

# REFLECTIONS



THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE STONY BROOK CAMERA CLUB

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## **Batter Up** *by Glenn Browning*

"Batter Up!!" The adrenaline begins to flow when this cry is heard. The batter steps to the plate full of anticipation. His teammates share his excitement. The stands are filled with people looking on, thrilled by the prospects of success they envision as the home team opens up another season, or another game. "Batter Up!!" is the signal something great is about to happen.

When we were younger and playing the game, this excitement was felt by all of us. In one way or another, we were called to the plate. Those who were confident in their talent strode to the plate knowing they could pull through for the team. Those who were less confident hoped for the best. Those of us with next to no confidence feared being called to step up when the game was on the line. But, it happened and, as part of the team, we did what we had to do.

Life changed for all of us, but the call "Batter Up!!" keeps being applied to us in many situations. As the "umpire" for SBCC, I am now calling out "Batter Up!!" to each and every member of the club. The time has come for everyone in the club to stride up to the plate and help the team in any way possible. There are SBCC members who have come to the plate year after year and given so much to the club. Everyone knows who they are – the "stars" of the team, the names you hear repeated meeting after meeting, the people you have seen standing at the plate many times during the year, the names in the "program". There are other members who have given so much in less obvious ways. The committee chairs and the committee members who have strived to make this club successful. You have seen them; you have heard their names and you have counted on them to pull through for the club.

These are the people who have shown up year after year on the field. These are the people

responsible for making the club so successful we have been able to fill the stands to capacity. Unlike a game, however, SBCC is real life. SBCC does not play a game. SBCC is a living organism whose increased size requires more support than people just sitting in the stands attending the meetings to see what is happening. SBCC has been fortunate to have the active team members who have served so well year after year. But, with 166 official members, and a waiting list of people who want to get into the club, the existing active team is too small to successfully keep SBCC going.

This year, is "Step up to the Plate Year" for those of you who are sitting in the stands. I will be asking each of you to step out of the stadium seats and join the team on the field this year. There are many opportunities for each of you to also step up to the plate and give something to your club. There are plenty of people who are willing to help out the club, but do not know how to take the first step. So, here are some suggestions.

There are many standing committees and there will be some new committees formed to meet the needs of such a large organization. One place you can give something back to the club is on one of these committees. For the summer, we have already formed a program committee to help Rosemarie Marsh, our new Vice President, develop a program for next year. We have extremely competent chairs of slide, digital and print committees, but I personally do not think the chair should also be the committee. Likewise, we have "openings" for you on the social, scholarship, equipment and competition committees. Our field and mentoring committees are struggling and need more members to help get these programs off the ground. Do you have some computer experience? We are going to expand our digital committee to provide instruction in all aspects of computer work for the successful digital photographer. We also need help maintaining our website.

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**James Jones**  
**Mike DiStefano** Past Presidents

**COMMITTEES:**

Slide/Print study	Ray Guillette
Equipment	Dan Charbonnet
Field Trips	Jim & Jessica Jones
Reflections	Denise Maclachlan
Workshops	Ken Wiedemann, Bob Sheppard, Ray Guillette, Harry Davis, Andre Bourque, Shiv Verma, Jim Jones
Refreshments	Melba Armour
Judges	John Fuller
Database	Dan Charbonnet
Nominations	Bob Doyle
Scholarship Fund	B. Manning, J. Cormier, V. Schepps, G. Browning
Digital	Bob Sheppard
Webmaster	Shiv Verma
PSA Representative	John Fuller
NECCC Representative	Ray Guillette

**COMPETITIONS:**

Color Slides	Jessica Jones
B&W Prints	Bob Doyle
Color Prints	Ray Guillette
Digital	Bob Sheppard
PSA/NECCC	Dan Charbonnet
Multi-screen	Jim Jones

**STONY BROOK CAMERA CLUB**

**PURPOSE:** To promote enjoyment and proficiency in all aspects of photography through education by mutual exchange of knowledge and experience; and, to promote a broad appreciation of our environment.

**MEETINGS:** Meetings will be held every Thursday of each month; no meetings in July and August. Consult the SBCC Calendar of Events. All meetings start at 7:30 P.M. The regular meeting place is the Wrentham Senior Center, 400 Taunton Street, Wrentham. Mailing address: Stony Brook Camera Club, P.O. Box 20, Wrentham, MA 02093-0020

**DUES:** Individuals: \$50.00, Families: \$75.00, and \$25.00 for students and members over 65 years of age. To be eligible for competitions, dues must be paid before the first competition.

**NEWSLETTER:** Published six times during the year for Aug/Sept, Oct/Nov, Dec/Jan, Feb/Mar, Apr/May, and Jun/Jul and solely for the information, guidance and enjoyment of the Stony Brook Camera Club, Wrentham, MA.

**OFFICERS:** Elected annually and serve as the executive committee with two past presidents. The Stony Brook Camera Club is affiliated with the New England Camera Club Council and is a member of the Photographic Society of America.

Does becoming a committee member conjure up fears of being watched as you step up to the plate? You could be more behind the scenes as a regular contributor to the food table. You could come early to the meetings and help set up the room, or stay a little later and help return the room to its original condition. You could become a regular contributor to you own column in the newsletter. You could be the person who talks to the other members and gathers information about favorite places to shoot and sends it to the website. You could be aware of articles in magazines or websites that would be of interest to the club and send that information to the newsletter or website. You can help spread the good work of the club by helping display our prints in libraries and other locations throughout the area our club serves. You can volunteer to lead a field trip to a favorite place you like to photograph.

This year I want people to volunteer to step forward and give back to SBCC. There are many large and small activities that need "batters" to keep this club alive and thriving. This is your year to step up to the plate and give back to the club that has given so much to you. Do not spend the year sitting in the stands as a few members continue to give their all to the club. Step up and help out. Become a giver, not a taker.

I am looking forward to this year because I know you will step out of the stands and you will give to the club. You will become involved in the life of a club that has provided so much and will continue to provide so much to your growth as a photographer. You will become part of the SBCC team and not just a spectator. You will see where the club needs improvement and you will step up make the improvement, not just sit in the stands and grumble the team is having a rough inning. Together, we will become a formidable, strong, cohesive team which will boost the strength of the club – educating our members in the ways of photography in a friendly, cooperative atmosphere. What a great year this will be!

To ease the transition to the new club year, you can e mail me at: [gbrowning@comcast.net](mailto:gbrowning@comcast.net) to volunteer to be a "batter," or, wait until September when I will approach you to give something back to the club.

By the way, why is it called the stands when everyone sits?  
 .....

**NH Waterfalls Mentor/Field Trip  
 by Denise Maclachlan**

The NH waterfalls mentor/field trip finally took place following a one week postponement due to rain. The group of photographers hiked in the heat and humidity to Thomson Falls, Upper and Lower Cascades, Glenn Ellis Falls, Jackson Falls, and Diana's Bath. Mentors shared lenses, filters, and advice for obtaining great shots of these beautiful sites. Thanks to Ken & Eva Coop, and Glenn Browning for hosting guests in their homes. (Steve Tierney and guest missed our group photo)



*Photo by Glenn Browning*

## SOULSCAPES (Part 2 of 2)

by Ray Guillette

### FAMILIARITY

*You CAN go home again.*

Don't know where to start? It's often best to return to familiar places. While there is value and excitement in searching for new landscapes, it is in returning to the familiar ones that allows the best images to emerge. Knowing a location well saves energy otherwise spent searching, and allows you to find images that are suggested by light and atmosphere. Time is conserved, since prior visits have already found productive areas. And when a certain condition of light or weather emerges, the right place to maximize its potential is already known.

It takes time and energy to explore a new location. But at a familiar place energy can be directed elsewhere. There is more opportunity to express creativity. The act of looking is made easier, and leaves more time for the art of seeing. Different viewpoints and techniques can make unique images in familiar places. The changes observed at the same location through the seasons, at different times of day, and in different weather can create major differences in your images. The knowledge gained in one place can be applied to many.

### CREATIVITY

*"They could tell me how to paint their landscape, but they couldn't tell me how to paint mine."*

*Georgia O'Keefe*

One of the best ways to show your feelings about the landscape is to present it with a creative expression of what's really there, making your own personal vision of what everyone else sees, too. Digital image manipulation has given us many creative tools, but there are other options we can use to express our own way of seeing. Filters, montages, and soft or selective focus techniques can make the image our own.

Viewpoint and lens selection contribute to creativity, as does being in a familiar location. But the best way to let your creative juices flow is to be free of technical concerns, and then to give your mind all the time it needs to express itself. If you're in a rush, or have to pause and look for your exposure controls, your creative process will slow down or stop.

To enhance creativity, keep looking, and then abstract the landscape. Try to visualize the image as an arrangement of colors, shapes, lines, and forms. Then arrange these graphic elements into a composition that makes sense to you. Defocusing to a slightly fuzzy image may help you see this. Once you have reduced the image to its basic elements, you can then make a balanced composition that has the important elements exactly where you want

them to be.

Telephoto lenses allow us to select a smaller portion of the scene. This is a very personal and creative way of showing the landscape. The viewer sees only what you select. You can make the scene into an abstract pattern by excluding ground and sky, and using long lens optics to minimize depth perception. These choices concentrate graphics, and emotional impact as well.

### STORY

*Go out and get yourself an audience.*

Producing audiovisual sequences is the most gratifying way to communicate your message. Images with simple composition, good technique, and impact are important, but VARIETY is the essential ingredient in any successful AV presentation. Variety will carry a sequence with some flawed images, but a sequence with prize-winning images and no variety will usually seem flat to the viewer. Try different viewpoints and lenses. Shoot high up and low down. Show the grand scene with wide angle shots, isolate areas that are important to your story, and close in on details. Details often tell a more personal story than wide views. They also let viewers "fill in the blanks" with their own emotions. Creative images can also add variety to your story.

If possible, use complimentary colors to add impact to your show. Green and red are compliments, so when a green slide is followed by a red slide, both appear fully saturated.

Try to shoot a group of images with similar horizons so they will dissolve smoothly. The dissolve, or interface between two images, should not be so noticeable that it takes attention away from the images themselves.

And be sure to shoot some images without a horizon, to connect images with conflicting graphics and uneven horizons. Avoid frequent changes between horizontal and vertical formats, which will distract from your message.

The sequence should have a unified theme or story line. It could be the story of a place, a season, a time of day, or simply a group of images that make you feel the same way. You don't have to show everything that's there to develop a story, just the parts you choose. Simplicity of theme is just as important as simplicity of composition.

When adding music, try to let each musical phrase contain a single clear statement. Try to visualize a beginning, an end point, and a high point in your sequence. The music you select will usually determine where the high point falls in the sequence.

So take us along as you explore the wonders of your world...out there in the landscape, surrounded by potential.

## **Meetings in Review...by our Members**

### **May 1 – Ann Bertulli**

Bob Singer joined us to present a workshop called Seeing the Light. He feels strongly (very strongly!) that light is the key ingredient of photography. Bob explained about the kinds of light, the intensity, size, color, direction and shape of light, and how understanding it and how to use it can make us better photographers. After his presentation he invited us to join his forum at [mydigitalphoto.info](http://mydigitalphoto.info) and pulled out his big bag of interesting toys. Strobes, slave feet and bare bulb slaves were discussed and demonstrated. There was also a video shown at the end.

### **May 8 -- Competition**

Sue Mosser judged our final competition of the year consisting of AA Slides (General and Nature), B&W Prints, Altered Reality, and Digital Nature.

### **May 15 – Denise Maclachlan**

The annual business meeting offered members the opportunity to vote in the new board; President, Glenn Browning; Vice-President, Rosemarie Marsh; Treasurer, Don Plouffe, Secretary, Brenda Cleveland. Congratulations! Paul Smith selected images of the year – a difficult task! Thanks to Paul for a great job!

### **May 22 – Dan Charbonnet**

Stony Brook was honored to host Contest #3 of the PSA Nature Division Digital Interclub Competition for the 2007-08 season. I was the Competition Chair; judges were: Shiv Verma, Michael Di Stefano, and Kent Crossley – all active and successful nature exhibitors and members of the Massachusetts Camera Naturalists. 22 Clubs participated in this contest, each submitting 4 images, for a total of 88 top notch nature images. Each judge scored 2-5 points for each image, giving an image a possible minimum score of 6 to a possible maximum score of 15. The PSA Digital Nature Interclub has two levels of individual awards, the top being a Blue “Award of Merit” ribbon and the second being a Red “Honor” ribbon. The five images with the highest score were awarded the “Award of Merit”. Once the five “Award of Merit” winners were determined, they were combined with the 10 “Award of Merit” winners from the other two contests of the season. The judges then chose the Nature Digital Interclub Image of the Year, an exceptional image of two eagles in mid air battle by Rob Palmer of the

Loveland Photographic Society. The highest scoring club for this contest was the New Haven Camera Club with a total of 53 points. Stony Brook was in the middle of the pack with a total of 44 points. Members of the club were treated to a sample of top nature photography from through out the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom. The images were scored 6-15 with the Glendora Camera Club submitting a makeup entry due to their judging of Contest #2. Unfortunately, they were only able to submit 3 images for the makeup set. After the Awards and Honors were selected, the 5 images winning Awards were combined with the 10 images that received Awards in Contest #1 and Contest #2.

### **May 29 – Ed Gooltz**

Stony Brook Camera Club treated themselves to its first “Voice of Photography” event. And what a treat it was! Based on the positive participation and equally positive audience response, this will become an annual event. Many members brought in prints, slides, and digital images that represented significant memories in their lives. The “Voice” that accompanied the images helped share and explain the moments the taker experienced at the time of capture. The subject matter ran the full gamut of the spectrum from people, places, and feelings being edged in the mind of the maker and captured for future sharing. Although these images were not “judge quality” in all cases, it was more significant, it was the pride of the maker. Bob Yankee set the tone with his heart warming words of what he is now trying to achieve or I should say is achieving. Bob is capturing pictures that will yield an endless feeling of calm and serenity. I would be proud to have some of his work on my walls. Others had the “Voice” of children and grandchildren or other significant people or places in their lives. And who could forget seeing the photo of the outside of the dilapidated orphanage and seeing the image of the little precious girl being offered a new life of happiness and smiles. Those few hours on Thursday night allowed the maker to share heartfelt passion with fellow members. And to that I say thanks for allowing us in to a piece of your life thru photography - for the story without the images or the images without the story would never have conveyed the emotion or the event. To me it was the best meeting of the year; Randy thanks for the initial thoughts and Glenn thanks for the follow thru. As Joe Kennedy voiced from a quote he attributed to Wayne Gretzky, “You miss 100 percent of the shots you never take.” After a quick web search to verify the quote, some say it was his Dad saying it

to a young Wayne. Regardless, the point is go out and take a slice of life – time does not have a redo button.

**June 5 – Glenn Browning**

Donna Leonardo presented the premier showing of *Nature's Serenade*, for the club. The show opened with a visit to Montana with images from Donna and Dick and Joan Shirley who travelled together. Other images were from Alaska, California, Colorado, Arizona, and Wyoming. The show was a mix of landscape and animal portraits and included some short movies. Donna's landscape images were breathtaking and her animal images captured a variety of facial expressions. Donna's images have always captivated us at SBCC and her show was no different. Donna then answered questions, including how the image of the bear "hugging" Donna and her camera and tripod was captured. *Nature's Serenade* was an outstanding show to end the SBCC year.

**June 12 – Denise Maclachlan**

Our Annual Awards Banquet and slide shows highlighted our final meeting this year. Thanks to Mike O'Connor for assembling the spectacular compilation of member slide shows and Melba Armour for organizing a great potluck buffet!

<i>Class B Color Prints:</i>	<i>Class A Color Prints:</i>
1 <sup>st</sup> Kathy Seraphin	1 <sup>st</sup> Joan Shirley
2 <sup>nd</sup> Tony Mistretta	2 <sup>nd</sup> Diane Robertson
3 <sup>rd</sup> Kirsten Torkelson	3 <sup>rd</sup> Richard Shirley

*Black and White Prints*  
 1<sup>st</sup> Andre Bourque  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Michael DiStefano  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Tony Mistretta

<i>Class B Slides Open</i>	<i>Class A Slides Open</i>
1 <sup>st</sup> Ken Coop	1 <sup>st</sup> Denise Maclachlan
2 <sup>nd</sup> Sue Godin	2 <sup>nd</sup> Marie Mullaney
3 <sup>rd</sup> Daniel McIntyre	3 <sup>rd</sup> Paul Burke

<i>Class A Slides Nature</i>	<i>Class AA Slides Nature</i>
1 <sup>st</sup> Glenn Browning	1 <sup>st</sup> John Fuller
2 <sup>nd</sup> Robert Lehanka	2 <sup>nd</sup> Mary O'Connell
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Michael DiStefano
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Diane Robertson

*Class AA Slides Open*  
 1<sup>st</sup> Michael DiStefano  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Diane Robertson  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Ray Guillette

*Altered Reality Slides*

1<sup>st</sup> Ray Guillette  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Mary O'Connell

<i>Class B Digital Open</i>	<i>Class A Digital Open</i>
1 <sup>st</sup> Charles Call	1 <sup>st</sup> Andre Bourque
2 <sup>nd</sup> Joe Kennedy	1 <sup>st</sup> Monica Verma
3 <sup>rd</sup> Robert DeRobertis	2 <sup>nd</sup> Shiv Verma
3 <sup>rd</sup> Denise Duhamel	3 <sup>rd</sup> Linda Barnes

<i>Class B Digital Nature</i>	<i>Class A Digital Nature</i>
1 <sup>st</sup> Taylor Yeager	1 <sup>st</sup> Shiv Verma
2 <sup>nd</sup> Kathy Seraphin	2 <sup>nd</sup> Monica Verma
3 <sup>rd</sup> Joe Kennedy	3 <sup>rd</sup> Joan Shirley

*Digital Creative*  
 1<sup>st</sup> Jean Schmidt  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Denise Duhamel  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Kathy Seraphin

**John Locke Award**  
 Kathy Seraphin

**David Hughes Award for Creative Photography**  
 Jean Schmidt

**2008 IMAGES OF THE YEAR**

<i>Class B Color Prints</i> "MOTIF NUMBER 1" James West	<i>Class A Color Prints</i> "BOTTLE" Diane Robertson
<i>Black &amp; White Prints</i> "SUNRISE IN SANTA CRUZ" James West	<i>Class B Open Slides</i> "UP CLOSE LILY" Ken Coop
<i>Class A General Slides</i> "SUNSET REFLECTIONS" Denise Maclachlan	<i>Class A Nature Slides</i> "UPPER CASCADES" Glenn Browning
<i>Class AA General Slides</i> "BEAR LAKE REFLECTIONS" Michael DiStefano	<i>Class AA Nature Slides</i> "FAWN REFLECTION" Michael DiStefano
<i>Altered Reality Slides</i> "FOLIAGE IN FOG" Raymond Guillette	<i>Class B Nature Digital</i> "FAMILY SWIM" Kathy Seraphin
<i>Class B General Digital</i> "DRAGONFLY + SUNFLOWER #3" Charles Call	
<i>Class A General Digital</i> "NORTHERN GANNET PAIR" Monica Verma	
<i>Class A Nature Digital</i> "GANNET WITH CHICK" Shiv Verma	
<i>Creative Digital</i> "TALI SPACE" Robert Patterson	

## MULTISCREEN 2008-2009

All competition photographs must be taken May 1, 2008, or later.

### Digital

Apples	Dancing	Glass	Rock(s)	Trains
Bad	Down home	Happy	Shadow	Upside down
Bell(s)	Fire	Ice	Shore bird	View from below
Bright light	Food	Musical Instrument	Silhouette(s)	Waterfall(s)
Construction	Fun	Purple	Slice	

### Slides

Abandoned	Feather(s)	Lighthouse(s)	Seascape	Tree(s)
Bell(s)	Framed	Moss	Shell(s)	Upside down
Butterfly(ies)	Glass	Patriotic	Silhouette(s)	Waterfall(s)
Chair(s)	Goopy	Reflection(s)	Spiral	Wave(s)
Curve(s)	Hand(s)	Rock(s)	Sweet(s)	



## STONY BROOK CAMERA CLUB "REFLECTIONS"

### *A PSA Award-Winning Newsletter*

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