

Your Best Shot

January 2007
Fort Myers Camera Clubs

All info should be submitted to Murray770@aol.com or called to me at 939-4554.

This should provide you with information on coming events, give you an opportunity to sell or look for camera equipment, share personal news, and in general, keep us all informed.

Now that Tom Kreulen is keeping us up to date with images, and standings in our competition, it gives me an opportunity to do something I've long wanted to do. I've asked Bob Chamberlain, our president, to provide a monthly article with his thoughts and messages to you. He has most graciously agreed, and following is his January column.

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President's Corner

It was great to see we had 50 in attendance for the December program on Denali by Frank and Sue Moore. I believe this is the most people in attendance at any meeting since I have been a member.

With so many attending our meetings, I would like to decrease the time for announcements at the beginning of meetings and give more time for the program or competition. I urge everyone to check the newsletter and the website www.ftmyerscc.com for announcements. If you have something you would like announced at the meeting, please send me an e-mail or a phone call prior to the meeting.

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Editor's note:

I applaud Bob for making the decision to cut announcement time and allow more

time for our meetings. I hope that all of us will give him our cooperation and provide information in advance.

The other new thing I wanted to try is more emphasis on our members. With a lot of new people coming on board, I felt it would be helpful to share a little information about some of our members. Again, Bob was gracious enough to be the first to share.



by Bob Chamberlain

My first 35mm camera was an Argus C3. I met Bonnie at the coffee machine at Chevrolet Engineering. When Bonnie and I married 46 years ago I had just upgraded to a RetinaIIIe. When I turned 40, I joined Motor City Camera Club which was then one of 17 clubs in the Detroit area. I soon realized I would need to get a single lens reflex in order to compete. One of my co-workers suggested that Nikon was the best camera at that time. I have been using Nikon equipment ever since. I was fortunate enough to win Slide of the Year two times in the Detroit Council. In 1987, I was offered early retirement from General Motors after 35 years of employment. The next ten years I was a contract employee always working on GM products. We had owned timeshare on Sanibel since the 70's and we were familiar with the Fort Myers area, so we decided to make this our retirement area.

I do not have any favorite subject but like to shoot whatever is available when we travel. Bonnie is a great help in pointing out potential photo possibilities. Around this area my photography is mostly nature. I have also been doing stereo photography for about 30 years. Most of my stereo images are made with a Stereo Realist from the 50's. Sometimes I use two Nikons on a slide bar and then remount the images to the stereo format. I am still a member of Motor City Camera Club and Detroit Stereographic Society and have been President of both clubs.



by Sharon Antonelli

Allow me to introduce myself. I am Sharon Antonelli. I was born and grew up in the Washington, DC Metro area. After a 35 year productive career with the Federal Government, I retired and moved to Fort Myers, FL.

During my time in Washington, DC I received a BS in Business Administration at the American University.

Later, I returned to school and received a Certificate as an Electronics Technician which I put to use repairing research laboratory equipment for the scientific community at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, MD.

It was at the NIH that my photographic interest blossomed and developed into a

passion. I was always taking pictures of family events and documenting my travels, but after signing up for a photo workshop weekend with the NIH Camera Club

I discovered a totally different experience in photography. I began attending meetings and learning new skills and techniques. I participated in competitions within the NIH Camera Club and in area wide camera club competitions. I quickly moved from "novice" to "advanced" winning many awards in all categories. Recently, I competed in several international competitions through the Photographic Society of America and won several awards.

I began my professional photographic career in 1990 by accepting a wedding client from another photographer. I developed my photography business through referrals from clients and other photographers.

I continued to educate myself through classes and photo workshops. I became a member of the Maryland Professional Photographers Asso. and the Professional Photographers Society of Greater Washington DC. Both of these organizations stressed increasing skills and technical abilities through seminars, monthly meetings and print competitions. I am now a member of the Professional Photographers of Southwest Florida, the Florida Professional Photographers, Southeastern Professional Photographers Asso, and National Association of Photoshop Professionals.

I was awarded Photographer of the Year, 2005, by the PPSWF.

I will be asking various members to provide information that they would like to share with the membership as we go through the year. I appreciate those of you willing to provide this information for our club.

I would also like to commend Frank and Sue Moore for their program last month. It is obvious that they put a lot of thought and effort into this presentation including Frank's enthusiastic introduction to his equipment, and hi tech "finds". The program itself was well conceived with beautiful music to accompany it. Nice job, both of you!

Jeanne Tyre, as always, has a wonderful Jan. field trip planned. I hope that any of you who have not participated in our field trips make an effort to join this one. It should be great fun and provide lots of opportunity to shoot.

I will not be able to join this time as I will be in Palm Springs, Calif. Attending the Annual NANPA (North American Nature Photographers Assoc.) Summit. This will be my 8th, and they are always exciting. Their website, which is always a good one to visit, is www.nanpa.org. Our next meeting is on January 8th. It will consist of a print competition, and a short program on Sharon's travel to India. For full information on the print competition, please visit the website. Remember that all prints must be mounted to compete.

I went to Sanibel last week and ran into Denny Sours and Mike Fisher. I personally believe that the birding there is better than ever. If you haven't been to J. Ding Darling lately, it would be worth your time. I recommend that you

check times for low tide before going as this makes all the difference.

I hope that all of you had a wonderful Christmas, and will continue to enjoy your holidays.

If you have any announcements or information you wish to share, please contact me or use our wonderful web site. We have joined the information age, thanks to Tom.

Enjoy the wonderful weather that we are being blessed with, and have a safe holiday season.

Wow! Now we all have to get used to writing 2007. Takes me three months to get used to a new year.

Marie Murray,
Editor