

REFLECTIONS



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THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE STONY BROOK CAMERA CLUB

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Field Trip to Regal Reptiles Zoo by Tony Mistretta

On Sunday, Feb. 17, fifteen members of SBCC ventured to visit the Regal Reptiles Zoo (www.regalreptiles.com) in Downtown Providence, RI. The zoo is located in a non-descript industrial part of Providence, and doesn't look like much from the outside, which probably explains why it is not very well-known. Once inside, however, we found that the zoo is home to over 400 species of frogs, lizards, snakes, turtles and alligators, amphibians and invertebrates from all around the world. A very helpful animal specialist and zoo employee helped us to set up lighting and backgrounds for various creatures that he brought out for us to photograph in our own private area of the building. We were able to observe and learn about the animals as we photographed them. These included a Hairy Scorpion, a Red Eyed Tree Frog, a Bearded Dragon lizard a Dwarf Cayman lizard, a Rose Haired Tarantula, and a Red Foot Tortoise. No one was the least bit skittish, even when they brought out the snakes with forked tongues that darted in and out. We also had access to the rest of the zoo where we were allowed to photograph the many other critters in their near-natural environments. When were done, we had worked up an appetite, so we migrated to the nearby historic Federal Hill part of Providence, and found a pizzeria where we

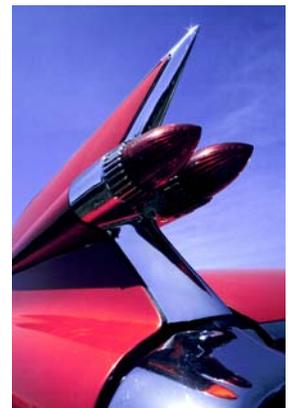
had lunch, followed by dessert at a nearby coffee and pastry house. All in all, we had a great experience and will likely have photos of exotic reptiles to show at our next image study and/or competition.

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Museum of Transportation Photo Contest by Bob Doyle

The Museum of Transportation at Larz Anderson Park in Brookline recently ran a photo contest with three categories: motorcycle, truck, and car. I entered the truck and car categories and won first place in both. My prints are now hanging in the museum.

The MOT houses the oldest car collection in the U.S. and it has been involved with the collector car community for more than seventy five years. This year, the Museum will sponsor more than twenty outdoor car shows--usually specializing in specific marques or country of origin--with vehicles ranging Volkswagens to Studebakers and from Rolls Royces to micro cars. They also offer a lecture series and regular concerts.



Congratulations Bob!!!

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James Jones Past Presidents
Mike DiStefano

Hudson Bay – A Frigid Take on Beauty by Mary O’Connell

We flew in during a snowstorm, flew out in an ice storm with temperature 30 below zero – but in between was some of the most exciting animal viewing I’ve ever seen of the polar bears on Hudson Bay, Churchill, Manitoba, Canada.

The bears will gather by the middle of October on the southern shores of Hudson Bay and patiently wait for the bay to freeze. After movements of the tide create pressure, cracking opens channels over large areas which makes the perfect seal habitat. Not very far offshore, the bears will keep testing the ice until mid-November when all is frozen and they are gone almost overnight to hunt for the rich seal areas on pack ice.

Safely aboard our tundra buggy, the excitement is felt by all as far off we see our first bear lumbering slowly toward us from the vast snow, ice, and rock tundra. To travel the tundra in the huge buggies is indeed a feat. It is very bumpy with large rocks, dips into ice-covered pools of water, and slipping at times, does add much adventure.

The tundra has its own fascination and beauty in the stark cold appearance. However, if one looks closely, hidden in the low willow bushes are beautiful white willow ptarmigans -- part of the grouse family. They have chunky bodies, short tails, and legs with large snowshoe-like feet which help them walk in the snow. As we traveled on farther into the tundra to look for bears, another surprise was in store – a beautiful arctic fox. They are usually very skittish and run away very quickly, but this fox was so busy hunting for a rodent, we were able to photograph him for twenty minutes as he was busily scratching, sniffing, and digging relentlessly for his prey. His white fur and black eyes camouflaged him so well in the bushes. Such awe you felt to see Mother Nature’s work!



If the excitement was high seeing our first bear far off, everyone could hardly contain themselves when all of a sudden there were six -- playing, pushing, investigating -- all in excellent view! They are big, weighing as much as 1500 lbs and standing nine feet tall. When one stood up on the side of the vehicle, you knew they were big! Beautiful color, more off-white than white – huge paws and powerful. Traveling on we happened upon a mother and a year-old cub. She would keep the cub with her for one more year – very protective. You could see the fear and agitation when it became crowded.

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.



All in all we saw many bears on the three days we were out there, each one providing its own entertainment for us. To see this big, beautiful carnivore gingerly making its way across a body of water, testing to see if it was frozen, daintily putting each paw down, and providing much laughter for us. As the last day ended and we headed back, all of us were caught up in our own thoughts of what we had seen. I was able to glance at a very, very beautiful sunset across the cold, icy tundra. Having not seen the sun for days, this seemed to be a fitting end to an incredible travel experience.

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**It's NECCC's 63rd Anniversary
Share This Special Weekend with Us**

Help the New England Camera Club Council celebrate its 63rd anniversary with your presence at the University of Massachusetts Amherst Campus July 11th, 12th, and 13th, 2008. This year promises to be the best photographic experience ever.

The NECCC has brought you fun filled educational weekends for the past 62 years and this year we are better than ever! We've read your comment sheets and have incorporated your suggestions wherever we could. There are more digital programs in larger rooms. We have the return of frequently requested speakers, and for the first time ever we have two Pre-Conference 3 hour Workshops and a Portfolio Review. One (3 hour) workshop is for beginner and intermediate users of Photoshop Elements. The other 3 hour workshop is for experienced users of CS3. The Portfolio review is also a pre-Conference opportunity. Details are in the registration flyer. Canon and Nikon are lending digital cameras once again this year. Look for them at the base of the escalator in the Campus Center.

Hewlett Packard is donating as a door prize the tuition for a 2008 Santa Fe Workshop valued from \$700-\$1700. Details are in the registration flyer.

Our programs provide something for everyone from the beginning photographer to the more advanced. The NECCC Camera College presenters share techniques with their professionalism and

enthusiasm which will allow you to fine tune your photography and bring it to a higher level. Cutting edge techniques in digital imaging are brought to the forefront; the beauty of nature is displayed in the images captured by photographic artists; the art of travel photography is explored along with print making and portraiture. Programs in digital photography, photojournalism and interpretive photography will keep you moving from session to session. Catch your breath in our Showcase Theaters where you will appreciate the wonders of exceptional photography set to music for your entertainment and enjoyment.

The keynote speaker this year is none other than George Lepp, sponsored by Canon. He is one of North America's best known contemporary outdoor and nature photographers. Other professional photographers are appearing through the generosity of many sponsors: Tim Grey (Microsoft), Stephen Johnson (Hewlett Packard), Adam Jones and Onne van der Wal (Canon), David Middleton, Michael Schwarz and Gary Stanley (Nikon), Jon Novosielsk (Wacom) and Janice Wendt (Nik Software).

Along with all the programming and special events, there will also be over twenty models for you to photograph, as well as various set-ups in still-life, glassware, creative lighting, character models, and small animal nature subjects. Be sure to bring your images to enter into the competitions available to you (Print, Slide, Digital), as well as extra money or your ever faithful credit card, for a visit to our vendors' area. We will also have a Sunday morning outdoor photo opportunity.

If you have joined us in the past you know what a great deal this weekend is. This year bring a friend with you and introduce them to the best photo weekend available in the USA. This conference attracts over 1200 attendees each year. Registration for the three day weekend is \$134.

Please visit our web site for full and updated information at www.neccc.org. You may also request a registration form from NECCC c/o Abe Reisman, P. O. Box 2544, Springfield, MA 01101, or e-mail him at RNECCC@aol.com. If you have any questions about the programming you can e-mail Antoinette Gombeda at agombeda@optonline.net.

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Editor's Note: Please note that I will collect prepaid registrations to qualify members for the group rate. See me by April 4 with your completed registration and payment. --- Denise Maclachlan

Meetings in Review...by our Members

January 3 – Tom & Brenda Cleveland

We brought in the new year with our annual New Membership Show. The temperature outside was bitter cold, but inside things were hot!!! All of the participants not only showed wonderful images, but also were entertaining as well.

There were images from around the globe as well as close to home. Each member spoke highly of how this club has helped them in many ways to improve on their photography, and if the images we saw are any indication, then we are doing our job very well.

There was one member who made a commitment to take an image every day for 366 days of 2008 while improving her skills along the way. Another member introduced herself as a "photo-holic", and was happy to find other "photo-holics" to enjoy.

Truly, it was a most entertaining evening and we thank all the members who shared both their images and their stories.

January 10 – Steve Myers

If you were unfortunate enough to miss the meeting of January 10 you missed a special night. The presentations on "The Creative Process" by Andre Bourque, Tony Mistretta and Ray Guillette were exceptional.

Andre started off the night with a presentation of the creative process through PhotoShop CS3 software. Andre opened his presentation showing the dramatic effects that can be realized by converting certain color images to black and white images. He followed that by demonstrating the creative possibilities of blending changes using the tools provided in CS3. Throughout Andre's presentation, he stressed the importance of not being afraid to try things. Great advice for all of us.

Tony Mistretta suggested that a photo is a recording and it doesn't have to tell the truth. He stressed that post processing should compliment the original image and went on to demonstrate various software techniques that are comparable to what was done in the old chemical darkrooms. Tony showed the polarization effects in B&W and color images using the right combination of filters, the building of montages and how to develop a mandala, an image of a concentric organization of geometric shapes.

Whereas Andre's and Tony's creative work involved PhotoShop software, Ray's presentation was geared to film. Stressing that all of us are creative, Ray mentioned that the ingredients for

creativity are Inspiration, Time and Freedom. You need to be daring and bold and inspired to play around with your images. Time is a gift that you give yourself and Freedom is allowing one thing to lead to another. Ray demonstrated that there are hidden images in otherwise plain images if we look for them then closed out the night showing how he constructs his unique montages.

January 17 – Ken Coop

Stony Brook hosted the Winter NECCC Print Competition. This meeting was devoted to the honor of hosting the NECCC Winter 2008 Print Competition. No one could recall when, if ever, the club last hosted such an event, but it has been at least 20 years. Members and guests were treated to over 250 entries from 30 clubs around New England in color and black and white categories. These images, consisting of the "best of the best" that New England camera clubs have to offer, were truly awe-inspiring to the appreciative audience. We can take great pride that Stony Brook turned in an impressive performance with a first-place finish in the color print category, thus maintaining our standing over multiple NECCC Competitions.

January 24 – Image Study Night

Ray Guillette hosted our second image study night.

January 31 – Competition

Mike Goodman judged our fifth competition of the year consisting of B Slides, A Slides (Gen & Nature), B&W Prints, Altered Reality, and Digital Creative.

February 7 – Linda Barnes

Those of us who were able to attend Jake Mosser's program received a double blessing. First, we were captivated by the beauty of nature as captured through the sensitive and artistic eye of Jake Mosser. Then we were inspired to go out and make our own images by taking hold of our cameras, opening our eyes and our hearts, and stepping out of our own back doors and into the wilderness.

Jake treated us to an evening of beautifully composed, extraordinary images of what some would consider the ordinary things found in nature. These images were paired with poetic passages of prose written by Jake and perfectly aligned with the visual story. If this were not enough, Jake also

2008 PROGRAM SCHEDULE

<u>DATE</u>	<u>PRESENTER</u>	<u>MEETING THEME</u>
2/28/08	All SBCC Members	Competition #6: AA Slides (Gen & Nature), Color Prints (A&B), Digital Open
3/6/08	All SBCC Members	Humor Night
3/13/08	John Fuller	Cuba or Penguins Show
3/20/08	All SBCC Members	Image Study Night (moderator Ray Guillette)
3/27/08	All SBCC Members	Competition #7: B Slides, B&W Prints, Altered Reality, Digital Nature
4/3/08	Jim Jones	Multiscreen Selections
4/10/08	All SBCC Members	Competition #8: A Slides (Gen & Nature), B&W Prints, Altered Reality, Digital Creative, Digital Open
4/17/08	Kristin Gleason	Night in Australia Show
4/24/08	All SBCC Members	Image Study Night (moderator Ray Guillette)
5/1/08	Bob Singer	Flash Workshop
5/8/08	All SBCC Members	Competition #9: AA Slides (Gen & Nature), B&W Prints, Altered Reality, Digital Nature
5/15/08	All SBCC Members	Business Meeting and Select Images of the Year
5/22/08	Dan Charbonnet	PSA Nature
5/29/08	All Members	Voice of Photography (moderator Glenn Browning)
6/5/08	Donna Leonardo	Untitled Show
6/12/08	SBCC Members	Annual Awards Banquet - Slide Shows

encouraged us to open our own eyes to see what is around us and instructed us in the ways of capturing nature through the art of photography while always respecting nature and causing it no harm. The evening proved to be a feast for the eyes, the mind, and for the soul.

February 14 – Glenn Browning

The Feb. 14th meeting was an interesting hands-on photography shoot. Unfortunately, John Kerns was not feeling well enough to attend the meeting and we all wish John a speedy recovery. Shiv Verma set up a hands-on photo shoot to take John's place. Shiv explained the theory of depth of field and had a photo demonstration of the depth of field concept. And, Shiv provided a set-up of Valentine flowers against a white background. Shiv also provided a hands-on for polarized refracted light using distressed plastic to produce some wild color combinations and patterns when the objects were shot with a polarized filter. Dan Charbonnet provided a close-up, hands-on session. Dan had black light under glassware with colored backgrounds. Shooting close-up provided some colorful patterns. It will be interesting to see the

results soon and see how many people were able to use the results in backgrounds for other photos.

February 21 – Carol Adiletto

Thursday evening featured its first annual "Ask the Experts" program where ten, well-qualified SBCC members sat at individual tables, gave an initial presentation to each small group, followed by a question and answer period, and hands-on examples to those who specifically chose that topic. Many presenters provided a syllabus, cameras, hand-outs and computers with detailed examples and lots of information on each subject. Each member chose 3 out of 10 topics to sit in on for 30 minutes. Topics and presenters were as follows: Waterfalls - Mike O'Connor, Nature - Donna Leonardo, Photojournalism-Jim Jones, Birds-Monica Verma, Portraits-Shiv Verma, Close-up-Dan Charbonnet, Flowers-Ray Guillette, Cars-Bob Doyle, Air Show-Phil Giordano and Landscape-Mike DiStefano for Andre Bourque who was ill. The evening was full of interest, enthusiasm, and education. Melba and her team provided wonderful snacks.

MULTISCREEN 2007-2008

All competition photographs must be taken May 1, 2007, or later.

DIGITAL

Animals	Elderly	Lucky	Tangled
Black & White	Emotion	Mysterious	Teeth
Blue	Fashion	Numbers	Texture
Broken	Friends	Scary	The End
Child Under 12	Lace	Storm	Weathered
Creative	Liquid	Speed	Wrecked

SLIDES

Broken	Failure	Peaceful	Square(s)
Celebration	Glowing	Pets & Their People	Stormy
City Lights	Graffiti	Relaxing	Teeth
Cracked	Hat(s)	Rustic New England	The End
Crowd	Lace	Scary	Wall
Downtown	Orange	Skimpy	Wildlife



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A PSA Award-Winning Newsletter

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