

# Focal Points

The Official Newsletter of the Flagpole Photography Club

Volume 3

Issue#20- October, 2010



**NEXT MEETING:**  
November 18, 2010

**Location:**  
Cyrenius H. Booth Library

**Program: Kenneth Kast**  
Photographic Techniques &  
Making Photo Books with Blurb

**Assigned Topic:**  
Photojournalism

## OCTOBER MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Flagpole Photographers members were basking in the glow of the highly successful and enthusiastically received club exhibit, Newtown and Beyond held October 17 through November 12 at the Newtown Municipal Center on the campus of Fairfield Hills.

The joint venture between Flagpole Photographers and the Town of Newtown/ Office of First Selectman Pat Llodra attracted much acclaim from attendees. Twenty-eight of our members contributed 209 impressive photographs. As further evidence of the show's success, 38 photos sold for a whopping total of \$1045.

Thanks also go to the Booth Library for lending Flagpole an extra hanging system to manage the outpouring of work by our members.

## NEW MEMBERS

Antoinette Wlasuk and Suanda Jourdan joined Flagpole Photographers in October, for a total of 12 new members to date.

## PAY YOUR DUES!

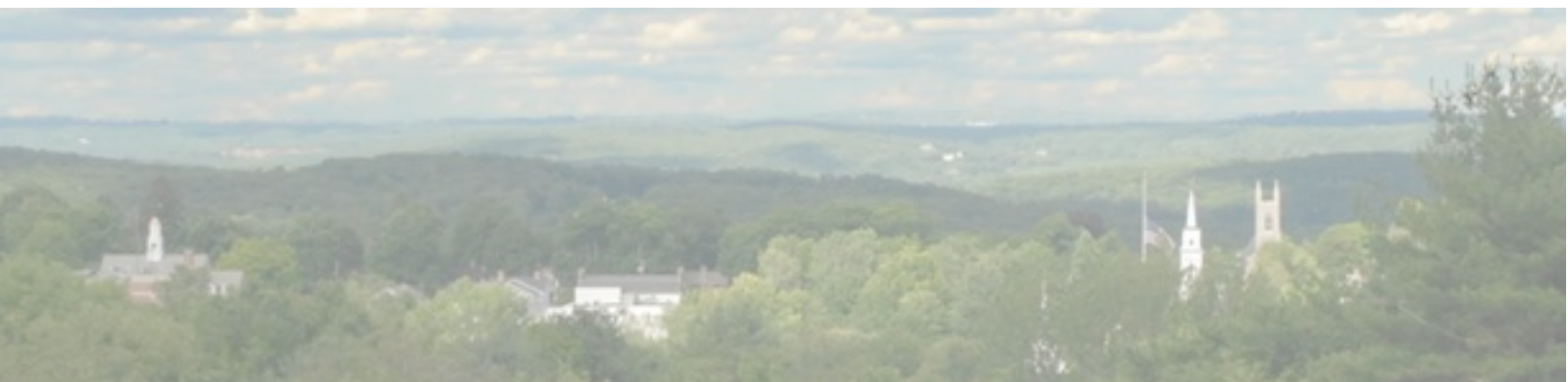
Dues are \$25 per person or \$45 for a family membership. Dues are prorated for those joining at or after the March meeting to \$20 for an individual and \$35 for a family membership. Students may join the club at no charge.

## HELP-PORTRAIT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Several members of Flagpole Photographers have joined together to do an event for Help-Portrait. According to the group's website, Help-Portrait is a "global movement of photographers using their time, gear and expertise to give back to those in need".

Our group has partnered with Maplewood of Newtown, a local assisted living facility, to shoot portraits of residents and their families on Saturday, December 11 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., and will coincide with Maplewood's holiday party.

Volunteers are still needed for the event and a variety of help is needed. If you're interested, the next planning meeting is scheduled for Friday, November 18 at 1:30 p.m. in the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor genealogy room of the Booth Library or contact Benay Yaffe: [lillypie9@gmail.com](mailto:lillypie9@gmail.com)



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Koenig FrameWorks “Scapes” Winter Photography Show**

The deadline for entries into the show is Saturday, November 20 by 5 p.m. Images may be of any landscape, seascape or cityscape. The entry fee is \$5 for the 1<sup>st</sup> photograph and \$3 for the 2<sup>nd</sup>. The show runs from December 3-24. For more information go to <http://www.koenigframeworks.com> or call (203) 270-1887.

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### **Flagpole Photographers Field Trip to Magic Wings Butterfly Conservatory**

There's still time to sign up for this field trip coordinated by club vice-president Donna White. Contact her at [donnawhite99@me.com](mailto:donnawhite99@me.com) if you are interested in going and to let her know if your preference is for Saturday, January 22 or Saturday, February 5.

The facility allows photographers to use tripods in the morning before it opens to the public at 9 a.m. so a 4:45 a.m. departure time is planned. The cost is \$15 and is good for the entire day, however only handheld cameras are allowed after 9 a.m.

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### **Flagpole Annual Holiday Party**

Dust off your festive ties and sparkly sweaters because it's time again for the annual holiday party, which is scheduled for Friday, December 10th at 6:30 p.m. in our meeting room at the library.

All family members and significant others are welcome. Bring a wrapped \$5.00 present for the gift grab, which if it's anything like last year, will involve cutthroat maneuvering for highly desired items. Look for food and beverage sign up sheets at the next meeting.

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### **October's Program**

John Voket, Associate Editor of the Newtown Bee along with colleague and mentor Jeremy Rodrigo presented a program on photojournalism, intended to inspire and educate members on this month's competition theme.

Along with a slideshow of numerous examples of photojournalistic images, both men shared their on-the-job experiences and offered tips for members.

According to Voket, in photojournalism “you want people to be able to form the correct perception of what's going on in a photo before they read the cutline. Every photo should tell a story and news photos must capture every every element at the scene, e.g. the fire, the firefighters and the victims.”

<http://www.help-portrait.com>

<http://www.deepsleep.org.uk>

Although Voket counseled that photojournalists have to “strip away” their emotions, at the same time they also need to be “human”. He says especially at scenes of tragedy, subjects shouldn’t be treated like objects.

Voket also emphasized the importance of ethics in photojournalism because “you are selling truth.” It is essential in photojournalism that the photographer “never alters reality.”

## FLAGPOLE PHOTO FAVORITES



*Flagpole Photo Favorites is the new series introduced at the September meeting. It's the forum for those photos that may not be*

*technically perfect, or that didn't do well in the monthly competition. It's the home for those photos that you keep coming back to because they resonate with you in some way. Each month we'll be showcasing one member's photo and asking them why it's special to them. Our October Photo Favorite is by Pat Miele and here's what she says about her photo:*

I submitted "Engrossed at the Aquarium" a while ago when I first entered the monthly photo competitions and it earned a humble "22", two 7's and an 8. I can't really remember the specifics of the judges' critique, but it satisfies me because I think it sums up my grandchildren's first Georgia aquarium experience...fascination, awe. They were riveted!

I took the photo with a 9mp Sony superzoom in very dim light. I chose to focus on the children, somewhat blurring the animals behind the glass. I probably cropped it because the aquarium was very crowded that Christmas vacation.

Two things I should have done differently: 1) printed at least an 11 x 14 2) used neutral-colored matboard, probably white.

# Competition Winners

October, 2010

Assigned Subject: Best of Summer



1st. Place Assigned  
Did Someone Say "Summer?"  
Mark Ashbolt



2nd. Place Assigned  
Cotton Candy  
Ercole Gaudio



3rd. Place Assigned  
Gold at the End of the Rainbow  
Rhonda Cullens



1st. Place Open Color  
The Other Golden Arches  
Mark Ashbolt



2nd. Place Open Color  
Indian Wedding Tradition  
Linda Rogers



3rd. Place Open Color  
Blurred Cuteness  
Darrell Harrington



1st. Place B & W  
Photo Festival in S. Korea  
Micheline Williams



2nd. Place B & W  
Storing Up for Winter  
Rhonda Cullens



3rd. Place B & W  
Going Places  
Donna White