



# The Focal Point

February, 2006



Fawcett's  
Go  
WEST



# January Contest Winners

## UNLIMITED COLOR

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

## UNLIMITED MONO

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

## NOVICE COLOR

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

## NOVICE MONO

A. Noznitsky-BAD DREAM-1<sup>st</sup> place  
Karen Messic-FROSTED MEADOW LIGHT-2<sup>nd</sup> place  
Lewis Katz-JASMINE-3<sup>rd</sup> place  
Karen Messick-TWO SYCAMORES-4<sup>th</sup> place  
Sonia Estruch-ADORING MURCIA-5<sup>th</sup> 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/](http://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](http://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 without 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!