

THE CABLE RELEASE

Newsletter of the Virginia
Beach Photography Club

SEPTEMBER 2001



Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed to help plan this years **Christmas Party**. If you are interested in helping out, there will be a signup sheet at the next meeting or you can call Connie at 431-8461.

Let's Build a Club Library

.Do you have any Photography books sitting around collecting dust that you no longer use but that someone else might be able to get some use out of? We are looking for a few good books to build up a club library. Due to the limited space available to us in which to store the books, all submissions should be accompanied by the owner's name and phone number in the event that the book(s) need to be returned to the owner. The books should contain information that is relevant to photography today. If you have any books

that you feel fit this description that you would like to submit to the club, please bring them to any of the regular monthly meetings.

Speakers

For Aug. we were honored to have Mr. William R. Wright of Strauss Photo Technical Service. Formally trained in photographic equipment repair, he gave a very informative and beneficial talk on the do's & don'ts of camera maintenance. Strauss Photo is located on the west side of Independence Blvd., across from Pembroke Mall.

Calendar of Local Events

(Hint: Bring your camera!)

Neptune Festival

Sept. 1-30

Wine Festival at 24th St. Park, Sept. 15th-16th, Noon - 5 PM;

Centura Sandman Triathlon, Sept. 16th, 8 AM-1 PM;

Canadian Snowbirds at NAS Oceana, Sept. 21st-23rd,

Boardwalk Weekend,
Sept. 28th-30th.

Food, entertainment,

**North American Sand sculpting
Championship,**

**Art & Craft Show 20th - 30th Street,
Volleyball Tournament, 2nd - 5th Street.**

Festival Fireworks -

Sept 29, Off the 14th Street Pier - 9pm

Grand Parade,

starting at 16th Street, Sunday Sept. 30th, 3 PM

For additional information call: 498-0215 or
[www. Neptune festival.com](http://www.Neptune festival.com)

Green Sea Festival

Sept. 22

Events & entertainment highlight the culture and history of the Southern Watershed Area. FREE Northwest River Park. 496-9377

Sept 29-30 Antique and Classic Boat

Show - Hampton downtown waterfront. For more information, call 727-6429

Oct 5-7 - History Alive! - Norfolk Botanical Gardens - period costumes, sword fights and more. For information, call 441-5838

(Editors note: I have been there and its REALLY worth going to!)

Free Tours!

Olde Town Walking Tour, Portsmouth, 45 sites within one square mile. Brochure / map of the free tour available at visitor's centers throughout Hampton Roads, or by mail from the Portsmouth Convention and Visitor Bureau. 393-5327

Olde Towne Lantern Tours, Portsmouth, Tuesdays at 8:30 PM. Depart from the lobby of Holiday Inn-Olde Towne on Crawford Parkway. 393-5111

Photography Contests

The image for the 2003 National Parks Pass will be chosen through the **National Parks Pass - Experience Your America Photo Contest**, sponsored by the National Park Service and the National Park Foundation with Kodak, a Proud Partner of America's National Parks. Photographs taken between 1/1/01 and 12/31/01 are eligible for consideration and all entries must be received by 1/15/02. Visit nationalparks.org on the web and

click on Photo Contest for rules and entry forms.

Pet Photography Contest -

PhotoAlley will award a \$1000 Grand Prize, \$300 First Place Prize and \$200 Second Prize and display the winning images on their website. Photos must be submitted in digital form (100KB, JPEG) as uploads to PhotoAlley.com. Submissions will be accepted beginning August 1st. Deadline - October 31st. For more info, visit PhotoAlley.com.

Photography Exhibit

Chrysler Museum -

Weegee's Story - From the Berinson Collection.

Weegee captured life on the streets of New York. On display through Oct. 28th. For more info, call 664-6200 or visit <http://www.chrysler.org>

***** TIP OF THE MONTH *****

The following tip is number 6 on **Kodak's Guide to Better Pictures - Top 10 Techniques...**

"Include Foreground in Scenics. When taking scenic pictures, try including objects in the foreground. Elements in the foreground add a sense of distance, depth and dimension." For more tips, log on to www.kodak.com.

Garden Photography

The basic equipment:

The ideal lenses for garden photography are a wide-angle zoom (28-80mm) and a long focal length lens with close focusing ability (70-200mm). A compact camera with 38-105mm zoom and close-focus can also be used. For stability, a tripod is a must.

When shooting a broad or overall expanse of

the garden, use the wide angle lens and more depth of field (to get apparent sharpness from the foreground to the background). Set the aperture for f/16 and focus about a third of the way into the scene. Set the shutter speed according to the amount of light and the film speed you are using.

Although a beautiful garden may seem enchanting at mid-day, under bright sunlight it will appear harshly unpleasant on film. Shoot in the soft, warm light of early morning or late afternoon, when the sun is at a lower angle. The ideal condition is a cloudy-bright day, when the clouds act like a giant softbox. This will illuminate the flowers perfectly, in a range of contrast easily handled by the film. One exception to the early morning timing is when shooting lotus or water lilies. These blooms do not open until the sun has warmed them for several hours.

Selecting the best angle from which to shoot your subject is very important. Front lighting (Sun to your back as much as possible) will assure your shot is properly lit when shooting broader expanses of garden areas. The full impact of a broad array of flowers, especially those of varying heights, can be captured from above eye level. This also helps eliminate distracting elements such as people, trash cans, and such. (A lightweight kitchen step ladder works great). A lower angle can isolate individual flowers, allowing you to capture light shining through the petals. It also allows for the elimination of quite a few of those distracting elements.

Single flowers or groups of two or three blossoms in a frame need to stand out from their surrounding foliage in order to draw the attention of the viewer. Remember that a pleasing composition requires one center of interest! The interior of the blossom, a single flower, or several flowers (three is often the magic combination) make great photos. Place the principle subject off-center (Rule of 1/3rds)

so the photo doesn't seem static.

The background can be the difference between "Nice" and "Wow! Watch your background to keep it free of distracting items such as stems, leaves, and debris. Remember that your telephoto or zoom has a narrow field of view and will not "see" as much foliage to the sides, and when set at f/4 can soften and blur the background. An artificial background is also a possibility. Spray paint a sheet of cardboard with several shades of green, adding an occasional brown streak.

Most people like garden photos with high color saturation. Some popular choices in print film include: Fuji Reala 100, Kodak Royal Gold 100, and Agfa Optima. Slide films designed to give super-saturated colors include: Fujichrome Velvia 50, and Ektachrome E100VS or Elite Chrome EC100. If you consider such colors exaggerated, try Fuji chrome Sensia II 100, Agfachrome Cti 100, or Elite Chrome 100.

So dust off your wagon or cart, pack it up with a tripod, step stool, and your camera bag AND GO SHOOTING!

AUG COMPETITION RESULTS

"Boats"

Color Slides

- 1st "This Bud's for You" by Herb Walls
- 2nd "Rafting Down River" by Walter Demchuk
- 3rd "Lonesome Boat" by Kathy Szilagyi

Color Prints

- 1st "Johnboat Jamboree" by Bob Twine
- 2nd "Solitude" by Herb Walls
- 3rd "Elizabeth River Ferry" by Connie Carey

B/W Prints

- 1st "The Bounty" by Liz Liebrich
- 2nd "Wisconsin,2" by Walter Demchuk
- 3rd "Boatload of Fun" by Kathy Szilagyi

Competition Categories

SEP Open

OCT "Children at play"

NOV Open

DEC "Current Events"

JAN Open

FEB "The Holidays"

MAR Open

APR "Reflections"

MAY Open

JUN 'Old Structures'

JUL Open

AUG "Water"

SEP Open

OCT "Trains, Planes and Automobiles"

NOV Open

DEC "Animals"

CLASSIFIEDS

No items submitted

The Executive Committee

- President - Connie Carey 431-8461
- Vice Pres./Guest Presentation - Herb Walls
362-5231
- Secretary / Treasurer - Ken Reidel 499-3379
- Competition Chairman - Charlie Davis 474-
1466
- Newsletter - Pete Hennessy 497-6594