



SILVER SPRING CAMERA CLUB - P.O. BOX 2375 - WHEATON, MD - 20902



# ***CABLE RELEASE***

**January 2001**

**Founded 1950**

**Volume 40, Number 5**

## **January Activities**

**Jan 4, 1st Thur - Slide Meeting  
Sligo Creek Com. Center**

**Jan 8 - Field Trip (Union Station/  
Building Museum)**

**Jan 11 - Digital Workshop**

**Jan 17 - Critique Group**

**Jan 18, 3rd Thurs - Print Meeting  
Silver Spring Library**

**Jan 25 - Monochrome Workshop**

**Jan 25 - Slide Workshop**

**Feb 1, 1st Thur - Slide Meeting  
Sligo Creek Com. Center**

## **January Slide Meeting**

**Tony Sweet** has become one of the areas most popular nature and landscape photographers. His work can be found in a variety of magazines, calendars, cards and posters. His workshops are always well attended, rivaling those of his counterparts, Art Wolfe, John Shaw, and Rod Planck, all photographers with whom he has worked at one time or another. His site, [www.tonysweetphotography.com](http://www.tonysweetphotography.com) has garnered much acclaim for its diversity and composition. Tony has always been very generous with his time when it comes to camera clubs and fellow photographers but his schedule is making it more and more difficult to do that. You will want to take advantage of this opportunity to see his latest work.

The topic for competition is "People".

## **January Print Meeting**

The speaker and judge for the January Print meeting will be **Joe Miller**. Joe has been instrumental in organizing the Northern Virginia Photographic Alliance and has been an active promoter of amateur photography for many years. He spoke at a Bowie-Crofton meeting a couple months ago and his new style of presentation was quite impressive. His criticism was clear and to the point, lacking the egotistical rhetoric so common among many of the so called professionals. Our discussion on the subject of creativity and photographing from within left me wondering how other serious photographers might learn to appreciate the need for internalizing the value of their work and to speak from their heart. Hear Joe Miller at the print meeting on Jan 18th.

The topic for competition is "People".

## **Snow Policy**

**Just a reminder: as a general rule, meetings will be canceled on days that Montgomery County schools are closed due to snow. If exceptions occur, members will be contacted by phone.**

**[WWW.SSCCPHOTOGRAPHY.ORG](http://WWW.SSCCPHOTOGRAPHY.ORG)**

## SSCC Officers & Chairpersons

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Exhibits	Sally Gagné	301-588-2071
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## Workshops, Etc.

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Digital Imaging	Stan Klem	301-622-6640
Critique	Clarence Carvell	301-725-0234
Monochrome	Clarence Carvell	301-725-0234

The *Cable Release* is published ten times each year, September through June, for the members of the Silver Spring Camera Club. All rights are reserved but may be reprinted without permission provided proper credit is given. SSCC is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the advancement and enjoyment of photography. Visitors and prospective members are welcome. Membership is open to all persons interested in photography. For more information, contact Joyce Jones, 301-565-3868. SSCC is affiliated with the Photographic Society of America and the Greater Washington Council of Camera Club.

### **Membership Rates**

Student .....	\$20.00
Individual .....	\$30.00
Family .....	\$50.00

Submissions for the *Cable Release* should be directed to Editor, Cable Release, 7106 Pindell School Road, Fulton, MD, 20759, 301-725-0234. Submissions may be mailed on disc in MacIntosh word or PC Word or PC Word Perfect format or E-mail to CCarvell@AOL.com or FAX to 301-776-3920. Photos may be sent as e-mail attachments or mailed as prints or slides.

## Interclub Competition-Mar 1

This is an invitation to participate in a joint club competition to be held March 1st, 2001, at the Sligo Creek Recreation Center. Invited clubs include North Bethesda Camera Club and National Institutes of Health along with Silver Spring Camera Club.

### The following rules will apply:

Each participating club must supply at least one representative to pick up uncollected images and awards.

Competition is to be open, i.e., no assigned categories.

There shall be no class distinction.

Each participant may enter up to 3 slides, 3 color prints & 3 B & W prints.

Slides must be of 35 mm format.

Prints may be any size up to 20 x 24 max. Color is color whether commercial, computer, hand colored or otherwise.

Slides must be identified by title, maker and club, spotted on lower left.

Prints must be identified on reverse by title, maker and club with prominent arrow pointing up.

Work must be delivered either individually or by delegate on night of competition and logged in prior to competition which will begin promptly at 7:30 pm. (Blank entry forms will be sent to clubs ahead of time.)

There is no fee for entry. All costs, if any, will be borne by SSCC.

First, second and third places plus 10% of total entries in each category will be recognized. Certificates will be prepared for presentation at the home club meetings. No hard awards will be made.

The SSCC Board has determined that points earned in this interclub competition will apply towards club awards. Unless specifically noted otherwise, all other club rules will apply.

## New Members

**Luisa Bonilla-Spriggs**  
**Marc Payne**  
**Peter Manzelli**  
**Morgan Louie**

**Deadline for the Feb. issue is Jan. 18th**

## The Making of “Gray Angelfish”

*by Rhoda Steiner*

One of my very favorite subjects to photograph underwater is the Gray Angelfish. Maybe the fascination comes from the fact that in a world where species survival is number 1, monogamy is not logical. Unlike most of the other water breathing Pisces, Gray Angelfish are in fact, monogamous for life.

Gray Angelfish slowly cruise the reefs of the Caribbean in pairs and because of their curious nature will often follow a divers bubbles. They seem to delight in peering at their reflection in your mask or the cameras lens.

I have visited these particular two angel fish on more than one occasion and have even been able to stroke a side or chin during an encounter. They seem to know who I am or is it the cheese whiz that they remember?

Ops, my secret is out.

For those of you who may want to venture into the world of underwater photography, you must have your dive buddy (a.k.a. photographic assistant) carry FOOD. As we all know, with the proper tools and incentives we can get the shot.

This image was made in Grand Cayman using a Housed Nikon F100 with a 60mm lens and double strobes. Velvia was the choice of film.

**Never** be afraid to try something new. Remember, amateurs built the ark, professionals built the Titanic.

## InkJet Printers

On a few of the Epson Printers and perhaps some other makes as well, the printer wants to shut down when its internal mechanism says it is out of ink, when in fact, some ink does remain in the cartridge. Although it is not recommended, you can sometimes get a little more life in an emergency by removing the cartridge and reinstalling it. Don't wait to purchase a new one however. The next time you run out, you really run out.

## Quick View Plus

I just installed a new program which claims to be the answer to every editors dream. The first paragraph of the manual begins with “Quick View Plus gives you easy access to files created in over 225 programs, regardless of whether you have those programs on your computer.” I've yet to give it a real test but it claims to work on ZIP files, HTML, etc., text, spread sheets or graphics in either Windows, DOS or Mac.

## January Field Trips

We will be meeting at Union Station about 8 AM on January 6th. The train station has been extensively remodeled but has retained much of its early 20th Century charm. There are shops for morning coffee and plenty of parking nearby. Nobody has ever told us not to use tripods but it can be a busy place. I would suggest a fairly fast film and handhold wherever possible.

We will leave the train station about 10 AM and go to the nearby Building Museum. These two locations will provide an opportunity to work inside a warm building on what could be a very cold day. The Building Museum is quite large with a variety of columns, stairways, hallways and lighting. There will be very few people here so plan to use tripods and flash as necessary.

Union Station is on Mass. Ave. just east of North Capitol Street. The Building Museum (Pension Bldg.) is just 4 block west on “F” St., between 4th and 5th NW.



## Variable Aperture Lenses –

### *some pros and cons*

*by Chuck Bress*

After some recent disappointments with my zoom lenses I decided to consider some of the constant-aperture zoom lenses. By definition, these lenses do not change aperture as you increase or decrease focal length. Although more expensive and heavier than their variable- $f$ /stop counterparts, they may also be much sharper.

I decided to compare nine different lenses and then to compare my findings with those published in various national publications known for their extensive lens testing. Happily, the results I obtained through my testing were almost exactly the same as theirs.

Among the lenses I compared were the Canon  $f/2.8L$  28-78 mm and the Tokina  $f/2.8$  28 - 80 mm, the Canon at \$1300 and the Tokina at \$600. Test results for both were good in pin cushion and barrel distortion as well as resolution at all  $f$  stops at 28 mm, 50 mm and 70 mm.

My tests compared the lenses at 28, 50 and 70 mm and at all  $f$  stops at each of these focal lengths. The target distances were approximately 8 feet, 15 feet and 40 feet. A direct comparison between these and my present zoom lenses revealed a close similarity at the middle  $f$  stops. At the smaller and larger apertures however, the fixed aperture lenses were noticeably sharper than the variable aperture lenses and comparable to the Canon fixed focal length lenses.

My wife and I finally settled on the Tokina for a number of reasons given that the weight, length and construction are about the same as the Canon. It has a non-rotating front element as does the Canon but unlike the Canon, the barrel length does not change with changes in focal length.

## Members Shooting Members

A popular Banquet event has been a slide competition of club members shooting other club members. A prize is always awarded for the most interesting image be it humorous, artful or that elusive decisive moment. Field trips are a perfect time to start your collection.

### February Print Meeting

A scheduling conflict at his school prevented **Dick Bond** from judging at the December meeting as scheduled but we have managed to rearrange things and he will now be here for the February Print Meeting. He will be demonstrating the usefulness of the Zone System and how to apply some basic techniques for visualizing a scene as it may appear on film or paper.

Following a brief career as a commercial photographer which he gave up some thirty years ago, Dick has since been teaching photography both as an independent teacher and as an instructor at Maryland Hall in Annapolis. He has been very instrumental in the advancement of the careers of many well known photographers and has been particularly helpful to camera clubs and arts organizations in the area. He exhibits his work from time to time but likes to stay close to Annapolis where he finds most of his inspiration.

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8040 Georgia Ave., Silver Spring, MD 20910

# LADY OF THE PACIFIC

*by Bob Ralph*



Under an acacia on a spongy mattress of aloe, I turn into the late afternoon shade to load a roll of film. A photo is waiting to be taken. It's an image I've recorded a dozen times before, but without fail it seduces me once more with its exotic beauty.

There is the rare blue sky on the windward side of the hill, and the mirrorlike glare of reflected sunlight off observatory buildings 14,000 feet above my head. A collar of white encircles the research complex at the summit of Mauna Kea. My pulse quickens as I frame the snow-capped peak through a window among the palm trees.

With her beauty this lady has again taken my breath away. She beckons me to climb her treeless peaks and to explore her perilous chasms. She coaxes me gently from the warm tradewinds of her western beaches to the misty gulches of the north, where silvery cascades careen off her rainsoaked grasslands and plummet thousands of feet to the flooded valleys of elephantine taro leaves. She lures me south with the deafening roar of a thousand fifty foot waves simultaneously exploding against miles of her basalt cliffs. She runs hot and cold with a demonic fury, unpredictable and impossible to contain. A tempermental lady breathing fire and bilious vapors of

brimstone, her hot blood streams in fiery rivulets from her internal cauldron.

**...she runs hot  
and cold with  
her demonic  
fury**

She is the Big Island of Hawaii, the youngest among her sisters by many millenia and still barely pubescent. She is two worlds wrapped into one: fertile where she faces the wind and barren in the shadow of her great mountainous spine. Where the rain-water streams daily her features are soft and her valleys are verdant. Like a lady of the night, her face is painted with the blush of flame trees and with a palette of plumeria, orchids, anthuria and heliconia. Where the rain never falls her skin is dry and fissured, with nary a touch of green from here to the horizon.

She is the Big Island of Hawaii, a diamond in the rough and a photographer's paradise. With her beauty this lady has again taken my breath.

*Bob Ralph is a long time member of Silver Spring Camera Club. He received his Master of Photography Award in June, 2000. He writes freelance when not photographing or practicing as an ophthalmologist.*



## Smithsonian Trip

The **behind the scenes** trip to the Smithsonian will occur sometime in January. We will get word to those who have signed up when we have the date.

**Please Note:** One or two newsletters are returned each month because someone failed to notify us of a change of e-mail address. Please let us know of any address changes.

## McCrillis Next Year

*by Sally Gagne*

The subject for the McCrillis Exhibit next November should suit everyone of us individual, independent-minded picture makers. It's Open and the working title is **"Images 2001"**.

A person may enter up to five photographs and as always, about 45 will be selected which is about the number the gallery can accommodate. We want something from everyone!

To get you thinking in advance, consider bringing a holiday photo to the February meeting for casual display on a table – maybe pictures that include lights, glasses clinking on January 1st, mistletoe, present opening, a decorated pet, candles, etc. The photos could be small and "as is", but should have potential for the next show. If you take slides, have a 4x6 made. Matte suggested.

## Members Showing

Several club members who are also members of the Maryland Photographic Alliance will be part of an exhibit at Quiet Waters Park titled "Rhythms". The show opens Jan 3rd and closes Feb. 11th. There will be a reception on Jan 7th, 2 -4 PM. Admission to the park is free for the reception.

## Camera Works

For those of you who thought **Frank VanRiper** may have died and gone to heaven, check out the Washington Post Web site. Click on Camera Works and you will find much more than you ever found in the Weekend Section and much more interesting to read. [www.Washingtonpost.com](http://www.Washingtonpost.com)

## Annual Auction

The **auction** this year has been scheduled for the 3rd Thursday in March to take place at the Library. The interclub competition will be on the first Thursday at the Sligo Creek Recreation Center. (See page 2)

## Spring Field Trip

We will begin taking names in December for a scheduled Field trip in April. The trip will be by bus to a variety of the monuments, memorials, etc., around Washington. The bus is to eliminate the parking problem and keep everyone together. The driver will drop everyone off at predetermined locations and pick everyone up at a predetermined time. We will leave from the Forest Glen School at about 7:30 on April 14th and spend about 8 hours traveling and photographing. We will probably plan to bring a bag lunch to reduce lost time but also plan for occasional rest stops along the way, probably fast food places. Depending on how many sign up, the cost will be about \$40/per person. The number of peoples will be limited to allow some extra room for camera gear. We will begin collecting money in February. Once reserved you can sell your seat but we won't be able to refund your money unless the trip is canceled. More information will be available at the meetings. If you have specific places you would like the bus to stop, pass that information along to Clarence Carvell and if there is a consensus, we will add it to the list.

## February Field Trip

Plans are to visit the National Cathedral on February 10th. The Cathedral is located in the 3100 block of Wisconsin Avenue, NW, and there is generally plenty of parking in their spacious lot. Serious photographers will want to arrive early to take advantage of the early morning light but otherwise, plan to join the group about 8 AM. At 8:30 there will be a half hour Architectural Photography session by **Rick Jolson**, an Architect and Architectural Photographer. We will be taking names at the January meetings to pass along to the administrative people at the Cathedral.

## In March

In March, plan to join the club at the National Zoo and in late April, join us for a short hike along the C & O Canal.

## In April

On April 21st, Clarence and Tony Sweet will be offering a one day workshop on Nature Photography at Clarence's studio.

## Photographing Interior Spaces

There is nothing like finding a subject where everything seems to come together. It's that time when simplicity finds itself and that chaos of lines, light and shadow align themselves to form that near perfect composition.

There is something special about buildings designed for a specific purpose, be it a train station, a diner, a church or even an office building. To photograph such a building takes patience and an appreciation for the architect's intent. If you feel strongly about the design of a certain building, study it closely and wait for the intensity to build. When you feel intensely about one part or another, then try to impart that feeling through your photographs. If successful, your images will become something beyond mere photography.

## Classified Ads

*Ads are free to paid up members of the Silver Spring Camera Club, .50 per line for all others. Ads will run two months unless otherwise notified. The Editor reserves the right to accept or reject Ads from non-members based on available space.*

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<b><i>Cable Release –January, 2001, Silver Spring Camera Club,</i></b>
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## December Competition Results

### Slides

**Judge: Chip Clark**

**Topic: Open**

#### Novice Slides

1st	Jerry Fath	Sligo Fall
2nd	Rhoda Steiner	Gr. Cayman 7/00 Gray Angel Fish

#### Advanced Slides

1st	Chuck Bress	Tred Avon
2nd	Jim Rogers	Monk & Chedi
3rd	Chuck Bress	Bird in Flight
HM	Elisa Frumento	White Orchid
HM	Jim Mitchell	Madona
HM	Jim Rogers	Thai Silk

### Prints

**Judge: Anne & Richard Rohlfig**

**Topic: Open**

#### Novice/Advanced Monochrome

1st	Max Strange	Aprol
3rd	Clarence Carvell	The Porch Window

#### Novice/Advanced Color

1st	Elisa Frumento	Stroll-Somewhere in Venice
2nd	Max Strange	Blue Window
3rd	Rhoda Steiner	Sponge Bouquet
HM	Clarence Carvell	Fawn Tasia
HM	Rhoda Steiner	9th Street Bridge



*Join*

*PSA*