

REFLECTIONS



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THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE STONY BROOK CAMERA CLUB

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Toys for Tots

Henny Smith

To all the members who contributed this year....THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!!! We beat last year's 60 toys...we collected 68 toys!!! Our Toys for Tots representative was so grateful, since donations have been down this year.

I hope all of you receive as much joy this holiday season as you have given to these needy children. Thank you!

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Field Trip to Provincetown Dunes

by Phil Giordano

On the morning of Saturday, December 29th, a stalwart band of travelers met at the Wrentham Senior Center ready to embark on an exploration of the dunes in Provincetown. We set off on our merry jaunt just a bit after 10:00 AM. We arrived at Michael Shays Restaurant located at 350 Bradford Street, Provincetown, just over 2 hours later to gather for lunch and wait for even more friends to join in our adventure.

The afternoon forecast called for the weather to clear and despite the fog and light rain of that morning, 16 friends from SBCC gathered to explore the dunes together. We enjoyed a hearty meal with one eye on the weather outside the restaurant windows – it wasn't getting much brighter when we finally departed for the dunes just after 1:30. Fortunately, this trip was not just about the light or the scenery, it was about friends gathering together and enjoying each other's company and sharing in what could be called a hobby for some, an obsession for others.

Our plan was to scout the area and shoot in the afternoon, staying for sunset. Ray Guillette provided us with some information on where to

shoot and Andre Bourque joined us to provide us with some first hand guidance.

The information provided by Ray was very useful and I am providing it here for your reference so that you can use it if you ever decide to visit the dunes:

To dunes: Rt 6 east, pass Pilgrim Lake on the right in Truro. It's huge, with dunes on the other side of the lake. The first left after the lake is Snail Rd. Instead of turning left pull over on the right side of the road. The path to the dunes is there, opposite Snail Rd. There is room for 3-5 cars to park on the side of the road. If there are many cars already there, you can go left down Snail Rd. a short way and park in the motel parking lot on the left (Best Inn or Cape Inn, it has recently changed names). If you stay until sunset, be aware of the way back to the entry path. It's easy to get lost in there. It would be best to be closer to Rt 6 than to the ocean when it gets dark. The way back from the ocean is a bit tricky in the dark. As you face the ocean, the sun sets to the left, over the dunes, not the water. If you want a sunset over water you should go to Herring Cove Beach at the very end of Rt 6, or back to Rock Harbor in Orleans, which is a 20-30 minute drive.

A word of caution for anyone planning to visit the dunes, they are indeed vast and you will be trudging up and down steep hills in loose sand. This is a workout and you should be prepared to hike in sand, near water with wind and wide ranges of temperature depending on the time of year you visit. The aerobic activity on this visit offset the low temperatures and it didn't feel as cold as the forecast indicated – at least to me. Hats, gloves and warm layers were the dress code for this December trek. Tripods as well as comfortable backpacks/bags to haul your gear were also key.

I was honestly quite surprised at how vast an expanse of sand greeted my eyes upon climbing

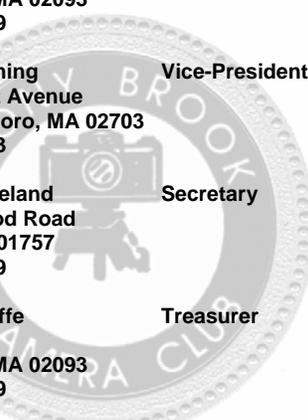
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COMMITTEES:

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.

over the first hill. I truly underestimated the statement Ray made in his 'field guide' when he said the dunes are 'huge' – they are indeed. In this off-season visit, we were presented with unspoiled areas with virtually no footprints or tourists. We did however see a few hearty (or is that fool-hardy?) folks outside of SBCC members walking the dunes – I think I counted them on one hand, so not really a crowd to contend with by any means.

The sky was overcast, providing diffused, lackluster light. Some splashes of color were around in the brush if you looked hard and all that was needed was a spark of light to add some drama to the landscape and really show off the beauty of this sandy expanse. We saw a break in the clouds at only one point in the day and made a mad dash towards one area of the dunes to see if we could catch the light – I did not make it in time as the light was fleeting. Instead, as the daylight waned, more fog rolled in. Alas, we never saw the sun let alone the sunset.

Towards sunset (I knew it was sunset because I looked at my watch), Andre suggested a direction for a last hike before returning to the cars. This turned out to be my favorite part of the trip. The fog was getting thicker and the area of the dunes we explored included sharply defined slopes and steep drop offs. The forms of the hikers walking along in single-file on these slopes in the fog turned out to be the most interesting photos I captured all day. The images I saw may not be done justice by my digital captures and it is certain none of my images will win any awards, but I was glad to have caught some of these shots as they remind me of the mood of the afternoon and fun of the hike with my friends. I'd hoped to capture some sense of this place in at least one photograph. The landscape is desolate and the mood from the fog was somewhat dreamlike. I think I caught something of that feeling. If nothing else, I found a new place to shoot, enjoyed the company of friends, and I plan to return.



My philosophy is, "A bad day shooting photography is better than a good day at work." Despite the weather and the lack of spectacular light (or much of any light at all), I wouldn't call this a bad day out shooting and it beat the heck out of similar time spent at my day job.

Thanks to Ray and Andre for showing us where to shoot and to everyone who joined us on this adventure. I'm looking forward to our next trip together and I hope more of you who are reading this will join us.



Photos by
Phil Giordano



2 x 4 Scavenger Hunt Shiv Verma

The first SBCC 2 x 4 Scavenger Hunt was held on December 15 at the Wrentham Senior Center. Each member submitted two topics and 12 topics were drawn to be photographed. Each participant had the opportunity to capture two images per topic in the allocated four hours. Pizzas were ordered for lunch and all the images were collected and downloaded into folders by topic. After lunch images were voted on and one image per topic was selected as the winner.

- Abstract: Michael Zawistowski
- Berries: Michael Zawistowski
- Bird's Nest: Phil Giordano
- Birds: Michael Zawistowski
- Circles: Steve Munafo
- Curves: Steve Munafo
- Footprints: Phil Giordano
- Holiday decorations: Tom Cleveland
- Patterns: Steve Munafo
- Silhouette: Tom Cleveland
- Snow: Phil Giordano
- Trees: Brenda Cleveland

Winning images can be viewed at:
<http://www.stonybrookcc.com/Activities/Field%20Trips/2X4%202007/2%20X%204%202007.htm>

Additional Commentary by Phil Giordano:

I'd like to add that the 2 x 4 was a lot of fun! We added a new twist to what I've been told is done by other clubs. We decided that no post processing would be performed and images would be judged on the same day as the hunt straight out of the camera. It really made you think hard about when to trip the shutter since you only were allowed two shots of any one subject. After I shot both images of a particular subject, I inevitably found another opportunity to shoot what was most certainly a better image than those I had already captured, but it was too late! ;-). It was also fun to see the shots that people flubbed. I missed both my shots on the subject 'birds' - those little critters were too fast for me (or I was too impatient with our 4 hour time constraint hanging over my head). There were also a few times when I just wanted to swap out the camera's memory card and spend the rest of the day working a particularly interesting subject. Those were some of the side benefits to the hunt. I found new places to shoot or found myself shooting images I never would have looked for without the 'assignment' from the hunt. It was also fun to team up with another member and go out shooting together. Steve Munafo and I teamed up and shooting with a friend (old or new) made the experience much more enjoyable.

Meetings in Review...by our Members

November 1 – Competition

Charlie Burke judged our third competition of the year consisting of A Slides (Gen & Nature), Color Prints (A&B), Altered Reality, and Digital Open.

November 8 – Joan Shirley

Those members fortunate enough to have attended this meeting were both enlightened and informed as Ray Guillette shared not only his awe-inspiring *Soulscapes* images, but also his insightful narration on some of the photographic techniques he uses to obtain his awe-inspiring masterpieces. I agree that it is the “responsibility” of those of us who are able to photographically capture the “beauty of the world” to share the results with others. Ray’s images of sand dunes, fields of lupine, autumn leaves and sunlight sparkling through snow showers were among many that truly exemplify what excellent landscape and nature photography is all about.

Following the *Soulscapes* presentation, Ray treated us to a beautiful and touching slide show of a Christmas morning stroll on the beach with his daughter Susie. It was indeed pure delight!!! Thank you, Ray! (*Soulscapes* text will be featured in future newsletter edition).

Shiv Verma rounded out the evening by showing images that were entered in the recent NECCC competition. The informational narration by Rick Cloran offered the viewers some helpful feedback on the thoughts of a judge as he views the competed images.

November 15 – Anne Crawford

The bell rang at 7:30 pm onboard the S.S. Stony Brook Cruise line. The passengers settled down to hear the Captain make a few announcements. Captain Shiv announced that he made some changes as to how to collect show files. Please note in the ship’s log as to those changes. One of the passengers was selling their computer and the entertainment manager, a funny guy named Paul Burke, noted that whoever buys this wonderful computer gets a meal a month with the purchase. Does it get any better than that? Next was an announcement from the head chef that when you are putting down your food for the upcoming banquet, please don’t put down what you are bringing, just list under what category it fits into. Example: cookies, cakes, and pies go under desserts. As the ship coasted out into deeper waters, one of the passengers noticed that in the ship’s log/forum, no one was posting their opinions

or interests. Please, everyone, start writing! If you are posting an event that happens on November 29th, please take it off the forum soon afterwards. It gets boring to look at old news. The two entertainers entered the stateroom. All the passengers were eager to see what they had up their sleeves. We were graced by a wonderful show/workshop on PhotoShop Elements. Tony Mistretta and Paula Currivan were excellent and grabbed our attention as they discussed so many ways to improve our photo skills. How many words in PhotoShop can you remember? Let’s try: histogram, color settings, layers, threshold, temperature, copy and paste (sounds like a comedy team), resolution, and last, but not least, the good old saying, crop your picture. Thanks again Tony and Paula, for a great informational evening. Well it’s time to take my Bonine and head off to my cabin. Night.

November 22 – Thanksgiving!

November 29 – Competition

Sarah Musumeci judged our fourth competition of the year consisting of B Slides, AA Slides (Gen & Nature), Digital Creative, and Digital Nature.

December 6 – Paula Currivan

Three of our most accomplished photographers, shared their expertise, by presenting a workshop on light, composition and depth of field. Mike O'Connor stressed the importance of early morning and late afternoon light to achieve your best results. He also spoke about the angle of the sun during the four seasons of the year. He explained front, back and side lighting; bright sunlight, high contrast and soft diffused light. Diane Robertson spoke on the little picture in the big one, keep it simple. She explained the rule of thirds, leading lines, shapes and leaving enough room in your composition for animals and people. Diane talked about balancing light and dark and how your image should tell a story. She reminded everyone how important it is to use a tripod. Dan Charbonnet explained about using small and large apertures related to depth of field. He talked about standard of sharpness and image magnification. He explained how to focus 1/3 of a way into your image to get an acceptable range of sharpness. He stressed the use of your depth preview button. I applaud Mike, Diane and Dan for a presentation well done.

Congratulations to Ray Guillette, Dan Charbonnet, Phil Giordano, Dick Shirley, and Shiv Burma for their achievements in the NECC competition.

December 13 – Snowstorm!

December 20 -- Glenn Browning

Snow may have postponed the annual Holiday Banquet, but it did not postpone the fun, great images and fantastic food that makes this holiday tradition something the club looks forward to. This year, the digital show took us across the Truro Sand Dunes, to the depths of the seas, along the coast

and over to Italy. We were treated to wild animals, an antique car parade and toured the southern states. We saw the restored houses of Portsmouth, NH, the natural monuments of the West and a lot of colorful lighthouses and stunning nature shots. Finally, we ended with a dream like view of flowers. The banquet brought a successful end to the 2007 calendar year and we look forward to the next few months for stunning images and great friendship.

2007-2008 PROGRAM SCHEDULE

<u>DATE</u>	<u>PRESENTER</u>	<u>MEETING THEME</u>
1/3/08	All New SBCC Members	New member show - prints, slides and digital images
1/10/08	SBCC Panel	The Creative Process
1/17/08	Shiv Verma	NECCC print competition - winter
1/24/08	All SBCC Members	Image Study Night (moderator Ray Guillette)
1/31/08	All SBCC Members	Competition #5: B Slides, A Slides (Gen & Nature), B&W Prints, Altered Reality, Digital Creative
2/7/08	Jake Mosser	Out Your Backdoor
2/14/08	John Kerns, Dan Charbonnet, & Shiv Verma	Hands on Workshop
2/21/08	All SBCC Members	Ask The Experts - Speed Information
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 Nature
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	Glenn Browning	Voice of Photography
6/5/08	Donna Leonardo	Untitled Show
6/12/08	SBCC Members	Annual Awards Banquet - Slide Shows

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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