

Nashoba Valley Photo Club

HAPPY NEW YEAR

January 2009

THE CAMERA CASE



Letter from the President by Walter Harrington

Winter. The photo ops get tougher to find. Watch for a nice clear day after a snowstorm to get a winter scene. Or set up a perch near a bird feeder and get some shots out a window. Watch for reports of eagles in Newburyport along the Merrimack River. Two years ago was pretty good. Last year was not quite as good. As the rivers to the north freeze, the eagles migrate to the Merrimack River where the high tidal range and the high flow keep portions of the river free of ice. This makes it easy for the eagles to feed on their main food source, fish, and sometimes the ducks. Also, for those who may be interested, the Merrimack River Eagle Festival is scheduled for February 14th in Newburyport. Google “Newburyport” for more information.

Another good location is the State Fish Pier in Gloucester where the sea ducks congregate in the winter months.

If you are interested in flowers, The New Hampshire Orchid Society is holding its annual show “Love in Bloom” at the Radison Hotel in Nashua, N.H. on February 13th to 15th. They allow photographers into the show on Saturday and Sunday morning from 8 to 9. Check their website <http://www.nhorchids.org> for directions.

For those days when the weather has you trapped in the house, it is a good time to get your images ready for the Greater Lynn International and the Glennie Nature Salon. Dick Kenyon will be collecting the entries and he will have more information for you.

Inside	
President’s Letter	1
Calendar	2
Contacts	2
Ramblin’... Viewfinder	3
The Case for Prints	4
Thank You from Library	5
Say “Hi” To...	5
Do You Have Nostalgia?	6
December Results	7

Nashoba Valley Photo Club

Assigned topics for competition this year will follow the selections chosen by the Joint Multiscreen Committees as follows:

Fireworks
Leading Lines (April)
Celebration
Street Vendor (May)
After the Rain (February)
Country Scene
Waterfall(s)
Something that Floats (December)
Nostalgia (January)
Carousel

CALENDAR

January

- 7 Digital Competition: Open, Nature and Assigned (Nostalgia).
- 21 Showtime
- 28 Digital Camera Users Group

February

- 4 Digital and Print Competition:
- 11 Harry's Roundtable
- 18 NECC Digital General Circuit
- 25 Digital Camera Users Group

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Pictorial Historian

Karen Johnson

Publicity

Ann McCarthy

Refreshments

Marian Harman



RAMBLIN' ON....OR, THROUGH THE VIEWFINDER

by Dick Kenyon

We've been experiencing broad swings in the weather this month from ice and snow storms to rain and unseasonably warm weather. Most of us were caught in the aftermath of the ice storm, learning first hand what benefits electricity brings us. Gale and I were without power from Thursday evening until 5 PM Monday. Both of us went out early Friday morning to assess the damage the ice had done to our trees. As extensive as the destruction was, we also saw a few photo opportunities hiding in the ice laden branches and shrubbery. That brought a small amount of pleasure before we started the hard work of sawing up the downed branches and hauling the debris to the rear of the property. It took us four days to clean up, and we still have several large piles of branches in the rear of our property, now partially buried by the snow storm that followed the ice storm.

By the time the snow was under control, Christmas was approaching and a couple of days of rain and warm temperatures melted a good deal of the accumulated snow. Now it's time to start another new year. Happy New Year everyone, and here's looking forward to a satisfying photographic year!



Berries in Ice

© Dick Kenyon



Ice Storm Aftermath

© Dick Kenyon

33RD GREATER LYNN INTERNATIONAL

The club will be making a club submission of images to the Greater Lynn International 2009

Color Exhibition. We need at least seven entrants. Last year we had seventeen. Let's do even better this year. I will be handing out entry blanks and information governing the submittal of your images. As was the case last year, this is a dual projection salon. This means both slides and digital images are accepted. However individuals must submit either slides OR digital images, NOT BOTH!

You may submit up to four slides OR digital images. The digital images should be sized within the 1024 x 728 format with a resolution of 200. File names should have this format: Last Name_First Name_1.jpg Titles to match are entered on the Entry Form and Report Card. E-mail your images to Walter Harrington by February 1st and mail or hand your checks for \$5 made payable to Greater Lynn International, to me (Dick Kenyon) by February 4th. I also must receive your completed entry forms and report cards by February 4th. Please address any questions to me at rekyrek@verizon.net or call 978-692-4608. Thanks for your cooperation.

CLEVER CAMERA MOUNTS

If you carry a point and shoot camera and need a solid mount for self-portraits or family shots that include you, here are two possibilities.

A Bicycle Bell: Some bicycle bells can be unscrewed to reveal a threaded stud that just happens to be 1/4-20, a match for the tripod socket on the bottom of your point and shoot. You can conveniently screw the camera on the stud and have a steady mount substituting for a tripod.

A Table Lamp: Check out the lamps in your living room. Some lamp shades are held in place with a metal hoop around the bulb which has a 1/4-20 threaded stud at the top. After removal of the shade this stud serves nicely as a mount for a light weight point and shoot.

The Case for Prints

By Walter Harrington

The "digital age" in photography is really taking hold, and I love it. I love seeing the results of my work on the day I shoot the image. I love working in the digital darkroom. I love not using film. The whole process really excites me. We have all of our images stored on computer disks. They are easy to manage, sort and retrieve if we have the right software. Not like the old days.

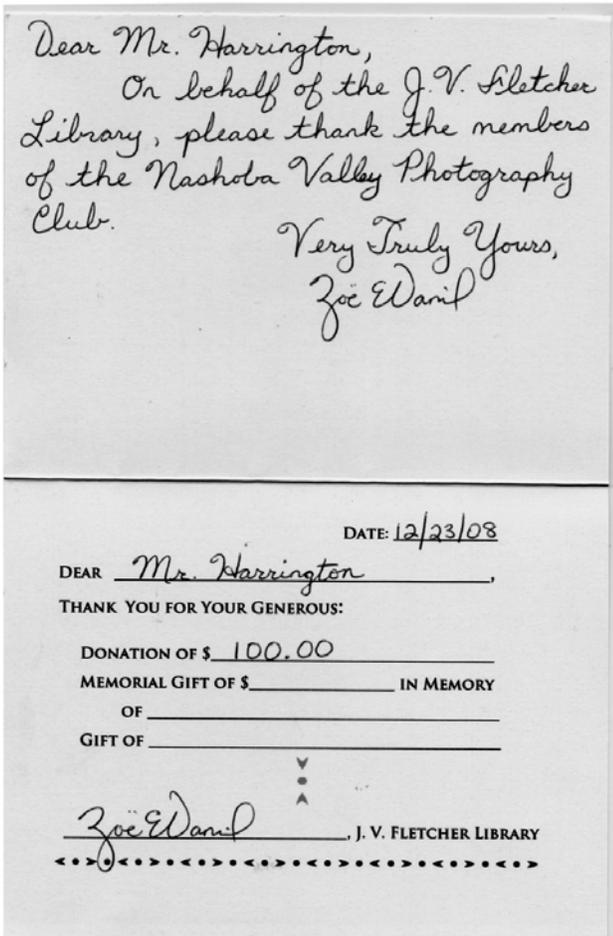
The "old days." Wait a minute. What are we missing? In the old days photographs were enjoyed by looking at the prints in photo albums or they were framed and displayed. The work of the old masters is available to us as prints. The negatives may be long gone. Ansel Adams' work is enjoyed by viewing his prints because the negative was just his starting point.

What about our own family records? I have photo albums that my mother and father kept from when they were dating and as their young family grew. Some of those photographs are 80 years old. I have portrait prints of my grandparents that date back to about 1900. I have a photographic portrait of my great grandparents that is even older than that.



I have scanned and photocopied these prints so that the rest of the family can enjoy them today, but I still have the prints as backup. In 100 years, what devices will be available to view today's digital files? Will anyone be able to decode these files? Remember video cameras? Does anyone have a Betamax player? In ten years will anyone have a VHS player? The best way to preserve your important photographs is to make prints. Those prints, if properly cared for, will last more than 100 years and can become family treasures.

Nice Note of Thanks from the Library We Wanted to Share:



“SAY HI!”

to Jenn Buliszak



Jenn is currently a stay at home mom who worked previously as a library media specialist. She became interested in photography back in high school, and she purchased her first film camera, a Minolta SLR, during that time.

She has pursued the hobby more seriously the last five years. Two years ago, she acquired her first digital SLR, and she enrolled in several digital photography classes. She joined the NVPC last fall and has thoroughly enjoyed the fun competitions, inspiring special presentations and informative photography workshops they have offered.

Her primary photographic interests are architectural and landscape photography. She currently uses a Canon 5D and a few lenses. Adobe Photoshop and Lightroom are the software she utilizes for image processing. She recently attended a seminar entitled, *Photoshop CS4 for Photographers*.

Jenn's other interests include reading, cooking, baking, visiting museums, and traveling.

"Do You Have Nostalgia? Then Take 2 Aspirin and Go to Bed

By Steve McKenna

I am frustrated!

Faced with the assigned topic of "Nostalgia" I should, at my advanced age, have access to all sorts of nostalgic things, but I am at a loss trying to make an effective, competitive image for competition.

For instance, I have a scrap book kept during the 1948 baseball season - 60 years ago! It consists primarily of the Sports Cartoons by Gene Mack in the Boston Globe and by Bob Coyne in the old Boston Post. I look at this collection once in a while and thoroughly enjoy what I see. It's fascinating to read the articles and look at photos and Mack's and Coyne's clever cartoons of the old Boston Braves and the Red Sox and of Ted Williams, Bobby Doerr, Johnny Pesky, Eddie Stanky, Warren Spahn et al.

Now what are the chances that, if I submitted an image of any of the above, I could avoid the whining and gnashing of teeth (or gums) about copying somebody else's art? Not likely. I recently found old slides containing images of myself as I was getting out of the Army in 1954, but that's longer than the 18 month limit - but it sure brings me back!

Putting the scrap book and slides aside, I dredge up two or three old cameras. So, I try to put them in a "pose" to make an interesting image. Boring? Yes, boring and then some! I have scoured the house for old ticket stubs or programs but have found none. I do not have an old leather football helmet, and I disposed long ago of my beloved, vintage 1946, "Pete Reiser" model baseball glove. (How I loved it, too!) I have thrown away old TV's and appliances, and as most of you know I hardly ever keep a car long enough to qualify as nostalgic. How does one conjure up a competitive image of an old dog or cat from yesteryear?

After exploring all of the above possibilities, I think I might capture an image of my trash barrel. There must be something inside that I might like to be nostalgic about. I suppose a self portrait would be nostalgic too, but to whom I have no idea.

Finally, it is my humble opinion, (I'm sure none of you would agree!) that the people who come up with these "topic" ideas should be committed to McLean Hospital or to some other suitable psychiatric facility for an extended stay.

I hope you all had a great Holiday, and I sure look forward to the next assigned topic!

December Digital Competition Results
Judge: Art Vaughan

	Place	Points	Name	Title
Assigned: Something That Float Star Class				
	1 st	29	Donna Hackley	Floating Leaf
	2 nd	26	Steve McKenna	Floating Leaves
	3 rd	25	Gale Kenyon	Kayaks
	HM	24	Dick Kenyon	Sailboats
	HM	24	Karen Johnson	Look Mom I'm Floating
	HM	24	Paul Buckley	Green Kayak
A Class				
	1 st	28	Peter Frailey	Lobster Buoy
	2 nd	26	Bruce Caldwell	Ducks in Cranberries
	2 nd	26	Ed Perkins	Balloon Ride
	2 nd	26	Lucy Schultz	Floating Buoy
B Class				
	1 st	27	Sue Minott	Fogged In
	2 nd	25	Tom Price	Maine Summer Sunset
	3 rd	24	Doug Debenedictis	Relaxing
	3 rd	24	Pamela Florek	My Ship Has Come In
	3 rd	24	Samuel Galpin	Cruise Ship At Mykonos
	3 rd	24	Tom Price	Kayaks At Rest
Open Star Class				
	1 st	30	Sandy Selesky	King Vulture
	2 nd	27	Dick Kenyon	Plaza Pattern
	3 rd	26	Bob Bicknell	First Light Frenchman Bay
	HM	25	Donna Hackley	Panda With Bamboo
	HM	25	Lynne Peterson	Jess and Adam
A Class				
	1 st	28	Peter Frailey	Last Light
	2 nd	26	Lucy Schultz	Zany Slinky
	3 rd	24	Ed Perkins	Red Tail Hawk
	3 rd	24	Maura McCaffery	Pink Rose
B Class				
	1 st	29	Dee Woessner	Waiting At Heathrow
	2 nd	26	Jack Bickel	Smith Cove Reflection
	2 nd	26	Jack Bickel	Rock Harbor Sunset
	HM	25	Jonathan Lyna	Waterfall 1

Nashoba Valley Photo Club

	HM	25	Linda Deciccio Fanning	Blue Gold
	HM	25	Sam Galpin	Pink Fog
	HM	25	Sue Minott	Lines
Nature Star Class				
	1 st	29	Sandy Selesky	Female Shoveler
	2 nd	27	Paul Buckley	Juvenile Elk in Stream
	3 rd	26	Marian Harman	Common Eider Flapping
	3 rd	26	Sandy Selesky	Common Eider Flapping
A Class				
	1 st	28	Meyer Franklin	Two Bees Macro
	2 nd	26	Carolyn Perkins	Stream No. 2
	3 rd	24	Ed Minott	September Frost
	3 rd	24	Ed Minott	Orange Mound Hot Spring
B Class				
	1 st	25	Sue Minott	Mirror Lake
	2 nd	24	Vera Kaufman	Black Swallowtail Butterfly
	3 rd	23	George Lyna	Fall Landscape
	HM	22	Doug Debenedictis	Pemigawasset River

Please send any corrections or omissions regarding the Newsletter to Maura McCaffery at Maura@DevonGraceDesigns.com.

SINCE 1982

Nashoba Valley Photo Club

Meets Every
1st and 3rd Wednesday
At 7:30 pm
J.V. Fletcher Library, Westford, MA

NVPC WEBSITE

Please check out the NVPC website www.westford.com/nvpc. You will find samples of our members' work, our handbook (with bylaws), and our schedule for the year.

Slide Scanning

at Eastern Photographic

Lowell, MA For more information, call Eastern Photographic at 978-937-0101.

Do you have slides at home waiting to be scanned so that you can print additional copies or email to a friend? Bring them in and we'll put them on a CD for you for \$4.95 plus \$.65 per slide.

Have all your slides saved on a CD when you bring them in for processing. Cost is \$4.95 in addition to processing