

# Focal Points



The Official Newsletter of the Flagpole Photography Club

Volume 3  
Issue#23-February 2011

**NEXT MEETING:**  
March 17, 2011

**Location:**  
Cyrenius H. Booth Library  
Newtown, CT

**Program:** Tobyu Baharian  
Digital Videography

**Assigned Topic:**  
Still Life

## HIGHLIGHTS OF FEBRUARY MEETING

Welcome to new members Jay Gill, Suzanne Janousek and Karen Montchal.

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Flagpole's annual members' exhibit and competition will take place during the month of April in our meeting room at the Booth Library.

Plan to drop off your entries on Friday April 1 between 4-7 p.m. in the meeting room.

Volunteers are needed on both Friday and Saturday before the competition to help with photo prep and hanging and to prepare for the reception.

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.

At the March meeting it will be proposed that the "Digitally Enhanced" category be dropped from the exhibit as this category was previously eliminated from our monthly competitions. Then the "Traditional" category would be changed to "Color Print."

Should this motion pass, entry categories would include Best in Show, first, second and third place and honorable mention in the categories of "color", and "black and white". Other awards are given in special categories: the Dave Kriger Nature Award, the Jeannette Talarino Flower Award, the Bruce Allen Open Print Award and the Peoples' Choice Award.

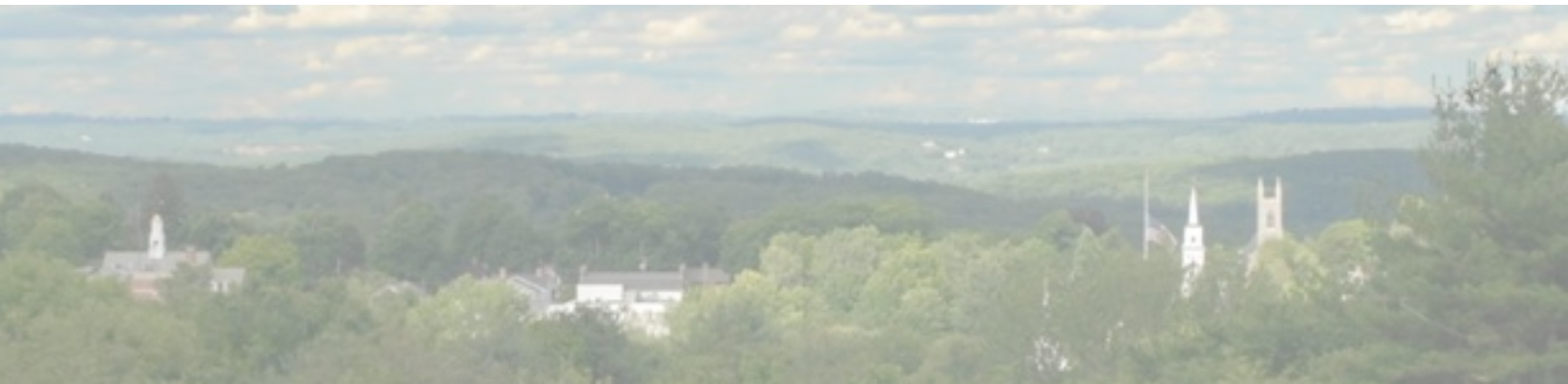
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Thanks are in order to three generous anonymous Flagpole Photographers who donated money to the club to purchase enough hooks and hardware for hanging all of the photos in our upcoming members' exhibit.

## FEBRUARY'S PROGRAM

Danbury-based commercial photographer Brad Stanton spoke to the club about shooting still lifes in anticipation of the March assigned topic for our competition.

Displaying numerous examples of his own studio work, Brad emphasized that in shooting still lifes, "lighting is everything". He added that shine and texture are crucial elements in good still life photography and he described different methods of lighting for best effect.



“The closer a light source is to a subject the softer it is,” said Stanton. He advised that softboxes are a soft light source and a good place to start with lighting, especially for shiny objects as they help eliminate unwanted specular highlights.

In general however, some highlights as well as shadows are desirable because they are what give objects in a still life a three-dimensional appearance.

### **NECCC WINTER 2011 PRINT INTERCLUB COMPETITION RESULTS**

After our showing in the NECCC Winter 2011 Color Print Competition Flagpole Photographers leads the pack with a 1<sup>st</sup> place!

Honorable mentions to Bob Berthier for his image “This Way Mom” and Anne Eigen for her image “Great Blue Herons” shot Flagpole to the top of this combined A & B category.

And in the Class A Black and White category, Flagpole is currently in third place with a 2<sup>nd</sup> place showing for Don Brooks with his image “The Calm of a Storm” and an honorable mention for Jill Baimel’s entry “Gettysburg”.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

The New Haven Camera Club is celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary by sponsoring a seminar “Through the Lens of Adam Jones” on Saturday April 9 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Holiday Inn in North Haven. Jones is a Canon Explorer of Light and internationally recognized nature, travel and wildlife photographer.

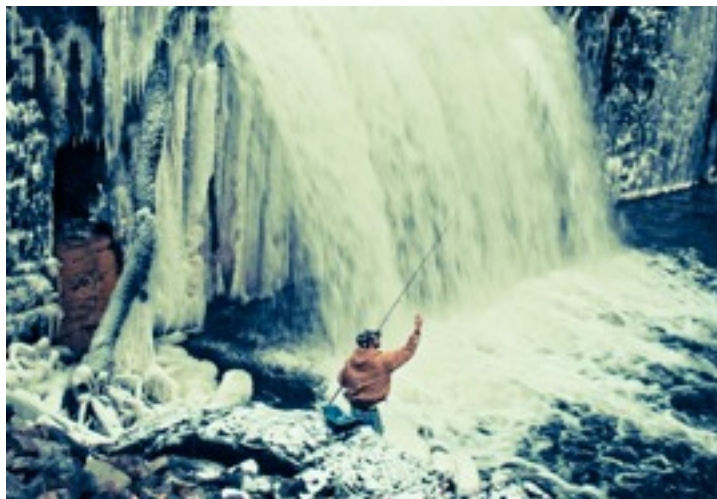
For more information check out their blog at <http://nhccphotoblog.blogspot.com/p/adam-jones-nhcc-centennial-seminar-4-9.html>.

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Koenig Frameworks has issued a call for entries from April 9-23 for their Spring 2011 Photography

Show. The show’s theme is “Fantasy” and the entry fee is \$5 for the first and \$3 for the second. For more information and an entry form check out their website at <http://www.koenigframeworks.com/Events.html>.

### **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 about why it’s special to them. Our February Photo Favorite is by Adriana Gomez and here’s what she says about her photograph entitled “Braving the Elements”:

I showed this picture in January and I got 20 as the score because it is not technically perfect, especially the cropping. But I just love the impact of the whole waterfall.

It was so cold that day. My fingers were hurting because I couldn’t wear gloves to handle the camera. I thought I was crazy until I realized that I was in better conditions than my boyfriend because he was right next to the water for already 40 minutes. That is what I call passion.

<http://www.digital-photography-school.com/>

<http://luminous-landscape.com/>

# Competition Winners

February 2011

Assigned Subject: Sunsets



1st. Place Assigned  
At Bog Pond  
Mark Cassidy



2nd. Place Assigned  
Sunset in Paradise, Kona, Hawaii  
Rhonda Cullens



3rd. Place Assigned  
Evening Solitude  
Micheline Williams



1st. Place Open Color  
Layers of Lava  
Rick Tyrseck



2nd. Place Open Color  
Morning Glow  
Darrell Harrington



3rd. Place Open Color  
Blue Heron Fishing off the Deck  
Rhonda Cullens



1st. Place B & W  
Offshore Guardian  
Rick Tyrseck



2nd. Place B & W  
Cody  
Don Brooks



3rd. Place B & W  
Time for the Local News  
Rhonda Cullens