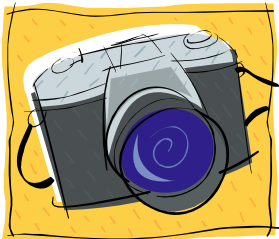


# HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY

## Nashoba Valley Photo Club

March 2008

### THE CAMERA CASE



#### Letter from the President

by Walter Harrington

It was a nice day on Sunday about two weeks ago, and it was a good opportunity to get out and photograph. I had heard Sandy talk about the State Fish Pier in Gloucester so I thought that might be a good outing. I did not know exactly where it was and did not want to spend a lot of time driving around and looking for it. Mike Los's class on Google Earth to the rescue. I did my driving around on the computer and then knew exactly where to go. The day was great, and the reflections off the water were exceptional. I was anxious to work with a 400mm lens I purchased recently, and the photo ops for sea ducks and gulls were good. Unfortunately, it seems that I forgot everything I know. I was so anxious to shoot that I was not careful with exposure and shutter speed. Consequently lots of images went into the recycle bin. I talked to another club member who had the same experience, and we agreed that practice is important. You need to keep shooting to keep your skills honed so that when

that once in a lifetime shot is presented to you, you don't blow it.



© Walter Harrington

As we come in to spring, the club is hoping to have a few events that will be interesting. One or two field trips and perhaps a session with studio setups and lights. Stay tuned.

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## CALENDAR

### March

- 5 Slide/Digital Competition
- 19 Showtime
- 26 Digital Users Group

### April

- 2 Slide/Digital/Print Competition
- 9 Harry's Roundtable
- 16 NECC Pictorial Circuit
- 23 Digital Users Group

## COMPETITION RULES

For **Three-category Competitions** (open, nature & assigned topic), members may submit a total of 6 slides— with no more than three per category (i.e., 3-nature, 1-open, 2-assigned, etc).

For **Two-category Competitions** (open & nature), members may submit a total of 4 slides— also with no more than three per category.

For **Digital Competitions**, members may submit a total of three images - with no more than two per category.

For **Print Competitions**, members may submit a maximum of two color prints AND two black & white prints. Print size must be at least 5"x7" and not larger than 16"x20". Prints may NOT be framed, but MUST be matted.

Please send any corrections or omissions regarding the Newsletter to Maura McCaffery at [Maura@DevonGraceDesigns.com](mailto:Maura@DevonGraceDesigns.com).

## NVPC Officers

### President

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## Volunteers

### Newsletter

Maura McCaffery  
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### Slide Coordinator

Paul Buckley

### Multiscreen Coordinator

Paul Buckley

### Print Competition Coordinator

Sandy Selesky

### Pictorial Historian

Karen Johnson

### Publicity

Ann McCarthy

### Refreshments

Marian Harman and Pat DeCilio

### MULTISCREEN TOPICS

For the 2007-2008 club season, topics will follow the selections chosen by the Joint Multiscreen Committees. Competition will be held in the following categories:

6 Assigned Slides  
5 Open Slides  
6 Digital Projections  
4 Assigned Prints  
5 Open Prints

#### ASSIGNED TOPICS:

##### SLIDES and DIGITAL

Bumpy (October)  
Friendship (November)  
Windy (December)  
Shadow (January)  
Photojournalism (February)  
Splash (March)

##### PRINTS

Cityscape (November)  
Night Scene (December)  
Outrageous Color (April)  
Historical (May)

*Say Hi!*  
*to*  
*Amy Davies*



Amy Davies is a “home-schooler” mom who got started in photography at age 13 via the gift of a camera. She has been practicing photography for about 35 years. Amy currently uses a Canon XTi and likes photographing people, family events, and small things using macro techniques.

She finds NVPC’s monthly competitions very helpful in picking up tips to improve images.

Amy’s other interests include gardening, crocheting, cooking and vegan food.

*By Dick Kenyon*

## New Winter Photo Opportunities

by *Sandy Selesky*

I've had several members of the club tell me that they've run out of photo opportunities in the winter. Well, I rarely run out of photo opportunities and wanted to suggest a couple of places, especially if you're interested in birds, boats or reflections. Of course, you do need lots of time and lots of patience, which I tend to have. You also need to take LOTS of images, not just a few. Keep going back to the same places, trying different exposures, different compositions, different angles, in different types of weather, etc. etc.

I've been taking pictures in Gloucester for many years but have only just discovered the Gloucester Fishing Pier - also called the Jodrey Fishing Pier. I went there for the first time last Sunday and then spent 6 hours yesterday, February 24th, on a beautiful and cold winter day, taking over 550 pictures of ducks, gulls, loons, and harbor seals swimming in the ocean along the docks there. There is a huge fish processing plant there, and men were at work there even on a Sunday. Occasionally, the workers would throw fish parts back into the ocean, and the birds would all be vying for the food. But I was interested/obsessed in getting good shots of Red-breasted Mergansers and Common Eider, both beautiful ducks that are usually far out in the ocean and hard to photograph. In past years, I've gotten pictures of them at Rockport Harbor, another good places for photography, but it's hit or miss whether a few of them decide to come into the inner harbor from the outer ocean. If you wait long enough, they usually do but then again, they might stay further out.



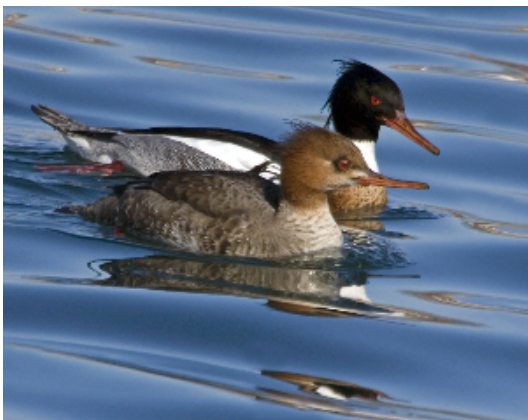
© Sandy Selesky

At Jodrey, there are many of these ducks and they are constantly swimming back and forth, sometimes close, sometimes further back, but always around for photo opportunities in the winter. At low tide they are quite close up and even at high tide yesterday they were continually swimming closer at certain times during the day. It's just a matter of patience. There are lots of boats with colorful paint jobs and buoys by the docks and these brings lots of colorful reflections into the water on a calm day. If you can get the ducks or gulls swimming into these reflections, you can make some very colorful images. But even if you can't, you can make some beautiful reflection shots without the birds, or just images of the fishing boats themselves either docked or going to and from the harbor. On a calm, blue sky day, you are also going to get beautiful reflections of the ducks themselves in the blue water of the harbor that adds something special to your photographs. And also look for action shots with the birds sitting up to flap their wings after preening on the water or taking off or landing. Watch the sun, though. Make sure it's behind you when photographing the birds in the water or you will blacken out the green head of the male mergansers and get harsh shadows on any of the ducks. If you stay for hours, the sun will move around so always make sure you're checking to make sure you're photographing the ducks with the sun behind you as its direction changes.



© Sandy Selesky

For camera equipment, I used my Canon 30D, a 100-400 IS zoom lens with my 1.4 teleconverter. When the ducks were further away, I actually combined my 1.4 with my 2x teleconverter and on my tripod I was able to manually focus and still get some very sharp images, believe it or not!!! I've been using this combination more and more. Or you can use just the 1.4 or just the 2x. At low tide when the ducks come even closer, you can probably get away with just using the 100-400 (or Nikon 80-400) without a teleconverter. I used an exposure compensation of minus 2/3 (evaluative metering - 2/3) so that the whites on the ducks on a sunny day wouldn't be burned out. You could also spot meter on a medium tone somewhere on the bird or elsewhere in the scene if you prefer. When they swim into darker reflections, I decreased the exposure by minus 1 2/3 to minus 2!



© Sandy Selesky

**Directions to Jodrey Pier:** 128 North to Gloucester past the 3rd rotary where you can go left to Rockport (127). Go straight to the light which is Main St. Turn right and make a quick left on Parker St. Go straight down Parker St. (lots of trailer trucks parked on the left and the big fish processing warehouse on the right) and park straight ahead. This is the fishing pier area. I photographed off the piers on the right, straight ahead (if the sun isn't in your eyes and it's low tide there), and even on the left pier which says **No Trespassing** (private boat tenants docked there but I walked on the pier anyway and took some really nice duck and boat reflection shots from there; other birders were walking there too and no one bothered me so don't know whether or not it can be problematic in ignoring this sign). If you're going to Rockport Harbor, just go left on 127 at the 3rd rotary.

**Directions to the Chain Bridge in Amesbury for possible bald eagles:**

Rt. 495 North to Exit 55 - Salisbury. Right off the exit past 2 lights. Go past Burger King on the right, past the entrance to 95S, past Clarks Rd. and make the 2nd right after the Chrysler/Jeep dealer (facing the Cross Roads Plaza sign on the other side of this street). Go down past the next light which is Main St. and you'll come to the bridge. There will be "Entering Newburyport" sign on the left at the beginning of the bridge and a "Chain Bridge" sign on the right. Turn left into the small parking lot and walk down the path to the point looking out on Eagle Island. Look for eagles in the trees or in the air or stand on the bridge. Sometimes they're flying over the bridge or sitting in trees on either side of the bridge. Ducks and cormorants are often swimming in the water below or flying overhead as well.

**February Digital Competition Results**  
**Judge: Don Toothaker**

	Place	Points	Name	Title
<b>Open Star Class</b>				
	1 <sup>st</sup>	27	Barbara Murch	Black Swans
	1 <sup>st</sup>	27	Bob Bicknell	Pink Lupine
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	26	Marian Harman	The Wood Carver
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	26	Sandy Selesky	Flamingo And Chick
<b>A Class</b>				
	1 <sup>st</sup>	27	Carolyn Perkins	Calalilies
	1 <sup>st</sup>	27	Lucy Schultz	Catalpa Trees
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	26	Julie L'Heureux	Butterfly
	HM	25	Carolyn Perkins	Two Bees
	HM	25	Lucy Schultz	Nectarines
<b>B Class</b>				
	1 <sup>st</sup>	29	Peter Frailey	Jackson Hole And The Grand Tetons
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	28	Meyer Franklin	African Violet
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	27	Tom Price	Glitter Bomb
	HM	26	John Brewer	Hurry Up Mom
<b>Nature Star Class</b>				
	1 <sup>st</sup>	28	Dick Kenyon	Damselflies
	1 <sup>st</sup>	28	Paul Buckley	Gull In Flight
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	26	Donna Hackley	Female Rose Breasted Grosbeak
	HM	25	Marian Harman	African Black Kite
	HM	25	Marian Harman	Black Faced Vervet Monkey
	HM	25	Sandy Selesky	Common Eider
	HM	25	Sandy Selesky	Semipalmated Sandpiper
<b>A Class</b>				
	1 <sup>st</sup>	27	Charline Oelfke	Covered With Spring Snow
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	26	Carolyn Perkins	Swan at Sunset
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	26	Julie L'Heureux	Canadian Goose
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	26	Lucy Schultz	Misty Morning
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	26	Walter Harrington	Sanderlings
<b>B Class</b>				
	1 <sup>st</sup>	29	Ian Davies	Red-Breasted Merganser

Nashoba Valley Photo Club

	2 <sup>nd</sup>	27	John Brewer	Hanging In There
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	26	Meyer Franklin	Sanderling
	HM	25	Bruce Caldwell	Scarlet Macaw Landing
	HM	25	Peter Frailey	Gathering Storm
<b>Assigned: Photo-journalism Star Class</b>				
	1 <sup>st</sup>	26	Paul Buckley	Patriot Fans
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	25	Paul Buckley	Celebrating The Trophy
	HM	24	Barbara Murch	Asleep on Newbury Street
	HM	24	Barbara Murch	Papelbon And Mirabelli
A Class				
	1 <sup>st</sup>	28	Julie L'Heureux	Kayaker
B Class				
	1 <sup>st</sup>	27	Alan Cushing	Racing Sloop
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	25	Alan Cushing	Nonesuch Racing
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	25	Bruce Caldwell	Death of a Killer
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	25	Ed Perkins	Dog Show
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	25	Peter Frailey	Rush Hour in Yellowstone

**February Print Competition Results**  
**Judge: Don Toothaker**

<b>Medium:</b>	<b>Slide</b>			
<b>Topic:</b>	<b>Color</b>			
<b>Skill Class:</b>	<b>Star</b>			
	1 <sup>st</sup>	29	Don Selesky	Tricolored Heron
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	28	Sandy Selesky	Osprey
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	28	Dick Kenyon	Oak Leaf on Lichen
	HM	27	Don Selesky	Yellow Crowned Night Heron
	HM	27	Sandy Selesky	Common Redpoll
<b>Skill Class:</b>	<b>A Class</b>			
	1 <sup>st</sup>	26	Brian Green	Friends
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	25	Carolyn Perkins	Japanese Maple and Frost
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	24	Carolyn Perkins	Purple Flowers
	HM	23	Julie L'Heureux	Vermillion Lake
<b>Skill Class:</b>	<b>B Class</b>			
	1 <sup>st</sup>	28	John Brewer	Bath Cornice
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	25	John Brewer	Tattooed Poultry
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	25	Pamela Florek	Enjoying The Day
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	25	Peter Frailey	Midday Montana

<b>Topic:</b>	<b>Black &amp; White</b>			
<b>Skill Class:</b>	<b>Star</b>			
	1st	28	Don Selesky	Osprey
<b>Skill Class:</b>	<b>A Class</b>			
	1 <sup>st</sup>	27	Lucy Schultz	Willow
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	24	Carolyn Perkins	Sailboats in Mist
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	24	Brian Green	Faces
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	24	Carolyn Perkins	Callalily
<b>Skill Class:</b>	<b>B Class</b>			
	1 <sup>st</sup>	27	Peter Frailey	Wyoming Icons
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	26	Peter Frailey	Old Masonic Hall And Schoolhouse
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	23	Ed Perkins	Wayside Mill
	HM	22	John Brewer	One Dollar
	HM	22	John Brewer	Cherub



**RAMBLIN’ ON.....OR, THROUGH  
THE VIEWFINDER**

*by Dick Kenyon*

This month’s column is being written early and in a hurry since Gale and I depart for Utah and two weeks of skiing tomorrow, 23 February. Mother Nature decided to get us in the mood by providing a snow storm today. Tomorrow morning should be a good time to get out for some winter images with nice, clean, fresh snow on the trees and ground. We will be looking for some new images in Utah. In the meantime, here are two images made in northern Vermont while on another ski outing this month. Don’t forget when shooting snow scenes in bright light, to open up the exposure by a stop or two to keep the snow white instead of 17% gray.



Vermont Winter Scene © Dick Kenyon





Sugarbush North © Dick Kenyon

### GLENNIE NATURE INTERCLUB EXHIBIT

Send up to three candidate images to Walter Harrington by 10 March 08. The files should be jpeg not greater than 1 megabyte, sized 1024 x 768 pixels. PSA nature definition applies.

### CALIBRATE YOUR CAMERA?

An interesting article defining a technique to calibrate your camera is available at this URL: [http://www.doubleexposure.com/JPC\\_CameraCalibration.shtml](http://www.doubleexposure.com/JPC_CameraCalibration.shtml). The article is entitled John Paul Caponigro Technique: Camera Calibration-Tom Fors Script for ACR.

### NECCC DIGITAL CIRCUIT

The club experienced the presentation of the NECCC Digital Circuit at the last meeting, and it was nicely done in my opinion. The titles, page layouts and background music made for a much more enjoyable presentation than the old style slide circuits. It was a lot easier to insert a CD and select play than to mount a slide carousel and step through the slides manually, while listening to the commentary on a cassette tape. No cassette player to deal with either. It also costs a lot less to mail a CD than a carousel full of slides in its bulky plastic container. Progress has its advantages.

## MARKET PLACE

If you have an item to be included in Market Place, please contact Maura McCaffery at [Maura@DevonGraceDesigns.com](mailto:Maura@DevonGraceDesigns.com) or call her at 617-512-3824.

SLIDE SCANNING: Special for NVPC members.  
35 mm slides scanned at 2900 dpi. \$1 per image  
Minimum 5 images. See Bob Bicknell for details or call  
978-448-5256.

FOR SALE:

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Set of 2 Novatron 400 studio lights with cables and slave packaged in a Tenba case with foam cutout, includes cables and a pair of top quality light stands. Asking \$300 or a reasonable offer. If interested, please contact Steve McKenna at (978) 692-8332 or e-mail [mcksteve@verizon.net](mailto:mcksteve@verizon.net).

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Nikon 90S with Sigma 70-300 4-5.6 APO Macro Super zoom lens - \$160; camera alone without lens - \$75.

SB 28 flash for Nikon cameras - works perfectly but has some cosmetic "burn" marks on the front of the flash from the sun "burning" indents in the plastic through a flash extender I used to use with it. Cost over \$300 when new - \$90.

Sigma UC 27-70 zoom lens, aperature 3.5-4.5 for Nikon with small lens hood - \$45.

If interested, contact Sandy Selesky at 978-692-3755 or [selesky@fas.harvard.edu](mailto:selesky@fas.harvard.edu).

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**THIS SPACE FOR RENT**

## SINCE 1982

### Nashoba Valley Photo Club

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

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### Slide Scanning at Eastern Photographic Lowell, MA

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.

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## NVPC WEBSITE

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

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

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

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## MEMBER DISCOUNTS

Eastern Photographic Services, Lowell, MA

Frequent customer card

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