

# In Focus

*The monthly Newsletter of the Focus Camera Club*

*April 2011*

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

## April showers bring May flowers...

Or so the saying goes. Of course, that also depends on if an area is hit by fires. We hope no one has been adversely affected by the recent fires in the area.

Make sure you have a couple images to bring in for Russ' presentation on the 5<sup>th</sup>. He'll be using your photos during the class to show you what's possible using the Nik plugins.

If you have a box full of negatives you should "stop" what you're doing and "fix" your eyes on page 6 and see what "develops."

## This Month's Featured Article

During the past few years I've done it a lot.

And Russ has done it a number of times too.

Even Paul, Jim Doolittle, Marv and Ilene have done it.

Is it your turn??

[Read more here...](#)



*My Share of the Ice Cream by Marilyn Clark*

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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.

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## ***Empty Wheelbarrow***

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**By Karl Peschel, Focus newsletter editor**

It's official. I have run out of words. I thought I still had a wheelbarrow full, but it appears they are all gone. Now what do I do!

You can help me, and the club. Have you read the mission statement on the front page of the newsletter? You see that part about "...cooperative efforts and fellowship" at the end? That's what I'm looking for.

You know something I don't know, or perhaps no one in the club knows. You have skills with a camera, or Photoshop, or you know of a special place in town where you get awesome images.

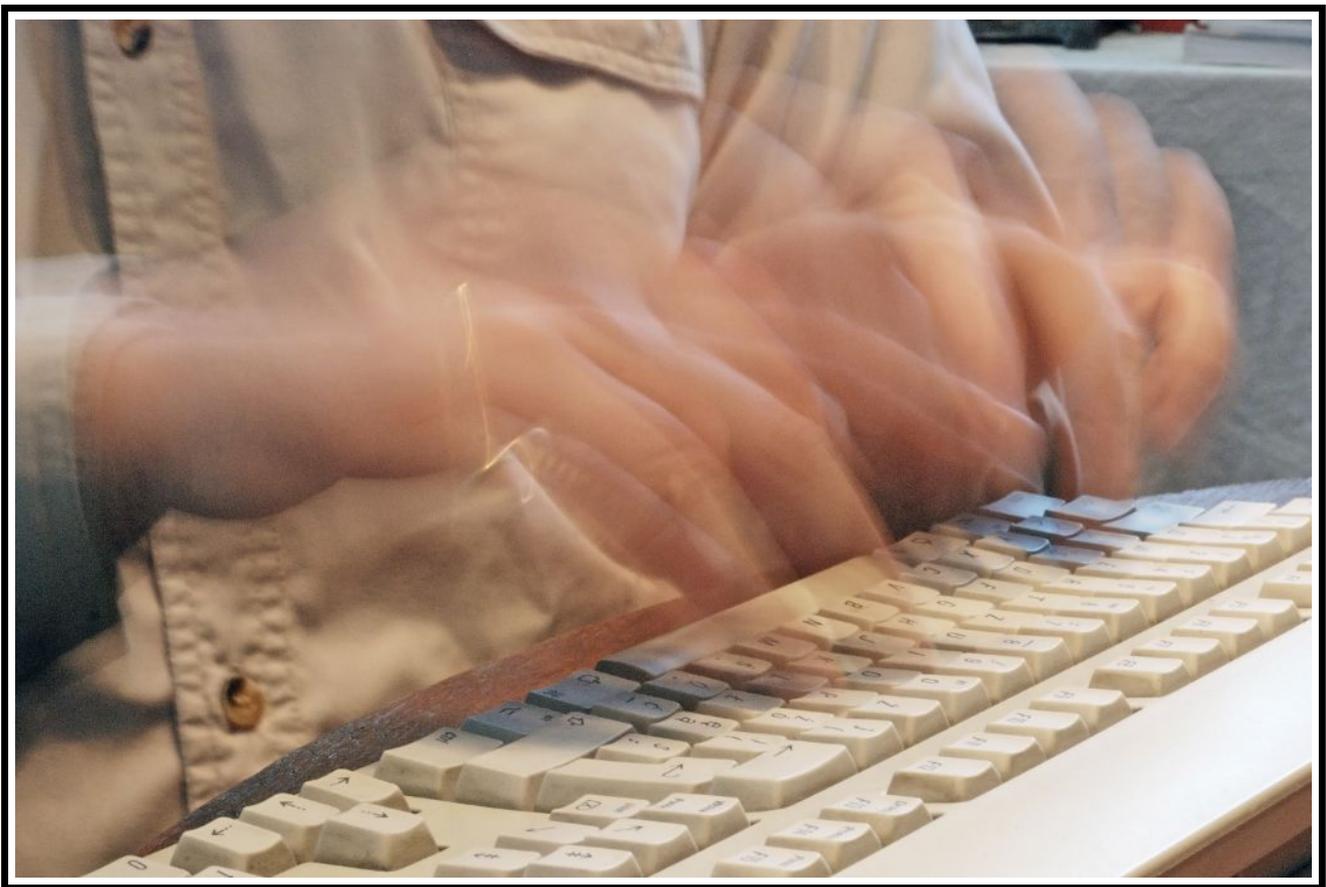
As a Focus member you have an obligation to "share with the class." To foster that fellowship.

### **Submit an article**

Write down your thoughts about any subject. Add some images or screenshots that illustrate your points. Send it off to me via email ([newsletter@focuscolorado.com](mailto:newsletter@focuscolorado.com)) and *Boom!* you're a published author.

If you just have an idea for an article please pass it on. I'll be happy to research it and write an article.

Remember, you don't have to type as fast as this guy, nor do you need to be a professional wordsmith. All you need is some knowledge to share and a desire to share it.



## Program and Competition Schedules

Program Schedule		Competition Schedule	
04/05/11	Presentation - Nik Software by Russ Burden	04/19/11	<b>Subject</b> - Backlight
05/03/11	Presentation - Subject TBD	05/17/11	<b>Subject</b> – Open
06/07/11	Presentation - Subject TBD	06/21/11	<b>Subject</b> – Anomalies / Oddball Juxtapositions

### April 5<sup>th</sup> Program with Russ Burden



*Pastel Sunset by Russ Burden*

Our program for April will be Nik Software plug-ins presented by our very own Russ Burden. During this program, Russ will demonstrate why he chooses a particular program and how he corrects the image to bring out the most of the image.

This program will require you to bring in some images on a USB jump drive (1 or 2 images). Please show up early so you will be able to give your jump drive to Russ prior to the start of the program so we can eliminate idle time during the presentation. Russ will not be able to show you all of the programs in detail but enough to help demonstrate the power of the plug-ins.

If you are interested in learning more about Nik Software, please register for one of Russ' DPA classes. He has one running on April 9th from 8:00 - 4:00. You can sign up at the [Digital Photo Academy website](#).

### This Month's Upcoming Competition is Backlight

So many of our photos are taken with front or side lighting. It's almost unnatural to purposely shoot with backlighting. This month you'll need to break away from the norm and use light from behind your subject to your advantage.

Hopefully, we won't have a competition full of silhouettes. There are [so many other ways](#) to use light.

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](#).

## March Open Competition Results

	Media	Artist	Image Title	Score	Award
<b>f5.6</b>	Color Print	Jan Fuiks	Sunset at Grand Canyon	9	1st
	Digital Projection	Maria Armstrong	Rusty Pickup Door	9	1st
	Digital Projection	Elmer Paetow	Block That Shot	9	2nd
	Monochrome Print	Elmer Paetow	Got A Good Horse	10	1st
<b>f8</b>	Color Print	Joyce Mickelson	Autumn Reflections	9	1st
	Digital Projection	Joyce Mickelson	Red Aspen	9	1st
	Digital Projection	Frank Mercado	Half Duplex For Sale	9	2nd
	Digital Projection	Jim Graham	With a Touch of Color	8	3rd
	Monochrome Print	Rick Matson	Young Mother	9	1st
<b>f11</b>	Color Print	Barbara Kennedy	Blue-Footed Booby Taking Flight	9	1st
	Color Print	Mary Paetow	Old Saddles	9	2nd
	Color Print	Marilyn Clark	The Look of Love	9	3rd
	Color Print	Peggy Dietz	Celtic Rest	9	HM
	Digital Projection	Marilyn Clark	My Share of the Ice Cream	10	1st
	Digital Projection	Nancy Nelson	I'm Two!	9	2nd
	Digital Projection	Nona Radin	Sagebrush Canyon	9	3rd
	Digital Projection	Paul DiSalvo	Chillin' at the Red Wall	9	HM
	Digital Projection	Marilyn Clark	It's The Big Sky Country: Rain or Shine	9	HM
	Monochrome Print	Casey Mitchell	Forest Creek	9	1st
<b>f16</b>	Monochrome Print	Jimmy Doolittle	Majesty	9	2nd
	Color Print	Joe Bonita	Serpentine Crocuses	10	1st
	Color Print	Ilene Nova	Caribbean Kids	9	2nd
	Digital Projection	Russ Burden	Pastel Sunset	10	1st
	Digital Projection	Joe Bonita	Inside DIA	9	2nd
	Digital Projection	Marv Mickelson	Avocet	9	3rd
	Monochrome Print	Joe Bonita	Arising From the Waves	10	1st

### A note from The Prez

The competition print and mounting size restrictions have been liberalized in the latest competition rules to make the minimum and maximum sizes recommendations, rather than absolutes.

As it reads now, "It is suggested that the outside dimensions of the board or mat onto which the print is mounted not exceed 16 X 20 inches or be smaller than 11 X 14 inches. It is suggested that the image itself be no smaller than 8 X 10 inches."

Of course, if the mount size is too large, it may not fit in the viewing box and it's member would suffer from the fact that it will not be evenly or consistently lit.



*Half Duplex For Sale by Frank Mercado*

## ***Calls For Entries / Photo Contests***

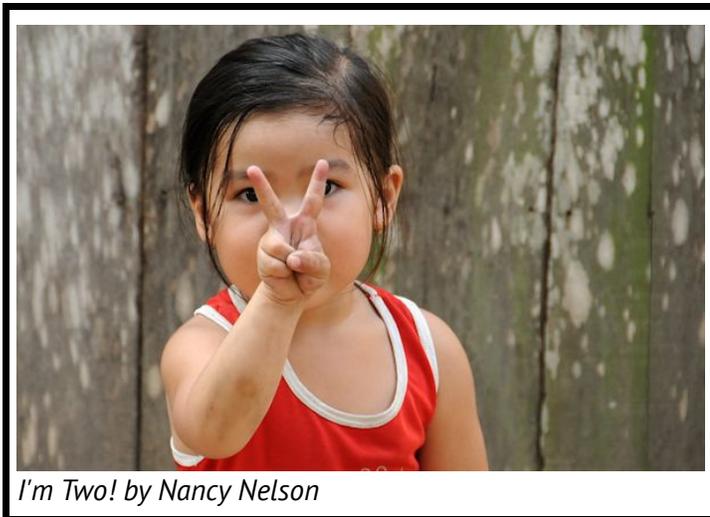
### **C4FAP - Dreams**

**Deadline:** April 27, 2011

Dreams are a creation of images, ideas, sensations and emotions that occur in our conscious and subconscious mind. They can be the manifestation of our aspirations, goals, and fears both realistic & fantastic.

**JUROR:** Aline Smithson

Aline Smithson has been the Gallery Editor for Light Leaks magazine, writes and edits the blog, Lenscratch, and has curated exhibitions for a number of galleries and on-line magazines. Smithson is a national reviewer of photography and is a contributing writer of Diffusion, Too Much, Chocolate, Lucida, and F Stop Magazine.



*I'm Two!* by Nancy Nelson

### **2011 Louisville National Juried Photography Show**

(BTW – this isn't a show in Kentucky! It's right here in Colorado. - Karl)

Entry deadline is May 9, 2011.

July 2 – July 10, 2011. \$35/3 JPG entries. All photographs must be original work. \$3,000 total cash awards. Best of Show \$1,000.

For a prospectus and entry information visit

[www.louisvilleart.org](http://www.louisvilleart.org)

Questions? Email Bob Maynard at

[LAAPhotoshow@comcast.net](mailto:LAAPhotoshow@comcast.net)

### **Zen and the Art**

In 1969 Robert Leverant first published the timeless book 'Zen in the Art of Photography'. It has become a cult classic and the bible of photography for photographers around the world.

The book is comprised of 162 'poetic stanzas' that inspire and nurture readers. It has been out of print and in demand for decades and in 2011 Robert Leverant is publishing an updated version. A multimedia exhibit and catalog are planned to celebrate this much-anticipated event.

Since 2009 Robert and three photographers: Jon Butler, Alfredo Marin-Carle and Marius Jomphe have interpreted 44 of the 162 'poetic stanzas'. The remaining 118 'poetic stanzas' from the book will be open, as a contest, to be interpreted by 118 photographers from around the world. Both a catalog and a multimedia exhibit then will be created using the 162 photographs and 'poetic stanzas' from 'Zen in the Art of Photography'.

Entries will be accepted from photographers, worldwide, until November 30, 2011.

Every entrant receives an autographed copy of Robert Leverant's 'ZEN in the Art of Photography'.

Visit [www.ZenEntry.com](http://www.ZenEntry.com) for full info.

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## ***Local Photo Opps and Events***

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### **A Little Time Travel**

Take a step back in time to those glorious film days in the darkroom. Remember the magic of watching your first BW print appearing in the develop tray? Yeah!

Working with Artists has a fully functional darkroom you can rent. Use any of the 6 enlargers that handle 35mm to 4x6 negs. They are also equipped to do fiber based paper the right way.

Check out [workingwithartists.org](http://workingwithartists.org) or get in touch with Jenna at 303-837-1341.

### **Nikon School coming in May**

Nikon says it best: “For more than 30 years Nikon School has been helping photography enthusiasts master new techniques and improve their picture-taking skills by providing clear, direct information on a wide range of technical and creative topics.”

Classes available:

Introduction to Digital SLR Photography – Saturday, May 14

Next Steps: Color, Light, Technology – Sunday May 15

See the class details, schedule and [registration at the Nikon school website.](#)

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## ***Frame #37***

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

- [Shootsmarter.com](http://Shootsmarter.com) has just had a makeover. Visit the site and check out articles by new contributors.
- You would be the coolest kid on the block if you had a 3D camera! Try your hand and win the new Fuji REAL 3d W3 camera over at [TakeGreatPictures.com](http://TakeGreatPictures.com)
- Hanging photos in a straight line is hard, even with a laser level. Tougher yet to put up a collage of different sized prints and have them all lined up. Not any more! See the best thing since self cleaning sensors [over at Bay Photo.](#)
- Whether you use Topaz software or not, some free training might be useful. Right? Check out the [free webinars offered by Topaz](#) this month. The session with Rick Sammon on the 11<sup>th</sup> looks good and you may find some of their tools useful.
- Do you check out online reviews before buying new lenses or cameras? Yeah, me too. The other day Frank (by way of Marv) pointed me to [SLRGear.com](http://SLRGear.com) as a reliable resource. Check it out.

“ Balance of light is the problem, not the amount. Balance between shadows and high-lights determines where the emphasis goes in the picture...make sure the major light in a picture falls at right angles to the camera. ”

*-Elliott Erwitt*

## Classified Ads

### Equipment For Sale

#### From Paul DiSalvo

Nikon SU-800 CLS Flash Commander / Controller – Like new Condition  
Comes with all manuals, Box, Warranty Paperwork, Case and two extra batteries. I'll even throw in instruction time on how to use it. - \$ 215.00

LowePro Street and Field Stuff – Like New Condition

I have the #4, #4s cases, a waistbelt, and shoulder harness. The #4 fits a 70-200 – 2.8 lens and some 300/f4's. The 4s is a shorter version of the 4 for something like a 24-70 / 2.8 or a 14-24 / 2.8. They are very durable, well built and padded. They can hook on the Waistbelt or strap onto some bags. Both also come with a shoulder strap. Let me know which pieces you'd like and we'll come up with a price. Contact Paul at 303-683-9452 or via email at [paul.disalvo@comcast.net](mailto:paul.disalvo@comcast.net)

### Equipment Wanted

### 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](mailto:newsletter@focuscolorado.com)

### Photo Excursions

#### Russ Burden Photo Tours

[www.russburdenphotography.com](http://www.russburdenphotography.com)

303.791.9997

#### 2011 Photo Tours

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



*Chillin' at the Red Wall by Paul DiSalvo*