

# Your Best Shot

Fort Myers Camera Club

January 31, 2008

Meeting Location Iona-Hope Episcopal Church, 9650 Gladiolus Drive, Fort Myers  
[www.ftmyerscc.com](http://www.ftmyerscc.com)

## Mark Your Calendars

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- 2/4** Program / Dana Vannoy AND Scavenger Hunt Topics Collected
- 2/?** Field Trip / Civil War Reenactment
- 2/11** Board Meeting
- 2/18** Competition / People at Work AND Review Scavenger Hunt Rules
- 2/20** Scavenger Hunt topics emailed out AND Dwayne Alton at Cape Coral Hospital
- 2/21** Kreulens at Audubon / The Beauty and The Beast
- 2/23 or 3/1** Digestive Health Print Show Open House
- 2/24** Scavenger Hunt Images due by midnight
- 2/28** Field Trip / San Pedro Island
- 3/3** Scavenger Hunt Night
- 3/7** Big Arts on Sanibel / Tina Edwards
- 3/10** Competition / Religious Expressions
- 3/13** Field Trip / Six Mile Cypress Slough
- 3/17** Image of the Year
- 3/19** Dwayne Alton at Cape Coral Hospital
- 3/27** Field Trip / Loxahatchee
- 3/27** End of Year Banquet
- 3/29-30** JPI Weekend
- 4/2** Field Trip / Fisheating Creek

## Dana Vannoy to speak

Remember that Dana Vannoy will be our speaker on Monday, February 4. Her program will have two parts: *Egypt -- Land of the Eternal Nile* and *The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan*. And as an extra added attraction, Dana will also share some information about the software that she uses for her programs, ProShow Gold. You can get a little jump on it by taking a peek at <http://www.photodex.com/>.

## Competition results

The January 21<sup>st</sup> competition featured both slides and projected images. The assignment for the evening was Night Photography.

Let's take a look at the slide competition first: In the assignment category, there were four entries and four winners! Tom Murray placed first for *Moon over Bridge*; tied for second we had Dave Davis for *Christmas at the Tower* and Dan Paetznick for *Hong Kong Street at Night*; and receiving a third place nod is Dave Davis for *Winter Siding*.

Twelve entries in the nature category resulted in eight winners: In first place Cindy Bateman for *Monkey See*; second place was shared by Bobette Pfeifer for *Two Hungry* and *Speak Easy* (she tied with herself!); third place went to Cindy Bateman for *Brown Critter*; and four honorable mentions went to Dave Davis for *Monument Valley*, Bobette Pfeifer for *Uncommon Beauty*; Klis G. for *Superstition Mountain*, and Bobette Pfeifer for *Point the Way*.

The general category for slides had six entries and six winners: Two first place awards to K.G. for *Olympic Sunset* and Tom Murry for *Red & White #2*; three second places to Dave Davis for *Belly Buddies*, K.G. for *Old Florida*, and D. Paetznick for *Cows on Hillside*.

Now let's turn our attention to the novice segment of the projection categories. In assignment there were three entries and three winners: Brenda Brazzel got first place for *Glow at Devil's Garden*; Mary McCoy won second place for *Big Bang*; and Tau Jensen won third place for *Sunset (No Name)*.

Novice general included three entries and three winners: Gerry Alexander received first place for *Yellowstone's Mammoth Hot Springs*; Gerry also won second place for *Rearview of Hibiscus*; and Mary McCoy won third place for *Eggshell Art*.

The nature segment for novice competitors had five entries and five winners: first place went to Mary McCoy for *White Pelican*; Mary also won two second places for *Trees in Early Fog* and *Edie's Rose*; third place went to Nancy Burroughs for *Owl Trio*; and there was one honorable mention to Gerry Alexander for *Autumn in Utah*.

Finally we'll review the advanced segment of the projection competition. There were 21 entries in assignment with fourteen winners: First place went to two photographers Tom Kreulen for *Moose in Moonlight* and Tom Murray for *Cinderella's Castle*; second place went to Bert Jemmott for *Bellagio Fountains*; six shared third place Karen Lund for *Neon Beach*, Joyce Wans for *Lavender Dream*, Rosalie Kreulen for *Fireworks*, Joe Minutella for *World's Fair*, Tom Kruelen for *Las Vegas Eiffel Tower*, and Joe Minutella for *The City that Never Sleeps*; five honorable mentions are Ron Addison for *Mackinaw Bridge*, Faye Hamm for *Fireworks #1*, Bert Jemmott for *Luxor*; Dan Paetznick for *Ramses II*, and Faye Hamm for *Fireworks #2*.

Twenty two entries in the general category resulted in thirteen winners: First place to Karen Lund for *Romance at Sunset* and Ron Addison for *Light at St. Ignace*; four second places to Bob Chamberlain to *Murex at Sunset*, Bert Jemmott for *Lake Louise*, Suzie George for *Jake Reading His Book*, and Bob Chamberlain for *Morning at Babcock*; four thirds to Rose Kreulen for *Ruby Throated Hummingbird*, Tom Murray for *Bee*, Tom Kreulen for *Air Force Chapel*, and Joyce Wans for *Grazing*; three honorable mentions to Gene Hamm for *Quechee Balloon Festival #1*, Ron Addison for *Point Betsy Light*, and Dan Paetznick for *Balloon Ride over Luxor*.

Thirty-six entries in the nature category produced twenty winners: first place was shared by Joe Minutella for *I Love You*, Ron Addison for *Lunch*, and Karen Lund for *Fighting for Love*; five second places to Mike Fisher for *Everglades 2007*, Gene Hamm for *American Goldfinch #5161*, Joyce Wans for *Following the Leader*, Joe Minutella for *What Can Brown Do For You?*, and Gene Hamm for *Orangutan #6353*; five third places to Karen Lund for *Crown of Leaves*, Bob Chamberlain for *Loggerhead Shrike*, Suzie George for *Green Guy on Day Lily*, Rose Kreulen for *Cattle Egret*, and Mike Fisher for *Black Necked Stilt*; seven honorable mentions went to Rosalie Kreulen for *Owl Trio*, Joe Moran for *Stork in the Straw*, Jeanne Tyrer for *Black Necked Stilt with Chicks*, Bob Chamberlain for *Alligator and Duckweed*, Suzie George for *Bathing Beauty*, Karen Lund for *Thirsty*, and Tom Kreulen for *Collecting for the Next*.

Thank you to everyone who participated and congratulations to each winner.

## Scavenger Hunt!

Get ready for a lot of fun and laughter because we are going to have a Scavenger Hunt. If you remember the hunts from prior years, pay attention as there are some changes this time. If you have never participated in a photo scavenger hunt you are going to love it. This hunt will be digital only.

We will see the results of the hunt on a program night, March 3, because this is not a competition. Because it is not a competition, the images don't have to be up to competition standard. So what is the requirement? Each image needs to be on topic and as clever, creative, and amusing as you can make it. Even though this isn't a formal competition there will be voting for the best in each topic. The voting will be by applause of the audience for their favorite image in each topic. Here are the details:

Each participant must submit eight images based on each of the eight topics - one image per topic. The topics will be selected randomly from the suggestions submitted by the attendees at the February 4 meeting. One suggestions per person, please! The topics will remain sealed in a mayonnaise jar on Funk & Wagnall's porch until just before the time to email out the list.

Eight topics will be pulled out of the envelope and emailed out on Wednesday, February 20. If you don't have email, please make arrangements with someone who does to get the list. And also ask if that person will email your images to Karen Lund for you.

Once you get the list you can think up your images, take the photos, adjust them as you can, and submit them. What are the adjustment rules? There aren't any! You can do anything you want. Remember that your goal is to entertain the audience so funny, clever, and entertaining is bound to do better than a magnificent image subtly processed.

Wishing there was a sample here? Okay, you get it: Let's say the topic is "Eye Patch" (your editor was at a Pirates and Princesses party Tuesday night). You might take a picture of someone with an eye covered by an eye patch. Or you might take a picture of an eye patch (or amazing eye-patch-like item) with an eye drawn on it. Or you might take a picture of yourself sewing a patch on your jeans titled "I patch." Or you might take a picture of a sad person with a hole in something and another person with a bath towel for a cape and the words Patch Man on his shirt and a title of "Don't worry little lady - I patch!" Or for the creepy among you, a bunch of eyeballs in a little patch.

When you submit the images, be sure to name them this way: Category # \_ Photographer \_ Name of Image. The Category # is a number from 1 to 8 to indicate which topic the image is to be shown in. The name of the photographer is, of course, you. And the name of the image is critical because often an image is funnier with a good title. When you send in the images, please put the same information in the body of the email because email system occasionally "renames" files as they go through cyberspace. It wouldn't hurt to include a brief description of the image so that Karen can figure out which title goes with each image. This same approach can be used if you can't rename your images - have the details in the body of the email and Karen will attach your proper name to the file for you.

Don't forget to size the .jpg/.jpeg images properly at no more than 1024 wide and no more than 768 high. The image should be 300 kb or smaller.

Now, when Karen gets the images she will give them the once over to ensure the right number of images are there (send in an image for each of the topics) and to put the right titles and images together if needed. Then she will sort them out by topic. She is going to put the title of the image on each one to

make it easier for the audience to enjoy the whole effect of the image and title.

At the meeting on March 3, Ron Addison will be the Master of Ceremonies as the images will be shown topic by topic. The images for topic one will be shown and enjoyed. Then, after we've seen each one, the same images will be shown again and we applaud for the ONE we want to win as the best image for that topic. Then we move on to the next topic.

Helpful hints for audience members: You may want to bring Kleenex to dab at your eyes as the tears of laughter leak out. Save your voice all day so you don't go hoarse from laughing. (And you may want to visit the restroom before the meeting starts - 'nough said!)

So, here a synopsis of the timeline:

February 4: The Scavenger Hunt will be introduced at the meeting and topic suggestions will be collected.

February 18: The Scavenger Hunt photo rules will be reviewed at the meeting.

February 20: The topic list will be released via e-mail.

February 24: The images have to be emailed to Karen Lund by midnight.

March 3: The images will be shown and hilarity ensues.

## Scoring questions

A couple of common questions regarding competition scoring are: What do the various scores mean? and Why are the scores usually so high?

We score on a scale of one to nine. It's one to nine because the scoring machines have the numbers zero to nine on them and the zero has a special meaning. Zero means the image was submitted by the judge and a back-

up judge must fill in to provide a score. Three judges and a scale maxing out at nine means the highest possible score is 27.

Each judge uses this guide:

- 5 is a so-so image
- 6 is an average (for camera club members) image
- 7 is Honorable Mention material
- 8 is a very good image
- 9 is for images where the judge can't find anything wrong with the image

So what do one, two, three, and four mean? They mean very poor to absolutely horrid images. We don't see any really low scores in our competitions because our photographers are that good!

## Welcome

We are so pleased to welcome these new members who have joined us in just the last few weeks: Judy Chamberlain (no relation to Bob and Bonnie), Bert Jemmott, Martin Ng, Grace Priest, Jacqueline and Larry Wagner. The most recent membership roster includes 62 names!

## We love our treats!

Bonnie Chamberlain offered another delightfully planned and executed treat menu for our enjoyment. This time she was ably assisted by Nancy Burroughs (who just competed for the first time last month!). Nancy brought a delicious potato salad. She was pleased that everyone enjoyed it and that there was not one bite left to have to bring home! Bonnie supplied the Pickled Carrot Kabobs, Chocolate Pecan Bars, and Peanut-Date Bars (no baking involved!). She also

served Ritz Wheat crackers and assorted beverages.

Have you noticed that Bonnie is slowly trying to introduce us to slightly healthier treats? She's not crazy enough to think that we will quietly give up the chocolate goodies but she is providing us with more nutritious choices, too. The salads, vegetables, treats with more nutritious ingredients are appearing on the table.

Bonnie still wants to hear about the drinks you prefer and the diet/regular choices. She is also wondering if there is interest in having apple juice as a choice for beverage. Let her know what you think.

## Are you the Coffee Guy?

Along the treat lines, there are hints that some people would enjoy coffee with their treats. If this idea is to be reality, someone needs to step forward to become the Coffee Guy as we can't expect Bonnie to take on any more. The club would have to buy a 30-cup coffeepot that the Coffee Guy would bring to and from the meetings along with coffee, cups, sugar, creamer, and anything else that is needed. If you are willing to be the Coffee Guy, maybe you should float the idea officially at the next meeting.

## Field trip notes

Eleven people participated in the Everglades field trip. We hear the weather cooperated. Chat with some of the participants during the treat break on Monday and hear some good stories. We hope to see some nice images from the trip soon.

## A surprise visit

What a pleasure to see Doris and Len McDowell after so many years. They were members of the club five or six years ago when Doris was responsible for field trips. They are visiting from Louisville, Kentucky, and stopped in to say hello.

## What is this JPI thing people are talking about?

Every meeting you are reminded to mark your calendar for the big JPI weekend at the end of March. Exactly what days? Look at the calendar notes on the first page of this newsletter.

The speaker this year is Darrel Gulin, a full-time nature and travel photographer who is a fabulous speaker. On Saturday he will lecture during the day and at 5 p.m. there will be a wine and cheese party and an auction with JPI Bucks (bonus coupons customers of JPI receive for the purpose of bidding on goodies at this auction). Sunday morning there will be a photo shoot at 7 a.m. followed by lectures by Darrel Gulin until the 4:30 p.m. end of the week-end. For details, follow this link:

<http://www.johnson-photography.com/DarrellGulinSeminar.pdf>

## Tech Talk

Following Ron Addison's presentation he has been asked by a number of people for the details on the website and programs he referenced. Here they are:

First up is Radiant Vista at <http://www.radiantvista.com/>. Ron recommends using the Quicktime option when downloading the videos for their better resolution. The **Video Tutorials** section is excellent. If he had had time he would have

shown the tutorial entitled [A Photoshop Reference: Essential Adjustment Layers](#). Also, one that would be good for people having problems resizing image would be [A Photoshop Reference: Sizing Files for the Web](#). The Photoshop Workbench is posted on Radiant Vista most weeks on Thursday and is done by Mark Johnson. This 15- to 45-minute workbench is about using Photoshop to improve your image.

For noise reduction, he recommends NoiseWare at <http://www.imagenomic.com/>. The cost is about \$70. NAPP (National Association of Photoshop Professionals) members get a 20% discount. You may download a trial copy of this software. It watermarks your images but you can see if it is useful to you.

The other program he uses for most images is PhotoKit Sharpener at <http://www.pixelgenius.com/sharpener/>. This program allows you to just sharpen just those elements of your image that you want to appear sharp, for example, just the bird in the sky but not the sky. Their trial doesn't watermark your photos. The program costs about \$100 and Ron has not found any discounts for it.

## Dwayne Alton classes

Frank Moore has passed on a reminder that Dwayne Alton gives digital photography presentations the third Wednesday of the month at 6:00 p.m. in the lecture hall adjacent to the emergency room of the Cape Coral Hospital. The meeting is usually two hours long and is very educational. There are no competitions. The next meetings are on February 20, March 19, and April 16. They are offered under the auspices of the Southwest Florida Personal Computer Users Group ([www.swfpoug.org](http://www.swfpoug.org)) but you don't need to be a member to attend the sessions. Dwayne has his own website, too:

<http://www.digitalpicturehelp.com/> If you would like to email Dwayne, use this address: <mailto:Dwayne@netoffices.com>. Thanks for the tip, Frank.

## Very impressive

This section is intended to spread the good word about photographic successes. Had a photo published? Won a prize? Let Joyce know - and please remember that friends don't let friends go unpraised!

Tina Edwards has more exciting news for us: She will be part of a show at Big Arts on Sanibel.

## A blast from the past

In the 1999 Three-Club Competition, Frank Moore won first place, Liz Keery won Second Place, and Ted Reuther won Third Place. Honorable Mentions went to Bob Chamberlain, Doris McDowell, Clint Sowards, Karen Lund, Jean Reuther, Art Wilson, Ron Addison, and Frank Moore. The editor sends her most heart-felt, though belated, congratulations to each of them.

Even though this competition was nine years ago, note how many of these photographers are still active in the club today. We must be doing something right!

## Digestive Health print show

At the February 4 meeting Tom Kreulen will be letting the participants know how many prints they can hang at the show along with further details.

## Thanks to set-up/break-down crew

Judith Demkow thanked our volunteers who show up early every week to set up the room for the meeting and then hang around afterwards to put everything back as it was. Special thanks to Bob Chamberlain, Frank Wilson, and Mike Fisher.

## Thanks to Contributors

The editor thanks these people for providing information that can be included in this newsletter: Bonnie Chamberlain, Frank Moore, Tina Edwards, Ron Addison, and the Scavenger Hunt committee.

## Who ya gonna call?

These contacts are on are web site (<http://www.ftmyerscc.com/membership.html>) but it might be handy to have them in this format, too.

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