

# FOCAL PLANE

A Publication of the Ridgewood Camera Club

Volume 72 Issue 2

October 2008



## Calendar for October 2008

15 Pictorial Competition

22 Program: "Is Lightroom Right for You"?

29 NJFCC Nature Competition

Judge: Judy Halderman

George Garbeck

Judges: Ben Venezia, Howard Knauer,  
David Des Rochers

17 **Workshop:** "Basic Camera Controls"

Vinnie Kempf

24-26 **Fieldtrip** to Cape Cod

## From the Editor.

Dear friends of the Focal Plane.

This issue is a bit late because your editor went on a three weeks vacation to Germany and Austria. The vacation was great but it is also nice to be home again.

Most of the information in these pages except for the member articles are available on our website.

Thank you Florence and Stanley Kantor for this month's article.

Dieter

### October Field Trip, October 24th-26th

If you haven't experienced a RCC weekend field trip, you are in for a treat. Talk about getaway....this will be the ultimate in stress relief. The Cape Cod trip promises to be just that plus you get to schmooze with camera club friends. And for a bonus, you get some great, competition images.

Cape Cod has everything a competitor could wish for....lighthouses, old barns, peeling paint, rusty hinges, beach sand abstracts, and to die for sunsets. There is an historic village with a windmill, harbors loaded with boats and to top it off an Audubon sanctuary if you are interested in bird photography.

You can sign up by booking your hotel room at [www.wellfleetmotel.com](http://www.wellfleetmotel.com) or you can call them .800-852-2900 or 508-349-3535. Please let me know if you are participating so that you can receive updated information and a listing of places to photograph with directions. We will have a group dinner at a restaurant to be announced later (after I complete the testing of several options) so I need to know if you will be joining the group. If you have questions email me ([nancy.lamb@rcn.com](mailto:nancy.lamb@rcn.com)).

Looking forward to a great weekend!  
Nancy Lamb



# Focal Plane

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**Ridgewood Camera Club**

### 2007 PSA Nature Image of the Year

During the year, camera clubs and similar types of organizations conduct Photographic Society of America (PSA) recognized photography competitions. These competitions are open to photographers world wide. The sponsors of the exhibitions agree to conform to the PSA Consolidated Exhibitions Standards.

Once a year all of the photographers that were awarded the PSA Gold Medal for first place in the two nature categories, Nature Open & Nature Wildlife, are invited to enter their award winning images into the "PSA Nature Image of the Year Competition".

This year, the judging was held on 7/26/08 in Lynn, Ma. This was a very hard competition to judge since all the images were the best of the best. 485 images were eligible from 17 countries.

The Ridgewood Camera Club is pleased to announce that Jerry Fornarotto's image "Reddish Egret Strike" was awarded "2007 Best Wildlife Image of the Year".



### Marie's Pick of the Month

"Consuega Windmills"

By Joel Schilling



## PETRIFIED FOREST NATIONAL PARK AND THE PAINTED DESERT

By Florence and Stanley Kantor

A few months ago, during one of our yearly cross country wanderings, we decided to revisit Petrified Forest National Park.



There are petrified logs throughout this country, particularly in the Southwest. For many years, the logs were pilfered by souvenir hunters, and people even dynamited them to access the brilliant mineral crystals. Finally, in order to protect at least some of the logs, the U. S. Government established an area in Arizona as a National Monument in 1906, and elevated it to a national park in 1962.

We took our children to this park when they were very small, many eons ago. Because all of us were fascinated by the petrified logs, we didn't realize then that the national park is located within a larger area that is aptly named the

Painted Desert. The Painted Desert stretches for 160 miles from near the Grand Canyon to beyond Petrified Forest National Park. The name Painted Desert refers to colorful sedimentary outcroppings of the period known by scientists as the Late Triassic Period Chinle Formation. We discovered that it is a fantasyland of beautiful brilliantly colored landscapes.

225 million years ago, this area was a vast floodplain, with tall pine-like trees, and prehistoric animals and



plants. As the trees fell, they were covered by silt, mud and volcanic ash. These deposits cut off oxygen, slowing the logs' decay. Silica-bearing ground waters seeped through the logs, encasing the wood tissues with silica deposits. The silica slowly crystallized into quartz, and the logs were preserved as petrified wood. Iron rich minerals combined with the quartz during the petrification process, creating a rainbow of colors. Over eons, the area sank, was flooded, covered by freshwater sediments, then uplifted. The uplift caused the petrified logs to break up into segments. Then wind and water wore away the layers of hardened sediments, exposing the petrified logs and fossilized plant and animal remains. The Painted Desert consists of these colorful layers of sandstone and mudstone sediment. There is a 28 mile road through the park.

At the north end, red, orange and pink colors are caused by oxides of iron and aluminum. At the southern section, oxygen was removed from the soil by rapid sediment buildup, creating blue, gray, and lavender layers.

This process of uplifting and wearing away is still continuing today.

If the ends of the petrified logs are polished, their brilliant colors are emphasized. We enjoyed photographing the natural logs and the few that had been polished. However, we spent much more time photographing the Painted Desert.



On our way home from this trip, we began to experience serious engine problems. It turned out that our engine, the third one in this vehicle, required replacement. Although our motor home was otherwise in excellent condition, we decided that, because it was 16 years old, the cost of engine replacement was not warranted, so we donated the RV to a charity that accepts decrepit vehicles.



# Nature Competition 9/24/2008 Dennis Golin was judging

## Honorable Mentions

### Nature General

Nancy de Flon ..... Lake Durant Sunset  
 Stanley Kantor ..... Painted Desert  
 Gwenn Levine ..... Great Falls with Rainbow  
 Dave Pierson ..... Canyon Color  
 Andrew Vaccaro ..... DOUBLE ARCH

## Awards

Joe Placer ..... Glowing Cottonwoods  
 Tibor Vari ..... Last Light Geyser Spray

## Honorable Mentions

### Nature Botanical

Stanley Kantor ..... Cactus - Anza Borrego  
 Stephen Mantrom ..... Pretty Poison

## Awards

Jia Han Dong ..... Lights and lines  
 Joyce Levine ..... polypore mushroom

## Honorable Mentions

### Nature Zoological

George Hall ..... Frog on Lily Pad  
 George Hall ..... Nubian Ibex  
 Norm Johnson ..... Keeping Cool  
 Vinnie Kempf ..... Bobcat  
 Vinnie Kempf ..... Wolf

## Awards

Jerry Fornarotto ..... Bobcat Running Forward  
 Rich Gheno ..... Common Sulpher Butterfly #1  
 Martin Joffe ..... Simian No 1  
 Della O'Malley ..... Beautiful Gulf Gritillary

## Honorable Mentions

### Nature Birds

Marc Beerman ..... Bald Eagle  
 Jerry Fornarotto ..... Oystercatcher Teaching Chick  
 Connie Fox ..... Red Egret fishing  
 Marie Kane ..... Long-Billed Trasher  
 Camille LaPlaca-Post ..... Canadian Goose  
 Della O'Malley ..... Egret feeding the Chicks  
 Tibor Vari ..... Young Gull in Flight

## Awards

Jia Han Dong ..... Dancing High  
 Jerry Fornarotto ..... Ruby-throated Hummer Wings Forward  
 Maggie Molino ..... On Calm Waters  
 Peter O'Malley ..... Great Egret in Flight  
 Peter O'Malley ..... Woodstork in Flight  
 Tibor Vari ..... In Flight Crab Meal

## Class A - Digital Competition

Member	Pictorial	Assigned Subject	Nature	Total
Tibor Vari	25	0	26	51
Jerry Fornarotto	24	0	26	50
Eric Dong	24	0	24	48
George Hall	25	0	23	48
Della O'Malley	24	0	24	48
Martin Joffe	26	0	21	47
Rich Geno	25	0	22	47
Peter O'Malley	22	0	24	46
Joe Placer	24	0	21	45
Stanley Kantor	23	0	22	45
Marie Kane	24	0	20	44
Vinnie Kempf	22	0	22	44
Norman Johnson	23	0	20	43
Marjorie Forrest	24	0	18	42
Camille LaPlaca-Post	22	0	20	42
Andrew Vaccaro	21	0	21	42
Connie Fox	21	0	20	41
Joyce Levine	19	0	22	41
Florence Kantor	22	0	18	40
Allen Simpson	20	0	20	40
Maggie Molino	16	0	21	37
Alice Gunther	21	0	14	35
John Fatuzzo	17	0	16	33
George Garbeck	26	0	0	26
Joel Schilling	24	0	0	24
Alyce Parseghian	22	0	0	22
Karen Kruger	20	0	0	20
Sonya Szostak	20	0	0	20
Kenn Licht	19	0	0	19
Nancy Merena	19	0	0	19
Ara Chakarian	16	0	0	16
Gwen Levine	0	0	8	8
	0	0	0	0

## Class B - Digital Competition

Member	Pictorial	Assigned Subject	Nature	Total
Sam Ohan	22	0	16	38
Stephen Mantrom	18	0	19	37
Dave Pierson	18	0	19	37
Nancy de Flon	17	0	19	36
Bob Peltz	22	0	12	34
John Paulyson	21	0	0	21
Laura Warren	0	0	15	15
Marc Beerman	13	0	0	13
Pater Brannigan	12	0	0	12
George Campbell	8	0	0	8
	0	0	0	0

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 2008/2009 Season**

**Architecture**

**Waterfalls**



**Ridgewood Camera Club**

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