



The Cable Release

Volume 2, Issue 12

December 2005

Monthly Newsletter of the Virginia Beach Photography Club

Welcome New Members

- Gregory Avant
Chesapeake
- Diane Joyner
Newport News
- Sgavit Ben-Moshe
Norfolk
- Glenn Fajota
- Ann Harney
- Sal York
Virginia Beach

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Letter from the Editor

As you may be aware, I recently chose to step down as newsletter editor. I would like to commit more time to the club's website and the newsletter will benefit from some new blood.

In reflecting on the past year as newsletter editor, I realized what a good year it has been for the VBPC. We did some new things this year and improved on some others.

We had some excellent speakers:

- Teresa Rerras from Learning Through Photography
- Ed Gibbs from TCC
- Fellow club members, Jim, Pam and Van.

There were some outstanding field trip opportunities:

- Chincoteague Island.
- Fisherman's Island on two occasions. The first trip there in

March was also the first of it's kind for the Refuge.

- A morning shoot in Ghent.

There was the highly successful and informative Lane Workshop. A show and sale at the new Camera City in Ghent. The various focus groups of which the Photoshop Group is still going strong.

Several of our members had exhibits this year and other started or grew their photography business.

Our membership grew and added new faces. We elected a new board for 2006 and I am optimistic for the future.

Thank you to those who supported me during the past two years as editor of The Cable Release.

- Michael

2005 Annual Awards Banquet

When: January 14th, 2006
5 pm to 8 pm

Where: C&M Cafeteria
737 Independence Blvd.
Suite #114
Virginia Beach, VA

Cost: TBA

Club Officers & 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

Special Events Coordinator

Joe Lowery (757) 622-7187

Newsletter

Michael Epting (757) 337-0504

Webmaster

Michael Epting (757) 337-0504

Membership

Jim Writesel (757) 679-8737

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For anyone wishing to contribute an article or other item to the newsletter, please refer to the following publication schedule:

Issue	Submission Deadline
December	November 15
January	December 15
February	January 20

Please send your submissions via e-mail to newsletter@vbpc.org, or submit at a club meeting or via snail mail. Electronic submissions should be in plain text format, Word document or in the body of the e-mail.

Competition Winners November 2005 - Open

Slides

- 1st - Judy Wymore
"Fire in the Sky"
2nd - Greg Avant
"Azalea"
3rd - Rodney Johnson
"Budda of Wat Arun"
HM- Pam Jenkins
"Emerging Lillies"

Color Prints

- 1st - Jason Stick
"Berkley Bridge"
2nd - Van White
"Sunset Surprise"
3rd - Joan Grippo
"Face in the Canyon"
HM - Rodney Johnson
"Midas' Delights"

Alternative

- 1st - Van White
"Music Man Collage"
2nd - Rodney Johnson
"INRI"
3rd - Bert Jemmott
"Engine 482"
HM- Flo Womacks
"Chincoteague Dream"

Black & White

- 1st - Rodney Johnson
"Untitled"
2nd - Bert Jemmott
"Old Sante Fe"
3rd - Van White
"Botanical Gardens"
HM- Tom McElvy
"Old Gas Station"

2005 Competition Subjects

- January Open
- February Reflections
- March Open
- April Landscapes
- May Open
- June Time Exposure
- July Open
- August Body Parts
- September Open
- October Sports & Live Action
- November Open
- **December Architecture**

Term of the Month

"Macro Lens"

A lens that provides continuous focusing from infinity to extreme close-ups, often to a reproduction ratio of 1:2 (half life-size) or 1:1 (life-size).

Letter From the President

“I want to thank my fellow officers and committee members for three of the best years of my life..”

This will be my last opportunity to address my fellow members, officially as your current President in our newsletter. I want to thank my fellow officers and committee members for three of the best years of my life. I have learned a lot about working with others and have been thrilled over the progress and growth our organization has accomplished.

In particular, I want to thank Pam Jenkins for always being there to help me make the right decisions in times where I was uncertain. I want to also thank Hal Ellis III, Joan Grippo, Liz Liebrich, Ken Riedel, and recently

departed Walter Demchuk. These five individuals are all that remain of the original VBPC membership when I joined over four years ago. Thank each of you for your support, confidence, and the privilege it has been to serve as your leader.

As we soon begin a new era of leadership, I only ask that you give your new leaders the same support and confidence you shared with me. Through this, your new leaders will take our organization to a new and even better level of achievement that I know I could have only hoped to achieve. I will always remain a member of this

wonderful organization and will offer my support as time permits me to do so. To our new leaders I say congratulations, and wish you all a most successful future as the leaders of The Virginia Beach Photography Club.

Join us on December 6, 2005, as we prepare to conclude and reflect on what has been an exciting year and begin a new year of exciting opportunities guided by an eager new leadership prepared to serve our VBPC membership.

Thank You,
James F. Writesel, Jr.

Categories

- Cold
- What is It?
- Patterns in Nature
- Up in the Sky
- Three
- Abstract

Competition Categories for 2006

February Cold
The photograph may be taken of anything. However, it must convey to the viewer a feeling of something that is “Cold”.

April What is it?
The photograph should be a part of something very recognizable to most people. However, the photo should be taken in a way that it leaves a person wondering what it could be. For example, a part of a larger object or a viewpoint not usually noticed.

June Patterns in Nature – Nature is a wonder we see everyday in

landscapes or close-ups. Look for something deeper than what we usually see. Look for repeating patterns that convey a look of art and a new wonder that others haven’t seen or noticed.

August Up In The Sky
These photos should be shot while looking up and the sky must be a part of the photo. You will be surprised what you miss when you walk around looking at the ground or only looking straight ahead.

October Three
Photos in this category can be of anything but there

must be three of that something. Not three different things.

December Abstract
Webster defines abstract as “Having only intrinsic form with little or no attempt at pictorial representation or narrative content.” Abstract photos use visual and tangible elements (e.g., shapes, forms, textures, shallowness, depth, even colors or tonal ranges) to convey non-conventional, impressionist views of the item, or to convey feeling or emotion.

Photograph of the Year

All first place photographs in each category from December 2004 to December 2005 are eligible for the Photograph of the Year competition. All eligible photographs are to be turned in at the December meeting. The winning photographer will be honored at the Annual Banquet in January

Eligible Photographs

	Slides	B&W	Color Prints	Alternative
December 2004	<i>"Enchanted Castle"</i> Bert Jemmott	<i>"Tom & Emily"</i> JoAnn Jemmott	<i>"Finding the Eighth Note"</i> Ernie Yang	<i>"Red Canoes"</i> Bert Jemmott
January 2005	<i>"Dolphin"</i> Judy Wymore	<i>"Tuckered Out"</i> Rodney Johnson	<i>"Angels Among Us"</i> Flo Womacks	<i>"Tranquil Cypress Laguna"</i> Hal Ellis III
February 2005	<i>"Monsterous Reflection"</i> Pam Jenkins	<i>"Can't keep Winter Away"</i> Walter Demchuk	<i>"Duo"</i> Bert Jemmott	<i>"Is Anyone in There?"</i> Flo Womacks
March 2005	<i>"Birds of Paradise"</i> Walter Demchuk	<i>"Masquerader"</i> Rodney Johnson	<i>"Balconies"</i> Judy Wymore	<i>"Painting with Watercolor"</i> Rodney Johnson
April 2005	<i>"England Countryside"</i> Jerry Wymore	<i>"Highway to Heaven"</i> Pam Jenkins	<i>"Bay Bridge Sunset"</i> Ernie Yang	<i>"Joan"</i> Ernie Yang
May 2005	<i>"Yellowstone"</i> Bert Jemmott	<i>"Osprey"</i> JoAnn Jemmott	<i>"Sand Dunes"</i> Joan Grippo	<i>"Still Standing"</i> Adrian Felton
June 2005	<i>"Red River"</i> Judy Wymore	<i>"Mystic"</i> Judy Wymore	<i>"One Drop at a Time"</i> Debbie Wesley	<i>"Fremont Street"</i> Bert Jemmott
July 2005	<i>"Spring"</i> Bert Jemmott	<i>"Daydream"</i> Rodney Johnson	<i>"Crab Spider"</i> Adrian Felton	<i>"Towne Center"</i> Jim Writesel
August 2005	<i>"The Piano Man"</i> Jim Writesel	<i>"Intimacy"</i> Michael Geller	<i>"The Story Teller"</i> Jim Writesel	<i>"Hurricane"</i> Nick Knight
September 2005	<i>"Sunflower"</i> Laura Houck	<i>"Xing"</i> Rodney Johnson	<i>"Drumline"</i> Rodney Johnson	<i>"Stone Hull"</i> Reggie Root
October 2005	<i>"Not This Time"</i> Jim Writesel	<i>"Collision Course"</i> Rodney Johnson	<i>"C'Mon"</i> Glenn Fajota	<i>"The Base Runner"</i> Adrian Felton
November 2005	<i>"Fire in the Sky"</i> Judy Wymore	<i>"Untitled"</i> Rodney Johnson	<i>"Berkley Bridge"</i> Jason Stick	<i>"Music Man Collage"</i> Van White

Captured - Winning Photographs

"INRI"

by Rodney Johnson

The only thing I altered in the photo was the sky's color. I used Photoshop to change the sky from blue to purple. All else is as shot.

I see this statue of Jesus in a cemetery I pass each day to and from work. There's just something about the details in the weathered stone that I find interesting.

In the late evening, as the sun sets, the sky takes on interesting hues, as well as bring out the wood's tones. The unusual green hue really contrasts against it all.

When I see this statue, especially on the way home, I will think "Maybe my day was not so bad. After all, look how he spent his."

INRI means "Iesus Nazarenus Rex Iudaeorum." Latin uses "I" instead of the



English "J", and "V" instead of "U" (i.e., Jesus Nazarenus Rex Judaeorum). The English translation is "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews."

Canon EOS 20D, Canon EF 17-85mm IS
Shutter: 1/250, Aperture: f/8, ISO 400
Photoshop CS2 used to alter sky color.



"Untitled"

by Rodney Johnson

Chinatown 4th of July Parade 2005, New York, NY
Canon EOS 20D, Canon EF 70-200mm f/4 L
Shutter: 1/500, Aperture f/4, ISO 400

Press Release

10/23/2005

Photographer Florence Womacks has won Second Place for September in the prestigious photography contest sponsored by BetterPhoto.com, the site's founder, Jim Miotke, announced Sunday.

More than 20400 entries were submitted to the online photography contest, which attracted contestants from around the world and featured 10 separate categories.

Womacks' stunning image, "Blacktail swallow-

tail caterpillar", garnered top honors after being submitted in the Details & Macro category.

All of the winning images can be viewed at BetterPhoto.com's contest page: <http://www.betterphoto.com/contest/winners/0509.asp>

The contest is conducted each month. Categories include Nature and Landscapes, Animals, People, Elements of Design, Digital Darkroom, Travel and Place, Flowers, Details and Macro, Special Effects, and Monthly Theme.

Judging is performed by a panel of professional photographers.

Besides its free, popular photo contest, BetterPhoto.com also offers a variety of services: digital camera reviews, online photo courses, free newsletters, a discussion forum, Web sites for photographers, question-and-answer section, how-to articles, photo galleries, and more.

Photographers can enter this month's contest and learn more about photography at: www.BetterPhoto.com

All of the winning images can be viewed at BetterPhoto.com's contest page: <http://www.betterphoto.com/contest/winners/0509.asp>

Announcements

Congratulations to the new board for 2006.

President - Nick Knight

VP - Tom McElvy

Secretary - Jim Stick

Treasurer - Ken Riedel

What do you want from the club?

Contact Tom McElvy at tom@imagesbytom.com
Ph. 757-498-9882

Rodney Johnson has agreed to take over as editor of The Cable Release effective at the January issue. Please give Rodney your full support.

Visit the club website and discussion forum. The forum is a great way to communicate and share with other club members. If you haven't visited the forum yet, or in a while, here are a few highlights:

- The new officers are

asking what You want from the club.

- Board meeting information. Get minutes from past meetings and the information packets for upcoming meetings.
- News & announcements.

Take advantage of the forum today!

Digital Questions and Answers

by Art Hansen, Photographic Society of Chattanooga

“...in effect, reducing a very capable and quite costly SLR camera to the level of a less capable and less costly point and shoot camera.”

Question: My camera can be set for “auto” white balance, which I use all the time. At times I have had pictures (prints) look bad from the standpoint of color. The people in the store where I have the prints made tell me my white balance was set wrong. Can this be true, or are they making excuses for their own mistakes?

Answer: Either may be true. The auto white balance program on your camera may occasionally make errors. This usually happens when the light being used is border line. This might be in daylight when clouds are approaching, or when the warmer light of evening is moving in, or in any situation where the light is transitioning. It is also true that some cameras simply do a better job of setting white balance than others.

The digital lab making your prints can also make errors and might not get the color right. This is not a new problem and is not one limited to digital images. If

you think it is a lab error simply ask them to make the prints over.

If you want to eliminate most “auto” white balance problems, simply set the white balance yourself, based on the light you are seeing as the image is made.

Question: My Digital SLR camera has an “auto” setting that sets everything, I guess. I have been using it from the time I first got the camera. My friend has been somewhat critical of my doing that. Is there a reason I should stop using it?

Answer: I have had this question before and it resulted in a fairly lengthy discussion on the phone but I didn’t put it in the newsletter, because I wasn’t sure how to respond in few enough words. I think I am ready now.

When someone uses the “auto” setting on a digital SLR, they are, in effect, reducing a very capable and quite costly SLR

camera to the level of a less capable and less costly point and shoot camera. While this is true, it’s none of my business how someone uses their money, and if they plan to learn enough over time to gradually make use of most of the controls on that camera, they may feel justified in making the move. I applaud anyone who wants to apply themselves in this way.

The whole thing is better understood if you consider what “auto” is. Choosing “auto” is a way of turning over the job of taking pictures to a computer programmer whose programs will control all the crafty and some of the aesthetic choices involved in making your pictures. You will be left with the singular job of framing each image. That being the case, anyone should be motivated to learn all they can as quickly as they can, so they can claim the images coming from their camera as their own.

December 2005

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

December Events

- **6th** - 7:30 p.m. Membership Meeting
- **27th** - Photoshop Critique Group, contact Pam Jenkins

Upcoming Events

- January 14th - Awards Banquet

Classifieds

MINOLTA Dimage Scan Dual III film scanner w/add., 2820 dpi=11 meg., Software \$230.

EPSON Photo 825 w/software, 3bw/1color ink/PC cards+ USB cable \$80

VISIONEER 760 Scanner Incompatible w/ Windows XP \$20

CANON EF Lens 100mm f2.0 USM (Dia.58mm) w/ Hood \$280

CANON EF Lens 28-80mm f3.5-5.6 V USM(m) (Dia.58mm) w/Hood \$60

*All equipment is in like new condition and in the original packaging.

If interested, please contact Adrian Felton at 461-6826

Lens Hood and Filters for Sale:

1 Sigma silver lens hood 72mm \$6.00

1 Vivitar Red filter 52mm \$25.00

1 Hoya 85B filter 72mm \$40.00

1 Quantaray UV filter 72mm \$40.00

1 Hoya circular polarizer filter 72mm \$60.00

Contact: Joan Grippo, 757-321-9120

Fujifilm S7000 camera and accessories. This is a great prosumer camera which reads 6 mp and records up to 12.3 mp. It also has a 6x optical zoom and two macro lenses. It holds two different memory cards at the same time, xd and the compact disc. Full manual modes, bracketing, continuous shooting, manual focus ring, histogram, shutter speed of 1/10,000 to 15 seconds, aperture 2.8 to 8, ISO 64 to 800. Excellent movies 640 at 30fps. Included accessories:

Adapter tube to fit over lens so you can add filters or conversion lenses, 55mm circular polarizer filter, 55mm UV filter, 55 to 58 step up ring, 58mm folding rubber lense hood, USB and RCA cables, owner's manual, 16MB starter xd memory card.

Asking \$450 for all. If interested, please contact Reggie at RJCores@cox.net

Fuji S2, excellent condition. It comes with all of the cables and software for 1000.00. If interested contact Melissa at 757-572-2122 or email retouchpro@casmaman.com

For more ads visit the classified section at <http://www.vbpc.org/invisionboard/>



The Virginia Beach Photography Club is a member club of the Photographic Society of America

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, November 1st, 7:30 p.m.

Competition begins at 7:15 p.m.

at

Community United Methodist Church

1072 Old Kempsville Road

Virginia Beach, VA 23464

Reading a black & white copy
of this newsletter?

View it in color at:

www.vbpc.org

and follow the newsletter link.

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 promotes photography through its meetings, educational activities, 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.



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Visit our website at <http://www.vbpc.org>