



The Reflector



www.delawarephotographicsociety.org • Delaware Photographic Society
PSA Award-Winning Publication

June 2007

President's Message

In preparation for writing this message, among my last official duties as your president, I've reviewed the events of my two-year term. Having been a member for some 15 years now, it is surprising to me the changes that have taken place in that short time, not that I deserve any credit. Virtually all of them have arisen from others within our organization, which I certainly appreciate.

I'm sure that our vice president remembers that I began my term in 2005 by leaving town and dumping everything in his lap. He oversaw the first of our monthly digital competitions. Since that time, we have introduced the video camera



*The Rag Turban © 2006 Karl Leck
Digital Image of the Year*

on print night, bought new scoring systems, and created the Yahoo! group, DPS-Exchange. We cele-

brated the 75th anniversary of the club's founding, created the library, and amended our constitution to streamline the Society's administration. We have increased the number and scope of outside exhibitions, judged a PSA interclub competition, established a "sister club" relationship with Watford, England, and continued to do all the many regular things.

I'm grateful for the support and kindnesses I have received as your president. I am sure you will provide Lynn Maniscalco the same.

Thanks,

Jeff

Annual Picnic

Sunday, July 22 • 3—8 p.m.

The annual DPS picnic will again be held at the home of Dianne and Rich Carnegie in Elkton Md. Meat and drinks will be provided, but please bring a salad or dessert to serve 6. This promises to be a great day with delicious food, camaraderie, and plenty of photo ops. The Carnegie property contains a picturesque creek, stone ruins, and wildlife. So bring your cameras. In order to know

how much meat to buy, please RSVP to Dianne at 410.398.2397 or dicarnegie@msn.com.

Directions from Wilmington:

- Take I-95 South to Elkton exit (Rte. 279)
- Go south toward Elkton to Rte. 213 and turn right at the light.
- Go approximately 3 miles to Childs Road and turn left. Go past Aviat Academy and turn into the 2nd driveway on the right. Pass two houses on the lane and continue up the hill to the large green house.

2007-2008 Assigned Subjects

Start shooting your entries for next year's assigned subjects. Remember that the photograph must have been taken no more than one year from time of entry.

September – *Foreground Framing*
October –

Person(s) in their Environment
November – *Shadows or Silhouettes*
January – *Looking Up*
February – *Dramatic Lighting*
March – *The Decisive Moment*
April – *Less is More*
May – *A Most Unusual Thing*

Inside this issue...

NECC Amherst Conference.....page 2

PNC Calendar Changespage 3

The Story Behind the Print.....page 6

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2006-2007**

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www.delawarephotographicsociety.org

The Delaware Camera Club (DCC) was established January 28, 1931. DCC is a charter member of the Photographic Society of America and The Delaware Valley Council of Camera Clubs. In 2002 the name was changed to the Delaware Photographic Society (DPS) and the Society became a tax deductible educational organization.

2007 Service Awards

DPS Service Awards are presented for service rendered “over and above the call of duty” and for many long years of dedicated service. The 2006-2007 Awards Committee is pleased to present Service Awards and Special Commendations to the following members for outstanding service to the Society.

Gus Costis, Chairman
Herb Sargeant
Sharon Coffey

Honorary Members

Jessie and Cerd Marsh

Presidential Award

Jeff Smith

Gold Medal:

John Hamilton
Erik Kissa

Silver Medal:

Jane Strobach

Bronze Medal:

Bob Hunt
June McKenney
Bob McKenney

Special Commendation:

Ellen Carsch
Carole Clarke
Michael Elliott
Eileen Furlong
Irv Klair

NECCC Amherst Conference

New England Camera Club Council (NECCC) July 13-15, Amherst, Mass.

This looks like a particularly good year for the photo conference in Amherst, sponsored by the NECCC. They even have an air-conditioned dorm this year! The featured speaker is Joe McNally (*National Geographic*, *Time*, *Sports Illustrated*). Other special speakers are Vincent Laforet (Pulitzer prize), John P. Caponigro (digital fine art printing), Rick Sammon (27 travel books), Jerome Hamilton (portrait lighting), Tony Sweet and Steve Gottlieb from our backyard. Also, there will be the usual 10-20 terrific models in indoor and outdoor settings. Cost is \$120 for registration, \$25 (w/o A/C) to \$50 (A/C) per person/night dorm room, and

\$33-53 for meals in cafeteria (pretty good food). It's the best bargain in photo workshops anywhere. If you have never been to Amherst, you should go to this eight-ring photo circus for complete immersion in photography for 2-3 days. If you have been before, this looks like a good year, particularly for digital printing. Canon and Nikon will even be there to lend equipment. Get the details on all the presentations, activities, and registration at www.neccc.org.

There is also a photography competition in color slides, mono and color prints, model photographs, and now digital images. Be sure to enter the competitions and help DPS maintain our strong showing. See you there!
Karl Leck

Looking Ahead

2007–2008 DPS Officers

President – Lynn Maniscalco

Vice President – Bob Hunt

Recording Secretary –

Eleanor Blankenbaker

Treasurer/Corporate Secretary

John Blankenbaker

Education Director – Karl Leck

Program Director – Bob Coffey

Projected Image Director –

Ken Seeney

Print Director – David Hutton

Many thanks to those who have agreed to accept positions for the coming Society year. Please do not hesitate to take your turn when approached by Lynn and help to continue the rich heritage of this Society.

Bob Coffey, Nominating Chairman

NOTICE: The new board will meet Monday, June 25, in the Cokesbury meeting room at 7p.m. Any club member who has suggestions for next year, such as possible programs, instruction

desired, how best to shorten competition nights, etc., be sure to tell the appropriate director. If you have ideas for field trips, contact Lynn at Ltmphoto@juno.com by June 11. If you are willing help with camcorder operations on print night, or to help with other club activities, please tell her or the appropriate director.

There is considerable interest in resuming the overnight trips. These events have always been popular, due not only to the great photographic opportunities, but the enjoyable camaraderie. A Bermuda cruise, a trip to Nantucket, and numerous other excursions have been suggested. Anyone willing to serve as Trip Coordinator or to organize a singular event, please contact Lynn.

There are also many small tasks, such as helping record scores on a competition night or move chairs on an instruction night. Ideally, every member will volunteer to do at least one of them.

Marvin will accept your entries at any time between now and the end of July. No submittals will be accepted after that date. Contact Marvin at marvtu@aol.com to make arrangements to deliver or mail your images to his home. Refer to the May issue of *The Reflector* for additional information.

Vignettes



- Instruction Night is held the first Monday of the month at 7:30p.m.
- Competition nights are held on the second and third Mondays starting at 7:30 p.m.
- Program night is the last Monday of the month, 7:30 p.m.
- Location: Cokesbury Village, DuPont Pavilion, 726 Loveville Road, Hockessin, DE 19707.
- *The Reflector* is published by the Delaware Photographic Society, September through June and printed by Academy Printing of Wilmington, Delaware. No material may be reproduced without written permission. Contribution deadline is the third Monday of the month. Send announcements and/or articles to Sharon Coffey at 48 Partridge Lane, Kennett Square, PA 19348, 610.388.2741 or SESCoffey@aol.com.

- DPS members are encouraged to participate in our Yahoo! group, DPS-Exchange. For information, go to DPS-Exchange@yahoogroups.com

- Visit our Web site at: www.delawarephotographicsociety.org

PNC Calendar Changes

Two changes, effective immediately, will be made in the way DPS handles the PNC calendar entries for the 2008 calendar. First, Marvin Gerstein will be the new DPS Calendar Representative. Secondly, calendar submittals will be due on July 31, 2007, rather than the early June date of previous years.

Wanted to buy, rent, or borrow... bulk slide feeder for Nikon slide scanner. Either model Nikon SF 200 or SF 210. Contact Sandy at 610.388.6414 or amroe@verizon.net.

Questions & Answers



Contributed
monthly by
Erik Kissa

For more information on photographic equipment and techniques visit me at:
www.psa-newmember.org/consultation_services/equipment.html

The text on the website is revised to keep it up to date.

Q: *Most pictures have been taken in sunshine or under dry weather conditions. I would like to photograph in rain. How should I protect the camera?*

A: The most reliable protection is a waterproof enclosure made for underwater photography. The Aquapak case is waterproof to at least 15ft (5 m) under water. I have an Aquapak that houses my P/S camera. The quality of the images taken through the clear plastic walls is comparable to pictures taken without uncoated filter or through a window. Because the light is soft on rainy days, reflections and flare are not a problem anyhow. The only limitation is the difficulty of using the controls of the camera. I can turn my camera on and release the shutter but cannot adjust the controls.

Other protective covers, such as various rain capes by Ewa Marine, the KATA GDC Elements cover E-702 (\$50), and the OP/Tech 18" Rainsleeve (\$6.50), offer more freedom but do not shield the camera as well as a waterproof enclosure.

An inexpensive way to protect the camera is to place the camera into the sleeve of an old raincoat and shorten the sleeve to fit the length of the lens. The rest of the raincoat can cover the photographer as well.

A device designed to cover the camera and the photographer is the Probrella. This is an umbrella with a thread to fit the tripod thread of the camera. The Probrella is quite useful in a drizzle or steady rain but not helpful in rain driven by wind.

Q: *Have you compared the Nikon VR 70-300mm lens and the Sigma APO 70-300mm lens?*

A: The Nikon VR 70-300mm lens is twice as expensive, twice as heavy, and larger than the Sigma, but, unlike the Sigma, it can make sharp handheld pictures at 300mm and 1/250 s. With a digital camera, this is like shooting with a film camera handheld at the 450mm focal length. On a tripod the Sigma does quite well and focuses to a 1:2 magnification ratio, useful for close-up photography.

The extra money paid for the optical stabilization is worth every dollar of it.

Q: *Is a live preview useful for digital SLR cameras?*

A: The live preview has been stated as the major breakthrough in the design of digital SLR cameras. I cannot share this enthusiasm for several reasons. A live preview is useful for P/S (point-and-shoot) cameras and digicams (a digital camera with a fixed lens but with more adjustments), because the viewfinder of the P/S cameras is inaccurate. Most P/S cameras do not even have a viewfinder. The LCD screen has several limitations, however. The LCD screen is sometimes difficult to see in sunshine, a moving subject is difficult to follow, and it is difficult to hold the camera steady while observing the screen. A live LCD screen on a DSLR has the same drawbacks with additional limitations and complications. The Olympus EVOLT E-330 camera has two modes of the live preview. In Mode A, a second sensor shows only 92% of the image on the screen. In Mode B, the mirror is locked up during live preview. The optical viewfinder cannot be used and focusing must be manual. The advantage of live preview in Mode B is the accuracy and a 100% view of the live image on the screen. A hinged LCD screen makes it easy to view the scene from unconventional angles. This is quite helpful for macro photography with the camera on a tripod.

(Continued on page 5)

Questions & Answers

(Continued from page 4)

A live preview of DSLR cameras can be useful for some types of photography but I would not call it a major breakthrough.

Q: *I have a Nikon D-200 camera and an SB-800 flash. Can I use the AS-10 connector and the connecting cord to provide TTL multiframe capability with the older SB-24 and SB-25 flash units?*

A: The Nikon D200 camera provides i-TTL multiple flash photography with the SB-600 and SB-800 flash units. The D200 does not support the TTL flash mode with the older flash units connected to the camera.

The old flash units can be used, however, in a TTL mode with the SU-4 remote control unit. The concern with slave photography is that the D200 camera emits preflash pulses of light that may trigger a slave unit before the main flash discharge. To demonstrate that an old flash unit mounted on SU-4 does not fire prematurely but works in synch with the built-in flash of the D-200, I did the following experiment.

I attached a red filter to an SB-24 flash mounted on the SU-4 control unit. I fired the built-in flash of the D200 with the SB-24 flash switched on, and fired another shot with the SB-24 flash switched off. When the SB-24 flash was turned on, the red color emitted by the SB-24 was clearly visible in the resulting image. When the SB-24 flash was turned off, a red color was not recorded by the camera.

The i-TTL system is the most versatile multiple flash system of

Nikon cameras, but older electronic flashes can be still used for multiframe photography with good results.

Q: *I have noticed that the Nikon D200 has a noticeably shorter shutter lag than the D70. What are the actual numbers?*

A: The shutter lag of the D70 is indeed twice as long as that of the D200.

I have compiled the published start up time and the shutter lag of Nikon and Canon cameras. The start up time indicates how long it takes to get a camera ready to shoot, after turning on the power. The shutter lag is the time between pressing the shutter release and the shutter to open.

	Start up time, s	Shutter lag, s
NIKON		
D40	0.18	0.100
D70	0.18	0.100
D80	0.18	0.080
D200	0.15	0.050
D2x	0 to 2	0.037
CANON		
30D	0.15	0.065
5D	0.2	0.075
1DMark	0.2	0.055
1DSMar	0.3	0.065

The start up time is about the same for all cameras, except for the Nikon D2x. A start up time of 2s has been printed in several publications. Nikon has told me that the start up time is 0 to 2s, depending on the mode the camera. The start up time is longer for the rapid continuous mode.

Erik Kissa

Send questions to ekissa@aol.com

Summer Photographic Exhibitions

The Delaware Art Museum has two upcoming photography exhibitions.

• June 2– October 23, *The Cultivated Eye—Brandywine Valley Photographers*, is an exhibition of nature photography featuring the works of local photographers, including Jim Graham, Carson Zullinger, Kathleen Buckalew, Danny Schweers, and Priscilla Smith.

• June 23 –September 16 *Contemporary Photography and the Garden—Deceits and Fantasies* brings together the varied responses to the physical structure, atmosphere, and symbolism of the garden as represented in the work of 16 American and European artists. For more information, contact the museum at 302.571.9590 or visit www.delart.org.

DPS membership renewal notices will be mailed in early July for the Society year starting July 1. Notices will be sent electronically, except to members who either do not have e-mail, or have previously requested to receive renewals by postal mail. If you have any questions, please contact John Blankenbaker at 610.388.1305 or johblank@pipeline.com.

Girl on a Bus – The story behind the print

by Karl Leck

The color print *Girl on a Bus* is the result of being prepared at unlikely moments for a picture and basic image enhancement as printmakers have done since the beginning of photography.

While traveling through Rajasthan province in India from Rohet to Pushkar with Marty Malgieri, we stopped at a gas station for a break. Most of the group headed to the bathroom and snack shop on this warm day. I get stiff sitting for long stretches, so I walked around the area to stretch. An intercity bus pulled in loaded with people just as tired of traveling as we were. I love the faces of people being themselves. I took pictures of several passengers as they gazed out of the bus lost in their private thoughts. The girl was one of these passengers dressed nicely in contrast to the rusting bus body.

Image metadata says that a



Girl on a Bus © 2006 Karl Leck
Color Print of the Year

Nikon D100 with 24-120 VR zoom lens at 120mm was used. The Aperture Preferred automatic exposure was 1/320 second at f/5.6 with sunlight white balance. The capture was in Adobe RGB in JPG Fine. It's nice not to have to keep image notes now that the

camera does it automatically.

The original capture shows the girl somewhat in shadow with the bus brighter. After selecting (or masking) to isolate the area within the window, Curves was used to lighten and increase the contrast of the girl. A very slight blue and magenta saturation increase was made on her dress. Inverting the selection to choose the bus body, Levels was used to darken it, Gradient was used to slightly darken the edges, and slight desaturation was done. The resulting image was printed at 16x20 inches on the Epson 4000 pigment ink printer on Epson Premium Luster paper using Epson's print profiles.

The Photoshop work did not change the girl's expression or the situation, but it highlights her and brings your attention to that wonderful look. While the image was not originally one of my favorites from the trip, it has grown on me with time and appears to be well liked by others.

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James F. Cycyk - President

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*The Delaware Photographic Society
congratulates Cameras Etc. as they celebrate
their 30th Anniversary.*

Images of the Year

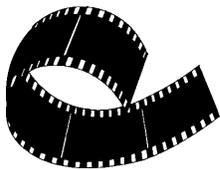
Our thanks to Suchat Pederson, Carson Zullinger, and Sherri Ciancutti, for serving as this year's Print of the Year judges.

Color Print of the Year

Karl Leck — *Girl on a Bus*

Honorable Mention

Bob Coffey — *Peeling Paint*
 George Eichner — *Koy Crazy*
 Marvin Gerstein — *Out to Dry*
 Karl Leck — *Misty River*
 Bogdan Pazera — *Wave 1*
 Marty Reed — *Meet the Beetle*
 Jane Strobach — *Friends*
 Bill Talarowski — *Sun Surf & Sailing*
 Tom Tauber — *Great Leap*
 Rob Tuttle — *Sunset Excitement*



Monochrome Print of the Year

Marvin Gerstein — *Keyboard Man* (page 8)

Honorable Mention

Bob Coffey — *Rigging Study*
 Ray Firmani — *Baubles and Bangles*
 Helen Gerstein — *Engaged*
 Marvin Gerstein — *Chillin'*
 Dave Hutton — *Monochrome Dahcia*
 Karl Leck — *Four Parasols*
 Mark Reed — *Night Walk*
 Marty Reed — *Crossing the Finish*
 Jane Strobach — *Pinned*
 Bill Talarowski — *Big Blow Brewing*

Many thanks to slide competition judges, Steve Gottlieb, Wing Lau, and Erika Neidhardt.

Slide of the Year

Tom Canby — *Lilac Breasted Roller*

Honorable Mention

Tom Canby — *Victoria Falls*
 Gus Costis — *Morning Chore*
 Doug Donor — *Up Creek With Paddle*
 John Hamilton — *Bleeding Hearts*
 Karl Leck — *Delaware Dawn*
 Monica Nagy — *Jaipur Musician*
 Bogdan Pazera — *Wave 1*
 Karen Pentz — *Half Length in Front*
 Herb Sargeant —
 House of a Different Color
 Charles Shambelan —
 Guilin River Workers

Many thanks to the competition judges, Steve Gottlieb, Wing Lau, and Erika Neidhardt.

Digital Image of the Year

Karl Leck — *The Rag Turban* (photo pg. 1)

Honorable Mention Awards

Steve Berkowitz — *Lilac Breasted Roller*
 Gus Costis — *Indian Maid*
 Patsy Costis — *Maidens of India*
 George Eichner — *Not Tonight*
 Nancy Everds — *Reflective Frog*
 Eileen Furlong — *Leaf on Gears*
 Helen Gerstein — *Natures Perfection*
 John Hamilton — *Hawk*
 Jane Strobach — *Monk in Red*
 Tom Tauber —
 Mother and Child, Vietnam



Lilac Breasted Roller by Tom Canby
 Slide of the Year

2006—2007 Competition Awards

• SLIDE AWARDS

ASSIGNED

Class A

Ben Detwiler	271	1 st Place
Karen Pentz	162	2 nd
Al Webber Sr.	71	3 rd

Salon

Peter Lindtner	283	1 st Place
Monica Nagy	277	2 nd
Doug Donor	260	3 rd

OPEN

Class A

Ben Detwiler	281	1 st Place
Cole Meredith	256	2 nd
Karen Pentz	168	3 rd

Salon

Monica Nagy	308	1 st Place
Herb Sargeant	305	2 nd
Karl Leck	304	3 rd
Peter Lindtner	304	3 rd

• DIGITAL IMAGE AWARDS

ALTERED REALITY

Leck, K	161	1 st Place
Strobach, J	153	2 nd
Hutton, D	149	3 rd

ASSIGNED

Class A

Leck, K	335	1 st Place
Strobach, J	316	2 nd
Hamilton, J	302	3 rd

Class B

Tauber, T	314	1 st Place
Donor, D	285	2 nd
Costis, P	262	3 rd

OPEN

Class A

Leck, K	319	1 st Place
Strobach, J	314	2 nd
Gerstein, M	295	3 rd

Class B

Tauber, T	310	1 st Place
Toutkaldjian	294	2 nd
Costis, G	288	3 rd

• PRINT AWARDS

MONOCHROME—ASSIGNED

Class A

Pivonka, D	327	1 st Place
DiPietrapl, M	195	2 nd
DiPietrapl, F	158	3 rd

Salon

Leck, K	344	1 st Place
Strobach, J	340	2 nd
Oathout, T	334	3 rd

MONOCHROME—OPEN

Class A

Pivonka, D	308	1 st Place
DiPietrapl, M	228	2 nd
DiPietrapl, F	180	3 rd

Salon

Talarowski, B	353	1 st Place
Leck, K	342	2 nd
Oathout, T	329	3 rd

COLOR—ASSIGNED

Small Print

Pivonka, D	319	1 st Place
Magnani, R	294	2 nd
McKenney, J	281	3 rd

Class A

Tauber, T	329	1 st Place
DiPietrapl, M	243	2 nd
Eichner, G	232	3 rd

Salon

Coffey, B	358	1 st Place
Leck, K	346	2 nd
Oathout, T	338	3 rd

COLOR—OPEN

Small Print

Pivonka, D	325	1 st Place
Pivonka, J	325	1 st Place
Lindtner, P	295	2 nd
McKenney, J	292	3 rd

Class A

Tauber, T	325	1 st Place
Elliott, M	275	2 nd
DiPietrapl, M	246	3 rd

Salon

Leck, K	361	1 st Place
Talarowski, B	358	2 nd
Oathout, T	353	3 rd



Keyboard Man by Marvin Gerstein
Monochrome Print of the Year

Theatre N ...a little treasure

If you haven't been there, you're missing a little treasure out of the City of Wilmington's Mayor's office. *Theater N*, located in the Nemours building, screens films every weekend and a couple of times during the week, all year long. They are not the Hollywood big feature films, but rather art-house type movies, some black and white, some foreign-made. Tickets are \$7 and \$5 (for seniors) and on the last Wednesday of the month, *Sneaky Peek* is free.

Prior to the screening, ads are shown and DPS has a chance to promote itself and its events in a fifteen-second ad that will be seen over and over by hundreds of people. Lynn Maniscalco arranged for this opportunity and Mark Reed, John Toutkaldjian and John Hamil-

ton have put together an ad that is currently running. The club plans to change the photos from time to time and we hope you'll agree to use of your photo if called upon. Check out Theater N at www.theatren.org.



*PSA 2007 International
Conference of Photography
Tucson, Arizona
September 2–8, 2007*



The Photographic Society of America (PSA) is the largest organization of its kind in the world, bringing together amateur and professionals in all the varied fields of photography, including color slides, nature, pictorial prints, stereo (3D), electronic photography, video/motion pictures, photojournalism, travel photography, and devotees of every process in which the worldwide membership is interested. Help from experts and educational programs is available to all members. Find out more about the PSA from these websites: www.psa-photo.org and delawarephotographicsociety.org.

Judging the Judges

By Tom Tauber

At the May digital image competition the scores were unusually low. Cut scores averaged 14 and only two scores were above 20. At the other end of the spectrum, the February cut score average was almost 22, and 33 images scored above 20. Apart from the emotional damper of getting a low score, is this variability acceptable?

A comparison with underexposed and overexposed images comes to mind – if the histogram is pushed to the left or to the right, information got lost. If the scores are mostly high or low, small differences have a proportionately larger effect on ranking

and on being cut. I favor a score distribution centered around 5 or 6, and I brief the judges accordingly. Before each competition, I send them a two-page “Guidelines for Judging DPS Competitions” and brief them verbally. I have found that many of them ignore the instructions.

The task of recruiting 54 judges per season is daunting and time-consuming. In 2005, the Board decided that judges should be used only once per season, if possible, and not be members, except as no-show substitutes. Until January, Ellen Carsch and I were working mostly from a master list that became shorter and shorter. Fortunately, Lynn Maniscalco came to

the rescue by sending us new names.

The key to recruiting more consistent and qualified judges is a larger and better data base. Therefore, I recommend as follows:

1. Keep your eyes open for possible judges and email me the contact information at tetauber@comcast.net.

2. We should develop at least an informal process of “Judging the Judges” to provide feedback to put into the data base. For example, some experienced members could be designated to rate the judges (exceptional, good, acceptable, unacceptable).