

The Lens and Eye



Volume 48 Number 3 | November 2012 | Editor: Lori Ducharme | Contact: newsletter@nbccmd.org | www.nbccmd.org

Calendar

NOVEMBER EVENTS

- 7 Competition Night, 7:30pm, Waterscape;
Judge: Josh Taylor.
Hospitality: Suet Mann, Ray Whitman
- 9 Field Trip: Great Falls
- 11 Field Trip: Monuments at Night
- 14 Program Night, 7:30pm
Speaker: John Goell, Street Photography
Hospitality: Willem Bier, Dawn Sikkema,
John Tierney
- 21 No Meeting (Thanksgiving)
- 28 Board Meeting, 7:30pm

DECEMBER PREVIEW

- 5 Competition Night (Black & White)
- 12 Program Night, 7:30pm
- 19 Board Meeting, 7:30pm
- 26 No Meeting (Christmas)

November Competition Topic: Waterscape

A broad view of an area, similar to a landscape, that has as its major component a body of water. Must have been taken on or after June 1, 2011. See the membership book for full topic description.

Electronic image submissions due by 7:30pm on Sunday, November 4.

In This Issue

This month's *Lens and Eye* is again full of articles on topics that highlight the wide array of interests and talents of our Club's diverse membership.

Josh Taylor returns to judge the November "waterscapes" competition on November 7, and Jon Goell presents an intriguing program on street photography on November 14. A preview of each is included in this issue.

November also features two outstanding local field trips, to Great Falls and to the iconic monuments of DC at night. The monuments field trip is accompanied by a pre-trip gathering to review night photography tips, and both are followed by opportunities to participate in critique sessions of participants' images. These activities highlight an increasing effort to create synergy between the Club's activity committees.

This month's PSA column describes highlights of the annual conference, as well as an overview of PSA's organizational structure. We hope members will take the opportunity to get involved in PSA and everything it has to offer.

Finally, we continue our new monthly column exploring photographic possibilities with the iPhone, this time taking a look at one option for HDR photography. And we introduce an occasional "Tech Corner," which is intended to feature technology of general interest to photographers. This month, we take a look at smartphone camera options.

As always, we welcome your suggestions. Have a topic you'd like us to cover? Can you contribute a column about photography on Android phones? Have you earned photographic honors outside the club? Tell us! Send your ideas to newsletter@nbccmd.org.

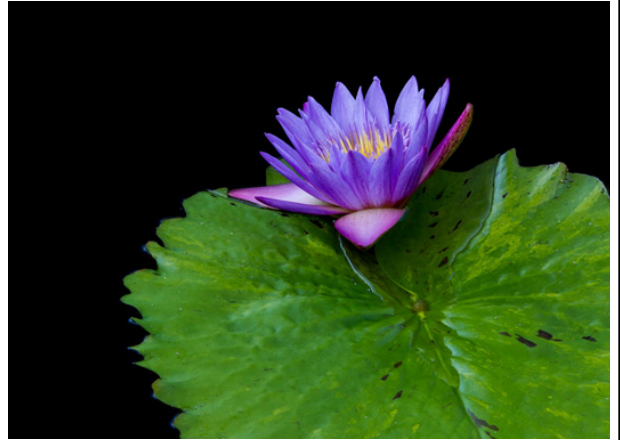
– Lori Ducharme, Editor

November 7 Competition Judge: Josh Taylor

November's competition judge is Josh Taylor. Josh has presented photography workshops at the Smithsonian National Orchid Show, U.S. National Arboretum, U.S. Botanic Garden, Brookside Gardens, Sarah P. Duke Gardens, American Horticultural Society Garden School, Adkins Arboretum, and Longwood Gardens. In addition to teaching in the Smithsonian Studio Arts Program and as a Canon Camera instructor at Ace Photo, Josh speaks at camera and garden clubs, judges photographic competitions, and exhibits his photographs in gallery shows.

Josh is a member of the North American Nature Photography Association, Garden Writers Association, and National Association of Photoshop Professionals, and is a member and past president of the Northern Virginia Photographic Society. Josh was voted best garden club speaker in 2005 and was a judge for the 2009 Garden Writers Association National Media Awards and the 2010 Mid-Atlantic Nature Photography Expo. Longwood Gardens selected Josh as its Instructor of the Month in October 2010.

View his work at JoshuaTaylorPhotography.com



Images © Josh Taylor



Photo Opps & Workshops

Framing and Matting: Alan Sislen offers this workshop from his home studio on December 1, from 9am-1pm. Attendees will learn about the materials used in framing and matting photographs, the sources and costs of the materials, whether it makes sense to do-it-yourself or buy pre-cut mats and pre-made frames, how you actually cut mats and frame photographs and the various tools you need if you decide to mat and frame (mat cutters, etc.). This seminar will include demonstrations and the use of the various materials. Cost for NBCC members is \$30 (\$59 for non-members). Sign up directly with Alan, by emailing him at Alan@AlanSislenPhotography.com.

FotoWeekDC returns from November 9-18. Seminars, events, competitions, workshops, portfolio reviews... the list goes on. Check the website for the full menu of options: www.fotoweekdc.org.

NBCC Photo Essay: Don't forget! The Photo Essay committee is looking for humorous images for inclusion in a club-wide funny photo essay, to be presented as part of the March event. Humor can be found in lots of subjects, including costumes/characters, signs, kids, facial expressions, juxtapositions, mannequins, and many other places. Look through your collection and send nominees to the Photo Essay team.

November Program Night: Jon Goell, Street Photography

On Wednesday evening, November 14 at 7:30, we are pleased to have Jon Goell join us again, this time to present a program on Street Photography. Jon discovered the street photography of Henri Cartier-Bresson and Robert Doisneau while studying art in Paris in the '60s. He soon abandoned a budding career as an artist to concentrate on photography, getting started with his father's 1935 Leica. Jon's program will include hands on demonstrations of the equipment and techniques he uses as a street and candid photographer, examples his own work, and a discussion of the techniques used by some of the greatest photojournalists including Cartier-Bresson and Robert Frank. He also promises to bring along the vintage Leica.

While studying art as both an undergraduate and graduate student, Jon photographed for the *Boston Globe* and the *Tucson Daily Citizen*. Later, he worked for many years as an assignment news photographer in Boston, and then nationally, adding corporate, magazine, and advertising assignments to his portfolio. Some of his clients included Polaroid, *Business Week*, *Inc Magazine*, *Fidelity*, *Washingtonian*, *USA Today*, *Mac World*, as well as a number of hi-tech firms, ad agencies, and colleges.

While in Boston, Jon co-wrote and starred in "The Photo Show," a how-to TV series for WGBH. He taught professional level photo courses at The Art Institute of Boston and The New England School of Photography, and worked on several TV documentaries. Since 2000, Jon has been a professor at Montgomery College teaching traditional and digital imaging, advanced lighting and photo business courses. He was one of the MC photographers who produced a moving exhibition, "Portraits of Life," which documented Holocaust survivors living in Montgomery County.

Visit Jon's website, www.jongoellphotography.com to learn more about him and see examples of his portraits and images from Paris, Ireland, Turkey and Italy.



© Jon Goell

— Ira Adler



© Jon Goell

November 9 Field Trip: Great Falls

The first of two field trips that will take place in November is to the Great Falls of the Potomac River, C&O Canal National Historical Park, MD. The Potomac River and the unique geological features have shaped the land at Great Falls for millennia. This is a dynamic environment, home to rare plant communities and a variety of wildlife. At Great Falls, the Potomac River builds up speed and force as it falls over a series of steep, jagged rocks and flows through the narrow Mather Gorge.

The trip will take place on Friday November 9 at sunrise. The goal is to be in the right place and time to experience a set of conditions that are conducive to **black and white photography**. Most of the leaves should be off the trees, leaving the landscape more stark and exposed. Also this is the right season for a beautiful, pre-dawn mist over the falls.



© Roy Sewall

The trip will be conducted by Roy Sewall, who has published two books on the Potomac River and The C&O Canal. Basic instruction is not provided, but tips will be offered regarding low-light, moving water and black-and-white shooting. The shooting will take place primarily at the Maryland Overlook (over the Great Falls) on Falls Island in the C&O Canal National Historical Park, located at the very end of MacArthur Blvd. Sunrise is at 6:45 AM, but this is at the horizon and the sun will actually not appear until later. This will be a good time to capture some pre-sunrise photos. Once the sun hits the landscape, the mist will disappear very rapidly. After shooting from the overlook, we will head back and shoot the river's side channels from the footbridges and eventually Great Falls Tavern.

Directions:

Take Falls Road south past Potomac Village to the end at MacArthur Blvd and turn right into the park. Park in the main parking lot and meet at the Great Falls Tavern **no later than 5:50AM** for a quick briefing. The group will depart the tavern area at **6AM sharp** in order not to miss the great conditions at dawn. If you miss the group, follow the canal towpath south to the trail for the overlook. The walk is 15-20 minutes. It will still be dark, so a flashlight or headlamp is necessary. The walk is flat, but occasionally uneven. The plan is to start setting up by no later than 6:20 AM to begin shooting. Cold weather gear, including hat and gloves, are advisable. Bring water, flashlight/headlamp, hiking shoes/boots, and tripod (hand-held photos will not work in these low-light conditions).

Those participating in this field trip or the later November field trip to the memorials for night photography are invited to participate in a sharing session and critique hosted by Roy Sewall in his home on December 4 or 13. Sign up directly with Roy.

— Cheryl Naulty

November 11 Field Trip: Monuments at Night

The second November field trip will be held on Sunday evening, November 11, shooting Washington DC monuments from sunset through nightfall (weather permitting). November can be a great season for this: not yet freezing, less crowding, and it gets dark early so we're not out too late. Please email Bobbie Havel to sign up for the field trip, so that she can send out more detailed information closer to the event. (See the NBCC member directory for her email address.)

The field trip will be led by Tom Field. Although this is a coached field trip and not a workshop, some instruction will be available for those who want it. Tom also will lead a prep session on getting started in night photography, which will be held on November 4 from 7:30 to 9:30 pm at Bobbie Havel's house. With limited space, sign up for this session is required and NBCC members participating on the field trip will be given priority. A modest \$5 education committee fee will be charged.

There are many wonderful photographic opportunities taking images of the monuments at night. We suggest parking along the Rock Creek Parkway spur to Lincoln Memorial Circle or along Ohio Drive. Handicapped permit holders can park very near the Lincoln and Korean War Memorials. We'll be shooting after dark, so bring cold weather gear. A tripod and flashlight are necessities for night photography. Additional equipment details and tips will be provided by email and at the prep session.

We plan to meet at 4:30 pm, in time for sunset (4:57 pm) at the end of the Reflecting Pool next to the Lincoln Memorial. There are plenty of photographic opportunities in this location: the Washington Monument; Lincoln Memorial (no tripods above the steps); Memorial Bridge and Arlington House from the back of the Lincoln; the Korean War Memorial; Vietnam War Memorial (tripod restrictions); and the lights of Rosslyn reflected on the Potomac. Veteran's Day ceremonial wreaths could contribute to compelling images.

Those participating on this field trip or the earlier November field trip to Great Falls are invited to participate in a sharing session and critique hosted by Roy Sewall in his home on December 4 or 13. Sign up directly with Roy.

In addition to providing good material for December's black and white competition topic, this field trip, prep session and follow up are part of a longer term plan looking ahead to the February 2014 competition topic, "Night Photography." This is a joint effort of several committees, including the field trip and education committees this year, with the intent also to present a full program on night photography in fall 2013.



© Tom Field

— Gail Bingham

Member Profile: Steve Silverman



Steve Silverman has been an NBCC member since 2010. He experienced a most satisfying "moment of fame" this year when his image "Hayden Valley Sun Star" was picked in the best ten and awarded an honorable mention in the *Washington Post* Travel Section's 2012 contest. The same image also received an honorable mention from Judge Steve Gottlieb in the Novice Traditional Electronic category in NBCC's recent Open competition. Steve reported that the shot was taken in the "only 10 minutes of sunlight" during his last visit to Yellowstone. The shot, however, made the whole trip worthwhile.

An avid nature and wildlife photographer, Steve first became interested in the craft as a student at Magruder High School. There he studied the basics of black and white photography and wet darkroom technique. His camera, an old and slow 30mm Reico SLR, was a hand-me-down from his father. He continued his

studies at Montgomery College, where his main course of studies at the time was Hotel and Restaurant Management, a career path he decided not to pursue. Since college, he has studied with Elliot Cohen, Tony Sweet, Nikhil Bah and Marsha Liebel, at Elliot Stern's Blue Ridge Workshops and with Jon and Barbara Gerlach in Yellowstone National Park.

After about 15 years running a group of pet supply stores in the Washington DC area, Steve began working for the Department of Justice as a technical writer. This eventually led him to his present job as a government contractor to the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development at NIH. Steve reviews grant applications as to their content and as to the qualifications of the applicants, making decisions related to the dispersal of research funds.

Steve owns a house in Frederick inhabited by himself, his fiancé Leanna, two dogs, and three parrots (two African Grays and a Double-yellow-headed Amazon). He and Leanna commute together daily, which enables them to legally use the HOV lane. Steve's mother lives in Florida, near the wildlife-rich Tampa Bay area. He couples visits to her with excursions to the many parks and preserves in the area. Although not a photographer, Leanna often accompanies Steve on his travels.

A desire to interact with more photographers and to go on more photo-oriented field trips led Steve to do an internet search of local camera clubs. He liked the NBCC's roster of activities and decided to put himself on the waiting list. He waited a year and a half to be accepted as a member. On his first Club excursion, he was the only member to make the trip to the Richmond Botanical Gardens. Recently, as a member of the Field Trip Committee, he led a trip to the National Capital Society Dahlia Gardens near Derwood, MD. He says there was about an hour of "great light" and some great blooms but a disappointing member turn-out.

Steve now owns two cameras, both Nikon DSLRs. One is the D300 (crop sensor) and the other is the full sensed D700. His favorite travel lens is a 28-300 zoom. He also likes his 300 f/2.8 lens which he can turn into a super telephoto with the addition of a 2x converter. He can easily carry this in a backpack. He also owns a 16-35 wide angle, a 105mm for macro and a 50 mm f/1.4. He always shoots with a tripod since, as he puts it, "that is how I learned." He does minimal post-processing in Lightroom and prints with an Epson 2880. He feels that his technical knowledge is good but that he needs to make more aesthetically pleasing compositions. He has enjoyed several of Roy Sewall's photo critiques and plans to take Ken Mason's Visual Design course this year. To see a selection of his photos, check his website, www.silversnaps.net

— Jean Hanson

NORTH BETHESDA CAMERA CLUB – EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Tatiana Watson Roy Sewall Tom Field Alan Sislen Kent Mason Chris Hanessian

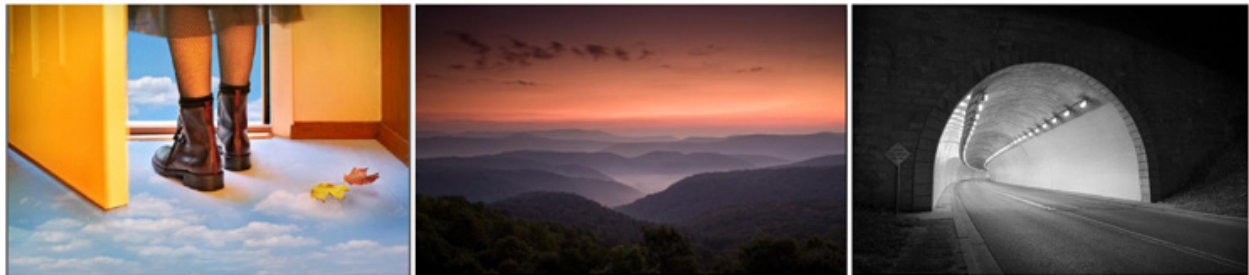


SIGN UP BEFORE ITS TOO LATE

Visual Design – Limit 14
Framing & Matting – Limit 12
Critique Group – Limit 8
Intro to Digital Photography – Limit 8
Getting Ahead in Competition – Limit 8



Limit 4 – Inspiring Creativity
Limit 12 – Lightroom Overview
Limit 12 – Photoshop
Limit 12 – Printing Fine Art
Limit 8 – Studio Photography



Splinters from the Board

At the October Board meeting, it was decided that NBCC would participate in the Photographic Society of America (PSA) club competitions next year. We would be interested in competing in one or perhaps all of the following divisions: nature, travel, and the projected image division. We will need someone from NBCC to monitor the PSA competitions this year so we will know what to expect as we plan for 2013.

Competition chair Judy Switt mentioned that members competing in the print competition needed to make sure that prints are securely attached to the print boards and that the prints meet the size requirements. It was noted that all the competition categories had meaningful numbers of entries.

Field Trip Chair, Cheryl Naulty, presented the list of upcoming field trips to the Board. November field trips include "Sunrise at Great Falls" on 11/9 and "Night Photography" on 11/11. Details concerning these trips can be found elsewhere in this issue of *The Lens and Eye* or on the website under activities in the calendar section or field trip section.

The Board noted that Chris Hanessian and the Education Committee had presented the club with a robust lineup of educational opportunities. Details of the offerings can be found on the website and it is hoped that club members will take advantage of these wonderful learning opportunities. It was noted that NBCC may be unique in the quality of its educational offerings.

The results of the Community Outreach Survey were discussed. Twenty-four of one hundred and fifty one members responded with seven members (4.6% of our total membership) expressing interest in expanding our current outreach program into new areas. This would indicate quite low support, although several of the written responses from club members were quite thoughtful and thought provoking. At least one option is being explored further to see if it would be feasible.

– Carol Lee, NBCC President

HDR on Your iPhone?!

I'm always finding opportunities to use my iPhone's camera – even when I'm carrying all of my "big camera" gear. Often I like to post near-real time status updates to Facebook or email so that friends can see where I am, but I don't have time to stop and process images throughout the day. A variety of "apps" let you express your creativity on-the-go. Here's how I made an on-the-spot 2-exposure HDR image of Portland Head Lighthouse just after sunrise last September.

On my iPhone4, I use an app called BracketMode (Cogitap Software, \$1.99 in the iTunes App Store) to capture two different exposures of the scene. By touching the screen within the app, you can activate two exposure points on the screen -- one that targets the brightest part of the scene and one that targets the darkest part. BracketMode usually does a great job of choosing the best exposure points, but if you want to fine tune things, you can move either point by dragging it with your finger to a different place on the screen.

Ready to shoot? Press the timer button and it will count down with an audible signal. (You can adjust the duration of the countdown – I have mine set at 3 seconds.) Hold the phone still while the app first captures an image exposed for the highlights, and then immediately captures a second image exposed for the shadows. You'll get both a visual cue (the exposure point blinks just before capture) and an audible cue (the simulated "shutter click" sound) for each capture. BracketMode saves both images to your camera roll.

Next I use an app called ProHDR (by eyeApps, \$1.99) to merge the two exposures into a single image. (ProHDR will also capture exposures, but I prefer BracketMode for capture.) In the ProHDR Actions menu, select "HDR from Library." It will ask you to first navigate to your camera roll to select the darker image from your photo library; then it will ask you to identify the lighter image. ProHDR then goes to work and will return a single merged image. You can do limited editing within ProHDR, but I prefer to save this merged file to my camera roll, and then open and edit it in a more powerful editor such as Snapseed (by Nik Software, \$4.99). Then I post it to Facebook or Tumblr or SmugWallet (depending on who I want to show it to), and I get back to my "real" photography.

This whole process, from taking the iPhone out of my pocket to posting the final image online, can be as quick as 3 minutes. No, they're not suitable for hanging in a gallery, but they give the folks back home a glimpse into where you are and what

you're photographing, without having to wait for you to finish processing the whole day's catch.

– Lori Ducharme



BracketMode - Underexposure (© Lori Ducharme)



BracketMode - Overexposure (© Lori Ducharme)



Merged in ProHDR, tuned in Snapseed (© Lori Ducharme)



PSA News

PSA Annual Conference: The 2012 PSA Conference was recently held in San Francisco. The vendor area had much to offer with a variety of companies represented and discounts to encourage buyers. Hunt's Photo & Video offered many items for sale and shipped other items when none were there to buy. Tamron again had lenses for loan and KEH was available for selling equipment or

just getting estimates. Photodex, NIK Software and Topaz provided demonstrations and discounts which of course made buying more tempting! Lightroom guru Julieanne Kost has become a fixture at PSA Conferences and her programs are always popular. The PSA International Exhibitions for each Division were shown 3 times so there was opportunity to see lots of winning photographs from around the world. You can see the medal winners and acceptances at <http://psaexhibition.com/index.php>. It is worth going to the website to see the quality and variety in the images from around the world.

The PSA International showings are the only programs that are repeated during the conference, so attendees have to make some tough choices among the programs offered during the week. There were travel programs on India, West Africa, Street Art and a variety of nature programs including California wildlife, Namibia wildlife and macro photography. There were also technical demonstrations and workshops on creating travel shows, and processing images including one on the use of the iPhone. Evening programs were varied by having a program on 3D photography, landscape photography and Visualization. A program on the *Amazing Night Sky* was given on the last day by Jennifer Wu, a Canon Explorer of Light. In addition to programs and workshops, photo tours of the area and classes on Photoshop®, Photoshop Lightroom®, Judging Beyond the Rules, and Nik® Software HDR Efex Pro™ were offered at an additional cost. As always, there were print exhibits from each Division and the impressive Youth Showcase. This year there was a very impressive special exhibit by Master Kan Hing-fook, the last active Cornerstone Member of PSA (Cornerstone members donated money in 1949 to raise funds so PSA could buy the headquarters building in Philadelphia, and became life members). Master Kan, now 92, said the secret to longevity is photography—so remember that and keep shooting. He is still traveling and photographing and it was a joy to see his beautiful work and have him at the conference. PSA presented him with its First Lifetime Achievement Award, one of many honors he has received in his long career as a world-wide photographer. You can read more about him and see some of his work at <http://www.psa-photo.org/psa-news/master-kan/>.

The 2013 PSA Conference will be held in Portland, Maine. Check out the PSA website and watch this space for details as they become available.

PSA Organization: Since I have been asked about PSA organization, I will try to explain it in general. PSA is divided into **Divisions** so different types of photography can be accommodated. With the recent merger of the Color Projected Imaging and Electronic Imaging Divisions, there are now 6 Divisions: the new Projected Imaging, Nature, Photojournalism, Photo Travel, Pictorial Print, and 3D. The Nature, Photojournalism and Photo Travel Divisions have specific standards that must be followed to meet the definitions of photos in those categories. Generally that means that there may be no manipulation, no addition or removal of items from the photos and only normal processing such as cropping. More information on each Division is available at <http://www.psa-photo.org/divisions/>. Each Division has study groups, individual and club competitions and several have essay competitions. All these are available to Individual members of PSA while the club competitions are open to all member clubs.



(continued next page)

PSA, continued

Chapters form another part of PSA and may be described as local PSA branches. Only PSA Individual members may join a chapter. Our local one, the **Mid-Atlantic Chapter**, has programs, competitions and participates in the annual PSA Chapter Showcase Competition. Each chapter may enter up to 12 images from 12 different chapter members. The highest scoring image from each chapter is awarded the Best of Chapter Award. The images are scored and the highest number of points in a chapter results in the Best Chapter Award. This year the award went to the Inland Empire Chapter with 259 points. The Mid-Atlantic Chapter was the First runner-up, one point behind with 258 points. The local chapter is doing better each year and is shooting for Best Chapter Award next year.

Councils form yet another part of PSA and are an association of camera clubs in a geographical area. In the past, there was a Greater Washington Council, and NBCC did very well in the competitions, but the organization died out for a variety of reasons and that inspired some to form a local Chapter. Many NBCC members have attended the annual NECCC program and are familiar with what a Council can do. The Delaware Valley CCC holds an annual competition for its members and also has programs. Other Councils hold PSA Exhibitions as one of their activities.

While much of the PSA website is available only to Individual members, there is plenty available to anyone who takes the time to explore the website: www.psa-photo.org. Start with the home page and from there, navigate to site tools. If you have any questions about PSA, I will be happy to answer them or find answers.

– Judy Burr, NBCC PSA Representative

Correction: Due to an editorial error in last month's newsletter, the PSA News column inaccurately implied that only individual PSA members could submit images in PSA International Competitions. In fact, these competitions are open to all. Membership status and timing becomes a factor in determining point eligibility for First Star in any Division. See the PSA website, or NBCC PSA Representative Judy Burr, for clarification and complete entry rules. We regret any confusion.

– Lori Ducharme, Lens & Eye Editor

REMINDERS

If you move or change your e-mail address during the Club year, please notify both Chuck Lee and Gordie Corbin of the change. This will ensure that you continue to receive all Club correspondence. (If you have not received a GordieGram lately, check to be sure we have the correct email address for you.)

Also remember that you should not "reply" to a GordieGram, as your email will be delivered to Gordie, who is just the messenger. Be sure to begin a new email message, addressed to the contact person named in the GordieGram.

Upcoming Competition Topics

December: *Black + White*

January: *An Abstract in Nature*

February: *Rhythm*

March: *An Event*

April: *Through the Window*

May: *Open*

Check the member handbook for detailed topic descriptions.

Tech Corner: Comparing Smartphone Cameras

Smartphone cameras have come of age. In fact, smartphone photography has become so simple and so convenient it has literally destroyed the market for point-and-shoot cameras. In spite of how good these cameras have become, there remain substantial differences in the quality of the cameras from one smartphone to the next. The differences from one smartphone camera to the next are most evident under difficult or unusual lighting conditions. Compare these three similar images taken with back-lighting:



The iPhone 4S and the iPhone 5 both do a much better job than the Galaxy S3 in dealing with the halo effect of the back-lighting.

All smartphone cameras have strengths and weaknesses. The hard part is selecting a smartphone camera based on your particular photographic needs. To help you better evaluate smartphone cameras, this article will compare the cameras on three of the best smartphones on the market: **Samsung Galaxy S3** - running the Android operating system; the **iPhone 5** - running the Apple operating system; and the **Nokia Lumia 920** - running Windows Phone 8 operating system.

The Galaxy S3 is considered the best of the current Android devices. It was released in May 2012 and is available from Verizon, Sprint, ATT and T-Mobile. Android 4.0 (codename Ice Cream Sandwich) is the operating system that comes loaded on the phone, but a newer version of the operating system, Android 4.1 (codename Jelly Bean) is now being distributed over-the-air to all of these devices.

The iPhone 5 was released in September 2012. It is available from Verizon, ATT and Sprint, or directly from Apple, either from the Apple online store or from one of the many Apple stores located in most large cities across the U.S. The iPhone runs Apple's newest operating system, iOS6.

I have included the Nokia Lumia 920 in this comparison and its inclusion requires a little explanation. Nokia is a company based in Finland and Nokia mobile devices have always been very popular in Europe. Up until recently, Nokia devices used an operating system called Symbian, but recently they have been losing market share to the more popular Apple and Android devices. So, to try to regain a competitive edge, Nokia has signed a partnership agreement with Microsoft that future Nokia devices will use the Microsoft mobile operating system. The Lumia 920 is the second generation smartphone resulting from this partnership. It runs the Windows Mobile 8 operating system. This device will be released in November and, in the beginning, the device will be offered exclusively from ATT in the United States. The Lumia 920 has very impressive specs and the device has been getting a lot of attention from the technology magazines and tech bloggers. In particular, the camera on the Lumia 920 is supposed to take spectacular photographs. When the device is released, Microsoft intends to launch a mammoth advertising campaign, so if you haven't heard about this smartphone yet, you will soon.

Camera specifications:

	Samsung Galaxy S3	Apple iPhone 5	Lumia 920
Lens aperture	f/2.6	f/2.4	f/2.0
Sensor	8 megapixels	8 megapixels	8.7 megapixels
Flash	Single LED	Single LED	Dual LED
Video	1920x1080 (1080p HD) 30 fps	1920x1080 (1080p HD) 30 fps	1920x1080 (1080p HD) 30 fps

These camera specifications are reasonably similar with a slight edge in favor of the Lumia 920. The lens on the Lumia 920 is manufactured by **Carl Zeiss** and is said to offer higher quality optics than lenses on other company's devices.

There are a few additional features that should be highlighted:

Optical stabilization:

Both the Lumia 920 and the iPhone 5 include in-camera optical stabilization which allows for longer exposures, and much better low-light photography. Nokia claims their optical stabilization is greatly improved and better than the optical stabilization on the iPhone 5. Analysts at Engadget did a careful comparison of the low-light photography capability of the Lumia 920 in comparison to the other two cameras. Below is a low-light photograph taken under identical conditions with the three cameras in our comparison:



In this comparison the Lumia 920 was the winner in the low-light category, but the iPhone 5 was certainly no slouch. The Galaxy S3 was blown out of the water (pun intended) by this comparison.

Shutter lag:

One annoying complaint about earlier smartphone cameras was shutter lag. Customers would complain the shutter release would lag so much they would often miss a moving photograph. It is worth noting that all three of the cameras in this review have zero shutter lag. You will not miss an award winning photograph due to shutter lag with any of these cameras.

– David Davidson

This article draws from recent side-by-side smartphone camera comparisons published on Mashable.com ("Smartphone Camera Shootout," 9/30/2012) and Engadget.com ("Lumia 920 Low Light Shootout," 9/26/2012). We'll continue to feature occasional articles on tech issues of general interest to photographers. Got an idea for a column? Send your ideas to newsletter@nbccmd.org.

November Competition: First Place Winners



© Art Hyder, "Atlantic Puffin"



© Allen Melser, "Hon Fest"



© Joanne Mars, "In Harm's Way"



© Bill Ho, "Yellowstone Terrace"

Results of Competition for October 2012 - Open

Competition Judges: Steve Gottlieb, Don Berkemeyer

PRINTS

Novice Traditional (10 entries)

1st	Jack Tierney	Friends
2nd	Louise Roy	The Big Sneeze
3rd	Claudia Seelig	UFO

Advanced Traditional (20 entries)

1st	Bill Ho	Yellowstone Terrace
2nd	Art Hyder	Focused Bear
3rd	Bill Seelig	A Lady
HM	Dave Clemmer	Balance of Power
HM	Dan McDermott	Bridget in Tears
HM	Barbara DeLouise	Pink Water Lily
HM	John Pan	Galapagos Heron

Novice Unrestricted (8 entries)

1st	Gail Bingham	Radiant
2nd	Claudia Seelig	Lift Off
3rd	Eric Schweitzer	Discarded Washer

Advanced Unrestricted (12 entries)

1st	Stuart Glickman	Amsterdam Canal Bridge
2nd	Chris Hanessian	Very Pink
3rd	Judy Burr	Old Spools
HM	Bruce Cyr	Ekaterina on Russian Strap

ELECTRONIC IMAGES

Novice Traditional (22 entries)

1st	Joanne Mars	In Harms Way
2nd	John Willis	Clearwing Moth on Agastache
3rd	Chet Stein	Can You Hear Me Now
HM	Nancy Brun	Tom
HM	Joan Linderman	Ground Zero Water
HM	Joanne Mars	Not So Sure
HM	Cheryl Naulty	Painted Arches

Advanced Traditional (24 entries)

1st	Art Hyder	Atlantic Puffin
2nd	Gail Bingham	Wheels of Industry
3rd	John Pan	Deception Island
HM	Alex Guo	Shangri La Sunset
HM	Allen Melser	Chicago Rails
HM	Bill Olson	A Beach Portal
HM	John Pan	Arches
HM	Bob Peavy	Storm at Storm King

Novice Unrestricted (17 entries)

1st	Eric Schweitzer	Sloppy Joe's Bar
2nd	Ira Adler	Locomotive 220 Rod...
3rd	Cheryl Naulty	Lavender and White
HM	Ira Adler	Frederick Fair 2012
HM	Claudia Seelig	Sea Bird
HM	Steven Silverman	Hayden Valley Sunstar

Advanced Unrestricted (29 entries)

1st	Allen Melser	Hon Fest
2nd	José Cartas	Tatio Geysers
3rd	Bruce Cyr	Orange Circles
HM	Willem Bier	Lavender Fields in the Drome
HM	Dave Clemmer	Step Down
HM	David Davidson	Mesa Arch in Early Morning
HM	Lori Ducharme	Miles in these Shoes
HM	Jim Hawkins	Into the Black Hole
HM	Evelyn Jacob	Blue Poppy Center
HM	Jack Rosenberg	Loews



© Eric Schweitzer, "Sloppy Joe's Bar"



© Jack Tierney, "Friends"



© Gail Bingham, "Radiance"



© Stuart Glickman, "Amsterdam Canal Bridge"

Cumulative NBCC Competition Scores for 2012-2013 (through October 2012)

PRINTS

ELECTRONIC IMAGES

Novice Traditional

- 10 Cheryl Naulty
- 10 Jack Tierney
- 9 Mike Fleming
- 9 Louise Roy
- 8 Claudia Seelig

Advanced Traditional

- 16 Bill Seelig
- 10 Bill Ho
- 10 Bill Olson
- 9 Chuck Bress
- 9 Art Hyder
- 6 Dave Clemmer
- 6 Barbara DeLouise
- 6 Dan McDermott
- 6 John Pan

Novice Traditional

- 26 Chet Stein
- 16 Joanne Mars
- 15 John Willis
- 12 Cheryl Naulty
- 9 Ken Goldman
- 6 Nancy Brun
- 6 Joan Linderman
- 6 Allen Melser
- 6 Martin Zober

Advanced Traditional

- 15 Gail Bingham
- 14 John Pan
- 12 Bill Olson
- 10 Jay Gartenhaus
- 10 Art Hyder
- 9 Melissa Clark
- 8 Judy Burr
- 6 Alex Guo
- 6 Allen Melser
- 6 Bob Peavy

Novice Unrestricted

- 10 Gail Bingham
- 10 Marvin Sirkis
- 9 Claudia Seelig
- 8 Eric Schweitzer

Advanced Unrestricted

- 17 Chris Hanessian
- 10 Stuart Glickman
- 10 Bill Seelig
- 9 Dave Clemmer
- 8 Judy Burr
- 6 Bruce Cyr
- 6 Dawn Sikkema

Novice Unrestricted

- 25 Ira Adler
- 10 Eric Schweitzer
- 8 Cheryl Naulty
- 6 Claudia Seelig
- 6 Steven Silverman

Advanced Unrestricted

- 21 José Cartas
- 16 Evelyn Jacob
- 15 Jack Rosenberg
- 14 Dawn Sikkema
- 12 Lori Ducharme
- 10 Allen Melser
- 8 Bruce Cyr
- 6 Willem Bier
- 6 Dave Clemmer
- 6 David Davidson
- 6 Jim Hawkins

2012-2013 NBCC Board of Directors, Standing, and Special Committees

<u>President</u> <i>Carol Lee</i>	<u>Vice President</u> <i>David Davidson</i>	<u>Secretary</u> <i>Bruce Cyr</i>	<u>Treasurer</u> <i>Bill Olson</i>	<u>Directors</u> <i>Gordie Corbin</i> <i>Bob Dargel</i>	<i>Kent Mason</i> <i>Bob Peavy</i>
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<u>Programs</u> <i>Steve Gelband</i> Ira Adler Gail Bingham Sharyn Greberman Jean Hanson Kent Mason Paul Taylor Jean Yuan	<u>Membership</u> <i>Chuck Lee</i> <u>Exhibits</u> <i>Bill Olson</i> Sybl Erdman Evelyn Jacob Dawn Sikkema Alan Simmons	<u>Competition</u> <i>Judy Switt</i> <i>Prints</i> Bill Ho Bill Richards <i>Electronic</i> Willem Bier Tom Field	<u>Judges</u> <i>Ken Goldman</i> Stuart Reiter Chet Stein <u>Webmaster</u> <i>Tom Field</i> <u>Lens & Eye</u> <i>Lori Ducharme</i>	<u>Hospitality</u> <i>Cynthia Hunter</i> Alla Doroshko Mike Fleming Terry Van Houten Steve Lapidus Jim Render Virginia Render <u>New Member Liaison</u> <i>Gail Bingham</i>	<u>Field Trips</u> <i>Cheryl Naulty</i> Raymond Ao John Barnes Gail Bingham Barbara Delouise Deeva Garel Bobbie Havel Cynthia Keith Steve Silverman
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Voting members in bold

<u>Education</u> <i>Chris Hanessian</i> Tom Field Tatiana Watson	Kent Mason Roy Sewall Alan Sislen	<u>Community Outreach</u> <i>Joel Hoffman</i> Judy Switt Chris Hanessian	Bob Peavy Kent Mason Meryl Silver Ron Deitrich	<u>Photo Essay</u> <i>Stu Mathison</i> Willem Bier David Davidson	Tom Field John Pan John Willis
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<u>Competition Image Review</u> Gordie Corbin Tom Field Bob Peavy	Alan Sislen Judy Switt Anita Van Rooy	<u>Long-Range Planning</u> David Davidson Bob Dargel Lori Ducharme Tom Field	Chuck Lee Bob Peavy Paul Taylor	<u>Print Galleries</u> Bill Seelig Claudia Seelig
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Awards Event: John Villforth **PSA Representative:** Judy Burr **Database Administrator:** Roy Sewall

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