In Focus

The monthly Newsletter of the Focus Camera Club

October 2014

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

Fall into Fall

Some members have posted some stunning fall images on Facebook. The aspens are glowing, the colors are vibrant, and you've got a small window of opportunity to explore the high country.

Get out there with your camera gear and make some magic.

There are many sources online with suggestions for scenic hikes and drives. Or ask a club member at the next meeting.

This Month's Featured Article

The truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. So hard to find online these days... Read more here

The Hunger Games are Back by Marilyn Clark

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Focus Camera Club Officers and Committee members

Officers

President: Guy Geoly
Vice President: Gary Witt
Treasurer: Todd Lytle
Secretary: Karen Kirkpatrick

Committee Chair & Members

Executive: Guy Geoly, Gary Witt, Peggy Dietz , Todd Lytle, Karen Kirkpatrick, Gwen Pina, Frank Gibbs
Competitions: Peggy Dietz, Nancy Myer, Richard Caverly, Joe Bonita
Programs: Gary Witt
Membership: Gwen Pina
Special Projects: (open)
Education: Gary Witt

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 Thursday and Third Tuesday of each month. Our **meeting place** is in The Community Room at the Greenwood Village City Hall, 6060 S. Quebec St. (That's on the east side of Quebec just south of Orchard Rd.) Get a Google Map by clicking here. Meetings start promptly at 7 PM and will end around 9:45 PM so we can be out by 10 PM.

Beware! The Interwebs is Full of FUD!

By Karl Peschel

FUD – (Fear, Uncertainty & Doubt) FUD is generally a strategic attempt to influence perception by disseminating negative and dubious or false information

The recent "Chicken Little" reaction to the US Forestry Service announcement about commercial filming/photography in wilderness areas is a prime example.

THE U.S. FOREST SERVICE WANTS TO FINE YOU $1,000 FOR TAKING PICTURES IN THE FOREST

The Forest Service oversees 36 million acres of wilderness. In a month, you won't be able to take a picture in them without getting a fine -- even if the new rules are unconstitutional.

- Esquire magazine

Don't Take That Photo! The U.S. Forest Service Might Fine You $1,000

- Yahoo Travel

Fueled by ridiculous headlines on a variety of websites and in social media, thousands (millions?) of people bought in to the knee-jerk reaction to the announcement of a PROPOSAL by the USFS, which was (and still is) open for discussion by the public, that revolves around commercial shoots on USFS lands.

Hopefully, you were smart enough to see through the sensationalism and chose to do a little research of your own to find out the truth. Despite the bold statements above, these rules were NOT aimed at just anyone with a camera or smartphone camera in their hands. (BTW – did you know the National Park Service has had similar rules in place for years and years? See their rules here.)

What it REALLY means

Controversy and sensationalism gets eyeballs to websites. Unfortunately, anyone with a keyboard and an opinion can publish these days. And don't they know it's so easy to push the "emotional buttons" of the American populace.

If you go find the original announcement from the USFS (this PDF details their request), you'll see the subheading "Proposed Directive for Commercial Filming in Wilderness." It appears everyone jumped on the wording "… proposals for still photography and commercial filming on National Forest System Lands" and misinterpreted it. Yes, it probably should have read "commercial still photography" to be more clear about who and what was being considered.

The USFS did clarify things on Sept 25 - *"The proposal does not change the rules for visitors or recreational photographers. Generally, professional and amateur photographers will not need a permit unless they use models, actors or props; work in areas where the public is generally not allowed; or cause additional administrative costs."* Full text is on their website.

The Bottom Line

Don't believe everything you read online. Don't be one of the lemmings following your brethren off the cliff. Go to the source. Seek the truth. Form your own opinion. Most of the time the sky is not falling.

Program and Competition Schedules

Program Schedule		Competition Schedule	
10/07/14	**Presentation –** Travel Photography by Oz Pfenninger	10/21/14	**Subject** – Open
11/04/14	**Presentation –** Photographing the Colorado Plateau by Joe Kovarik and Mike Ciletti	11/18/14	**Subject** – Repeating Patterns
12/04/14	Members Best of YOUR Best Presentation	Late Dec.	No Meetings

October 7 Program with Oz Pfenninger

Making a Wish by Oz Pfenninger

Many people travel to foreign lands by way of bus or train with travel groups. This organized approach is ideal for seeing lots of places in a short amount of time but does not generally allow stops for photography at places other than those scheduled. On October 7th, Oz Pfenninger will share with us his first-hand experiences with group travel as a photographer. Get tips on how to make the most of these excursions including what equipment to bring, what pitfalls to avoid and techniques for obtaining successful photographs from a moving vehicle.

Come hear Oz share his experiences from around the world with lots of interesting and inspiring photographs. He will talk about shooting candid images 'from the hip', shooting from a moving platform, and some of the joys and delights that come from the unexpected; all of which make the world of travel that much more interesting.

This Month's Competition is Open

Anything goes kids. Portrait, macro, landscape, wildlife, abstract…whatever you want.

Competition Judge – John Harris from Reed Photo

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.

September Night Photos Competition Results

	Media	Artist	Image Title	Score
f5.6	Digital	Jeff Owens	Poised for Flight	9
f8	Digital	David Irwin	River Watchers at Varanasi	10
		Butch Mazzuca	Moonlight Reflection	9
		Fred Larke	Snowy Bench	9
		Todd Christensen	Chamberlin Star Trails	9
		Todd Christensen	Lake Irene, RMNP Milky Way	9
f11	Digital	Todd Lytle	Winter Solstice Moon	10
		Oz Pfenninger	Making a Wish	9
	Color	Rich Hayes	Home on the Range	10
		Marilyn Clark	The Hunger Games are Back	10
		Oz Pfenninger	Shadows	10
		Ron Cooper	Flags	9
		Ron Cooper	Manarola	9
	Monochrome	Barbara Kennedy	Dancing in the Dark	9
f16	Digital	Nancy Myer	Into the Tunnel of Lights	9
	Color	Peggy Dietz	D and F Tower	9

Remember to send your winning Print images to Webmaster@FocusColorado.com for the online galleries. And please use the same naming conventions as we do for Digital Submissions. ☺

A note about Digital Submissions...

Last month a mere 4 out of the 17 Digital submissions were properly prepared. Whether it was improper sizing, filenames, missing metadata, or the wrong color space, many images missed the mark. It's a rather time consuming process for whoever is running the digital projections to correct all the errors.

Your images will be rejected and not included in the competition if all the criteria are not met.

The Digital Submissions page on the Focus website has instructions, PDF's to download, and even a Lightroom preset and Photoshop Action to simplify your image creation. Take advantage of the tools provided, make sure your images are properly prepared, and avoid getting the dreaded DQ.

Your images must not exceed 1400 pixels wide and no taller than 1050 pixels. Submitted files must be JPGs (.jpg or .jpeg extensions allowed), saved in sRGB color space, and no larger than 1024 KB (1.0 MB) Proper Meta data needs to be in the JPG file as well.

Calls For Entries & Photo Contests

The Face 2014 Photo Contest

The third annual The Face Photo Contest is accepting entries! This is the only Digital Photo Pro photo contest devoted solely to people and portrait photography, and will be judged by an elite panel of photographers and editors.

Photo submissions are due before December 4, 2014.

Visit the Digital PhotoPro website for details and entry.

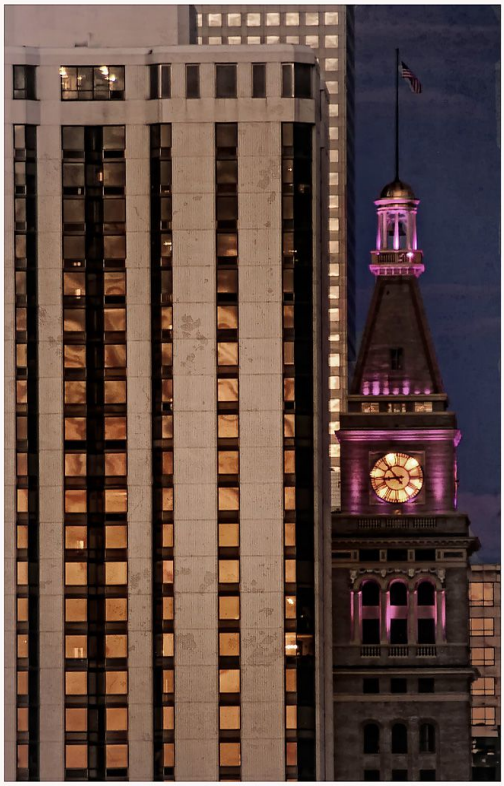
Nikon Photo Contest 2014-1015

Theme: "HOME"

Home. It's a place. It's a feeling. It's where and how you live. It's what you value, no matter where you are. We at Nikon recognize that home is at the heart of everything. This year's contest asks you to show us what home means to you.

Deadline for submissions is December 15, 2014.

Visit the Nikon contest website for entry details and submissions.



D and F Tower by Peggy Dietz

Local Photo Opps and Events

Russ Burden Photo Tours

www.russburdenphotography.com 303.791.9997

2014 Photo Trips

Oct 14 - 19, Hunts Mesa - Aerial perspective of Monument Valley and Capital Reef National Park

Nov 1 - 7, Bryce Canyon and Zion National Parks

Dec 6 - 12, Bosque Del Apache / White Sands Natl. Mon. (Full moon on Dec 6)

2015 Upcoming Tours and Dates

Feb. 21 – 25, Florida Birds: Everglades / Fort Myers / West Palm

2015 Tours and Dates

Mar 31 - Apr 11, Tanzania African Safari

Apr 14 - Apr 25, Tanzania African Safari (Expert photo instruction from two professional photographers. You'll receive constant tips and hints of what and how to photograph during every session.)

May 9 - 15, Monument Valley / Slot Canyons

May 24 - June 2, Oregon Coast - 10 day trip

HOW TO WOW

TOUR WITH JERRY GHIONIS

Jerry Ghionis, WPPI's most-awarded photographer and Nikon Ambassador, presents his first solo North American tour; How to Wow! As one of his most ambitious endeavors, Jerry will teach you HOW to WOW your clients every time with extraordinary images. Learn Jerry's method of resourcefully transforming any location and utilizing available light to create timeless pieces.

WHEN: October 16th at the Holiday Inn Cherry Creek
Visit the workshop website for full details and registration and **use discount code HTWFC for $10 off.**

Lake Irene, RMNP Milky Way by Todd Christensen

Mike's Camera Workshops

Every month, Mike's Camera runs a variety of classes and workshops. This month they have a 3 session Macro Photography workshop that includes a shoot at the Butterfly Pavilion. Combining a class session, on-site workshop, and followup critique on October 23, 26, 28 gives you an opportunity to learn, shoot and refine your skills.

Coming up in November is another shoot at the Denver Zoo. You'll get class instruction followed by an early morning private, up-close animal experience and a guided walking tour at the Denver Zoo where you'll get hands-on photography instruction long before the doors opens to the public.

Mark your calendar for November 13, 16 and 18.

Worldwide Photowalk (reminder)

Back again for the 7th year, Scott Kelby's Worldwide Photowalk happens October 11. Have you registered for one of the Photowalks yet?

Visit the Photowalk website for info on each walk and signup details. These are free outings, and there's a photo contest for all participants. Some awesome prizes are up for grabs this year.

Lightroom Live Seminar

Instructor: Matt Kloskowski – October 22 in Colorado Springs

From Start to Finish, from image capture to final print – you'll see it unfold right in front of you, as you learn step-by-step how to take control of your digital photography workflow. This seminar will teach you how to take your photography to an amazing new level of productivity, efficiency, and fun with real world insider techniques that will make your life easier, and free your time so you can do what you really want with your photography.

Visit the KelbyOne website to register. Save $10 if you register by Oct 8.

George Lepp No Limits

Extreme Capture Techniques in Nature Photography, A Canon USA, Explorers of Light program.

7 PM, Wednesday **November 12,** 2014 at The Wildlife Experience, 10035 S Peoria St, Parker, CO 80134

Seat reservations are required. Mile High Wildlife Photo Club invited other photo clubs to co-host this program,. There will be an online reservation system to ensure that club members get first dibs on seats.

After October 1st, guest seats will be allocated on a first-come first-served basis after the member seats. Click here to go to the MHWPC website. . You will need to create a guest account login before you can register for the event, and clicking on the link will start that process.
Contact James Hager at webmaster@mhwpc.org if you have any problems registering.

Frame #37

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

— One thing I **always** wished I had in Lightroom 5 was the ability to see which focus point was used in an image. My wish has been granted! A new FREE plugin that works for most Canon and Nikon bodies is available in the Show Focus Points plugin. It's not speedy, but it does work well.

— Photokina 2014 had many camera manufacturers introducing new products. Catch up on everything via these roundup posts from ePhotoZine and Photo.net and Photocritic.org.

— People pics are better when people are smiling, don't you think? But it's not always easy top elicit a smile from someone. Well, now you've got 51 ways to turn that frown upside down.

— Education is a big part of what Focus Camera Club is all about. But we can't cover everything in our monthly programs. Maybe 30 days of free tutorials from Skillfeed will help fill in the blanks for you.

Snowy Bench by Fred Larke

Poised for Flight by Jeff Owens

> There is one thing the photograph must contain, the humanity of the moment. This kind of photography is realism. But realism is not enough – there has to be vision, and the two together can make a good photograph.
>
> *- Robert Frank*