

Nashoba Valley Photo Club

October 2009

THE CAMERA CASE



Letter from the President by Walter Harrington

Are you ready for the fall colors. The predictions are that the rains that ruined so many of our summer field trips will result in a great show of color. Bob Stevens is guiding a field trip to Purgatory Chasm on October 24. The color photo ops should be good, there is no fee and there are still lots of openings. Look around for some of the hidden jewels in the local conservation areas. Next month's assigned subject is "Color Red." Maybe you can get a winner for that one.

Interest in the monthly salons is growing. We had 102 entries this month and some members are just getting started. Look for some interesting entries in the coming months. Tom Price has been to Colorado, Peter Frailey is just back from Four Corners, Ed and Carolyn Perkins have been to Baxter State Park and Bill Hough was recently in Venice. Add to that the images from some of the field trips and you have a recipe for great viewing.

We are now in the final stages of planning the winter seminar. On the afternoon of February 6, 2010, we will have Robert O'Toole, a professional nature photographer and Photoshop professional, who will discuss field methods and Photoshop techniques. The seminar is being

sponsored by Hunt's Photo and Sigma Lenses. Watch for more information.

At this month's Harry's Roundtable meeting we will discuss sensor cleaning, but later in the session we will be handing out a practice assignment in composition. For those who take part, the results will be viewed at the November HRT meeting. You don't want to miss this one.

At the September Digital Users Group meeting we had lots of good suggestions for subjects to cover in the coming months. We will present sessions in both picture taking techniques and image processing. The schedule will be available shortly.

Last, but not least, at the meeting on October 21st we will vote on the proposed bylaw change. The proposal is available to read or download on the website. This is an important event and all members should be ready to vote at that meeting.

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Calendar

Oct 7: Digital Competition: Open, Nature and Assigned: Old Buildings

Oct 14: Harry's Roundtable

Oct 21: TBA

Oct 28: Digital Users Group

Competition Rules

For *Digital Competitions* there will be three categories: open, nature and assigned topic. 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 or mounted on mat board or foam board. The outside dimensions of mat or mounting must not exceed 16"x20".

The remaining assigned topics for this year are:

Color Red
Backlit/Rim Lighting
Diners
Night Scene
Lakes, Rivers, Streams
Portraits
Sports

For more details:

<http://nvpweb.org/DigitalSection.htm>

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Jenn Bulszak

Refreshments Coordinator

Marian Harman



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

by Dick Kenyon

Gale bought a new point and shoot camera recently but hasn't taken any photographs with it yet. I asked her if I could take a look at the instruction manual and she said the maker had furnished a CD instead and she would appreciate it if I would put it in the computer and print out a copy. Some 180 pages later we had a self-published hard copy in very small print.

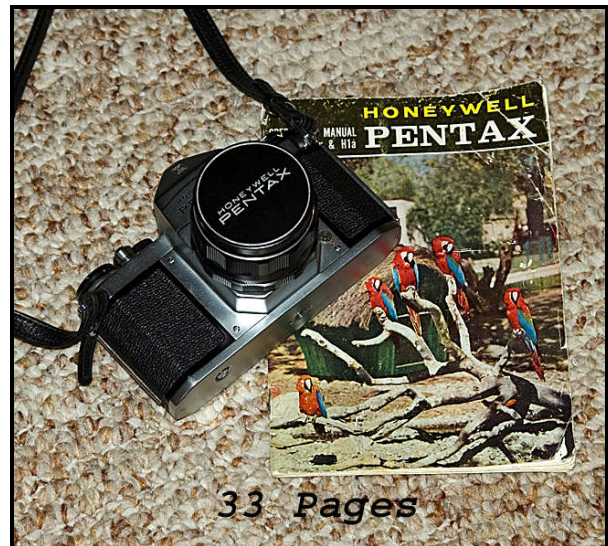


State-of-the Art Point & Shoot © D. Kenyon

This brought several thoughts to mind. Having paid \$399 for the camera wouldn't it seem reasonable to expect the manufacturer to provide a paper copy of the instruction manual? Second, The ability of current technology to cram so many features in a moderately priced camera has led to an overload on the user that

threatens to explode his/her brain. Is it any wonder that many new camera owners just set their new cameras to Auto and never go further? How many have the fortitude to spend the time to read and understand a 180 page manual?

Sometimes I think the simpler cameras of times past weren't so bad after all. For example, compare a Honeywell-Pentax 35mm film camera I recently acquired. The manual has a total of 33 pages about half of which are descriptions of the lenses and accessories available for use with the camera. This camera is about as basic as a 35mm camera can be. A film advance lever, a shutter release button, manual aperture and shutter speed settings. Not even an exposure meter!



Basic Manual Film Camera © D. Kenyon

These days with so much invested in camera equipment, computers, and software, all devoted to the task of trying to make a decent photograph, this hobby makes so many demands on our time, intelligence and resources that it often seems overwhelming.



Harry's Roundtable

Harry's Round Table on October 14th will present a program and demonstration on "Sensor Cleaning", Come and get educated about DUST! In addition we will be handing out a project description which will outline a photographic project which any interested member can undertake and complete by the December roundtable meeting. Those members participating can bring in their images on CD's or thumb drives for comment and demonstrations on how the image might be improved. The project will be designed to promote a better understanding of how to compose an image and use available light.

See you on the 14th,

Dick Kenyon
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By-Law Proposal

The Board of Directors of the Nashoba Valley Photo Club has presented a proposal to the members for a change to the bylaw of the club. This change would do away with the current method of placing members into a Class, B, A or Star, for purposes of competition and to replace it with a plan where a member's rating is based on their performance during a given season and that provides a method for each member to set an achievement goal for the season and be able to measure their progress against that goal. The proposal has been distributed to each member and is also available for download from the club website.

Each member is encouraged to study this proposal and to consider whether or not this change, or the current system, best contributes to their personal satisfaction of the photo club experience. The members will vote on this proposal at the meeting on October 21, 2009. The September and October competitions will be conducted under the current bylaw. Should the bylaw change be accepted by the membership the new benchmark ratings will be applied retroactively.

If you have questions about the change, you may address them to either Walter Harrington or to Dick Kenyon by e-mail. You are also encouraged to use the BLOG on the website to ask questions, make comments or state your position. In so doing you will be helping other members to understand the proposal and to form an opinion regarding its adoption.

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Competiton Results for 9/02/2009

Digital - Judge: Paul Smith

Open

Star Class			
Airborne Dog	Paul Buckley	27	1st
Owl Portrait	Michael Los	26	2nd
Boston At Night	Tom Briere	26	2nd
Birdwing Butterfly	Marian Harman	25	HM
Can't Look Away	Lucy Schultz	25	HM
Great Blue	Ed Perkins	25	HM
Hummingbird At Feeder	Dick Kenyon	25	HM

B Class			
Sand Hill Crane Take Off	Jon Saperia	28	1st
Spanish Wash Woman	Bill Hough	26	2nd
Little Blue Heron W Water Drops	Jon Saperia	25	3rd
Dock Kiss	Jonathan Lyna	24	HM
Dawn At Connecticut Lake	Robert Stevens	24	HM
Sunset	George Lyna	24	HM
Fog Bound	John Walsh	24	HM

A Class			
Refreshing Drink	Julie L'Heureux	27	1st
Providence RI Reflection	Jenn Buliszak	25	2nd
Apple Staircase	Jenn Buliszak	25	2nd
Tulip's Shadows	Vera Kaufman	25	2nd

Nature

Star Class			
Song Sparrow Singing	Sandy Selesky	27	1st
Marsh Wren No 2	Tom Briere	27	1st
Gosling	Carolyn Perkins	26	3rd
Piping Plover Chick	Meyer Franklin	24	HM
Giant's Causeway Sunrise	Paul Buckley	24	HM
Merlin Stretching	Sandy Selesky	24	HM

B Class			
Coastal Brown Bear Cubs	Jon Saperia	28	1st
Family Swimming Lesson	John Walsh	25	2nd
Northern Shoveler	Robert Stevens	24	3rd
Lake Sunset	Jonathan Lyna	24	3rd

A Class			
Dragonfly Hatching	Vera Kaufman	28	1st
Song Sparrow	Julie L'Heureux	23	3rd

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Moon Over Champlain	Douglas Debenedictis	23	2nd
Geese	Christine Burdick	23	2nd

Assigned Subject: Little Critters, Etc

Star Class

Japanese Beetle Feeding	Peter Frailey	26	1st
Butterfly Up Close	Michael Los	25	2nd
Green Metallic Bee	Sandy Selesky	25	2nd
Beetlemania	Peter Frailey	25	2nd

B Class

Fritillary Dines On Echonacea	Robert Stevens	24	1st
Froggie On The Grill	Ginny Galpin	23	2nd
Bee Me	Pamela Florek	21	3rd
Octagon Cat	Jonathan Lyna	19	HM

A Class

Ducklings	Vera Kaufman	25	1st
Honey Bee	Samuel Galpin	24	2nd
Soldier Fly	Samuel Galpin	24	2nd
Squirrel	Douglas Debenedictis	23	HM

Nashoba Valley Photo Club Since 1982

Meetings on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the
month, September through June
At 7:30 pm
J.V. Fletcher Library, Westford, MA

Slide Scanning at Eastern Photographic Lowell, MA

We'll scan your slides and copy the images to a
CD for you for \$4.95 plus \$.65 per slide. Or, if
you are still shooting slides, have all your
images saved on a CD when you bring the slides
in for processing. Cost is \$4.95 in addition to
processing.

NVPC Website and Blog

Please check out the NVPC website and blog at
<http://nvpcweb.org>. Among other things, you
will find samples of our members' work, our
handbook (with bylaws), our schedule for the
year and an archive of past newsletters.

For more information, call Eastern Photographic
at 978-937-0101 or visit their Web site:
<http://www.easternphoto.com/index.html>

MEMBER DISCOUNTS

Eastern Photographic Services, Lowell, MA

Frequent customer card