prints. These copies are good enough that we can produce fairly large prints if we desire.

Philip Columbus was born in Pennsylvania and attended Carnegie-Mellon University where he obtained a degree in Mechanical Engineering. Following four years in the military, Mr. Columbus worked in a variety of organizations in the Pittsburgh area and then took a position with the US Army at the Training and Doctrine Command at Fort Monroe, Virginia, where he worked for 18 years. He finished his career at the Pentagon and retired in 2017 to Newport News, Virginia.

Artomatic is Back!

March 8-April 28, 2024: Washington, DC

by Stefan Kaben

Exciting News! Artomatic is celebrating its 25th year anniversary at 2100 M St NW in Washington, DC, anticipating over 100,000 visitors and featuring 1,000+ visual artists. Set within a soon-to-be repurposed office building in the Golden Triangle Business District, the event offers diverse art displays, performances, screening rooms, workshops, and engaging program areas. Registration is now open. To learn more, artists can go to <http://www.artomatic.org> and sign up for updates. Taking place while cherry blossoms bloom in March and April 2024, Artomatic provides a unique experience, showcasing artists' creative use of space amid

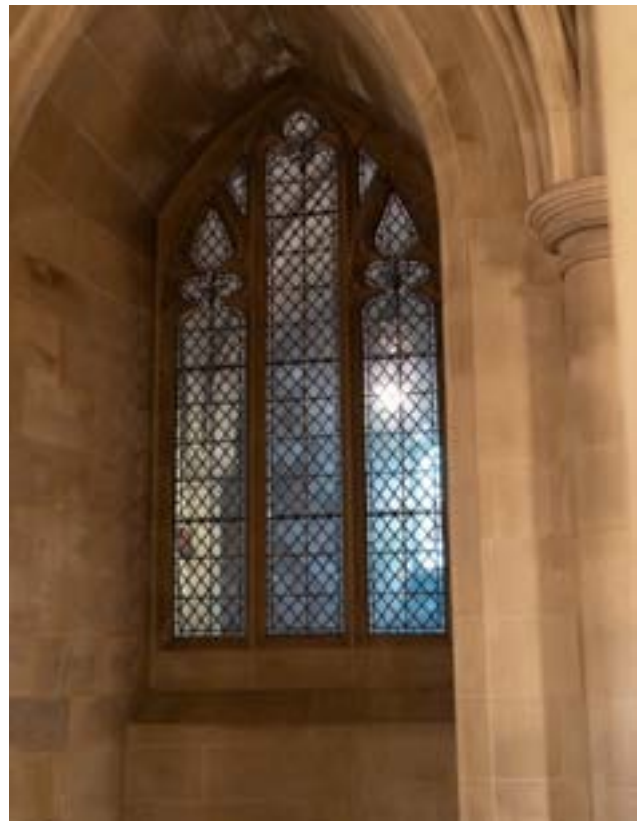


nationwide office vacancies. Join us to demonstrate the transformative power of art in shaping our world!

That was an announcement blurb that was part of my editorial duties. Some important info for camera club members is:

- The show is not juried, open to all artists, first-come first served. Registration opened January 19.
- Visual artists (like artists and photographers) pay \$150 to join.
- Visual artists must volunteer for, and complete, three (3) 5-hour work shifts. The entire event is run and staffed by volunteers (like yours truly).
- The actual event runs March 8 through April 28.

Photos From January Field Trip
National Cathedral



All photos this page by Bob Petrow

Photos From January Field Trip
National Cathedral, continued



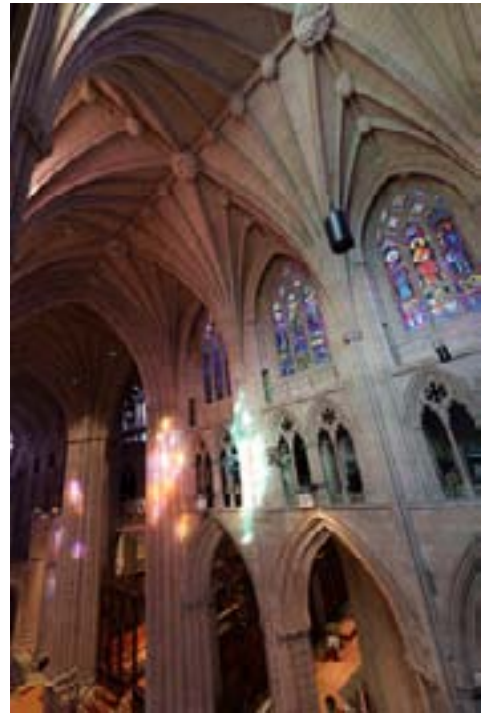
Top 2 images by Bob Petrow; bottom 2 by Jin-chung Hsu

Photos From January Field Trip
National Cathedral, continued



All images this page by Glenn Thompson

Photos From January Field Trip
National Cathedral, continued



All photos this page by Denise Hill

Photos From January Field Trip
National Cathedral, continued



All photos this page by Beth Fabey

Parting Shot

This month's Parting Shot is from Vince Ferrari. If you would like to have your image and story presented here, send it to:

warren_eugene@hotmail.com

On New Year's Day, we found ourselves driving the "scenic route" to take us home from the Norfolk, Virginia area. This route meant that we took the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel, and went home via the Eastern Shore. Since we were passing Chincoteague on the way, and we were in no hurry, we decided to stop and have a look at the beach. To our surprise, on January 1, there were people swimming in the ocean. I don't know how cold that water was, but I sure wasn't going to try it!

-- Vince Ferrari



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