

Focal Plane

A Publication of the Ridgewood Camera Club

Volume 70 Issue 1

September 2006

Calendar for September 2006

13 Program

Santa Fe and Area

Ara Chakarian, FPSA, NJFC

20 Pictorial Competition

Judge: Thomas Icklan

27 Nature Competition

Judge Dr Peter Lekos

PSA/EID

Whatisit?

See page 4

The Presidents Message

I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome everyone back for the 2006-2007 season of the Ridgewood Camera Club. I hope you've all had an enjoyable and productive summer personally and photographically.

Thanks to Chick Chakarian, we have a number of interesting and informative programs planned for the coming season starting with Chick himself who will present a program entitled "Images of Santa Fe and the surrounding area." In keeping with our interest and advancing knowledge of digital photography, we have three programs on the schedule. The first in October is "Top PSA. digital Images" presented by Vinnie Kempf to be followed in March by "Lets have fun in Photoshop" and in May our last program of the year "Creating digital panoramas." And of course the International Salon, so ably run by Chick, assures the club of a superb show featuring the best images from around the world. We will also be hosting the NJFCC nature competition in February.

Alyce Parseghian is once again in charge of workshops and no doubt will continue her fine job of scheduling informative and stimulating workshops of interest to us all.

This year Fred Helfst has volunteered to revitalize our field trip schedule and to that end he has scheduled a trip to Cape Ann on September 14th. Both socially and photographically it should be an enjoyable experience so I urge you to sign up for it if you can. I'm sure we can expect several more interesting excursions from Fred this season.

We will, as usual, have our monthly competitions however several changes have been implemented. We have now added an ornithological category to our nature competitions, the feeling being that birds deserve their own category and this now conforms to PSA competitions. To streamline our print competitions, the category of trade prints has been eliminated so that black and white and color are now the only categories. Any questions you may have can be addressed at our first meeting.

In closing I would like to thank the members of the executive committee in advance for their continuing effort to make our club the best in New Jersey.

Joe Placer

Focal Plane

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Monthly Bulletin of Ridgewood Camera Club

Member PSA & NJFCC

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2005-2006
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RCC. Picnic August 6th

The weather was good and the company great.

There was Chick minus Helen
I



AND



29 of our members to enjoy plenty
of good
Food and each others company.

Do you remember Richard Braun?
No?

He was the president of the Ridge-
wood Camera Club.

He stopped by with his lovely
wife Trudy.

IT WAS NICE TO SEE THEM

From the Editor

And a welcome back from me
too.

At this point I can only echo Joe
Placers message. The summer as
always was too short, sometimes
too rainy, sometimes to hot.

We did host a PSA digital salon
in August which turned out to be
a great success but a lot of work.

The RCC picnic also in August
was a pleasant event in spite of a
sputtering start.

Please pay attention to our new
Ornithological section in the
nature competition.

To tell you the truth I had to
look up the word Ornithological
the first time I heard it. It's all
about birds.

Here is my regular cry for help
In order the eliminate the blank
page syndrome I need some help
from you.

From what I can gather Sep-
tember will a month that many
of our members will be traveling
to near and far places . Don't
feel alarmed they will come back

Dieter

Special Announcement

ATTENTION NATURE SLIDE COMPETITORS

The RCC Nature Competition
rules have changed.

Note that images of birds can no
longer be accepted in the Zoo-
logical Division. They must be
submitted in a newly created Or-
nithological Division. Please be
careful not to submit an image of
a bird in any division other than
Ornithological. That would cre-
ate extra work for the hardwork-
ing members who must sort
through the images, because the
image must be judged in the Or-
nithological division. See the
latest competition rules on the
RCC website, especially page 2
paragraph 5, and page 4 para-
graph 5. Ornithological competi-
tors in projected slides must
write the word "Ornithological"
on their entry cards. Ornithologi-
cal competitors in digital slides
should enter the letter "O" in
their slide titles, in lieu of "Z".

Stan Kantor

Fieldtrip

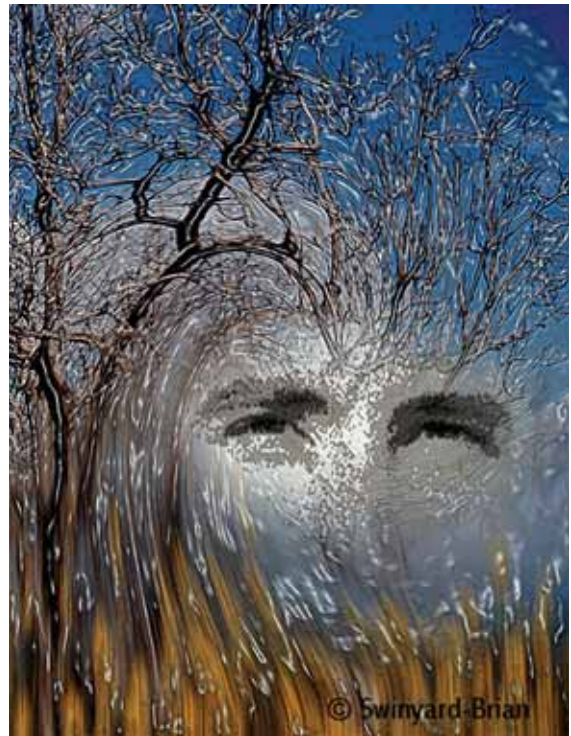
**Fred Helfst organized an over night fieldtrip
to Cape Ann on September 14th-17th.
Maybe there is still time to sign up.**

On August 5th the Ridgewood Camera Club hosted an all digital PSA salon.

Not an easy task.

Considering the use of unfamiliar procedures and software we were able to pull it off without a hitch thanks to the technical knowledge and perseverance of Vinnie Kempf and of course Chick Chakarian. We had 213 entries from 29 countries in 4 different categories open color, creative color, monochrome and creative monochrome for a total of 1830 Images.

The images on this page are just a very small sample.





Focal Plane

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Volume 70 Issue 2

October 2006

Dear Friends of the Focal Plane.

**The reason you see the October Cover of the Focal Plane at this time is because
Your editor is on vacation from about Sept. 15 until Oct. 12.
I will catch up when I return unless somebody wants to jump in and do it.
Dieter**

Calendar for October

4 Executive Committee
Ara Chakarian

11 Print Competition
Judge: Frank Wagner

18 Program
Top Images PSA Imaging Int
Vinnie Kempf, NJFC

25 Pictorial Competition
Judge: Joseph Thomas

South Coyote Buttes

By Tibor Vari

I was in Las Vegas the third week in October of 2005 for a business convention and decided to stay the weekend (10/27), to do some photography. On this trip, I was joined by my fellow traveler Jeff Norton. The nice thing about Las Vegas is that within a few hours of driving is a treasure trove of photography locations. My main challenge was to pick a place; preferably one that I had not been to in the past. One spot I had heard some excellent reviews of was South Coyote Buttes (The Wave is in the North section).

Our base of operations was the small town of Kanab in Utah (4:00 hours from Las Vegas and about 1:30 from Page AZ). Our hotel was the Best Western Red Hills Inn which was very nice and included high speed internet access.

Researching on how to get to this location convinced me that we would need to hire a guide who had excellent 4WD vehicles. Following a recommendation, we hired Wally from Canyon Country Out – Back Tours (see <http://www.ccobtours.com/> for details). Because there were only two of us, the cost (\$375), was steep per individual (better to go with 3 or 4 people which would spread out the cost). But it was worth it because Wally arranged to get the necessary permits and meet us at 4:30 AM at our hotel.



After quite a bumpy ride down House Rock Road off Route 89 we arrived at our location. Our decision to use Wally turned out to be wise as the route was difficult with deep sand ruts, mud (it had rained), and some tricky turns to find if we had been following a map.

Unfortunately, as we arrived at the location it had begun to rain and the clouds had rolled in making for a very flat gray color. Nonetheless, after a short wait in the truck, the rain seemed to ease up and we hiked about 20-30 minutes to the edge of the buttes. At this point we began to shoot and explore deeper into the terrain. In a way, South Coyote Buttes is like The Wave in that you can aim your camera just about anywhere and find wonderful rock formations with leading lines. The difficulty was that you did not want to include too much in the image as it would have been very “busy”. So as we hiked further in, I was looking for ways to simplify my images while still capturing the essence of the landscape. Of course, with the cloud cover,

there was not much warm light but the sun did occasionally peek through. Besides the amazing rock formations, the colors were at times really amazing (almost bizarre).

Unfortunately, though the time went by quickly, the dark clouds came back and it started to rain. This was of course a concern as the road back would become a quagmire and dangerous. So we decided to leave as the light was poor but vowed to come back again. Hopefully the next time we can catch a wonderful sunrise in this location and really nail the shots!



We meet on the 2nd, 3rd & 4th Wednesday of the month at 8:00 pm
The Woman's Club of Wyckoff, 176 Wyckoff Ave. Wyckoff. NJ
Guests are always welcome at regular meetings

Assigned Subjects for the 2005/2006 Season

Creative
Patterns



Ridgewood Camera Club

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