

THE CONTACT SHEET

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HUNTINGTON CAMERA CLUB'S MEMBERS MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

PRESIDENT - MIKE DIRENZO
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Huntington Camera Club

Volume 43

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www.huntingtoncameraclub.org

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PRESIDENT'S NOTES

Greetings To All,

OUCH!!! Hey, that was one tough judge we had for October. Although Bill scored hard and was stingy with the 9s, he was very insightful and had plenty of valuable advice for each and every shot. He definitely was very thorough in his examination of everyone's images. I checked the standings in our competitions, and looking at all the categories there are only five people with perfect 18 scores after only two months. Looks like we all have our work cut out for us this year. Best of luck to everyone. You better go out and shoot some more 9s because it looks like they are going to be hard to accumulate them this year.

The committees are now in place for our multiple PSA competitions. Remember to get your submissions in to be considered for these PSA competitions. The gallery that they must be entered into is in the HCC's Gallery under PSA Competitions. They must be sized correctly and your name must appear at the beginning of the title. If you need the password again, Email me and ask. I am not going to post the password here in the newsletter for safety reasons. Only images from this year's competitions, starting in September 2010 are eligible. I think these PSA competitions are going to be exciting and fun for our members, and they are a good way to get more of our members involved. Remember, you've got to be in it, to win it. Good luck to all.

We have some interesting presentations coming up in future weeks including a "Meet the Artists Night" on Tuesday October 26, 2010 featuring several Huntington Camera Club member including myself. Each of us will be presenting around fifteen shots and adding a little commentary for each image. This will be a night you won't want to miss.

On a final note, it's Autumn and it sure is a good time to go out and grab some foliage shots. I was down at the ocean a couple of days ago and the sunset sunlight reflecting off the sand sure made for some wonderful images. On October 22nd and 23rd the moonrise is going to feature an enormous orange moon as it breaks the horizon. Get yourself down to a beach and grab a nice clean moonrise shot. Here are a couple of tips. Take off your UV filter to prevent "ghost images" of the moon if you're looking directly at the moon. Try shooting with your white balance set on "cloudy" and it will add more saturation to your images. Bring a tripod and shoot with the mirror locked-up (thanks Richard) and hopefully you'll walk away with some 9s.

Regards, Mike DiRenzo - President



Notes from the Editor...October 2010

Autumn & Halloween... what a great time to photograph

This Month's Contact Sheet

Ellen Gallagher is a new member at HCC, but Ellen has been very active in photography around Long Island for some time. She runs one of the Stony Brook Olli classes, is an officer in PFLI, and was a member of the Nassau County Camera Club. Ellen really enjoys trying different techniques to create her images, she also enjoys images with great shapes and lines, as shown in this month's Contact Sheet cover.

Letters to Fannie Foto

Yes... Fannie is back! Read all about the advice she gives this month from questions submitted to her email address. Remember if anyone has a question, simply email Fannie at fanniefoto@gmail.com

Point of View

Joe Constantino has provided another great article, for this month Joe talks about his "point of view" on manipulation. As we all know in the digital photography world, "manipulation" as been a very hot topic. To add my two cents on this topic, I recently had a "manipulation" conversation with someone who was nominated for seven academy awards. He told me that back in Hollywood in mid 50's color prints were becoming the norm and replacing the black & white as the standard. Many photographers of the time felt color was manipulation and the only true "natural" image was black and white!

Sunday Shooters

If you are new to the club you need to check out the Sunday Shooters. Last year Bob Aversano was a new member and he decided to see what this group was all about. See the article that Bob wrote on what the Sunday Shooters means to him.

Closing Notes

I have touched a little on my closing topic in the past, but felt with all the new members it might be worth repeating. We are all photographers... but we are all different in our style... we may be different in what we want out of photography, how much time we can spend. Do we just like to capture an image, or do we enjoy sitting at the computer and creating something beyond the captured image. The list of differences goes on and on. Digital photography allows us an enormous pallet to choose from. And what we choose for ourselves is what makes us unique. It does not make us right or wrong. If another person decides to go in a direction different from me, I should not judge that person, but welcome his or her uniqueness as a way of expanding my own world.

ok enough of my rambling... The autumn color is waiting to give you a bunch of 9's... just go out and get em!

George

gfavchi@ameritech.net

Sunday Shooters Club

by Robert Aversano

It's Saturday night and I am already excited about Sunday's shooting activities. I am charging my batteries and putting together my gear (most of which will not come out of the car) for Sunday's activities. I arrive at the dinner at 8Am and enjoy a breakfast with my fellow club members (about 15-20) all eager to go out and shoot some photos.

After a lot of laughs and technical talk about Photoshop and camera gear someone asks the question "Where are we going". Small groups of people shout out "Coney Island", "Hicks", "Planting Fields", "Central Park", "DUMBO", NYC Highline". All, great locations for photography. You take your pick, team up with that group and off you go.

Lately, I have become fond of Sunday mornings and the "Sunday Shooters Club". What better way to spend a Sunday morning than with fellow club members that all have the same interest. They are a great group and newcomers are always welcome. Some members just come for breakfast and the lively discussion!

If you have not been to the Sunday Shooters Club lately, you definitely are missing out on one of the truly great opportunities that the Huntington Camera Club has to offer. Stop in one Sunday morning and I think you will be pleasantly surprised and guess what, you might also get some great photos!

This is where you can find the Sunday Shooters...

Oceancrest Diner

269 Walt Whitman Rd
Huntington Station , NY 11746

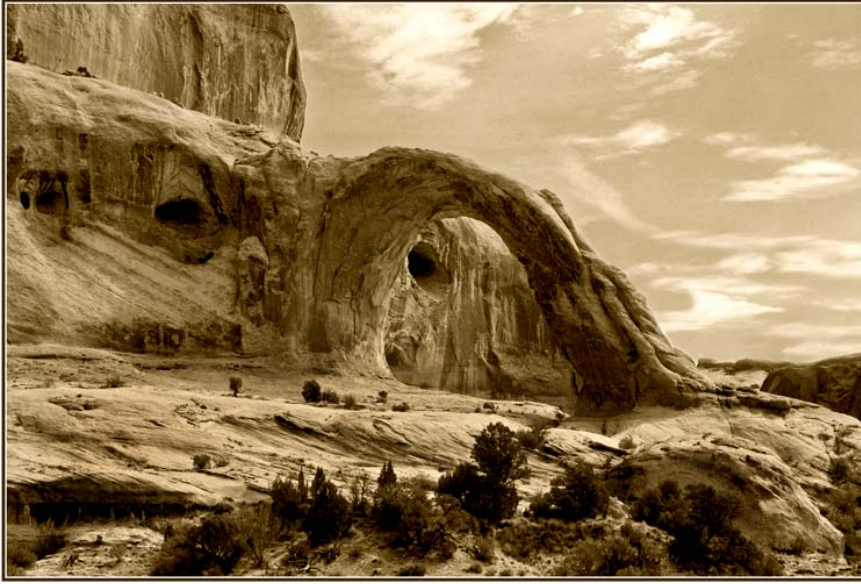
(631) 421-4424

It is on RT 110 across from the Bloomingdales parking lot.



The Winners – October Competition 2010

Formations – Carol Granoff Black & White Print of the Month



My husband Bob and I took a four week car trip to the western national parks which brought us to Moab, Utah for a week's stay in this town. The location was ideal to explore Arches National Park, Canyonlands National Park and Dead Horse State Park.

On July 4th, 2006, we decided to see some of the local arches outside the national park system. We stopped at Corona Arch, also called "Little Rainbow Bridge". We followed the trail to the register box, crossed over the tracks and followed an eroding road bed through a gap in the rim. Following the cairns (little piles of rock) towards the base of the large cliff; we climbed up to the first

safety cables and around to the second cable where steps had been cut into the slick rock. Corona Arch was visible from here. My husband was apprehensive to go any further. It was at least an incline of 50 degrees. He felt that if I ever wanted to be able to show these photos, it was a good idea to stop at this point. Fortunately, I had my assortment of lens for my Canon Rebel 300D.

I took a number of photos using my wide angle Canon 18-55mm lens. The wide angle took in both Corona Arch and Bowtie Arch, but the angle and impact of this photo enabled one to see eyes and a nose created by erosion. The sepia toning added to the western feeling. It was photographed at 12:18 pm. I converted the photo to black and white in CS4 and selected tint. It was taken at f 13 at 1/320th and an ISO of 400. The focal length was 55mm.

Post processing needed cloning from one of the darker areas of the sky to reduce the bright white cloud near the horizon. The sandstone surface, where light streamed through the arch needed some soft light burning to complete the formula for the POM photo named "Formations". I must thank all my friends who helped make my photos more successful.

Carol Granoff

Bayard Dalia – Kathy Hinkaty – Color Print of the Month



I went with a group of my photography friends to the Bayard Cutting Arboretum for the Dalia show. We went to the garden early in the morning, the light was great and we had a light rain the night before so there were water droplets on the flowers. I came across this very interesting insect and I loved the color combination of the pink flower with the orange, white and black bug. It patiently waited for me to get set up and I was able to get a few good shots before it moved on. I was using my macro 90mm lens and a tripod. In post-processing, I cropped the image slightly, burned the lower right corner a bit, and added a frame.

I'm delighted to have received POM. It is exciting for me to see my photos improve with time. Much of that is due to what I have learned being a member of HCC.

Canon 40D, Tamron 90 mm macro lens, f/10, 1/200 sec, ISO 100

Kathy

Judi McLaughlin back story



If at first...

Atlantis Marine World in Riverhead is a challenging place to visit with a camera. Kids everywhere, fingerprints on the glass and fish that never stop swimming. Thank goodness for digital cameras.

The Snow Monkey exhibit is small, only 3 monkeys but small is good to get close-ups. It just takes patience, patience, patience and it helps to make friends with the locals.

Judi

Editor note: the image at the left is not the winning image but shows Judi's attempt to get to know her subject. Did it pay off? See the next page for her winning entry and judge for yourself...

Mountain Man - Judi McLaughlin – Digital Projected Image of the Month



Straight photography or manipulation, which do you prefer? Should the image captured on film or in your digital camera be presented as taken or should you manipulate it to have it presented as you think it should be seen? The arguments for each are endless and the debate has been going on for years. The champion of straight photography, Alfred Stieglitz, who incidentally has done more to have photography accepted as a fine art than any other person, believes that the image should be presented and seen as taken. As previously indicated this is not a new issue. Many photographers manipulated their prints in the conventional darkroom with outstanding results. Probably the best in that regard was Jerry Uelsmann. If you haven't seen his work you're missing a wonderful experience. He used seven or eight enlargers to get the effect and results that he was seeking. To view some of his work go to www.uelmann.com His work is well worth seeing. His unique concepts have resulted in many creative images.

With the advent of digital photography the manipulation of an image becomes much simpler. The taking of the picture becomes subservient to what is done with it on the computer. The emphasis is now on the computer rather than the camera. Are we headed in the right direction? The object should always be to present the image in its best possible light, pun intended. However, the balance appears to be shifting from the camera to the computer to achieve the best possible result. Those with the necessary computer skills to achieve their ends will naturally find their solutions easier to come by. That is not to say that the skilled photographer cannot compete with the skilled technician. There is something to be said for both sides of the argument.

One area in photography that cannot be manipulated is photo journalism. The image must be presented as taken because of the news factor. The image cannot be altered in any way and that is another point that separates photo journalism from street photography. A street photography image can be manipulated at the discretion of the photographer.

More emphasis needs to be put on picture taking technique. Know your camera and everything it can do. Take your camera off the automatic setting and be more creative with your picture taking techniques. The technique portion of your image can just as easily come from the camera as from the computer. In any event enjoy your picture taking and come up with the best image from your camera or your computer. I prefer the camera.



IN FOCUS.....with Fannie Foto

Well, the autumn months are upon us and it's a wonderful time to get out and take some fabulous outdoor photos of sunsets, sunrises, fall foliage and other landscaping moments.

Thanks for all your questions. You have made me feel so welcomed and useful in my dotage.

You can contact Aunt Fannie at fanniefoto@gmail.com. I hope the following column inspires you to go out and shoot.

Until next time....**SMILE...either behind the camera or in front..you choose...**

Dear Aunt Fannie,

I am planning on taking several landscaping trips. What are some of the essentials I should bring with me to get those great shots?

Landscape Louie

Dear Louie,

The #1 item on any list would be a tripod (ask anyone!). With landscapes you'll want lots of depth of field, which means a higher f/stop, which means longer exposure, which means more camera shake, which means...well you get the picture... A tripod will eliminate most of the camera shake.

You can also bring along a cable release while using your tripod to eliminate the camera shake when manually pressing the shutter or simply use the self-timer option.

Polarizing Filters darkens or deepens the color of blue skies and eliminates reflections on water. It also helps reduce incoming light when you need longer shutter speeds.

Neutral Density Filters reduces the amount of light coming into your camera. They are especially helpful on longer shutter speeds. Also, it is a great way to slow water, to get that soft effect.

A good backpack to carry all your goodies. A little birdie recommended the Lowepro Fastpack 350. (this in no way constitutes an endorsement or solicitation of this product!) I'm told it slings to the side and you can take your camera out without having to remove the backpack.

Here are a couple of other tips: bring a flashlight! How many of you have trekked into the woods or beach before sunset to get the most beautiful shot only to stumble in the dark to find your way back. **EXTRA BATTERIES!** Lots of water or your favorite beverage. And for those unpredictable weather conditions, a plastic shower cap (you know the ones they give out in hotels). They're great for slipping over your lens to keep it dry and they're free!

So Louie, get out there and let's see those 9's!..or at least enjoy the sights and sounds..life is too short and you don't want to miss it.

Thanks for your questions and keep them coming. Send them to me at fanniefoto@gmail.com

The quickest way to make money at photography is to sell your camera...Anonymous