



**Virginia Beach
Photography Club**
P.O. Box 68894
Virginia Beach, VA 23471
<http://vbpc.org>

**welcome to
our newest
members**

Heather Beatty Brenner
Ann Brand
Carol DeLuca
Joel Jason
Eric Ko
Bob Rush
Malcolm Smith
Chris Taylor

New members are encouraged to introduce themselves in the forums on the club website and at monthly meetings.



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

The Cable Release

April 2009 ~ Volume 6, Issue 4
Monthly Newsletter of the Virginia Beach Photography Club

From the Prez,

This past month I got to spend some quality time (over 30 hours) in several airplanes while I was traveling around the Pacific rim (unfortunately I didn't get any pictures that I am really proud of because it rained pretty much everywhere I went). On my flight from Hawaii to Atlanta, I took some time to read the Delta Magazine. They just happened to have an article on digital photography (http://www.delta-sky.com/sections/index.php/lifestyle/learning_curves/).

I was really taken with a few of the concepts the author presented, so that will be my inspiration for this article. The gist of the article was that the author was taking a digital camera workshop and was shooting in the Smokies with a professional instructor. He is obsessing over the settings on the camera when the instructor advises him to just "slow down". I think this is very important. And I am certainly guilty of not following this advice at times. How often have you tried getting a good shot using the "machine gun" method? This is the method where you take twenty pictures of the same thing in the hope that one of them will come out. I am raising my hand right



Continued on page two

**Our Next Club meeting is Tuesday, April 7th at 7:30 PM.
Community United Methodist Church,
1072 Old Kempsville Rd., Virginia Beach, VA 23464**

**The March 2009 Monthly Competition Category was
"OPEN."
April's Monthly Competition
is "SILHOUETTES."**

Prez' column, continued from page one
now. Were you ever so obsessed with your "subject" that you missed a better, or equally interesting shot right behind you? Again, my hand goes up.

I have learned that using a tripod has an added benefit that may not be so readily apparent. It forces you to slow down. When you take the time to mount your camera on top of a less movable object than your own body, it really forces you to consider at the very least where you are going to place that tripod. You sure don't want to have to keep on moving it after every shot, so you try to find the perfect spot the first time. And then once the camera is being held up at eye level instead of you holding it, you then have the ability to sssllloowwwlllyyyy compose your shot. That can be hard to do when you are holding a heavy camera and lens up to your eye. Not to mention the fact that your pictures will be sharper.

But alas, even though I know that I can get better pictures more often by using my tripod, I still don't use it as often as I should. Why not? And I am not even talking about the logistics of carrying it around. In fact, when I put my camera on my tripod and then march around with the camera and tripod perched upon my shoulder like it was an army M1 rifle, it is actually quite convenient. No, I think the reason I don't always use it is because I like... no, I thrive on the rapid fire, quick paced, short attention span life style. I need to fix that. I am missing too much. I don't know if this is also true for you, but you probably know if it is. If it is, I suppose it is like the first step in every twelve-step program--admitting it is the first step. If you are aware of this, then perhaps, just maybe you will slow down, take a better picture, and appreciate even more your subject and the area around you.

Take care, and happy shooting!
Skip Morrow, President, VBPC

THE COMPACT FLASH

Are you receiving Skip's bi-monthly issue of the "Compact Flash"? Hopefully you are because it is emailed out to all members. If you didn't get your email copy, please let us know. The "Compact Flash" is intended to be published about twice per month and is meant to be small yet full of data about the club's happenings (see how I got the name?). You won't want miss it. The "Compact Flash" is also posted on the home page of the web site.

ONLINE COMPETITION?

Yes, we have one! Follow the link on the website home page to upload your photos. This competition is for club members only - all are invited to compete - online.

This month's theme is "Bokeh." What? To find out what it is go to <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bokeh>. You may also see photos incorporating bokeh at <http://www.flickr.com/search/?q=bokeh&w=all>. Uploading will end at 10:00 PM on, Thursday, April 16th.

FYI: TREASURER'S REPORT - Club members can now view the latest treasurer's report online @ <http://vabeachphotoclub.org/treasurer>.

APRIL 2009 EVENTS CALENDAR

Details for ALL events can be found on the club website, <http://vbpc.org>.
 Dates and times subject to change.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 <i>Images of Faith, exhibit continues through April 30th</i>	2	3	4 <i>Pam & Flo's Photo Exhibit opens today NOON-2:30 See pg 5</i>
5	6	7 <i>Photoshop focus group & Monthly meeting 7:00 PM</i>	8	9	10	11
12 	13	14 <i>Wedding & Portrait Focus Group 6:30 PM</i>	15	16	17	18
19	20	21 <i>Educational Meeting 6:30 PM</i>	22	23 <i>Strobist Focus Group 6:30 PM Details below.</i>	24	25 <i>April 25th Stumpy Lake at 7:00 A Details page 5.</i>
26	27	28 <i>Board Meeting 6:30 PM</i>	29	30		

The last meeting of the **PHOTOSHOP FOCUS GROUP** was a full house! April 7th at 6:00 PM in the Church Library prior to the membership meeting. Subject: Macros and Automation. **Seating is limited so come early!** **This group urgently needs a new leader to help lead the group! Got Photoshop talents? Volunteer to help otherwise April's group might be the last one. Go to the forum for more info, <http://vabeachphotoclub.org/phpbb3/viewtopic.php?f=32&t=1196>**

STROBIST FOCUS GROUP - Next meeting April 23rd at 6:30 PM at ECPI College of Technology, 5555 Greenwich Rd., Virginia Beach, VA 23462 (Room 410 unless otherwise posted). The group continues its review of Light, Science & Magic, focusing on chapter 4, *Surface Appearances*. **A volunteer is needed to lead the review of this next chapter. See <http://vabeachphotoclub.org/phpbb3/viewtopic.php?f=30&t=1205>. After the review, we'll practice what we've learned!**

HELP WANTED - Club Opportunities Available

Want to get more from your club? You're in luck! Many opportunities exist for you to choose from, large and small. If you don't see what you're looking for, please contact VBPC President Skip Morrow at skip.morrow.mobile@gmail.com to discuss how you can help.

ALL COMMITTEES ARE SEEKING MEMBERS!
Contact the committee chair to participate.

Competition Committee - Mindy Bockrath

Special Events Committee - Halie Hovenga,
haliehovenga@hotmail.com

Annual Banquet Committee - Halie Hovenga
haliehovenga@hotmail.com

By laws & Constitution - Tom McElvy tmcelvy@cox.net This is a newly formed committee to draft a proposal for new bylaws and constitution.

Focus Groups Seeking members!

Photoshop Focus Group is seeking a new teacher
Contact Skip Morrow for details.

Beginner's Focus Group needs a meeting location,
contact Mark Huber at money.mark@cox.net.

Stephen Kinstler, **Education Coordinator**, is seeking instructors for various advanced topics this year. Please contact Stephen at vabeachportraits@cox.net to volunteer to teach your area of specialty.

NEXT BOARD MEETING - April 28th at 6:30 PM. Location:TBD. Board meetings are open to all. Club members are encouraged to attend and participate in the discussions. Great participation by club members (14 total) at the last meeting to discuss some important decisions. For details, see the minutes at <http://vabeachphotoclub.org/node/324>.

PHOTOGRAPHY

by

Pamela Jenkins
& Flo Womacks

April 4th - May 1st

aLatte' Café
321 Granby Street
Norfolk
757-625-2326



**An Opening Reception was held
April 4th • NOON-2:30 PM**



Visit Us On The Web - www.vbpc.org

Next Member Meeting - April 7th - 7:30 PM

Guest Speaker: Jeff Kaiser

<http://www.kaisercustomimages.com/>.

Topic: Selecting and preparing images for exhibit. Meetings last for about 1 1/2 hours. Refreshments are provided. Monthly photography competition for members in good standing. **Visitors always welcome!**

VBPC MEMBER EXHIBITS

IMAGES OF FAITH - A VBPC Photography Exhibit continues at the Virginia Beach United Methodist Church through April 30th. Visitors are welcome any time the church building is open. Enter through the double glass doors of the Welcome Center.

April 4th - May 1st: VBPC members, Pam Jenkins & Flo Womacks exhibit "The World Thru Our Eyes," at aLatte Café, 321 Granby Street in Norfolk. Join Pam & Flo for an afternoon of celebration at their opening, April 4th from 12:00-2:30 PM.

MEMBER EVENTS

April 19th - Education Workshop - Topic: Camera Raw. Education workshops are held the 3rd Tuesday monthly from 6:30-8:30 PM in room 210 of Community UM church.

April 25th - Stumpy Lake at 7:00 AM. Join VBPC member Scott Mackay on a trip to Stumpy Lake for local landscape photography. Please email Halie Hovenga at haliehovenga@hotmail.com to register.

FOCUS GROUPS

Wedding & Portraiture Focus Group

Lead by Greg Avant, this group meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month from 6:30 to 8:30 PM in room 210 of Community UM Church.

Photoshop Focus Group

The next meeting will be held in the Community UM Church library, April 7th, 6:00 - 7:00 PM prior to the membership meeting. This focus group is seeking a new instructor. Please contact Skip Morrow to volunteer your services at skip.morrow.mobile@gmail.com.

Strobist Focus Group,

Next meeting, April 23rd, 6:30 - 9:00 PM at ECPI College of Technology, 5555 Greenwich Rd., Virginia Beach, VA 23462 (Room 410 unless otherwise posted). This focus group consists of self-taught workshops by group members. Suggested text book: Light: Science & Magic: An Introduction to Photographic Lighting by Fil Hunter, Steven Biver, and Paul Fugua.

Beginner's Focus Group

Lead by Mark Huber. Join Mark for educational topics and learn to dramatically improve your photography from the nuts and bolts basics on up. Mark is currently seeking a meeting location for this group. Please contact Mark Huber at mark@cox.net or visit Beginner's Focus Group folder in the forum for information.

News Flash

Club member and professional photographer, Stephen Kinstler of Portrait Photography of Virginia Beach <http://www.vabeachweb.com>, has recently assumed the role of Education Coordinator as part of the Special Events Committee. Stephen will coordinate advanced photography workshops for education night, every 3rd Tuesday monthly. Please take a moment to thank Stephen the next time you see him and to ask him how you might get involved as a teacher or a participant at an upcoming advanced photography workshop.

At the April 21st education class, participants will discuss the ins and outs of Raw Processing.



"3 Friends" by Michael Junge
March's Black and White 1st Place (tied)
Competition Winner



"Chicks 'n Straw" by Susan Clever
March's Digital Alternative 1st Place Winner

**competition winners - march meeting
category - "open"**

COLOR

- 1st "Atilla" by Chris Bautista
- 2nd "The Pretty One" by Herman Ratcliffe
- 3rd "Cocktail Time" by Jeff Ellis
- HM "Summer" by Robin Stamper

BLACK & WHITE

- 1st "Triple Crown" by Robin Stamper
- 1st "3 Friends" by Michael Junge
- 2nd "The First Day" by Nancy Hatch
- 3rd "Mattamuskeet Light" by Herman Ratcliffe
- HM "Canal Country Cupboard" by Susan Clever

ALT

- 1st "Chicks 'n Straw" by Susan Clever
- 2nd "Day Lily" by Robin Stamper
- 3rd "Schooner Away" by Michael Junge
- 3rd "EFI" by Herman Ratcliffe
- HM "The Wild" by Nancy Hatch

**Competition rules are available on our
website at <http://vbpc.org>**

the 2009 competition categories are...

January	Open
February	Sunrises/Sunsets
March	Open
April	Silhouettes
May	Open
June	Curves

July	Open
August	Pets (Domestic animals with personality)
September	Open
October	Things that fly
November	Open
December	Doorways

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VIRGINIA BEACH PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB MISSION STATEMENT

2009 Club Officers

President

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

Vice President

Tom McElvy

Secretary

Tom McElvy

Treasurer

Belinda Traber

Committee Chairpersons

Competition

Mindy Bockrath

Membership

Belinda Traber

Newsletter

Susan Clever
cleverinc@cox.net

Special Events

Halie Hovenga

Webmaster

The 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 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 250k or less. Please include the title of the photograph as well. Please submit all items by the 15th of each month.

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