

Focal Plane

A Publication of the Ridgewood Camera Club

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RCC AND HOW WE GOT HERE.

By Chick Chakarian

THE DIGITAL SECRET.

By George Garbeck

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Host: Dieter Steinmeyer
Judge: Jim Stachecki
Judge: Roman Kurywczak
Camille LaPlaca Post

From the Editor

This month's Focal Plane came together nice and easy thanks to articles by Chick Chakarian and George Garbeck. (only two more issues this season)

Now that spring is here my attention is more directed to gardening. The wildflowers will be coming up soon. So get ready for some wet belly photography. Skyland Manor is a good place to start by the end of April. Branch Brook Park in Newark should be ready right now.

www.branchbrookpark.org/

Now that most of us are into Digital Photography it has become much cheaper to practice the craft. The tradeoff is that you spend more time in front of the tube, but you save on buying and developing film.

Either way you got to practice, practice.

Enjoy your Photography

Dieter

**On April 15, 2007
at 2 pm**

CHICK WILL PRESENT HIS SHOW

“Escalante/ Nova Scotia”

At the Fairleigh Dickinson University's Weiner Library.
980 River Road, Teaneck. NJ.

**There will also be a display of
his prints through the years.**

April 2– April 29, 2007

KENNETH A. LICHT
Will display his prints

“Photoshop Abstracts”

At the
Riverdale Public Library
412 River Vale Road
River Vale, NJ
Opening Reception
April 15 2-4 pm

Focal Plane

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Monthly Bulletin of Ridgewood Camera Club

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**Mark your Calendar
for
The Ridgewood Camera Club's
Annual Dinner
at
The Ramsey Country Club.
May 23rd 2007**

RCC and How We Got There

One day I walked into a small printer in NYC, about 1956 or so. The owner was talking to a well dressed individual who I thought was a customer. His name was Howard "Bud" Carson. The "customer" walked over to me, introduced himself, and said he had just bought the company. I was pleased that he was so friendly. We did become good friends. Lunched together often, started to visit and play Bridge.

In 1965 my brother talked me into getting golf clubs. Turns out, Howard also played golf and that took our friendship to a higher level. In 1967, he said I should join his golf club. The Initiation fee was \$100 and the dues \$150.00 per year.

Two other friends, Howard and I would ride together to the golf club. Ken McDowell talked about his great many southwestern trips, also, the Canadian Rockies and Nova Scotia. He was especially fond of Arches. Ken was also a member of RCC. Howard started talking about my joining the Ridgewood Camera Club. He invited us to a couple of the Annual Dinners. Well, I was playing golf and it was not a good time for us to consider joining. But, we did decide to take our first big vacation. It was April of 1970. Ken McDowell laid out the trip for us. We flew to Phoenix, drove through the Wupatki Ruins, Sunset Crater, Grand Canyon where we were the only people at so many viewpoints. While lunching (we figured we would do well to be prepared to picnic a lot) at an overlook at the Canyon, it started to snow. The snow was falling "up" An updraft. Then Zion, Bryce with snow in the pictures, over to Arches. Ken said take the Ottinger's Canyonland trip. They had a rock shop in Moab. We arranged the trip for the next day and things started to get real exciting. The trip through Canyonlands was over rocks and rough terrain. Again, outside of a Tag-a-Long tour, we were the only ones in the park. We were in one of those VW. vans that had a tendency to flip. At the third or fourth stop, we got back into the van and it would not start. I opened the back. The heavily corroded battery cable had broken. So, it was push and push two more times until she remembered not to turn the engine off. Ken had said make sure you take the Shaefer Trail. We did. The road was just a bit more wide than the van. When you looked out, you saw down. It was exciting. (In later years when we went back to Moab, we drove our rented vehicle up the road with bicyclists,

runners and hikers all sharing the road). Well, we got back to the motel and were quite excited about the great day we had. We packed up as we were going to Denver the next day (you could pick up a car and drop it off at a different place then). As we neared Vail, it started to snow hard. When we got to Vail, the road to Vail Pass and Loveland pass was closed to all vehicles except those with chains. And people who had come through said it was real bad. I got the map out and decided to drive south and then cut across to Colorado Springs. That meant passing through Leadville and a 10,000 foot high pass. We were able to follow a plow across the pass. And it was fine then to Colorado Springs. When we got up the next morning, it was raining. What a change. We scheduled to fly home the next day. I asked Helen why don't we check TWA and see if we can get a flight today. We got one. Got on, settled in. We started down the runway and almost at once the Captain killed the engines. He said they thought they had seen smoke out of #3 engine. Back to the terminal and free drinks. A truck pulled up to the plane. It said "WATER" on the truck. It hooked up and pumped in water. We never had anything like that in the B-24s. After a half hour, and NOTHING ELSE was done, it was back to the run-way. Race the engines, release the brakes and we started down the runway. This time we went down a little further before he cut the engines. At this point I said to Helen we are getting off! Well, he did not go back to the gate. We circled around and came to the runway again. And down we went and went and went. I said to Helen he is not getting take off speed. At the very end he lifted off. Years later, our neighbor's daughter was marrying a TWA pilot and I related to him our experience in Denver. He laughed. Oh, that was one of the water wagons. The early 707s did not have the power to take off at Denver's altitude so they fed water into the system to create more thrust.

Well, Howard had loaned me his Nikkomat FTN, a 50mm lens and a 200 mm lens. I did real well! It became possible for us to join the RCC in December of that year. Howard said wait until January, it will be half price. So, in January 1971 we joined. And it has been interesting since. Through Howard I was introduced to the RCC and the golf club. From that friendship, so much evolved. So very much.

Chick

Pictorial Competition

March 21 2007

David DesRochers was judging

Class B Honorable Mentions

Kruger Karen Church Bell Reflected
Szostak Sonya Amanda

Class B Awards

Dong Jia Han..... Devil City Sunset
Placer Joe Navajo Weaver

Class A Honorable Mentions

Forrest Marjorie Red Amaryllis
Molino Maggie..... Ni Hao China
O'Malley Della Cable Mill at
..... Cade's Cove
O'Malley Della Old Mill in
..... Piegon Forge
Simpson Allen..... Turbulent Chicago
Steinmeyer Dieter Going Home

Class A Awards

Kane Bob High Voltage
Molino Maggie..... Beijing Grandma
O'Malley Della Delicate Pink Clematis

Botanical Honorable Mentions

Simpson Allen..... Smartweed
Parseghian Alyce..... Lady Slipper solo
Steinmeyer Dieter..... Butter & Egg

Botanical Awards

Simpson Allen Mayapple
Simpson Allen Rough-fruited
Cinquefoil

Nature Competition

March 28 2007

Ben Venezia was judging

General Honorable Mentions

Vaccaro Andrew..... Canyon Light
Toby Spector The Watchman
Toby Spector Vermont Brook

General Awards

Vaccaro Andrew..... The Mitten
Parseghian Alyce..... Zion Waterfall

Zoological Honorable Mentions

Johnson Norm..... Wolf on Ice
Kane Marie Julia Wings Folded
Levine Joyce..... Crab
Molino Maggie Elk Portrait
Szostak Sonya..... Baby Snow Leopard
standing in the snow

Zoological Awards

Kane Marie..... Elk Calf
Marjorie Forrest..... Female Damselfly
O'Malley Della Owl Butterfly

Ornithological Honorable Mentions

Fox Connie Red Belly Woody
Fred Helfst..... Great Egret Landing
O'Malley Della Ready to Strike
O'Malley Della White Ibis in Cape
Florida

Ornithological Awards

Gheno RichSimply: A Sparrow
Goodell Doug.....Hairy Woodpeckers -
Eat-up
Goodell Doug.....Scarlet Macaws -
Courtship
Kempf Vinnie.....Reddish Egret Fishing 2
Kempf Vinnie.....Roseate Spoonbill 2
Kruger KarenGreat Blue Heron
Courtship
Fred HelfstRing-billed Gull with
Worm
Fred HelfstBlack-necked Stilt

CLASS A - MARCH 2007

	P	A	N	T
V. Kempf	84	25	92	201*
M. Forrest	91	17	90	198*
M. Molino	92	20	86	198*
R. Gheno	85	25	87	197*
M. Kane	87	19	88	194*
D. O'Malley	92	18	84	194*
P. O'Malley	85	20	89	194*
A. Parseghian	83	21	90	194*
T. Spector	90	20	84	194*
C. LaPlaca-Post	85	22	80	187*
D. Steinmeyer	85	17	84	186*
F. Crommelin	84	20	74	178*
C. Fox	59	21	90	170
N. Johnson	75		86	161
A. Gunther	65	16	77	158*
A. Simpson	84	7	65	156
A. Vaccaro	55	18	61	134
F. Helfst	22		92	114
G. Hall	56	20	36	112
J. Fornarotto	65		42	107
N. Merena	53		50	103
J. Levine	35		38	73
F. Lopez	36		19	55
J. Schilling	35		20	55
K. Licht	30		18	48
D. Phillip			41	41
B. Kane	21		18	39
D. Goodell			25	25
J. Becker			19	19
A. Chakarian	19			19

NJFCC Salon Marie Kane

Following are the results of the New Jersey Federation of Camera Clubs Photo Travel Projected Image competition. It was held February 27th at the Hillcrest Camera Club.

Honorable Mentions:

- Toby Spector “Canyon Walls & the Virgin River”
- Al Simpson “Brugges, Belgium”
- Alyce Parseghian “Zion Hoodoo & Tree”
- Rich Gheno “Early Morn on Cape Ann”
- Nancy Merena “Morning Light”
- Norman Johnson “Ranch stead”

**Marie’s slide pick of the month
Andrew Vaccaro’s The Mitten**



CLASS B March 2007

	P	A	N	Total
J. Placer	82	19	75	176*
S Szostak	79	21	75	175*
K Kruger	82		88	170
L Spina	62		58	120
E. Dong	41		30	71
R. Kane	21		49	70
C. Redding	16		18	34
B. Peltz	10		17	27
E Marchese	20	6		26
G. Hawthorne			18	18
M. Redding	12		6	18
J Bookman	16			16
M. Jones	16			16
D. Pierson	16			16

The Digital Secret

George Garbeck

Did you know that there is secret, personal information about you hidden in each and every digital photo you take? No, it wasn't put there by the FBI or the Department of Homeland Security. It was embedded in each image by your camera and if you're smart, by you, yourself! This data, called *metadata*, is a very useful part of a digital image. Every time you move, copy or save a photo onto a computer, CD or transmit it over the internet, this 'secret' information travels right along with the actual pixel image data. It can easily be viewed in most photo editing software programs such as Photoshop and in image browser and cataloging applications like Bridge, File Browser, or Picasa. All the major file formats: RAW, JPEG and TIFF support metadata.

What is this hidden information? There are basically two types of metadata. *Automatic* metadata is created by your camera each time you take a picture and save to your memory card. It includes the file properties such as the size of the image, the date created and its pixel dimensions. But it also consists of an incredible amount of information about how you captured your image such as, the ISO speed at which you shot the picture, the exposure mode, f-stop and shutter speed you used, the metering mode employed, the focal length of your lens, whether or not the flash fired, etc. High-end cameras will soon (if they don't already) have the ability to store GPS data, which means that the coordinates of where you were standing when you shot the picture will be recorded as part of the file. This camera information is called the EXIF data.

Reviewing the EXIF data of an image on your computer is an excellent source of feedback to help refine your photographic skills. By studying, at your leisure, the settings you used in the field, you can analyze any mistakes you made and see why some images are better than others.

The second main type of metadata is information that you add to the picture yourself, called *user-supplied* metadata. Known officially as IPTC core data, this usually consists of your contact information, copyright notice, and any keywords you might want to associate with the photo so that you can locate it later. You add this information from your computer when you view the image in your browsing or editing software. The two main kinds of user supplied metadata are *bulk-entry* metadata and *specific* metadata. Bulk-entry metadata is best added in your browser software, such as Adobe Bridge, when you first look at a new batch of images. A previously-created template with such information as your name, address, email, and website; along with a copyright notice can be bulk or 'batch' added to a large number of images in a matter of seconds. This

permanently brands the images as your property and is particularly important for photographers who sell, exhibit, or send their images to outside competitions.

The other kind of metadata you add yourself is more specific to individual images. This includes keywords based on content and usage and any ratings you want applied to an image. Keywords should be fairly basic and might include such terms as 'Grand Canyon', 'Sunset', 'Mary', 'Wilson Wedding', 'Egret', etc. that could help locate specific images or groups of images on your hard drive. You can also develop a personal rating system such as the star system used in Adobe Bridge to identify images by how you rate their quality. Just remember that anything you write to metadata can be viewed by anyone else who has access to your images! The advantage to tagging keywords to an image becomes obvious when you want to view all images that you've taken of, say, water lilies that are of 3 stars or better. A simple search in cataloging software can pull these images into view in a matter of seconds from out of thousands of stored photos scattered about on your various hard drives, CDs, DVDs, etc.

To view all metadata or edit user-supplied metadata in Adobe Bridge you simply choose Window > Workspace > Metadata Focus from the pulldown menu at the top of the page. In Photoshop choose File > File Info from the pulldown menu. The box that opens will have a list of choices on the left hand side. The EXIF data can be found under Camera Data. Digital files created from scanned slides or negatives will, of course, not have the camera data embedded and these fields will show up as blank. You will be able, however, to add user-supplied metadata to these files. In Photoshop you can create an action or series of actions to automate the addition of metadata to your photos.

So now that you've learned about this powerful attribute hidden within every digital photo, you can start looking through your collection and see exactly what settings you used and then add your own personal information to them. Just don't tell the FBI about this feature!



▼ Camera Data (Exif)

Exposure	: 0.4 s at f/22
Exposure Mode	: Auto
ISO Speed Ratings	: 100
Focal Length	: 34 mm
Lens	: 24.0-70.0 mm
Max Aperture Value	: f/2.8
Date Time Original	: 7/31/2006, 1:34:25 PM
Flash	: Did not fire
Metering Mode	: Pattern
Orientation	: Normal
EXIF Color Space	: Uncalibrated
Custom Rendered	: Normal Process
White Balance	: Auto
Scene Capture Type	: Standard
Sensing Method	: One-chip sensor
File Source	: Digital Camera
Make	: Canon
Model	: Canon EOS 10D
Serial Number	: 1320505617

▼ File Properties

Filename	: IMG_3079.JPG
Document Kind	: JPEG file
Date Created	: 7/31/2006, 1:34:25 PM
Date File Created	: 8/2/2006, 12:20:46 PM
Date File Modified	: Today, 4:39:26 PM
File Size	: 759 KB
Dimensions	: 3072 x 2048
Resolution	: 180 dpi
Bit Depth	: 8
Color Mode	: RGB Color
Color Profile	: Adobe RGB (1998)

▼ IPTC Core

Creator	: George Garbeck
Creator: Website(s)	: www.zillexa.com
City	: Township of Washington
State/Province	: NJ
Country	:
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Results of the NJFCC Print Competition held at Livingston C.C. On 2/26/2007

Mono-A	Honorable Mention Peter O'Malley Wary Raccoon Connie Fox African Pincushion
	Medal Connie Fox Black Crowned Night Heron
Color-A	Honorable Mention Florence Kantor Skyline Study Stanley Kantor Black-tailed Deer Merit Award Peter O'Malley Great Egret in Orlando
	Medal Fred Helfst Pink Water Lilly
Trade	Merit Award Ara Chakarian Mallard Amidst Swirls
	Medal Bun Chan Autumn at Teton
Color -B	Honorable Mention Laurie Spina Bryce Buck Laurie Spina Picasso overlook Zion Creek

Results from the NJFCC Print Competition held at the Teaneck C.C. On 2/13/2007

Mono-B	Honorable Mention Eric Dong Moon-rise
Color-A	Honorable Mention Rich Gheno Vernal Impressions Fred Helfst Storm over the Aspen Stan Kantor Quit Moment
Mono-a	Merit Award Connie Fox Egret with Chicks
Color-A	Merit Award Marjorie Forrest Romeo-2

We meet on the 2nd, 3rd & 4th Wednesday of the month at 7:30 pm
The Woman's Club of Wyckoff, 176 Wyckoff Ave. Wyckoff. NJ
Guests are always welcome at regular meetings



Ridgewood Camera Club

**19 Smithfield Rd
Waldwick NJ. 07463**