

The Lens and Eye



Volume 50 Number 1 | September 2014 | Editor: Lori Ducharme | Contact: newsletter@nbccmd.org | www.nbccmd.org

Calendar

SEPTEMBER EVENTS

- Sept 3** - Competition Night, 7:30pm. Topic: Selective Focus. Judge: Wayne Wolfersberger
- Sept 10** - Program Night, 7:30pm. Speaker: Nikhil Bahl
- Sept 17** - Board Meeting, 7:30pm
- Sept 24** - NO MEETING
- Sept 28** - Field Trip

OCTOBER PREVIEW

- Oct 1** - Competition - Open (Electronic)
- Oct 8** - Competition - Open (Prints)
- Oct 15** - Board Meeting
- Oct 22** - Program
- Oct 29** - Program

In This Issue

We're baaaaaaack! Here's hoping everyone had a great summer full of fun and photography.

As usual, we hit the ground running here in September. Inside, you'll read about this month's competition, program, and field trip. We have multiple articles on the current state of the membership, and we welcome 18 new members to our ranks. There are special features on member trips out west, and on the Club's longtime relationship with PCR. You'll also read about the work the Board has been doing to align committees to meet the evolving needs of NBCC.

Speaking of committees, take a look at the last page and make note of how many members play an active role in the ongoing activities of the Club. It takes a village, and we've got a great one. If you want to get involved, contact one of the committee chairs (denoted in bold).

As always, if you have ideas for articles or want to contribute, you can reach us at newsletter@nbccmd.org.

– Lori Ducharme, Editor

September Competition Topic: Selective Focus

The creative use of depth-of-field to direct the emphasis to a particular part of the image by deliberately placing surrounding elements out of focus. Must have been taken on or after June 1, 2013.

Electronic image submissions are due by 7:30pm on Sunday, Aug 31. (Note this is Labor Day weekend.)

NBCC, founded in 1965, meets most Wednesday evenings from September to May. Competition and program meetings are held in the fellowship hall of the Faith United Methodist Church, 6810 Montrose Ave., Rockville, MD. Membership meetings are open and guests are always welcome.

Membership in NBCC is capped at 165 members and we currently have a waiting list. For more information about the club and for an application, visit the Membership section of the club website at www.nbccmd.org



Welcome New Members!

The Club welcomes our 18 newest members – the Class of 2014: **Carol Balassa, Michele Egan, Glenn Gentry, Neil Hermansdorfer, Greg Holden, George Lea, Lauren Ludi, France Marcoux, Benita Mayo, Mike Mitchell, Bob Murphy, Jim Randell, Nolan Rappaport, Roberto Soto, Ben Turner, Jim Turner, Neil Willens, and Morgan Wilson.**

When you see someone with a large red dot on their name tag that says “I’m New,” introduce yourself, get to know them, and make them feel at home. On the second meeting night – Wednesday, September 10th – there will be a New Members Reception beginning at 7:00 p.m. All members should make an extra effort to come early and extend greetings to our newest photographer colleagues, many of whom have attended our meetings as guests and waited for nearly two years to participate as active members.

Each new member has been paired with an experienced member who will serve as their Point of Contact, to introduce them around and be available to answer any questions they might have about how to take advantage of the many opportunities the Club has to enrich their photography experience. The Board encourages new members to go on field trips and participate in small group activities as a great way to get involved.

To further aid the assimilation process into active participation, new members will be provided an orientation session on Wednesday, August 27th. Committee chairs will preview their program opportunities; Club traditions, like signing up to bring refreshments, and wearing name tags, will be shared; and the competition program, often daunting to new members, will be explained. With the patience of our new members finally being rewarded – let the good times roll!

– Chuck Lee, NBCC Membership Chair

September Judge: Wayne Wolfersberger

The judge for September’s “selective focus” competition night will be Wayne Wolfersberger. An ecologist-naturalist, educator and nature photographer by professional training and passion, Wayne has integrated all areas to become a well-respected professional nature photographer in the Washington DC area. His photographic expertise was honed while working for a D.C. area commercial photography firm, the US Navy Photographic Center and involvement in numerous professional seminars and workshops.

Wayne is a member of NANPA (North American Nature Photography Association), NAPP (National Association for Photoshop Professionals), the Vienna Photographic Society and Northern Virginia Photographic Association for which he has served as VP and President. He has delivered numerous and varied photographic programs for many local groups in the greater Washington area, in the Southern Appalachians, and internationally in the UK and Australia. Many of his images have appeared in local, national, and international magazines (including multiple images in *Nature’s Best*), on calendars and postcards, exhibited, and sold as fine art prints. Wayne has also worked as a wedding photographer and done the craft circuit.

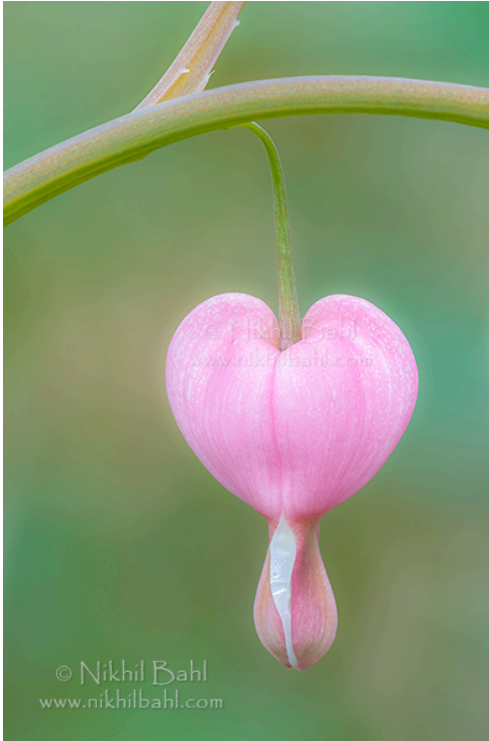
Wayne teaches a variety of photography classes locally during the fall, winter, and spring (if he’s not on short travel excursions) and most recently during the summer. For 14 years he spent the summers (May to September) in Yellowstone National Park working for the US National Park Service. He turned in his badge after the 2012 season in order to spend time with his family and new granddaughter when they moved to Maryland after 9 years Down Under.



Images © Wayne Wolfersberger

September 10 Program Night:

Nikhil Bahl, “The Power of Simplicity and Expression”



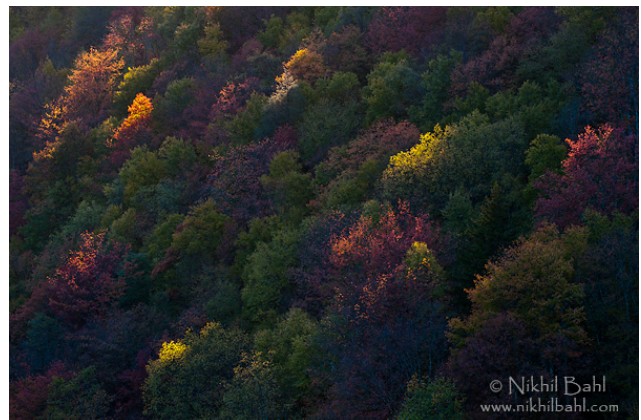
What are you trying to say with your photographs? Photography is a form of visual communication and, with a complicated image, your message may not be obvious to the viewer. But simplicity and clarity in thought, process and technique can lead to expressive images that evoke emotion. All photographers should strive for simplicity in their photographs.

In his presentation, Nikhil will discuss the inherent connection between simplicity and expression. He will share ideas on how photographers can make their images more meaningful, and how to convey their message in a distinct style.

Nikhil Bahl is a professional photographer, educator, author, lecturer and workshop instructor. His goal is to inspire people to appreciate the splendor of nature by transforming the mundane into the exciting through contemplative and artistic interpretation. While Nikhil’s primary aim is to create art with his photographs, he also strives to document the natural world with an eye toward conservation and education. This has led him to volunteer his time and photography skills with the National Park Service and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

Nikhil's work has been published in a number of print and electronic media. His fine art prints have been widely exhibited in the Washington metropolitan area, and are part of many private collections. Nikhil leads several nature photography workshops and tours in the United States and his instruction is focused on interpretation, expression and developing personal vision. His photography can be viewed at www.nikhilbahl.com

“In photography, we are only restricted by our own imagination.”



September Field Trip:

Sugarloaf Mountain Horse Show at Loch Moy Farm - Hunter/Jumper Trials

Nestled in the hills of Adamstown, MD, near the Monocacy River and Sugarloaf Mountain, Loch Moy Farm provides a beautiful setting for horse events. It is a premier location for many equestrian activities and competitions, and on **Sunday, September 28**, it will host the Sugarloaf Mountain Series Hunter/Jumper Show.

Just what is a Hunter/Jumper Show? "Hunt seat" is a style of forward seat riding, commonly found in North American horse shows. Along with dressage, it is one of the two classic forms of English riding. The hunt seat is based on the tradition of fox hunting. Hunt seat competition includes both flat and over fence competitions.

This competition is divided into two categories, hunters and jumpers. Hunters as a group are not judged on time but on manners, form and expertise over the fences, and their ability to maneuver the course at an even pace. The presentation of the horse and rider together is often taken into account. Jumpers are judged by how quickly a horse can complete a course of jumps with the fewest errors or faults. The horse with the fastest, cleanest round (fewest rails knocked down) is the winner.

The most notable difference between hunters and jumpers is the technical nature of the courses. Show jumping courses include combination fences, sharp turns and changes of direction. The fences can be quite high. The obstacles used in jumper competitions are often brightly colored and usually include an open water obstacle and varied terrain with fences on the top of a bank or with a ditch. The show hunter courses include smoother lines, fewer combinations and wider turns. The courses are designed to be very natural in appearance, to simulate a natural cross-country hunting course, and the fences are generally lower with no water obstacles.

This event will provide a unique opportunity to photograph horses in action. There is no admission fee and people are free to move about the show grounds. The competition will include both amateur and professional riders and very challenging courses. Trials begin at 8 AM and run all day.

Directions: Take 270 N towards Frederick to Exit 26 for Route 80 W, Buckeystown/Urbana. Turn right off the exit ramp, circling under Rt. 270. Continue on Rt. 80 W, approximately 1.5 m to Park Mills Rd on the left. Turn left onto Park Mills Rd and continue straight for approximately 5.8 m to the entrance on the right.

Again the date is Sunday September 28. Please contact me at cherylmd@verizon.net if you are planning to attend.

– Cheryl Naulty, Field Trip Committee Chair

New Competition Rule Calls for Attendance by Competitors

The North Bethesda Camera Club was founded “with the goal of producing better photographers through assignments and competition.” This remains at the heart of who we are as a club. Judges contribute their time and talents to help our members become better photographers. A good judge offers each competitor a critique specific to their image: how they have succeeded, what can be improved and why. While this can be a learning opportunity for others, the commentary is for the benefit of one person – the maker of the image. That person should honor the judge’s contribution by listening, and participating if the judge asks the winner a question.

When NBCC members enter a competition, the Club expects them to attend that meeting. This is now codified in the Competition Rules. The Board of Directors certainly understands that members travel for work or photography, have family emergencies or become ill. So, enforcement will be on a case by case basis. Chronic absence could result in a member being asked by the Board not to compete. The Board won’t kick anyone out of competition because of rare absences! But if you can’t attend **most** of the competition meetings you enter, then do not enter.

This rule is meant to affirm the culture of participation that strengthens us a group. We want to show our respect for the judge, and to avoid embarrassment for NBCC when it is discovered that the judge’s valuable and personal advice wasn’t even heard by the absentee competitor. We also want to see your smiling face and learn from your comments when your work is acknowledged!

– *The NBCC Board of Directors*

Explaining NBCC’s Waiting List

A positive sign of NBCC’s vibrancy as an organization with which photographers would like to be associated is its infamous Waiting List, the byproduct of a membership limit now capped at 165. Waiting List applicants are inspired by recommendations from current NBCC members, as well as members from other camera clubs, and camera stores. Many find us through their internet searches and are impressed when they see our website and newsletter.

The Board would love to instantly make active participants of all who are interested in joining. Unfortunately, the space limits of NBCC’s meeting facility have necessitated the setting of a membership cap. Although competition time management is a secondary consideration for such a cap, the primary driver is the space limitation. Last year the Board increased the membership limit from 151 to 165, but in the current facility, that probably is as far as we can reasonably expect to go. At nearly half of our meetings this past year there were more than 70 in attendance – and that’s with only 40 percent of the membership coming on a given meeting night, and less than 40 percent of the membership entering images in an average competition.

During this summer’s membership renewal process, 25 Waiting List names were gone through to fill this year’s 18 vacancies. The longest wait for a new member was 27 months. The new Program Year will start with about 35 on The List. With an average of 30 new Waiting List applications a year, The List usually grows to about 60 by Program Year’s end.

The good news for those on the Waiting List, however, is that they are welcome to attend any of our general membership meetings – competitions and programs – to see what NBCC is all about, meet members with like interests, and increase their photography knowledge alongside regular members. Those on the Waiting List just are not able to enter images in competitions or exhibits – which a majority of the regular members do not do either.

– *Chuck Lee, Membership Chair*

Palouse by Two

[Editor's Note: This month, a serendipitous treat. Two Board members independently sent me write-ups of their summer trips to the Palouse region, roughly 5000 square miles of rural farmland in eastern Washington state, extending into Idaho. One traveled via all-inclusive photo tour; the other with a friend and a map. Both returned with gorgeous images. Rather than choose between them, I thought I'd print them side-by-side. Enjoy! -LD]

Palouse by Photo Tour – by Judy Burr

The Palouse has been on my list of must sees for a long time. Since my husband, son and grandsons had a “boy” trip planned last June, I decided that would be a good time for a photo tour and just the right season for this



beautiful area. I had already decided that I wanted to start in Spokane because I had never seen the city and didn't want to do any driving. Joseph VanOs Photo Safaris was my choice because I had traveled with them in the past, and they offered an all-inclusive tour that started in Spokane. An airline award ticket allowed me to get there a few days early. I am happy with my choice.

Going early enabled me to spend time in Spokane and it was easy to get a bus into town from my hotel near the airport. The first day, as I got off the bus I saw some musicians setting up near the local Starbucks and asked what was going on. As I later learned, I was talking to Doug Clark, the man who started Street Music Week 13 years ago as a way to raise money for the local food bank. He told me there would be musicians all over the downtown area during the week at noontime. My first thought was that I had found a great photo op! Then I learned that Doug wrote for the local newspaper and that he was going to mention me in his next column! He asked me where I was from and why I was there. It was just one of those lucky unexpected experiences that got my trip off to a good start. I enjoyed chatting with musicians and was surprised to hear alphorns from a block away. Musicians varied in age and music type which made it all more interesting. On Friday, Peter Rivera, former lead singer of Rare Earth, was the featured attraction.

The photo tour then followed. There are pros and cons no matter how you travel to and in such photogenic areas like the Palouse. We had a diverse group of 13 (including a man from Japan) plus our 2 leaders, Julie and Terry Eggers who each drove one of the vans we traveled in. They live in the state and know the area well; they planned our activities as much as possible around the weather. Several people in the group had traveled with the Eggers before, which was a good sign. Julie and Terry were very helpful in suggesting what lenses we might need for each stop and were available for help and suggestions.

They arranged for shooting from Spokane and back so we had 5 full days of shooting with some very early mornings!

There was a lot of sharing about different aspects of photography and workshops in general. One thing that surprised me was that both leaders and at least 3 participants were shooting with the Olympus EM-1 (micro four-thirds) cameras.

(Continued)

(Palouse by Photo Tour, continued)

Of course, on a tour of any kind one has no choice in where you go or when, but the advantage is you don't have to deal with finding your way around and you get places at the right time. On this tour, everything was included – even coffee breaks – so there was no dealing with who owed what at meals, which is one difference from other tours I read about.

June was a great time to go and we were fortunate to be there when the canola was in bloom. Having all that bright yellow made for some nice landscapes. The Palouse is filled with lots of narrow roads and I feel sure it would take a long time to travel on all of them. There are lots of guide books and maps to be had, but it was nice to be guided on my first trip to this area. I took pictures of some road signs for future reference. After all, the annual PSA Conference will be relatively “nearby” in West Yellowstone next year! ❖

Do-It-Yourself Palouse – by Gail Bingham

The Palouse is on many photographers’ “bucket list” and for good reason. The sculptural quality of the hills and abstract patterns of the crops are gorgeous. As a native Washingtonian, and the “city cousin” to a wheat farming family in the county next door to the Palouse, I also find it to be a wonderful, working, American landscape. I spent a few, warm July days there last year and then again this summer taking photos on a trip to Spokane that was tied to a visit for my aunt’s 90th birthday, and wanted to share a few of the photography resources my cousin and I used. Maybe someday I’ll go in the winter!



My top two suggestions are:

- (1) Get a Whitman County map from the county public works department in Colfax (310 N. Main Street second floor). It includes ALL the roads in the county, paved, gravel and dirt.
- (2) Then use it along with the photographer’s map created by Teri Lou Dantzler, which has icons for vistas, barns, lone trees and more, and will keep you busy for several visits! There are so many places to go that there is no need to worry about just following in someone else’s “tripod holes.” I urge you to purchase it from her, at <http://palousemap.blogspot.com/> (\$24.95). There is one produced this year by the Colfax Chamber of Commerce, but it sure looks identical and doesn’t give her credit.



There are many other web sites that also have great information, but I especially like the site from [Alison Meyer Photography](#).



A few more tips:

- * The fields provide wonderful patterns throughout the summer, more green in June and more gold in August but the mix is always amazing.
- * If you are interested in the working landscape, harvest times vary: hay is first, wheat is often late July or the first half of August, and I think the lentils are later. Not sure about the canola, barley and peas. *(Continued)*

(Do-It-Yourself Palouse, continued)

- * The landscape is huge, so the temptation can be to use a wide angle lens. Do that. But this year we ended up using long lenses almost all the time to capture the abstract quality of the landscape. The view from Steptoe Butte is a must, either at sunrise or sunset (or BOTH) but for my money the best vista is from a pullout half way up. A Washington State "Discover" pass is required (<http://www.discoverpass.wa.gov/>).
- * The main (and possibly only) place to stay is the Wheatlands Best Western in Colfax. They host lots of photographers, and are very friendly.
- * There's a new espresso bar and bakery for breakfast after a dawn shoot at 203 N Main Street, next to Sol Vallarta, which serves decent Mexican food. Almost nothing is open late!
- * Driving on the dirt roads is not really a problem, particularly in dry weather. The soil is very hard packed. We used the old farm pickup truck, which doesn't have four wheel drive, but an SUV or even a regular rental car should be fine.
- * That said, it's VERY dusty. Keep your equipment sealed up and have a cloth or shower cap to cover your camera for those times when (if) another vehicle drives by. Drive slowly on dirt roads if you see others.
- * Bring LOTS of water. We used almost a case over three days.
- * Be courteous to the farmers. Don't drive on their land (including their farm roads) without permission. Pull over, even on remote roads, so farm vehicles can pass by. Only stop where there's some visibility over a rise or around a corner so you can be seen in time. And check that your tailpipe isn't in dry grass. Fires are a real danger during the summer. ❖



© Gail Bingham

Get to Know NBCC's Community Outreach Program: PCR

In one ongoing outreach activity, NBCC works with Potomac Community Resources, Inc. ("PCR") to teach basic photographic techniques to PCR's members. PCR (www.pcr-inc.org) is a private, non-profit, non-sectarian organization that encourages and supports the integration of persons with developmental differences into the life of the community. Most PCR members are teens or young adults, many of them in the process of transitioning into independent living in the community.

In 2001, NBCC was approached by PCR to develop a short-term program on basic photography, running for a few weeks or so. Now, some thirteen years later, the program has continued uninterrupted, albeit with important refinements. The PCR photography group was soon organized as a club, called the "Phabulous Photographers," which meets on the first Tuesday of each month except August. Once a year, usually in June or July, the NBCC mentors prepare exhibit boards with examples of each PCR member's strongest work for the year past. An exhibit and reception are held for the benefit of NBCC and PCR, including family, friends, caregivers and guests.

Most if not all PCR members use digital cameras (though this is not a requirement). Thanks to the generous spirit of NBCC members in donating spare equipment to those in need, PCR's photographers possess tripods and are instructed in their use. In addition, a couple PCR members who are wheelchair bound have cleverly fitted tripod-like structures directly to their wheelchairs.

From the beginning, PCR members were given monthly photography assignments for which small prints were made and brought to the next meeting to be critiqued by NBCC mentors. This core feature remains unchanged. The monthly assignments

reflect a combination of the craft of photography and aspects of visual design. Every month, PCR members' images are critiqued and a few of their stronger ones are selected and set aside for the next annual exhibit. A "photographer of the month" is chosen, and reasons given (per consensus among NBCC's mentors). All attendees are encouraged to circulate around the meeting room to review the prints on display by their colleagues. Then, in the second half of the meeting, next month's photographic assignment is announced, and digital images are brought to the meeting by NBCC members to be projected on a large screen and explained for the purpose of illustrating the new assignment. Examples of assignment topics are: Reflections; Tools or Machinery; Rule of Thirds; A Picture Story; In a Garden; and Circles or Ovals.

Bottom line, the level of enthusiasm among the Phabulous Photographers is impressive to behold. Tales are often heard from caregivers about the seriousness (in a fun way) with which PCR members approach their photography and, in particular, the monthly assignments.

Typically, about 13-16 PCR members (most of them with caregivers) and 6-7 NBCC mentors attend any given monthly meeting. Most PCR members remain in the group for at least 3-4 years; only one PCR member remains since inception. Four NBCC mentors have been involved with PCR for more than ten years.

In October 2010, PCR, at its annual benefit dinner, conferred on NBCC an award for "Outstanding Volunteer Organization." Five NBCC members were on hand to receive the award on NBCC's behalf.

– Bob Peavy



NBCC Membership by the Numbers

Our 18 new members filled vacancies resulting from five members moving out of the area, two retiring with plans to travel a lot, one obtaining emeritus status, one dying, and eight simply not renewing. Even with an 11% change in our population makeup, the 165 Club membership profile has remained remarkably similar to that listed in *The Lens and Eye* last September. Not including our four emeritus members, the following is a statistical picture of who the active members are, where they live, and how they participate in the Club:

- 65 are female (39%), 100 are male (61%); a 3% increase for the men this year.
- There are 13 couples (16% of the membership). The same as last year.
- 96% receive their newsletters electronically. The same as last year.
- 9 changed their e-mail address from the year before (see membership book for these updates). It is the same number as changed electronic addresses last year, just different people doing so.
- More than a fifth of the membership (37) belongs to at least one of 14 other photography clubs, with 5 members belongs to two other clubs. We share 8 members with Gaithersburg Camera Club, 7 with NIH Camera Club, and 6 with Silver Spring Camera Club. Last year 32 members were also in another club, and there were 11 such organizations represented.
- 25 NBCC members belong to PSA (Photographic Society of America), an increase of 1 from last year.
- 154 members (94%) live in Maryland -- stretching from Frederick to Towson to the District line -- although the vast majority have Chevy Chase, Bethesda, North Bethesda, Rockville, and Potomac addresses. Five live in DC, two in Virginia, two in South Carolina, and one in Delaware. The percentage of Marylanders has remained the same.
- Although NBCC will be beginning its 50th Program Year, 83% of our current membership has joined the Club since 2000. Our co-founder is an emeritus member, but there are no active charter members.
- 60% of our membership marked "retired" on their application or are known not to be in the labor market.
- 40% of the members will be serving in some designated NBCC administrative capacity this year.
- On an average competition night, a little more than a third of the membership enters an image (36%), an increase of about 4% this year, with attendance averaging about 40% of the membership on a given meeting night.

– *Chuck Lee, NBCC Membership Chair*

NBCC Competition Topics, **2014-2015**

Sept 2014: Selective Focus
Oct 2014: Open
Nov 2014: Neglected
Dec 2014: Human Portrait
Jan 2015: 50-Year Open
Feb 2015: Nature
March 2015: Window Light
Apr 2015: Open - Black & White
May 2015: It's Raining

NBCC Competition Topics, **2015-2016**

Sept 2015: Landscapes
Oct 2015: 5-Year Open
Nov 2015: Decisive Moment
Dec 2015: Leaves
Jan 2016: Still Life of Fruit/Vegetables
Feb 2016: 3-Month Open
March 2016: Black & White
Apr 2016: Open
May 2016: Methods of Transportation

See the Membership Booklet for complete definitions and important details.

NBCC Educational Programs Available

NBCC's Education Committee has planned a variety of formal and informal activities to help members improve their photographic and post-processing techniques. A complete list of upcoming programs will be posted on the Club website and updated as new events are added. The first two workshops of the year are described below -- each carries a nominal registration fee and requires advance registration. To reserve a spot, or for questions about either of these events, contact Alan Sisen (alan@alansislenphotography.com).

Program Title: Lightroom Overview

Description: An overview of Lightroom's 7 modules, with emphasis on the Library, Develop, and Print modules. This is a demonstration and presentation, rather than a hands-on workshop. After attending the seminar, the attendee will have a very good general understanding of Lightroom's features and be in a better position to decide whether Lightroom is an appropriate digital asset management tool and a raw image processing tool for their purposes.

When and Where: Sept 20, 9:00am-4:00pm, Alan Sisen's studio

Fee: \$69 (\$99 for non-NBCC members)

Program Title: Lightroom Intensive

Description: This in-depth and hands-on Lightroom workshop will cover all modules of the latest release of Lightroom and get you comfortable using this powerful program for your image storage, management, and editing needs. Detailed description: <http://www.alansislenphotography.com/lrintensiveoct2014.pdf>

When and Where: 3 days, Oct 31 (6:30-10:30pm), Nov 1 (8:30am-5:30pm), and Nov 2 (8:30am-5:00pm); Sisen's studio

Fee: \$349 includes lunches and snacks (\$395 for non-NBCC members)

Splinters from the Board

50th Anniversary Event: The North Bethesda Camera Club was founded in 1965, and so the 2014-2015 camera club year marks the Club's 50th anniversary. We have many projects planned to celebrate this important birthday. The most important is an all-day long program to be held in the auditorium at Asbury Methodist Village on **Saturday, April 18th**. Please save that date! This program will be led by Bruce Dale, an acclaimed *National Geographic* photographer. Here are some snippets from Bruce's biography:



With over two thousand photographs published by National Geographic, Bruce Dale's vision and creativity twice earned him the title, "Magazine Photographer of the Year," and more recently his innovative work brought him honors from the Smithsonian Institution. In addition to many other awards, one of his photographs now journeys beyond the solar system on board NASA's Voyager spacecraft as a testimony about planet Earth.

There will be much more information about this program as the date approaches.

Equipment Committee Formed: To be responsive to the needs of the Club, the Board of Directors approved the formation of an Equipment Committee. This committee will be responsible for audio-visual, projection and computer equipment owned and operated by the North Bethesda Camera Club (NBCC). This includes maintaining a database of all available equipment, storage of equipment that is not stored at the club's regular meeting location, and arrangements for the appropriate equipment to be available for the club's various programs. The Committee will work with the Program, Judges and Competition committees to maintain a schedule detailing what equipment is required for each NBCC meeting. The Committee will also be responsible for equipment set-up at different venues and functions sponsored by the club, and for troubleshooting and solving unique challenges in that equipment set-up.

This Committee is also responsible for recommending to the Board of Directors the purchase and replacement of equipment when it is deemed necessary or desirable based on equipment age, obsolescence or technological advancements. The Equipment Committee is also responsible for periodic equipment maintenance.

Image Review Committee Disbanded: At the Summer Board of Directors meeting, the Chair of the Competition Committee recommended doing away with the Image Review Committee, which had been responsible for reviewing submitted images for compliance with competition rules and themes. The rationale for dissolving the committee was that a great deal of time was devoted to this review activity, but very little actually results from the effort (e.g., in most cases of a potential theme violation, the Committee has left the decision up to the judge). The Competition Committee is capable of image review and will seek expert advice whenever needed. By unanimous vote, the Board of Directors agreed with this recommendation and therefore disbanded the Image Review Committee, assigning the Competition Committee the responsibility of competition image reviews.

– David Davidson, NBCC President

SAVE THE DATES

Please save the dates of Oct 17-19 for a Club field trip to the Delaware Water Gap State Recreational Area near Stroudsburg, PA. Waterfalls, lakes, fall colors, and abandoned farms will be on the schedule for this 2 1/2 day weekend excursion. More details will be disseminated in the October newsletter and via GordieGram.

**Oct
17-19**

Alerts & Reminders

Image Sizing for Competitions: *Electronic images* are to be submitted in JPEG format (sRGB color space recommended), at width of 1920 pixels or less, and height of 1200 pixels or less. *Prints* submitted for competition must be no smaller than 8x10 inches (or 80 square inches in area). The short edge on a panorama must be no less than 5 inches, and must also be at least 80 square inches total. A mat, if used, may cover up to ¼ inch around the image. Prints must be securely mounted on a rigid board having thickness of ¼ inch or less. Print and board together must not exceed 16x20 inches. [See the website for complete competition rules.]



Speaker Surveys: We will continue this year the recent practice of sending brief evaluation surveys to the membership after each competition and program night. All members will receive (via GordieGram) a link to an online survey that asks for feedback on the quality of the competition judge / program speaker. Responses are anonymous, aggregated across the entire membership, and used only by the judge/program committee chairs to assess how well we are meeting the needs of the Club as we recruit people for these roles. We generally allow 7 days to respond before the results are compiled and the link is disabled.

GordieGram Process: A reminder that the GordieGram process has changed since last year. Although we will retain the moniker, messages should no longer be sent to Gordie Corbin's personal email address. Instead, compose a message to the membership and send it to the **new address:** gordiegram@nbccmd.org – be sure that your contact information is included. Gail Bingham monitors that inbox, and further distributes these messages to the membership (but please do not email Gail directly with your messages!). When responding to a GordieGram, be sure to compose a new email to the contact person – do not hit “reply” or your response will just go back to the generic inbox.

The Lens & Eye: Newsletter submissions are due **the 15th of the month** for the following month's issue (e.g., September 15th for the October issue). Submissions are welcome from all members on all photography-related topics. If you're not sure whether something might be appropriate, please ask! Likewise, if you have an idea but aren't comfortable writing it yourself, please send those ideas along, too. The *Lens & Eye* correspondence address is newsletter@nbccmd.org.

Mark Your Calendars: Finally, mark your calendar NOW for the three biggest events of the year: NBCC's Photo Essay day is **Sunday, March 8**; Bruce Dale's presentation as part of our 50th anniversary program is on **April 18**; and the year-end dinner and awards ceremony is **June 17**.

2014-2015 NBCC Board of Directors, Standing, and Special Committees

<u>President</u> <i>David Davidson</i>	<u>Vice President</u> <i>Gail Bingham</i>	<u>Secretary</u> <i>Bruce Davis</i>	<u>Treasurer</u> <i>Toni Robinson</i>	<u>Directors</u> <i>Carol Lee</i> <i>Joel Hoffman</i>	<i>Gordie Corbin</i> <i>Kent Mason</i> <i>Alan Sislen</i>
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<u>Programs</u> <i>Paul Taylor</i> Kent Mason John Norvell Jack Rosenberg Ray Whitman	<u>Membership</u> <i>Chuck Lee</i> <u>Exhibits</u> <i>Sarah Salomon</i> Melissa Clark Sibyll Erdman Dawn Sikkema Alan Simmons John Willis	<u>Competition</u> <i>Judy Switt</i> <i>Prints</i> Bill Ho Bill Richards Bill Seelig <i>Electronic</i> Willem Bier Tom Field John Willis	<u>Judges</u> <i>Steve Robinson</i> Chet Stein Eric Schweitzer Morris Liss Larry Burton <u>Webmaster</u> <i>Tom Field</i>	<u>Hospitality</u> <i>Claudia Seelig</i> Bill Seelig Geri Millman Terry Van Houten Jim Render Virginia Render Ellie Trybuch Ira Adler Mark Segal Jitesh Batra	<u>Field Trips</u> <i>Cheryl Naulty</i> Cynthia Keith Gail Bingham Bruce Davis Dick Pelroy Steve Silverman Joanne Mars Larry Mars <u>Lens & Eye</u> <i>Lori Ducharme</i>
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<u>Education</u> <i>Chris Hanessian</i> Evelyn Jacobs Kent Mason	<i>Sarah Salomon</i> Roy Sewall Alan Sislen	<u>Community Outreach</u> <i>Joel Hoffman</i> Ron Dietrich Chris Hanessian	<i>Bob Peavy</i> José Cartas Judy Switt Kent Mason	<u>Corbin-Switt Photo Essay</u> <i>Stu Mathison</i> Willem Bier David Davidson	<i>Tom Field</i> John Pan John Willis
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<u>Long-Range Planning</u> David Davidson Bob Dargel Lori Ducharme	<i>Chuck Lee</i> Bob Peavy Paul Taylor	<u>PSA Representative</u> Judy Burr	<u>Awards Event Coordinator</u> John Villforth	<u>Database Administrator</u> Ken Goldman
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Voting members in bold

FIRST CLASS MAIL

