

Your Best Shot

March 2007
Fort Myers Camera Clubs

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

+++++ President's Corner+++++

Once again our camera club year is coming to an end with only the March Programs remaining. However, what is remaining is something to look forward to with Tom and Rosalie Kreulen presenting their Africa program, then the Shadows Competition at our annual Potluck to be held at Three Oaks; and finally the determination of Image of the Year at our final meeting.

Our Nominating Committee has a great slate of officers all set for next year with Tom Kreulen and Liz Keery as Co-president's, Judith Demkow as V.P , Cindi Bateman as Treasurer and Rosalie Kreulen as Secretary. We will be voting on this slate at our final meeting of the season.

Nineteen have already signed to attend the Potluck with two more meetings to be held before the tasty event. I always look forward to the great variety of tasty food.

Our membership is now above 50 and still growing! The Print Show drew about 70 images and the February program presented by Dana Vannoy had over 50 in attendance. I believe these are all records for our club

Letter from the Editor
(opinion expressed solely that of this editor)
This is my favorite issue, ever mostly because so many of you took the time to add to the newsletter. (It is, after all, your newsletter.) I am excited because I

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Speaking Of Dana's programs on Costa Rica and the Greek Islands of Crete and Santorini, the images were outstanding and the knowledge she shared on her making of the images was appreciated by those in attendance evidenced by the many questions. Judith Demkow's much appreciated diligence in over seeing the press releases on our meetings is increasing attendance and by doing so, our actual membership has grown.

The ability to now have refreshments at our meetings has given us a perfect chance to have some good social time together.

Jeanne Tyrer has had a great schedule for our Field Trips and has spent many hours in advance preparation so they can be successful. Perhaps next year we should show some of our trip images at one of the meetings.

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It has been a wonderful year; thanks to all for being a part of it.

Bob Chamberlain

have learned so much more about the wonderful group of people we have as members. From the novice to the expert, they all bring enthusiasm and passion.

I just went to our website and looked at the latest postings. I was impressed. I

did not make the last competition, and did not see all of the images, so I was looking at them for the first time all lined up. The main goal of any camera club is to make better photographers of their members. I think we have succeeded. Some of our members have been good forever, but many of us have had a lot of “catch up” work to do just to compete. For me personally, it’s helped

me develop a better eye for sharpness, composition, and especially lighting. I see tremendous growth in our members. I also find it refreshing to see so many new subject matters being captured. I think we as a club have produced some really wonderful images this year, and so, I believe that we really are a success. I welcome views and comments from any of you.

+++++Member Highlight+++++

Jeanne Tyrer



My photographic background is not much compared to most other club members. I took up photography about '98 or '99. I've been coming to FL since I was a little kid as my grandparents in the 30s, and then my parents, owned homes here. We now live in the home my parents built in Tanglewood. We moved to FL in '92 when Jack retired after 28 years as headmaster of The Asheville School in Asheville, N.C. I had started the Equestrian program at the school, having ridden and competed since I was a kid. I moved 5 horses down here with me, planning on teaching. When we decided to spend our summers at our cottage on a lake in the mountains of NC (& July in the Czech Republic for 8 years, where Jack taught), it didn't make sense. So I sold some horses and sent others back to NC, and took up

photography and kayaking instead! We also got involved in volunteering, (me at SCCF (Sanibel/Captiva Conservation Foundation) and Ding Darling, and Jack in other fields.

One of the reasons I took up photography was because we hoped to do, some traveling. We've been to New Zealand, Australia and the island of Tonga , to most of the countries of Europe, most recently this past June, and in November to Africa. As a result, I have at least 2000 shots to be edited and at least 6 friends with whom to share them!

I started with a Ricoh SLR, decided to go with Canon when they came out with the image stabilizer and got first the Elan II then the Elan VII. Then I changed to digital with the Rebel and now the D20. My lenses are the basic 18-55, 75-

300 IS, and 100-400 IS, just standard stuff. Occasionally I use the 1.4 extender, seldom the 2x, a tube extender and Canon close-up filter, (my excuse for a macro, which I hope to get someday!). My computer experience is limited, not having done more than e-mail before I got into working with photos, now mostly Photoshop Elements 4. I especially enjoy the nature aspect of

photography, which is why I enjoy doing the field trips. I only wish that more members would enjoy them too!. We have 4 children, Jill on Cape Coral, a daughter, Alison, in Atlanta, son John in Asheville, NC and son David in Williamsburg, VA., all married, but only one grandchild, now a sophomore at George Mason University in Fairfax, Va. Jeanne

Jeanne does a wonderful job preparing field trips. I know she puts a lot of time and effort into researching before we go. We all appreciate her contribution to the club.

Another member who brings her writing skills and knack for publicity to the club is Judith Demkow.



Judith Demkow: Short Biography Related to Photography

Born in NYC (many decades ago), I inherited my interest in photography from my father, who always had a camera with him to record family events. Similarly, as my husband Bill and I raised our family in Ringwood N.J., I too became the family photo historian. In those days, a basic "point and shoot" camera was all I needed.

As a Special Education Teacher working with Emotionally Disturbed and Learning Disabled students for 28 years, I often used photography in the

classroom. Using my own camera plus simple throw-away cameras, I would encourage my students to take a photograph of a specific subject that they could later write about. "Take a picture that tells a story", I would often say. "Then write about it." My camera became a teaching tool that enhanced the student's ability to describe a visual scene, first verbally, then in writing (which was the main objective). Believing in teamwork, I sometimes divided students into groups that would support less capable students.

The results were then displayed on bulletin boards and in classroom newsletters. Talk about motivation, growth, pride and self-esteem! It worked like magic! Years later, as a Learning Consultant and Supervisor (outside the classroom), I encouraged other teachers to utilize a camera in a similar fashion, and always enjoyed being called into classrooms to view the amazing results.

The years passed, and at my retirement dinner in June of 2001 my thoughtful and caring colleagues presented me with a gift they knew I would love--a very generous gift certificate to B&H Photo in NYC, where I purchased a new Pentax ZX-7 SLR Camera. As an active member of the Ridgewood (N.J.) Camera Club, I began to develop

new skills with slide film. A year or so later, after Bill and I moved to Cape Coral, Florida, I did a search on the Internet and found the FMBCC and FMCC, where I met so many wonderful new friends. I switched to digital using a Pentax *ist D a year and a half ago, but recently upgraded that camera to a Pentax K 10 D (digital SLR), which I am still learning to use. Being a lover of Nature Photography, I enjoy each new outdoor search for subjects that "tell a story". Am I great photographer? Hardly! Just someone who enjoys photography. Not just my own, but the work and achievement of others.

Judith Demkow
February 2007

And now Liz Keery. I think we're so fortunate to have Liz as a working member of our club. I have found her ability to critique so helpful, and she brings a wealth of experience to us.



Elizabeth M. Keery APSA, MNEC. Florida resident for over 16 yrs and until recently, Past President of the Springfield Photographic Society, Massachusetts and the Ft, Myers Beach Camera Club, 10 years Vice President of the New England Camera Club Council, and taught photography for the Springfield Adult Education Dept.

I love to travel and have visited all the continents including Antarctica. My husband bought me my first 35mm camera for Christmas in 1976 so I could take pictures to use when I would paint. I soon gave up painting and devoted my time to photography. I think I learned the most from my camera club, on field trips and in competition. My club was very hard with scoring and their critique. I think however that helped me really take the time to think before I shot,

though sometimes my heart overrides my head. I have been lucky enough to win medals and awards all over the world and I have given programs at many PSA convention and other conferences. I really enjoyed teaching because it made me think about my own photography. I have given programs, judged and exhibited throughout the United States and around the world. I travel internationally to capture nature images.

I think that what Liz had to say really hit home with me. I used to become really upset when I didn't score well. I finally realized that it was really making a better photographer out of me. I don't worry about the scores anymore, just strive for continued improvement.

Our next member highlight is Joe Moran.



I have been taking pictures since I was 12 years old. I got more interested in nature photography in 1990 when I bought a Minolta 9XI. After a couple of not getting shots of birds that I liked, I started to read books written by photographers like B. Moose Peterson and George Lepp. I chose Nikon over Canon because at the time I felt they were better. Now I think they are equal with Canon having more stabilized lens to choose from.

As for the equipment I use, all my lens are 2.8, 20-35, 35-70, 80-200, and 300 fixed and 105mm macro. I use 2X extender with my 80-200 and my 300. I use SB-26 flash with flash extenders. I mostly enjoy bird photography, but am working on doing better on macros. My biggest challenge right now is trying to learn layers in Photoshop.

Joe Moran

Boy, Joe, I think all of us relate to that.

Thanks to these members for sharing a little information about themselves and their passion. It makes me feel like I know them a little better.

Congratulations to the winners of the recent print show at the FMB Art Show

FMCC Print Show-Winners

Best of Show - Liz Keery - "It's Spring"

1st Place - Karen Lund - "I See the Light"

2nd Place - Rosalie Kreulen - "Black and White"

3rd Place - Norman Bateman - "Rufous Hummingbird"

HM - Bettina Edwards - "The Catch"

HM - Bobette Pfeifer - "Canal Boat"

HM - Suzi George - "Her Pride and Joy"

HM - Liz Keery - "A safe Place"

HM - Suzi George - "Empty Nest"



Photos courtesy of Judith Demkow. First photo: Tina Edwards and Karen Lund. Second: Bonnie and Bob Chamberlain. Third: Denny Souers and Mike Fisher. It was a great turnout; over 70 entries.

www.ftmyerscc.com to see the latest winning entries in our competition, as well as all general club information.

Happy Shooting!!

Marie Murray