FOCUS CAMERA CLUB

InFocus Newsletter

January 2020

Make the most of the New Year

A lot of people have been talking about this new year / decade as if it's something magical. In and of itself, it isn't.

BUT, you can make 2020 magical for yourself.

Set new and exciting goals. Commit to learning and trying new things. Simplify your life and focus on what's important and what makes your family and business life better.

Don't focus on the passage of time – focus on what you can do during that time to improve life for yourself and those around you.

> Shoot a lot of pictures. Experiment. Don't go out with preconceptions of what a picture will look like. That will block you from being receptive to something new and exciting.
>
> – Mason Resnick

Featured Article

Some club news for 2020...read more

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Focus Camera Club Officers and Committee Chairs

Officers

President: Clint Dunham

Vice President: Oz Pfenninger

Treasurer: Ron Schaller

Secretary: Bill Williams

Committee Chairs

Executive: Clint Dunham, Oz Pfenninger,Ron Schaller, Bill Williams and the Committee chairs listed below

Competitions: Larry Hartlaub

Programs: Shawn Slade / Dave Hull

Membership: Dick York

Special Projects: Dick York

Newsletter/Website: Karl Peschel

Our Mission

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 Second Friday & Fourth Wednesday of each month. Our meeting place is Lone Tree Civic Center, 8527 Lone Tree Pkwy, in Lone Tree. Meetings start promptly at 6:30 PM and will end by 9:00 PM after we breakdown the chairs and tables in the room. Get a Google Map by clicking here.

Club News and Info

Things you need to know...

Competition Subjects

The Competition committee worked on definitions for the new subjects we have for 2020. This year we are trying something a bit different – more Open competitions.

The hope is that more people will try totally different subjects compared to what they normally shoot. The "normal" way many people think about Open competitions is "I can submit the stuff I'm comfortable with / just grab something I like from the past few years" but we want everyone to break out from that.

We encourage members to shoot something new – something outside their standard style – something to stretch their technical and creative capabilities. Consider Open to mean "open yourself to new opportunities and shooting styles."

As has been done for the past few years, a one-page PDF with all the monthly subjects and definitions is posted to the website. Hit the Competition Definitions page and click the PDF link at the top.

Membership in Focus

With a new year comes the time for everyone to "re-up" for 2020. The 2020 Membership form is on the website and includes instructions for online payment via Zelle.

Please make sure to get your membership dues sent in ASAP. You MUST have them paid by the first meeting in March, but why procrastinate? Do it. Do it now.

Print out the membership form, write out your check (or pay via Zelle), and either mail it as per the instructions on the form or bring it all to the next meeting you attend. Wouldn't it be great if all current members paid their dues in January?

Contacting the Folks Who Run the Club

Since the people running the club change from year to year there are Title based email addresses setup which forward to the person(s) responsible for things like membership, competitions, etc.

Please use these email addresses to contact Focus Club "staff" if you have any questions, suggestions, newsletter items, photo opportunities, etc.

Competitions@, DigitalEntries@, Membership@, Newsletter@, President@, Programs@, Treasurer@, VicePresident@, Webmaster@ (for website issues). Just add FocusColorado.com to any of those to complete the email address. i.e. competitions@focuscolorado.com, membership@focuscolorado.com

See the list of new officers and committee chairs for 2020 on the front page of the newsletter. Thank these folks, when you get a chance, for stepping up this year to help run the club

Program & Competition Meetings

Program Schedule		Competition Schedule	
01/10/20	**Program** – Future Technology in the Camera Industry by Joe Klocek	01/22/20	**Subject** – Open
01/29/20	Member Critique Meeting		
02/14/20	**Program** – Joe Bonita – Travel to 7 Continents Cliff Lawson – Veterans Project	02/26/20	**Subject** – Shadows
03/13/20	**Program** – TBA	03/25/20	**Subject** – Open

January 10 Program with Joe Klocek

Joe is going to be speaking about Future Technology in the Camera Industry.

The photographic industry changes quickly to keep up with the demands of still and video content creators. So what kind of innovations and changes should we expect in the coming five years? Joe Klocek will spend an evening discussing the needs of today's content creators and how cameras will be different in the future.

This Month's Competition is Open

The official definition - *"The Open category allows photographers to submit images of any subject matter. Members are encouraged to explore photographic techniques and subjects outside their usual style."*

Do note that last bit – try something outside your usual style. Purposely go and shoot brand new images of something you normally don't shoot. Don't just grab something from your 5 star photos.

Judge will be **John Kieffer**

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.

Member Critique Meeting Jan 29

If you want more feedback on your images in a small group, conversational setting, plan to attend this meeting. As tradition goes, this meeting will be where we'll break into small groups, share images and discuss how they might be improved.

Critique sessions are a great way to build confidence for entering competitions and an opportunity to learn from your talented peers. See you there!

2019 Promotions and Competition Awards

A BIG congratulations goes out to everyone mentioned here. All of you exemplify the photographic excellence our club members possess.

PROMOTIONS

From one class to the next higher (average annual score of 8.60 or more), and must be in at least 6 competitions and submit at least 10 images.

F/5.6 to F/8

CLIFFORD STOCKDILL – 8.62

F/8 to F/11

VICTORIA ASHBY – 8.63
SUSAN HAFFKE – 9.27
SHAWN SLADE – 8.87

F/11 to F/16 (must be in F/11 for two years with a score of 8.60 or more each year)

SAM ALEXANDER - 2018-9.00; 2019-9.27
LARRY HARTLAUB – 2018-9.40; 2019-9.07

PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR

This is given to the member of each classification with the highest average annual score – combines both digital and prints

F/5.6 – CLIFFORD STOCKDILL – 8.62

F/8 - SUSAN HAFFKE – 9.27

F/11 - GWEN PATON – 9.35

F/16 - JOE BONITA – 9.83

MEDIA AWARDS

Given to the members of each classification with the highest average annual score for DIGITAL, or COLOR PRINTS or MONOCHROME PRINTS (categories). Must have submitted at least 6 photos in each category and be in at least 6 competitions for each category.

F/5.6 - Digital - CLIFFORD STOCKDILL -8.62
No prints awards – not enough submissions

F/8 - Digital – SUSAN HAFFKE – 9.17
No print awards – not enough submissions

F/11- Digital – GWEN PATON – 9.18
No print awards – not enough submissions

F/16- Digital – JOE BONITA – 9.71
Color Prints – OZ PFENNINGER – 9.50
Mono Prints – TRAVIS BROXTON – 9.00

Photo Contests

2020 World Water Day

Deadline: February 17, 2020

2020 World Water Day is organising the fourth edition of the "World Water Day Photo Contest" #WWDPHC to draw public attention to the critical issue of water in our times, with special focus on access to good water.

The competition is open to all lovers of photography and to all supporters of environmental issues and is based on the theme "CLIMATE CHANGE"

The proceeds of the competition will be used to supply water purification systems to communities in need of "water for life."

Visit the World Water Day website for complete information and submission details.

Nature TTL Photographer of the Year 2020

Deadline: February 15, 2020

We're here to celebrate the natural world through the hard work of wildlife, landscape, and macro photographers around the world. Enter our nature photography competition to win the top prize of £1,000! Category winners take home some other amazing prizes.

We have a number of different categories you can enter in this year's competition, ensuring there is something for all nature photographers!

Visit the Nature TTL website for prize lists and info on submitting your images.

Local Photo Opps & Events

National Western Stock Show

January 11-26, 2020

On Thursday, January 9th, Jake Jabs will lead the traditional drive of Longhorn cattle, horses and western wagons through the streets of downtown Denver to celebrate the start of the 114th National Western Stock Show.

Visit the National Western website for details and schedule of events.

Member Recognition

Lee Urmy and Carole Vandenberg had images selected for the 2020 calendar for Theodore Roosevelt N.P. Here is a bit of info from Lee.

In May (2019) I took a trip with Carole and Clayton Vandenberg to Wyoming, North and South Dakota. We went to Devils Tower first on our way up to Theodore Roosevelt N.P. and then through some state parks in South Dakota on the way home. Theodore Roosevelt N.P. is divided into three units, South, Middle and North.

We got to see a large number of bison up close along with the babies. The South Unit is interesting but not nearly as diverse and interesting as its brother to the north. While talking to a ranger for some information he noticed we all had cameras. He told us that the Park sponsors a calendar contest each year. We both decided to enter the contest.

Lee- Overlooking His Domain

Carole - Baby Bison

Frame #37

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

— Denver Zoo Free Days - 1/10/2020, 1/18/2020, 2/2/2020 and then we skip to April. Since we have decent weather this month it may be worth using these opportunities at the Zoo.

— Up for a 2020 Photo Project? Get weekly challenges from 52Frames, or weekly/monthly topics from Definitely Dreaming, or read up on how you can structure your own with details from Shutterstock.