

In Focus

The monthly Newsletter of the Focus Camera Club

January 2011



Pay up, or else!

The new year brings us a fresh start, resolutions, and it's also time to renew your membership in the Focus Camera Club.

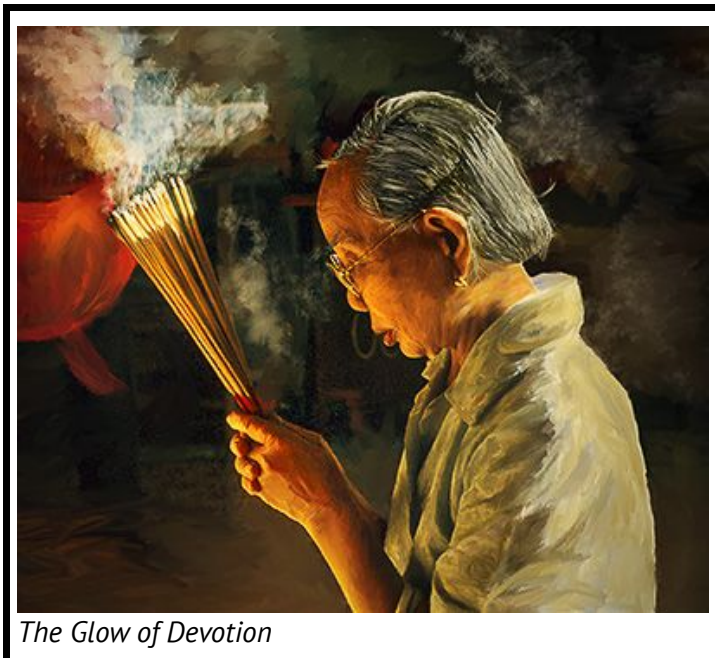
Annual Dues are to be paid by the March competition. Dues are \$30 for individuals, or for families living in the same household. The last page of this newsletter is the 2011 Membership form.

Print it, fill it out completely and sign it. Make your check payable to "Focus Camera Club" and bring it to the next Focus meeting. Mailing instructions are on the form.

This Month's Feature

I like to start the year with images from the Best of the Best competition. Hopefully, these will inspire you to create your own Best images during 2011.

[Read more here...](#)



The Glow of Devotion

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Focus Camera Club Officers and Committee members

Officers

President: Joe Bonita

Vice President: Frank Gibbs

Treasurer: Peggy Dietz

Secretary: Paul DiSalvo

Committees

Executive: Joe Bonita, Russ Burden, Peggy Dietz, Paul DiSalvo, Frank Gibbs, Cliff Lawson, Marv Mickelson, Tim Visser
Competitions: Russ Burden, Joe Bonita, Craig Lewis, Marv Mickelson, Nancy Myer,

Programs: Tim Visser

Membership: Peggy Dietz

Special Projects: Marv Mickelson

Education: Currently unmanned

The purpose of the Focus Camera Club is to further its members' enjoyment, knowledge and mastery of photographic skills through cooperative efforts and fellowship.

Focus Camera Club Monthly Meetings

Meetings are held the First and Third Tuesday of each month. We gather in the meeting room at the back of the Animal Hospital building located at 5640 County Line Place in Highlands Ranch. Get a Google Map by [clicking here](#). Meetings start promptly at 7 PM. Parking is at the back of the building, but please leave the first 6 spots open.

Best of the Best images

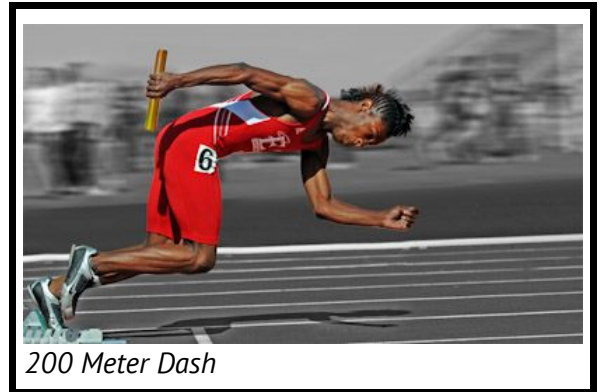
Some of the fine work submitted to the best of the Best competition.



Last Stop



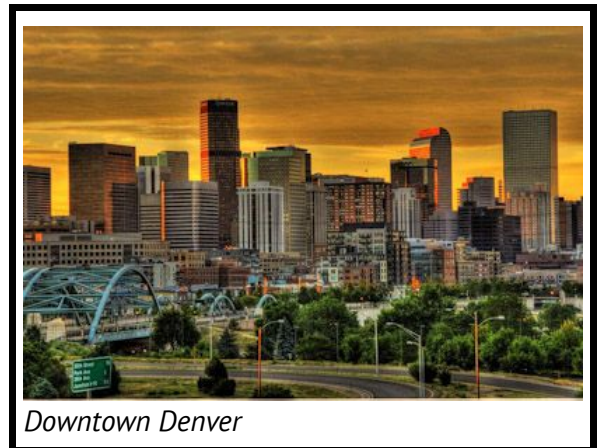
Vicious Appetite



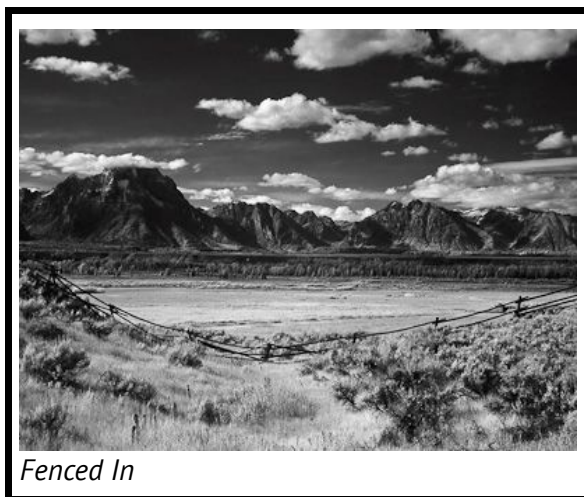
200 Meter Dash



California Dreaming



Downtown Denver



Fenced In



Celebration of Tulips

Program and Competition Schedules

Program Schedule		Competition Schedule	
01/08/11	Annual Dinner – no Program meeting for January	01/18/11	Subject - Open
02/01/11	Presentation - Digital Presentation by Andy Cook	02/15/11	Subject - Nature
03/01/11	Presentation - Photography Composition - Taking your photography to the next level	03/15/11	Subject – Open

Annual Dinner on January 8

Get ready for January 8, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. Romano's Restaurant, 32 W. Springer Drive, Highlands Ranch
 Cost per person: \$24, and includes entree, salad, coffee/tea/soda, tip and tax. (Cash bar is available for alcoholic drinks.) Menu: Spaghetti with Meatballs, Basil Chicken, Chicken Marsala, Fettuccine Alfredo.
 Awards for "Photographer of the Year" and "Best of the Best 2010" competition will be awarded.

This Month's Upcoming Competition is Open

There are just too many Open competitions for me to come up with a witty way of saying "enter what you want." You know what to do. Go shoot something!

If you need the Competition Entry forms or the template for the stick-on labels, you can get both [from the Focus website on the Competition Rules page.](#)

Changes to Competition Rules

The Executive Committee is meeting on January 13 to finalize the changes. Full details will be in the February newsletter. The rules are a) being reorganized to make it easier to find things, b) changing for the criteria for promotions within the f-number classes, and c) are being clarified for ineligible images.

A note about Programs from Tim

In 2010 we had several well-known photographers present at our club. In February, we were honored to have George Jardine who presented his Travel Portraits, in March, David Tejada helped us understand how to use Strobes to make our pictures better, Nat Coalson walked us through how to improve our digital workflow and McCory James provided us new techniques on how to shoot Architecture both indoors and outdoors. We also had several of our own club members that presented.

Member Presentations

Marv Mickelson did a presentation on where to shoot wildflowers and get those unique Autumn images, Cliff Lawson provided us with a Studio Tour and discussed how to use studio lighting and how to pose your models and also provided us with an in depth look at how he post processes his portraits.

Paul DiSalvo helped us understand what makes a great Sports image. Dan Greenberg showed us how to make those Car Images pop like he does and Nancy Meyer provided us some of her techniques she uses for creating Mirror Dreamscapes.

The New Year

For 2011, I am hoping to have programs that will help take our skill sets to the next level, regardless if you are in f5.6 or f16. In February, we will have Andy Cook present on Nature Photography. Don't miss this program as he is one of the finest Nature and Scenic Photographers in the state of Colorado. In addition, our Competition Topic is Nature for February and the techniques you learn from Andy may help you increase your scores.

Our March program will help educate you on better compositions regardless of Photography Style. We will not be talking about the "Rules of Thirds". In April, Russ Burden will be showing us how to use the different plug-ins from Nik Software including the new HDR Efex Pro.

I will be sending out a short survey in Mid-January that I am hoping all of you will take 10 minutes to fill out. This survey is my attempt to understand what your interests are as members of Focus Camera Club so I can bring in programs that you are interested in.

Member Critiques

As we did last year, this year we will continue our member critique night during the last 30 minutes on the night our programs are. This is an opportunity for you to bring in a printed image that you would like to receive feedback for composition, technique, post-processing, possibly entering into club competition or on-line competition, etc. to help increase your skills and knowledge as well as our other members of our club. Please bring in one or two images in order to allow everyone to have an opportunity to have their photo critiqued.

If you do not have a printer to print your image, you can go to Costco, Wolf Camera, etc. to have your image printed or you could reach out to Craig Lewis, Marv Mickelson or I and I am sure one of us will be able to assist you.

– Tim Visser

Focus Study Groups

Digital Darkroom – January 19 (third Wednesday of the month at our normal meeting place)

The January & February meetings are linked. In January, we'll be exploring light painting and other fun & games with lights. In February, we'll have a "Show & Tell" of our work from the January meeting.

The Creative Shooters Study Group

Join in the light painting on the 19th with the Digital Darkroom folks. We'll discuss plans for February at that event.

Best of the Best Competition Results

	Media	Artist	Image Title	Score	Award
f5.6	Color Print	Richard Caverly	Last Stop	14	1st
	Color Print	Jennifer Riefenberg	Hot Shoeing	13	2nd
	Color Print	Joyce Mickelson	Country Cabin	12	3rd
	Digital Projection	Todd Lytle	200-Meter Dash	13	1st
	Digital Projection	Todd Lytle	John Wayne's Playground	13	2nd
	Digital Projection	Gwen Pina	Dia De Los Muertos	12	3rd
	Digital Projection	Jennifer Riefenberg	Color Reflections	11	HM
	Monochrome Print	Jennifer Riefenberg	Vicious Appetite	12	1st
	Monochrome Print	Jennifer Riefenberg	Home Brew	12	2nd
f8	Color Print	Barbara Kennedy	Downtown Calgary - Late Afternoon Reflections	14	1st
	Digital Projection	Barbara Kennedy	Downtown Denver at Sunrise	13	1st
	Digital Projection	John Grevillius	The Confluence	12	2nd
	Digital Projection	Fred Stearns	Sneezeweed Breakfast	11	3rd
	Digital Projection	Frank Mercado	Rainy Day Blues	11	HM
	Monochrome Print	Barbara Kennedy	Gotcha!	13	1st
f11	Color Print	Ilene Nova	California Dreaming	13	1st
	Color Print	Jimmy Doolittle	The Studio	12	2nd
	Color Print	Joe Bonita	Standing in Front	11	3rd
	Digital Projection	Nancy Myer	Celebration of Tulips	14	1st
	Digital Projection	Ilene Nova	May Day Still Life	14	2nd
	Digital Projection	Nancy Nelson	Zebras in Action	13	3rd
	Digital Projection	Dan Greenberg	Help Us! Please!	13	HM
	Digital Projection	Nancy Myer	Floral Escape Pods	12	HM
	Monochrome Print	Jimmy Doolittle	Fenced In	13	1st
	Monochrome Print	Dan Greenberg	The Mystique of Musty Mining Equipment	12	2nd
f16	Color Print	Dan Greenberg	Approach of an Alien Star	12	3rd
	Color Print	Helen Tyler	The Glow of Devotion	14	1st
	Color Print	Helen Tyler	Monuments to the Wind	13	2nd
	Digital Projection	Craig Lewis	Approaching Storm at Dawn	15	1st
	Digital Projection	Russ Burden	Singing Robins	14	2nd
	Monochrome Print	Helen Tyler	Houston: Humid, Sun Reflected	14	1st
	Monochrome Print	Helen Tyler	Mystery on the Mountain	13	2nd

* Congrats to Barbara Kennedy for sweeping the F8 group. Nicely done.

Calls For Entries / Photo Contests

Eye of the Camera

The City of Littleton Fine Arts Committee proudly presents the 45th Annual *Eye of the Camera* Photography Exhibition. Awarding \$1,700 in cash prizes! This competition is for photographs only.

All Eye of the Camera entries must be received before the entry deadline of 5 p.m. on Tuesday, January 25, 2011. Emailed entries will not be accepted.

Complete information found at the [City of Littleton website](#).

Curtis Center Photography Show

Greenwood Village: Capturing the Human Emotion & Spirit. Entries due by Jan. 12

Details at the [Greenwood Village website](#).

Local Photo Opps and Events



Blaine Harrington show

Worldwide travel photographer Blaine Harrington III will be the featured photographer, along with supporting artist Abelino, at a fine art photo exhibition titled "Unifying the World through Color." The exhibition opens Friday, Jan 7, 2011 from 6-10 p.m. at the Denver Photo Art Gallery (John Fielder's Colorado), 833 Santa Fe Drive, Denver.

The show will feature fourteen large prints of Harrington's work from Burma, Bhutan, Fiji, India, Namibia, South Africa, Thailand and the U.S. and runs through March 2. There will also be an artist's reception at the gallery on January 21 from 6-9 p.m. during

which Harrington will give a slide show and tell some of the stories behind the photos and how they were created. There will be a second opening on February 4. Gallery hours are 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tue-Sat.

Steam Train trip Jan. 15

There is a Steam train special (only time it's running this year) from Alamosa to La Veta on Jan. 15 and they are going to stop for photographers also. Seniors on the dome car are \$48. (Harold and Judy are going, as is Jim Court from Yellowstone trip.) Leaves from Alamosa at 10 AM Sat., so you'll likely want to be there night before.

See full details at the [Rio Grande Scenic Railroad website](#).

Focus Location Shoots

Look for announcements in future newsletters. If you have ideas for a place to go contact Tim Visser.

Classified Ads

Equipment For Sale	Help Needed	Photo Excursions
	<p>I need volunteers to write a 1-2 page article to use in the next newsletter. Interested? Email Karl at newsletter@focuscolorado.com</p>	<p>Russ Burden Photo Tours www.russburdenphotography.com 303.791.9997</p> <p>2011 Photo Tours</p> <p>Feb. 19 - 25, Florida Birds: Everglades / Fort Myers / West Palm Apr 16 – 22, Monument Valley / Slot Canyons May 7 - 13, Arches + Canyonlands National Parks - includes 5 days of Photoshop instruction May 25 - June 3, Oregon Coast - 10 day trip June 18 – 24, Tetons and Yellowstone Natl. Parks in Spring Sept 24 - Oct 3, Yellowstone and Teton Natl. Parks in Fall - 10 days Oct. 18 - 23, Hunts Mesa - Aerial perspective of Monument Valley and Capital Reef NP Nov. 5 - 11, Bryce Canyon and Zion National Parks Dec. 6 - 12, Bosque Del Apache & White Sands Natl. Monument</p>

“ The artist's world is limitless. It can be found anywhere, far from where he lives or a few feet away. It is always on his doorstep. ”

-Paul Strand

Frame #37

A collection of extra tidbits discovered during the past few weeks.

- Saw this the other day. “What are New Year's resolutions?” A todo list for the first week in January.
- Want a deal on a Canvas print? Use coupon NEWYEAR at www.CanvasonDemand.com for 25% off. Gotta hurry though as it ends Jan 6th at midnight EST.
- Have you switched to the new Facebook page layout. You should try it. And then [read this \(long\) article](#) about securing your FB profile and info. In light of recent changes you need to review your settings.
- Are you a Windows user with a [Gigapan](#) head? Just love doing panos? [Ice, Ice baby!](#)
- Need at external Hard Drive? [Seagate still has deals online](#). 2Tb for \$119 or 1.5 Tb for \$89. Nice!

Focus Camera Club 2011 Membership Form

Dues: \$30 per individual, or for families living in the same household.

Make your check payable to "Focus Camera Club."

Our club has multiple levels of competition: f5.6, f8, f11 and f16.

All new members wishing to enter our competitions are required to submit samples of their work. A portfolio review will establish the appropriate level for you to compete in. Contact our Competition Chair, Russ Burden, for the review. Russ can be reached at rburden@ecentral.com.

If you have questions about the club and its "workings", please feel free to contact Peggy Dietz via email at membership@focuscolorado.com or at (303) 730-0098.

You can also visit our website at www.FocusColorado.com

Remember...your membership dues must be current (paid by March 1) in order to compete in our monthly photo competitions.

Please print clearly and sign below

Name

Address

City, ST Zip

Home Phone

Work Phone

Email Address

By providing your email address above you are giving us permission to email you our monthly Newsletter, occasional notices about updates to the Focus Colorado website, and other club news. You may, at any time, request to be removed from all email notifications.

Signature

Bring this form to the next Focus Camera Club meeting or mail it, along with your check, to:
Focus Membership c/o Peggy Dietz, 7038 S. Louthan Circle, Littleton, CO 80120