



# THE CABLE RELEASE

January 2008 ~ Volume 5, Issue 1

Monthly Newsletter of the Virginia Beach Photography Club

Virginia Beach  
Photography Club  
P.O. Box 68894  
Virginia Beach, VA 23471  
[www.vbpc.org](http://www.vbpc.org)

WELCOME  
NEW  
MEMBERS!

Nancy Hatch  
Jennifer York  
Letha Anderson  
Virginia Sopata

All our new  
members are from  
Virginia Beach.



The Virginia Beach  
Photography Club  
is a member club of the  
Photographic Society  
of America

## President's Corner

*I would like to begin my first message of the new year by saying "THANK YOU" to all of the wonderful members of this club. Many of you have been in touch with either another Board member or myself, with comments and suggestions. We really do want to know what you want, so keep the comments coming! The Board and I look forward both to continuing with initiatives already established, as well as developing and implementing new programs to take the Club forward in 2008.*

*Speaking of 2008, it is bringing its share of interesting events, topics, subjects and viewpoints. The shift in the method of recording of images is becoming rapid, with prominent film processors either cutting back or eliminating film processing completely. In my work, I hear the lamenting of many people about the fundamental shift from film to digital. But then I ask them, "what are you REALLY afraid of?" Of course, it really comes down, for a lot of people, to the investment made in their equipment. Or, should I say, the investment they will need to make to go digital. Let's face it, many people just don't want to spend money on a new body plus editing software.*

*Or, they simply fear change.*

*Like it or not, change is inevitable. As I type this, Kodak has announced the discontinuation of some of their Portra and Ektachrome film lines. Agfa is gone, and Ilford is just about the only firm now making B&W paper. Digital has taken over most camera shops and the bulk of the inventory for major mail-order and Internet suppliers.*

*Continued on page 2*



## NEXT MEETING

**Tuesday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 pm**

Competition begins at 7:15 pm at the  
**Community United Methodist Church**

1072 Old Kempsville Rd., Virginia Beach, VA 23464

Yes, the times, they are a-changing! (Thank you Bob Dylan!)

The Club's Annual Banquet will be held January 12<sup>th</sup> in the Social Hall of the Church. Once again, Flo has put together a nice program of food, photos and fun for everyone; we have some door prizes and other goodies for attendees, including Sensor Cleaning Kits, some coupons for free digital printing, some photography books and more. Make sure you contact Flo for tickets at the January meeting!

And once again, THANK YOU for your trust in me and the Board, your support and participation in Club activities - the Virginia Beach Photography Club is no more than what you put into it - and it looks like this will be a banner year for events and participation!

Tom McElvy, VBPC President  
757-498-9882 (h) • 757-286-6859 (c)  
tom@imagesbytom.com

## competition winners december 2007 meeting

### Color Prints

1 <sup>st</sup>	"Grist Mill"	Mike Graham
2 <sup>nd</sup>	"Colorado High"	Bert Jemmott
3 <sup>rd</sup>	"Whitewater Halls"	Judy Wymore
HM	"Pumpkins and Mums"	Joan Grippe

### Black & White Prints

1 <sup>st</sup>	"Autumn Calm"	Joan Grippo
2 <sup>nd</sup>	"Autumn's Bounty"	Pam Jenkins
3 <sup>rd</sup>	"Falling Aspen Leaves"	Bert Jemmott
HM	"Quiet Walk"	Judy Wymore

### Alternative/Digitally Altered

1 <sup>st</sup>	"Hello Autumn, Goodbye Summer" -	Flo Womacks
2 <sup>nd</sup>	"Creek Bed"	Dennis Best
3 <sup>rd</sup>	"On Fire"	Jerry Wymore
HM	"Leaves on Fire"	Joan Grippo

### Slides

1 <sup>st</sup>	"Autumn in Richmond"	Pam Jenkins
2 <sup>nd</sup>	"Autumn Mirror"	Mark Huber
3 <sup>rd</sup>	"Fall Contrast"	Calvin Taylor

*January's Category is OPEN*

## 2008 Competition Categories

January	Open	July	Open
February	60's, 70's and 80's Song Titles	August	Sailboats/Boats
March	Open	September	Open
April	Nature (no sign of man)	October	Down by the Water's Edge
May	Open	November	Open
June	Bridges	December	Street Photography/Street Graffiti

Competition rules are available on our website at [www.vbpc.org](http://www.vbpc.org)

# ~special events~

## January 2008

*Mark Your  
Calendar!*

### Membership Meeting

Tuesday, January 8<sup>th</sup> ~ 7:30 PM  
Open Discussion

### Education Night

January 15<sup>th</sup>  
Details TBA

### February 2008 Meeting

Tuesday, February 5<sup>th</sup>  
7:30 PM

### Annual Banquet

Saturday, January 12<sup>th</sup>  
6:00 -8:30 PM  
CUMC Social Hall

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6 <i>Beaton Exhibit ends today</i>	7	8 <i>Membership Meeting</i>	9	10	11	12 <i>Banquet 6-8:30 PM Social Hall</i>
13	14	15 <i>Education Night</i>	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

## Upcoming Interests & Opportunities

- **Cecil Beaton: Photographs from the National Portrait Gallery**  
Chrysler Museum of Art ~ [www.chrysler.org](http://www.chrysler.org)  
Exhibit on display until January 6, 2008

- **Rocky Mountain School of Photography Weekend Saturday & Sunday February 23-24, 2008**

Revel in two full days of photography instruction at RMSP's Weekend!

Holiday Inn Executive Center  
5655 Greenwich Road  
Virginia Beach, VA 23462  
(757) 499-4400

Information: <http://www.rmisp.com/Weekends/ExtendedInformation.aspx?wid=82&type=details&prog=14>

RMSP Weekend Sessions

- Photography Basics
- Understanding Your Digital Camera
- Advanced Exposure: Using the Zone System for Color
- Beyond the Basics (Photo Basics II)
- Importing and Organizing Your Images Using Adobe Lightroom™
- Macro Photography
- Understanding Light
- Low Light and Night Photography
- Processing Your Images: The First Steps
- Processing Your Images: Fine Tuning with Layers and Masks
- Composition
- Photographing People
- Sports & Motion
- Sunrises, Sunsets & Flowing Water
- Photographic Techniques in Photoshop®
- Critique

**COST:** There is a special Group price for VBPC Members of \$149 for both days or \$99 for one day.  
**Use group Code GC49.**

## member spotlight ~ mike zidek

Where are you from? (i.e. born/raised) *I grew up in San Bernardino, CA.*

What is your profession/real job? *US Navy*

What do you like to do to relax ? *Watch TV (way too much at times) and read (not enough).*

Do you have any other hobbies? *I love to play with computers.*

Where in the world is your favorite spot? *Italy. I've been there a few times while I've been in the Navy. I would love to spend a few weeks there on my own and just go exploring.*

Favorite location to shoot? *Japan. I spent the past two years there. There are so many places to go and shoot and there are so many people with cameras, no one cares if one more person is going around taking pictures. Plus, it's a beautiful country!*

What is your favorite restaurant? *Any place that has good Italian food.*

Why does photography interest you so much? *It's a form of art that I am decent at. I can't draw or paint to save my life. It's my way of expressing myself that I can't do in any other form.*



Who is your favorite photographer? *I don't really have a favorite. There are a few that I enjoy like Thomas Hawk, and there are some amazing photographers that I follow on Flickr.*

**mike is the new webmaster for the vbpc website.**

What is your photographic specialty? *I don't really have a specialty. I take different types of photos depending on my mood and what I'm doing at the time.*

Tell us a little about your background . *I grew up in Southern California. I've been in the Navy for over 12 years. In the Navy, I've lived in Florida, Virginia, Maine, and Japan. I've also traveled to many places in Europe and the Middle East. I love to travel, see and try new things, and just generally expand my horizons.*



**Three of Mike's favorite photographs.**

# PREPARING A STATEMENT OF INTENT

By Don Maccubbin

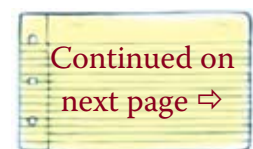
Over many years of teaching photography to those who want to move beyond just taking snapshots, I've learned there are two skill areas that are difficult to acquire. Almost no one who owns only one type/format camera has learned to photograph with true insight. Owning more than one type of camera doesn't mean insight follows automatically but it does provide the tools that will greatly expedite that learning process. The other missing skill is the ability to become mentally/emotionally involved with our subjects. By mental/emotional involvement, I do not mean how much we like our subject; be it grandchild, pet, flower close-up, butterfly, lighthouse, etc.

Here are some examples of photographing with insight. We all know that the image on our camera's LCD screen, that same image on our monitor and a work print of that image do not look exactly the same before post processing is done. The insightful photographer finds out what the LCD image needs to look like so that the final print becomes what they envisioned with a minimum of post processing and trial and error printing. The insightful photographer knows which lens aperture will result in the depth of field they have decided is appropriate for the shot they have envisioned. They set their camera on manual to make sure their camera doesn't select a different taking aperture. There are many more examples I could use but I think you get the idea.

How many times have you been out photographing with another club member or friend when they see a subject they want to photograph? Don't they raise their camera (set to automatic exposure/focus) and quickly snap the shot even if the subject is a landscape or building that isn't going away anytime soon? What are the chances that photographer actually took a prolonged look at their subject? Can our photographer friend become mentally/emotionally involved with their subject in the few seconds it took them to point and fire the camera?

So you say okay, I'll slow down and take more time when my subject is static. I'll even look at my subject from different viewpoints before firing the shutter. Will this help you photograph with mental/emotional involvement? No but this involvement process does begin with doing more than just pressing the shutter release. Here's the scenario. You go out shooting and make 50 to 100 exposures of some festival or travel experience. How in this world do you suppose you'll remember how you felt about any one shot a week or two later when you have a chance to look at them on your monitor? Unless you are some sort of mental wizard, you will need to record your feelings/responses for each image in some convenient way. Now if your idea of taking notes is Frame #731, 125 @ f8, we need to talk because there is no mental/emotional involvement in this kind of recordation is there?

So how does one take notes while shooting that will be meaningful after the shooting session is over? Either before the shot is made (best way) or right after the shutter is pressed (okay as a start) would be the time to write. What should our note-taking goal be? We should describe the image in words with lots of detail striving to express our feelings about this image and its elements in as much depth as possible. We should identify the principal subject and center of interest using the definitions introduced in a previous newsletter article. We should decide before we shoot how we expect the final print to look including any variation from indicated meter readings we might apply for effect or what image elements are going to be sharp or soft. And there are too many other image attributes that could and should appear in your notes to discuss all of them here. Now is time to get creative when making notes.



**PREPARING A STATEMENT  
OF INTENT** continued from page 5

When conditions allow note taking, I use one of two methods. The first and my preferred way is to use a pencil with a pocket clip that fits into the wire coil of a small spiral bound notebook. I also use a small Sony digital voice recorder, although for now I find writing slower but easier. Use whatever is easiest for you.

So how do you use these notes you take? One of the best ways is to review your notes as you prepare your final prints. Let your notes guide you in making your prints and allow them (your feelings about the original capture) to be challenged during final print preparation. Both insightful and mental/emotional photography are grounded in learning to write (or record) the proper type of notes about the images you are taking, how to best make use of those notes when getting to the final print and how to use those notes for reviewing your final print after you think you are satisfied with the outcome.

Last month we talked about the importance of preparing a statement of intent for your photographs you would like reviewed by someone else. Can you see how valuable good notes would be toward the preparation of a statement of intent? The only thing you would have to add would be your evaluation of how close you think you came to your original objective.

To facilitate the club membership's understanding of the common language terms, why a statement of intent and note taking are important and how to write them and then to apply them to the review of your photography, I will arrive at the church at the next first Tuesday meeting at 6:00 p.m. I will be there to answer questions about the principles of these last few newsletter articles and to review one print or slide (bring a viewer) per person on a first-come basis up until the formal meeting starts.

COMING NEXT MONTH:  
"MORE ON INSIGHTFUL PHOTOGRAPHY"



HALIE HOVENGA,  
*New Events Coordinator*  
**A REQUEST**

I hope to put together a quality program for the members of the club in this coming year. The assistance of committee members is requested in this endeavor. Help with planning field trips, arranging speakers for meetings and workshops for edu-meetings, and organizing gallery shows are only a few of the ways you can help me. If you wish to assist or even spearhead one of the above areas, that would be most welcome.

Names of possible speakers and/or teachers for the 2008 year would also be appreciated. Members may email me at haliehovenga@hotmail.com with their input or to volunteer.

Halie Hovenga, *Event Coordinator*

## ANNUAL BANQUET

**Saturday, January 12<sup>th</sup>  
6:00 - 8:30 PM  
Church Social Hall**

**See Flo Womacks at the  
January meeting to  
get your tickets!**

**Cost: \$3/member  
\$7/non-member**

**2007 Photography Award  
Winners will be  
announced at the banquet.**

# MEMBER PHOTO GALLERY



*“Hello Autumn, Goodbye Summer.”*  
by Flo Womacks



*“Chrysler Shadows”*  
by Susan Clever

**All members are encouraged to submit photographs to the Photo Gallery.**

Please send your submissions via e-mail to Susan Clever, [cleverinc@cox.net](mailto:cleverinc@cox.net), or submit at a club meeting. Photographs can be sent as jpg at 150 dpi or less. Please include the title of the photograph as well. Please submit all items by the 15th of each month.

*Show off your best shots here!*

## Treasurer's Report

Nov. 16, 2007...Opening Balance .....	\$2,549.73
Deposits .....	
Dues .....	\$ 144.00
50/50 Raffle .....	\$27.00
Total .....	\$181.00
Expenses .....	
Adrian Felton/supplies .....	\$8.07
Otis Cuffee.....	\$100.00
Community United Methodist Church (2008 Rent) .....	\$400.00
Community United Methodis Church (Banquet) .....	\$150.00
Dec. 15, 2007...Balance.....	\$2,062.66

## *Eligible Photographs for Photography of the Year 2007*

*All first place photographs in each category from January 2007 to December 2007  
are eligible for the Photograph of the Year competition.*

*The winning photographer will be honored at the Annual Banquet!*

<b><u>2007</u></b>	<b><i>Color</i></b>	<b><i>Black &amp; White</i></b>	<b><i>Alternative</i></b>	<b><i>Slides</i></b>
<b><i>January</i></b> <i>(Open)</i>	"Lobster Gear" Chuck Schlichter	"The Couples" Adrian Felton	"Mother & Daughter" Tom McElvy	"Colorful Plumage" Tom Jenson
<b><i>February</i></b> <i>(Night Photography)</i>	"Tower" Skip Morrow	"Gotham" Skip Morrow	"Norfolk Sunrise" Skip Morrow	"Repairing Our Government" Pam Jenkins
<b><i>March</i></b> <i>(Open)</i>	"Graceful" Flo Womacks	"Water's Edge" Chuck Schlichter	"Gina" Bridgette Lee	"Ghost Town Saloon" Pam Jenkins
<b><i>April</i></b> <i>(From a Different Point of View)</i>	"Yum!" Joan Grippo	"Tea for Two" Michael Geller	"Spiral Staircase" Jennifer Wheeler	"Hide and Seek" Pam Jenkins
<b><i>May</i></b> <i>(Open)</i>	"Oak Globe" Linda Duchaine	"Untitled #1" Morgan Smith	"Sunset Silhouette" Stephen Kinstler	"Preening Parrot" Tom Jenson
<b><i>June</i></b> <i>(Motion)</i>	"Splash Landing" Herman Ratcliffe	"Dancer" Judy Wymore	"Star Gazing" Flo Womacks	"AMWAY on the Go" Calvin Taylor
<b><i>July</i></b> <i>(Open)</i>	"Female Ruby Throated Hummingbird" Robin Stamper	"Victoria" Bert Jemmott	"Pigeon Point Lighthouse, CA" Bert Jemmott	"Winter Sunrise" Pam Jenkins
<b><i>August</i></b> <i>(Neon Signs)</i>	"Broadway Nashville Style" Pam Jenkins	"Flamingo Hotel" Bert Jemmott	"Senor Iguana" Judy Wymore	<i>No winner due to lack of entries</i>
<b><i>September</i></b> <i>(Open)</i>	"Da Face" Michael Graham	"Innocence... Personified" Kevin MaGloine	"Out of Bounds" Flo Womacks	"One of God's Gifts" Calvin Taylor
<b><i>October</i></b> <i>(Abandoned)</i>	"Evidence of a Past Life" Adrian Felton	"Fixer-Upper" Bert Jemmott	"Left Behind" Flo Womacks	"Needs Lots of Work" Jerry Wymore
<b><i>November</i></b> <i>(Open)</i>	"Cherry Blossom" Darren Hall	"Walt Whitman" Joe Bradley	"The Colors of Italy" Flo Womacks	"Great Blue Heron" Tom Jenson
<b><i>December</i></b> <i>(Autumn Glory)</i>	"Grist Mill" Mike Graham	"Autumn Calm" Joan Grippo	"Hello Autumn, Goodbye Summer" Flo Womacks	"Autumn in Richmond" Pam Jenkins



**Virginia Beach Photography Club**  
P.O. Box 68894 • Virginia Beach, VA 23471  
Visit our web site at [www.vbpc.org](http://www.vbpc.org)

## *Virginia Beach Photography Club Mission Statement*

### *2008 Club Officers*

#### *President*

Tom McElvy  
(757) 498-9882

#### *Vice President*

Skip Morrow  
(757) 558-2595 (H)  
(757) 676-2445 (C)

#### *Secretary*

Greg Avant

#### *Treasurer*

Belinda Traber

### *Committee Chairpersons*

#### *Competition*

Flo Womacks

#### *Membership*

Phyllis Grady

#### *Newsletter*

Susan Clever  
[cleverinc@cox.net](mailto:cleverinc@cox.net)

#### *Special Events*

Halie Hovenga

#### *Webmaster*

Mike Zitek

**T**he Virginia Beach Photography Club explores the connection between the eye, the camera and the spirit by fostering and encouraging growth of artistic vision and technical knowledge.

The Club provides an informal, friendly and supportive environment for photographers at all levels and with interest in all types of photographic imagery.

The Club offers a means for members to share ideas and knowledge with each other and promotes photography through its meetings, educational activities, exhibitions and public events.

The club activities offer a means to share ideas and knowledge through monthly meetings, guest speakers, member participation, monthly competition, critiquing of work and technique, field trips, and public photographic activities and projects that kindle growth and friendships through artistic vision of photographic imagery.

**All members are encouraged to submit  
articles or photographs for the newsletters.**

***It's a great way to show off your work!***

Please send your submissions via e-mail to [cleverinc@cox.net](mailto:cleverinc@cox.net) or submit at a club meeting. Electronic submissions should be in plain text format, Word document or in the body of the e-mail. Photographs can be sent as jpg at 150 dpi or less. Please include the title of the photograph as well. Please submit all items by the 15th of each month.

*The Cable Release is published monthly by the Virginia Beach Photography Club (VBPC). All text and images are the copyright of the VBPC and its contributors, all rights reserved. For usage rights of articles and photographs, please contact [info@vbpc.org](mailto:info@vbpc.org) or the author to obtain written permission.*