



The Reflector

Volume 63, Issue 8

May 2011

Calendar:

- May 2
7:30pm Instruction
Why Use Lightroom?
pg. 3
- May 6
Projected Image-of-the-Yr. entry deadline
- May 9
7:00pm Projected Image-of-the-Yr. Competition
- May 13
Print-of-the-Year competition entry deadline
- May 16
7:00pm—Print-of-the-Yr. Competition
- June 6
6:00pm — Pizza/Awards Party
- June 13
Interested in Learning About PSA, pg. 8
- July 10
Annual DPS Picnic
4-8pm
Home of Rich and Dianne Carnegie

My Thoughts

By Karl Leck, President

In recent years, photography and the Delaware Photographic Society have gone through many large changes quickly. While things seem to be stabilizing in the technical aspects of photography, that's still not the case with DPS. The pixel race in "35mm" and point-shoot digital cameras is winding down. Most cameras are in the 10-16 MP range with very good quality that rivals film. Only the do-dads like video and motion pan added to a perfectly good still image camera make marketing distinctions.

(Continued on page 2)



Wreck3 by Don Pivonka
High-scoring April Print

Annual Pizza/Awards Party • June 6 • 6pm



It's time again for the annual awards festivities when worthy members receive recognition for those hard-won points and much-deserved service medals. This popular event offers a casual venue and menu of salads, pizza, and dessert. Soda and wine will be provided.

Family and friends are always welcome!

The total cost for the evening is \$10 per person. Please return the reservation form found on page 7 to Carole Clarke by June 3 and make checks payable to DPS. Volunteers are needed to help with setup, serving, and cleanup. To help, or for additional information, contact Carole Clarke at cnclarke@aol.com or 610.358.5191.

Awards and presentations of winning projected images and prints will begin at 7:15pm.

**DELAWARE PHOTOGRAPHIC
SOCIETY 2010-2011**

President — Karl Leck

610.388.0298 / karleck@verizon.net

Vice President — Jeff Smith

302.368.1089 / jasmix@comcast.net

Recording Secretary

Dee Langevin — 302.376.7645
cnl001@verizon.net

Treasurer/Corp. Secretary

John Blankenbaker — 610.388.1305
John.Blankenbaker@verizon.net

Exhibition Chair

Dianne Carnegie — 410.398.2397
dicarnegie@msn.com

Education Director — Bob Coffey

610.388.2741 / Bobcoffey@aol.com

Projected Image Director

Pete Lounsbury — 302.636.0868
lounsburyus@comcast.net

Print Director — John Haedo

484.480.4430/john581@comcast.net

Program Director — John Hamilton

302.479.0222 / deljohn@aol.com

Reflector Editor — Sharon Coffey

610.388.2741 / SESCoffey@aol.com

Membership — Ruthann King

302.299.2665 / raking44@verizon.net

Field Trips

Steven Sieja — 302.540.9283

Awards Committee

Lynn Maniscalco — 302.478.6953
Ltmphoto@juno.com

Equipment Chair

Ed Ford — 302.290.6727
fordeh1964@gmail.com

Publicity Chair — Carole Clarke

610.358.5191 / cnclarke@aol.com

Judges Chair

Tom Tauber — 610.626.1579
tetauber@comcast.net

Standards Chair — Marvin Gerstein

302.475.5939 / marvtu@aol.com

DPS Webmaster

John Davis — webmaster@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.

My Thoughts

(Continued from page 1)

This year, DPS embarked on a digital entry system for projected images (including End-of-Year), prints, and Photo Show. The recordkeeping afforded by this system is valuable to efficient operation with so many entries. My thanks to everyone who exercised patience as we worked our way through the pain of change. Next year, I will become Print Chairman. I want to encourage more members to become involved in the complete classical photographic experience from vision to image capture to the print that you can hold and study for its beauty and meaning.

I am truly proud of the success achieved by current and past DPS members for their photographic accomplishments. *The Reflector* and the website consistently win awards. We do well in PSA interclub competition in Creative and Photojournalism. DPS members always bring home medals and ribbons

from the NECCC Amherst Conference in July (www.neccc.org) despite competing against the best images from about 80 New England camera clubs. Several members have begun competing in PSA international exhibitions with success, including best-in-show medals. I am particularly happy about the number of acceptances and awards that DPS members have received in recent years in our own Wilmington Exhibition. I believe that our mission of inspiring and educating photographers in the region is responsible for a lot of members' successes.

I know that next year's officers are dedicated to education. We will continue having Instruction Night and other classes. If you have questions about anything photographic, ask Bob Coffey, Bob Hunt, Erik Kissa or me. We are happy to help. Questions may also be posted to the DPS-Exchange Yahoo group for discussion.
Karl Leck



A Full Service
Photographic Store

Cameras Etc.

James F. Cycyk
President

4101 North Market St.
Wilmington, DE 19802
(302) 764-9400
Fax. (302)764-9402

165 East Main St.
Newark, DE 19711
(302) 453-9400
Fax. (302) 453-9575

www.camersetc.net

Instruction Night

Instruction Night is held the first Monday of the month, October through May in the duPont Pavilion at 7:30pm

◆ May 2: *Why Use Lightroom?*
Bob Coffey

This program was developed to address the needs of photographers to handle large numbers of images faster and more efficiently than Photoshop. It does not replace Photoshop, but works in conjunction with it. Scott Kelby, founder of National Association of Photoshop Professionals, was quoted as saying

that he used it for 85% of his image processing...and that was when LR 1 was first introduced! That strong endorsement sold me and I now agree.

Adobe and PSA have teamed up to provide special train-the-trainer kits to member clubs, consisting of extensive tutorials, program outlines, give-away goodies and a free copy of Lightroom 3 (\$299 value) as a door prize to some lucky attendee. Come to the demo and learn the features and benefits of this exciting program that I have really learned to love over the past four years.

Elements Classes

Photoshop Elements sessions in the Cokesbury Community Room have concluded for the year.

➤ Pete Lounsbury will continue his free-style Elements workshop instruction from 7 to 9pm at the Newark Senior Center, 200 White Chapel Drive, Newark, DE 19713, on the **2nd Wednesday** of the month. The workshops are sponsored by the Senior Surfers, www.nscseniorsurfers.com/.

There are computers in the center, but it is recommended that you bring a laptop loaded with a current version of Photoshop Elements. For more information, contact Pete at 302.636.0868 or lounsburyus@comcast.net.

Conferences

➤ Berks Photographic Society's 52nd Annual Photographic Conference, June 10-12, Boehm Science Building, Kutztown University, Kutztown, PA. This year's conference will feature Lindsay Adler, sponsored by Mpix; Mollie Isaacs and Mary Lindhjem, of Awake the Light; Michael Moats, sponsored by Tamron; Joe Edelman, Hazel Meredith, and Ron Wyatt. For information and registration, go to www.berkscamera.org.

➤ New England Council of Camera Clubs (NECCC), July 15-17, UMass, Amherst, Mass. For full details on all the presentations, activities, and registration at www.neccc.org.

Thumbnails

- Instruction Night is held the first Monday of the month at 7:30pm.
- Competition nights are held on the second and third Mondays at 7:30pm.
- Program night is the last Monday of the month October—March at 7:30pm in the Cokesbury auditorium on Level C.
- Location: duPont Pavilion, Cokesbury Village, 726 Loveville Rd, Hockessin, DE 19707.
- Membership dues should be addressed to: DPS Treasurer, John Blankenbaker, P.O. Box 120, Chadds Ford, PA 19317. Dues: \$35, individuals; \$25, others at the same address; half the individual fee for junior or nonresident members; first-year members, \$20 per person.
- *The Reflector* is published by the Delaware Photographic Society. Material may not be reproduced without written permission. Please send articles or announcements to Sharon Coffey at SESCoffey@aol.com.
- Members are encouraged to participate in the Yahoo group, DPS-Exchange, DPS-Exchange@yahoo.com
- Visit our Web site at: www.delawarephotographicsociety.org.



This program is made possible, in part, by grants from the Delaware Division of the Arts, a state agency dedicated to nurturing and supporting the arts in Delaware, in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts.

Questions & Answers



*Contributed monthly
by Erik Kissa*

For more information on photographic equipment and techniques visit Erik's site at www.psa-photo.org in PSA Journal section.

Q: *What are pixels and dots?*

A: This is an area of great confusion. The word pixel (picture element) is used to mean at least two different things — the photosites on the sensor and the smallest element of the picture on the monitor screen. A photo-site on the sensor is occupied, though not exclusively, by a light sensitive photodiode.

Popular Photography magazine erroneously calls a photosite a dot. The photodiodes are color blind. They measure only the intensity of light, not its color. Therefore, a red, green, or blue filter is fitted above a photodiode. The photosites of different color are not situated as a triad but arranged by a Bayer mosaic. This means that two photosites of the same color are not next to each other, and the sensor has twice as many green photosites as either red or blue. This array emphasizes green as the center component of the spectrum and compensates for the sensitivity of the human vision. Although the number of red, green and blue photosites is not equal, three photosites are called a pixel. This is unfortunate, but cannot be changed anymore. Hence a 10 MP sensor has 30 million photosites.

The resolution of the monitor is measured

in ppi (pixels per inch). The pixel here means the smallest picture element on the monitor screen. The monitor uses the Red, Green, Blue color model.

The resolution of the printer is measured in dpi (dots per inch). A resolution of 300 dpi is considered normal, although 240 dpi may be adequate for prints not viewed closely. A printer uses the CMYK color mode: cyan, magenta, yellow, and black. However, the file sent to the printer should be in the RGB color space because the printer is programmed to accept RGB files. A jet of the inkjet printer squirts 0-8 tiny droplets of one ink to make a dot, which is the smallest element of the printed picture.

Q: *I own a Nikon D5000 and a Nikkor 55-200 f4-5.6 AF-S DX lens and need a little more length. Sigma makes two lenses that are in my budget, a 120-400mm f4.5-5.6 and 150-500mm f5-6.3. Does one offer an advantage over the other, realizing the obvious 100mm difference? I have heard that Sigma has problems with auto-focus motors in the telephoto lenses. Are the Sigma lenses durable?*

A: Two tele lenses are not compared by the difference in the focal lengths, but by the ratio of the focal lengths. Although the 500mm focal length lens is 100mm longer, the 150-500mm lens magnifies only 1.25 times more than the 120-400mm lens. More importantly, the Sigma 120-400mm lens is an f/4.5-to 5.6, whereas the 150-500mm lens drops from f/5 to f/6.3 at the long end and autofocus becomes sluggish.

The longer zoom is much heavier, 4.8 lb (2.18 kg) vs. 3.8 lb (1.75 kg), and has a larger filter (86mm vs. 77mm).

Both Sigma lenses have made good pictures, printed in magazines.

I am not a bird photographer and for me the Nikon 70-300mm 4.5-5.6 VR lens is just fine.

(Continued on page 5)

Questions & Answers

(Continued from page 4)

The weight is 1.6 lb (0.745 kg), filter size 67mm (I use a step-up ring to 77mm). The price is about half of the Sigma 120-400mm lens which can magnify only 1.33 times more. This is not a significant difference to me, but if this is important for you, be prepared to carry a lens twice as heavy.

The picture below of the fire boat was taken with my Nikon 70-300mm VR lens.



The autofocus motor in Sigma, Tamron, and even in a pro quality f/2.8 Nikon lens may malfunction. The durability depends on how the lens is used. Sigma lenses are not sealed against dust and moisture as well as the Nikon pro lenses. However, I have used Sigma tele-zoom lenses for years without trouble, and two lenses that I use frequently are Sigmas. The "pro" caliber Sigma lenses are quite solid, but not cheap.

Q: I read in *Digital Photo Pro* that the noise of a camera can be lower at a higher ISO value. Is this true?

A: The ISO values indicate how much the signal from the sensor is amplified. The electronic noise is amplified as well, proportionally to ISO. However, the amount of noise observed in a digital image depends how the

signal, generated by the sensor, is processed and how the noise is measured. Every signal of a photosite is processed by the analog-to-digital converter and by the array processor. At a certain ISO value, the camera processor reduces noise. Even a RAW file is not entirely untouched by the camera because it might not avoid the noise reduction. Before testing, the noise reduction must be turned off to have a level field for comparing cameras and the effect of ISO values.

The published noise data is sometimes contradictory because the tests differ. The test data published by *Popular Photography* for recent cameras cannot be compared with the noise data for older cameras because the test method has been changed. However, test data can be used to determine how noise depends on ISO.

When I plotted the *Popular Photography* noise numbers against the ISO values, all points fell on a straight line. This means that noise increases linearly with ISO values, as expected. Consequently, it is incorrect to say that the camera becomes noisy at ISO 800, for example. The correct statement is that the noise level of the camera is acceptable below ISO 800.

Because of the uncertainties of the test procedures, I am designing my own noise test method. I was concerned with the noise of Nikon D 7000 because of the high megapixel count, but according to my tests, noise is not a problem.

Send questions to ekissa@aol.com



Year-End Competitions

PROJECTED-IMAGE-OF-THE-YEAR

- Judging — May 9, beginning promptly at **7pm**.
- Entrants may enter 10 digital images that were accepted during the 2010-2011 competition year. OR, nine accepted images and one (1) that was not accepted.
- **Deadline: May 6** The entry form has been posted online. Your top ten selected images have automatically been setup and you can re-order/change these and add an optional unselected image on the same form.

Contact Projected Image Director, Pete Lounsbury at lounsburyus@comcast.net for more information.

PRINT-OF-THE-YEAR

- Judging — May 16, promptly at **7pm**. Entries should be brought on the 16th by **6:30pm**.
- **Deadline: May 13** the entry form will be posted online shortly. Each competitor may

enter up to **10 accepted prints** in each of the Monochrome and Color categories. These may consist of 10 images that have been selected, or 9 images that have been selected and one (1) that was not selected during the year. All entries must have been entered during the current 2010-2011 year in the Salon, Class A, or Class B categories. The entry form should be available online shortly. Your top 10 selected images

- There will be a separate Print-of-the-Year competition for Class A, Class B, and Salon. One print will be chosen as the POTY for each of the Monochrome and Color categories. Five Honorable Mention ribbons (HM) will be awarded in each category in each class with a limit of one HM per entrant. All Class A and Class B entrants are urged to participate.

Questions??? Contact Print Director, John Haedo at john581@comcast.net.



Swamp Boat by Dee Langevin There was a three-way tie between Dee, Marvin Gerstein, and JC Roy for top score in the April Projected Image competition.

I found this charming swamp boat at Cypress Gardens in Moncks Corner, SC. The azaleas were in full bloom, the frogs were croaking and the Spanish moss was hanging from the hardy cypress trees. With temperatures in the mid-seventies and spring blossoms in the air, it was a perfect day for a boat ride among the gators. I knew this scene would make an interesting photo but my biggest problem was finding a vantage point that excluded all the people out enjoying the great weather and gorgeous scenery. Patience made it all come together.

Dee Langevin



Photo: Emily Reed

Calendar Photographs Requested

PNC prefers that each photograph be submitted as hard copy **accompanied by** a digital version of the image on a CD. The digital version should be in TIFF format at a 3:2 aspect ratio (example 12" X 8") with a minimum resolution of 300 ppi. However, a JPG file with minimum compression is acceptable on disk, provided it is 300 ppi at 12" X 8." The hard copy version may be on a smaller paper size as long as the 3:2 aspect ratio is maintained.

Good quality slides are acceptable — without the accompanying electronic version on CD. Slides should be submitted in plastic sheets.

Each photo must be labeled with the maker's name, the location shown in the image, and a filename that corresponds to the filename on the accompanying CD. Any number of images may be submitted. Photos that were previously entered, but not selected, can be resubmitted.

Images will be returned to the maker in late December. Every member that submits images will be given a copy of the calendar. Submissions should be made to Marvin Gerstein at a DPS event, or mailed/delivered to his home. Please contact Marvin at MarvTU@aol.com or 302.475.5939. if you have questions or to arrange a delivery.

The DPS has a contract with the PNC Bank of Delaware to provide images for the calendar that the bank presents to their business customers. PNC pays the photographer \$135 for each image selected, plus \$200 for the image selected for the calendar cover. All DPS members are welcome to submit photos.

Each July, DPS submits images for PNC's selection. This year's deadline for submission is July 31, 2011.

Photographs taken from all areas of Delaware, from all three counties, during all seasons of the year, and in all types of weather are wanted for the calendar. Images must be in a horizontal (landscape) format, and must be in color. Any subject is acceptable, but attractive scenes are typically selected. Photos of a specific religious group should not be submitted. If recognizable persons appear in a submitted photo, *a photo release must be included* with your submission.

Annual Pizza — Awards Party

Monday, June 6, 2011 • 6 pm • duPont Pavilion, Cokesbury

Menu: Salads • Pizza • Dessert • Soda and Wine

Please reserve _____ places for the Pizza party.

Names (including guests)

Enclosed is my check for \$10 per person. Amount enclosed _____.

Check pizza choice: Cheese Veggie Meat

Please make checks payable to DPS and mail to Carole Clarke, 10 Highpoint Drive, Thornton, PA 19373 by June 3. For more information, contact Carole at 610.358.5191 or cnclarke@aol.com

Constitution and Bylaws Special Vote

The DPS Constitution Committee was charged with updating the Constitution and Bylaws. This has been achieved, and both documents have been unanimously approved by voting members of the DPS Board. Since there are some proposed revisions in the Constitution, it must also be approved by a vote of the general membership. The vote will take place at the Awards Party on June 6.

Copies of both documents are available for review on the DPS Web site under Information.

This overhaul is past due, as there are many outdated titles and shifted responsibilities. The proposed changes are needed to bring the Bylaws up-to-date in keeping with actual practice. The most important change is the creation of a new elected officer, that of Information Technology (IT) Director. This position is designed to supervise the many sophisticated computerized functions throughout

our Society and to provide highly experienced, professional guidance. The committee members feel that this will provide better coordination of activities in our ever increasing computerization.

Following the vote of approval on June 6, there will be an extraordinary election to fill the newly created IT Director position. The nominating committee recommends that this position be filled by John Davis. He is highly qualified with many years of experience in this field at DuPont and has graciously offered to lend his considerable expertise by serving the DPS in this capacity.

Bob Coffey, Constitution Chair
Lynn Maniscalco
Jeff Smith

Jeff Smith, Nominating Chair
John Hamilton
Bob Coffey

Member News

- **Jeff Smith** will hold a solo show, *Ordinary People*, monochrome silver gelatin prints, at Cucina di Napoli Restaurant, 76 E. Main Street, Newark, DE, May through July.

- **Tom Tauber** was a runner-up in the *Chasing the Light Macro Photography* contest, "Small Things Matter".



The Delaware Photographic Society lost two devoted members in April, Mike Kaplit and Joe Bernofsky. Both will be greatly missed by their many friends in the Society. The DPS sends its deepest condolences to their families and friends.

Mike died suddenly on April 10 of heart failure. He loved making panoramic prints and was delighted to exhibit them as part of the April, First Friday Art Loop.

Joe passed away on April 22. He will be remembered for his stunning flower photographs and ever-present smile.

Upcoming Exhibits

GALLERY 919 MARKET



In celebration of the 80th anniversary of the DPS, our members will exhibit at Gallery 919 Market St., Wilmington, through May 27. You are cordially invited to the May 6, Opening Reception in conjunction with the First Friday Art

Loop from 4:30 to 8pm. Gallery 919 Market is located between Rodney Square and the Grand Opera House.



For orders placed by DPS members, American Frame Co. rebates 5 % of all framing materials back to the Society. Members have done business with AFC for over 25 years and rate their quality, selection, pricing and service as consistently excellent.

Go to www.Americanframe.com or call 800. 537.0944 to request a catalog. Please provide reference number **P 163** when ordering so the Society will receive credit for the purchase and be awarded the rebate.

Longwood
Gardens,

Sound, at Longwood Gardens

This year, Delaware Photographic Society members will have two opportunities to exhibit their photographs at Longwood Gardens. We are asked to interpret the 2011 Longwood theme, "Sound", through our photography.

Summer exhibit, June 1—September 9, should reflect summer-related sounds, such as fountains, babbling brooks, and wind through trees. The juried exhibit will be on display in the Longwood Visitors Center. Entries must be submitted on or before the Monday, May 16, meeting. You may make arrangements for delivery beforehand to an exhibit committee member. Please refer to exhibit rules and contacts below.

Fall exhibit, September 13—October 25, will be based on *Essence of Fall in the Brandywine Valley*, such as color, landscapes, and architecture. The Fall exhibit will hang in the Conservatory Gallery. Entries should be submitted by August 29.

Longwood exhibit rules:

1. Entrants may enter up to 8 photographs
2. Image area —12"x16" horizontal or vertical
3. Mounted and matted with **white** mat-board to 16"x20" (The club's 16"x20" frames will be used for a coordinated look.)

Contacts:

Bob Coffey — bobcoffey@aol.com

Karl Leck — karleck@verizon.net

Jane Strobach — jstrobach@yahoo.com

Jeff Smith — jasmix@comcast.net

Photo Ops

May 14-15 **Revolutionary War Battle and Camp**



Minuteman by Bob Coffey

Colonial Pennsylvania Plantation, Ridley Creek State Park, Media, PA 19063; Reenactments 1pm and 4pm, Sat., and 2pm, Sun. Skirmishes, hearth cooking, American and Loyalist hospitals, musket ball making, basket weaving, and cannon demonstrations, Learn about how a local farm dealt with the turbulent times of 1778; Fee;

Additional information: 610.566.1725. www.colonialplantation.org or

May 13-14 Aberdeen Dad Vail Regatta, Aberdeen, MD. For details, go to www.dadvail.org.

May 20-22 Wilmington 2011 Grand Prix, US National Cycling event and street festival, Kick-off party, May 20, 5pm, 500 block Market Street; opening ceremonies, 10am, May 21. For full details including entertainment schedule, and event timetable: www.wilmgrandprix.com.

May 21 A Day in Old New Castle 10am-5pm; Oldest home and Garden tour in US. Step back in time when New Castle was the capital of the Colony of Delaware. Fee; For details, www.dionc.immanuelepiscopal.com.

Want to Learn More About PSA???

If you are a PSA member or have an interest in learning more about PSA, mark your calendars now for a meeting on **June 13** at 7:30 in the regular Cokesbury meeting room.

The breakout sessions will include personal image evaluation, information on exhibitions and star ratings, and an introduction to the various learning activities offered with membership. For less than the cost of many one-day workshops offered elsewhere, PSA members get a year of participation and 12 monthly magazines.



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.