



FOCUS

Editor: Judy Edwards

September, 2012

NORTHERN VIRGINIA PHOTOGRAPHER MATTHEW SCHMIDT TO SPEAK IN SEPTEMBER

Matt is both a computer professional and an amateur photographer with a wide variety of photographic interests. During the winter months he often shoots indoors, mostly macro and still life, while in warmer months he shoots outdoors, enjoying landscapes, action and motorsports. Over the last several years he has been developing his skills with more artistic photographic interpretations, incorporating panning, multiple exposures and montages into his portfolio.



Matthew Schmidt, web photo

Although he works in a technical field, he has taken a great interest in art, studying the masters in painting and photography. He has begun to apply those interpretations, compositional and lighting techniques to his photography.

Matt is an active member of NVPS, is a current

board member and has held a board position for six of the last seven years. He is currently one of the webmasters and has been the Digital Competition Coordinator, PSA Rep, Co-VP for Competition and the Workshops, Education and Training Coordinator. Matt is a PSA member and has attended the PSA Image Analysis course and the JMCPA Judging Seminar. The current NVACC website is designed and maintained by Matt.

AWARDS FOR COMPETITION

JUDGE: BILL PROSSER

ASSIGNED TOPIC: TRANSLUCENCE

COLOR AND/OR MONOCHROME PRINTS & CREATIVE

ASSIGNED A

- 1 Gerry Bishop
- 2 David Lyster
- 3 Deb Snelson

ASSIGNED B

Chris Hogger
Deborah Kellams

OPEN A

- 1 Gerry Bishop
 - 2 Deb Snelson
 - 3 Jim Marshall
- HM Robert Fehnel

OPEN B

Peter Clark
Mariah Dean
Rick Seaman

CREATIVE

- 1 Deb Snelson
- 2 Gordon Putnam
- 3 Jim Sullivan

Matt defines his role of a judge in the following paragraphs:

"I see the camera club judge as a teacher or educator, inspiring others to achieve greater

skills and to improve their technique. A judge should be a student of the visual arts with an ability to articulate decisions in a constructive manner appropriate for the skill level of the photographers being critiqued. It *is incumbent on the judge to be open-minded concerning the images, decisive in making choices and respectful of the competitors and their emotional investment in their images.*

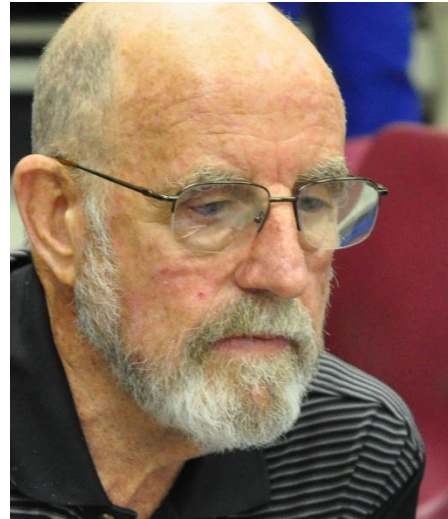
Criticism is a necessary element of judging, and I strive to make any criticisms specific and constructive. I evaluate the mastery of the technique(s) employed, and I look for photographers to expose something of themselves in their work. In addition I look for an emotional connection with the image that will last, not just immediate impact. I try to pick images that I would be willing to put on my wall and look at day after day."

His presentation is titled, *Montages, Interpreting Reality*. Making a montage is the art of composing pictures by the superimposition or juxtaposition of miscellaneous elements, such as other photographs. He will cover several different ways of producing montages, each with specific instructions on how to use Photoshop to create these effects. See his website at: http://www.nvacc.org/Matthew_G._Schmidt.html

BILL PROSSER JUDGE AND SPEAKER IN AUGUST

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. He has completed the Joe Miller course on judging for camera clubs, and has also had much experience both as a judge and as a camera club member; Bill critiqued the entries as though he expected that every

person who submitted a photograph had entered his or her highest quality work. It was very educational and should keep CCC photographers on their toes!



Bill judging at August meeting. Photo by Dave Lyster

Bill's presentation was based on the 4 C's of *Communication, Creativity, Composition, and Craftsmanship*. His theme was to help guide camera club members to produce images which are excellent in all four of those areas. He went over each of the criteria and projected examples of photographs he had entered, and images he had decided were not good enough to enter.

MEETING INFORMATION

CAMERA CLUB MEETINGS: 2ND Thursday of every month at 6:00 p.m. at the Senior Center. Dinner before meeting at 5:00 pm. Assigned, Open, and Creative Digital and Print entries as announced. 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, SEPTEMBER 13

**ASSIGNMENT: A SLICE OF SOMETHING (PANORAMA)
PRINTS**

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11

**ASSIGNMENT: ROADS LESS TRAVELLED
PROJECTED**

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 July/August FOCUS for more information on how to create a panorama.)

ROADS LESS TRAVELLED: "Off the beaten track," "blue highways," "back roads"--these byways and the scenes that lie along them provide good subjects for photos that reveal a different texture of life. Get off the main roads and see what you can find. The road itself may or may not be the main subject, and an image may qualify even without a road being visible, but it must suggest "by the side of a back road" to the viewer.

PRESIDENT'S MUSINGS

My wife and I went to San Diego this summer to visit my brother and sister. I thought this would be a great opportunity to get some photography work in. I stayed at my brother's home and the sunrise came up right over his back yard. However there were not so beautiful clouds every morning hiding it. The weather report said there would be fog one morning in the harbor. We got up early and went down there to discover no fog. Also the sunrise in the east was on the other side of the downtown skyscrapers. We went to Coronado to take pictures of the downtown skyline at night. I may have gotten a picture or two there.

I have said it before it is not always easy to get a good picture. It takes a certain amount of luck. But more often it takes planning. When I finally got a few pictures I had done some planning. I had been on a web site that gave explicit instructions where to go and how to take pictures of the San Diego night skyline. The minor success came when I went to Coronado

and found the beach that the instructions identified.

Next you need to have the right equipment. I finally got myself a relatively good tripod. It is amazing how much better some of my pictures look when I use a tripod. I had three lenses, and I used my new wide angle one the most. It gave me some interesting shots. However in hindsight I should have used my telephoto lens and my panorama software to get a much clearer picture of the night-lights.

Each month as we have our pictures judged, presentations, and workshops I discover that I know less and less. It is an ongoing process and when you consider the number of years some of you have been doing this, I look forward to retirement.

Gordon

WEDNESDAY EVENING WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

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

Wednesday, September 26

McIntire Library

Topic: "Preparing a Print for Competition" (measuring, cutting, putting together, and saving for a future print)

Presenter: Judy Edwards (more information to follow)

Wednesday, October 17

Topic: TBA

Wednesday, November 28

McIntire Library

Topic: TBA

CCC MINUTES

8/9/12

--John Hulburt reported that there is \$3923.69 in our account. There are 80 members. We had

a revenue of \$4475.00 (\$3500.00 in dues, \$115.00 donation, \$860.15 silent auction).
--Rick Seaman announced that we had 7 guests.
--Gerry Bishop announced that Judy Edwards would be giving a workshop on matts 9/26 at 7pm at McIntire Library. He also has a card for a discount at Skyline. He asked for interested parties to contact him.
--We have 1 person signed up for the Brian Zwit workshop on Lightroom. We encourage others to sign up soon.
--Jim Simmons discussed the bylaws and the procedure for review of the revisions. He moved that the club approve the 7/25/12 revisions. Judy Edwards seconded the motion. It was passed unanimously by the club.
--Jim Fergus announced the judge, Bill Prosser.
Submitted by,
Marcia Molnar,
Secretary

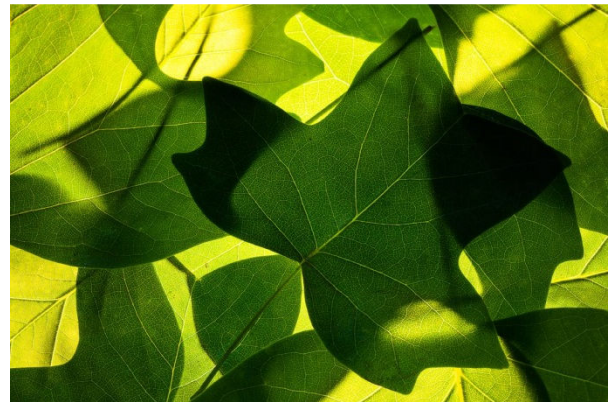
WINNERS' GALLERY
AUGUST, 2012
TOPIC: LUMINESCENCE
JUDGE: BILL PROSSER



1st Assigned A, Gerry Bishop, "Sunny Morning"



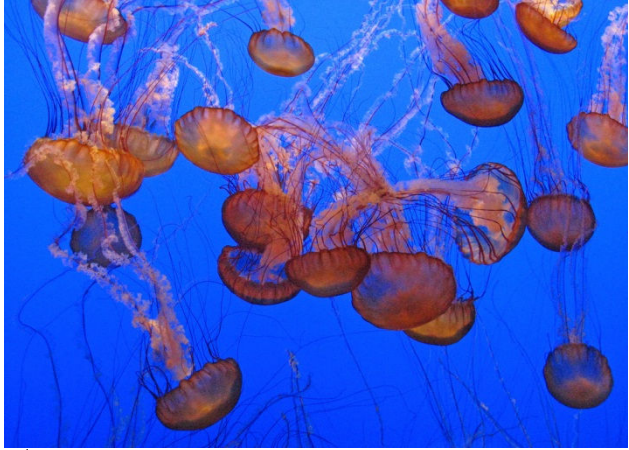
2nd Assigned A, David Lyster, "Gerbera Daisy"



3rd Assigned A, Deb Snelson, "Shining Through"



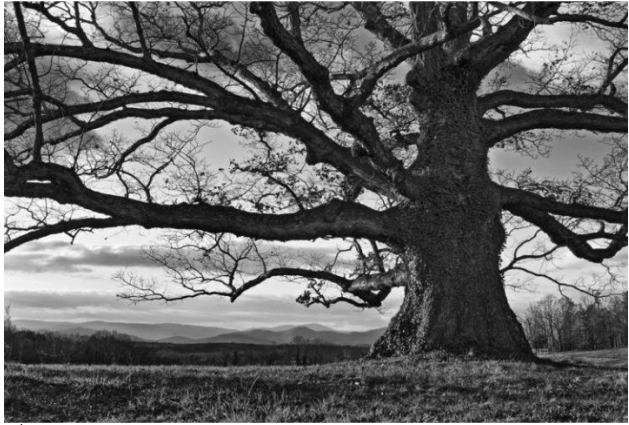
1st Assigned B, Chris Hogger, "Redbud Pods"



2nd Assigned B, Deborah Kellams, "Free Fall"



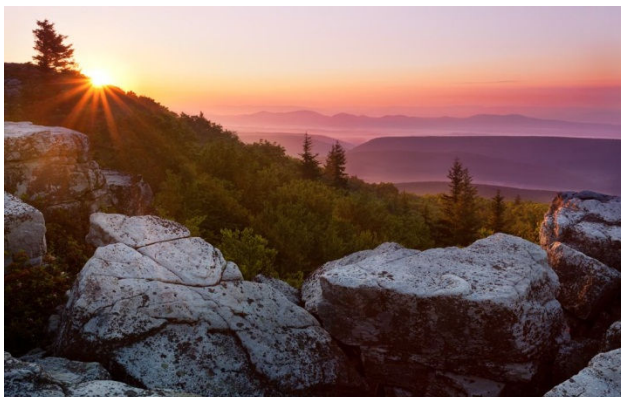
3rd Open A, Jim Marshall, "Blue Ridge Columbine"



1st Open A, Gerry Bishop, "A View from Earlysville Oak"



HM Open A, Robert Fehnel, "Angry Homer"



2nd Open A, Deb Snelson, "Rosy Dawn over Alleghany Mountains"



1st Open B, Peter Clark, "Monterey Shed"



2nd Open B, Mariah Dean, "Boat Geometry"



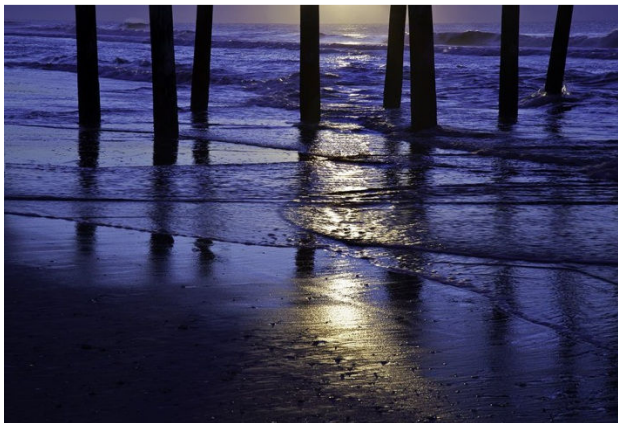
2nd Creative, Gordon Putnam, "Home Run Swing"



3rd Creative, Jim Sullivan, "Psychedelic Serpent"



3rd Open B, Rick Seaman, "Miriam"



1st Creative, Deb Snelson, "Midnight Moon"

ANNOUNCEMENTS/EVENTS

NATURE VISIONS 2012 will be held November 9 - 11, at the Hylton Performing Arts Center on the Prince William Campus, George Mason University, Manassas, Virginia. The Expo is a three day event showcasing the photographic work of Northern Virginia's wildlife photographers. The centerpiece of the Expo is a display of approximately three hundred images that have been selected by a panel of jurors.

The Expo also offers two full days of lectures and workshops by noted photographers and several unique activities including photographers having the chance to photograph hawks, owls and other raptors. Thanks to the *Raptor Conservancy of Virginia*, photographers can focus their cameras on these magnificent wild birds in a natural setting just outside the Hylton Center. Numerous vendors will be on hand to display the latest in photographic equipment and technology.

The Expo will kick off on Friday, November 9 with a full day seminar conducted by Seth Resnick. Seth is considered one of the 30 most influential photographers of the decade and is one of 78 photographers worldwide named as a "Canon Explorer of Light" photographer. Seth will also give the keynote address on Saturday afternoon. Lectures will be held all day Saturday and Sunday.

Specific information concerning registration, hours of operation, lectures and workshops, etc., will be posted on the Nature Visions website at www.naturevisions.org when it becomes available.

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.

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.

Cost: \$125.

Date and Location: November 9, 2012. 9am to 5pm. This workshop will be held at a driving school classroom near the Barracks Road Shopping Center. More details to come.

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.)