

Focal Points



The Official Newsletter of the Flagpole Photography Club

Volume 3
Issue#22- January 2011

NEXT MEETING:
February 17, 2011

Location:
Cyrenius H. Booth Library
Newtown, CT

Program: Brad Stanton
Still Life Photograpjy

Assigned Topic:
Sunsets

Talarino Flower Award, Bruce Allen Open Print Award and the Peoples' Choice Award will also be given.

Thanks again to Ed Stoller for the upgrade to our light box. Painting the box a neutral 18% gray yielded excellent results during our monthly competition.

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There's still time to check out our own Ercole Gaudioso's photo exhibit at the Woodbury Public Library. The exhibit runs through February.

JANUARY'S PROGRAM

Bill Snellings, Bob Berthier, Frank Gardner and Bill Marcy gave a presentation on their recent photo trip to Yellowstone and Grand Tetons National Parks. They shared a slideshow of their spectacular and inspiring images of wildlife and beautiful landscapes in magnificent light, as well as valuable travel and photographic tips.

They advise that the optimal time to visit is September and/or October for several reasons. The summer tourists have gone home, the temperature has cooled and the animals are in prime condition for photography, as their coats have thickened in anticipation of winter and they are very active.

They recommend traveling lightly and taking only essential photographic equipment: a medium-range zoom (around 18-200mm), a longer zoom (80-400mm), batteries, chargers and memory cards.

For an eight-day trip, they report a total cost of \$1400 per person that included round-trip airfare, food, double-occupancy lodging, car rental and gas.

HIGHLIGHTS OF JANUARY MEETING

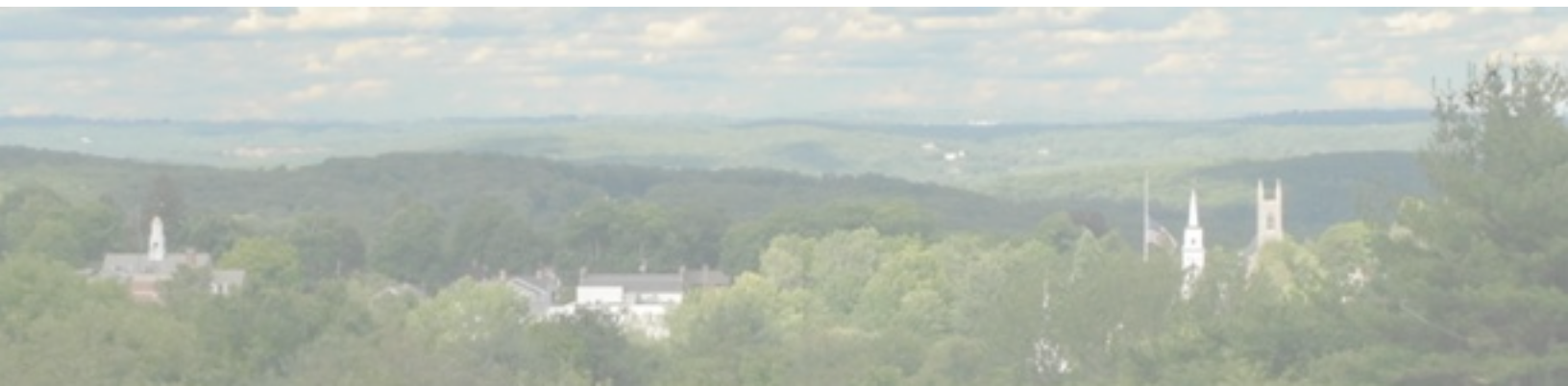
Welcome to new members Anne and Michael Kutkla, Patty Powers, and Paul Pronovost.

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It's time to start planning that early spring shoot and rummaging through your photographic archives! Flagpole's annual members' exhibit and competition will take place during the month of April in our meeting room at the Booth Library.

Each member may submit up to six images: three color and three black and white. Judging will take place on April 2 and all photos will be on exhibit through the month of April.

In addition to Best in Show, other awards will include first, second and third place and honorable mention in the categories of "traditional", "digitally enhanced" and "black and white". Awards in the special categories Dave Kriger Nature Award, Jeannette



TRIP TO MAGIC WINGS

Club vice-president Donna White has rescheduled the field trip to Magic Wings Butterfly Conservatory to Sunday, March 6. The fee is \$15.

NECCC ELECTRONIC INTERCLUB COMPETITION RESULTS

In Pictorial Class B Rui DeSousa earned a third place for his image "The 480", with Flagpole coming in 13th out of 26 total clubs.

In Nature Class B Bob Berthier took an honorable mention for "Snack", which puts Flagpole in 9th place of 25 clubs.

Although not applicable to any of the Flagpole entries, the NECCC report listed some issues that might be of interest to members for future reference as the Glennie Nature Salon Competition approaches:

"A total of five Nature images (one in Nature A and four in Nature B) were disqualified during this competition session. The reasoning provided by the judges included image manipulation, domestic animal species and cultivated or hybrid specimens. All disqualified images were given a score of nine points. The judges also expressed concern regarding the use of heavy borders on images; especially Nature images."

Members having any questions about submission of entries into the Nature category may find the PSA guidelines for Nature images on the Flagpole website.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Taking and Making GREAT Photographs! with Tom and Lisa Cuchara and Hazel Meredith. A workshop that covers in-camera and post-processing (editing) for beginning and intermediate photographers.

From taking better photographs with your camera to importing them into your computer and editing them -- make your pictures look the best they can be! The workshop is Sunday, March 20 from 9:30-3:30 p.m. (lunch 12:30-1:30) at the Milford Fine Arts building 40 Railroad Avenue, Milford, CT. The fee is \$89 per person and includes lunch. For more information go to <http://www.meetup.com/Image-Enhancement>.

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Photo Connection of Colchester is sponsoring A Day of Learning with Arthur Morris: "It Ain't Just Birds" on Sunday, May 15 at UConn from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The \$49 fee includes lunch. The presentation will cover nature and bird photography from subject to camera to computer. Attendees will learn how to get close to your subjects, get it "right" in the camera and how to use the proper digital workflow to get the final image you want.

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Members of Candlewood Camera Club, our sister club in Danbury, are organizing a couple of photo ops for railroad shoots in the spring. The first is sponsored by Lerro Productions in Roanoke, VA on April 8-9. The next is April 30 in Scranton, PA. For more information check out the Candlewood Camera Club blog (which has a lot of wonderful resource information as well) at <http://www.candlewoodcamera.blogspot.com/>.

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It's not too early to start planning for the 66th Annual NECCC conference to be held July 15-17 at UMass in Amherst, MA. A Flagpole contingent always goes and it's a great opportunity for learning as well as socializing with your fellow photography enthusiasts.

<http://epod.usra.edu/blog/> (Earth Science Picture of the Day)

<http://photography.alltop.com/>

Competition Winners

January 2011

Assigned Subject: Cars



1st. Place Assigned
Graffiti
Steve and Donna White



2nd. Place Assigned
Beach Buggy
Micheline Williams



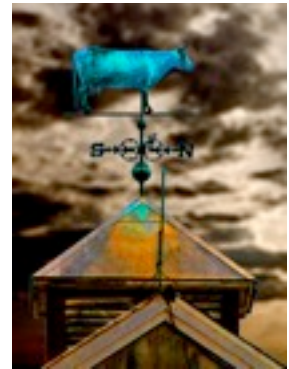
3rd. Place Assigned
'58 Pontiac
Ercole Gaudio



1st. Place Open Color
Sunset Over Gravestones at Turtle Island
Mark Cassidy



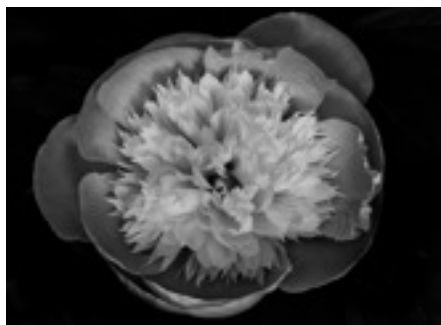
2nd. Place Open Color
Notre Dame
Mark Ashbolt



3rd. Place Open Color
Blue Moo
Sheila Silvernail



1st. Place B & W
Approaching Storm
Don Brooks



2nd. Place B & W
Blooming
Mark Ashbolt



3rd. Place B & W
Laura
Sandy Schill