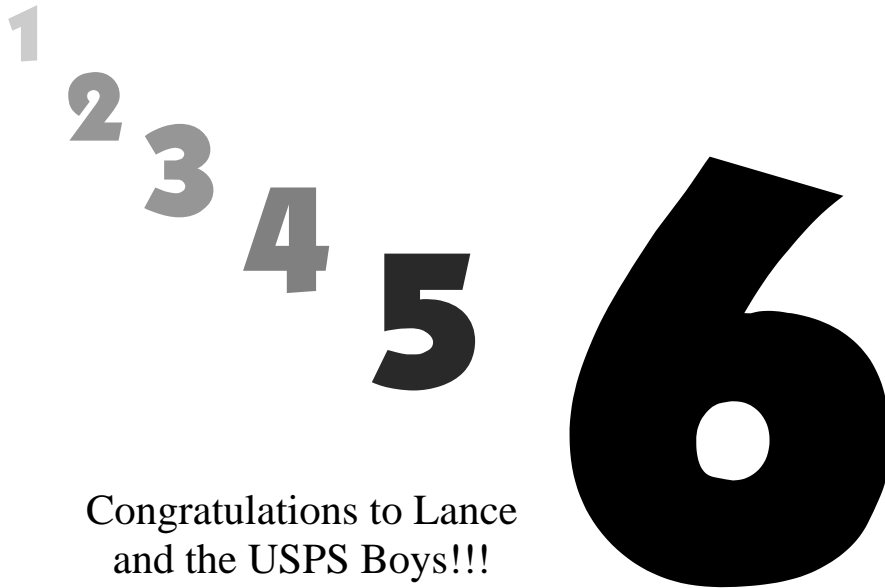


# The Cable Release

The Newsletter of the Virginia Beach Photography Club.

August 2004 Volume 1, Issue 8



Congratulations to Lance  
and the USPS Boys!!!

## Presidents Corner

I want to first commend and thank Mike Epting for a spectacular job in running our July meeting in my absence. We had eleven members participate in the First Annual VBPC Photo Hunt. Everyone had a great time, and I look forward to seeing your final selections and the award results of the judging panel.

At our August meeting, bring your food selections to sign up for our Summer Pool Party, and prepare for a day of fun activities and an opportunity to get know your fellow members a little better. Also bring some ideas for a spring 2005 field trip, so we can start planning for a great time of picture taking early next year.

The floor will be opened this month for continued discussion on possible changes to the photo competition rules and regulations. I urge members to be present to share their opinions on items that will be on the November voting ballot for changes in the competition starting in 2005.

Please remember to bring "titles" for your artwork in all categories for our monthly competition. This month's category is "Panning & Motion". Good Luck !, On all of your entries and join us on August 3, 2004, as we continue an exciting year of photo related activities.

Thank You,  
James F. Writesel, Jr.

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## New Members

- Robert Downing  
*Virginia Beach*
- Linda Duchene  
*Virginia Beach*
- Shannon Lee  
*Norfolk*
- Jerry & Judy Wymore  
*Virginia Beach*

# Monthly Competition Winners

## July 2004 - Open

# 2004 Competition Subjects

### Black & White

- 1st - Pam Jenkins  
"Upperville Church"
- 2nd - Bert Jemmott  
"Old Faithful"
- 2nd - JoAnn Jemmott  
"Tetons"
- 3rd - Bert Jemmott  
"Neptune Festival"

### Color Prints

- 1st - Bert Jemmott  
"Mammoth Hot Springs"
- 2nd - Herman Ratcliff  
"Monticello"
- 3rd - Herman Ratcliff  
"Humpback Ridge"
- HM - Adrian Felton  
"You Can't See Me"

### Color Slides

- 1st - Bert Jemmott  
"Teton Barn"
- 2nd - Walter Demchuk  
"Icicles Cascade"
- 3rd - Adrian Felton  
"Return to Crabtree"
- 3rd - Bert Jemmott  
"Teton Sunrise"
- HM - Robert Downing  
"Amanda's Portrait"

### Digitally Manipulated

- 1st - Bert Jemmott  
"Buffalo"
- 2nd - Bert Jemmott  
"Photographer Imitates Painter"
- 3rd - Bob Rush  
"Monage"
- HM - Pam Jenkins  
"Maumee Retreat"

- January Open
- February Water
- March Open
- April Macro
- May Open
- June Wildlife
- July Open
- **August Panning & Motion**
- September Open
- October Lighthouses
- November Open
- December RED

Get your very own VBPC Coffee Mug! These stylish mugs feature the VPBC logo and the ability to hold any beverage, hot or cold! The mugs are available at any club meeting for only \$16.

## Newsletter Deadlines

For anyone wishing to contribute to the newsletter, please refer to the following publication schedule.

Please send your contributions via e-mail (preferred), at club meeting or snail mail. Electronic submissions should be in plain text format, Word document or in the body of the e-mail.

<u>Issue</u>	<u>Submission Deadline</u>	<u>Est. Publish Date</u>
September	August 21	August 26
October	September 19	September 23
November	October 16	October 21
December	November 21	November 24th
January	December 19	December 28

## Captured - First Place Photographs

*This column is dedicated to our monthly competition winners. The winning photographers are invited to submit a brief summary (120-150 words) about their photos. Technical details are encouraged.*

### Color Prints

"Mammoth Hot Springs",  
by Bert Jemmott

The picture is of the Mammoth Springs at the north entrance of Yellowstone National Park. The 12" by 18" picture was shot in landscape mode with brilliant mineral colors and a deep blue sky being partly obscured by steam rising from the springs. The picture was taken with a Canon Digital Rebel SLR (6.3MP) with a canon 70mm to 300mm image stabilized lens at about 100mm with a polarizing filter. Processing in PhotoShopCS included slight cropping and exposure correction.

### Color Slides

"Teton Barn" by Bert Jemmott

The picture is of a historic barn as the focal point with the Teton mountain range in the background. A deep blue sky partially filled with large white clouds completes the picture. The picture was taken with a Canon Rebel Ti, using a 19-35mm lens at about

24mm at F22 and about 1/250sec on Fuji Velvia 50 film.

### Black & White

"Upperville Church"  
by Pam Jenkins

This photo was taken in Upperville, VA this spring when I drove up to Northern Virginia to take pictures of the Cicadas. As I was driving out of town I noticed this little quaint church on the side of the road. I drove past it, but couldn't resist the urge to turn back around to take pictures. I framed it with the fence in the foreground and the trees on either side. It was taken with a D70 Nikon in color and converted using channel mixer in Photoshop. I adjusted the contrast to bring out the sky and shadows on the side of the church.

### Digitally Manipulated

"Buffalo" by Bert Jemmott

The picture is of a herd of buffalo taken just outside Zion National Park. The picture was taken with an Olympus 2100, 2.1MP camera with a 1.4 extender lens for a 400mm focal lens. The picture was manipulated in PhotoShopCS to include dogging and burning and use of the watercolor filter. The picture was printed at 12" by 18".

## Focus Groups

At the last meeting Michael Epting presented the idea of Focus Groups (then called Critique Circles for the lack of a better name) as an opportunity for members to learn from each other. We had enough interest to start three groups.

### Basic Photography

Jim Writesel is the host for this group focusing on the basics. The group will cover things such as camera operation and basic photographic techniques. If you are interested in this group, please contact Jim.

### Photoshop Group

Pam Jenkins is hosting this group. The group will focus on the digital lightroom covering techniques in Photoshop and scanning. Space is limited. Pam has room for an additional 4 people. Contact Pam if you would like to join this group.

### All Things Considered

Michael Epting is hosting this group. As the title suggests, this group is wide ranging. Discussions will range from group critique of photographs to advanced techniques to whatever the group decides. Space is limited to four members. Contact Michael to join this group.

## Quote of the Month

"I came, I saw, I thought it would make a nice picture."

-- Michael Epting

# August Business Meeting Agenda

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- 7:00 pm Photo & Transparency Competition Sign-in  
Collect PhotoHunt entries
- 7:15 pm Hand out Competition Voting Slips, Photo Print Competition (Three Categories) Voting
- 7:30 pm Transparency Competition Voting
- 7:35 pm Tally Competition Votes, *Pam Jenkins, Competition Chairperson*

- 7:35 pm Open Meeting, *Jim Writisel, President*
1. Welcome Visitors
  2. Member & Guest sign in sheet
  3. Treasurer money collection, membership & merchandise
  4. 50/50 Raffle Collection & Drawing

*Joan Grippo, Secretary*  
Minutes from July meeting

*Jim Writisel, President*

Old Business

- Open discussion on competition changes
- Critique Circles (or Photo Forums)

New Business

- November Elections

Committee Reports: (Newsletter, membership, event planning, meeting planning, special projects)

*Newsletter – Michael Epting*  
Contributions wanted and needed  
PSA

*Membership Development – Debbie Wesley*

*Events & Field Trips – Joe Lowery*  
Spring 2005 Field Trip  
Summer cookout & pool party August 14, 2004, 2:00 PM  
Volunteers wanted for setup starting at 12:00 noon  
Sign up sheets for side entrees and deserts

*Treasurer – Ken Riedel*  
Financial Report

*Christmas Party - Dan Kleintop*

Additional Announcements

*Facilitated Discussion & Awards*

9:30 pm Close Meeting

# From the Classroom - Making a Photo Album or Journal

The following is an excerpt from *PhotoSecrets San Francisco and Northern California*. Copyright 1997 PhotoSecrets Publishing. All rights reserved.

For information about PhotoSecrets visit <http://www.photossecrets.com>

## Planning Your Trip

Before you leave home, decide where you want to visit. Review a PhotoSecrets guidebook, other guide books, magazines, tourist information literature, brochures, and other information and find out what you can't miss. Then draw up a preliminary itinerary.

Test your camera and polish your skills by setting yourself some practice assignments. Use the preceding "How To Photograph Anything" section for techniques to work on. Try different lenses (you can borrow from friends or rent from a good camera store) to find out which ones you need. Try out different film types to determine which best suits your style and budget. Then stock up on rolls of film - twice the amount you think you'll use.

## While You're Traveling

Start with the end in mind. Always think how your shots will work in an album or journal. You'll be narrating a story at the time so take photographs for 'chapter headings', ones designed to introduce locations and sections. Look out for signs of place names and directions. Many of the fun times occur between sights so capture these with 'ordinary' shots - in a car, waiting at a bus stop or train station, in the hotel room, eating at a restaurant, and with the people you meet. Tell a story with

your photography and create a visual variety of views, people shots, and fun stuff.

Collect memorabilia of the trip. Ticket stubs, timetables, postcards, restaurant receipts, napkins with logos, and hotel brochures. You can use these later to liven up your album or journal. Make notes of your travels and sketch a map showing your route. If you might enter some of your shots in photography competitions, keep a note of the camera settings you use (f-stop, shutter speed, film type and lens size). If you're carrying a lot of film, consider marking the canisters with the subject or location. Use removable labels, then, when you get home, transfer them to the developing bags so that you're films are identified before you even review them.

## Keeping A Journal

Decide beforehand how you're going to organize the journal (usually by date) and stock up with enough books or paper to last the trip. Try to write something each day, particularly funny stories and irreverent remarks people made. Include the date and location. Ask your companions to contribute notes every now and then.

## Getting Home

After you've recovered for the trip, put your films in for developing (don't leave them for months as the quality will slowly degrade). Ask for a second set of prints if you want to send copies to other people. Assign a free evening and edit your shots. Don't be afraid to throw the weak ones out. The more you edit, the higher your average quality will be. Sort them into subgroups by subject or location, and then sort each subgroup.

## Making An Album

Buy a good quality album, with refillable pages and thick paper. You'll need to know your print size (usually 4 inches x 6 inches). As you install the prints, consider each spread as a single story or subject. Paste in postcards, brochures and other memorabilia to highlight the story. Crop some photographs by cutting out unnecessary elements, or trimming around a figure.

## Enlargements

A great way to remember your trip, and to let people admire your photographic skills, is to get enlargements made of the best shots. They come in standard sizes (5x7, 8x10, 11x14). A good tip for some revisionist improvements is to enlarge your shot to one size larger, then crop the print down (use a sharp knife and a metal edge) for an even tighter shot. Or ask your local film processor if they can crop it for you at the development stage. It takes extra time, cost and effort but enlargements are the most admired result of your skill and art.

## Newsletters

Use your shots to illustrate a newsletter of your trip to your friends and family. Cut up spare prints, stick them on paper and make photocopies (black and white, or color). Or get them scanned into a computer (ask at an office-services provider like Kinko's) and use a word processor (Microsoft Word, Wordperfect) or page layout program (QuarkXPress, PageMaker) for a professional presentation. You could also make your own posters, key rings, refrigerator

*(Continued on page 6)*

## Local Events

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### **42nd Annual Ocean View Art Show, Ocean View Beach Park August 21 - 22nd**

The Chesapeake Bay Art Association is proud to sponsor the 42nd annual Ocean View Art Show featuring artists from Hampton Roads and the East Coast. The show runs Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

### **The 42nd Annual East Coast Surfing Championships August 25-29, 2004.**

ECSC is North America's Oldest Running Surfing Competition and the second oldest continuously-run surfing contest in the world. More than 100 of the world's top professional surfers, male and female, and

an estimated 300 amateur surfers will travel to Virginia Beach to "ride the curl" at the Oceanfront and compete for combined cash prizes of \$35,000. Held annually in Virginia Beach since 1963, ECSC is more than just surfing. Dozens of people also take part in other competitions including skimboarding, volleyball, an oceanfront 8K run, a swimsuit competition and the extreme sport of skateboarding. Live bands perform for free on an oceanfront stage throughout the weekend. A cost is involved to participate in competitions, but all activities are free and open to the public.

### **NAS Oceana Air Show Sept. 24 - Sept 26**

Sat. & Sun. Gates open 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Naval Air Station Oceana; Virginia Beach. Acrobatic and military aircraft will dazzle crowds in breathtaking displays of aerobatics, grace, precision and power. The Blue Angels will perform for crowds estimated at over 200,000. Festivities also include nearly 100 aircraft, past and present from each branch of the military, free concerts and exhibits. The Air show is free and open to the public.

For a list of all boardwalk activities visit the Neptune Festival website at: <http://www.neptunefestival.com/events.htm>

## From The Classroom

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*(Continued from page 5)*

magnets, note cards, and seasonal cards.

### **The Digital Domain**

There are an increasing number of options to use your photographs with computer applications. Generally you'll need to scan in the shots. You can buy a scanner (Epson, HP, Polaroid, UMax) or use a service bureau such as Kinko's. For top quality, use slides and have them placed onto Photo CD or drum-scanned. There are several image editing software programs available but the best is Adobe Photoshop.

For most other applications, a JPEG file format will work best. World Wide Web (Internet) pages accept JPEG and CompuServe GIF.

Macintosh printers like PICT and Windows machines like TIFF. For four-color printing in books, magazines or flyers, use EPS (Encapsulated PostScript) or TIFF. All the pictures in my books were saved as EPS files.

### **Slide Presentations**

There's not a more fun re-union of travel companions than a slide show. The golden rule is to keep it short - less than one hour or else people will drift off. Tightly edit your shots to the best ones (resist showing everything) and arrange them to tell a narrative story. Test out the projector and the focus before the show, and keep the pace moving along. Get in the drinks and food and make an evening out of it, remembering the escapades.

### **Storage**

Keep negatives in the sleeves they came in, or transfer them to special acid-free paper sleeves in a ring binder. Store photos, negatives and slides in a cool, dry place, and don't subject them to pressure with heavy items on top of them. If you're going to send slides away for competitions or magazines, make duplicate copies first so that you keep the original.

*PhotoSecrets books are the first-ever all-color travel guides for photographers. All the classic sights are shown in color along with detailed maps and tips on where, when and how to photograph each sight. Read the reviews.*

*Learn more about PhotoSecrets at:  
<http://www.photosecrets.com>*

# Contest Watch

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## **NYIP Web Contest**

Subject: Birds

Birds make for a fascinating though difficult subject for photographers. While taking good photos of them can be hard, it's also very rewarding. These intelligent and graceful creatures lend themselves to all sorts of photos, so send us your bird portraits, photos of birds in flight, or pictures of birds doing what they do naturally. Extra points will be given to those photographers who are able to show us birds in action. Just remember, tread carefully as they are delicate animals and scare quite easily. Visit <http://www.nyip.com> for details. Contest Period: From July 1, 2004, through midnight September 30, 2004.

## **NorthernExposureGetaway.com Nature Photo Contest**

All winning Photos will be displayed with a copyright and/or visible 'watermark' (to prevent others from using your images). None of the photo entries will be published in print without written consent from the photographer, with the exception of using the image to print on background of the Winner's Award Certificates (see sample at website). In the event that we should decide to print a calendar or other print project, for promotional use, we will not print your image without your written consent and recognition will always be given to the photographers. Each Winner will be 'featured' on several pages, and winners will be given the option to link to their own website (if applicable) and post their name/contact/link information with their winning photograph, giving them a unique opportunity for 'exposure'!

For complete details, visit the NorthernExposureGetaway.com web site.

## **Digital Photo Contest**

No matter what your level of expertise, DigitalPhotoContest.com allows you to experiment, learn and grow from entering your digital photos in competitions. And best of all, you can WIN. 10 Daily Contests - Enter photos into 10 different contests with 10 daily winners. Must be a member to enter contests. Basic Membership is **free**. Premium Membership **\$20** per year. For complete details, visit [digitalphotocontest.com](http://digitalphotocontest.com).

## **Baby Zone Baby and Toddler Photo Contest**

Each week Baby Zone hosts three contests, one for babies, one for toddlers and one for preschoolers. Each contest will feature 8 to 12 candidates, and the weekly winners will go to the final "grand finale" round at the end of the month. The three monthly grand finale winners will each receive a \$25 gift certificate from The Amazing Toy Store (U.S. Residents Only unless you have a U.S. shipping address) as well as eligibility to participate in our year-end Grand Finale. Entries for the baby contest must be between 0 - 12 months of age, entries for the toddler contest must be 13 months to 3 years old and entries for the preschooler contest must be 3 - 5 years old. The parent or guardian of the child must be the person submitting the photo/JPEG. Photograph must be scanned and sent in JPEG format only. All winning photos become the property of BabyZone, Inc. For complete details, visit the Baby Zone Photo Contest web site.

## **Popular Photography Magazines - "Your Best Shot" Contest**

Send up to 20 of your best shots (prints no larger than 8x12 or transparencies), a daytime phone number and any pertinent technical data to: "Your Best Shot" Popular Photography PO Box 1247 Teaneck, NJ 07666 Enter as often as you like. For more info, call 201-836-0024 or e-mail [RLazaroff@aol.com](mailto:RLazaroff@aol.com).

## **2004 Virginia Wildlife Photography Contest**

It's time to enter your best photographs and let *Virginia Wildlife* magazine capture your images for thousands to see. Special prizes will be donated by Eastman Kodak, Richmond Camera and *Virginia Wildlife* and will be given to contest winners. And, one very talented contest winner will have their photograph featured on the cover of the *Virginia Wildlife* magazine as the Grand Prize. Categories:

1. Birds of a Feather
2. Cold and Clammy Critters
3. A Bug's Life
4. Fantastic Flowers
5. Marvelous Mammals
6. Scenic Seasons
7. The Sporting Life
8. Kids and Cameras

Each photographer may enter up to five (5) slides per category. Color and/or black and white prints 5x7 or larger may be submitted as well. Deadline for entries 5:00 p.m., December 1, 2004. For a complete list of rules see the March 2004 issue of *Virginia Wildlife*.\*

\*Note: Copies of the magazine are available at Club meetings.

# August 2004

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 Club Meeting 7:30 pm	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 Board Meeting & BBQ
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

## August Events

- **3rd** - 7:30 p.m. Monthly Meeting
- **14th** - Summer BBQ, at Pam Jenkins home, 2:00 pm
- **14th** - 11:00 a.m. Board Meeting at Pam Jenkins home. All members are welcome.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- **November 2nd Meeting** - Elections

## Classifieds

### FOR SALE:

Fuji FinePix 6900 Digital Camera (forerunner of FinePix 7000)/35-210mm lens, f2.8-11 (6x optical zoom). M/A/S/PA/Auto/Movie modes; movie mode 774 sec. w/o sound w/128MB card.

*Accessories included:* (4) rechargeable batteries, charger, external power supply, USB cable, TV cable, 128MB & 64MB memory cards.

Teleconverters: .79x wide-angle, 1.5x and 2.0x lens w/tube adapters

Circular polarizer, macro lens set, original instruction book, camera driver disk, camera case.

Price: \$650.00 firm

Hal Ellis 499-0128

hrei11034@aol.com

Mamiya RB67 body with film back and 90 mm lens.

Contact Rob Twine 463-5244

**FREE** CD Jewel cases. Lots available. Contact Michael Epting, 575-1310 or mepting@cox.net.

Canon Rebel 2000 w/Tamron AF 28-80mm f3.5-5.8 Aspherical lens.

Looks new, great shape \$125.00

Canon Elan IIe w/Tamron 80-210 AF F4.5-5.8 like new \$225.00.

Both camera's are fully auto or completely manual for long exposures.

Both have new batteries and a lens cap.

Dale Carey 431-8556 or

stargaz@erols.com

Quantaray 28-90mm Zoom AF 3.5-5.6 for Nikon AF-D. Like new in box. Multicoated, Aspherical Lens. Excellent shape, perfect glass. With Tiffen UV filter & both caps. \$45.00 w/filter & caps, \$25.00 w/o. Michael Epting, 575-1310 or mepting@cox.net

Sigma Zoom 135-400mm f4.5-5.6 APO Aspherical AF lens for Nikon AF-D. Sigma's advanced 5-group zoom system, three SLD glass elements, rear focus system keeps the front lens from rotating and a built-in rotary tripod mount. Includes: front/rear lens caps; lens hood; case; tripod mount; original box and instruction book.

Price originally \$550, selling for \$400.

Contact Hal Ellis, 499-0128 or

hrei11034@aol.com

Canon EOS 1N camera body with the battery pack BP-E1 \$650.00

Canon EOS 24-70mm f/2.8 L lens \$700.00.

Canon EOS 70-200mm f/4 L lens

\$475.00. All in mint condition. Contact

Joan Grippo, 721-6132 or

joan1148@hotmail.com



Newsletter Chair  
Michael Epting  
5793 Magnolia Chase Way #304  
Virginia Beach, VA 23464  
Email: mepting@cox.net

## VBPC Mission Statement

The Virginia Beach Photography Club explores the connection between the eye, the camera, and the spirit, by fostering and encouraging growth of artistic vision and technical knowledge.

The Club provides an informal, friendly, and supportive environment for photographers at all levels and with interest in all types of photographic imagery.

The Club offers a means for members to share ideas and knowledge with each other and to promote an interest in photography throughout the community, through exhibitions and public events.

The club activities offer a means to share ideas and knowledge through monthly meetings, guest speakers, member participation, monthly competition, critiquing of work and technique, field trips, and public photographic activities and projects that kindle growth and friendships through artistic vision of photographic imagery.

Visit our website at <http://groups.hamptonroads.com/vbphotoclub>

Next Meeting, Tuesday, August 3rd, 7:30 p.m. Competition begins at 7:15 p.m.  
Community United Methodist Church  
1072 Old Kempsville Road, Virginia Beach, VA 23464

[Map It!](#)

## Club Officers and Committee Chairs

### *Club Officers*

President Jim Writesel	(757) 679-8737
Vice-President Pam Jenkins	(757) 583-4113
Treasurer Ken Riedel	(757) 499-3379
Secretary Joan Grippo	(757) 721-6132

### *Committee Chairpersons*

Competition Chairperson Pam Jenkins	(757) 583-4113
Field Trip Coordinator Joe Lowery	(757) 622-7187
Special Activities Coordinator Joan Grippo	(757) 721-6132
Exhibit Coordinator Kathy Szilagyi	(757) 481-1403

Raffle Coordinator	
Newsletter Michael Epting	(757) 222-0403
Club Website Connie Carey	(757) 431-8556
Membership Debbie Wesley	(757) 420-3322