



FLASH

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GREATER SAN ANTONIO CAMERA CLUB

WWW.GSACC.ORG

IMAGE OF THE MONTH



Looking for Pictures

by Peter Florczak

Images from slides do not often appear in the *Flash*. However, converting slides into digital files for publication does not require much effort. If you want to turn slides into digital files, you'll need a scanner. I have an Epson Perfection 1670 Photo scanner. It has a resolution of 1600 dpi × 3200 dpi (dots per inch). This particular scanner is no longer made, but new scanners made by Canon, Epson and HP can be found in electronics stores and online.

The Epson Perfection 1670 can scan documents. It can also scan transparencies, and has a special adapter for scanning negatives and slides. It can scan either one strip of negatives or two slides at a time. Before using the scanner, you have to connect it to your computer and install the scanner's driver software. Once the scanner has been set up, place the negatives or slides on the scanner bed. Next, scan the transparencies. The scanner's software will allow you to choose the file format, the file quality (files with higher quality take up more memory) and the location to save the image. Once the image has been scanned and saved, it is ready for editing and/or publication.

Competition results

Before presenting a list of winners from July's Print competition, we have a title correction from the May contest. Dick Boone's first-place monochrome print should have been listed as Torch of Friendship, not Torch of Freedom.

Peter Florczak placed first in three categories, and had one second-place entry and a third-place entry. Cathy Hood, Gerald Jendrusch and John Rudolph each placed in three categories.

Judges for July were Barbara Jendrusch, Tim Kirkland and Neil Williams. Here are the results:

PICTORIAL PRINTS COLOR:

1st place: Closed for Repairs, by Peter Florczak
2nd place: Boat on Bowman Lake, by Gerald Jendrusch
3rd place: La Kapelle, Rhine River, by John Rudolph
HM: Light Effect, by Ed Sobolak

PICTORIAL PRINTS MONOCHROME:

1st place: Fire Hose, by Gerald Jendrusch
2nd place: Cut and Stacked, by John Rudolph
3rd place: Country Church, by Peter Florczak
HM: Silly Kaylyn, by Hariharan Swaminathan

NATURE PRINTS:

1st place: Snake Eye, by Peter Florczak
2nd place: Prairie Coneflower, by John Rudolph
3rd place: Proud Profile, by Cathy Hood
HM: Garden of the Gods, by Pinky Rudolph

PHOTOJOURNALISM PRINTS:

1st place: Poor but Happy, by Peter Florczak
2nd place: This is a Barn Owl, by Cathy Hood
3rd place: Ford-Sponsored Car Seat, by Hariharan Swaminathan
HM: Boat Ride with Dad, by Gerald Jendrusch

ASSIGNMENT PRINTS:

1st place: A Socket Cross, by Cathy Hood
2nd place: Deer Hexagon, by Peter Florczak
3rd place: A Socket Wrench, by Roxana McRoberts
HM: Elk Deterrent, by Pinky Rudolph

We had three visitors on July 16: Eddie Chapa, Deyanira Flores and Jack Smith. Thank you for visiting!

The Assignment subject for July was hexagon. The August competition will be Projected Images.

PROJECTED IMAGE CATEGORIES:

1. Pictorial Slides
2. Pictorial Digital
3. Nature Projected (Slides and digital combined)
4. Photojournalism Projected (Slides and digital combined)
5. Assignment Slides
6. Assignment Digital

August Assignment: Beans: Photographic tough subject?

Scavenger hunt awards lunch scheduled

► Field trip is being postponed due to lunch plans



GSACC and the Houston Camera Club will meet on August 8 to find out who won this year's interclub scavenger hunt. Members from both clubs will meet at 11:30 a.m. at Frank's Restaurant in Schulenburg. Schulenburg is approximately 105 miles east of San Antonio on I-10, and is nearly halfway between San Antonio and Houston.

The scavenger hunt took place in La Grange, Texas on May 2. After the scavenger hunt, each club selected the top two images from each category to submit to a third club for judging. GSACC chose the top digital images to enter at the first June meeting, and the best slides were chosen at the club's first July meeting. Winning entries from both clubs were forwarded to Der FotoKlub of Fredericksburg for judging.

On June 4, the GSACC field trip committee scheduled an excursion to the new Riverwalk extension for the evening of August 8. Since the scavenger hunt awards lunch has been set for August 8, the Riverwalk trip has been postponed. A new date for this outing has not yet been set. Once a new date has been set, details and rules will be e-mailed to GSACC members and will be posted on the club's web site.

Gulf States results

Here are results from the Gulf States June Photojournalism Prints competition. None of these images placed. However, the results show that Steve Richter has taught his daughter well. Perhaps he has taught her too well. Kelsi beat her father. Results are listed alphabetically by last name:

I Am the Loudest, by Peter Florczak, 10 points
Bulldogger, by Tim Kirkland, 7 points
Wurstfest Opens with a Bite!, by Kelsi Richter, 10 points
Shot Dead in the Street, by Steve Richter, 7 points

Next, here are results of the June Projected Digital competition. These images were judged by the Amarillo Photographic Society. None of these images placed:

Ranch Stray, by Steve Richter, 11 points
Yaquina Head Lighthouse, by John Rudolph, 10 points
Loves Me, Loves Me Not, by Terry Ruvalcaba, 10 points
Where's Mommy, by Denise Willems, 9 points

PSA offers Nature guidelines

BY STAN ANDREWS

The Photographic Society of America (PSA) recently published rules and definitions concerning the Nature category as it pertains to PSA programs. By definition, the Nature category includes not just birds and animals, but also geology, mineralogy, ecology, astronomy and zoology.. However, archeology and anthropology are not in Nature because they reflect the influence of man or the so-called “hand of man” element.

Generally, the primary rules used by PSA are listed below, but it must be understood that local club interpretation of any of the club rules comes into play. Further, it must be understood that local club entries could be disqualified at the next level of judging if the interpretation is too far away from the PSA guidelines.

The guidelines are as follows:

- 1: Depictions should show the subject complete enough to allow a reasonable observer to identify it. The point here is to not crop or go to extreme on close-ups. Macro pictures are usable but must remain identifiable to the judge. Also, colors should be true and natural for the subject.
- 2: The main subject has to fit into its surroundings. The scene should not cause a judge to doubt the setting. For example, if the background is not in line with the animal’s habitat (such as a polar bear on sand), it could be disqualified.. How would a deer crossing a paved road be judged?
- 3: The storytelling value of the photograph is more critical than the pictorial quality. A bird eating its normal meal is more valued than a portrait of the bird. The reason is that the bird eating its meal has more storytelling aspect than a static portrait.
- 4: Scientific tags on the bird’s legs do not disqualify it from the Nature category.
- 5: Certain human elements can enhance the storytelling value. An example is a barn owl roosting in a barn loft or a sea bird sitting on an old piling. However, scuba bubbles around a fish photo will disqualify that photo.
- 6: Any scene that is set up or lighting that is obviously set up is generally disqualified by judges. The use of “catch light” in the eyes is acceptable. However, if multiple spots are seen, it indicates a staged light and usually causes elimination. This area is touchy because it is common for photographers to “bait” animals for shots showing certain aspects of behavior. Again, the key is whether or not the subject appears in an acceptable natural setting as mentioned above in the second guideline.
- 7: The use of artificially-produced or hybrid plants, stuffed or mounted animals and domestic plants or animals are all cause for disqualification or elimination. This is also touchy, and disagreements often occur when a plant grown locally is “native” to another part of the world and judges disqualify it. The key is that the shot must be made in the part of the world where the plant is “native” and relates back to the second guideline. It is best to stay away from common subjects in the Nature category.

Clearly, differences of opinion over the subject and how it is presented are going to occur. GSACC has always tried to follow PSA guidelines on judging and other aspects of competitions, such that we would rely on a certain standard. Members could argue in favor of the North American Nature Photo Association (NANPA) rules, , but GSACC’s association with the Gulf States Camera Club Council and PSA have proven worthy up to this point.

PSA conference is next month

PSA’s 75th Anniversary International Conference of Photography will take place in West Yellowstone, Montana from Sept. 20-26. Registration fees range from \$80-290. Advance registration closes on September 11, 2009. Participants can choose to attend one day or the full conference. Several of the tours and a couple of classes are already filled. A registration form is online at: <https://www.psa-photo.org/assets/conference/2009/registrationformrev2.pdf>. PSA’s web site (www.psa-photo.org) has travel and lodging information for the conference. The conference schedule is also online.



THE LAST PAGE

AUGUST EVENTS

Meetings at the Lion's Field Adult Center:

Wednesday, August 5: Travelogue, 10 a.m.; Lion's Field Camera Club meeting, 1 p.m.

Thursday, August 6: GSACC presentation: Bird photos by Malik Kevons, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, August 20: GSACC Projected Images competition, 7:30 p.m.

Activities elsewhere:

Saturday, August 8: Scavenger hunt awards lunch with the Houston Camera Club, 11:30 a.m. at Frank's Restaurant in Schulenburg.

Kodachrome film discontinued

Eastman Kodak recently announced that the production of Kodachrome film will end this year. An article printed in the San Antonio *Express-News* on June 23 stated that most labs have stopped processing the film, which has been produced for 74 years. Sales of the film have dropped. A lab in Kansas will continue processing Kodachrome through 2010.

A slide show of Kodachrome image can be viewed here: http://www.kodak.com/eknec/PageQuerier.jhtml?pq-path=15398&pq-locale=en_US&requestid=15124. This gallery includes several images by Steve McCurry, who is known for his image "Afghan Girl," which appeared on the front of *National Geographic* in 1985.

Greater San Antonio Camera Club Officers: **President:** Adam Kincher. **Vice President:** Neil Williams. **Points Secretary:** Gerald Jendrusch. **Secretary:** Fran Eiserloh. **Treasurer:** Stan Andrews. **Board of Directors:** Adam Kincher, Fran Eiserloh and ???
Honorary Board Member: Thelma Starks. **PSA Representative:** Stan Andrews. **GSCCC Representative:** John Rudolph. **Pictorial Print Competitions:** John and Pinky Rudolph. **Pictorial Digital Competitions:** Lance Meyer. **Pictorial Slide Competitions:** Fran Eiserloh. **Nature Competitions:** Adam Kincher. **Photojournalism Competitions:** Fran Eiserloh and Adam Kincher. **Program Chairman:** Lance Meyer. **Judges/Critique/Trophies:** Harold Eiserloh. **Assignment Chairman:** Tim Kirkland. **Year Book Editor:** Adam Kincher. **Webmasters:** Jacq and Jeremy Davis. **Flash Editor:** Adam Kincher.

FLASH SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS: Articles: Text may be handwritten or typed; e-mailed articles should be plain text, or Microsoft Word or Works attachments. Images: You may loan prints, slides or 35mm negatives to the editor; the preferred size for images sent via e-mail is 1024x768 and the preferred format is JPEG.

E-mail address for submissions: adamkincher@sbcglobal.net

Publication deadline: Submissions are due on the 20th day of the month before the desired publication month.

FLASH AUGUST 2009

Greater San Antonio Camera Club

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