



Silver Spring Camera Club of Maryland • USA

Cable Release

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A Word From the President

Bill Rau

SSCC's board of directors met on January 22nd. I want to discuss the decisions made and ideas put forward. (See page 8 for a full report of the board meeting minutes.)

Digital Competition

The board agreed to purchase a digital projector for Club competitions. Special thanks to Dave Mullen and Bob Catlett for investigating projector options and making recommendations. The Club also will purchase a new screen to display digital images at their best. With September 2009 as our target date, we will be able to include digital projections in our monthly competitions.

Thanks to Jim Rogers, who agreed to: acquire the newest software for running digital competitions, prepare guidelines for members to submit digital images, and coordinate preparation of images for each digital competition. The guidelines will appear in a future Cable Release and will be available in other formats as well.

Jim also proposed possible competition rule changes to cover digital competitions. If you wish to see and comment on those suggestions, let me know. At its next meeting the board will decide which suggestions to incorporate into the competition rules.

Remembering Elsa Brandt

The board agreed that in honor of Elsa Brandt, who died in January, the Club will make a donation to the art fund at her church. Any member who wishes to add to the Club's donation is welcome to do so. See separate article in this issue about Elsa.

SSCC Website

The board agreed that SSCC's website urgently needs revamping. Stan Klem demonstrated what one web host offers for camera clubs. Although no final decision was made, it is likely that the Club will go with the new host. I offered to develop the content for the new website and will work closely with Mario Ramos as he designs the site.

Club Leadership

Board members were polled on their interest for standing for re-election. Although the poll did not imply commitment, Jerry Fath said he could remain as treasurer, but will defer if others are interested in the position. Both Bob Catlett and I indicated that we will step down as officers in the coming year. Michael Koren had recently indicated that he would also like to step down as Competition co-chair. We look forward to new Club leadership, both to continue our learning activities and to offer new ideas and style. Any Club member is eligible to stand for election as an officer or committee chair. The duties of any positions are not difficult; but each position is very important for the smooth functioning of our Club. I encourage each of you to seriously consider stepping forward to lead the Club in 2009-2010. (See page 2 for the list of existing officers and chairpersons.) Other positions can be created if needed.

Ideas and Suggestions

Chuck Bress offered several ideas for consideration. One was to reinstitute the Club's mentor program. In the past, more advanced members provided mentoring to any new and/or less experienced members. Mentoring could be on a specific

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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	Stan Klem
Competition	Michael Koren
	Michael Tran
Programs	Stan Klem
3rd Thursdays	Beth Koller
Membership	MyPhuong Nguyen
Field Trips	Bob Catlett
Historian	Norm Bernache
PSA Rep.	Vacant
Web Site	Paige Chandler
	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:

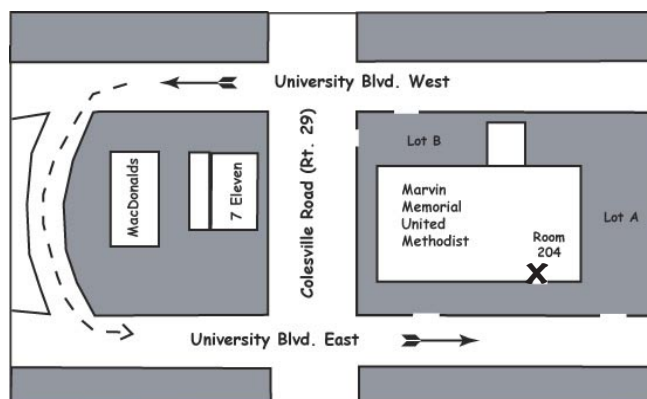
From downtown Silver Spring: go north on Colesville Road (Rte. 29); take a right onto University Blvd. East; then left into the church parking lot A.

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 - February 5th

Terry Popkin

Terry Popkins has been a presenter and judge for SSCC and other area clubs in past years. He is both a teacher and a commercial photographer. He holds a B.S. degree in Chemistry/Physics and M.S. degree in Microbiology from Penn State University, and became a part of the NIH biomedical research team investigating bacterial cell structure. While working toward his Ph.D., he became interested in electron microscopy and its specialized photographic applications. His expertise in biomedical photography led him to an interest in other aspects of the medium, especially fine-art photography.

Terry's belief is that our creativity serves as the basis of both fine art and fine photography, and so a good photographer should be imaginative and caring as well as a skilled craftsman. For the past 37 years, Terry specialized in travel, portraiture, and event photography. In 1992, Terry retired from Federal service and now devotes his life totally to photography.

In 1996, Terry spent nearly a month photographing landscapes and wildlife in Alaska. In 2000, Kodak sponsored him in presenting his approach to photography in the new digital age to a body of professional photographers at the National Geographic Society in May of that year. To date, he has photographed over 1000 Bar/Bat Mitzvah and Wedding events, and currently, all his work is captured digitally.

Terry's studio is located in Silver Spring, MD. His photographic interests range from scientific to portraiture to purely artistic work, and he has succeeded in getting a great many of his images and articles published worldwide in both books and magazines.

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.

Monthly Competition - February 12th

Judge: Roy Sewall

Subject: OPEN

Roy is one of the leading photographers of the Potomac River and Chesapeake and Ohio (C&O) Canal in the Washington, D.C., area. Although Roy spent most of his youth in India, Pakistan, Indonesia, and the Philippines, his State Department family's home base was the D.C. area. Roy has a BS in Physics from Case Institute of Technology in Cleveland and a MS in Engineering Science from Penn State. He returned permanently to the Washington area in 1969 and worked for several major technology corporations for over 30 years.

Roy's interest in photography evolved from extensive travel in five continents. In 2001, he started his transition to full-time photographer. He always found the Washington area to be one of the most photogenic locations in the world. Roy's first photography book, *Our Potomac*, from Great Falls through Washington, D.C., was published in 2005, and was inspired by his affection for hiking and bicycling along the river and the adjacent C&O Canal. The book has led to numerous lecture and slide show engagements with local organizations.

In 2007, Roy became Chair of the Board of Directors for the C&O Canal Trust, a non-profit friends group for the National Park Service. Roy has done extensive photography work for river- and C&O Canal-related government and non-profit organizations, as well as private clients. He was a guest on WETA's program "Great Views of Washington D.C." and will be the featured photographer in the forthcoming Best of D.C. publication.

Roy's second book, *Great Falls and Mather Gorge*, was published in January 2009.

My Role as Judge

I view the first and foremost role of a judge to be an educator.

- For novices, the educational experience will hopefully be an increased awareness of the basic issues that comprise good photography.

- For advanced photographers, the educational experience will be to further their understanding of how others (who perhaps are peers) view their work, as opposed to learning the basics.

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Criteria for Judging

The criteria I use are “emotional impact,” “artistry,” and “technical issues.”

- Emotional impact is how the photo gets me in the gut—it includes the choice of the subject, creativity, uniqueness of the approach, mood, and (in some cases) story-telling.

- Artistry is composition, use of color, light, texture, perspective, taking the viewer’s eyes to the right place(s), absence of distracting items (such as miscellaneous stuff in the edges and corners), use of picture space, etc.

- Technical issues are sharpness, depth of field, exposure, control of details in the highs and lows, print quality, matting quality, etc.

I view emotional impact as the highest priority criterion. If it isn’t there, the photo is “out.” Artistry and technical issues have roughly the same weight, but this depends on the context of the photograph.



January field trip to the Smithsonian’s Air and Space Museum, Udvar-Hazy Center



3rd Thursday Workshop Have Camera, Will Travel by Beth Koller

- ☒ Did you slip a disc or develop a hernia from lugging around all of your camera gear?
- ☒ Do you sometimes long to throw your tripod away?
- ☒ Do you like to travel light when you are on the road or in rugged terrain?
- ☒ Does your large camera reduce your spontaneity and your ability to capture candid moments?
- ☒ Does your significant other complain about all of the time you spend behind the lens because he/she is overwhelmed by the technical aspects of picture taking and cannot join you in your hobby?
- ☒ Do your relatives consider you the resident expert in photography and deluge you with questions?
- ☒ Did a friend receive a point-and-shoot camera over the Holidays?
- ☒ Do you plan to give a camera as a gift in the upcoming months?

If you answered yes to any of the above, consider attending or having your friends/relatives attend a workshop, "Getting the Most Out of a Point-and-Shoot Camera", from 7 to 9:30, Thursday, February 19 at the Marvin Memorial Union Methodist Church in Silver Spring.

Our speaker will be SSCC's own Michael Koren. He will discuss basic camera selection criteria including resolution (sensor size and megapixel number), lens capacity (focal length, aperture range, close-up ability), and viewfinder capacity/screen size, as well as some basic accessories. He will walk participants through basic camera set-up including ISO selection, image quality-compression selection, white balance choice, and exposure mode (aperture priority, shutter speed priority, automatic, or manual setting) options. He will discuss varying camera techniques to control the focal point including focus lock, directed focus, and face detection technology. He will discuss depth-of-field choice as it relates to basic composition. He will talk about on-camera flash including night flash, slow sync flash, and fill flash, and how one can enhance, alter, and direct light using simple (and inexpensive) reflectors and diffusers. He will discuss common in-camera image processing programs including black & white con-

version, sepia toning, and panorama stitching. He will provide tips on the various ways to hold and stabilize one's camera and hints for photographic composition. He will then take folks to where they really want to be: exploring the options for viewing and sharing their pictures as prints, cards, books, picture gifts, digital frames, and on-line websites.

Michael is eminently qualified for this task. He has been taking pictures since childhood, and he still has negatives from his first camera, a Diana 120. Michael also has extensive darkroom experience in both black-and-white and color printing processes, and has extensive photographic experience as a studio, event, and sports photographer. He has competed in numerous competitions in the Silver Spring Camera Club and has twice received the club's "Photographer of the Year" award. Michael has also served as SSCC's Competition Chair.

Currently, Michael works as a buyer of lighting and photographic accessory stock for a major retail camera chain. Most importantly, he has extensive experience with point-and-shoot cameras. Although he owns an SLR camera, he favors his simple 5 megapixel, 5x zoom Pentax digicam with manual and automatic exposure controls.

Participants with point-and-shoot cameras are advised to read their manuals, bring their cameras, and prepare their questions in advance. Those considering a camera purchase are encouraged to bring specification sheets for possible cameras and to consider the type of photography they want to undertake. Members with hands-on experience with particular point-and-shoot models are welcome to provide commentary.

January Workshop (1/29/09) Elements of Composition

It was a dark and icy night. Bill Rau turned in his camera for a shovel to prepare the walkways while Beth Koller set up chairs, refreshments, and handouts. Soon there was an incoming call. It was the composition workshop speaker Jon Goell, who had arrived along with three NIH camera club members, and was wandering the church hallways. The phrase from the cell phone ad "Can you hear me now?" was put to functional use in locating the lost party.

An intrepid group consisting of approximately 25--primarily from the Silver Spring and NIH

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In Memoriam Elsa Lund Erickson Brandt

Elsa Brandt, a long time Silver Spring Camera Club member, recently passed away on January 15th. To say she will be sorely missed would indeed be a vast understatement. Her presence at our meetings was a blessing to all who interacted with her. She always wore a smile and exuded a warmth and friendliness to everyone—young or old, friend or stranger. Included here are remarks from her husband Carl that were read at Elsa's funeral service by their daughter Karen, and some excerpts from friends, family, and colleagues on what Elsa meant to them and how she touched their lives.

Remarks by Carl David Brandt

Elsa Lund Erickson Brandt—the only child of Norwegian immigrant parents—was born in 1932 and raised in Brooklyn, New York. She and I—her husband of nearly 45 years—moved from New York to Silver Spring, Maryland in mid-1966.

Elsa's death (of a heart-related condition) was both sudden and quite unexpected. In fact, she talked with many of you in this very room only last Sunday morning.

Elsa was proud of her Norwegian heritage, was fluent in the Norwegian language, and—beginning just this month—had began the duties of Vice-President of the Norwegian Society of Washington, DC.

Largely prompted by her father's interest in music and the violin, Elsa began violin lessons when she was four years of age. Her formal training in music eventually included a Bachelor's of Music Education from the University of Hartford, Connecticut and a Master's of Music degree from The Manhattan School of Music in New York City.

Early in her career, Elsa taught musical instrument performance in the school system of New Rochelle, New York. Then, during her performing career, Elsa was a violinist-member of symphony orchestras in Hartford, Connecticut, Springfield, Mass., and New Orleans, La. A few months after giving birth to our daughter, Karen – and shortly before taking up residence in Silver Spring—Elsa also gave a formal New York violin recital in Carnegie Recital Hall.

Elsa taught music for 22 years at Howard University in Washington, DC, and freelanced as a musician in the Washington, DC area—including as a violinist in the Wolf Trap Park orchestra. Elsa also maintained a private violin/viola studio in our Silver Spring, Md home. Though mostly retired since 2002, Elsa taught a regular Wednesday violin lesson to Dr. Manuel Porres—our good friend and her one remaining student—only 8 days before she died.

Elsa was a long-time member of The Friday Morning Music Club, the American String Teachers Association, the College Music Society, and the Silver Spring Camera Club. She also was a recent member of the Photographic Society of America. Several examples of her photographic art are on permanent display on the walls of Long Branch Public Library in Silver Spring, Md. Many of her photographs have also appeared on the walls and website of this church.

Elsa and I first met in September 1963—at a meeting of the New York (City) Color Slide Club. I found her easy to talk to, and quickly learned that we shared not only a Scandinavian heritage, and a strong interest in photography, but also a deep interest in classical music. In retrospect, who could ask for a better match for two never married people in their 30s?

Elsa told me that she had gone home after first meeting me—and then said to her parents: "Just tonight, I might have met the right person to marry". Actually, it was "love at first sight" for both of us. I proposed marriage only 6 weeks after we first met—and got an immediate "Yes!". We were married on April 25th of 1964—during her spring break from graduate studies at the Manhattan School of Music.

Again and again over the years, we said to each other: "How very lucky we are to have met." This was often followed with her words in Norwegian: "Vi hard det godt" (We have it good).

And now to Elsa: "We did have it good—and you made it so. With much love, David"

A Sampling of Remembrances and Expressions from Friends and Loved Ones

I feel so grateful to have had Elsa in my life!
She shared warmth, trust, intelligence, and love.
We will all miss her.

Elsa was “a long-time friend and fellow music teacher.
She never failed to praise my efforts and help me have
the courage to continue to promote our shared
profession so more music could come into the
lives of continuing generations.

Elsa was my first violin teacher.
She instilled the love of music, an appreciation
for the gifts of the violin, and a positive, enduring
attitude towards playing music that has stayed with
me for the past 12 years since I last saw her.
She will forever be missed and remembered with
great fondness and love.

She was one of the most vital people
I’ve ever known, and it’s still almost impossible
to believe she’s gone.

Elsa gave me a warm welcome to SSCC,
and always told me that I had a special place
in her heart.

Elsa always “raised the bar” for us by describing
things very precisely, never glossing over details,
or letting superficialities pass by unexamined.

I remember that every time I saw her
she said something positive to me.

I, indeed, lost a great dear friend.
She will be sorely missed!

I remember Elsa as a rock of kindness and
enthusiasm during the time I was trying to figure
out how to manage ministry, mothering, and work.
Whenever I felt low or conflicted, Elsa was always
there to put me back on track and tell me
that I could do it.

Elsa was like my mother, my friend,
my cheerleader.

Elsa was the living example of hope.
She always, always had positive words.
I always walked away from a conversation
with her with a spring in my step.



Elsa Lund Brandt, 1966

The Memorial Service for Elsa Brandt will be
held on Saturday February 21st at 2 p.m. at
Christ Congregational Church, 9525 Coles-
ville Road, Silver Spring, MD 20901.



Elsa and Carl on their wedding day April 25th, 1964.

Silver Spring Camera Club Board Meeting

January 22, 2009

Attendees

Board Members: Bill Rau, Bob Catlett, Jerry Fath,
Stan Klem, Beth Koller, Jim Rogers

Other SSCC members: Chuck Bress,
Sandy Littlejohn, Dave Mullen

Apologies: Michael Koren, Michael Tran,
MyPhuong Nyugen, Angelique Raptakis,
Mario Ramos, Paige Chandler

Absent: Norm Bernache

Treasurer's Report

- Currently there are 68 paid members, consistent with membership over the last few years.
- The SSCC bank account balance is \$4,473.67. Major expenses already paid include meeting place rental, mailbox rental, and Photographic Society of America (PSA) membership. Pending expenses include those associated with the year-end banquet.

Memorial Gift

- Elsa Brandt, a long-time SSCC member, died unexpectedly in January 2009.
- In recognition of her contributions to the club, including her welcoming activities for new members, the board discussed a proposal that our club bestow a gift to the arts activities of her church in her memory.
- The board agreed that SSCC donate \$100 to the arts group at the Christ Congregational Church where she and Carl worshiped. In addition, SSCC members can add to this donation, if they wish.
- Stan Klem will compile personal remembrances about Elsa for inclusion in the Cable Release.

Digital Projection

Projector

- Bob Catlett and Dave Mullen presented the following, based on their research of digital projectors.
- Business projectors provide more light and can function in settings in which rooms cannot be completely darkened. They perform well when used with PowerPoint-type programs. Non-business projectors are aimed at photographers and home theater users. These units provide

more contrast, a wider color gamut, and deeper blacks.

- Board discussion focused on the Panasonic PT-AE3000 (native resolution 1920x1080; \$2499), the Panasonic PT-AX200U (1280x720; \$1250), and the Epson Home 720 (1280x720; \$1299). The board's consensus was to select from the less expensive tier of projectors due to the club's uncertainty about its own needs, the anticipated learning curve -, the size of our room (and needed light projection length), and expected changes in future technology. The Board decided that the club purchase the Epson. Bob Catlett indicated that he would order the projector from B&H.

Other Digital Hardware - Screen

- Preliminary research indicates that digital images benefit from screens that do not contain silver or glass beads.
- Anticipated cost of a new screen is \$300. Bob Catlett volunteered to research a screen purchase.

Monitor Calibration/Computer Profiling

- The need for this equipment (to obtain optimal images) was discussed, but the acquisition will be considered after club members become more familiar with the entire process.
- The cost for such ancillary items was not considered prohibitive.

Digital Software

Jim Rogers will obtain the most recent version of digital projection software for competitions from a neighboring camera club.

Competition Guidelines

Jim Rogers will write some preliminary guidelines, including required file size, file naming convention, and color gamut. Michael Tran will review Rogers' guidelines.

Membership Club Survey

(conducted by Beth Koller)

Although competition was an important club activity, lectures, field trips, and/or workshops ranked higher. Learning basic/advanced technical skills, image processing, and understanding composition were also considered very important. Member interest in hands-on workshops included: portraiture, candid photography, flash, night photography, using special papers in printing, portfolio development, framing, exhibition requirement/timelines, slide

show presentation, and book preparation. Koller suggested the club might consider the survey results when planning activities and attempting to recruit / retain members.

Other Needs and Suggestions

- Membership recruitment has been hampered by lack of club informational brochures and the out-of-date website. Bill Rau is preparing new informational brochures. Dave Mullen offered to do the layout.
- A sustained welcome program is needed. Sandy Littlejohn agreed to serve as a club greeter. Club officers and board members will wear permanent name tags indicating their name and function. Paper name tags will be available for others.
- Chuck Bress suggested resumption of a mentoring program and holding the print competition first so that members can view and learn from the prints during intermission.

Website

- Mario Ramos is willing to design a new website and Bill Rau will draft content.
- Stan Klem presented an on-line webpage-hosting package for photography clubs from Software Pursuits. They offer multiple pricing levels based on club size and website complexity. Stan will email board members a link to the site for their review.
- The Board determined that SSCC would develop a new website and obtain a new web host.

Competition 2009-2010 Season

- Members should forward ideas by mid-March about competition subjects to Bill Rau, who will compile them.
- Members should comment on whether SSCC continue to hold a "Body of Work" competition and if so, what the next subject/theme should be, or whether a theme is desired.
- Jim Rogers suggested several possible changes in competition rules. Those were circulated for later comment.
- Chuck Bress suggested streamlining the competition process by having the judge preview the images during the business section of the meeting and limiting the number of entries per person per night. He also suggested that titles should be read for photojournalism entries.

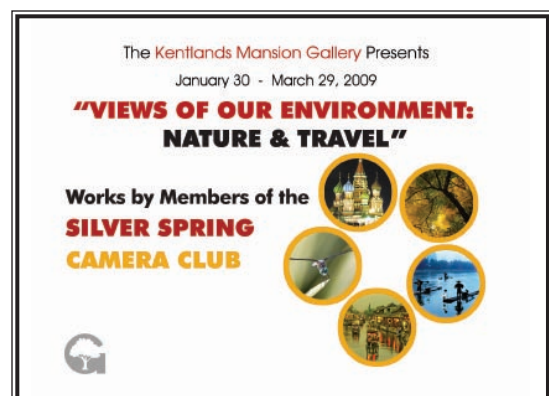
Club Officers and Board Members

There will be multiple positions open next year:

- Bill Rau has served as president for two years and will not stand again.
- Bob Catlett has served as vice-president for two years and will not run again.
- Stan Klem would like to find a replacement as newsletter editor and will train a volunteer. He is willing to continue as program chair.
- Mike Koren would like to step-down as a competition co-chair.
- Henry Ng Has resigned as PSA representative.
- Jerry Fath has agreed to continue as treasurer.
- Board members were encouraged to relay their willingness to continue and/or to recommend potential new candidates.

Action Items

- Announce to Club members that they can:
 - contribute to the Elsa Brandt Memorial Fund if they wish.
 - forward personal comments about Elsa Brandt and/or photos of her to Stan Klem.
- Club members should comment on the web package presented by Software Pursuits. Input by Mario Ramos is especially sought.
- Board members should provide comments on topics for competition and proposed competition guidelines by mid-March.
- Bob Catlett will purchase an Epson 720 digital projector.
- Bob Catlett will price digital screens.
- Jim Rogers will prepare a draft of digital competition guidelines.
- Bill Rau will prepare informational brochures on the club. Club members will distribute these informational brochures.
- Sandy Littlejohn will greet new members. Name tags will be used.



(Bill Rau—Continued from page 1)

aspect of photography or more general. The one-on-one contact and interaction were valuable and contributed to everyone's skills and confidence. I'd like to see such mentoring return and am willing to help connect mentors with those seeking mentoring. help..

Chuck also promoted Body of Work (BoW) competitions and noted that another club used our example to start their own such competition. I think BoW development is an essential part of photographic learning. Confused about creating a BoW? A mentor can help you conceptualize and assemble photos on a common theme or - style.

Beth Koller provided poll results of member interests conducted earlier this year. The results will help guide our activities in the coming months and beyond. Two points of interest stand out for me. First, many members want to become more proficient photographers by taking more artistic and more complex images. Members are also interested in preparing, in essence, a Body of Work in the form of a slide show, book, or portfolio.

The board agreed that each board member needs to be more conspicuous at meetings, especially to meet visitors and potential members. Sandy Littlejohn agreed to take a lead in greeting and introducing visitors to the Club. Using name tags will also help make our officers more conspicuous.



* * * * *

As I review the issues and decisions of this board meeting, I see links among the topics. For example, member interest in improving their photographic skills and how they can be presented is an obvious place where mentoring can play a role. Digital competitions and our new website can improve the appeal of the Club to potential new members.

We look forward to the next board meeting in late March—so watch for news about that agenda. In the meantime, consider becoming a Club leader or a mentor. Silver Spring Camera Club depends upon the input, big and small, of each of us.

Monthly Competition Winners for January 2009



Above: Mario Ramos
Left: Beth Koller
Below: Mario Ramos



January 2009 SSCC Monthly Club Competition Winners

January 15 Competition

Judge: Marti Belcher Subject: Photojournalism

Combined Slides (8 entrants; 16 entries)

1st	Pat Bress	Solitaire #2
2nd	Chuck Bress	Man Sweeping
3rd	Pat Bress	Amish Silhouette #3
HM	Chuck Bress	Jumper
HM	Craig Callan	Jolly Bishop

Novice Mono Prints (6 entrants; 9 entries)

1st	Craig Callan	West 13th
2nd	Miguel Gallegos	Fighting for a Dream
3rd	Michael Tran	Rolling Along

Advanced Mono Prints

1st	Bob Catlett	(7 entrants; 14 entries)
2nd	Beth Koller	Back Up Team
3rd	Mario Ramos	Joy
HM	Chuck Bress	Cheese Vendor
		Face Place

Novice Color Prints

1st	Mario Ramos	(7 entrants; 10 entries)
2nd	Joanne Mars	Immigrant Hands
3rd	Mario Ramos	Photographer Abroad
		Yojia Lake

Advanced Color Prints

1st	Michael Tran	(10 entrants; 19 entries)
2nd	Beth Koller	Motor-Fly
3rd	Bob Catlett	Tipping Point
HM	Mark Ratner	Chillin
HM	Bob Peters	Hi Down There
		Relaxing Smoke



Monthly Competition Winners
for January 2009

Above Left: Craig Callan
Above Center: Bob Peters
Above Right: Bob Catlett
Bottom Center: Mario Ramos
Bottom Right: Beth Koller



(January Workshop—Continued from page 5)

Camera Clubs, plus Gerard Garcia, proprietor of the Photography Center-Bethesda, who made a cameo appearance--soon got to work. Because this was a workshop, Mr. Goell, a full professor of photography at the Montgomery Community College-Rockville campus and with an extensive commercial photography background, did not give a lecture. Instead, his didactic technique involved using participant images to elicit audience commentary, which he further directed using questions. He used a digital reader to project prints and a computer-digital projector combo to display electronic images. The audience was not shy. They brought both single images and series of images for review. They asked questions directly, so there was no need for anonymously written questions to be drawn out of the "brown bag". Mr. Goell emphasized the importance of knowing what idea, concept, or emotion one wants to convey with the image and to cut out any extraneous and potentially distracting material. This might require cropping, getting closer to the subject, using a telephoto lens, using a different angle or vantage-point, decreasing the depth of field, and choosing between color versus monochrome. He also emphasized the importance of using elements that would bring the viewer into a picture (e.g., lead-in lines that work for a vertical image, but do not for a horizontal image) and cause the viewer to remain within a picture (e.g., repeating

elements) and to avoid elements that take the viewer away from the main focus (e.g., bright or light colors elsewhere--especially on the edges of the frame). Goell also discussed the rule-of-thirds and indicated that such a rule was not rigid. Although skewed or eccentric placement of the main focus introduces dynamism and surprise, symmetry can be used as a carefully planned element of composition. He encouraged participants to work a subject by looking at the subject from multiple viewpoints (angles, levels, and distances) and with different directional light. He highlighted the importance of practicing these skills so that the likelihood of recognizing and capturing "the moment" would increase.

Mr. Goell maintains an extensive teaching regimen of both daytime and evening classes at Montgomery College from Fall to Spring. He also teaches some shorter courses (7 weeks) during the summer. Custom workshops can be arranged--with the cost dependent on group size, location, and length. Mr. Goell also indicated that Montgomery College has a large auditorium with extensive audio-visual capabilities that might be available and desirable for (inter)camera club activities.

Beth Koller has printed copies of the handouts on composition provided by Joe Miller (Northern Virginia). The cost reflects the printing costs (\$3 for the 30-page article; \$2 each for the shorter articles) and is similar to that charged by Mr. Miller.

P.S. Many thanks to Jerry Fath, who secured permission to use the church.

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