



HUNTINGDON VALLEY CAMERA CLUB NEWSLETTER MARCH 2009

Open Competition on March 4th

An Open Competition is planned for Wednesday, March 4th, at 7:15 PM in the Community Room of the Huntingdon Valley Library, 625 Red Lion Road, Huntingdon Valley, PA. Please try to sign in your entries, up to three in each category, by 7:00 PM. In addition, remember to bring to the March meeting four or five of your best images, so we can pick 30 images to be entered into an Interclub Competition on April 20 (see item on Page 2 of this newsletter).

HVCC is hoping that the weather on its winter meeting dates will be clear, but keep in mind that meetings will be rescheduled whenever the Huntingdon Valley Library is closed due to inclement weather conditions—their telephone number is (215) 947-5138. If a meeting must be rescheduled, the HVCC board will call members to notify them of the new date.

Special Events on March 11th and March 18th

Two interesting field trips have been planned for March. On Wednesday morning, March 11th, we are invited to learn about Tabletop Photography at Dan Troy's Studio. Wednesday, March 18th, is the scheduled date for our Downtown Dinner and Night Photography Outing. See Sandy & Frank's Corner (below) for more details, and be sure to call Sandy at (215) 335-3972—or let her know at our March 4th meeting—if you are planning to attend either event. As with all winter events, there is the possibility of rescheduling due to inclement weather, so it's especially important to call Sandy with your contact information if you're interested.

Sandy & Frank's Corner

What is that?

That was the question many of us were asking ourselves at last month's Abstract Competition.

Not always sure of what we are viewing is part of the interest and fun of abstract images. From an artistic viewpoint, our judge, Laura Kicey, shared her excellent eye and knowledge of abstract with us; we may see our world a little differently now because of it. Thank you, Laura.

Mark your calendar with these two dates: Wednesday, March 11th, and Wednesday, March 18th.

On the 11th, our past judge, Dan Troy, has invited us as a group to his studio where he will demonstrate table top photography. It is a great opportunity for us to learn more about lighting from a professional.

The following Wed March 18th, will be our Downtown Dinner and Night Light Photography Outing. Learn your camera settings and purchase a tripod if you do not already have one. Please call me (Sandy) ASAP so I can make reservations for our group at a local restaurant. (As a thank you from us, Dan Troy will be joining us for dinner.)

We hope to see everyone March 4th at our Open Competition. Our judge will be Mimi Janosy, a studio photographer. She will be sharing some of her work with us and will be available for questions. We will also have a visit from Spencer Saunders who will talk about the Phillip's Mill exhibition and competition. More information to come.

~Sandy Livezey and Frank Linder, Co-Presidents

“Ely Rotunda” by Cary Rush wins February 11th Competition



Cary Rush was awarded Best in Show at our February 11th “Abstracts and Patterns “ competition, with a monochrome image of Ely Rotunda, taken at Ely Cathedral, a medieval church in Cambridgeshire, England. Congratulations, Cary! Congratulations also to one of our newer members, Leslie Ogle, who received an honorable mention for her color image “Sun Shadows”. Here’s the complete list of winners:

Best in Show	Cary Rush	Ely Rotunda
Color		
1 st Place	Charlotte Bernstein	Color Streams
2 nd Place	Sandra Livezey	Distorted Construction
3 rd Place	Frank Linder	Circles
Honorable Mentions	Harvey Ballen	Fresh Fish
	Leslie Ogle	Sun Shadows
	Sid Snyder	On a Slant
Monochrome		
1 st Place	Cary Rush	Ely Rotunda
2 nd Place	Sherry Resnick	Water Plants
3 rd Place	Charlotte Bernstein	Contours
Honorable Mention	Charlotte Bernstein	Variegated

CESOP Schedules Picasa Demo on March 23rd

CESOP (Computer Education Society of Philadelphia) runs a Photoshop Special Interest Group that is of particular interest to HVCC members. On Monday evening, March 23rd, they will be demonstrating Picasa, a very easy to use photo organizing and editing program which can be downloaded free from Google. More information can be found at their website, www.cesop.org.

Consider Entering Prestigious Phillips Mill Exhibition

The 17th Annual Phillips Mill Photographic Exhibition, located at 2619 River Road, New Hope, is often referred to as “the Best Show on the East Coast.” This year entries are being accepted in both digital and framed format: Digital entries and the framed entries that are shipped must be delivered by Friday, March 20, Framed entries that are hand delivered will be received on Friday, March 27, 5 PM to 8 PM and Saturday, March 28, 10 AM to 2 PM. The exhibition will be open to the public May 31 through Jun 21, 2009, from 1-5 PM Sundays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, and 1-9 PM Fridays and Saturdays. Complete information, entry forms and winning images from past exhibitions can be found at www.phillipsmill.org.

Interclub Competition on April 20th

Huntingdon Valley Camera Club will participate in an Interclub Competition against Focal Plane, Churchville and Newtown Camera Club on Monday, April 20, at 7:00 PM. The competition will be hosted by Churchville Photography Club, Churchville Nature Center, 501 Churchville Lane, Churchville, PA. Additional details of this exciting event will be provided at the March meeting and in the April newsletter but in the meantime be sure to save the date.

Around and About HVCC

Yetta Simon, wife of Past President **Marv Simon** and mother of **Beth Leibovitz** passed away on Monday, February 16th, after a long fight with Parkinson's. Beth reminisced in a note, "My Mom always enjoyed the Camera Club's field trips and learned the tolerance of waiting...waiting....waiting for that perfect shot. She really had no choice, since my Dad and I outnumbered her with our cameras and gadgets. She was merely a happy tag along. We had many terrific trips and great memories with such a wonderful group of people." The HVCC has made a contribution to Jewish National Fund (JNF) in memory of Mrs. Yetta Simon. The family can be reached at 11705 Lockart Rd, Philadelphia, PA 19116, phone # (215) 934-5674 or via e-mail at brlebo24@aol.com.

Don't let those used printer cartridges go to waste! Howard R. Silverstein is accepting on behalf of Old York Road Temple-Beth Am contributions of empty laser toner or inkjet cartridges for recycling. Questions can be directed to him via e-mail hrs8704@comcast.net or via phone (215) 333-0971.

Congratulations to **Marty Malgieri** and **Sherry Resnick**, whose images were selected--from thousands submitted--and shown at the Wilmington International Exhibition for Photography at the University of Delaware on February 22nd and March 1st.

Welcome to new members **Jack Eiler, Janie Gottfried** and **Sandy and Jerry Weiner**.

Why Make Night Photographs?

(1) Night Photography - colour and mood

The most obvious reasons for night photography are the enormous changes in light and mood that are evident once the sun has set. Photographers are always chasing interesting light for their images, and conditions after dark often support fantastic colour effects. Even a dark night sky contains stars and upper atmosphere ionisation effects (glows) which often produce very beautiful colours.

I believe that many interesting night photographs are often taken at light levels where our own eyes no longer work as we would expect. This is what sets night photography apart, our visualization of the image is relatively imprecise and subconscious, impression is everything. We are set free as photographers, we are not aiming to absolutely predict the final image even before it is made, instead we learn to recognize situations where something interesting will happen, and then we use our understanding of the entire photographic process to steer the image towards the meaning we intended. For me, therefore, night photography gains its great power by combining the two traditional photographic approaches, that of the found and the created image.

I think this acceptance of our own subconscious and imprecise reading of the landscape is what characterizes night photography and makes it special. The subconscious is mysterious and creative, night photography taps straight into it.

(2) Night Photography - philosophy

Night photography takes us back to our roots as photographers. On the whole we don't need complex exposure metering equipment and gizmos, we return to the simple format of using our eyes, cameras used on the "B" setting, tripods and long estimated exposures. In short we return to being contemplative photographers with a strong kinship with the nineteenth century pioneers of photography. There is added poignancy to this retro view of night work as my generation of photographers is busy making the transition from film photography to digital imaging, a truly seismic change.

(3) Night Photography - a heightened sense of place and time

Standing in a dark landscape waiting for an exposure to finish gives you a lot of time to really look at

your surroundings. You can almost feel the stars moving round you, and every sound and movement is magnified. The landscape is tangibly real and your desire to sum up your experience in the next photograph heightens your vision. I usually take my night photographs with mixed feelings of excitement and mystery, an awareness of beauty and exclusivity, and fear.

(4) Night Photography - perspective in a difficult age

Night photography brings a sense of peace and integration with the landscape/night sky while you are working. I believe that the meditative quality of good night photography truly reflects the photographer's state of mind. The night has scale and grandeur, I find it the perfect antidote to my culture's joyless consumerism and misplaced interest in "celebrities".

(5) Night Photography - a mystical experience

A revered tutor once described photography to me as "making something out of nothing", and that urge to create something out of the darkness overwhelms. The night is the negative of the positive daytime, and this almost photographic duality still entralls me. How strange that the very days and nights that host our lives should mirror photography itself. Night photography is for the mystical.

Photography for me has always been a struggle to see more clearly. Every once in a while I make an image that pleases me, but in between successes I feel sure that I will never take a good photograph again, and apathy claims me for a while. I don't make many images during the course of the year, I am not capable of doing so. Sometimes lack of inspiration, the vagaries of the weather or that ever-present fear of going out alone into the dark yet one more time, conspire to sap my enthusiasm. However, eventually the need to make or find something again becomes too strong, and out I must go into the darkness to find the light.

I love night photography because it is strange and unearthly, a powerful counterbalance to the inevitable blunting of the senses that many of us fight against 99% of our lives. I can't say I find it an easy discipline, but none of us can choose who we are, and the night always returns to us, offering its own profound aesthetic.

~David Baldwin

(Your editor found this article by David Baldwin, along with some wonderful examples of his night photographs, at <http://www.nightfolio.co.uk>. Mr. Baldwin was kind enough to grant permission to reprint his article in our newsletter.)

National Geographic Website Offers Photography Tips

If you'd like to improve your photography skills, National Geographic provides a great resource at <http://photography.nationalgeographic.com/photography/photo-tips>. The tips are even categorized: Digital Photography; People & Portraits; Landscape Photography; Action & Adventure Photography; Travel Photography; and Videos. In addition to the slide shows of tips and illustrative photographs, there are demonstration videos. Two examples of tips: Polarizing sunglasses held in front of your camera lens can stand in for a polarizing filter. Turn off your camera's automatic white balance to get more vivid shots of sunsets. The website also has a collection of photo galleries, an "Ask the Photographer" section where you may find the answers to your questions and a "Your Shot" contest where you can submit a favorite photo for possible publication in National Geographic Magazine.

Thought for the Month (on Night Photography)

During the day, when most photographs are made, scenes are usually viewed from the vantage-point of a fixed single light source, the sun. At night the light can come from unusual and multiple sources. There can be deep shadows which act as catalysts for our imagination. There is often a sense of drama, a story about to be told, secrets revealed, actors about to enter onto the stage.

The night has vast potential for creativity. *~Michael Kenna*

UPCOMING EVENTS @ HVCC

Wednesday, March 11th—Tabletop Photography at Dan Troy's Studio
Wednesday, March 18th—Downtown Dinner and Night Light Photography Outing
Monday, March 23rd—CESOP Photoshop Special Interest Group—Picasa Demonstration

Wednesday, April 1st—Themed Competition—Night Photography
Monday, April 20th—Interclub Competition at Churchville
Saturday, April 25th—DVCCC Spring Foto Fling in Maple Shade, NJ

Wednesday, May 6th—Themed Competition—Nature
Saturday, May 16th—Scavenger Hunt & Picnic

Wednesday, June 3rd—Major Competition
Wednesday, June 17th—Awards Banquet

Officers & Contacts 2008-2009

Co-Presidents: Sandra Livezey (215) 335-3972 & Frank Linder (215) 698-7642
Vice President: Sherry Resnick (215) 947-8745
Treasurer: Howard R. Silverstein (215) 333-0971
Secretary & Newsletter Editor: Edie Krieger (215) 947-7173
Immediate Past President: Marty Malgieri (215) 969-1589
DVCCC Representative: Charlotte Micklos FDVC (215) 725-9217
Membership: Rhissa Levy (215) 934-6195
Exhibitions: Sherry Resnick (215) 947-8745
Events Coordinator & Awards Dinner Charlotte Bernstein (215) 673-9712

OUR CAMERA CLUB IS A PROUD MEMBER OF:

