



# The Focal Point

January 2005



*Washington Monument*

*Tom Perry*



*Cherry Trees In The Snow*

*Gene Bessette*



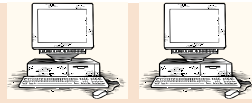
*Hampton Mansion*

*Tom Perry*



*Photo/Painting  
Winter Lane by John Bedke*

*Nikon/Film/PhotoshopDryBrush*

*Bedke's Page.....***Scanning Old Family Letters**

Some letters have quite a bit of family historical importance. They can be on various types of paper, some quite dark, with different inks and colors. Some of the paper has acid and age spots, and is quite fragile

One technique is to scan in RGB color at 300 dpi, and then examine individual RGB channels or even some other color mode like LAB. Some inks may be clearer in one channel, and others in a different channel. So, a handmade composite in Photoshop may yield best results.

A color scan is also very handy for removing things like coffee stains and such because they stand out much more in a color scan if the actual letter content is essentially B&W it is very labor intensive but is worth the effort for irreplaceable documents.

Also you may encounter multicolored inks and "bleeding through" when both sides of paper were used, there are old airmail letters from Europe on \*blue\*, very thin and practically transparent paper with \*blue\* ink writing on both sides.

Black velvet is the answer for transparent letters. Lay the transparent paper on the scanner then lay the velvet over the top. Black velvet is excellent for absorbing light and should give you a clear scan with only the side facing the light showing writing, some Photoshop work will also be required for the best image.

**Footnote from the editor...**John, I found this information to be most beneficial, especially the tip on the black velvet. I have been working on letters from WWII and have been using the HP Scanner 2210 all in one, copy, scan, printer and fax. There are nice controls and adjustments on this program as well. I have not tried scanning into Adobe Photoshop, instead I have used the HP program that came with the scanner, and inserted the scan copies into the Microsoft Publisher Program that I use to publish the Focal Point.

**I wish I'd said that:**

"I find the single most valuable tool in the darkroom is my trash can."

— John Sexton

**Quotes from Ansel Adams**

"In wisdom gathered over time I have found that every experience is a form of exploration."

"To photograph truthfully and effectively is to see beneath the surfaces and record the qualities of nature and humanity which live or are latent in all things."



Belgium  
Jan 1 - 45

My Darling:

I got one letter out to you to-day but somehow or other I just had to write another. Guess being this far away and not even being able to call you got the best of me. Last nite I was on guard between ten and one. Believe it or not but right at twelve you were wished a very "Happy New Year." It was just between you and me and the snow storm. We hadnt fired much all day but just before mid. nite we threw a lot out. It was after we had finished firing that I took a little walk with myself, found west and sent it to you. Hope you get it allright if they dont get one any mail in before long guess I will go nuts. Have read and reread your last couple letters till they are just about worn out. They are a lot better honey than no letters at all to. Cant get any blue envelopes so am going to send this to the base cems. That is if to-morrow I cant find one in the Btry. Rather if you like it or not am afraid this will be one of those letters. Cant help it honey sometimes just have to let myself go. After the

The scanned image here is a letter written from a lonely GI in Battery C 489th Armored, to his sweetheart in America on New Years Day 1945, sixty years ago after the Battle of the Bulge had been fought and the tides had turned on the German aggression in Europe.

We can only imagine what it felt like to be there, on that cold snowy night with mortars going off, while this GI was pining for his sweetheart.

The imaging advancements, the technology of 2004 has brought to us now enables me to share with you the memories of a time gone by. Much the way all our images created today will enable future generations to keep in mind, times gone by. So you say what does this have to do with photography??

Well, I see this as a photograph of the heart of a young soldier, dated January 1, 1945.

***Wishing you a very Happy New Year!***

**BCC Calendar -2005**

<i>Thursday January 6</i>	<i>Print Contest</i>	
<i>Thursday January 13</i>	<i>Program</i>	<i>Filtering for film &amp; CCD (digital) in Black &amp; White</i>
<i>Thursday January 20</i>	<i>Slide Contest</i>	
<i>Thursday January 27</i>	<i>Program</i>	<i>"Mylar Night" Table Top Shoot and Instruction</i>
<i>Thursday February 3</i>	<i>Print Contest</i>	
<i>Thursday February 10</i>	<i>Program</i>	
<i>Thursday February 17</i>	<i>Slide Contest</i>	
<i>Thursday February 24</i>	<i>Program</i>	
<i>Thursday March 3</i>	<i>Print Contest</i>	
<i>Thursday March 10</i>	<i>Program</i>	
<i>Thursday March 17</i>	<i>Slide Contest</i>	
<i>Thursday March 24</i>	<i>Program</i>	
<i>Thursday March 31</i>	<i>Print Contest</i>	
<i>Thursday April 7</i>	<i>Program</i>	
<i>Thursday April 14</i>	<i>Slide Contest</i>	
<i>Thursday April 21</i>	<i>Program</i>	

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# Competition Winners

## *Competition Results December Slides*

NOVICE COLOR SLIDES			UNLIMITED SLIDES		
1st	Orchid	Alfica Sehgal	1st	Rural America	Jane McManus
2nd	Oregon Falls	Peter Cibor	2nd	Tenacity	Lewis Katz
3rd	Group Portrait	E. Evans	3rd	Gunpowder	Lewis Katz
4th	California Coast	Peter Cibor	4th	Dandelion	Lewis Katz
5th	Hummingbird	Alfica Sehgal	5th	Pattern of Leak	Jane McManus
HM	Water & Ice	Peter Cibor	HM	Mantis Portrait	Barry Christie

Baltimore Camera Club January 2005

## *Competition Results December Prints*

NOVICE MONOCHROME PRINTS			UNLIMITED MONOCHROME PRINTS		
1st	No Contest Insufficient Entries		1st	Little Blue Heron	Paul McKeown
2nd			2nd	Untitled Shoes	Sonia Estruch
3rd			3rd	Praying Mantis	John Davis
4th			4th	White Vase	Sonia Estruch
5th			5th	Optometrist Montana	Paul MvKeown
HM			HM	Mimosa Blossom	Gary Faulkner
NOVICE COLOR PRINTS			UNLIMITED COLOR PRINTS		
1st	Stone Collection	Steve Harman	1st	Kayakers Dream	Gene Bessette
2nd	Chilled	John Eybs	2nd	Dancers on Stage	Gene Bessette
3rd	Dead End	Anna Sanatna	3rd	Giraffe Kiss	Pail McKeown
4th	Evicted	Anna Santana	4th	Alvis	Jay Daley
5th	Me & My Cat	Barrett Foster	5th	Toucan	Paul McKeown
HM	Crimson Lake	John Eybs	HM	Bejeweled	Paul McKeown



## From the Editor

***Nova Scotia May 21-28..see Gary or Karen for information....***

***Correspondence :***

***NOVA SCOTIA PLANNING***

Hi Karen,

If you are coming to Nova Scotia I'd recommend you request a copy of the Doer and Dreamers guide. It is free and will provide lots of tourist information. It is available here:

<http://www.novascotia.com/>

Some popular places are: Peggys Cove is one of the most popular tourist sights and fishing village in Atlantic Canada.

<http://www.peggys-cove.com/>

Fortress of Louisburg is a large restoration of a French fort. It's been used by Disney. In the summertime they have many people dressed in period costumes who can provide detailed information about the former residents of Louisburg.

<http://collections.ic.gc.ca/louisbourg/enghome.html>

Annapolis Valley It's on the Evangeline Trail. I like the Wolfville area, Annapolis Royal and Digby. All of these places are on or near the Bay of Fundy which has the world's highest tides. Sandpipers stop at the Bay of Fundy for two weeks in August to feed before they migrate to South America in the fall. I hear they stop at Chesapeake Bay when they migrate north in the spring to feed when the crabs hatch.

<http://www.novascotia.com/howtogetaround/evangeline/morephotos.htm>

Mahone Bay/Lunenburg It's on the Lighthouse Trail. Two very picturesque villages on the South Shore. Lunenburg in the home of the Bluenose II.

<http://www.novascotia.com/howtogetaround/lighthouse/morephotos.htm>

Check out the above. If you have more questions let me know. If certain subjects interest you I can provide more specific info.

We have a field trip to Cape Split on May 21st to take pictures of the wild flowers. You are welcome to join us.

It's near Wolfville in the Annapolis valley.

**Peter Steeper** President

Photographic Guild of Nova Scotia

Webmaster [www.photoguild.ns.ca](http://www.photoguild.ns.ca)

[www.photoguild.ns.ca](http://www.photoguild.ns.ca)



## Correspondence

KAREN;

MY GRANDAUGHTER , ZOE REZNICK , A 2004 GRADUATE OF GOUCHER COLLEGE , WILL HAVE A PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBIT AT THE

LLOYD STREET JEWISH MUSEUM

JAN 17 TO JAN 30. THIRTY GELATINE SILVER PRINTS .

THE MUSEUM IS LOCATED BETWEEN FELS POINT AND LITTLE ITALY. IT MAY BE OF INTEREST TO CLUB MEMBERS.-----

WAYNE BALLARD

## Photographers Resources

### Links of Interest

The Narrative -

<http://www.thenarrative.net>

Double Exposure Magazine -

[http://photoworkshop.com/double\\_exposure/publish](http://photoworkshop.com/double_exposure/publish)

The Mirror Project -

<http://www.mirrorproject.com>

photoinsider Magazine -

<http://www.photoinsider.com>

### Local Professionals

Kyle Bergner -

<http://www.kylebergner.com>

Jennifer Bishop -

<http://www.jenniferbishoppography.com>

John Dean -

<http://www.johndeanphoto.com>

Dennis Drenner -

<http://www.dennisdrenner.com>

Timothy Edberg -

<http://www.edbergphoto.com>

Chris Hartlove -

<http://www.chrishartlove.com>

David Hawxhurst -

<http://www.hawxhurst.com>

## From the Program Coordinator

### Four Men and a Cabin

*Our trip started on Nov. 19<sup>th</sup> as we departed from John Davis's house for a 4 ½ hour drive to a cabin in the North central part of Pennsylvania, which belongs to another Club member, Marty West. The occupants of the van were John Davis (our driver), Gary Faulkner (trip coordinator), Paul McKeown (digital guy), and Gordon Risk (navigator): First stop food. This crew needs plenty of fuel on these trips, as John Davis loves to say, "You guys hungry again?" Arriving at a destination in the dark, on a mountain, at a place we don't know is a lot of fun. Opening up the cabin we get settled in and, yes you guessed it, time to eat! Break out the chilled beverages and snacks. After waking and joking about who did the best snoring we prepared the morning feast. Paul supplied the turkey bacon, eggs, and coffee and was the chef. Where to go and photograph was no problem as there are many parks, rivers, and towns with covered bridges in this part of Pa. Rain it never fails to do this when ever we go, but then it stops. "STOP" look at this river scene, great photo opps! More food, lunch next to a covered bridge it doesn't get any better than this! Looking for more places to photograph we stop in Dushore and wait until dusk to photograph a church on a hill that is illuminated very nicely. Back to the cabin we make our pizza and settle in for talk, refreshment, and snoring. Sunday, breakfast (of course), sun is shining and we hike down to the waterfalls. After spending a good amount of time we hike up the mountain to the cabin to prepare to return home.*

*Get together with your camera crew and plan an outing for the day or over night and enjoy photographing together, it is fun and you can learn from each other.*

Gary Faulkner