



FOCUS

Editor: Judy Edwards

January , 2015

Editor's Note: Correction from December FOCUS: Open B winners were Beth Bass and Paul Grimm.

DUES NOTICE!!!! DUES NOTICE!!!

Dues for the 2015 calendar year are now due and payable.

The dues schedule is as follows: (prorated dues are for new members only)

\$48.00 - Individual; \$78.00 - Couple; \$12.00 - Student

Dues are payable to Charlottesville Camera Club and may be mailed to our Treasurer, John Hulburt, 2274 Garth Road, Charlottesville, Va. 22901 - or you may give them (CHECKS ONLY) to John at our meeting Thursday evening - January 8th, 2015.

A REMINDER - YOUR DUES MUST BE PAID BY THE JANUARY 8TH MEETING IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN OUR MONTHLY COMPETITIONS!!!

WARREN STANDLEY END OF YEAR JUDGE

At the December meeting we welcomed long time judge and speaker for CCC, Warren Standley who executed his usual outstanding job of judging our end of year winners.



Warren sweating over his decisions. Photo by Gene Runion

As a judge, Warren pointed out that these images were "the best of the best" from the prior year, and as a result he was able to be very complimentary. As he critiqued each image, he was specific about his reasons for

keeping it in contention or eliminating it, such as "it lacks the emotional impact of some of the others," or, "nicely executed but there are stronger images in here." Warren is very articulate, speaks quickly and explains clearly. It was refreshing to have our first "comparison" judging in a year. In this case, if they had been judged using our number system, every entry may have received a "5"!

Disappointingly, we had only one entry in the Shyan Award category. Luckily all of Beth Bass's photos were outstanding, and no one feels that she didn't earn the award, but considering the number of outstanding B photographers we have, I was surprised that there weren't more entries.

Many thanks to Warren, and congratulations to all of the winners who gave us an evening to remember.

**END OF YEAR AWARDS
JUDGE: WARREN STANDLEY**

**ROTHMAN PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR:
DEBRA SNELSON**

B PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR: BETH BASS

SHYAN AWARD: BETH BASS

BEST PRINT: HOWARD GUTGESELL

BEST PROJECTED IMAGE: DEBRA SNELSON

BEST CREATIVE IMAGE: JIM DEMAS



Beth Bass, Shyan Award, *Undulating*

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WINNERS!



Beth Bass, Shyan Award, *Japanese Maple on Fern*



Beth Bass, Shyan Award, *Winter Storm at Coral Cove*



Best Print 2014, Howard Gutgesell, *Milky Way*



Best Creative 2014, Jim Demas, *Contemplation*



Best projected image 2014, Deb Snelson, *Night Lights*

MEETING INFORMATION

CAMERA CLUB MEETINGS: 2nd Thursday of the month at 6:00 p.m. Dinner at Appleby's, 5:00 pm.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 8, 2015

ASSIGNMENT: CHANGING SEASONS

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2015

ASSIGNMENT: TOOLS OF THE TRADE

You may submit only ONE (1) entry per category. All Assigned and Creative entries will be projected. Open entries may be either projected or printed and matted.

CHANGING SEASONS: Fall colors have arrived so there will be plenty of opportunities for capturing the full beauty of the foliage, or think of kids playing in a leaf pile, a family picking apples, colors along the edge of a field. Challenge yourself and seek something a bit out of the ordinary: the last leaf clinging to a branch, a squirrel burying a nut, or the fine textures in dry and shriveled leaves of a forest floor. Winter is also on the way, with many chances for photos of seasonal change; the first snow coating a tired and sagging jack-o-lantern, ice from the first winter storm clinging to dried weeds, and people huddling against the cold while shopping for gifts.

TOOLS OF THE TRADE: What are "Tools of the Trade?" Any implement, instrument, or piece of equipment used to create, repair, build, or perform. For instance, ballet shoes—with or without the ballerina. How about a violin or piano with their

musical scores? An easel with painting materials, or the hand of an artist holding a paintbrush. Anything used by--or being used by--a skilled craftsman, such as a carpenter, telephone linesman, farmer, or mechanic. Look around you; there are examples everywhere. Use your photography skills (and tools!) to make these images speak.

DENISE SILVA TO JUDGE IN JANUARY

Photographer Denise Silva will judge and present at our first meeting of 2015. She writes on her website,

“For me, photography is an extension of who I am. I find it meditative, creative, challenging, and rewarding from the associated travel through the visualization of a composition to the post processing and production of the final image. I can honestly say that my passion is to capture everything I see. I enjoy the natural world, with endless landscapes, waterscapes, and animal wonders, but am just as likely to be found roaming the city shooting street scenes, people, and “urban-cityscapes.

“One aspect of photography that I enjoy the most is sharing the experience with friends. Traveling with, shooting with, comparing with friends keeps me motivated and excited about photography, as I am constantly learning new things. To me, these experiences are inspirational and I believe they can elevate each participant’s photography to the next level.

“To this end, Don (Rosenberger) and I, encouraged by friends; started a photography tour business, *Road Runner Photography Tours*.”

The presentation topic will be *Textures and Blending*. This presentation will focus on various techniques to blend textures and images

together. Each technique discussed is also demonstrated so the participants can see just how simple the process can be. At the end, there will be a short video that demonstrates how to use all the techniques to develop a detailed composite image.

It would be worthwhile to take a long look at her very interesting website:

<http://denisesilvaphotography.com/>

WORKSHOPS

(Please note: February and March there will be no meetings at the Northside Library as they will be closed for moving.)

PEER REVIEWS

Saturday, January 24, 2 – 3:45: Bring three images on a thumb drive to show and discuss with your peers.

Saturday, February 21, 2:00-4:00, McIntire Library, TBA

WORKSHOPS

Wednesday, January 28, 6:30-8:45, Northside Library: For drama, few kinds of images can beat a well-executed panorama. And with today's software, anyone can create a beautiful panoramic image--if you know the best methods, as well as the possible pitfalls. This presentation will cover, step-by-step, all you need to know to get started in this gratifying form of photography. And then, at a later date, we'll put what we learn into practice with a close-to-home field trip and a hands-on image-editing session.

Monday, February 23, McIntire Library, TBA
Monday, March 23, McIntire Library, TBA

PRESIDENT'S NOTES

By Jim Simmons

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!!

My wish for each of you and yours is that 2015 will be a rich and rewarding year full of abundant good health, lots of success and *PEACE!*

As a club, we enter 2015 with a few changes – especially the revision of our *Rules of Competition* voted on last month. The main changes are reflected in the way we judge our images entered in our monthly competitions. All images entered in both the “A” and “B” *assigned categories* will be judged via “projections” – a change many of you have been requesting for some time. This change begins January 1, 2015. “A” and “B” photographers entering images in the “Open” Category may choose to do so either by “projection” or “prints” which will be judged separately beginning January 1, 2015. You can enter only one image in the Open Category either by “print” or “projection”. The “Creative” category will continue to be judged as in the past - *projections*. It is your responsibility to know and adhere to the Rules of Competition.

Another change for this New Year will be that of the position of secretary on our Executive Committee. Ginger Ferrell served that position during 2014 and did a magnificent job handling those sometimes demanding duties. We extend our deepest thanks to Ginger for serving us so well and wish her much success in many of her pursuits. Liz Marshall will assume the duties of secretary on January 1. We welcome Liz to the Executive Committee and are looking forward to working with her. I know she will discharge her duties with diligence and precision. Welcome Liz.

For the past several years Anton Largiader has served the club as manager of our Web Site. He brought a new perspective to the site and provided much technical “know how” to the position. Anton has decided to step aside as of

January 1, 2015 to pursue other interests. All of us on both the Executive Committee and the membership at large take this opportunity to extend our thanks to him for a “job well done,” and wish him much success in his future endeavors. Rick Seaman will be the new Webmaster, with Anton a “behind the scenes advisor,” as needed, and Rob Fehnel continuing to run the FORUM.

As your president, who begins his fourth year in this position, I want to thank you for your trust and support during my presidency. I have enjoyed my association with all members, past and present, on the Executive Committee and you, the general membership. It has been a real learning experience, and I am sure it will continue to be in the future. I have recently challenged your Executive Committee to make it their resolve to work to make this fine club among the very best out there. There is much wonderful talent in this organization, and I want all of us to work to utilize that talent and continue to nurture all of our members to help us become better photographers than we are today.

I look forward to seeing each of you at our monthly meetings, workshops and presentations during the year.

Again – **HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!!**

HOLIDAY PARTY MINUTES 9 December 2014

We had a full house at the final meeting of the year. Beth Bass raided the garden for some fabulous arrangements and I, Lowes for tree bits that we rolled into centerpieces. Jim Fergus got us lots of ice and Jim Simmons brought the meeting to order at 6.00 with our covered dish dinner the first order of business. We seemed to get the balance just right this year between serious food and heavenly deserts.

Gene Runion unobtrusively captured a record number of portraits of the evening--strong evidence that we were having a good time.

Warren Standley from Bentonville, VA returned to judge our **"Best of the Best"** competition for the end of the year. He extolled the beauty of his home town and claimed their bluebells were even better than those found in Manassas. He is enjoying woodworking and bass fishing when not out shooting.

The **Shyan Award** is for B photographers and requires three of their best prints for the previous year. On the strength of her three dynamic prints, Bess Bass was given this award even though she was the only entrant; something that has not happened before. The lack of competition is a bit of a mystery as the B photographers have been showing some really excellent images throughout the year. Warren complimented Beth on her breadth of themes and appreciated their variety and the way her images conveyed a mood.

In choosing the **"Print of the Year"**, Warren's diplomatic approach to letting us down easy made one feel good even after being eliminated in the first round. He said he "tried not to bring a personal preference to his selections, but chooses things he likes; things that strike me well". He favors simplicity over complexity, embraces good composition and has a strong preference for emotional impact in an image. After agonizing over the eight finalists, Howard Gutgesell's "Night Scape" of the Milky Way from his Colorado Driveway, was selected.

Deb Snelson's , "Night Lights" depiction of Bodie Island Lighthouse on the Grand Banks of North Carolina was a little further afield and won the **"Projected Image of the Year"**. With a two hour exposure, she placed the North Star just behind the top of the lighthouse for a circular star pattern. The lighthouse and surrounding area is also beautifully exposed but the addition of the stars in the background adds quite an air of mystery.

Deb also achieved **"Photographer of the Year"** for having the most competition points, just ahead of last year's winner, Jim Marshall. It has been really impressive watching her increasing skills and creativity throughout this last year. Hearty congratulations to them and to all our participants.

The **"Creative"** category has always been projected and the highly but not over manipulated student Jim Demas caught looking over the Albuquerque, New Mexico landscape was transformed into a zone of "Contemplation" Ravi Shankar would have appreciated.

When we reluctantly took our leave, after much encouragement from Jim Simmons, Warren Standley gave us a great compliment by saying he really enjoyed judging for our club. He said it was so much fun because, "we aren't stodgy".

Many thanks to the members of council for their hard work throughout the year. Jim Simmons for keeping us focused, Jim Fergus for organizing the meetings and workshops, John Hulburt for all the numbers, Judy Edwards for her work with Focus, Beth Bass for coordinating the membership, Anton Largiader, Gordon Putnam, and with extra help from Rob Fehnel for wrestling, and winning with the web site, Gerry Bishop for his work with the workshops and peer reviews, Anne Scott for keeping track of our points, Gerry Bishop again for working the projector and sorting out the entrants. Also many thanks for those who gave of their time to demonstrate their skills and expertise in the workshops throughout the year, Rick Seaman for adding our winning images to the web site, and Gene Runion for shooting the regular meetings. Also to the Photographic Exhibition Team led by David Lyster who are raising awareness of the club through their exhibitions.

Being Secretary for a year feels a bit like lifting the hood of a car and seeing how things work. It's very impressive.

Bonne chance in the New Year everyone!
Ginger Ferrell, Secretary

PARTY PICTURES

Ginger has already done a better job than I could at thanking everyone who worked on the party, brought dishes, lots of wine, and created a very fun evening. The decorations were special (thanks to Ginger and Beth) the food was terrific, the company was good. Since they say that each picture speaks a thousand words, here are some photos that will remind the over 60 of you who attended, how much fun it was. All photos were taken by Club Photographer, Gene Runion. (Captions by Judy Edwards)



GOOD FOOD



JUST A LITTLE MORE?



GOOD DRINK



GOOD DRINK.....



GOOD DRINK....!!***^@@\$%%&



GOOD JOKES.....



I KNOW EVERYTHING THAT'S GOING ON.



DID I REALLY WIN??



IT WASN'T ME.



YEAH, RIGHT!



YOU EXPECT ME TO BELIEVE THAT?



I THINK I KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON....



I'M NOT TALKING.



I'M TOTALLY CLUELESS.....



I HOPE YOU REALIZE I'M KEEPING TRACK OF ALL THIS.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/EVENTS

FIRST MEETING OF THE NEW LIGHTROOM WORKSHOP (LRW) will be held January 10, 2015, 2-4pm at the Northside Library. This will be our organizational meeting to form a monthly group that is all about building skills in Lightroom 5 and LR plugins. If interested, please email John Hulburt (jwhcville@comcast.net) to join this new group. Please indicate (1) your skill level in LR on scale 1-5, and (2) your willingness

to lead a discussion on LR topics of your choosing.

ENTRIES FOR THE JOE MILLER ABSTRACT PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBIT will be accepted starting December 27, 2014 and the deadline for submission of entries is February 25, 2015. If the four previous Joseph Miller Annual Juried Abstract Photography Exhibits are any gauge,

this fifth exhibit will show examples of outstanding abstract photographs and should not be missed by serious photographers and anyone interested in art. Further information, including a definition of abstract photography and a calendar of important dates can be found on the www.NVACC.org website. Click on Abstract Exhibit.

CCC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND OFFICERS:

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(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.)