



Cable Release

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A Word From the President Bill Rau

Two recent comments have stayed in my mind:

- Following the November field trip to the Conservatory in Baltimore, Greg Holden noted "I think it is awesome that we all [seven of us] took pictures of different things and when we did take pictures of the same thing we got totally different perspectives."
- Last month's competition judge, Andy Jezioro, said something like, "Would I hang the photo on my wall and continue to look at it?" The question helped him assess each entry in the competition.

Greg's comment says a lot about photography, individual perspectives and insights, and the opportunities to create unique compositions. I have written previously about feeling that SSCC encourages and makes opportunities for expressing our individual views of the world. I continue to feel that this is very true. Even more, the Club activities both expand those opportunities and allow us to recognize and celebrate our creative expressions.

As I sort photos from the collections on my hard drive, I find Andy's point helpful. I ask myself, when I hesitate whether to delete or keep a photo, "Will I go back to this image? Do I want to see it again?" The answers I give myself help determine if a photo stays or goes. The process also helps me think in terms of portfolios—those images of similar quality and style that make up a coherent collection.

And, as I think about whether to keep an image or not, I also consider the story behind each image or group of images. The stories are personal,

unique to where I was and to my reactions to locale and conditions at that time. To me, the stories behind photos are often as interesting as the images themselves. I like captions—two or three sentences that give me a fuller and richer understanding or perspective about what I am seeing. I wish there were a way, during competitions or 3rd Thursdays, to tell more of the story of our images.

I will remember the comments by both Greg and Andy as I continue as President of SSCC. I will appreciate the efforts by other club members to bring their individual insights to all of us. I will encourage each of us as members of the Club to take those photographs that you—and the rest of us—will want to see again and again. And, I want to hear the stories of our photographs so I can enjoy them even more.

Congratulations to all of the following SSCC members who placed in the recent inter-club competition with the NIH and Bowie-Crofton camera clubs.

Novice Digital

1st Mario Ramos "Memories"

Advanced Digital

HM Michael Tran "Leading Mom to Market"

Novice Color Prints

HM Mario Ramos "Funeral"
3rd Adams "Indian Museum"

Novice Monochrome Prints

3rd Michael Tran "Searching"
HM Sheryl Adams "National Building Museum"

Advanced Color Prints

2nd Michael Tran "Fishing Time"

If the winners can bring their images to the first meeting in December, we'd all like to see them!

SSCC Officers and Chairpersons (2008-09)

President	Bill Rau
Vice President	Bob Catlett
Treasurer	Jerry Fath
Secretary	Angelique Raptakis
Director	Norm Bernache
Director	Stan Klem
Director	Jim Rogers
Cable Release	Vacant
Competition	Michael Koren
	Michael Tran
Programs	Stan Klem
3rd Thursdays	Beth Koller
Membership	MyPhuong Nguyen
Field Trips	Bob Catlett
Historian	Norm Bernache
PSA Rep.	Henry Ng
Web Site	Paige Chandler
	Ellen Caswell
	Mario Ramos

Note: E-mail addresses and phone numbers are available on request. Please contact MyPhuong Nguyen at mpnguyenfoto@yahoo.com

The *Cable Release* is published ten times each year, September through May plus Summer, for members of the Silver Spring Camera Club. All rights are reserved but excerpts may be reprinted without permission provided proper credit and prior notification 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 MyPhuong Nguyen at mpnguyenfoto@yahoo.com. SSCC is affiliated with the Photographic Society of America.

Submissions for the Cable Release should be directed to Editor, Cable Release, at newsdesk@ssccphotography.org.

SSCC Website: <http://www.scccphotography.org>

SSCC Membership Rates

Student	\$35.00
Individual	\$45.00
Family	\$65.00



The Silver Spring Camera Club has been a member Club of the PSA since the club was founded in 1950. For information regarding the benefits of a PSA individual membership and for PSA sponsored activities, please contact our Club PSA Rep. Henry Ng at henrycng@aol.com.

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SSCC Meeting Location

All three major monthly meetings for this Club Year (2008-09) will be held at the Marvin Memorial United Methodist Church at Four Corners in Silver Spring. Directions are as follows:

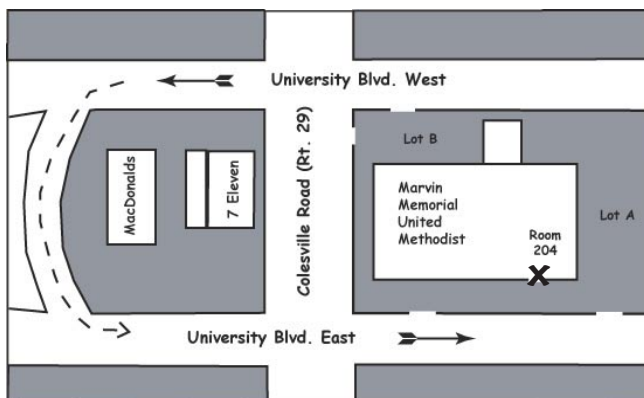
From downtown Silver Spring: go north on Colesville Road (Rte. 29); take a right onto University Blvd. East; then left into the church parking lot A.

From College Park/Takoma Park: take University Blvd. West. As you approach Rte. 29, move to your far left lane and turn left into church parking lot B. Or, you can pass through Rte. 29 intersection and turn left at the loop just past MacDonalds. Proceed on University Blvd. East, pass through Rte. 29 intersection, and quickly get in the far left lane and enter into church parking lot A.

From points north of Four Corners: proceed south on Rte. 29 and turn right onto University Blvd. West, move into the far left lane and turn left at the loop just past the MacDonalds. Proceed through Rte. 29 intersection, and turn left into church parking lot A.

From Wheaton and points west of Four Corners, go east on University Blvd. As you pass through Route 29 intersection, turn left into parking lot A.

Wherever you park, walk to the southeast corner of the Church and enter Room 204. All of our meetings begin at 7:30 p.m.



SSCC meets in the Church across the street from Blair High School. Part in Lot A. All meetings start at 7:30 pm

Guest Speaker - December 4th

Richard Nowitz

The stone statues of Easter Island, a fisherman in Thailand, a Bedouin woman in her tent in Israel, and a stonecutter in Egypt are all subjects in the portfolio of Richard T. Nowitz, named 1996 Travel Photographer of the Year by the Society of American Travel Writers.

Nowitz has contributed to National Geographic books and magazines since 1992. His pictures regularly appear in the world's leading travel guides and magazines, including Endless Vacations, GEO, Smithsonian, Time, and U.S. News & World Report. He is also a frequent contributor to Conde Nast Traveler's monthly "Room With a View" feature.

He has been the principal photographer of six Insight Travel Guides on Israel, Egypt, Cairo, Jerusalem, Wales, and London, as well as for large-format gift books on Israel, Turkey, and Egypt.

In 1995 Nowitz received the Educational Press Association's Award for Excellence in Educational Journalism.

Nowitz also gives photo-lighting seminars at regional U.S. camera shows, sharing his creative ability to work with people using lighting and filters in his travel assignment photography. He lives in Rockville, Maryland, with his wife and three children.

Competition Judge - December 11th

Andy Kline

When Andy was 11 he badgered his parents into a "real camera". It started with an Argus, but a Retina IIIC soon followed. For reasons he cannot explain, photography has had an appeal that has lasted a lifetime. Andy has done photographic lectures, taught B&W darkroom, and served as an officer in almost every position with the Northern Virginia Photographic Society.

Andy is a psychologist by training so it is no wonder he prefers people pictures to most animal or landscape work. The human story fascinates. Lately he has been photographing funerals and found deep and moving stories to tell in this venue.

His preferred equipment is a Leica rangefinder. But for longer lens and macro work his Nikon is his choice. The digital darkroom still masters him rather than the other way around, but this has opened wonderful new tools that leave the wet darkroom far behind.

Field Trip - December 13th

Fredericksburg, Va.

Contact Bob Catlett if you would like a ride to December's field trip location: a Civil War re-enactment of the battle for Fredericksburg in Virginia. The Catmobile will be leaving the usual meeting place at the Giant Food parking lot on Arliss, just off of Flower Ave., at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday Dec. 13th. Click on the following internet link for background information: Fredericksburg

The Big Blue Marble Exhibit

(November 14 - December 10)

Angelique Raptakis and Myphuong Nguyen each had two invited photographs (Misty Surf and Dragonfly; Lightning Starfish and Babcock State Park in Fall, respectively) displayed at the Washington School of Photography (Bethesda, MD) as part of the Big Blue Marble exhibit which featured work by NASA photographer Bill Ignalls. There are photographs of the rocket engines, the fueling process, astronauts in the G-force chair, and much more. One of the astronauts, Carl Walz, was there to narrate the 8 pm 11/14/08 live blast-off of the Endeavor. (Bill Ignalls, needless to say, was photographing the event.) Astronaut Walz also passed out awards, including NASA bags, to the competition winners: Nikhil Bahl (1st-Simple Swans), Tom Statas (2nd-My Favorite Tree), Sarah Lane (3rd-Tioga Pass), and Rob Jjsselstein (HM-Fall Impressionism).

Pssst! Was That Our Jim?

Yes, the Jim Rogers featured in the business page Washington Post article on retirement savings during these times last weekend is our own Jim Rogers.

Meeting Cancellations?

If the Montgomery County Public Schools are closed due to inclement weather or an emergency situation, then SSCC meetings are automatically cancelled as well.



Storm Clouds Fail To Stop SSCC The Field Trip Gang *by Beth Koller*

It was a dark and stormy night—afternoon actually—by the time we reached the Howard Peters Rawlings Conservatory and Botanic Gardens in Baltimore (www.baltimoreconservatory.org). This was our field trip inclement weather alternative destination. The participants were Sheryl Adams, George DeBuchananne, fearless leader and van-driver Robert “housecat” Catlett, Miguel Gallegos, Gregory Holden, Stan Klem, Beth Koller, and Bill Rau.

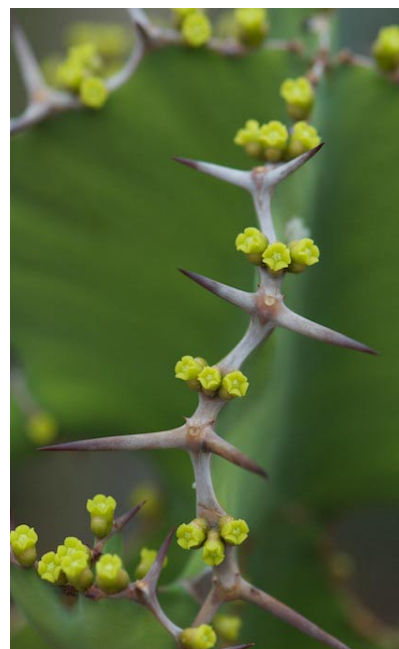
Upon arrival, Bill zipped out of the catmobile and started taking pictures of the conservatory grounds and building. He found interesting architectural details in the doors and the weather vane. Miguel took some moody shots of the entryway using a low perspective. Sheryl checked out the architectural details of the conservatory windows and later zoomed in on the colorful outdoor kale. Greg also snapped some architectural shots and



then worked his way into the cactus room. George took advantage of the area dedicated to chrysanthemums, while Stan concentrated on a giant striped agave plant that looked like it came right out of a sci-fi movie. Bob focused on several cacti in the xeroscape room. Beth was grateful for Bob's fill flash assistance when the afternoon light became progressively darker. The skies opened up and the rain poured down--even through some of the greenhouse panes.

After the photographic portion of the excursion, we had dinner at the Double-T Diner on Route 40. Ask about the Mile-High Meatloaf. Too bad that we did not have room enough for the homemade pastries. Next time we will start with dessert first!

Field Trips photos: Craig Holden (p. 4 top and p. 5 bottom right); Miguel Gallegos (p. 5 bottom); Sheryl Adams (p. 5 center left and bottom); Bill Rau (p. 5 top right and center right).



Framing & Matting Q & A: Part 1

Tips by Kay Tani-Olu

What Are the Correct Dimensions To Use in Matting My Artwork?

While there are no set outside dimensions for custom mats, there are guidelines you can follow to determine the width (or reveal area) of your mats. One approach is to make the mat equal on all four sides. This method brings balance and symmetry to the design. Another is to weight the bottom of the mat, making it larger than the top and sides. This latter method was used during Victorian times when pictures were hung very high on the wall and at a slight downward angle to the floor. By weighting the bottom, it gave the appearance that the mats were equal on all sides. Psychologically, the weighted bottom affords the viewer a sense of stability, assuring them that the piece is not likely to tip over. Both methods are acceptable and the preference is yours.

There are some basic rules that can be used in deciding the width of mats. First, there should be no repetition of size. The reveals of the inner mats should be slightly different. This allows the viewer to see the entire inner mat colors, not just the more dominant color. Also, the top mat should be at least 3/4" to 1" wider than the visible width of the frame. This will set the frame apart from the rest of the piece and prevent it from visually encroaching on the artwork.

How Many Mats Should I Use?

Since most artwork is a collection of many colors, use the colors in your art as a guide. Begin by showing a selection of three mats; a top mat and two inner mats. The colors of the inner mats are generally taken from the third or fourth most predominant colors within the art. This allows these background colors to show through and not become overwhelmed by the more predominant colors in the piece. By selecting mat colors in this fashion, it allows the viewer to see the full scope of the artwork.

The top mat is generally a color that harmonizes with the entire piece. And it is preferable that top mats be in lighter, rather than darker, tones. Lighter tones will tend to "open up" the piece while darker tones will tend to constrict the piece, making it appear smaller.

There are times when the use of three mats is not warranted. Some examples of this would be

black and white photography and prints, and sepia tone and monotone artwork. In these cases, there are limited color choices for the inner mats and we would generally show you a top mat and single inner mat. In the end, the choice of the number of mats is yours to make.

Getting Framed **by Beth Koller**

On November 12th several SSCC club members plus guests from the Gaithersburg club attended a hands-on workshop on framing and matting at Kay Tani-Olu's Agnus Dei Framing Shop in the Colesville Shopping Center. We had refreshments, including freshly baked brownies, prepared by Sandy Littlejohn. Fred Schirmacher brought some photos to frame and the V-cut mat that Kay used as a demo during the September workshop. Fred selected framing material that enhanced both the casual nature of his photographs of neighborhood children and the metallic hints in the mat. We observed how the wood strips are cut with a miter saw and held in place with glue, while a stapling machine provided reinforcement. We also examined Kay's giant glass cutter. By the end of the evening, Fred left with a picture that required only the insertion of glazing points.

Kay demonstrated how to use his \$18,000 computerized mat cutter. He showed us how to determine the outside and opening measurements of mats, including double mats, and program them into the computer. He then showed us how to make V-cuts, how to do embossing on the mat surface, and how to change the cutting head's bevel and the circumstances why we might want other than the standard 40 degree bevel. Kay also showed us how to make more complex interior openings. Russ Willard, who is an architect by training and has experience with computer-assisted design (CAD), was soon driving the mat cutter like a pro. Kay had to restrain him from some of his more exotic interior border designs! Both Fred and Joel Fassler provided guidance to Barb Karpas who wanted guidance on the low tech method for cutting mats on her Logan cutter.

Because of the many requests, we will schedule another event like this for late Winter or early Spring and hope to have more advance notice. And please remember that SSCC will receive a 12% discount through 12/31/08.

3rd Thursday Workshops *by Beth Koller*

December 18th Workshop **Reflections, Physics (Angles), and** **Photography**

Our December workshop will be a hands-on Surprise. All I will tell you is this: Be sure to bring your cameras, macro and close-up lenses, and tripods. If you're planning to bring a film camera then please try to bring Tungsten film.

November's 3rd Thursday Workshop Nite

Francis Koh from the locally owned Koh Global brought the clean-room lens changing and sensor cleaning bag (~\$59-69) designed in conjunction with his brother, a biochemical engineer at NIH. After the camera pieces are inserted into the bag, the bag is evacuated with a motorized filter--a standard, off-the shelf (therefore, inexpensive to replace) HEPA filter. One's hands enter the bag through cuffed ports. A lens can be changed in under 2 minutes. In the same way, sensor cleaning may be undertaken. A third cuffed port in the deluxe bag serves as a lens cover and the bag itself as a self-contained "rain cape". SSCC will be offered a bulk discount on the bags, blower bulbs, and sensor cleaners. Details will follow.

Duane Heaton (Penn Camera) provided an evening of both entertainment and portrait instruction using a minimum of equipment: 2 continuous tungsten lights, a reflector board (foam board), a gold-white cloth reflector, an umbrella, and a strobe with power pack (the last for good measure). When asked if we needed to move the piano, he declined and used it for a prop. He used the fake tree as a dapple background. Duane pulled victims, oops volunteers from the audience. We learned about the distance from the light source and the resultant shadow type. We learned how to direct and focus light. We learned how to minimize figure flaws, yet retain the essence of the person. Folks jumped right in with questions and photographing. The evening ended too quickly. Duane will be offering some portrait workshops after the Holiday shopping season. Go to www.dcphtoworkshops.com to find classes. SSCC members will be offered a \$25 discount coupon. Details will follow.

Upcoming 2009 Workshops

Jon Goell (Montgomery College) will conduct an interactive composition workshop in January. Participants are encouraged to bring ~8x10-inch size prints for comment. Images may be submitted anonymously. Joe Miller (Northern Virginia Photographic Society) has provided some related reading materials which were kindly scanned by Bob Peters. Club members may wish to review these materials prior to the workshop.

Our own Michael Koren (Ritz Camera) has graciously offered to conduct a workshop on "Getting the Most Out of Your Point and Shoot Camera (Digital or Film)". This will be the perfect session for your friends or relatives, who have a budding interest in photography or who just received a new camera over the Holidays and who keep asking you questions. It will also be an informative session for those more serious photographers who realize that they cannot always lug around an SLR. To demonstrate the capability of the cameras (and the eye behind the camera), participants will be invited to bring 5x7 or 8x10 prints made from images taken with non-SLR cameras (high-end rangefinders are also excluded). The categories include: Creative, High Quality Family Album, and Seize the Moment. Participants will choose by ballot the top three in each category.

Myphuong Nguyen is one of several SSCC members who are hot on the exhibition circuit. She will present some of her new found knowledge on "Preparing for an Exhibit: A Step by Step Process". During a short segment of a workshop evening, she will outline the various elements of putting together a show and the accompanying timeline.

Funny Bone Photography

We are looking for images of funny signs or humorous events. Images may be submitted over the upcoming months. During the April workshop, members will have a chance to select the winners. Ribbons will be awarded.



One more November
Field Trip Photo:
Bob Catlett

Inter-Club Competition Results November 15, 2008

Novice Digital

1st	SSCC	Mario Ramos	Memories
2nd	BCCC	Warren Wilson	In A Hurry
3rd	BCCC	Mark Laster	Surging Design
HM	BCCC	Jim Bolitho	1958

Advanced Digital

1st	NIH	John Boretos	Firemen in Action
2nd	BCCC	Frieda Weise	Huff Church Road
3rd	BCCC	Frieda Weise	Chincoteague Egrets
HM	SSCC	Michael Tran	Leading Mom to Market

Novice Black and White

1st	BCCC	Zolt Levay	Needles on Burned Log
2nd	BCCC	Warren Wilson	Radiate
3rd	SSCC	Michael Tran	Searching
HM	SSCC	Sheryl Adams	National Building Museum

Advanced Black and White

1st	NIH	Ariel Ginzberg	Vanishing 2
2nd	NIH	Harvey Kupferberg	Sunbursts
3rd	BCCC	Mike Thomas	Town Hill House
HM	NIH	Harvey Kupferberg	Sunset at Trinidad Beach

Novice Color Prints

1st	NIH	Beth Koller	Water Drop
2nd	NIH	Beth Koller	Here I Come
3rd	SSCC	Sheryl Adams	Indian Museum
HM	SSCC	Mario Ramos	Funeral

Advanced Color

1st	NIH	Suzanne Dater	Give Me A Hand
2nd	SSCC	Michael Tran	Fishing Time
3rd	BCCC	Zolt Levay	Alberta, Canada, Farm
HM	NIH	Ariel Ginzberg	Vanishing

Total Scores

NIH	64	BCCC	62	SSCC	42
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Exhibit Opportunity by Angelique Raptakis SSCC Exhibits Coordinator

We are excited to bring you the opportunity to exhibit your framed works of art! SSCC has been selected for a photography exhibit to be held at the Kentlands Mansion, starting January 26, 2009. This will be a juried member exhibit. The gallery space is large enough to accommodate up to 50 photographs. An Artists' Reception will be held in early February.

The theme for this exhibit is Nature and Travel. Images submitted are expected to be acceptable for exhibition in a public space (e.g., no nudes). Each member can submit up to 6 images for consideration in the exhibit. All entries must be emailed as an attachment to SSCCexhibits@gmail.com and must be received by Friday, December 19, 2008. When submitting your entries, please include the following in your email:

- Title of each image
- Final framed size
- Price (if the print is not for sale, please note

"NFS", Not For Sale)

- Medium (i.e. archival digital print, if printed with pigment inks; digital print, if printed with dye-based inks, etc.)

For each photograph that is available for sale, please ensure that the image is not in violation of any copyright or other restrictions of use (e.g. U.S. Botanic Garden, Library of Congress, National Zoo, etc.). This is YOUR responsibility! The City of Gaithersburg will receive a 30% commission on all sales. Any sales as a DIRECT result of the exhibition will be assessed the 30% commission for up to six months following the final exhibition day. Sales must go through the Gallery Director.

For this exhibit, framed images may be exhibited. All matting must be white or off-white; not cream, gray or other colors. Framing should be in standard black wooden or metal frames. All frames must be suitably prepared to hang from chains or wire and hooks.

Notification of acceptance will be sent by January 6, 2009. Watch your email and the *Cable Release* for further information.



Craig Callan



Mario Ramos



Bob Catlett



Carl Brandt



Beth Koller



Mario Ramos

**Monthly Competition
Winners for
November 2008**



Sandy Littlejohn



Bob Catlett



Craig Callan

November 2008 SSCC Monthly Club Competition Winners

November 13 Competition

Judge: Andy Jezioro Subject: Portrait

Novice Slides No competition held

Advanced Slides No competition held

Novice Mono Prints (7 entrants; 12 entries)
1st Mario Ramos Ester
2nd Bob Peters Listening
3rd Craig Callan Rainy Season

Advanced Mono Prints (7 entrants; 12 entries)
1st Beth Koller Fountain Girl
2nd Bob Catlett Man in Park
3rd Harald Hoiland Man Resting

Novice Color Prints (8 entrants; 16 entries)
1st Genie Sachs Fascination
2nd Craig Callen Watching the Market
3rd Genie Sachs Mark
HM Mario Ramos Pray
HM Sandy Littlejohn Curious Fox

Advanced Color Prints (11 entrants; 21 entries)
1st Mark Ratner Simply Beautiful
2nd Bob Catlett Lost in Thought
3rd Jim Rogers Yunnan Man Smoking Pipe
HM Carl Brandt Microbiologist
HM Stan Klem Lady Madonna

Silver Spring Camera Club Membership Form 2008-2009

Name _____ Spouse's Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP Code _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

Email Address _____

Membership rates: Individual \$45; Student or Spouse \$35; Family \$65.

Dues cover the club year from September through May. After January 31, dues for the remainder of the club year for new members are \$35; dues for spouses and students remain at \$35. Make checks payable to the Silver Spring Camera Club, and mail to SSCC, P.O. Box 2375, Wheaton, MD 20915-2375--or simply bring your check to one of our meetings.

For all questions about the club, contact Membership Chair MyPhuong Nguyen at mpnguyenfoto@yahoo.com