

In Focus

The monthly Newsletter of the Focus Camera Club

June 2011

Photos in this issue are from last month's 'Open' competition.

Do you 'see' in widescreen?

Panoramas are on the menu for the Program meeting on the 7th and you'll be learning from an experienced photographer, Ron Eberhart. And by the time he's done you'll actually know what a *nodal point* is.

Come and learn the right techniques to bring back those larger than life images.

This Month's Featured Article

Another self critique has found its way into the newsletter this month. Todd Lytle describes how he created his winning image from last month's competition.

[Read more here...](#)



Glowing Iron by Dan Greenberg

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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, Marv Mickelson,

Joe Bonita, Frank Gibbs, 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. We can also park in the "Tiles for Less" parking lot just to the east of the hospital and walk across.

Self critique - Creating 'Courage!'

By Todd Lytle

Location & History:

Original image captured at the Denver Zoo in April 2011. A local camera shop (Mike's Camera) has a "Day @ The Zoo" twice a year when the major camera manufacturers bring ALL of their very best equipment, including super-telephoto lens like the (600mm f/4.0) and the D3-series bodies for you to use at no cost!



Camera Info & Photo Metadata:

Nikon D3S / Nikkor 200.0 mm f 2.0 with a 1.4x TC-14E II Teleconverter
ISO 250 / f3.5 @ 1/1600, RAW capture @ -.67ev (More on that 'setting' later.)

Photoshop & Nik Software:

First, adjustments were made in Adobe Camera Raw. I tweaked the exposure, in particular, as the exposure compensation value setting on this borrowed camera {D3S} was pre-set at a -.67ev and I didn't catch that errant setting until after I'd already taken this photo. **Lesson #1:** Always check all of the camera's settings before a shoot; especially if it is borrowed equipment & always shoot in RAW. You can 'fix' a boo-boo like -.67ev if you've got a RAW capture.

In Photoshop, I rotated the image slightly to place the lion's head just a bit more 'vertical'. I also used the new 'Content Aware' tool in CS5 to remove the feces in the photo. **Lesson #2:** If there's something in the image that you really don't want included {like poop} then just remove it with Content Aware or a Clone Stamp. Next I added a Filter 'layer' using Filter / Blur / Radial Blur – Zoom. I moved the Center Point of the Radial Blur to the lion's nose and used a strength setting of about 50 or so. I also added both an adjustment layer using 'Curves' to pull out some of the shadows on the left side and a 'Brightness / Contrast' layer where I only painted in his eyes to make them stand out more.



Next I went to Nik Software. In Color Efex Pro 3.0 I added the following adjustments: {Tonal Contrast, Brilliance & Warmth, and a Vignette.}

Just when I thought that I was finished I opened the image in Silver Efex Pro 2.

It was here that I stumbled across 'Finishing Adjustments'. I tried a few different 'tones' from the Coffee / Copper Toner palette until I found the one I liked best. **Lesson #3:** When you think you're 'finished'; keep experimenting!

Other than that it was pretty much straight out of the (borrowed) camera...

– Todd

Program and Competition Schedules

Program Schedule		Competition Schedule	
06/07/11	Presentation - Panorama by Ron Eberhart	06/21/11	Subject – Anomalies / Oddball Juxtapositions
07/05/11	Presentation – Member Critique	07/19/11	Subject – Artificial Light
08/02/11	Presentation – Color of the World by Blaine Harrington	08/16/11	Subject – Open

June 7 Program with Ron Eberhart

In the survey Tim conducted in January, one of the top 5 topics was "How to Create Panoramas". This month's program will be a very exciting and educational program conducted by Ron Eberhart. Ron has been shooting Panoramas for a very long time and he will teach you the ins and outs of panoramas. His Program will include how he makes great panoramas, equipment used, understanding nodal point, and post processing tips on how to stitch his panoramas together. Tim has seen Ron present this type of program a couple of times now and each time he picks up several new tips. This is one of those programs you do not want to miss.

Ron has been involved with photography since he was 12 years old. He is in the masters group at Mile High Wildlife Photo Club. He has been published in National Geographic travel magazine and has won many photo contests over the years including Natures Best.

You can see some of his work at www.roneberhart.com

This Month's Upcoming Competition is Anomalies / Oddball Juxtapositions

You've already gotten the info from the Shutterbug article Russ talked about at last month's meeting. It had some nice examples to help inspire you.

If you need more inspiration you should try to think like the comedian, Steven Wright. He's excellent at pointing out anomalies and juxtapositions.

- "Do Lipton employees take coffee breaks?"
- "I think it's wrong that only one company makes the game Monopoly."
- "If you were going to shoot a mime, would you use a silencer?"



Talk to the Hand! by Lena Owens

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](#).

May Open Competition Results

	Media	Artist	Image Title	Score	Award
f5.6	Color Print	Gwen Pina	Do You See Me	9	1st
		Muffie Swan	Beach Fence	9	2nd
		Gwen Pina	Tent Rocks	9	3rd
	Digital Projection	Lena Owens	Talk to the Hand!	9	1st
		Elmer Paetow	"Bridge to Nowhere"	9	2nd
		Jeff Owens	A World of Green	8	3rd
		Maria Armstrong	Church Halo	8	HM
f8	Color Print	Richard Caverly	Birdman	10	1st
		John Jakobsen	Futuristic Office Complex	9	2nd
	Digital Projection	Tim Visser	Eyeing Turret Arch	10	1st
		Todd Lytle	Courage!	9	2nd
		Todd Lytle	Home Stretch	9	3rd
		John Grevillius	Suburban Fox	9	HM
Monochrome Print	John Grevillius	Muley Point	10	1st	
f11	Color Print	Paul DiSalvo	Lookin' For Trouble	10	1st
		Paul DiSalvo	Gameface	10	2nd
		Marilyn Clark	Springtime in the Desert	9	3rd
	Digital Projection	Dan Greenberg	Glowing Iron	10	1st
		Nancy Nelson	Portrait of a Hmong Girl	10	2nd
		Nona Radin	Cyprus Garden	10	3rd
		Nancy Nelson	Female Blue Dacnis	10	HM
		Barbara Kennedy	Santa Lucia Church, Otavalo, Ecuador	9	1st
f16	Monochrome Print	Barbara Kennedy	Santa Lucia Church, Otavalo, Ecuador	9	1st
	Color Print	Cliff Lawson	...and Matching Sunglasses	10	1st
		Ilene Nova	Gone With the Wind	10	2nd
	Digital Projection	Ilene Nova	Threshold	10	1st
		Russ Burden	Sunrise at the Totem	10	2nd
Monochrome Print	Ilene Nova	A Late Summer Day	10	1st	
		Elmer Paetow	The Gambler	9	1st



Cyprus Garden by Nona Radin

Calls For Entries / Photo Contests

First Impressions Photo Contest

...is your chance to submit five of the best works from your portfolio and make the best impression on the editors of *Digital Photo Pro*. The Grand Prize Package includes 1,000 cash and publication of your photo in *Digital Photo Pro*!

Entry deadline is June 7, 2011 (sorry for the short notice).

Full details and entry info is [at the contest webpage](#).



Eyeing Turret Arch by Tim Visser

C4FAP - Art in Nature

FINAL ENTRIES DUE JUNE 8, 2011

EXHIBITION: OCTOBER 28 - NOVEMBER 26, 2011

THEME: Art in Nature can be seen from the subatomic to the cosmic. It can be raw, powerful, serene, destructive, fertile and delicate.

JUROR: Nick Brandt

Visit the [C4FAP contest page](#) for complete info.

Tamron Nature Photo Contest

Contest begins on Sunday, May 1, 2011 and ends on Sunday, July 31, 2011.

How to Enter: Users must Log in or register with the web site with name and email address in order to post photos. Photos must be taken with a digital camera. Photos must be posted in the Tamron Nature Photo Contest section of the Galleries. More than five entries from any person or e-mail address will void all entries from that person or email address.

Prizes: The following prizes will be awarded:

GRAND PRIZE: Tamron 18-270mm Di-II VC PZD (\$649.00 retail value)

1st PLACE: Tamron 70-300mm Di VC USD (\$449.00 retail value)

2nd PLACE: Tamron 18-200mm Di-II (\$299.00)

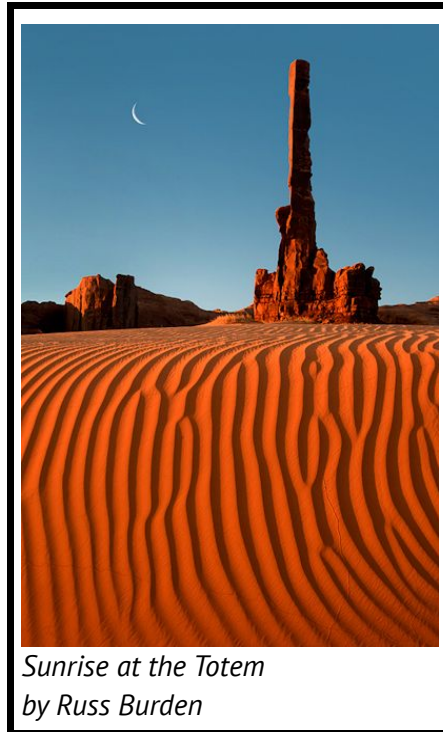
Visit [the contest webpage](#) for complete details and the link to enter your photos.

Classified Ads

Equipment For Sale

Need to liquidate some equipment (and raise some cash to buy more!) before you trek off this summer or fall?

A quick email to get your stuff listed is all it takes. Send it to newsletter@focuscolorado.com



*Sunrise at the Totem
by Russ Burden*

Help Needed

I need volunteers to write a 1-2 page article to use in the next newsletter. Interested? Email Karl at newsletter@focuscolorado.com

Photo Excursions

Russ Burden Photo Tours

www.russburdenphotography.com

303.791.9997

2011 Photo Tours

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

“ I have often thought that if photography were difficult in the true sense of the term -meaning that the creation of a simple photograph would entail as much time and effort as the production of a good watercolor or etching - there would be a vast improvement in total output. The sheer ease with which we can produce a superficial image often leads to creative disaster.

- Ansel Adams

Frame #37

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

- Megapixels don't mean jack anymore. It's all about the Gigapixels, baby! See an amazing 111 gigapixel image of [Seville, Spain at this website](#). Be sure to read the 'Making of' section too.
- Wanna roll your own Gigapixel images? Visit www.gigapansystems.com and explore the Epic systems for DSLRs and P&S cameras.
- Do you need to get more info about color management? Xrite is holding a number of free webinars in June. [Check this article on PopPhoto](#) for more info.