



InFocus

The Club President's Monthly Snapshot

February 2012



The Photo Club for Treasure Coast Photographers

Hi there every one,

Why do we enter photo contests was the question asked at the last meeting of the IRPC. By and large the answer was “to learn more about my photography”. “How well am I doing” was the response mostly given. Also, there was the prestige of getting an award. It boosts your confidence in your work.

The response to the new method of evaluating photographs at the recent meeting of the IRPC was lively.

I think most of the members understood what was being touted and they had some concerns which I tried to address but will restate here

“to learn more about my photography”

However, there were the following concerns which I feel needed response.

First, “What criteria are the evaluators given in judging the photographs”? My response is “What criteria do we give our present evaluators”?

We don't give our present evaluators any criteria. We trust their judgment and their experience. So that is what we give to any of our evaluators, trust and their experience.

They are the cream of the IRPC crop in both talent and experience. We also have given them hours of experience with both nationally and internationally known photographers to enhance their knowledge of what

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makes a good evaluator. They are especially aware of the fact that they must justify any score given to a photograph and to give remarks that are helpful in the learning process of becoming a better photographer. Their comments on the photographs are about the same as we hear from our present evaluators. Other than that nothing has change.

Next, *“we can’t see the photographs being presented”*. That’s a concern that we have to address. We should be able to show the photographs on the large screen using a DSLR camera, our laptop and our projector. This is something I will work on in the next few weeks. Realize that the quality of what you will see on the large screen may be slightly degraded as compared to what the evaluators will still be looking at in the light box. They will not be evaluating by what is shown on the screen but what they see in the light box.

“Will the Classes be changed from our present rules”? The answer is “No”. The Classes are exactly the same. The only real changes in the rules are the fact that we now will be using three independent judges to evaluate our photographs. Hence, we should cut down on the subjectivity associated with our present system. Also, *“can we expand our Classes to add more criteria to our photo contests”?* At present we would like to stay with the Classes we now have so that there will be little disruption in our methods. We would like to “Crawl” before we “Walk” then maybe start “Running”. So as time goes on we may add more Classes and Categories but for now we’ll leave things as they are.

“Do I have to be present to have my photograph evaluated”? No, the same as now you may have someone else bring your photograph to be evaluated.

“It doesn’t seem much time is given to evaluate each photograph”. Let me state that last night’s demonstration was a little hurried in that we were only trying to show the essence of the method in the limited time we had. The real evaluation time is left to the evaluators. No criteria are given for how long they have to review the photographs. However, I must say that some members are surprised at how little time is given to each photograph in our present method. We have approximately 50 or 60 photographs per contest at present and the judges are given about an hour to do their work. Most, as last night, don’t take that long. In major shows, like our Vero Beach Museum of Art contest, the evaluators take about two hours to review 150 photographs. So your photograph generally has to have that “WOW Factor” for the judges to even think about its merits or flaws.

“Why the \$1 fee for entering our photographs”? It cost us about \$80 to rent the space in the Community Center. This \$1 fee will help alleviate that cost to some degree.

Many other questions were asked and hopefully answered satisfactorily. The new method of evaluation will be tried out in full at our meeting on Mar. 8th. It is our hope that over time you will become a better photographer using this method and that it increases your awareness of what it takes to improve your skills. We, the Board of Directors, are volunteers, and as such will do everything we can to help you in that goal.

Regards,

Jim Riley, Club President

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INDIAN RIVER PHOTO CLUB MONTHLY MEETING

January 26, 2012

by Susan King



Photo Club members and guests gathered at the Community Center at 6:45pm . They socialized and strolled by the display tables to view the entries for the monthly photo print competition.

Refreshments were provided by Sarah Kappel and her charming mother, Debbie. Thank you Sarah and Debbie, a job very well done!

Members of the Welcome Committee greeted all and provided information at the Welcome table. Everyone, including *members and nonmembers, are reminded to sign in at the table at all meetings.*

When doing so, please note any change in your email address to ensure delivery of announcements and the monthly newsletter.

Club President Jim Riley started the meeting at 7:00 PM. He began by recognizing the outgoing 2011 Board members and introducing the 2012 Board members.

Mike Ricciardi was asked by the Club President to present ribbons to winners of the Club's Photo of the Year Competition held at the December meeting. Jim and Mike jointly, next presented ribbons to those members with winning entries in the annual Indian River Photo Club Print Exhibition held at the Vero Beach Museum of Art. Check the February issue of Vero Beach Magazine and our club newsletter to see all of the winning entries! Congratulations to all! We should all be proud of our fellow members and those great images we capture!

Jim announced a couple of club needs. The first is a volunteer to assume responsibility for storage of and setting up the easels used in the print competition. The second need is for volunteers each month to provide refreshments. Donna Green discussed details and a sign-up sheet was circulated for members to be assigned a monthly meeting through to October.

Mary Ester Bollis was invited to draw the winning entry from among all who paid for attendance to the upcoming Rick Sammon Seminar. The prize was a Rick Sammon's book, "Flying Flowers", given to new member Karen Hope. Congratulations Karen!

The evening presentation was on the new photo judging system being considered by the club, and was given by President Jim. As Jim explained, the monthly judges must evaluate each entry submitted and not only the photo, but also the mat, frame, title, and the impact component. A group of club members with advanced experience were previously selected to be evaluators. They have been attending training classes held by Wallace Weeks, Dick Robinson, and Louis Cizek. There will be three evaluators assigned for each month's awards selection. A second meeting of the club might be necessary each month to accommodate the more thorough judging process. The first trial using this method is scheduled for the March 8th competition meeting. Louis Cizek spoke about professional elements used to evaluating every photo. A score is assigned each entry. Winning entries will be announced according to highest score in each category and ribbons awarded.

A judging demonstration was given by members Brian Drinkwater, Patty Corapi, and Earl Evans acting as evaluators. They commented on each photo covering the critical components to be used in each competition.

This month's print competition was judged by Bob Reed and David Garrett. The theme was "Wild" and there were many very interesting and "wildly" unusual images entered.

Congratulations to all winners!

Thank you, Bob and David!

The theme for February's print competition is "Purple".

PURPLE

Our Awards Theme for this Month by Henri Phillippe

Purple

Yes, it is that time again to write about the subject of this month's awards competition. Purple will obviously mean many things to each of us. Yes, it is a color and a color that is made by the mixing of two other colors. It is not one of the primary colors of the spectrum those being red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo and violet. Purple is a very "dark" red color comprised of a mixture of red and blue.

The color of purple has always signified stature, spirituality, nobility and mystery. Originally only royalty wore purple. A purple robe signified a robe of honor that indicated dignity and adorned such dignitaries as emperors, deans and baccalaureates, church dignitaries and other leaders. Many suggest that the red hat of the church with blue trim indicated some "bloody" supremacy as red with blue is purple. We have the Purple Heart representing the highest honor for our military and there is a special Military Order for such recipients regardless of what branch of the military they served.



To be born "in the purple" indicated that a baby was indeed born into great wealth!

The people of ancient Tyre were acknowledged as the best purple dye makers. Their Tyrian Purple Dye was in great demand by ancient nobility and was often used as a trading currency. It was very much treasured like the Indigo from Florida.

Purple is often a color in nature that indicates poisonous properties. The term "I feel really purple" suggests that one is very under the weather! As a youngster the writer was always told never to eat anything that was purple. A common wild plant was "deadly nightshade" with purple flowers and purple seeds and a sure killer. Indeed, in WWII, the incendiary bombs dropped by the German air force all carried painted and coded insignia. As children we were taught how to identify such markings as to their volatility. A purple marking indicated the worst of consequences for those of us not following the correct procedures to disarm them. Pharmacists used purple carboys and apothecaries to store their most dangerous additives.

The human body has an ailment that manifests in purple spots. Wheat has a devastating disease called "purple", but a beautiful early flowering orchid is purple. Purple wood was treasured and the strongest heart wood from a tree of the *copiaifera* genus. It was used to make ram rods (battering rams) in the Middle Ages. A Purple Emperor is a large British butterfly, beautifully colored but which is also very hard to find these days.

Purple Majesty occurs throughout our language from the names of ornamental millet, grasses and grains, to potatoes, colanders, lyrics, cedar and lavender, making it a truly regal word. Purple - a color that we seem to be quite enamored with and sing about.

It's time to "go get your purple" and show us your imagination and photographic skills.

January 2012 Print Competition Results

Class A Special Techniques

1st	A Wild and Crafty Guy	Earl Evans
2nd	Wild Elephant Affair	Kim Hunt
3rd	Wild Rhino	George Bollis

Class A Color

1st	Sewing Wild Oats	George Bollis
2nd	Hoh Rain Forest	Tom Smoyer
3rd	Listen Up Pal	Linda Leonard
Honorable Mention	A Wild Ride	Donna Green
Honorable Mention	Wild toucan	Arlene Wilnow

Class A Monochrome

1st	On Alert	Earl Evans
2nd	Wild Peacock	Jim Riley
3rd	Wild Aspens	Tom Smoyer

Class B Special Techniques

1st	Wild Reflection	Liesl Walsh
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Class B Color

1st	Sandpiper on The Run	Mary Lou Christy
2nd	Wild West	Kathy Graham
3rd	Heron with Fish	Arlene Brooks
Honorable Mention	Alligator in The Wild	Marie Riley

Class B Monochrome

1st	Wild Hair Day	Bob Konzynski
2nd	Peace and Quiet	Bill Hults
3rd	"Chucky" as a Turtle	Hazel Lacks

Our Wild Awards for January 2012



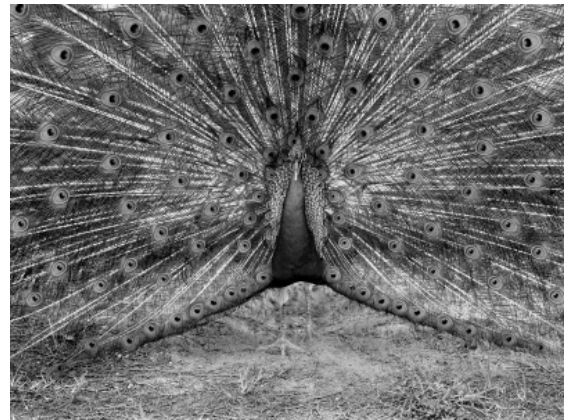
"Wild Rhino"
By George Bollis
Third Place Class A Special Techniques



"Wild Elephant Affair"
By Kim Hunt
Second Place Class A Special Techniques



"A Wild and Crafty Guy"
By Earl Evans
First Place Class A Special Techniques



"Wild Peacock"
By Jim Riley
Second Place Class A Monochrome



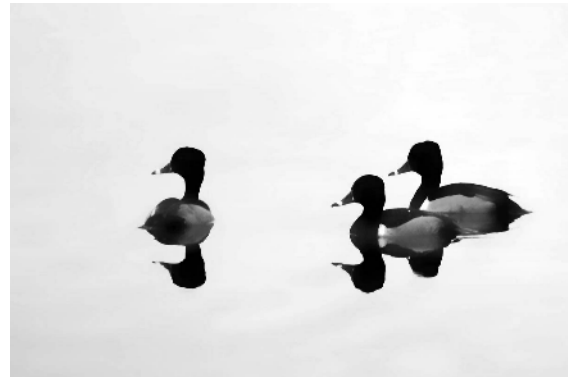
"Wild Aspens"
By Tom Smoyer
Third Place Class A Monochrome



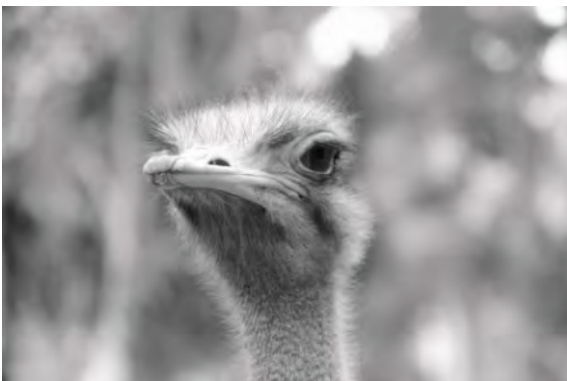
"Wild Reflection"
By Liesl Walsh
First Place Class B Special Techniques



“Sewing Wild Oats”
By George Bollis
First Place Class A Color



“On Alert”
By Earl Evans
First Place Class A Monochrome



“Wild Hair Day”
By Bob Konzynski
First Place Class B Monochrome



“Chucky” as a Turtle
By Hazel Lacks
Third Place Class B Monochrome



“Alligator in The Wild”
By Marie Riley
Honorable Mention Class B Color



“Wild West”
By Kathy Graham
Second Place Class B Color

Our Wild Awards for January 2012



"Wild Toucan"
By Arlene Willnow
Honorable Mention Class A Color



"Sandpiper on The Run"
By Mary Lou Christy
First Place Class B Color



"A Wild Ride"
By Donna Green
Honorable Mention Class A Color



"Hoh Rain Forest"
By Tom Smoyer
Second Place Class A Color



"Listen Up Pal"
By Linda Leonard
Third Place Class A Color



"Peace and Quiet"
By Bill Hults
Second Place Class B Monochrome

A Fantastic Evening at

The Camera Club of Brevard

With Jim DiVitale

Tuesday evening February 7th saw many of the Indian River Photo Club members responding to the invitation from the Brevard Camera Club to join the over 200 attendees at their monthly meeting at the Eau Gallie Civic Center.

For the twenty plus members of the Indian River Photo Club, it was their first visit to the Brevard Camera Club and their very dynamic group of photographers. President Richard Thomson, on behalf of all the club officers and members, especially welcomed the contingent from Indian River County. That quickly made us feel more than welcome and an integral part of their meeting. We were even encouraged to participate in their drawings for several very expensive top end computer programs.

The Brevard Club's program for the evening was a comprehensive presentation of the skills and knowledge of the award winning and distinguished commercial photographer Jim DiVitale.

Jim is a member of the Canon "Explorer of Light" which is a panel of over 60 of the best photographers in the world. From his 90 minute presentation, we were able to see and realize that he was not just talented but also a diverse photographer who also knew how to communicate and instruct in a way that was easy for us all to comprehend.

Talk about high speed speaking, it would be hard to beat Jim, but, his diction was clear and concise interspersed with many humorous anecdotes. Not a word was missed by the writer who was sitting at the periphery of the seating.

The Brevard Club seamlessly held their annual Board elections and attended to their monthly print competition during the three hour meeting which included a refreshment break.

We thank Richard for inviting us to this milestone of a meeting which benefited all camera owners whether, Nikon, Canon, Pentax, Lumix, Sony or whatever. To put it in a commercial aspect it was worth not, many dollars, but was actually quite "priceless"!

We all walked out enthused, refreshed and inspired and quite a few as new members of the Camera Club of Brevard.



www.divitalephotography.com