

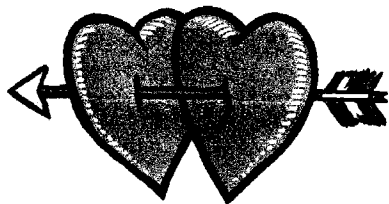
THE CABLE RELEASE

Newsletter of the Virginia Beach
Photography Club

FEBRUARY 2002



**Next Meeting is Tuesday,
February 5th !**



The Club's Website

Work has begun on the club's existing website. In an effort to make the site more informative, several new pages have been added. If you have a chance, check out the site at:
groups.hamptonroads.com/VBphotoclub/.

This Month's Guest Speaker

**Kathryn Wasserman - Virginia Visions -
*Original Digital Photography,
Capturing the Beauty and Charm of
Virginia and it's Borderlands.***

Kathryn's next showing will be at the
Wildlife Art & Sport Fishing Show
March 1, 2 & 3rd at the Virginia Beach
Pavilion.

Pembroke Mall Exhibit

The photo exhibit at the mall will be changed
out on **Wed., Feb. 6th, at 6:00 PM.** Please
insure that your photographs are wired for
hanging prior to coming to the mall.

Membership Renewal

Annual membership fees are once again due.
The yearly fees remain at \$24, and may be paid
either at the meeting or by mail. If you care to
pay by mail, please makes your check payable
to the Va. Beach Photography Club, and mail it
to:

VBPC

Mr. K. Reidel

4348 Alfriends Dr.

Virginia Beach, VA 23455-6102

Please remember that Pro-rated dues only
apply to new members.

Calendar of Local Events

Annual Polar Plunge, February 2 - 10th
to benefit Special Olympics Virginia at the
Virginia Beach Oceanfront between
6th and 8th streets. The actual plunge takes
place at 2:30 p.m. Other activities besides
the plunge include: a costume contest,
the TCC Ice Carving Challenge, Gladiator
Jousting, live music, etc...

For more info visit

<http://www.polarplunge.com>

Winter Whale Watching Safari

December 1, 2001 to March 31, 2002

Saturday & Sunday, 10am till 3pm

Venture Inn Charters, Inc.

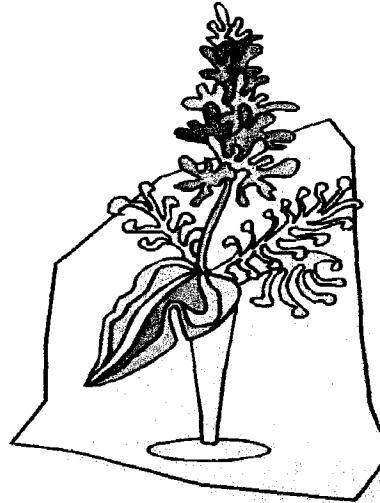
766 Settlers Landing Road

Hampton VA 23669

More Info: Reservation Office 757-850-8960
or 1-800-853-5002

info@ventureinncharters.com

Journey into the Hampton Roads harbor and beyond for a 5-hour safari in search of finback and humpback whales. Enclosed decks for comfort. Full service snack bar.



AP Photograph Exhibit

To commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Associated Press, the Courthouse Galleries will bring over 130 photographs of the AP, including many Pulitzer Prize winners, to the galleries.

Date: Now to February 17, 2002

Time: 10-5 Tues. through Sat., 1-5 Sun.

Location: Courthouse Galleries

Address: Corner of Court and High Streets
Portsmouth

More Info: 393-8983

Photography: Is it visual reporting, or is it Art?

Mathew Brady photographed the Civil War, Robert Capa photographed World War II, both **visual reports**. Then the Brownie swept across the land and photographers became very creative. Ansel Adams used a Zone System to photograph the glories of nature in B/W, **art!** The Chrysler Museum, on Olney Rd. in downtown Norfolk, has a large permanent collection of photography throughout its 150 years and is exhibiting selections from the decades, the changes wrought by differences in cameras, film, lighting, and time. One can follow the photographs chronologically, thematically, or as the individual spirit moves you! Visit the exhibit and determine your own line for when a creation becomes art.

Wakefield Foundation Inc., Center for the Arts Annual Art and Flower Show -

Wakefield, Va. - Entry forms must be received by March 1, 2002. Only one piece of artwork per person may be entered. The artwork must be delivered to the foundation on March 9th or 10th. The opening reception is scheduled for Saturday, May 4, 2002. The entry fee is \$15. More information will be available at February's meeting. Due to the fact that several members have expressed interest in entering this show, we will have a signup sheet at the February meeting so that those interested can coordinate delivering their artwork and/or driving to the opening if desired.

Princess Anne Park Art and Craft Festival

Applications will be available February 1, 2002. This years festival will be held August 3rd and 4th at Princess Anne Park in Virginia Beach. The application deadline is April 3rd. Acceptance/rejection decisions are made by a jury, based on the submission of 4 color slides representative of the art work. Slides must be submitted with the application. The application processing fee is \$10. The festival fee is \$125 if accepted. Call the Parks Special Events Office at 473-5252 to request an application.

Chrysler Museum - A History of Photography

from the Chrysler Collection

Now through October 6, 2002 - Alice and Sol B. Frank Photography Galleries

\$7.00 for adults

\$5.00 for students, teachers, seniors, and military

\$6.00 for AAA members

Museum Members and children under 12 are free

Wednesdays are by voluntary contribution

For more info, call 664-6200 or visit

<http://www.chrysler.org>



JANUARY COMPETITION RESULTS

Jan. 2002: "Open"

Color Slides

- 1st "Calm before the Storm" by Jim Writesel
- 2nd "Waywayonda Waterfall" by W. Demchuk
- 3rd "Russet Rock Waterfall" by W. Demchuk
- H.M. "Cliff Face" by Dale Carey

Color Prints

- 1st "Mountain Stream" by D. Carey
- 2nd "Pachemama's Child" by Barbara Wool
- 3rd "Viet Nam Memorial" by Tina Focht
- H.M. "Rose Hall" by Tom Allen

Black & White Prints

- 1st "Capt. Keith" by Rob Twine
- 2nd "Molasses Creek" by Rob Twine
- 3rd "Frisco" by Greg Fortner
- H.M. "Waterfall" by Walter Demchuk

Competition Categories

FEB "The Holidays"

MAR Open

APR "Reflections"

MAY Open

JUN "Old Structures"

JUL Open

AUG "Water"

SEP Open

OCT "Trains, Planes & Automobiles"

NOV Open

DEC "Animals"

Scale

Awed by a stunning vista or an impressive building, you may feel that if you simply point your camera and start shooting, your pictures will of course turn out great. But before you start snapping away, take a moment to consider how your two-dimensional pictures might best convey what it's really like to be standing in that place. We live in three dimensions, so pictures that have a strong sense of scale usually seem more real.

Scale is a key aspect of how we sense the physical space around us. Every day, you use visual clues to determine whether the things you see are large or small, close or far—all relative to your own size and location. While you also make judgments about how objects in your field of vision relate to one another, the first priority is to figure out how you fit into the scene.

To give your pictures a sense of scale, you must become conscious of things you normally take for granted. Remember: When you take a picture, you also take yourself out of the picture. That is, someone viewing your picture won't possess the valuable context of knowing where you were standing, how you got there, and everything you saw en route. In life, a sense of scale comes from clues gathered by

experiencing a place over time (for seconds, hours, or longer). But when viewing a photograph, the only context available is what's in the picture.

When Scale Matters Most

Consider what makes a scene special enough for you to want to photograph it. Often, size is what captures attention—the height of a skyscraper or a tree, the spaciousness of a landscape or lawn, the depth of a canyon. Most indoor settings offer convenient and obvious clues to scale such as doors, ceilings, and furniture. Indoors, scale generally warrants special consideration only when the size of something is particularly interesting—like an especially tall person, a very large room, or a small toddler negotiating a forest of adult legs. In contrast, scale often requires a conscious effort when shooting outdoors, where the size of interesting subjects can vary quite widely and unexpectedly. If you find yourself thinking, "Wow, what a huge boulder!" or, "That's such a tiny house!" or, "The floor of that canyon sure is a long way down!" then scale probably should be a top priority when you frame that shot.

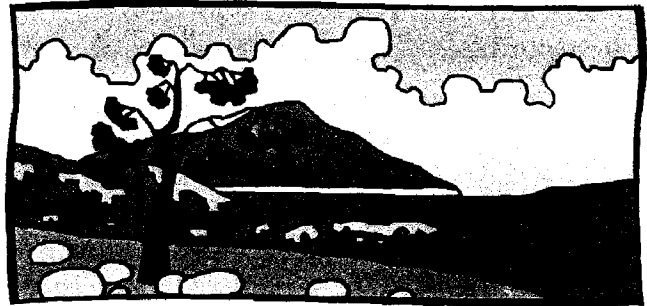
Contrast: Foreground and Detail

Scale is about how big things are relative to you—that is, the size of an average person. It also is about distance, since you can't really tell how big something is until you know how far away it is. Therefore, providing a sense of scale is mostly a matter of contrast between reference points. Your subject and everything that lies before it is a potential reference point. If everything in a picture looks roughly the same distance away, the picture ends up looking unrealistically flat.

To set your scene most effectively, choose foreground elements of a known size—twigs, flowers, leaves, a person, a car bumper, etc. Take a little time before you shoot to find a vantage point that offers useful foreground. You can even let your foreground take up much or most of the frame, if that helps communicate scale more effectively. Look through your viewfinder and make sure

that both your foreground and your subject are in focus. Also consider everything that lies between the foreground and the subject—grass, rocks, bricks, bushes, buildings, etc. Ideally, the level of detail should diminish in a gradual, predictable way all the way to your subject, and beyond.

With your foreground serving as a basis for judging size, and the diminishing level of detail indicating distance and continuity, people who see that picture should be able to correctly estimate the size of the subject.



If you wish to make a much stronger point about size or distance, then place another object of known size right next to your subject. For instance, have your friend sit on the edge of that fountain—or stand at the base of that cliff with one rock climber starting off just above your head, and another one 50 feet higher up in the distance, with plenty more cliff towering beyond that.

Abandoning Scale Can be Fun, Too

Scale is important when your picture is about size and clarity—but sometimes it's fun to create pictures that are ambiguous. Abstraction is intriguing precisely because it invites questions and is open to interpretation.

Tip of the Month

The following tip is number 9 on **Kodak's Guide to Better Pictures - Top 10 Techniques...**

"Use Your Flash"

You can improve your pictures by taking full advantage of the flash built into most cameras. It provides extra light when you

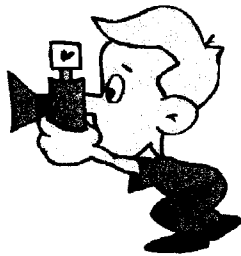
need it, especially indoors, and it freezes action for sharp pictures. Flash can improve pictures outdoors, as well as indoors. Using flash outdoors will soften shadows and brighten colors." For more tips, log on to www.kodak.com.

CLASSIFIED



FOR SALE

Fuji 100 ASA Sensia Slide Film
36 exp. 1/2003 exp. date
List price \$10.10 per roll
B & H price \$6.95 p/r + s/h
My price \$5.00 p/r
Dale Carey 431-8461



The Executive Committee

- President - Connie Carey 431-8461
- Vice Pres./Guest Presentation - Herb Walls 362-5231
- Secretary / Treasurer - Ken Reidel 499-3379
- Competition Chairman - Charlie Davis 474-1466
- Newsletter - Pete Hennessy 497-6594
- Pembroke Mall Exhibit - Tommy Finch 486-8051