



Out of Focus

Newsletter of the Focus Photo Club

A Special Interest Club for Amateur and Professional Photographers

Meeting at Cox Arboretum in Dayton on the 1st Thursday each month

August 2009

Volume 20 Issue 2

Out of Focus is published monthly by the Focus Photo Club. Announcements and articles relating to photography, photo contests, and events are strongly encouraged.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

August 6 Meeting - Jim Brockman - "Smoke, Mirrors & Colors"

September 4 - September Meeting - International Competition - John Murphy

September 19 - Train Museum Shoot - John Murphy

October 1 - October Meeting - John Heckler from JTH Photography on Portrait Post-Processing

October 18 - Zoo Shoot - Indianapolis Zoo

November 5 - November Meeting

December 3 - December Meeting

TONIGHT

Jim Brockman of Fairfield, Ohio, will present, "Smoke, Mirrors, and Colors." Jim mainly shoots negative film and his photos are stunning. Many are hard to describe, so just check out this website for a portfolio of his work: http://photo.net/photodb/photo?photo_id=1253578 Join us on August 6. You'll leave feeling challenged to try some new techniques.

Tonight's Tutorial

Chris Mathews will do tonight's tutorial. The topic is Using the Liquify Tool in Photoshop. This will be the last in Chris's series of tutorials.

NEW THEMES SET

The Board has set new themes for the first five months of 2010. The themes and the months they will occur are as follows:

January - Textures

February - Fairs & Festivals

March - Trees

April - Cox Arboretum

May - Close Up

Now you can watch for any of these things and start shooting for these themes.

Competition Tip from "Old" Competition Chair Tim Highley

Make sure your entries are all different subject matter. Otherwise, the first one may do well, but the second "ain't got a chance!" as the judges will feel they have already seen it.

President's Corner

Hey, I survived my first meeting as President! It was a busy meeting with the test judging and setup of the new Projected competition.

And what a way to start off the Projected Categories! I was concerned that we would have a low number of entries for the Projected Open and Projected Theme but I would never have thought that Projected Open would have had the most entries for the month! In addition, the judging was probably the shortest. I look forward to seeing how our Projected Categories develop and welcome thoughts or ideas to help us refine the process and improve the competition experience. I look forward to spending more time socializing this month as Chris Mathews is running the digital competition for August!

Speaking of Chris, he has been amazing with his workshops before the monthly meetings. Unfortunately, his work schedule is making it difficult for him to get to meetings early and we're looking for members that are interested in doing programs before the club meetings. Please contact me or Terry Watson if you're willing to do a tutorial or 30 min program before the club meetings. I plan to give an Adobe Photoshop Lightroom overview and discuss my workflow before the September meeting.

We had several unofficial events happen in July that I hope people were able to make. I saw several club members at the MidFest Balloon Glow and at Cox Arboretum's Butterfly Festival. Club events are a great way to meet members and practice photography. It's great to spend a day, check out results and compare them with other members to see what they did differently.

Remember that we have the club forums, which are a great place for announcements and photo reviews, as well as an unofficial group on Flickr at <http://www.flickr.com/groups/focusphotoclub/> for those interested.

So until next month, take that lens cap off and have fun!

Billy

Congratulations to Vickie Barnhill!

Vickie's Photo, "Thunderbirds 3," was selected by the editors and iWitness7 reporters as the #6 overall photo of the 2009 Dayton Air Show!

Congratulations to Vickie Again!

Vickie's photo of a boy in a Red's hat paddling a canoe has been chosen to be used on a poster promoting the Five Rivers MetroParks upcoming levy.

Five Rivers MetroParks Levy

Since Cox Arboretum allows us to use their beautiful facility for our meetings at a very nominal fee, some of you might want to volunteer to help work for the upcoming levy. It will appear on the ballot on November 3, 2009. If you're interested in helping in any capacity, contact Nate Arnett at nate.arnett1@gmail.com or call him at 937-416-5506.

Executive Board 2007-2008

Executive Board 2007-2008			
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GUIDELINES

Competition is open to all paid-up members of Focus Photo Club (dues must be current one week prior to competition.) Entry deadline is 7:10 p.m. on meeting night. Each member may submit 4 entries, no more than 2 in any one category. Competition rules can be found in the Constitution, Article X.

MONTHLY THEMES	
August	Legs
September	Doors
October	Short Depth of Field
November	Night
December	Hot
January	Texture
February	Fairs & Festivals
March	Trees
April	Cox Arboretum
May	Close Up

Newsletter Info

Whenever you have information for the newsletter, please e-mail it to me at patmcbirder@woh.rr.com or give it to me in writing at the meeting. Such items could include awards you have won, exhibits you're participating in or photos you've had published. You can also let me know about photographic events in the area or photo contests that the members might be interested in.

Thanks!

Check This Out

John Sullivan wants to share the following site with the membership:

<http://blogs.wsj.com/photojournal/> He says *The Wall Street Journal* posts several "pictures of the day" that serve as good examples of composition and content. You might want to check this out. It's not necessary to be a subscriber.

Train Museum Outing

Mark Saturday, September 19 on your calendars and join us at the Railway Museum of Greater Cincinnati, located in Covington, Kentucky. The old railroad yard contains a large collection of passenger and freight cars, as well as a few diesel locomotives. The Museum is located in a former Louisville & Nashville Railroad Yard. We've shot here a couple of times before, and there are all kinds of photo ops here. We even got to ride on a car once when they were moving it from one place to another. We scheduled it for fall this year, because it was very hot both times we had a summer outing there.

Indianapolis Zoo Shoot

Plan to join us for a zoo shoot at the Indianapolis Zoo on Sunday, October 18. Again, a fall date was chosen to avoid the hot weather. The animals are more active and everyone's more comfortable when the weather is cooler.

More information will be in the newsletter next month about these two shootouts.

Focus Photo Club Forum

If you haven't signed up for the Focus Photo Club Forum, you're missing out on an opportunity. It's free - you just have to be a member of the club. Go to the website, www.focusphotoclub.com and you can sign up. If you have a question about equipment, this is the place to ask. You should get responses and advice from some of our great photographers. Want to go shoot somewhere with friends? Just post on the forum and get a group together to go. Have a photo you want input on? Post it and ask for a critique. Or if you just want to share photos, there's a place for that too. You can discuss anything about the club, make suggestions, ask for advice, etc. It's a good chance to interact with other club members, since we don't always have a lot of time to talk at our meetings.

July Top Ten

1. Terry Watson	15
2. Kathy Moore	14
3. Art Fabian	13
4. Teresa Jack	12
Pat McCarthy	12
6. John Murphy	10
7. Eleanor Hilton	8
8. Billy Crafton	7
Ken Kennard	7
Dave Lundy	7
Tom Temple	7
Donna Redes	7

New Members

Focus Photo Club would like to welcome the following members who have joined the club in the past couple of months:

Neil Moore

James Clapp

Eric Unger

Linda Palmer

Rick Guenther

Donna Hendrickson

Steve Henriksen

A. Litteral

David Steele

Tom Temple

Connie Crafton

Competition Tip

Be sure your label is filled out and is in the bottom right-hand side of the photo.

Also double-check to make sure you are entering your photo in the correct category and that it's the right size for that category.

JULY COMPETITION THEME - SHOOT A MEMBER

SMALL PRINT OPEN

1. Got Fish - Kathy Moore
 1. Rocky & Ringo - Ken Kennard
 3. Making the Call - Linda Rabius
- HM - On the Edge - Joann Jozwiak
HM - Cardinal - Dave Berry
HM - Red Tulip - Eleanor Hilton
HM - Purple & Orange Flora - Ken Kennard

SMALL PRINT THEME

1. Me Shooting Ken Shooting Terry - Kathy Moore
 1. Tim - Pat McCarthy
 3. Where's Ken? - Eleanor Hilton
- HM - Dave at Pond - Pat Lundy

COLOR OPEN

1. Great Horned Owl - Terry Watson
2. Moraine Fireworks - David Lundy
3. Thick-Billed Parrot - Tom Temple
3. Inside a Lily - Eleanor Hilton
3. Big Horn - Dan Swart
3. Acadia Park - Teresa Jack

COLOR THEME

1. Dan - John Murphy
 2. First Light - Pat Lundy
 2. Ms. Nancy - Tom Temple
- HM - Impact, Composition, Technique - Pat Lundy
HM - Ken at Light Box - Dave Lundy
HM - Lynn Gets the Shot - Pat McCarthy

BLACK & WHITE OPEN

1. Point Lobos Trees - Art Fabian
1. Port Angeles Harbor - Teresa Jack
3. Portrait - Jim Hayes

BLACK & WHITE THEME

1. Photo Gals - Pat McCarthy
2. Amy in Shadow - Ryan Traxler
3. Ryan - Amy Traxler

EXTENDED OPEN

1. Nights in Rodanthe - Terry Watson
 2. Dibs on the Squirrel - Kathy Moore
 3. Big Toy Workshop - Art Fabian
- HM - Delicate Arch - Glen Buell
HM - Totem - Glen Buell

EXTENDED THEME

1. Dan - John Murphy
2. Elegance - Bertha De Hart

DIGITAL OPEN

1. Knee Draggin' - Terry Watson
 2. Red Barn - Donna Redes
 3. Reflections - Donna Redes
- HM - Markers 3 - David Steele
HM - St. Mary's Cathedral - Glen Buell
HM - Wild Iris - Joann Jozwiak
HM - Amish Countryside - Laura James
HM - Chicago Skyline - Ryan Traxler

DIGITAL THEME

1. Julie's 50th Sunrise - Art Fabian
 2. Slot Repeater - Billy Crafton
 2. Hanging with Elvis - Teresa Jack
- HM - Brian on the Edge - Billy Crafton
HM - Holly Poses - Nancy Christolear
HM - Where's Waldo? I Mean Laura-Vickie Barnhill



MACRO SHOT

Donna Redes

Donna first got interested in photography in the early 80's when she was living in California.

She made a trip to West Virginia to see her grandfather who was terminally ill. She took lots of pictures with a disposable camera, because she knew it was the last time she'd see him. When she got them developed, she says they were horrible and she decided right then to learn photography so that wouldn't happen again.

Donna finally bought a digital SLR last year - a Nikon D80. Before that she used Nikon 35mm SLRs. Her first 35mm camera was a Minolta X700. She went with Nikon because that's what she had used in her jobs for the military.

Her favorite things to shoot? She says, "I'm learning to shoot landscapes and love to shoot wildlife, especially birds. My past experience has been portraits, weddings, senior pictures, military-related photos and industrial photography. I wanted a new challenge and I found it!"

Donna frequently had photos published in the base newspaper when she was the base photographer at the Marine Base in Barstow, California. She won an award for an old B&W she printed while in college.

She heard about Focus from Ken Kennard. She went to a Tripod meeting and Ken invited her to Focus. She says, "I joined the first night and I've been going back ever since!"

When asked what she likes best about the Club, she replied, "Can I only pick one thing? I like that everyone is so willing to share their knowledge and how helpful and supportive they are of the other members. And everyone is so friendly. I enjoy the outings tremendously. I look forward to the meetings every month to be able to see what everyone has been shooting and I have a great appreciation for their work. The Photoshop presentations Chris gave were so helpful. I'm really sorry to hear he won't be doing it any more."

Donna says she's never done much night photography and she would really like to do some.



MACRO SHOT

Kathy Newton

Kathy has always loved taking photos, but she really got hooked when she was in college.

She uses a Nikon D80 and a Nikon AF Nikkor 70- 300mm lens.

Her favorite things to shoot are wildlife and her cats at home.

Kathy says she's won a couple of awards and has had a few photos published.

She heard about the club from Eleanor Hilton. She likes the club because "Everyone is so nice and encouraging of each other, and because of all the beautiful photographs." She loves shooting just about everything.

Kathy works at Snyder Brick & Block in Moraine. She says her family is wonderful!

Her background is in art and she loves to draw and paint, as well as taking photos.

She adds, "You all are a blessing and I have learned a lot from all the generosity and experience of the group!!! :) I hope in the future to push the boundaries of my work and try new things. :)"

Donna works at Wright-Patterson as a photographer "who never picks up a camera." She says, "My job is leading a team of airmen in the processing of black and white aerial film ensuring compliance with an International Treaty between 34 nations. I should pay them to work there. It's the greatest job I've ever had!"

Donna says about her family, "I have two grown children who are the love of my life. I got divorced last year and the club has gotten me out of the house."

She also likes to play golf, even though she says she's terrible at it. She says, "One of these days I'll remember to take a camera because I see the most gorgeous things on golf courses and kick myself for not having my camera — every time. I also like camping, bowling, gardening, spending time with my kids, and anything that takes place outdoors."

She added, "I'm just thankful that I found Focus and am active in photography again. And thanks for your help, Pat, in identifying the birds I manage to get a shot of!"

INTERNATIONAL, INTER-CLUB COMPETITION

The Kettering & District Photographic Society, UK

vs.

Focus Photo Club, USA

- To display a specific number of 25 images from each Club to be judged by an outside Judge. This will give 50 images to be judged at one time in each venue.
- Both Clubs' images will be presented to the Judge, with the title of the photo, by means of a digital projector in a random order so the original source will be more difficult to detect.
- Each image will be marked out of a total of 20 points.
- The Judge must also decide the 'Best Image of the Competition' at each venue for an individual prize.
- Following the individual competitions at each Club, the score sheets from both competitions will be combined to give the grand total by Slide and Club.
- The Club with the highest combined score will be the winner.
- In the event of a tie of total points when both score-sheets have been combined, the Club with the most images attaining 40 points will win. If these are tied, then it will be the Club with the most of 39 points, then 38, then lower until a winner is defined.
- For this, the Second Annual Competition, the subject will be Open (anything goes). These can also be Color, Monochrome or both.
- Images are to be cropped to fit into 1024 x 768 pixels with a 72 pixel per inch resolution, landscape or portrait. That is, a maximum of 1024 horizontal pixels and 768 vertical pixels.
- The photos will be emailed to each other on the same date, so that neither Club has an advantage of seeing the other Clubs images before the other.
- The Kettering & District Photographic Society, UK, will be judging entries on Sept 29. This is a date they selected nearly a year ago. The Focus Photo Club will have the judging for our part at a similar time by an outside judge.

The competed score-sheets will be e-mailed to each other on a specified date following the competition just to keep the suspense going!! Results will be presented to Focus members at the November meeting.

The Kettering & District Photographic Society Vice Chairman and Founder member has offered a Presentation Plaque / Shield to be used as the annual prize to the winning Club. This Shield will have the ability to have inscriptions to be made to record the event over time. Certificates will be printed and presented to the two 'Individual Image' winners.

The Focus Photo Club will have the honour to name the competition but has not done this yet. Please make a suggestion.

The September Focus meeting program will be the membership selecting the 25 entries from all submissions, a People's Choice type event.

You may submit entries by email to John Murphy at murphy01@sbcglobal.net by August 31. **Emailing your entries well ahead of time will reduce congestion at the meeting and earn the undying gratitude of the competition administrators.**