



# THE CABLE RELEASE

July 2006 ~Volume 3, Issue 7

*Monthly Newsletter of the Virginia Beach Photography Club*

## Welcome New Members!

- **Eric Bough**  
Virginia Beach
- **Susan Fleckenstein**  
Chesapeake
- **Joseph Holman**
- **Don Maccubbin**  
Virginia Beach

## Club Officers

### *President*

Nick Knight (757) 479-2115

### *Vice-President*

Tom McElvy (757) 498-9882

### *Secretary*

James Stick (757) 427-5932

### *Treasurer*

Ken Riedel (757) 499-3379

## Committee Chairpersons

### *Competition Chairperson*

Pam Jenkins (757) 583-4113

### *Membership*

Michael Geller (757) 499-6996

### *Newsletter*

Jennifer Wheeler (757) 962-7647

### *Special Events Coordinator*

Joan Grippo (757) 721-6132

### *Webmaster*

Michael Epting (757) 337-0504

## ~The President's Corner~

We are now over half-way through the year and it is time to start thinking of possible candidates for the various club positions. As always all jobs will be open.

If you would like to serve the club in the up coming year, please take the time to talk with the board members, attend board meetings and get a feeling for what is required for that position. Lets start the new year with fresh ideas and new leaders. So step up and serve your club.

Along similar lines the board will propose and submit by-law changes to the membership for feedback and revision so that they can be voted on in the November elections, to be enacted in 2007.

Summer is here and the heat is on, and so are the picture taking times: family friends, beach and ocean shots, pool time or just a lazy shady afternoons, capture these moments! They will not last forever.

*Nick*

**Enjoy your summer!**



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

# ~Competitions~



## Competition Winners June 2006

### Black & White Prints

- 1<sup>st</sup> "Frozen Lines" by Ernie Yang  
2<sup>nd</sup> "Feathery" by Michael Geller  
3<sup>rd</sup> "Ripples in the Sand" by Adrian Felton  
HM "Low Tide" by Joan Grippo

### Color Prints

- 1<sup>st</sup> "Vortex" by Michael Geller  
2<sup>nd</sup> "Quartz" by Ernie Yang  
3<sup>rd</sup> "Gone to Seed" by Tom Jenson  
HM "Sand Dollar" by Flo Womacks

### Alternative/Digitally Altered

- 1<sup>st</sup> "Monkey Business" by Pam Jenkins  
2<sup>nd</sup> "Piece of Me" by Flo Womacks  
3<sup>rd</sup> "Brushed Lily" by Michael Geller  
HM "Crocus" by Jerry Wymore

### Slides

- 1<sup>st</sup> "Re-generation" by Michael Geller  
2<sup>nd</sup> "Lunch Time" by Calvin Taylor  
3<sup>rd</sup> "Spider House" by Judy Wymore  
HM "Galloway Tulips" by Tom Jenson

### *2006 Competition Subjects*

- January Open
- February Cold
- March Open
- April What is It?
- May Open
- June Patterns in Nature
- July Open
- August Up in the Sky
- September Open
- October Three
- November Open
- December Abstract

*Please feel free to download the 2006 Subject list with definitions*

## Proposed Competition Judging Changes

It was proposed in the June meeting that changes be made in the way the monthly competition is judged. Three proposals have been introduced:

- 1) Leave judging as it is now with the members voting for winning photos.
- 2) Create a panel of judges consisting of 2 experienced judges within the club and 1 member. These judges would judge photos based upon set guidelines such as technical, composition, artistry (guidelines to be determined)
- 3) Create a highbred of the two above with a percentage of the score from the members voting and a percentage from the judges. Weighting for each to be determined.

Further discussion is encouraged. Please e-mail suggestions and comments to Nick Knight. Also a topic has been introduced on the VBPC web forum to continue this discussion. Please join in that discussion and make your voice heard. To help members in judging photos, in the July meeting, a list of criteria to aid in judging will be provided to each member. Please use that and provide us with feedback. The vote for how our contest will be judged will take place at the time of our Annual Elections in the fall.

**Competition Categories for 2007:** Also included on the ballot will be the voting for the new competition categories for 2007. All members are encouraged to submit entries for possible categories. Please include a short explanation of the category you submit. The list will be narrowed to 18 from which members will choose six for the assigned categories. Submissions are due no later than the September meeting.

**ALL ARE ENCOURAGED TO PARTICIPATE!**

# ~Special Events~

*Mark Your  
Calendar!*

**July 2006**

## **Saturday, July 15th Soccer or Baseball Game**

Individuals or small groups can join together for photo opportunities at soccer or baseball games. Check your local areas for times and locations.

## **Tuesday, July 18th Membership Meeting, 7:30 pm**

Guest Speaker, Jessica Everett from Creative Memories will be discussing scrapbooking.

The deadline for submission of photographs from the recent "Photo Hunt" is July 18, 2006. Approximately ten (10) members participated in the May event. Winners will be announced during the August General Membership Meeting.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2	3	4 <i>Holiday No Meeting</i>	5	6	7	1/8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15 <i>Soccer or Baseball Game</i>
16	17	18 <i>Membership Meeting</i>	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

*Note: There will be no Board meeting held in July.*

## **Term of the Month**

### **Parallax**

The difference in the scene viewed through a camera's viewfinder and the scene the camera records from the lens view. This is due to the viewfinder being offset from the lens.

*This term and many others can be found at [www.photographytips.com](http://www.photographytips.com)*

## **Upcoming Club Activities (Tentative) for 2006**

- Aug. 19<sup>th</sup> 9:00 am Skateboarders at Mt. Trashmore: TBA
- Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup> 9:00 am Mackay Island, NC or Pea Island, NC
- Oct. 21<sup>st</sup> 9:00 am Hollywood Cemetery, Richmond
- Nov. 18<sup>th</sup> 9:00 am First Landing State Park/Fort Story: Depends on weather
- Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> 6:00 pm Christmas Lights: Norfolk/Portsmouth

## ~Getting to Know Our Members~

### A Biography

by Rodney Johnson and his friend



© Rodney Johnson

A photographer by accident, Rodney Leandrew Johnson, age 38, is relatively new to photography. In high school, he had planned to be a cultural anthropologist, studying Mandarin and Sanskrit on his own, but his parents insisted he “go into computers.” While working as a software engineer, his love of studying distant cultures and world religions never wavered. He traveled to Asia as often as he could to explore the cultures first hand.

At age 36, Rodney’s interest in photography developed as an extension of his love of travel in Asia. He decided to purchase a film SLR camera and a cheap lens. The camera’s manual controls allowed Rodney to learn the nature of light, while capturing what he describes as “slices of life” in the places he explored. Even though he had only owned his first camera for three days, one of his photos was selected for use by Singapore’s tourism board. This inspired Rodney’s interest in photography, but the high cost of professional slide film, its processing costs and need of proper storage, held him to shooting only occasionally. Moving to a digital camera enabled Rodney’s natural creative talents to blossom exponentially, allowing him to experiment without being pinioned by financial barriers.

The true pivotal moment in Rodney’s short, photographic life occurred

when Barnes and Noble bookstore held the wrong magazine for him, by accident. Rodney explained: “I told Barnes and Noble I wanted them to hold a copy of B&W magazine. Instead, they held a ‘BW photography’ magazine called LensWork, which I had never heard of. I was about to fly, and needed something to read, so I went ahead and bought it.” In that issue of LensWork, he discovered the work of James Whitlow Delano, who has become Rodney’s favorite photographer. From the article he also discovered the names “Henri Cartier-Bresson” and “Sudek.” The photographs of these three masters inspired Rodney, showing him a view of the world that fit his creative imagination. He bought the audio interview for Delano from LensWork, listening to it over and over in his car and iPod. Delano’s background story inspired Rodney to take a “leap of faith” and venture into the world to capture the slices of life of the places he passionately craves to explore.

When asked to describe how he is able to capture key moments in time, Rodney replied “I allow myself to be absorbed into the cultures I explore. I wander the alleys and backstreets of cities and villages where only those who live there normally venture. I quietly become one with a scene, working quickly to capture “slices of life” before they are forever lost.”

When asked to describe his work and methodology, Rodney replied “My photographic interests do not really fall into specific genre. My work goes beyond photography. My exploration of a people, culture or country is as much an academic exercise, as it is a photographic one. I research a country, its peoples and histories in great detail. I normally do this by reading several graduate level textbooks, as well as studying the country’s prima-

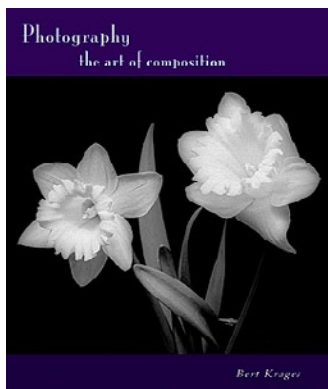
ry language. I additionally use the Internet read that country’s news and to meet people who live in, or are from that country of interest. For example: I’m reading 3 such texts about Indonesia’s peoples and histories, as well as their nationalism and political situations. I’m also studying Bahasa Indonesia (Indonesian Language). My work is driven by true passion.”

Rodney Leandrew Johnson is VBPC’s Photographer of the Year 2005. He also won VBPC’s first place in Black and White, first place in Color and third place in Digital Alternative Open Categories for 2005. Additionally, his photograph, Masquerade, won VBPC’s Photograph of the Year 2005 award. His inspirational, humanitarian project, Bench Warmers, has been used by the city of Norfolk, VA to research and address homelessness in the area. Rodney’s current, on-going project is “Little Empires: Impressions of Chinatowns” where he is traveling to every major Chinatown in the continental United States, exploring how distinct sub-cultures exist within their respective massive, American metropolises.

Rodney’s Latest News: In the latter part of 2006, I am leaving the USA to move to Asia. This is the only way I can truly pursue the photography I wish to do. Jakarta is a natural choice for my new home, as I plan to focus on Indonesia, while making excursions to other countries of interest. I am seeking representation and sponsorship.

# Book Review

by Tom McElvy



***Book Details:***  
**PHOTOGRAPHY -  
 THE ART OF  
 COMPOSITION**  
 by Bert Krages

1st Edition  
 Paperback: 250 pages  
 Publisher: Allworth Press,  
 June 2005  
 ISBN: 1-58115-409-7

***Publisher Propaganda:***

Revolutionary Methods Help Photographers to Develop Their Perceptual Skills.

***Review:***

Countless books have been written about composition. Many of us go by the basic, "seat of our pants" approach of "If it looks good in the viewfinder, shoot it!" However, Bert Krages, the photographer and attorney, has not given us a book, he has given us a workbook.

The Book opens with basic Visual Skills information - primarily, the importance thereof. His section about viewing other people's photographs I found useful in not only

looking at my own photography, but at others. Perhaps a valuable skill for our members, not only for judging the club competitions, but to help us compare our own work to the masters of the 20th century.

The remaining chapters touch base on the camera as a tool, then it jumps into the exercises. And there is an exercise for darn near everything! I think that is what so fascinated me with this particular book...it is not all concepts, but rather, practical working exercises. The author walks you through everything from points to lines and shapes. Each exercise has subheadings of "About the Genre," "About the Exercise," "Setting Up the Exercise," and "Technical Considerations." In short, everything you could ask for - you just supply the equipment and other materials necessary to make it happen.

The closing chapter is probably one of the most important in the book - "Thinking Like an Artist." About 10 pages, primarily of text, Krages explores how photography has influenced the other visual arts, and the acceptance of photography as an art form. It is a section I find myself reading several times a week, to reinforce some of the other material in the book.

The only negative I can really say about the book is that the photographs appear to be dark and murky, and a book like this really should have contained color images.

## Club Budget

Virginia Beach Photography Club Budget - 1 January 2006 to 31 March 2006

Income		31-Dec-06 Balance		Expenses	
3-Jan-06	Dues	\$420.00	3-Jan-06	Trophies	\$127.73
3-Jan-06	50/50	11.50	3-Jan-06	Awards	121.75
7-Feb-06	Dues	456.00	3-Jan-06	Awards	91.22
7-Feb-06	50/50	19.00	14-Jan-06	Prizes	103.75
23-Mar-06	Dues	168.00	14-Jan-06	Awards Dinner	272.97
23-Mar-06	50/50	<u>10.00</u>	7-Feb-06	Tunnel Toll Eastern Shore Club Bus	<u>17.00</u>
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>\$1,084.50</b>	<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>\$734.42</b>

**23-Mar-06 Balance** **\$1,406.48**

2-Apr-06 Ken Ridell, Treasurer  
 Nick Knight, President

## PHOTOGRAPHY OF THE YEAR 2006

### Eligible Photographs

All first place photographs in each category from January 2006 to December 2006 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. If you are interesting in helping organize the Annual Banquet, please contact Flo Womacks.

	<b>Alternative Prints</b>	<b>Black &amp; White Prints</b>	<b>Color Prints</b>	<b>Slides</b>
January 2006	<i>"Japanese Rice Bowls"</i> Rodney Johnson	<i>"Sands of Time"</i> Pam Jenkins	<i>"No. 26"</i> Adrian Felton	<i>"Mums The Word"</i> Greg Avant
February 2006	<i>"Back in the Days of Outhouses"</i> Flo Womacks	<i>"Gloveless"</i> Joan Grippo	<i>"Winter on Lake"</i> Adrian Felton	<i>"Cold and Lonely"</i> Judy Wymore
March 2006	<i>"Reptium Moonshine"</i> Rob Twine	<i>"S-Trails"</i> Adrian Felton	<i>"Aquatic Repose"</i> Pam Jenkins	<i>"Virginia Sunrise"</i> Pam Jenkins
April 2006	<i>"Fire and Brimstone"</i> Judy Wymore	<i>"What"</i> Jerry Wymore	<i>"Layers"</i> Joan Grippo	<i>"Hibiscus"</i> Calvin Taylor
May 2006	<i>"Evening Moon"</i> Adrian Felton	<i>"Buckskin Gulch"</i> Allen Rabe	<i>"Humming Bird"</i> Adrian Felton	<i>"Pittsburgh"</i> Calvin Taylor
June 2006	<i>"Monkey Business"</i> Pam Jenkins	<i>"Frozen Lines"</i> Ernie Yang	<i>"Vortex"</i> Michael Geller	<i>"Re-generation"</i> Michael Geller
July 2006				
August 2006				
September 2006				
October 2006				
November 2006				
December 2006				

## ~Announcements~

~ Members whose anniversary date falls in the month of July, are asked to submit their membership dues to Ken Riedel.

~ Any member having any information on where the discontinued Polaroid SX70 film can be located or purchased, please contact Jennifer Milam at [jenny6L@cox.net](mailto:jenny6L@cox.net).

~ Photographs from the Eastern Shore State Park exhibit were returned by Flo Womacks and made available for pick-up by the individual photographers during the June meeting.

~ A Photoshop seminar is being offered on Thursday, July 14th. Information and application can be obtained at [www.photoseminars.com](http://www.photoseminars.com).

~ We are looking for fundraising ideas to assist with the costs for the Annual Award Banquet to be held in January. Please submit concepts to Flo Womacks at [flotography1@yahoo.com](mailto:flotography1@yahoo.com).

*All members are encouraged to submit articles or photographs for the newsletters!*

Please send your submissions via e-mail to [artistjen@cox.net](mailto:artistjen@cox.net) or submit at a club meeting. Electronic submissions should be in plain text format, Word document or in the body of the e-mail. Photographs can be sent as jpeg at 150 dpi or less. Please include the title of the photograph as well. Please submit all items by the 15th of each month.

The Cable Release is published monthly by the Virginia Beach Photography Club (VBPC). All text and images are the copyright of the VBPC and its contributors, all rights reserved.

For usage rights of articles and photographs, please contact [info@vbpc.org](mailto:info@vbpc.org) or the author to obtain written permission.



### Important:

**Please remember to update any changes to your e-mail address to Michael Geller or James Stick so you do not miss out on any important club announcements that are sent via e-mail!**

## ~Classifieds~

### **Canon PowerShot G6 Digital Camera , 7.1 megapixel for Sale - mint condition**

Canon PowerShot Deluxe Soft Camera Case  
Canon Teleconverter TC-DC58 N 1.75x  
Canon Conversion Lens Adaptor LA-DC58  
Canon TC-DC58N Teleconverter F/G3/G5  
Canon WC-DC58N Wide Converter F/G3/G5  
Canon LH-DC30 Lens Hood  
Canon PowerShot G6 Digital Camera User's Guide  
2 - 256 megabyte Memory card  
1 - 512 megabyte Memory card  
Canon 58mm close-up lens 250D  
2 - 58mm Cannon UV haze filters  
USB Reader/Writer  
2 - Cannon WLDC100 wireless controllers  
Tabletop Tripod/Unipod  
Canon video adaptor with S-cable and mic capabilities  
Camera to video cable  
Canon CG80 battery charger  
Durable shell gadget bag with adjustable dividers, front & side pockets, tripod straps, etc. 11" wide x 8.7" high x 7.9" deep  
Contact Pat Patrick at 588-1980

### **For Sale: Lens Hood & Filters**

1 Sigma silver lens hood 72mm: \$6.00  
1 Vivitar Red filter 52 mm: \$25.00  
1 Hoya 85B filter 72 mm: \$40.00  
1 Quantaray UV filter 72 mm: \$40.00  
1 Hoya circular polarizer filter 72 mm: \$60.00  
Contact Joan Grippo at (757) 721-6132

### **For Sale: 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 e-mail [retouchpro@casmaran.com](mailto:retouchpro@casmaran.com)

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

## *Virginia Beach Photography Club* *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.

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



[www.vbpc.org](http://www.vbpc.org)

### **Next Meeting**

**Tuesday, August 1<sup>st</sup>, 7:30 pm**

**Competition begins at 7:15 pm**

**at**

**Community United Methodist Church  
1072 Old Kempsville Rd.  
Virginia Beach, VA 23464**