



# The Focal Point



Summer 2006



### About our cover...

Well, it started out that the picture was going to be used as background for a headline that said, "Welcome Back!!" (Get it, get it?). But then we thought we'd turn it into a mystery. The woman in the picture is today about the same age as your editor. No need to cut off his leg and count the rings: He'll be 65 in December. For those new members your Editor first joined the club in 1968. Needless to say he has not been around continuously all those years...there was a 30 year gap while various computer companies transferred him all over the country and the world. During that same period he raised four children but managed to completely elude maturity but not the aging process.

—ED

## Our Opening at Severn Graphics

As can be seen by the accompanying pictures our show in Hamden was a rousing success. What you can't see is the mounted Baltimore City Policeman outside doing crowd control (Kidding!). Of some minor interest were the periodic "visits" by the denizens of the neighborhood. They never even looked at the pictures but went immediately to the well stocked bar and sumptuous buffet. Special thanks to Kamal Ibriham for his hand rolled falafels. That's the BCC for you: community involvement, feeding the hungry and slaking the thirst of the masses...for wine and art and falafel.



**Pictured Here, Gary Faulkner** and his striking pine tree among the Aspens. Gary was just one of our exhibitors. Gary was also one of the hard workers contributing to the process of matting, framing and hanging the show. Additionally, our thanks go to Gordon Risk, Mindy Best, Cindy Intorre, Karen Messick, Karl Franz, Lewis Katz and everyone else who participated but have fallen prey to the Editor's failing memory. It was a beautiful show and all of the exhibitors can be justly proud.

SEE PAGE  
FOUR  
FOR MORE  
GALLERY NEWS



**Left:** Lewis,  
Jane and  
Charles





**Above:** Tony and his flock



**Far left:** Kay, Richard, Jim



Kay, Gordon, Tony and John Davis.  
The man in white attempting an exit.



Susan Bass of the famous duo and  
Email address "Bass-Katz"



Mr. and Mrs. Faulkner



Jane, Charles (background), Karl



The fans...



What's this, then?



## OUR SCHEDULE FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE SUMMER

Friday July 14 Severn Graphics Opening  
Night 6pm-9pm

Show runs through July 29

Thursday July 27 Our first Digital Contest

Thursday August 10 Night Shoot Mt  
Vernon

Sunday August 20, Board Meeting  
Karen's house

Thursday August 24 Program

Thursday September 7 First Night of The New Calendar year 2006-2007 and kick-off party.

## REMEMBER, STEVE NEEDS JUDGES

Anyone you meet at a gallery, showing, ( or even an AA meeting) who has talent, *a body of work* and reasonably alcohol free breath we would welcome. Your Editors' personal opinion is that we can learn more from artists than from other (outside) club photographers

## GORDON RISK TO HAVE A SHOW AT STRICTLY BEMORE GALLERY.

**Gordon Risk** will be exhibiting at the *Strictly Bemore Gallery* (1728 Thames St, Fells Point) August 2-30.

Opening reception will be on Friday August 4 from 5 to 9pm at which time the artist will be in attendance. As many of you know, Gordon is a master printer and the technical quality of his images is, some would say, in a league with Ansel Adams. Add this to his artistic interpretations which are frequently, in his own words, *Surreal*.



Patent Shoes

Gordon Risk





## A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

What in the world can there be to photograph on a 90+ day in and around Baltimore at high noon???

That was my question today as I decided to head out with my gear. Normally I would not even consider going out at this time of day, but when I get out there and start composing and snapping away something happens.

After being run off the horse farm by an old man with a shaggy long beard, I drove north toward Butler. Fields of Queen Anne's Lace were in full bloom and tree shaded allies were everywhere in the Worthington Valley. After stopping for a few shots of tree shaded lanes and Queen Anne's lace I drove on to Butler Road.

St. Johns Church stands at the corner of Butler Road and Piney Grove Road. I pulled in and parked in the lot, got out and began to walk around looking at the beautiful old iron gates and fences. The church and cemetery has been at this spot since 1800. As I meandered through the tree shaded grounds I began to see some opportunities for some interesting images.

I mounted my 12-22mm wide angle lens fitted with a circular polarizer, as I imagined doing some wide angle close up work on the iron and stones. I decided to forgo the tripod and instead dialed up the ISO to 200 and set the white balance to sunny, even though I was working somewhat in the shade.

These two images were downloaded into Photoshop. Levels and curves were applied to achieve the desired results. Color balanced was adjusted, saturation was ramped up and some cloning was done to eliminate a few dust spots and highlights, otherwise these are pretty straight images.

I was amazed that I was actually able to create a pleasing image on a 90+ degree day in Baltimore. So if you want to capture some mages you just have to go wander around, no matter what the weather, no matter what the time of day, the only requirement is a desire to create and your camera! So have fun this summer, bring back lots of images from your travels and lets have the best year yet for fun and photography!

Looking forward to seeing everyone again this year!

Karen Messick





