Focal Point

Baltimore Camera Club

Baltimore Camera Club, Inc. 1884

Baltimore Camera Club is the Oldest Photographic Society in the USA (Incorporated 1884)



Mayan Shirt Seller © Joan Saba—Best Image of the Year and Best Color Print (2012-2013)

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Editor's Corner

Thanks to Donald Connery, JeriAnn Geller, Brian Miller, Jim Eichelman, Gordon Risk, Rebecca Rothey, Chuck Robinson, Roger Miller, Gary Faulkner, Karen Messick, Karen Dillon, Jim Voeglein & Steven Oney for their contributions to this issue.



Focal Point Editor: Diane Bovenkamp It's great to be back for another exciting year! In this collector's edition, mega-issue of *Focal Point*, I've included the images that placed in the monthly competitions for April, May, and September, and the results of the Year-End Competition. In addition, there is a brief write-up and photo of the BCC Lifetime Membership awarded to Tom Beck, UMBC Chief Curator of Photographic Materials. I've also included a description of the May/June Full Circle Gallery BCC Exhibition and Juried Competition, with photos of the winners. Having caught up competition-wise, in future issues, I'll publish the backlog of articles that many members have so expertly crafted and generously submitted to this humble editor. To start us off this month, our fearless leader, President Jim Eichelman, gives us a few words of welcome and inspiration and presents the new list of the 2013-2014 Board of Directors, Committee Members, and Key Volunteers (please note that there are a few positions still open, for those interested). In *The Return of the Greatest Freelancer*, former *Time* magazine Bureau

Chief, Donald S. Connery, has written an article about his late friend and colleague, John Launois, a top international photojournalist who was famous for his iconic images. On November 14, John's son, Chris Pan Launois, will present his father's memoir, *L'Americain: A Photojournalist's Life*. In the latest *Collector's Corner*, Gordon Risk thrills us with another article, *Half Frame Cameras*, with more fascinating info about gems from his extensive camera collection. Rebecca Rothey writes an ode to *St. Ansel's Church*, with photographic

accompaniment by Chuck Robinson. Brian Miller gives us the results of *Full Circle Gallery's BCC Juried Exhibition*, and Roger Miller gives us a look at *West Point*. Our usual *Member News, Opportunities,* and *Words of Wisdom* sections will return in the next issue.

This issue's editorial image was taken while on the club fall trip to Frost, WV. A number of us had fun "painting with light" while surrounded by the deep darkness of that remote location. This was my first club trip, and it was absolutely fantastic! If you haven't gone on one of the club trips, then I highly recommend it as a way to recharge your creative "batteries," talk "shop" about technical and compositional information, and get to know your fellow club members outside of the church hall. In an upcoming issue, I'll be publishing images from the various club trips that took place over the past few months, so please send them to me or Lewis Katz, the head of the Field Outing Committee, to get them into that issue. Please send your submissions for the next newsletter by November 10 to: d_bovenkamp@yahoo.com



Winged Vitruvian Woman? © Diane Bovenkamp

Welcome Back By Jim Eichelman

| | the Baltimore Camera Club. I would like not only to welcome back every- one after our summer schedule, but to welcome new members to the club. The new year has a schedule full of competitions, presentations, and events. Our Competition and Program Chairs have been hard at work con- tacting individuals to judge and pre- sent for the first half of the year. By the | 2013-2014 BCC Leadership Officers (Board): President: Jim Eichelman 1st VP, Competitions: Kaye Flamm 2nd VP, Programs: Michael Navarre Secretary: Karen Messick (Past President) Treasurer: Michael Boardman Members at Large: Errol Bennett, Bernard Icore, Gary Faulkner, Steve Harman (Past President) |
|---|---|--|
| Jim Eichelman © Diane Bovenkamp | time you read this, we will have had our fall trip to West Virginia and a field | Committee Members and Key Volunteers: |
| to participate in the club's As you can see from the teers, it takes quite a grou level. We encourage you the various leaders, and t We can always use the ide A perfect example of volu with Marc Muench [see page 20]. Over the years, of the Club's seminars. D explore a full day seminar nated schedules with Ma 15th event. Details and pri Please make sure to cons date calendar. An addition | shoot or two. We encourage everyone meetings and activities. list of committee members and volun- up to keep the club functioning at a high to share your ideas and suggestions to o get involved by volunteering yourself. eas and extra set of hands. nteerism is our planned March seminar the Save The Date announcement on Gary Faulkner has organized a number uring the summer, Gary volunteered to with a noted photographer and coordi- rc and Goucher College for the March icing are being finalized, so stay tuned. ult the club's website for the most up-to- nal word of thanks to Steve Oney for his yone up-to-date with his weekly (and at | Contest Committee: Kaye Flamm, Karen Dillon, Diane Bovenkamp Projection and Image Upload Committee: Sukumar Balachandran, Jim Eichelman, Jim Voeglein, Jeffery Wolk, Eugene Libster Program Committee: Michael Navarre, Sukumar Balachandran, Buzz Charnock, John Davis, Steve Dembo, Steve Harman, Bernard Icore, Lewis Katz, Steven Oney, Karen Messick Field Outing Committee: Lewis Katz House Committee: Open Nominating Committee: Lewis Katz, Gordon Risk Member and Visitor Badges: Bob Hansen, Open Position Banquet Coordinator: John Davis Camera School Coordinator: Open Seminar Chair: Gary Faulkner Website Coordinator: Steven Oney, Audio/Visual Committee: Steven Oney, Gary Faulkner Photographic Society of America (PSA) Club Membership Representative for BCC: Diane Bovenkamp Focal Point Editor: Diane Bovenkamp |
| | | |

THE RETURN OF THE GREATEST FREELANCER By Donald S. Connery

Editor's note: The author of this article, Donald S. Connery, is a former Time-Life magazine Bureau Chief, and a friend and colleague of John Launois, a top international photojournalist who was famous for his iconic images. On November 14, John's son, Chris Pan Launois, will present his father's memoir, L'Americain: A Photojournalist's Life. It's a behind-the-scenes look at John's work and the artistry that he brought to the "Golden Age of Photojournalism." Donald generously provided BCC this article through JeriAnn Geller, Meryl L. Moss Media Relations, Inc.



Donald Connery (far right) and John Launois (far left) pose for a photo while in Siberia © Reprinted with permission of the Launois Estate

Ever heard of John Launois? Probably not. But you soon will.

L'Americain: A Photojournalist's Life, to be published in early October with a launching at Washington's National Press Club, is likely to be seen as the most intimate and engrossing account ever written about the professional rewards and emotional costs of being on the front lines of international picture taking during the Golden Age of Photojournalism.

That era began in the mid-1930s and ended in the early 1970s. During its last two decades, until television came along to soak up advertising dollars, Launois was the most versatile and widely published of all the freelancers who dared to compete with the lions on the staffs of the great picture magazines.

Even as *Life*, *Look*, *The Saturday Evening Post* and the other large-format periodicals with their multi-million circulations went the way of dinosaurs, his career reached a peak in 1972-73. His *National Geographic* photos of a newly discovered Stone Age tribe in the Philippines and a hunt for the world's oldest people in remote mountain villages attracted international attention. The University of Missouri School of Journalism's World Understand-

ing Award recognized the "superb creative ability" of his full body of work.

The man who had chased breaking stories before making himself a master of photo essays realized that his days of expenses-be-damned globetrotting were over. His personal life was a mess and he disliked taking on corporate work to supplement magazine assignments. Newly remarried, he settled in tiny Liechtenstein to begin work on his autobiography. He died in 2002 with his manuscript almost completed.

John had always been sure of his memoir's title. As Jean Rene Launois, a poor boy growing up in Nazioccupied France, his schoolmates called him "the American" because he so often dreamed out loud about escaping to the great country across the ocean where anybody could become somebody. At war's end, he guaranteed his destiny by going to work as a Jeep driver for Joe Pazen, a *Black Star* photojournalist who worked out of *Life*'s bureau in Paris. In time, with his first camera in hand, he sailed to America, learned his craft in California, and, as newly naturalized American, became *Black Star*'s man in Japan.

But freelancing is not for sissies. First there were the "noodle years" of bare existence in a closet-sized apartment in Tokyo. Then came the series of assignments, like the Shirley MacLaine cover story for *Life*, which identified him as a rising star to the editors at *Time Inc*. and *National Geographic*. By 1960, when I arrived in town as *Time-Life*'s new bureau chief, his extraordinary energy and creativity told me that he was meant to play on a bigger stage than the Far East.

One day in the summer of 1961, John came up with a wild idea. "A world scoop!" He raved that he had already made inquiries about a ship that would take us to the Soviet port of Nakhodka. There we would catch the Trans-Siberian Railway for a 6,000-mile ride to Moscow. We would stop at villages and cities along the way to photograph everyday life under communism. Never mind that the ongoing crisis in Berlin made it one of the most dangerous years of the Cold War. Never mind that Stalin and his successors had kept Siberia closed to Western newsmen ever since World War II.

THE RETURN OF THE GREATEST FREELANCER (continued...)

Impossible! But John was infected by the American idea that anything is possible. So, as he used his wiles on the frozenfaced Russian diplomats in Tokyo, I appealed to the Kremlin for permission to penetrate the locked borders. Against all odds, we got our visas. We made it to Moscow on the Trans-Siberian after a month of unprecedented encounters with ordinary Russians in towns and cities. Defving the rules about what not to photograph (especially "of, in or from" the legendary train), we took great risks and escaped arrest.

Life promoted its mighty spread of exclusive black & white photos as "TWO YANKS IN SIBERIA." Time published the most lavish color essay in its history.

Thrilled to be called a Yank, John began his meteoric rise. On one occasion, the editor of Fortune told readers that the pictures for four of the articles on very different subjects in that month's issue had been taken by the same "indefatigable and far-ranging freelancer." He may have been the highest earner of all the world's purely journalistic photographers during the now-forgotten seven-year period when the Saturday Evening Post abandoned its Norman Rockwell style in favor of provocative photo essays.

Delivering iconic images of Malcolm X and The Beatles, Launois was the most prolific of the elite corps of lensmen assembled for the Post in 1963 by former Life stalwart Hank | John Launois (left) shares a moment with his son, Chris Walker. He covered everything from the 50th anniversary of



Pan-Launois (right) © Yukiko Launois

the Soviet Union to Charles de Gaulle at the peak of his powers and Harry Truman in retirement.

So how come his name has faded from photojournalism's memory bank? It seems that his independence, while allowing maximum flexibility as well as the ownership of his pictures, came at a high price. As a Life staffer, he would have benefitted by the magazine's promotion of its celebrated photographers during both the glory days and the subsequent flow of books drawing on the massive Life archives.

L'Americain, then, is John's posthumous escape from obscurity, but its publication has come about only because of the devotion of his son, Chris Pan Launois, his widow, Sigrid Launois, and his first wife, Yukiko Launois. Call it their act of love for a man of great heart who describes his failings as a husband and father with scorching honesty.

Though the book should find a place on the top shelf of immigrant success stories, it is bound to have a special appeal to photographers of the digital age looking for clues about what it takes to do superior photojournalism. When everybody on earth has a camera, and the Internet is a hailstorm of images as well as a deep sea of information, finding a way to stand out from the crowd seems overwhelming.

John Launois, who always believed in action—"it was my oxygen, my path to survival"—would have leapt at the challenge.

Donald S. Connerv is an author, independent journalist and former Time-Life foreign correspondent. He reported major world events of the Cold War era, including the 1962 Missile Crisis from Moscow for Time Inc. and NBC. In 1961 he and photographer John Launois became the first journalists to visit Soviet Siberia after World War II. A "wrong man" murder case in 1973 led to his unique career shift from international reporting to rescuing the innocent.

St. Ansel's Church By Rebecca Rothey



A new church is being founded exclusively for photographers.

Its patron saint is St. Ansel.

Before conversion, members are pretty raw; life has thrown them too many curves.

Once selected, they become more vibrant and soon achieve clarity. And they look sharp, too! As they transform, they become passionate about lightening their burden of dark shadows. Some even dig channels to help them get in the Zone.

At times, a few become a bit over-saturated and their level of involvement requires adjustment.

Rebecca Rothey

Another unique characteristic of all members is low tolerance for noise. Unseen sensors, the bigger the better, fill this mega church, which is almost always housed in adobe architecture.

Membership is not easy; full immersion requires many applications, multiple small adjustments and devoted attention to details. It can take years to master the canon.

To outsiders, the process can seem too multi-layered, or even opaque. But, after long exposure, and many donations at Service, true devotees are able to fully experience the capture and to finally see the LIGHT!

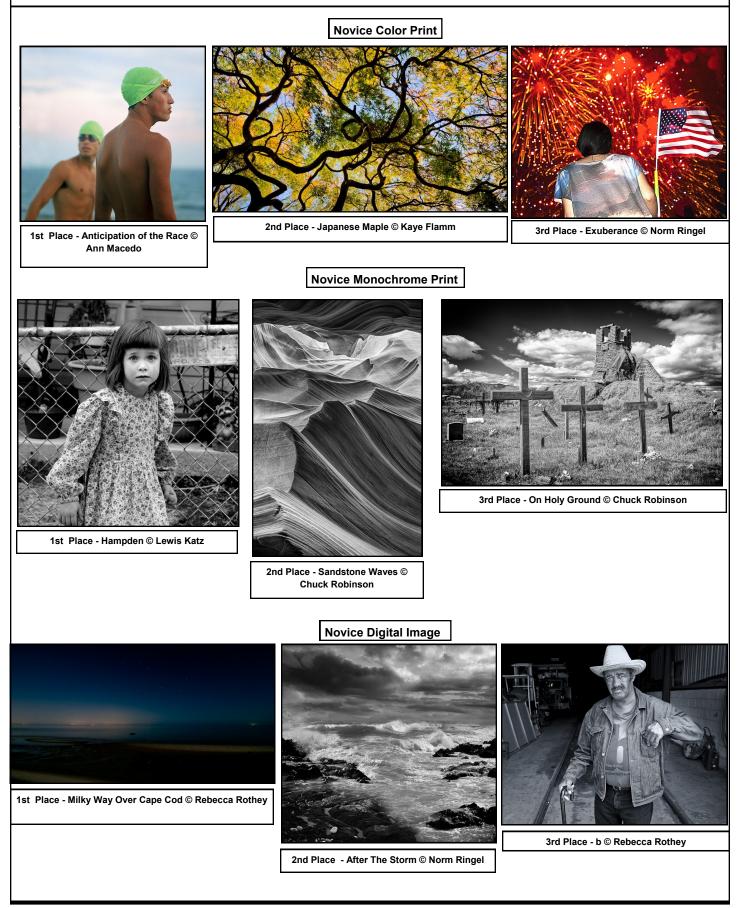
No religions were intentionally harmed in the writing of this piece.

© Rebecca Rothey 2013



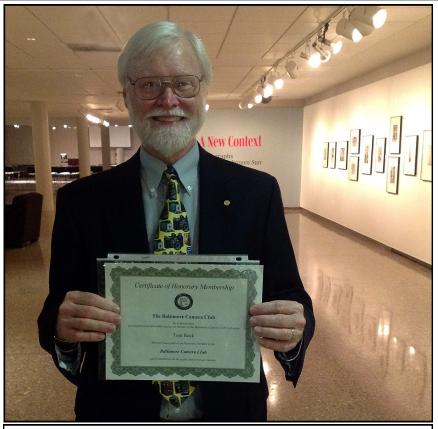
| Special | Awards | Award Description | Image Title | Image Thumbnail | Maker |
|--|--|--|-----------------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| Wayne Ballard Award | Best Monochrome Image | Select From both Novice and Unlimited Monochrome Prints (One Image Only) | Hampden 2012 | | Lewis Katz |
| Graham Crom- well Award | Best Color Print | Select From Both Novice and Unlimited Color Prints (One Image Only) | Mayan Shirt Seller | | Joan Saba |
| Dick Smith Award Best Digi- tal Image of the Year | Best Digital Image of the Year | Select from Digital Images | Lotus Lattice | | Sukumar Balchandran |
| Best Image of the Year | Select From All Categories, Color, or Monochrome (One Image Only) | Prints and Digital | Mayan Shirt Seller | | Joan Saba |
| Bafford Button | Most Significant Contributor to the Club Activities for the Year | Consider all members for their contributions to events, programs, advancements etc. | | | Bob Hansen |

Baltimore Camera Club 2012-2013 Year-End Competition Results (...cont'd)





BCC Lifetime Membership Awarded to Tom Beck, Chief Curator, UMBC By Diane Bovenkamp



Tom Beck, Chief Curator of Photographic Materials at the Albin O. Kuhn Gallery, University of Maryland Baltimore County Proudly Displays his Certificate of Honorary Membership from BCC after the Gallery Presentation © Diane Bovenkamp



BCC President, Jim Eichelman, Presents Tom Beck With His Award © Diane Bovenkamp



Tom Beck Gives a Guided Tour of The Baltimore Sun Gallery Exhibit © Karen Messick

On Thursday, July 25, 2013, the club went to a special, invitation only, presentation at the Albin O. Kuhn Gallery at the University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC), given by Tom Beck, Chief Curator, and special curator of the Baltimore Camera Club's collection. Tom gave a delightful and informative presentation titled "Pictorialism: A Modernist Approach to Photojournalism," including some materials from BCC's Collection, followed by a personal guided tour of the exhibit "A New Context: Photographs from the Baltimore Sun Revisited." At the beginning of the evening, BCC's President, Jim Eichelman, presented Tom with an Honorary Lifetime Membership in the Baltimore Camera Club, "in recognition of honorable service as Curator of the Baltimore Camera Club Collection." We salute Tom for his noble and vital efforts, in particular in preserving the club's history, artistry, and culture for future generations.

Full Circle Gallery Baltimore Camera Club Juried Exhibition

Exhibition Postcard:



Accepted images were judged for a "Best of Show" and other awards, including possible monetary prizes. The gallery offered a 30% discount on the printing and framing of all accepted work.

FULL CIRCLE GALLERY is a new exhibition space for photographers located on the first floor of Full Circle Ltd, a fine art printing and framing studio in Lower Charles Village. Full Circle has been a member of the arts community in Baltimore for 25 years, supporting artists' projects through its professional services. It seeks to build a stronger photographic community in the region by sponsoring multiple exhibitions each year.

Stay informed about upcoming exhibitions including "call for entries" by contacting the studio at 410-528-1868, by emailing gallery@fullcirclephoto.com, or on Facebook: <u>https://www.facebook.com/pages/</u><u>Full-Circle-Photo/292625452177</u>. Or sign up for the newsletter here: <u>http://fullcirclephoto.com/contact/</u>



DEAR FRIENDS OF FULL CIRCLE....

We have winners from our Baltimore Camera Club Juried Exhibition!

Limit Images were scored on a 1-10 scale and judged on subject matter, tonal values, color saturation, framing & presentation, composition and originality. Awards were sponsored by Service Photo and Full Circle. Thanks to everyone who came out and voted! We hope to see you all at any openings we have in the future. Brian Miller, Manager & Photo/Digital Director at Full Circle Ltd.



FIRST PLACE: Annette Conniff: "Snowy Dune"



THIRD PLACE (Tie for Third): Kaye Flamm: "Japanese Maple"



THE VIEWERS CHOICE: Norm Ringel: "Persian Torah Cover"



SECOND PLACE: Sukumar Balachandran: "Lotus Lattice"



THIRD PLACE (Tie for Third): Diane Bovenkamp: "Surfer's Paradise"

Baltimore Camera Club Monthly Competition Results

By The Projection and Image Upload Committee:

Sukumar Balachandran













April 2013

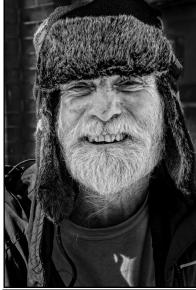
Open Print Competition (4/4): Open Digital Competition (4/18): Novice Monochrome Prints Novice Digital Images 1st—Harry Bosk—Old Man in Hampden 1st—Alice Aldrich—Green Cacti 2nd—Joan Saba—African Crane 2nd—Harry Bosk—Jellyfish in a Halo 3rd—Richard Caplan—Bike in Key West 3rd—Chuck Robinson—Little Amish Boy 4th—Lewis Katz —Hampden 2012 4th—Richard Eskin—Rock Patterns & Surf 5th—Joan Saba—Happiness is a Horse 5th—Annette Conniff—Pickerel HM—Lewis Katz—Clipper Mill Aquaduct HM—Chuck Robinson—Late Summer Storm Novice Color Prints Unlimited Digital Images 1st—Chris Edie—Who Obeys Who 1st—Kay Muldoon-Ibrahim—Kabul Market 2 2nd—Kaye Flamm—Stars & Stripes 2nd—Jeffrey Wolk—Dropping By for Tea 3rd—Jim Voeglein—Big Sur 3rd—Alan Wilder—Conowingo Eagle 4th—Harry Bosk—Tree in Early Fog 4th—Roger Miller—Traffic is Really Bad Today 5th—Eugene Lipster—River of Rust 5th—Sukumar Balachandran—Vine and Blind HM—Sukumar Balachandran—Way to End Those Blues HM—Harry Bosk—Best Friends Unlimited Monochrome Prints 1st—Steve Oney—Bocce Ball 2nd—Rebecca Rothey—Olifant 3rd—Rebecca Rothey—Lester 4th—Steve Oney—Sheers 5th—Don Vetter—Bombay Hook Reflections HM—Don Vetter—Two Doors to Darkness Unlimited Color Prints 1st—Joan Saba—Light in a Kasbah 2nd—Chuck Robinson—Blowing Off Some Steam 3rd—Joan Saba—Hill Tribe Child 4th—Lewis Katz—Marble Steps - West Baltimore 5th—Joan Saba—Sunflowers HM—Gary Faulkner—Branch of Fire

HM=Honorable Mention; Header Photo Credits: Images of Jim Eichelman & Jim Voeglein are © Diane Bovenkamp; Images of Sukumar Balachandran & Jeffrey Wolk were self-submitted.

April 2013



Bocce Ball © Steven Oney 1st—Unlimited Monochrome Print



Old Man in Hampden © Harry Bosk 1st—Novice Monochrome Print



Who Obeys Who © Chris Edie 1st—Novice Color Print



Kabul Market 2 © Kay Muldoon-Ibrahim 1st—Unlimited Digital Image



Green Cacti © Alice Aldrich 1st—Novice Digital



ight in a Kasbah © Joan Saba 1st—Unlimited Color Print

May 2013

September 2013

Open Print Competition (5/2):

Novice Monochrome Prints 1st—Stephen Majchrzak—Two Ladies 2nd—Paul Biederman—Morphic Amorphic 3rd—Jim Voeglein—Elekala Falls 4th—Paul Biederman—A Long Way from Home 5th—Lynn Roberts—Robin HM—Harry Bosk—Madman in Hampden

Novice Color Prints 1st—Harry Bosk—Anticipation 2nd—Maria Drumm—Pilgrimage City 3rd—Paul Biederman—Aviary Affection 4th—Lynn Roberts—Green Winged Teal 5th—Paul Biederman—Jaws HM—Mike Navarre—Timeless Design

Unlimited Monochrome Prints 1st—Rebecca Rothey—First Love 2nd—Chuck Robinson—Death Valley Dunes 3rd—Kay Muldoon-Ibrahim—Busy Morning in Santa Rene 4th—Chuck Robinson—Civil War Smoker 5th—Rebecca Rothey—Gothic Proportions

HM—Kay Muldoon-Ibrahim—Afghan Elder

Unlimited Color Prints 1st—Chuck Robinson—Baltimore That Once Was 2nd—Roger Miller—No Bull 3rd—Chuck Robinson—Makapu'u Sunrise 4th—Kay Muldoon-Ibrahim—Sunday market Day in Bangkok 5th—Rebecca Rothey—Arboretum Bricks HM—Gary Faulkner—Iris Deliguescence

Themed Digital Competition ("Reflections") (5/9):

Novice Digital Images 1st—Keith Hairston—Mirror in the Cloud 2nd—Lew Karchin—Cape Cod Reflections 3rd—Rebecca Rothey—High Tide 4th—Rich Eskin—Reflections 5th—Steve Sattler—Out of Order HM—Rebecca Rothey—Turning Corners

<u>Unlimited Digital Images</u> 1st—Karen Messick—Water Window 2nd—Alan Wilder—Kykuit Reflection 3rd—Jeffrey Wolk—Splash 4th—Sukumar Balachandran—Pylon-scape 5th—Joan Saba—Fishing in a Palace Reflection HM—Roger Miller—Reflection Building, New York Themed Print Competition (9/26):

Novice Monochrome Prints

1st—Paul Biederman—Let Me Out 2nd—Paul Biederman—Fisherman's Heaven 3rd—Vella Kendall—She's Mine I Tell You, Mine!/Mating Season 4th—Kaye Flamm—Foggy Morning on the Lake 5th—Kaye Flamm—Orsay Museum HM—Charles Bowers —Day of the Dead

Novice Color Prints 1st—Paul Biederman—I'm Ready 2nd—Paul Biederman—Into the Fog 3rd—Paul Biederman—Crispy Morn 4th—Karen Dillon—Charged 5th—Karen Dillon—Lotus HM—Lynn Roberts —Blue on Green

Unlimited Monochrome Prints 1st—Jon Meyer—No Water 2nd—Steve Oney—Seed Pod 3rd—Rebecca Rothey—Dance As If No One Is Watching 4th—Arthur Ransome—Last Snow of Winter 5th—Steve Oney—Sisters at Horse Auction HM—Roger Miller —Roof Tops Paris

Unlimited Color Prints 1st—Jon Meyer—The Road to Dalsnibba 2nd—Jon Meyer—The Chesapeake from Matapeak 3rd—Gary Faulkner—Grand Canyon Detail 4th—Rebecca Rothey—Cherry Blossom Bokeh 5th—Rebecca Rothey—Circles, Squares & Lines HM—Chuck Robinson—Lotus

Open Digital Competition (9/12):

Novice Digital Images 1st—Norm Ringel—Machu Picchu 2nd—Steve Sattler—In the Beginning 3rd—Keith Hairston—Bee 4th—Vella Kendall—I Wish 5th—Norm Ringel—Lily HM—Steven Oney—Amish Lad

Unlimited Digital Images 1st—Kay Muldoon-Ibrahim—Majestic Movement 2nd—Arthur Ransome—Worthington Valley 3rd—Alan Wilder—Glass Globe Garden 4th—Sukumar Balachandran—Window Washer 5th—Charles Bowers—Prayer Flags HM—Alan Wilder—Penny Lane Downpour

HM=Honorable Mention

May 2013



First Love © Rebecca Rothey 1st—Unlimited Monochrome Print



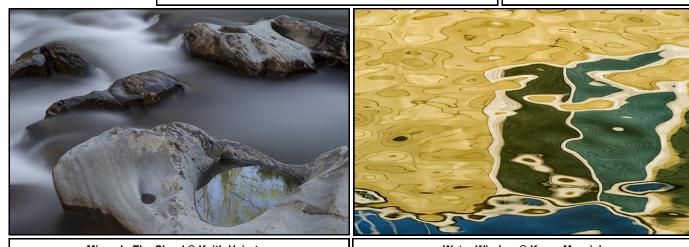
Two Ladies © Stephen Majchrzak 1st—Novice Monochrome Print



Baltimore That Once Was © Chuck Robinson 1st—Unlimited Color Print



Anticipation © Harry Bosk 1st—Novice Color Print



Mirror In The Cloud © Keith Hairston 1st—Novice Digital

Water Window © Karen Messick 1st—Unlimited Digital Image

September 2013



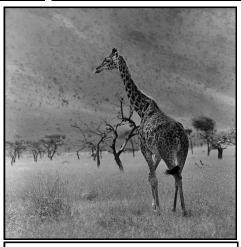
No Water © John Meyer 1st—Unlimited Monochrome Print



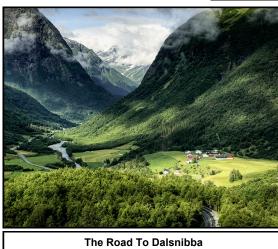
Let Me Out © Paul Biederman 1st—Novice Monochrome Print



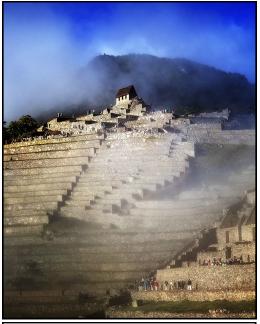
I'm Ready © Paul Biederman 1st—Novice Color Print



Majestic Movement © Kay Muldoon-Ibrahim 1st—Unlimited Digital Image



The Road To Dalsnibba © Jon Meyer 1st—Unlimited Color Print



Machu Picchu © Norm Ringel 1st—Novice Digital

Collector's Corner Half-Frame Cameras By Gordon Risk



Half-frame cameras have been around since thirty-five millimeter film (the full-frame format) was first used. The size of full frame, as we all know, is 24x36 mm, and the size of the half frame is 24x18 mm. Leica takes most of the credit for establishing the use of 35mm film, and their technician for establishing the format was Oskar Barnack, who at the time, in the early twenties, was working on movie camera lenses. Those cameras took 35mm film with a half-frame format. Oskar's need to test the lenses led him to create the Leica camera with the larger full frame.

Gordon Risk © 2012 Diane Bovenkamp

The 1950's saw the popularity of half-frame cameras. Leica was at the end of its screw mount se-

ries before they produced a half-frame model, called a Leica 72, and, as not many were produced, it can demand a high price. Most Japanese and other countries produced a half-frame camera in the fifties and sixties. Olympus made more than twenty half-frame models, the best being the PEN "F" series with interchangeable lenses.

My small collection of half-frame cameras consists of two Japanese Canons and an American Mercury II by Universal Camera. The Canon Demi (see Figure 1) is an excellent piece with a fixed 28mm f2.8 lens and built-in selenium meter. The Canon Dial 35, distributed by Bell & Howell (see Figure 2), has the same lens as the Demi, but with a built-in CDS meter and a spring loading film transport system. The Mercury II (see Figure 3) is all mechanical with a unique rotary shutter which needs the large semicircle seen at the top of the camera (see Figure 4).



Figure 2: Half-Frame Canon Dial 35 © Gordon Risk



Collector's Corner (...continued) Half-Frame Cameras By Gordon Risk



Figure 3: Half-Frame Mercury II © Gordon Risk

I enjoy shooting half-frame cameras, as you get 72 frames per roll. As with most half-frame cameras, the image is vertical on the film, so to take a horizontal image, one must turn the camera vertically. The Canon Dial 35 camera feeds the film vertically, top to bottom, therefore you are normally shooting horizontally (see Figure 5).



Figure 4: Mercury II rotary shutter © Gordon Risk



Figure 5: Vertical Film Transport, Canon Dial © Gordon Risk

Focal Point

Baltimore Camera Club

Baltimore Camera Club is the Oldest Photographic Society in the USA (Incorporated 1884)



SAVE THE DATE!

THE BALTIMORE CAMERA CLUB

Presents

MARC MEUNCH

SATURDAY, MARCH 15, 2014

The Baltimore Camera Club is again sponsoring a one day seminar featuring one of America's top photographers, Marc Meunch (<u>www.muenchphotography.com</u>).

The seminar will take place at The Kelley Lecture Hall on the campus of Goucher College in Towson, MD. Stay tuned for more information.

West Point by Roger Miller

I went to West Point on Thursday, October 10, for a book signing on the Friday and Saturday. I had a great time with Carol Fish and everyone at the West Point Cadet Bookstore. On Saturday, I got up at 5:00 a.m. and got to West Point by 7:00 am for a book signing at the parade on The Plain. The weather was great and I got some new photos of West Point as the sun was rising. The parade was to honor all of the alumni and to place a wreath at the Thayer Monument. Thayer is the "Father" of West Point. I got some great photos of the parade and West Point [see selection below]. On the way home, I took some beautiful photos of the area around West Point. [For more information on Roger's work, visit: www.rogermillerphoto.com]



April To September 2013 Focal Point

| | Coming Attracti | ons | | |
|--|--|---|--|--|
| | October 2013 | | | |
| 2013-2014 | Event | Info | | |
| Thursday ,October 3 | Program | Chris Peregoy, Program Specialist, Visual Arts at UMBC will discuss his photographically derived work of the pas 30 years. Originally trained in traditional photographic practices, his current work crosses the boundaries be- tween digital, traditional and primitive photography and marries digital image making with historic photographic processes. His images deal with forgotten or imagined memories. Chris' work with pinhole photography led hin to form his own company, the <u>Pinhole Blender Compan</u> which sells his uniquely designed cameras. <u>http://</u> <u>art.umbc.edu/varts/faculty/peregoy.php</u> | | |
| Friday, October 4 to Sunday, October 6 | Club Member Fall Trip to West Virginia | We will be venturing a bit further south from our usual venue to The Inn at Mountain Quest in Frost, WV. Lo- cated in a serene valley in southeast Pocahontas County right in the heart of the Allegheny Mountains (<u>www.mountainguestinn.com</u>), the inn is truly off the grid. We will be about 30 minutes from the Cass Scenic Rail- road (<u>www.cassrailroad.com</u>). | | |
| Thursday, October 10 | Print Competition (Open) | Judge: Edward Brown – Instructor St. Paul School | | |
| Thursday ,October 17 | Program | Ann Shafer, Associate Curator of Prints and Drawings at the Baltimore Museum of Art, will give a talk on her cur- rent exhibition that features An-My Le, an artist who documents the American military in training exercises and on humanitarian missions. <u>www.pbs.org/art21/artists/an-my-le</u> | | |
| Thursday, October 24 | Digital Competition 2 (Open) | Judge: Brian Miller - Manager & Photo / Digital Director, Full Circle Ltd; - <u>www.fullcirclephoto.com</u> | | |
| Saturday ,October 26 | Field Shoot | Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge www.friendsofblackwater.org Meet at church at 8AM | | |
| Thursday, October 31 | Program | Jennifer Casey is a local professional photographer who works a full range of photography related activities which includes leading a 300 person meet-up group. She will present a talk on social media outlets and how to get the most out of your posts. http://jennifercaseyphotography.com/ | | |
| | November 2013 | | | |
| 2013-2014 | Event | Info | | |
| Thursday, November 7 | Print Competition 3 (Themed) | Theme : Minimal Photography Judge: Jed Kirschbaum - Retired Baltimore Sun see pp 18-22 Taft Bulletin | | |
| Thursday, November 14 | Program | Chris Pan Launois, son of top international photojournalisi John Launois who was famous for his iconic images, will present his father's memoir, <i>L'Americain: A Photojournal- ist's Life</i> . It's a behind-the-scenes look at John's work and the artistry that he brought to the "Golden Age of Photo- journalism." Preorder your book from The Ivey Bookshop (ask Mike Navarre)—Chris will be available for book sign- ing at the meeting. <u>www.lamericain.com/home.html</u> | | |
| | Field Shoot | All day field shoot at Bombay Hook—bird migration | | |
| Saturday, November 16 | | Judges: Heather Coburn, <u>Heather Coburn Photography</u> ; Kat Forder, <u>Kat Forder Photography</u> ; Tara Hope Cofiell, <u>Tara Hope Photography</u> . | | |
| Saturday, November 16 Thursday, November 21 | Digital Competition 3 (Open) | Kat Forder, Kat Forder Photography; Tara Hope Cofiell, | | |

Focal Point

Baltimore Camera Club

Baltimore Camera Club is the Oldest Photographic Society in the USA (Incorporated 1884)

Parting Shot



Who Obeys Who © Chris Edie (1st place Novice Color Print, April 2013)



The Baltimore Camera Club is a Member Club of the Photographic Society of America <u>www.psa-photo.org</u>

2014 - Albuquerque, New Mexico Sept. 27 to Oct. 3, 2014 2015 - West Yellowstone, Montana Sept. 27 to Oct. 3, 2015

Future PSA Conferences:

Baltimore Camera Club, Inc.

1884

http://psa-photo.org/index.php? conference-overview