



FOCUS

Editor: Judy Edwards

July/August 2012

CCC WILL WELCOME BILL PROSSER IN JULY

Bill has been a serious amateur photographer for over 35 years. Beginning in the early 1970's, he studied under a number of Northern Virginia teachers and mentors as well as Canadian, Freeman Patterson. In 1995, he gave up the chemical darkroom for the computer. And, in 2000, he gave up film for the digital chip after learning Photoshop and working with photographic images in his digital darkroom.

Also, in 1995, Bill began his current volunteer work at McLean High School where he teaches Photoshop, photography, and mentors students in visual design.

He served as a teaching assistant for several Smithsonian Institution Photoshop Classes. He is a founding member and past-president of the McLean Photography Club and a 20+ year member and board member of the Northern Virginia Photographic Society (NVPS).

Bill is a Northern Virginia Association of Camera Club certified judge and has judged competitions for most of the camera clubs in the area. In recent years, he has earned numerous NVPS Photographer of the Year and Image of the Year awards. In 2011 he was named Monochrome Photographer of the Year by NVPS.

His images have been exhibited at numerous venues including: University of Wisconsin-Madison, Joe Miller's First Annual Abstract Photography Exhibition as well as several

Fairfax County venues including a 2011 exhibition of black and white prints, Unseen Extracts-Mclean, VA at the McLean Project for the Arts in the McLean Community Center. Georgetown University purchased seven of Bill's Washington, DC images to hang in its Graduate Public Policy Institute offices. Additionally, Bill's work has been published in the National Geographic Traveler Magazine and AAA World Magazine.

Bill's presentation will cover how to use the criteria that judges use, to help guide the way we take pictures for CCC competitions.

RICHARD KNOX ROBINSON PRESENTS AT JULY MEETING



Richard Knox Robinson Photo by Dave Lyster

Richard Knox Robinson is an award winning photographer and filmmaker based near Charlottesville. His first film, *The Beekeepers*,

premiered at Sundance in 2009 in the New Frontiers Shorts Program and went on to screen in Toronto and Telluride, winning Best Short Documentary at The Atlanta Film Festival. His first feature film, *Rothstein's First Assignment* was nominated for the special jury prize at the Seattle International Film Festival in 2011. He was awarded a Virginia Museum of Fine Arts Fellowship for his films in 2012.

Robinson's photography has been published and exhibited widely, appearing in numerous publications including *Time*, *Smithsonian*, *National Geographic Traveler* and *The Washington Post Magazine* as well as in the photography annuals, *Communication Arts* and *American Photography*.

Robinson earned his MFA in Photography and Film from Virginia Commonwealth University in December 2008. In addition to completing two residencies at the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts, he has taught at Randolph College, the University of Virginia, VCU and Washington and Lee University.

During his visit to CCC in July, Richard judged the assigned topic "Street Photography," and presented what he discovered when he produced his documentary *Rothstein's First Assignment*, which examines 1930's photographer Arthur Rothstein's experience documenting mountain folk displaced by the creation of Shenandoah National Park. Although Richard's film was too long to show at our meeting, the OLLI/UVA program for seniors offers special programs open to the public free (call 923-3600 or e-mail your name and e-mail address to olliuva@virginia.edu to make your reservation). On September 28, from 2:00—4:00, and the Meadows Presbyterian Church, OLLI will present the film, *Rothstein's First Assignment*, with a Q & A by Richard Knox Robinson. As he researched this topic, Richard discovered much more than he had expected about what went on behind the scenes of the relocation of Shenandoah residents. This is well worth attending.

Richard Knox Robinson website:
<http://www.robinsonphoto.com>

PRESIDENT'S MUSINGS

Lessons learned at my first "on location" photography workshop:

My first discovery is that four o'clock comes very early when you go to bed late the night before. However the sunrise at Dolly Sods was spectacular. Six hardy souls along with Joe Rossbach spent Friday night to Sunday night taking pictures and learning software tricks at Canaan Valley, WV.

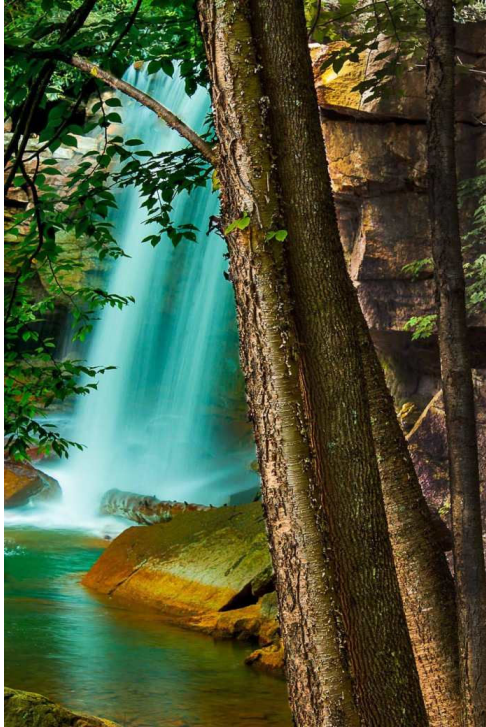
As a beginning photographer--yes I am a beginner--there are a lot of little things where you think, "Oh, so that's how they do that."

- To get good photos it takes time and hard work.



West Virginia Workshop photo by Gordon Putnam

- You hurry up to get to your spot, wait, and it may not work. Sunsets did not work out very well for us. Saturday we waited, but only Joe (the professional with his magic) came away with a photo that was printable. Sunday we actually left early.



Douglas Falls, West Virginia. Photo by Gordon Putnam

- A professional photographer is a professional for a reason, they're good and they make it look easy.
- With a professional's help you can do some amazing things yourself. I have some really nice photos from the trip and I'm a beginner, remember.
- Consider purchasing insurance if you have expensive gear. Slipping in the river, a tripod slowly falling over and not zipping up a backpack all led to damaged equipment.
- In Canaan Valley, WV they pull the sidewalks in early. That means that the restaurants close by 9:00. And did I mention that they don't take credit cards? However, the food was very good and the staff was very hospitable.
- To get to some spots to take the perfect picture, it helps if you're a mountain goat. We had to go down some extremely steep hillsides and slippery rocks to get to a couple of waterfalls. Going across the rocks had

its hazards (the damaged equipment and bodies).

- Camera Club folks are a lot of fun. I look forward to the next adventure.

All in all it is more than worthwhile to learn from a professional. The camera club is hoping to sponsor some more photo excursions and workshops. One last discovery, workshops don't have to be expensive. Our last local workshop by Gerry Bishop on exposure was excellent and reaffirmed some of the things I learned the week before. So be on the lookout for upcoming workshops and excursions; see you there.

Gordon

MEETING INFORMATION

CAMERA CLUB MEETINGS: 2nd Thursday of the month at 6:00 p.m. Dinner at Appleby's, 5:00 pm. Each month, all entries in the Creative category will be projected and all entries in the Open category will be displayed as prints. Assigned entries will alternate as noted below.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 9, 2012

ASSIGNMENT: TRANSLUCENCE

PROJECTED

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2012

ASSIGNMENT: A SLICE OF SOMETHING (PANORAMA)

PRINTS

You will receive two points for each entry in the Assigned topic, and one point for entries in the Open and Creative categories. You may submit only ONE (1) entry per category.

TRANSLUCENCE: Light that's shining through something can reveal qualities in an object that are otherwise hidden. Since photography is all about light, we photographers may notice the magic of translucence more often than others. But what can you discover anew about translucence, how well can you capture what you see, and how well can you reveal it to others?

A SLICE OF SOMETHING: Panoramic photography is a technique that captures a long and narrow perspective of the landscape or

other subject. It can be either horizontal or vertical. Panoramas are created by stitching together several photographs or by cropping a "slice" out of the middle (or bottom or top) of a photo taken with a fairly wide-angle lens. (See Gerry Bishop's article in this issue.)

AWARDS FOR COMPETITION: JUNE, 2012

JUDGE: BEN GREENBERG

ASSIGNED TOPIC: IN THE MAKING

COLOR AND/OR MONOCHROME PRINTS & CREATIVE

ASSIGNED A

- 1 Jim Demas
- 2 Gordan Putnam
- 3 Jim Sullivan
- HM Gerry Bishop

ASSIGNED B

Lydia Handsfield
Deborah Kellams

OPEN A

- 1 Gerry Bishop
- 2 Deb Snelson
- 3 Jim Sullivan
- HM Jim Simmons

OPEN B

Ginger Coffey Thompson
David Katz

CREATIVE

- 1 Robert Fehnel
- 2 Jim Sullivan
- 3 Gerry Bishop

AWARDS FOR COMPETITION: JULY, 2012

JUDGE: RICHARD KNOX ROBINSON

ASSIGNED TOPIC: STREET PHOTOGRAPHY

COLOR AND/OR MONOCHROME PRINTS & CREATIVE

ASSIGNED A

- 1 Pat Temples
- 2 Deb Snelson
- 3 Dave Lyster

ASSIGNED B

Diana Rockwell

OPEN A

- 1 John Hulburt
- 2 Gerry Bishop
- 3 Jim Marshall
- HM Jim Sullivan

OPEN B

Lydia Handsfield

CREATIVE

- 1 Ginger Ferrell
- 2 Robert Fehnel
- 3 Dave Lyster

**SILENT AUCTION BRINGS
NEW LAPTOP FOR CCC**

CCC's first Silent Auction, held at the June meeting, was a great success in that it enabled the club to buy a laptop and software to use for showing both presentations by speakers, and the projected entries for the monthly competitions. Many thanks to Gerry Bishop for the months (years?) of lugging his personal computer from meeting to workshop, and setting everything up for every meeting. Also, many thanks to those of you who contributed and/or purchased items at the Silent Auction. Including the sale of Dudley's Rolliflex on eBay, the auction earned a total of \$860.15.



Ben Greenberg judged the June entries; there was no speaker. (Thanks, Ben!
Photo by Dave Lyster



CCC member Leslie Buchanan looks over auction offerings. Photo by Dave Lyster.

SHOOTING PANORAMIC IMAGES

By Gerry Bishop

As you may know, the theme for the Assigned competition in September is entitled “A Slice of Something,” which will test your ability to capture an award-winning panoramic image. We won’t be holding a workshop on making panoramas, but this brief article will provide you with some basic tips and good sources of techniques easily found on the Web.

One way to make a panoramic image is to truly “take a slice.” You can photograph a scene with a wide angle lens and then crop away the top, the bottom, or both the top and bottom of your image to produce a long, narrow view of the subject. This method is ultra simple but not very effective, because the final image will be so low in resolution that you may not be able to blow it up to any reasonable size (unless, perhaps, you’re shooting a pro-level camera with a very high pixel count).

A far better way to make a panorama is to shoot a sequence of images and then stitch them together using the proper software. The

result will be an image of high resolution that can be blown up to impressive sizes. (Note: Many point-and-shoot cameras offer an in-camera panorama stitching function, but the results are inferior.)

Because so much good information on making panoramas is available on the Web, I’ll simply list a few tips and then direct you to some of the sites I’ve viewed and have found to be helpful.

Tips for shooting panoramas

1. Mount a lens with a focal length of around 50mm on your camera, or set a zoom lens to about that length. Do not use a polarizer (which can cause problems with the sky).
2. Mount the camera on a level tripod.
3. Pan your camera from the beginning point to the end point of your intended image to check the level. (You shouldn’t have to move the camera up or down between the first and last image to keep the horizon* on line.) Adjust the tripod if necessary.
4. Set both your focus mode and your exposure mode to Manual.
5. Find a part of the scene you intend to photograph where the lighting seems representative and take a test shot. View your histogram and adjust the exposure manually as needed. Do not change this setting from one photo to the next.
6. Beginning at either end of the scene, take your first photo. Move the camera horizontally* so that the next frame overlaps the previous frame by 20 to 30%. (If you’re using a lens set to a wide-angle focal length you’ll have to overlap by about 50%.)
7. If the lighting changes while shooting the sequence (say a cloud blocks the sun), reshoot the entire series of images until you’re confident all the shots will be close to the same exposure.

**Applies to taking horizontal subjects, of course—recognizing that you can also take panos of vertical subjects as well.*

Stitching the images together

To stitch your series of images into a single panoramic image, you'll need to use stitching software. Photoshop has its version, but there are others available—some of them free. For whatever software you use, you can find a tutorial on the Web that will lead you through the process step by step. Some tutorials are among the sites that I've listed below.

For more information

Some of this information is basic and some is more advanced; some is on taking the images and some is on using software to stitch. Take your pick!

- <http://www.luminous-landscape.com/tutorials/stitching.shtml>
- <http://www.cambridgeincolour.com/tutorials/digital-panoramas.htm>
- <http://digital-photography-school.com/8-guidelines-to-taking-panoramic-photos-with-any-camera>
- [How To Shoot Panoramic Photos « Mark Zanzig's Photo Blog](http://HowToShootPanoramicPhotos.com)
- <http://mostlylisa.com/blog/anpw-how-to-shoot-a-panoramic-with-scott-stulberg/>
- <http://www.smashandpeas.com/how-to-shoot-a-stitched-panorama/>
- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WoQNL-VsvJA>
- http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YnabeRI3PhU&feature=results_main&playnext=1&list=PL36DAA5874A55DDAD
- <http://digital-photography-school.com/creating-a-panorama-with-photoshop-and-photomerge>

CCC MINUTES

July 12, 2012

39 attended.

John Hulburt announced that there is \$4309.95 in our account and that we are on budget. We have 78 paid members.

It was announced that there will be no workshop for July or August. Judy will present a workshop in September on mats.

Gordon discussed the recent workshop given by Joe Rossbach and recommended insurance for camera equipment. He also reminded the membership of the Brian Zwit workshop in November and encouraged people to sign up soon. We will need to notify Mr. Zwit if we cannot meet his minimum number of participants.

Judy announced that due to the storm, there will be no FOCUS this month. She will have a double issue next month to include what was missed.

Jim S discussed that the revised bylaws and constitution are ready. They will be submitted to the membership for review. He requested that any concerns or recommendations for changes be sent to him. A 2nd email with changes will be sent 10 days prior to the August meeting for voting at that meeting.

Jim Fergus introduced the judge and speaker, Richard Knox Robinson.

Marcia Molnar, Secretary

JUNE EXPOSURE WORKSHOP INFORMATIVE

On June 27 Gerry Bishop presented a workshop called "Getting the Right Exposure—and What to Do When You Can't!" He covered how to use your camera controls to get ideal exposures, capturing images when the tonal range of your subject is too great, and how to process these images afterward for the best possible results.

WEDNESDAY EVENING WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

Unless otherwise noted, meetings are on Wednesdays at the Northside Library, from 7:00-8:30 pm.

(There will be no workshops in July and August.

Wednesday, September 26, McIntire

Topic: How to Mat a Print for Competition

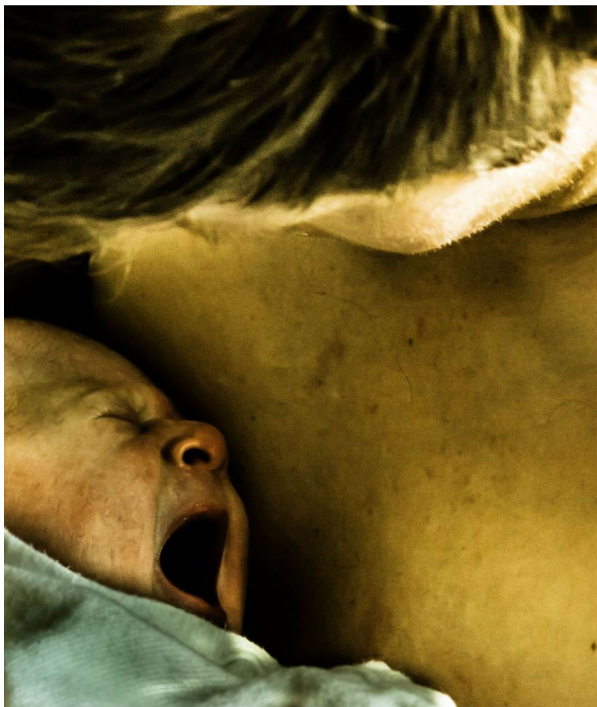
Presented by: Judy Edwards

October workshop TBA

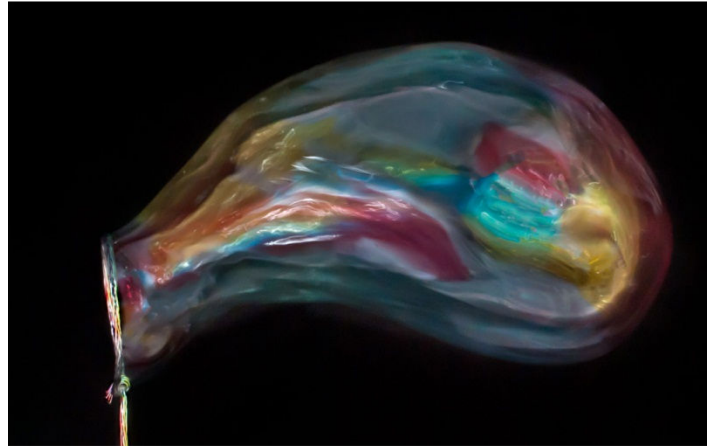
WINNERS' GALLERY
JUNE
ASSIGNED TOPIC: IN THE MAKING



1st Assigned A, Jim Demas, "Decisions"



2nd Assigned A, Gordon Putnam, "Becoming a Father"



3rd Assigned A, Jim Sullivan, "Birth of a Bubble"



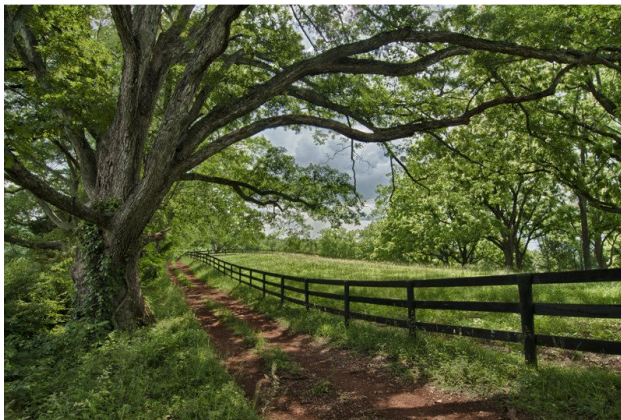
HM Assigned A, Gerry Bishop, "A Watched Pot"



1st Assigned B, Lydia Handsfield, "Para Coffee in the Making"



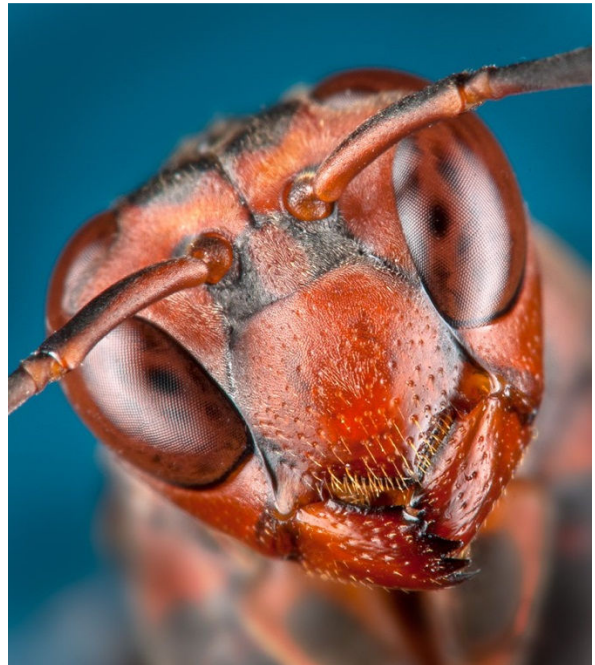
2nd Assigned B, Deborah Kellams, "Blue Hydrangea"



1st Open A, Gerry Bishop, "Montpelier Road"



2nd Open A, Deborah Snelson, "Silver Liffey"



3rd Open A, Jim Sullivan, "Anybody Home?"



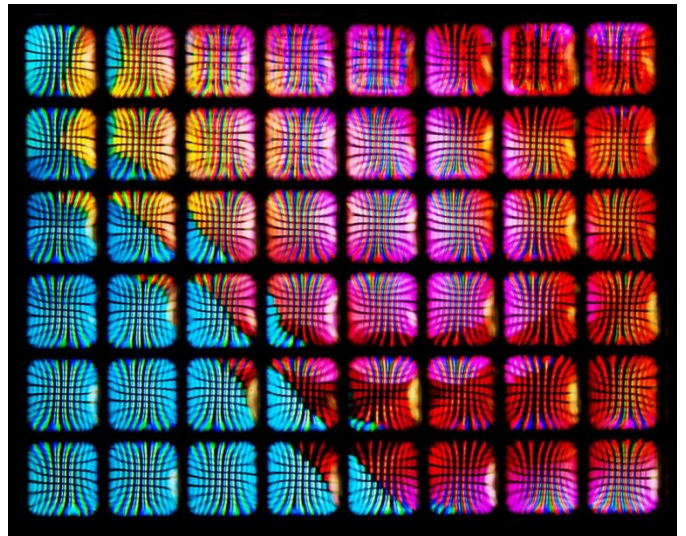
HM Open A, Jim Simmons, "White Peony in Full Bloom"



1st Open B, Ginger Coffey Thompson, "Garden Goddess"



1st Creative, Robert Fehnel, "Disappointed Phanatic"



2nd Creative, Jim Sullivan, "Pixel Quilt"



2nd Open B, Dave Katz, "Nailed It!"



3rd Creative, Gerry Bishop, "Watch Your Manners!"

JULY
ASSIGNED TOPIC: STREET PHOTOGRAPHY



1st Assigned A, Pat Temples, "Umbrellas in Umbria"



2nd Assigned A, Deb Snelson, "Who Me?"



3rd Assigned A, David Lyster, "Morris Men"



1st Assigned B, Diana Rockwell, "Home Alone"



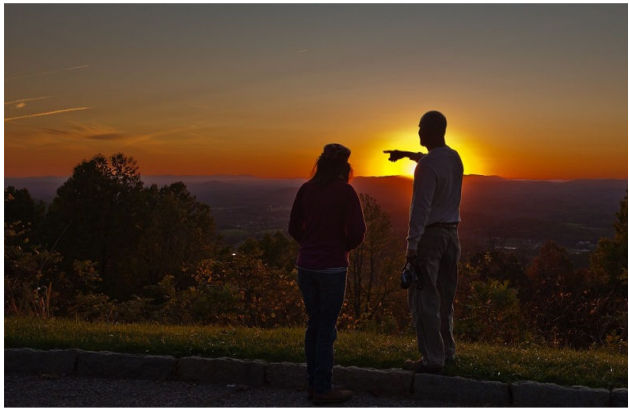
1st Open A, John Hulburt, "Mates for Life"



2nd Open A, Gerry Bishop, "Raven and Sun Rays"



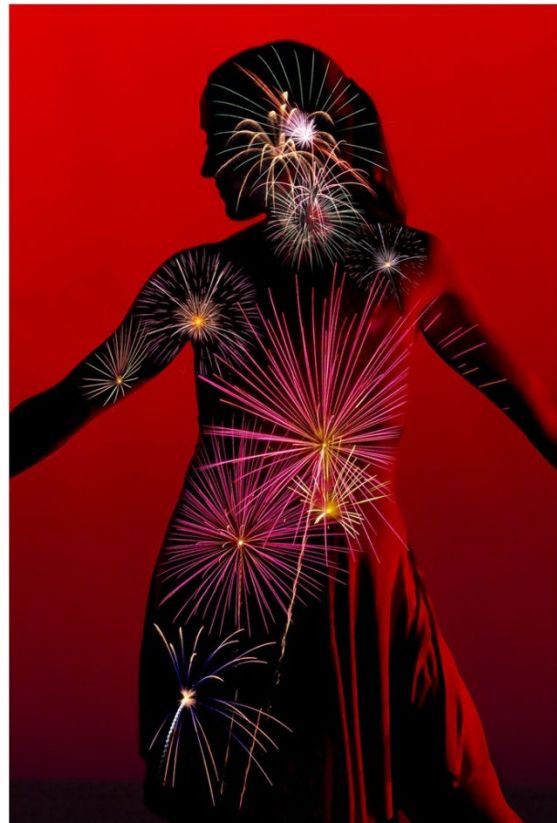
1st Creative, Ginger Ferrell, "Water Tower, NC"



3rd Open A, Jim Marshall, "Charlottesville Is East"



HM Open A, Jim Sullivan, "Chroma"



2nd Creative, Robert Fehnel, "Dancer Bursting with Light"



3rd Creative, David Lyster, Untitled

ANNOUNCEMENTS/EVENTS

CRAFT & VISION IN DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY
WITH HAROLD DAVIS: *Sponsored by the
Camera Club of Richmond, Richmond, VA*
When: Saturday, September 15, 2012, 10AM–
4PM

Where: The Historic Byrd Theatre 2908 West
Cary Street Richmond, VA

Tuition: \$60 (Box lunch also available at
additional nominal cost)

Registration: Go to

<http://www.meetup.com/Harold-Davis/events/68854842>

History and art are coming together with the technologies of our digital age. In this workshop presentation, master photographer, digital artist, and bestselling author Harold Davis will discuss the synergy between handcrafted work and state-of-the-art digital technology in light of historic trends.

He will use his stunning and unusual work as case studies in creativity. He will reveal the secrets behind his imagery, and explain how his unique creative methods enable him to get results that no one else can.

Hands-on guided exercises (no camera required) will help participants access the sources of their *own creativity—and start to road map the skills to accomplish their own vision.*

HOT AIR BALLOON FESTIVAL, SATURDAY,
AUGUST 18 AT 7:00 AM In Bealton, VA,
approximately 60 miles NE of Northside Library,
C'ville. Address is 5114 Ritchie Road, Bealton,
22712. Great photo ops! Adult admission
\$15.00. Hot air balloon rides are available,
weather permitting. Prices negotiated with the
flyers. See website below for more information.
<http://www.flyingcircusairshow.com/balloon.html>

SEMINAR ON CAMERA CLUB JUDGING
PRESENTED BY JOE MILLER: Competitions are
among the most popular activities at camera
clubs, and with the help of a competent judge,
these events can be educational not only for
the competitors but also for the audience.

In past years NVACC offered seminars to train
interested individuals in becoming camera club
judges and has maintained on its website a list
of judges who successfully completed previous
NVACC training sessions. More recently, NVACC
has received frequent requests to offer another
series of Seminars on Camera Club Judging—not
just for those interested in becoming camera
club judges, but also for those wanting to know
more about the nuances and subtleties of
camera club competitions, but do not want to
become a judge.

As a result, several five hour Seminars on
Camera Club Judging will be held in the fall of
2012 from 1:00pm to 6:00pm at the Joseph
Miller Center for the Photographic Arts, 4811
Catharpin Road, Gainesville, VA 20155. Phone:
703-754-7598, email: furnfoto@AOL.com.

The seminar dates are:

Seminar I Saturday October 20, 2012.

Seminar II Saturday October 27, 2012

Seminar III Saturday November 10, 2012

Seminar IV Saturday December 1, 2012.

Since attendance will be limited to 12
participants per session to allow for attendee
participation, it is important to register
promptly to assure a place in the seminar of
your choice. To register please send a check for

\$50 payable to JM CENTER, 4811 Catharpin Road, Gainesville, VA 20155 and indicate your preferred seminar date on the check. Provide an email address for confirmation of your reservation to be sent back to you.

BRIAN ZWIT TO PRESENT LIGHTROOM WORKSHOP IN NOVEMBER: This is a reminder about the Lightroom workshop that is being offered in November. Our instructor, Brian Zwit, is great at teaching Lightroom. He is offering an 8-hour workshop that will give even newcomers to Lightroom the skills they need to use it effectively, and to learn to love it. I know. I was one of those who was skeptical that I

could ever understand that program. I use it all the time now and I love it. I love it for cataloging, for editing, and for creating books and slideshows. It is so versatile, it's everything you need. Please consider signing up for this workshop. At \$125, it is a real bargain.

November 9, 2012. 9am to 5pm. This workshop will be held at a driving school classroom we have found that is near the Barracks Road Shopping Center. More details will come closer to the event.

Thanks,
Pat Temples

CCC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND OFFICERS:

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CCC Website: www.c-villecameraclub.org

(The Charlottesville Camera Club is an organization that fosters photography as an art, a hobby, or a vocation, by instruction and by sharing of knowledge and experience. Membership is open to anyone interested in photography. The club is not associated with any other organization or venue.)