



The Focal Point

February, 2006



Fawcett's
Go
WEST



January Contest Winners

UNLIMITED COLOR

Karl Franz-FIRST LIGHT, DEEP CREEK-1st place
John Eybs-AUTUMN CALM-2nd place
Karl Franz-BIRTH IN A BED OF GREEN-3rd place
Steve Harman-BY DAWNS EARLY LIGHT-4th place
John Davis – (no title available) – 5th place
Jay Dailey – (no title available) - HM

UNLIMITED MONO

Kay Muldoon-Ibrahim-ESTE BUENO-1st place
Gordon Risk-OLD MILL & STREAM-2nd place
John Davis-MADE IN AMERICA-3rd place
Karl Franz-EARLY MORNING BALTIMORE-4th place
Steve Harman-BLACK ROCK-5th place
Gary Faulkner-SWAN POINT-hm

NOVICE COLOR

A.Noznitsky-A RAINY MORNING IN PRAGUE-1st place
Kay Muldoon-Ibrahim-QUIAT MARKET-2nd place
Kathleen Risk-CURLY HAIRED LEOPARD-3rd place
Lewis Katz=GUNPOWDER REFLECTIONS-4th place
Thom Perry-SAILING WITH PRIDE-5th place
Tom Ferrara-READY FOR FLIGHT-hm

NOVICE MONO

A. Noznitsky-BAD DREAM-1st place
Karen Messic-FROSTED MEADOW LIGHT-2nd place
Lewis Katz-JASMINE-3rd place
Karen Messick-TWO SYCAMORES-4th place
Sonia Estruch-ADORING MURCIA-5th place
Lewis Katz-SNOWY STREAM-hm

We decided that just for once we would go to the West Coast by road, so as to get to know the bits in between a bit better. We set out on Labor Day in brilliant sunshine. Thereafter in our 5 weeks away we were to see all sorts of heat and cold, dark clouds and heavy rain, dry and dusty conditions.

We did not pause much for the Appalachians, our eyes being focused on the Black Hills of South Dakota, the first really scenic area on the route. From there we wandered though Wyoming, approaching the Tetons and Yellowstone by an unusual route from the south east by way of Dubois. The road from Dubois to the Tetons took us over a 10,000ft pass where we got snow pictures.

Most places we went to are obvious, being well known and not too far from the interstate system. Others are obscure, such as Soap Lake, Washington, a very small spa known for it's medicinal mud, or the City of Rocks in Idaho which took us on 50 miles of dirt roads. Joseph may be a little lost in the north east corner of Oregon, but its situation next to the Wallowa mountains and alpine lake is perfect and it has amazing sculptures all along Main Street.

We returned by a southerly route through Utah and southern Colorado. Our plan for a rest stop in the Great Smokey's came to nothing when they lived up to their name and the rain drove us out and home.

Some of our favorite pictures from the trip are to be found at <http://imageevent.com/baltimorecc/janetandrichardstourwest>
We hope you like them

Janet and Richard



Thursday January 19 Slide Competition Board Meeting
Thursday January 26 Program Field Trip Images and Member Trip Planning. Bring your calendar and trip requests.
Thursday February 2 Print Competition Judges: Christine Bowles, Steve Solomon, Janian Haig
Thursday February 9 Program OPEN
Thursday February 16 Slide Competition Tony Sweet Judge, Critique
Thursday February 23 Program Board Meeting
OPEN
Thursday March 2 Print Competition Sam Holden, Susan Gould, Chris Heard
Thursday March 9 Program OPEN
Thursday March 16 Slide Competition Richard Anderson, Elizabeth Malby, Geren Mortensen
Thursday March 23 Program OPEN
Board Meeting
Thursday March 30 Slide Competition
Thursday April 6 Program Nominating Committee Selected from Membership to select and nominate the Board for the 2006-2007 year.
OPEN
Thursday April 13 No Meeting at The Church
Evening shoot/social Place TBD
Thursday April 20 Print Competition
Thursday April 27 Program Lewis Katz
Board Meeting
Thursday May 4 Slide Competition Nominations announced to the membership for the Board 2006-2007
Saturday May 6 Camera School
Thursday May 11 Program Sonia Estruch Physicians and Photography
Thursday May 18 Print Competition
Thursday May 25 Program Cindy and Mindy Pinhole cameras and images
Possible selection of images for the July Show
Board Meeting
Thursday June 1 Officer Elections: Club Members Vote for new Board Members;
End of Year Feedback, review and opportunities for next year
Thursday June 8 Auction or Other
Possible selection of images for the July Show

Friday, Saturday,
Sunday June 9,10,11
Weekend Mountain Trip Shenandoah National Park, Virginia
Big Meadows Lodge, Skyline Drive post 51
www.nps.gov/shen/
Thursday June 15 Banquet Year end Awards Dinner Williamsburg Inn
Thursday June 29 Finalize Show details Summer Schedule starts every other Thursday Night
Saturday July 1 Severn Graphics Hang Gallery Show Images
Thursday July 13 None moved to Friday
opening
Friday July 14 Severn Graphics Opening Night 6pm-9pm
Show runs through July29
Thursday July 27 Program
Thursday August 10 Night Trip TDB
Thursday August 24 Program
Thursday September 7 First Night of The New Calendar year 2006-2007

2005-2006 BCC Officers and Board Members

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Digital Tips

- Camera Sensors – there are two types a CCD and a CMOS. The CCD is the better and is usually in the SLR cameras whereas the CMOS are found in the Point and Shoot's. CCD's are produced with a higher fidelity and light sensitivity.
- Image Chart – determining the number of pixels needed should be considered with the images end result. Below is a guide:

5MP = 2592 x 1944 pixels
high quality: 10 x 13 inches
acceptable: 13 x 19 inches

4MP = 2272 x 1704 pixels
high quality: 9 x 12 inches
acceptable: 12 x 16 inches

3MP = 2048 x 1536 pixels
high quality: 8 x 10 inches
acceptable: 10 x 13 inches

For other info about digital imaging go to
www.dpreview.com

February 1, 2006

A WINTER WALK ON THE BEACH

Karen Messick

Photography is Fun!

I know that because I went to the beach on Saturday for some home maintenance things on the townhouse. So what does that have to do with photography??you say, well, just like my American Express card I never leave home with out my camera. This I have learned when I have and missed an opportunity to capture images I wished I had now in my portfolio of images.

After taking care of some home maintenance chores, I walked a few blocks to look at the ocean just to see it again, and understand it's character that day, and what it might have done to the beach since I was last there in October. The sea is always unpredictable and last year the winter ocean ate a pretty good chunk of the beach and was tossing pebbles and ocean debris under the pilings of the ocean front homes. That was not the case this year, Saturday was a 60 degree day at the beach and the winter sea looked calmer than any summer sea over the past five years of my observation, so I went for a walk, without my camera at first. When I ventured down to the waters edge, I began to see wonderful etchings in the sand from the waters slow and mild ebb and flow. I went back to the car and grabbed my camera, mounted a 15-55 2.8DX lens to my camera and polarizer with lens hood. I also put my over the knee waders on so I could get my feet wet where I needed to position myself in order to capture these images. With my back to the sea and my legs spread out in a huddle type position I began bending over to get a good plane of focus with the sloping shoreline..now that must have been a real picture! Fortunately no one was with me, so no one has that on film, or sensor. OK Imagine this challenge, my feet were gradually

sinking into the wet sand, that is a movement and could throw the subject wet, sand out of focus..so I became very conscious as to when I felt my feet had settled into the sand enough that I was not in jeopardy of getting a fuzzy image. The sun was just south and east on me and the wet sand created highlights on the ridges of the carved sand. I shot 100 images that afternoon and when this image came into my view finder it brought a smile to my face, there I am a joyous woman on the beach taking pictures and look what was staring back at me??Art In Nature! I think this image looks just like a Joyous Woman! How about you?



Who would have ever thought I would have had this opportunity on a home maintenance trip to the beach! I have edited the 100 images down to twenty and have been working on getting them on to discs to enter into "Nature's Best" photo competition. So never, never, leave home without your gear!