

INFOCUS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE INDIAN RIVER PHOTO CLUB,

JULY 4, 2011

Our Club President's Snap Shop

This month's program is all about light. George Eastman (of Eastman Kodak) said, "Light makes photography. Embrace light. Admire it. Love it. But above all, know light. Know it for all you are worth, and you will know the key to photography."

Don't mistake this opportunity as just another "technical" program. Light also evokes emotion in your photos.



We have all marveled at an extraordinary sunrise or sunset. But, have you ever experienced a "catch in your breath moment" when you saw an

unexpected shaft of light caress the subject you were about to photograph? It is magical!

How about when the light shines through a butterfly's wings and they resemble a stained glass window, the rim lighting on a furry little kitten, or the sparkle in the bird's eye?

Keep an eye out for the "unusual" light in your photography and how light contrasts with the darks.

I particularly enjoy finding subjects that are naturally lighted; however, it is also fun to experiment with unusual lighting techniques.

Try a flashlight, glow stick, firelight or candlelight with time exposures. Try taking some time exposures from the passenger seat of an automobile while traveling down a neon lighted city street. Wow.

You will get some amazing abstracts.

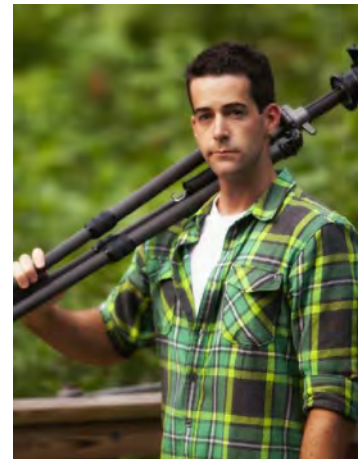
Get acquainted with the exposure compensation dial on your camera and learn about the "temperature" of light.

In "The Elements of Photography," wildlife photographer, David Young said, "It is the photographing of ordinary things, in extraordinary light, which results in extraordinary photographs."

Now, go take that one of a kind photo, invite a friend, and look for the light together.

George Bollis

Our July Program Will be given by **BRETT DONNELLY**



More about Brett on page 2.

News Makers



FLORIDA STATE PARK PHOTO
Club Member Barb Rice
Hung At Backus Gallery 2011
Photo Taken At Fakahatchee Strand
Preserve State Park



Club Member Billy Ocker
For The Press Journal Photo
Taken At The Indian River Lagoon



Club Member Yvonne Tso
May Winner
Audubon Bird Photo Contest



Club Member Celeste McWilliams
State Park Monthly Winner
April 2011
For Photo Taken At
Kissimmee Prairie

Above photos page 5 & Contents on Page 2

The Presenter of our July Programme



The goal of this presentation is to help us develop a basic understanding of the science of light and vision as a foundation for capturing better photographs. We will learn a little bit about physics, how the eye sees light, and the general properties of light and color and how we measure them.

Brett Donnelly is a completely self-taught photographer. His portfolio of rare images represent over a decade of work filming the inhabitants and landscapes of three continents. His limited edition prints present photography as a true art form both through his lens and in final presentation.

Brett sees our world from a unique perspective. With a scientific background and a passion for the outdoors, Brett has forged a unique ability to capture the most stunning colors and landscapes rarely seen by the naked eye. His drive to find and capture the grand beauty of our world has taken him to the ends of the Earth in search of that perfect shot.

Growing up with an interest in science and nature, Brett spent many summers hiking the Rocky Mountains and exploring the Southwest with his grandparents. They took photographs everywhere they went not for artistic reasons but rather to document the journey. This was his introduction to photography and he was hooked. He saved up and purchased his first camera when he was only 10 years old.

When Brett was 12 years old he fell ill and battled health problems midway through his teenage years. While he was sick he spent time learning all the technical aspects of his camera. He began to see in his mind what a photograph would look like if he changed the parameters of his shot. It is a skill that he takes with him into the field everyday. Many of the images Brett captures today are far more complex than what he could do as a child, but the same basic principles apply to any type of photography.

Born into a family of entrepreneurs, Brett learned from an early age to dream big and that it's never "work" if you love what you are doing. So during the early years of the Internet he started a graphics design firm that created commercial and government websites. As successful as the venture was, his passion was lighting. In 2001, Brett founded a light source design company involved in creating alternative lighting products. He could now use both his design acumen and his knowledge of lighting to create innovative products for the commercial marketplace. Soon he discovered that due to this expertise he was invited to lecture to architects, engineers and interior design firms regarding the interplay of light and human perception with architectural features and building materials. This understanding of the interaction of light and the man-made world is now brilliantly translated to the natural world through his true passion... photography, which he is able to share with you through his limited edition prints.

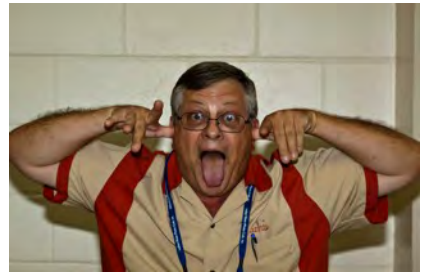
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Bits 'n Pieces

Tech Talk Time at the July Meeting will be presented by Richard Thomson.

He will present a slide show and will give an overview of what to expect to learn in the "How To Make A Slide Show", Summer Saturday Seminar for members at the North County Library on August 6.



As you can see from the photo, Richard WILL MOST DEFINITELY make the learning process enjoyable. If you have not signed up for the class, there is still time.



Welcome to New Members

During May 2011 we welcomed the following new members to the club.....
Susan Drew, Gary Matro, Marlena Matire, Claudette Delanoeye
Please get acquainted with them and offer your friendship

Do you have a Club Photo Badge?



Badge photos are taken at the end of the meeting room from 6:45 until about 7:10 PM by J.R.Williams.

The Badges and will be ready at the following monthly meeting.

If you are a member and do not have a badge, see J.R. Williams prior to the start of the meetings.

NEW "Club" BUSINESS CARDS that you can just hand to People.

Pick yours up at the Information Desk at the next meeting. *Very handy!*



Come join us at our meeting!

Date: Fourth Thurs. of every month
Place: 2266 14th Ave., Vero Beach (Vero Beach Community Center)
Time: 6:45 p.m. *(All are welcome)*

Find out more about the Indian River Photo Club on www.irphotoclub.org
A place where photographers come to learn, share and have fun.



We all thank
J R WILLIAMS &
MERT MEETZE
For the Nature and
Wildlife Snacks at our June Meeting

Thank You



Do you have any questions regarding our Monthly Photo Print Competitions

????????????? ??????????????????????

Just ask **David Garrett**

Club members and visitors gathered at 6:45 PM to socialize and view the monthly photo competition prints. Wildlife and nature themed snacks were provided by J. R. Williams and Mert Meets - thank you J.R. and Mert! A pre-meeting slide show prepared by Mary Ester Bollis and George Bollis featured some scenes from the Photo Club's photo shoot at McKee Garden on June 4th and the McKee Water Lily Celebration on June 18th. Many Club members entered photos for the celebration's photography contest and some of the water lily photos were shown in the slide show. Also featured were some announcements by Club President George Bollis. Among them: the Treasurer's report from Club Treasurer Jim Riley, upcoming Club programs and speakers for the fall months. The following new members of the Club were welcomed: Susan Drew, Gary Matro, Marlena Matire, Claudette Delanoeye. The Photo Club currently has 228 members!

President's Announcements

Club President George Bollis brought the meeting to order and welcomed all members, guests, and visitors. Newcomers were welcomed and asked to stand to introduce themselves. George informed guests and visitors who may be interested in joining the club that they could obtain a Photo Club brochure that includes a membership application from Nancy Siebol or they may view the Club's web site for information and can complete a membership application online..

Next, a creative slide show prepared by Mary Ester Bollis was shown. Club member Richard Thomson was introduced to the members and George announced that Richard will be presenting a seminar on "**How to Create An Effective Slide Show Using Your Own Photographs**". This will take place at the North County Library in Sebastian on August 6, 2011, at 9:00 AM to noon. The cost is \$10 and members may sign up on the MeetUp site of the Club's web site and may pay using a major credit card, a bank debit card, or with PayPal.

George introduced Patrick Rice for the evening's Tech Talk. Patrick is the Club's Webmaster and graduated in May from Florida Southern College with a BA in Graphic Design. He spoke on "How to Use the Indian River Photo Club Web Site" Patrick showed how to reach Club officers and other features in the recently changed home page. He noted that the Monthly Photo Print Competition winning images are now appearing on the home page.

Well done, Patrick, and thank you for your work on the Club's web site!

George Bollis thanked Jennifer Lahman for inviting her friend and nature photographer, Greg Stephens, to be the featured speaker for the evening's presentation, "**Nature Photography in North/Central Florida**". Mr. Stephen's first introduction to photography was during his 30 years as a police officer in Kissimmee, where he used photography to document crime scenes, traffic accidents and events at the police department. Independently he also did wedding photography as well as portraits and commercial some work. Greg lives in Gainesville in close proximity of many public parks and preserves where he enjoys nature and wildlife photography. Among the areas that he talked about, were: Paynes Prairie Preserve State Park, Olena State Park, Manatee Springs State Park, Ocala National Forest, and Lochloosa Wildlife Management Area. Mr. Stephens showed us many outstanding photos of birds, alligators, snakes, horses, and even bison and critters that reside in these beautiful wildlife areas. He noted that the animals are rather used to seeing people in these protected areas and seem to sense that they are safe when humans approach with their photographic equipment, allowing photographers to get in rather close range and take some great shots!. Greg had club members guess at a few photos as to what type of bird or snake was being shown. With a great sense of humor he related several personal experiences over the years exploring these areas, some of which were close encounters of the wildlife kind!

In the question and answer segment following his presentation Mr Stephens stated the best months for wildlife viewing and photography are November thru to March.

Thank you, Greg Stephens, for a very informative and fun presentation!

Monthly Photo Print Competition

The theme for the month of June was "Open". Jim Riley was the judge for this month's competition. Jim is the Club Treasurer and he also teaches digital photography as well as photo techniques. He has won numerous photography awards during his thirty years of photographic experience. In addition, he works as a semi-professional online. Jim had his work cut out for him this month as many outstanding photos were entered!

Great job, Jim and congratulations to all the awardees!

Club News Makers.



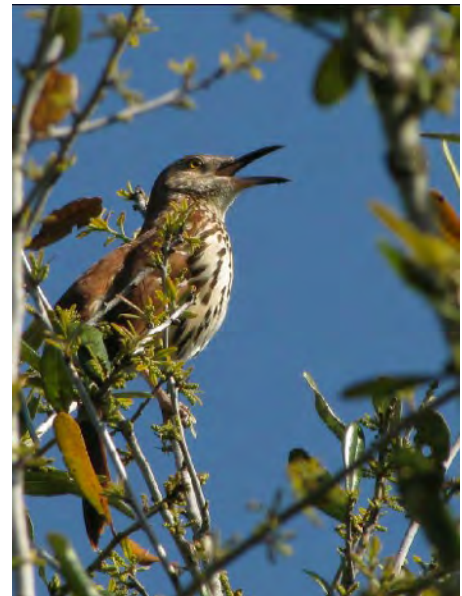
"Amber Waves"
By Celeste McWilliams
Kissimmee Prairie Preserve State Park
State Park Monthly Winner April 2011



Great Blue Heron- Dinner!
By Donald Schuster
April Winner ~ Audubon Bird Photo Contest



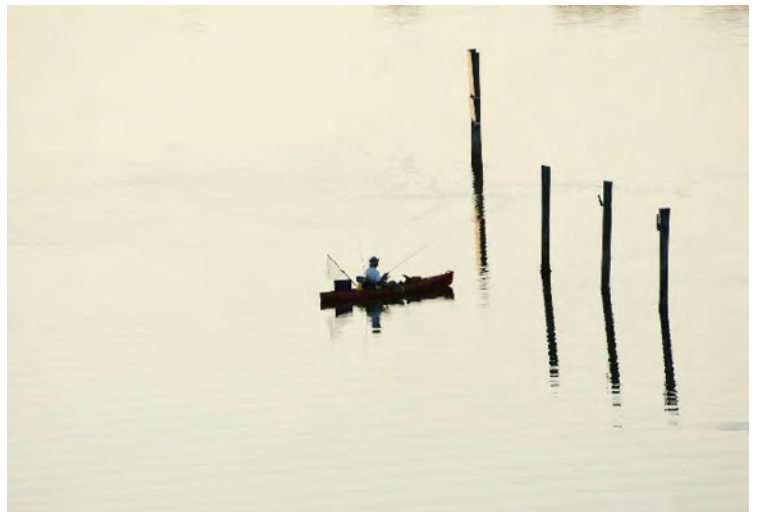
Fakahatchee Strand Preserve State Park
By Barbar Rice
To Be Hung At Backus Gallery 2011



Brown Thrasher by Yvonne Tso
May Winner ~ Audubon Bird Photo Contest

On The Indian River Lagoon
By Billy Ocker

For The Press Journal
Taken At The Indian River Lagoon



*For Information Regarding The Audubon Monthly
Bird Photo Contest just Google:
Pelican Island Audubon Society.*

CLASS A:

Color:

1 st	Tom Smoyer	Emerald Green Spider on Sunflower
2 nd	Earl Evans	A Dusting at the Canyon
3 rd	Mike Ricciardi	Mr. Hermit
HM	Roger Sobkowiak	Not to Night

Monochrome:

1 st	Tom Smoyer	Snowy Firs
2 nd	Lisa Willnow	Moon Scapes
3 rd	Brian Drinkwater	Reflective Lily

Special Techniques:

1 st	Ed Link	Sunrise on the St. Lucie River
2 nd	Earl Evans	Irritated

CLASS B:

Color:

1 st	Arlene Willnow	Still Life Tomato
2 nd	Dyan Chester	Asticon Japanese Azalea Garden, Maine
3 rd	Shelly Stang	Translucense

Monochrome:

1 st	Shelly Stang	Moonglow
2 nd	Gretchen Dewey	Viscaya Grotto
3 rd	Howard Derector	(No title)

Special Techniques:

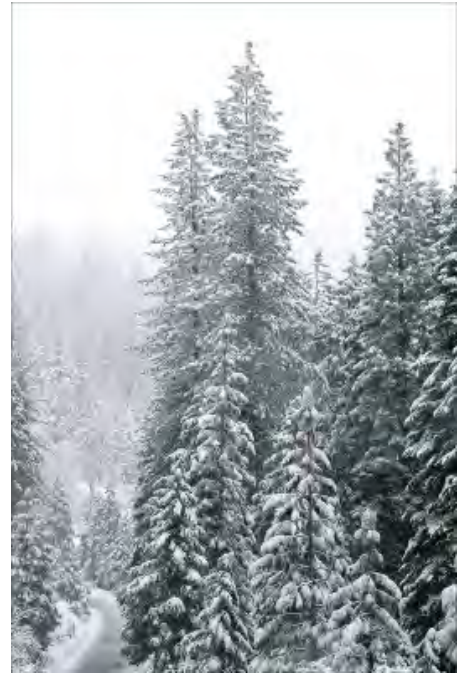
1 st	Billy Ocker	Downtown Vero
2 nd	Arlene Willnow	Blue Glow





“Emerald Green Spider on Sunflower”
By Tom Smoyer
Class A, First Place Color

“Snowy Firs”
By Tom Smoyer
Class A, First Place
Monochrome



“A Dusting at The Canyon”
By Earl Evans
Class A, Second Place Color



“ Not Tonight”
By Roger Sobkowiak
Class A, Honorable Mention Color



“ Mr. Hermit”
By Mike Ricciardi
Class A, Third Place Color

Please note:

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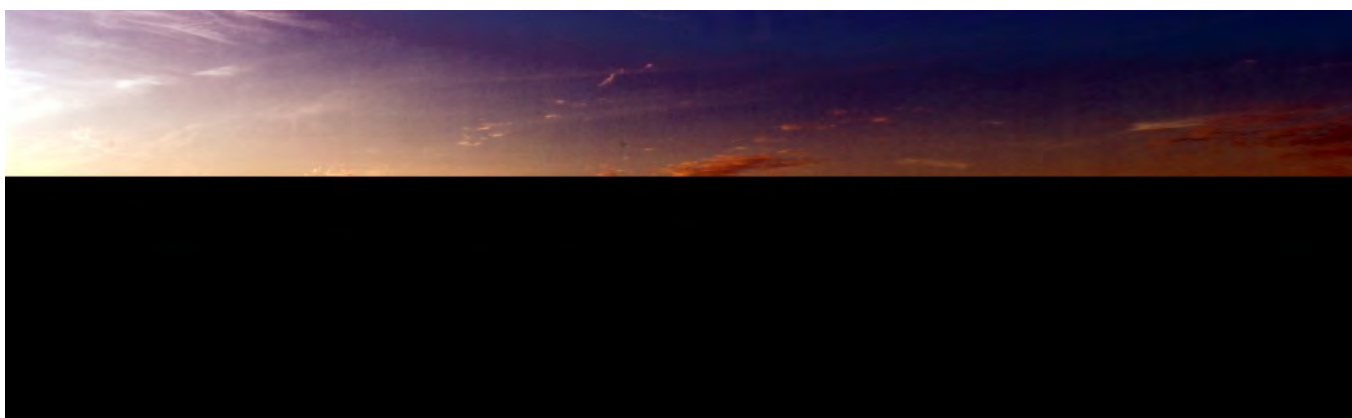
The Indian River Photo Club
June 2011 Contest Award Winners



"Moon Scapes"
By Lisa Willnow
Class A, Second Place, Monochrome



"Reflective Lilly"
By Brian Drinkwater
Class A, Third Place Monochrome



"Sunrise on The St. Lucie River" By Ed Link, Class A, First Place Special Techniques



"Irritated"
By Earl Evans, Class A, Third Place Special techniques

"American Gothic Revisted"
By
Tom Smoyer
Class A, Third Place
Special Techniques



The Indian River Photo Club
June 2011 Contest Award Winners



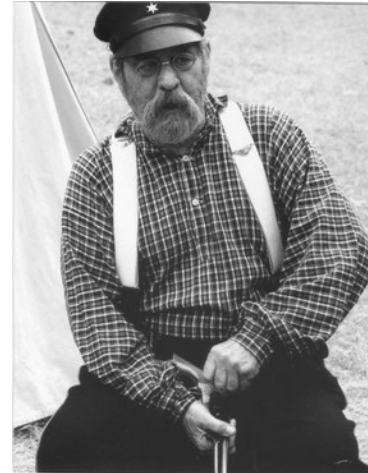
"Still Life Tomato"
By Arlene Willnow
Class B, First Place Color



Asticon Japanese Azalea Garden, Maine'
By Dyan Chester
Class B, Second Place Color



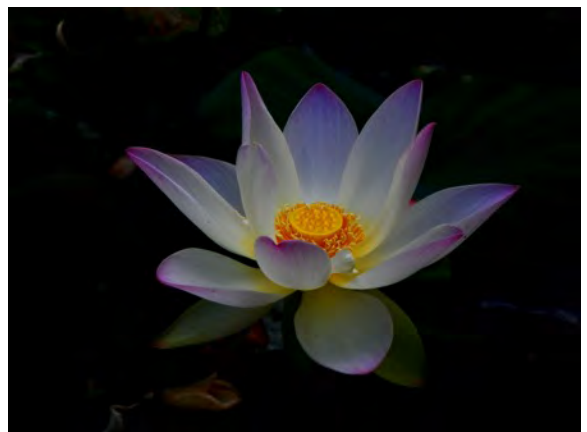
"Pink Fiesta"
By Yvonne Tso
Class B, Honorable Mention Color



"Re-enactment"
By Howard Derector
Class B, Third Place Monochrome



"Moonglow"
By Shelly Stang
Class B, First Place Monochrome



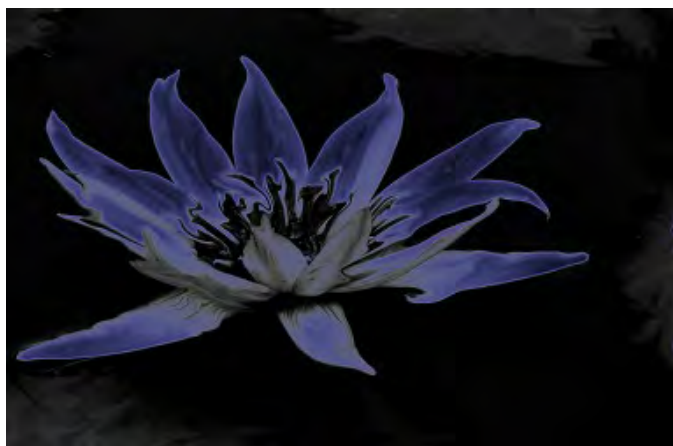
"Translucence"
By Shelly Lang
Class B, Third Place Color



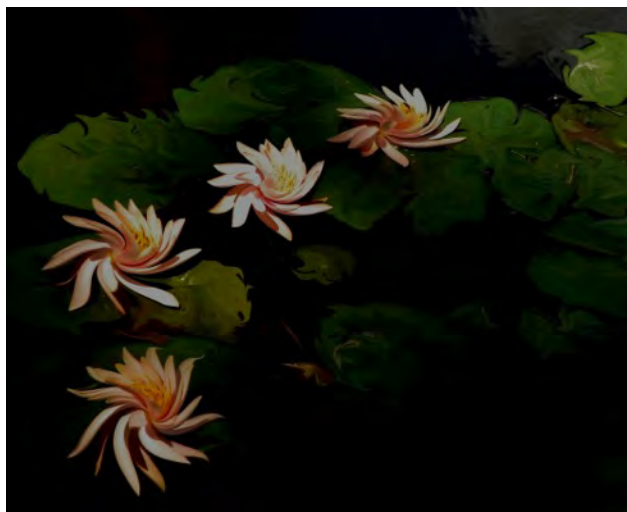
"Viscaya Grotto"
By Gretchen Dewey
Class d, Second Place Monochrome



"Downtown Vero"
By Billy Ocker
Class B, First Place Special Techniques



"Blue Glow"
By Arlene Willnow
Class B, Second Place Special Techniques



"Water Ballet"
By Shelly Stang
Class B, Third Place Special Techniques



FLORIDA STATE PARKS MONTHLY PHOTO CONTEST
• New Contest Every Month
For Information Google:
Florida State Parks Photo Contest



The Aesthetics of Photography

By Dr. Len S Hood

We all aspire to be as good a photographer as we can be. What then is the key to being a master of the art of photography? Perhaps if we go out and purchase the best camera we can afford, that will make us a good Photographer? Sure, it might be of some help to achieving personal photographic satisfaction but in no way will it guarantee that your photographs will be accepted as “outstanding”. So no, the camera does not make your photography good. It is only you, the photographer, who makes the winning shot and makes you a great photographer.

To be good at your art you need to master two specific aspects of the medium. As an artist it is necessary for you to conquer both (a) the aesthetic and (b) the technical requirements of being a photo artist. Both skills need to be ingrained in your “camera ready” procedures as habits, so that they are second nature to you as you go about your photographic endeavors.

The aesthetic part commences with you deciding as to whether or not the photograph, which you are about to take, is pleasing to the eye. Not just as you see it at that moment in the *range-finder-composition*, but also as you might wish to see it when it goes to print and is presented to your peers for acceptance. You will, in a micro second, combine both those considerations and then you will make the shot. Right then you will be assessing several factors, such as the lighting and shadow, your choice of the subject, the overall composition of the image in your viewfinder and, should the subject be a portrait, then also the expression of the subject.

Just prior to gently pressing the exposure button and making the exposure, we all try to compose our picture perfectly. We select certain elements in view, and then arrange their positioning in our view finder or on the LCD screen on the back of our camera. Then press, and it is done. We go about it just as we might do when we pick up a cup of coffee, in an automatic sort of way! Or do we? Or are we more deliberate? Let’s consider that.

Good composition occurs when we make that assessment of what we see. We examine our framing of the subject and maybe move the camera angle a little this way or that way. Maybe we will tilt the camera a little and kneel down or stand on something to get a better elevation. We might even decide that we need to move further away or closer to improve the framing, or just change the format from picture to landscape. By zooming in on the subject we might be able to take a finished composition photograph without the future need of computer cropping....., an ideal achievement. And we do this in a relatively short time span.....seconds.

Each time you lift your camera in preparation to making a shot, you are probably, subconsciously, already processing these requirements. But how thorough are you? Perhaps, if you pay a little more attention to this ritual, you will, for certain, achieve better composition and move a little closer to greatness! You know, no more cutting off the feet or the top of the head,..... but just like picking up a cup of coffee you will go through the actions instinctively and accurately!

OK, now we have composed the photograph, but there are some more things to attend to. Remember that the main factor that influences any photograph’s aesthetics is the lighting. So now ask yourself “how is the light falling upon the subject”? Is the light hard and very shadowy or is it soft, mellow and diffused. Is the light a cool light or is it a warm light and



This photograph was taken one hour after the same shot on the next page. The cloud cover had changed and also the sun’s angle had heightened by 10 degrees. A noticeable difference.

Continued on page 12

also, in what direction is the light source originating. Does it come from the front, side, above, below or behind? The source can make a tremendous difference to the mood of your photograph? Just look at our pebble photographs on the right, taken just an hour apart in the early morning. Nothing changed but the light strength and angle.

If the light is natural light, you cannot of course, change the light source's direction at that moment, but you might plan to take the photograph at a different time of the day, or when the cloud covering is more suitable as we did. Of course , if you can return later, or stick around for an hour or so, that might be a possibility for getting the lighting just right. There is also the chance that you can change your camera position in relationship to the subject matter and the light source. Shoot the sunny side or even the shady side of a building. View the subject both up and down. It could provide a different or unusual point of view and some unusual tones.



The difference between this photograph and the one on the previous page is only in the time it was taken and the directional change of the light source. This shows the importance of taking note of your light, its strength and direction.

If you are taking a “portrait” picture of someone, then, just by moving the person or turning them around you can find a quick solution to better lighting. Indoors of course you can manage the lighting to achieve exactly what you want to achieve. Move a light or a reflector to exactly where the best shadow or high light is produced. Outside you might want to incorporate reflected light from a wall or window, or take advantage of an awning or umbrella. Even a book or newspaper can improve or change the effects dramatically.

Finally, the **technical aspects** you need to be master of. These all involve setting your lens, your camera aperture, the shutter speed and other digital functions such as resolution, compression and ISO to their most advantageous position. However, these days, many of these features are often already controlled automatically by your camera, but they each have some bearing on the aesthetics of the final image.

It then turns to reason that you should not leave the decisions on what those features are set at always to your camera. If you do, you are not fully in control on what your final image will be. So it is imperative that you understand all the technical aspects of your camera. Learn what you can use or ignore . Then and only then, you will *not* end up with just a record of an event or place, instead, you will have a creative and visually pleasing photograph, or a piece of art, recording a moment in time. (*We shall talk about the technical tools of your camera at greater length in another memoranda.*)



Richard Thomson..... Our Awards Judge for the Month of July

Born in Boston, Massachusetts, reared in Maryland, and traveled to Florida by way of California, Richard Thomson has evolved his photography skills as diverse as his travels. Richard particularly savors the use of medium format film cameras ranging from simple Box type to Twin Lens Reflex types to Folder types with incredible lenses. While film photography is his passion, He does not ignore the advantages of today's digital technology.

Richard earned a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Maryland College Park, Md. His two daughters both live in North Carolina and have graduated from the University of North Carolina. Several of Richard's accomplishments include designing and integrating the State of Maryland's first traffic command and control complex to improve interstate traffic flow and emergency response. His contributions also include the design and integration of a national broadcasting company closed-captioning system for live and recorded programming around the United States.

Richard has successfully participated in numerous photography competitions and has judged several international photography competitions. Currently, Richard is serving his fifth consecutive term as President of the Camera Club of Brevard located on the East Central Coast of Florida.

The IR Photo Club Photographer of the Month.....Lisa Willnow

a feature article By David Garrett



David:

Where are you from?

I was born in Jackson, Michigan. I grew up living in both Michigan and California.

David:

How long have you lived in IRC/Florida?

I moved to Stuart, Florida 30 years ago. Ten years later I moved here to Vero Beach and have been here ever since.

David:

When did you decide to take up photography?

I dabbled a bit in my early 20's. I did not get back into it until just a few years ago when I bought a digital camera.

David:

Are you retired or still working ?

I work at Substance Awareness Council of IRC, a local non-profit.

David:

What types of photography interests you now?

I enjoy photographing, nature - birds, animals, flowers.

David:

If you could photograph anywhere in the world, where would that be?

I would like to shoot in the Galapagos Islands, Antarctica, and on a safari.

David:

What other thoughts would you like to share with us?

I think we are incredibly lucky to live so close to such great photo opportunities as McKee Gardens and the Bird Rookery in St Augustine.

