

# INFOCUS

NOVEMBER

The Newsletter & Annual Catalogue of The Indian River Photo Club



**“First In” for the last of the Monthly Competitions, were two great photographs.....**



**T**o encourage our club members, who are acknowledged with an award each month, to send their photographs to us in a timely way for inclusion in the Newsletter, we like to feature them on the front page (First In). This has proved to be very successful this year and made the collection of photographs much easier for us.

Again this month we managed to receive all thirteen photographs within a matter of days, and some were here within minutes of the meeting’s end! Thank you “makers”, it is much appreciated.

This past award presentation was an “open” category and the judging was done by our own members. To many of us that means a lot, to be judged by one’s own peers, and then to be recognized with an award.

The sailing scene (above) by Linda Leonard received an Honorable Mention in Class A. It is a powerful photograph that is gripping and longing to tell the viewer a story. Full of both movement and great stature with an outstanding depth it poses many questions of the viewer. Rather like a photo study of waves crashing on the shore that one views, but then one is constantly waiting for the waves to actually come pounding ashore. In this photograph the viewer is waiting for the yacht to momentarily change tack. One’s eyes are focused on that tilting mast and sail, and then towards the almost toy-like sky scrappers which actually dwarf the sail boat!

Stillness with contemplation of both the present and past are the reflections so beautifully captured in the second photograph taken by Stefania Wright-Osment and awarded the First Place ribbon in class A. Taken very early on a very “colder-than-cold” morning at the Vietnam War Memorial in Washington D.C., this photograph narrates an historical story of this nations poignant past. It is void of the human element but expresses the human involvement in conflict, as if actually looking into and seeing the past and all its tribulations. The photograph’s perspective is quite infinite, towards an unknown beyond that awaits us all. One weeps inwardly for those whom this outstanding photograph represents.

We have enjoyed many great photographs at our monthly meetings during this past year. On December 2nd. we shall have a chance to view many of these again whilst conversing with fellow club members and their guests, enjoying some tasty refreshments, and contemplating which photograph will achieve the coveted “Best Picture of The Year” award.

The editors wish you a happy Thanksgiving and especially wish Ethel and George Bachmann an enjoyable and special commemorative holiday. We miss you!

Please plan on joining us at our special year end meeting.

Happy Thanksgiving everyone



Please consider the environment before printing out this newsletter



# Our President's Snapshot

Nov. 22, 2010

This past Saturday I invested 14hrs into teaching Photography merit badge to two classes full of young Boy Scouts. This is my third year of doing so and as I drove 70 miles back to my home I reflected on the many things I have to teach to meet the requirements for the merit badge.

**Requirement 1.** is: Explain how the following elements and terms affect the quality of a picture.

- a) Light - natural light/ambient, flash;
- b) Exposure - aperture (f-stop), shutter speed, depth of field;
- c) Composition - rules of third, leading lines, framing, depth;
- d) angle of view
- e) stopping the action.

I spent the most amount of time on requirement 1 as these are the some of the most important things that we all need to know.

In January I will be presenting the program for our Club meeting on requirement 1b. - Composition and although this won't qualify you for a Photography merit badge, hopefully it will enlighten you as to some of the basic elements that go into making a great photo.

This has been a great year for the club, we have had some great bus trips including our trip to the Miami Zoo on Nov. 13th. We had a lot of newer members on the trip, the weather was very nice and the animals put on quite a show. One trainer shared at how amazed they were about their elephants who were unusually playful. Member Ed Link burned up a lot of memory capturing the elephants.

Many members took advantage of the free sensor cleaning on the way down. So I am hopeful that in the future we will see many more members attending these great trips.

Speaking of the future. I would like to thank Hal duPont for gathering up a great slate of candidates for our upcoming election at the December meeting. On the slate this year are: George Bollis, Dave Garrett, Hazel Lacks, Keith Wright-Osment, Mike Ricciardi, Jim Riley, Boris Robinson, Richard Thomson and JR Williams. I know each one of these members and they all are passionate about photography and fully of great ideas.

Please make sure you have RSVPed that you are coming to the December meeting and put in your vote for the new Directors of the photo club. Another very important reminder is that your 2011 membership fees are due now and you can renew your membership online at our website, [www.irphotoclub.org](http://www.irphotoclub.org) using a credit/debit card or paypal account if you have one. You can also pay at the meeting. Dues for 2011 are \$20.00 for a single membership and \$30 for a family membership, please take the time now to renew your membership.

I

In closing I have enjoyed being your President this year which is one of several hats I wear in the club. In 2011 we will have a new board and I will be still very active in many other areas of the club. Remember this is your club and the few fellow club members who volunteer their time to the running of your club are always looking for other members who are willing to help out.

I would like to thank the current directors: Mike Ricciardi, Bill Menzies, Curtis Jensen, and Hazel Lacks for all of the time they have put in this year. In addition to them, thanks to Keith Wright-Osment and Boris Robinson for the wonderful newsletters, Dave Garrett, Nancy Seabol, Bob Randal, Richard Thomson, Susan Webb and a whole host of others who have served in many different capacities.

Remember to have fun over the Christmas season. Go out and create some great photos.

Happy Trails,

Pat Rice - [president@irphotoclub.org](mailto:president@irphotoclub.org)

Akisha, what do you think of this amazing photo?

It is amazing Annie, yes, but it looks photoshopped.



## Photoshop – A Dirty Word

The “photoshopped” comment is something most of us have heard, or even thought or said ourselves. Professional Bird Photographer Ron Bielefeld’s images occasionally illicit the response of “that image was photoshopped” from other photographers. Ron has talent, and after 20 years of pointing a very large lens at 4 inch long birds zipping by at 35 miles per hour, his skills have honed far beyond most of us. His images reflect his capture.



By Dr. Len S. Hood

To have captured an image that is so perfect it requires no photoshopping is a wonderful achievement. But, if you think about it, there are limited venues that permit such photography. To some photographers, the value or worth of the image comes from its good capture and lack of post manipulation. To others, the final image is what is most important. The question then is: Is worth measured by the process or the final image?

The answer to the question has a lot to do with what you plan to do with your images. If they are for presentation in a photo club with rules against manipulation, then you have to place more worth on the capture and you get what you get. Although this may seem artistically limiting, there can be satisfaction in manipulating the environment and capture process so as to take an image that portrays the scene that was in your imagination. Manipulation includes moving bad or distracting elements, moving yourself and camera’s perspective, and depth of field to further hone in on your subject.

If your photos are for your own artistic creation, then you must know that there are no rules. You are more free to say or express something through your photos. In many ways, this freedom is more difficult than when your creativity is placed in a small box. It requires more thought about the end result, and it requires studying the tools to achieve the result.

Ansel Adams often took several photos of the same scene with different exposures. The negatives were then manipulated and combined so as to allow a much greater dynamic range than would have otherwise been possible. In his day, chemicals and black inks were used. Today with digital capture, we use Photoshop. The result is the same – you imagine an image and you do what you must to make it real.

Photography can be no less an artful process than painting can be. A painter starts with a blank canvas and adds the elements she wants. A painter controls the way your eye moves through the image so you can ultimately experience what was in her imagination.

Photography is the opposite. We start with an image often full of distracting elements. The distractions take the viewer’s eye away from the path intended, from the feeling or message that the photographer saw and tried to capture. The post-capture manipulation of the image in Photoshop, or whatever digital darkroom tool you use, serves to refine the image to what your imagination intended. Painters and photographers may begin at opposite ends, but with skill they can arrive at the same place.

Take time to learn your available tools and expand your imagination and photographic possibilities. Photoshop doesn’t need to be a bad word, but it does need to be done well.

# The President & Executive Committee of the Indian River Photo Club

Cordially extends an invitation to you

to attend

The Club's Annual

Best Photograph of the Year Awards Judging and Reception

on December 2nd 2010

The Vero Beach Community Center

Commencing at six thirty in the evening

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## OCTOBER 28 AWARD WINNERS

People's Choice Voting

### **CLASS A:** (39 photos)

1 <sup>ST</sup>	Stefania Wright-Osment	War's Reflection
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Tom Smoyer	Palenque Women
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Barbara du Pont	Three's a Crowd
HM	Barbara du Pont	From Up High
HM	Jemal Hayes	Album Coming Soon
HM	Linda Leonard	City Sailing

### **CLASS B:** (23 photos)

1 <sup>st</sup>	Bob Nece	Butterfly Beautiful
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Susan Stinke	Serene Reflections
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Arlene Willnow	Reflections on a Lily Pond
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Susan Ridlon	Tiger
HM	Susan King	Fog on the Farm
HM	Sarah Kappel	Apache Territory
HM	Billy Ocker	Bikily on the Beach

# Peoples Choice Awards Selection October 2010



"Palenque Woman"  
By Tom Smoyer  
Second Place Class A



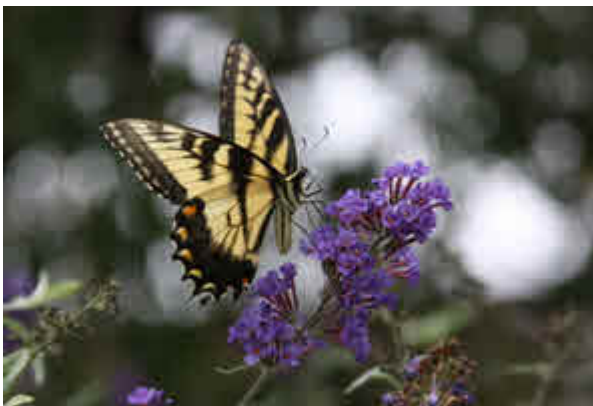
"Three's a Crowd"  
By Barbara duPont  
Third Place Class A



"Album Coming Soon"  
By Jemal Hayes  
Honorable Mention Class A



"From Up On High"  
By Barbara duPont  
Honorable mention, Class A



"Butterfly Beautiful"  
By Bob Nece  
First Place Class B



"Serene Reflections"  
By Susan Steinke  
Second Place Class B

# Peoples Choice Awards Selection October 2010



Reflections on a Lilly Pond"  
By Arlene Wilnow  
Second Place, Class B



"Fog on The Farm"  
By Susan King  
Honorable Mention Class B



"Tiger"  
By Susan Ridlon  
Third Place Class B



"Biking on the Beach"  
By Billy Ocker  
Honorable Mention Class B



"Apache Territory"  
By Sarah Kappel  
Honorable Mention Class B



# INDIAN RIVER PHOTO CLUB 2011 PHOTOGRAPHIC PRINT EXHIBIT

## ATTEND TO IT NOW

ENTER YOUR BEST PICTURES

The Indian River Photo Club ([www.irphotoclub.org](http://www.irphotoclub.org)) announces its 2011 Photographic Print Exhibit, to be displayed in the Studio Gallery at the Vero Beach Museum of Art, from December 4 to January 2, 2011. Entry is open to anyone residing in Indian River, Brevard or St. Lucie County, amateur or professional, and to any member of the Indian River Photo Club, regardless of residence address. Because of space limitations in the Studio Gallery, this will be a juried exhibit. Rules for the exhibit follow:

### EXHIBIT DATES

December 4 through January 2, 2011

### INTAKE DATE

November 29 – Monday, 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM, at the Vero Beach Museum of Art

### ELIGIBILITY

All members of the Indian River Photo Club and any non-member residing in Indian River, Brevard or St. Lucie County, professional or amateur

### PRINT CATEGORIES

**PEOPLE** - Posed or candid, portraits or groups

**NATURE** - **Flora**- Flowers, plants, etc.

**Fauna**- Animals, birds, etc.

As noted above, Nature is split into two categories. Evidence of human influence will be allowed, but the subject should be primarily natural.

**STILL LIFE** - Arrangements, natural or man-made, of inanimate objects

**SCAPES** - Landscapes, seascapes, cityscapes

**SPECIAL TECHNIQUE** - Out of the ordinary techniques, digitally altered images of any subject.\*

**OPEN** - Abstracts and images that don't fit the other categories.

\* The Special Technique category applies to both film and digital images. It shall include any image that has been substantially altered from its original form using digital image editing techniques. Substantial alteration includes such actions as: printing with multiple layers, adding, removing or rearranging elements of the picture, use of digital filters that alter the texture of the image, color substitution, etc.. Images that incorporate double exposure, time lapse, hand tinting, etc., should be entered in this category.

Special Techniques **does not include** normal imaging processing by digital means, such as cropping, dodging, burning, or contrast or density control. Photographs that are captured with a digital camera or film images that have been printed using a computer and printer are not considered differently than film images that may have been processed in conventional darkroom techniques, unless they have been substantially altered as described above.

## **ENTRIES**

- Prints must have been made in 2008 to 2010.
- Prints may have been made from an earlier image.
- The Photographer's name should not be displayed on the front of their picture.
- Pictures must be the work of the entering photographer, except that a photographer may enter prints made, mounted or framed by another person, from the entering photographer's image.
- Traditional prints must be framed, under glass and **wired for hanging**. No sawtooth hangers will be accepted. The only exception to this is if a photo is printed on canvas, it is not required to be under glass. When printed on canvas, a "gallery wrap" format is acceptable. Gallery wraps must still be wired for hanging.
- Minimum photo size – 8" x 10"
- Maximum picture size – 30"x 30" frame dimensions
- The original image of a Special Technique or digitally altered submission must be affixed to the back of the submitted photograph.
- Pictures must be marked on the back as follows:

Photographer's name and phone number  
Title  
Entry category

Pictures selected for the Exhibit may not be removed before January 2nd, and must be picked up between 10:00 AM and 3:00 PM on Monday, January 3rd. If your entry(s) were not accepted, you will be contacted Nov. 29th after 4:00 p.m. or Nov.30th.

## **ENTRY FEES**

\$10.00 per print. Indian River Photo Club members get one free entry.  
Limit of three (3) total entries by an individual.  
No refund for entries, whether juried in or out.  
Entry forms will be available at intake on November 29th.

**JUDGING** - Entries to be displayed will be selected by a three-person jury.  
Judging for awards by the same jury.

**AWARDS** - Ribbons will be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in each category. Prize winning photographs will be published in Vero Beach Magazine. Press release to local newspapers.

Questions about the exhibit should be addressed to Mike Ricciardi (772) 231-2727 or Hazel Lacks (772) 569-5186 or email: [irphotoclub@gmail.com](mailto:irphotoclub@gmail.com)

## How to Improve Dark Photos with your Photo Program

Over the years some of you must have taken plenty of photos that have been less than perfect. In this tutorial, we'll show you one way to improve a dark image. Not necessarily make a perfect picture! The difference from the first shot to the last is noticeable and only took about 5 minutes to do. Keep trying and experimenting and find what works for you.



Here's a picture of a Parakeet, although you can't tell at the moment because it's too dark.



The first thing we did was add the **Curves** (Lighter) adjustment filter and put a mask around everything except the bird and the branch.



It looks a little washed-out now so we applied the **Color Balance** adjustment filter then increased green and red (the predominant colors in this picture).



Next, we added the **Hue/Saturation/Lightness** filter to increase the vibrancy of the colors. For this picture, increasing the **Saturation** for **Master**, **Reds**, and **Greens** worked well.



Finally, we applied a **Levels** adjustment filter and decreased the **White Input** to **240** to give a bit more substance to the color in the image.

Please Note:

The Editors thank the staff at Serif UK for assistance with this tutorial. The Editors have used Serif's outstanding programs for over 15 years and thank them for their generous help when ever it is needed.

**Miriam Barton**

“Circles”, Honorable Mention



**Barbara Bogart**

“Sittin’ Pretty”, First Place



**George Bollis,**

“Double Bee Bottoms”,  
Honorable Mention



“Cigarette Butt”  
Third Place

“Focal Pointers”  
Second Place

“Doll in a Drop”  
Third Place

“Girls and Gulls”  
Second Place



“Love on the Rocks”  
First Place Special Techniques



“Monkey Love”  
Second Place



“Old Soldier”  
Second Place



“Proboscis Circle”  
Second Place



George Bollis, continued

“Synchronized Swimming”

Third Place

“Redneck Bud Vase”

First Place

Mary Eester Bollis

“A Gentle Touch”

Third Place

Gail Cohen

“A Tender Moment”

First Place

“Very Bad Hair Day”

First Place

Jim Cohoe

“A Study in Textures”

First Place Special Techniques

“Mom”

First Place Special Techniques

“Rhythms”

Third Place

“Saturday Night”

First Place

“Cyclists Syndrome”

Honorable Mention



**Patricia Corapi**

“M & M’s”

Third Place Special Techniques

“Heron Heart”

Third Place Special Techniques

“Loggerhead Shrike”

First Place

“Ybor City”

First Place, Special Techniques

**Joe Deets**

“Decades End”

First Place

“Departed”

First Place Special Techniques

**Barbara duPont**

“A Vanishing Sight”

Third Place

“Simply Glamorous”

Honorable mention

“The Famous Boats of Scotland”

Second Place

“View from The Top”

Honorable Mention

“Three’s a Crowd”

Third Place



**Hal duPont**

“Inverary Castle”

Second Place

“Technicolor Beaks”

First Place

“Puffins on the Island of May”

Third Place

**Linda Elliot**

“No Napkins”

First Place

“Let Me Out - I’m Your Prince”

Honorable Mention

**George Engel**

“Yes I’m Cute”

Honorable mention

“Tiger Love”

Honorable Mention

**Earl Evans**

“May I Have This Dance”

First Place

“Party in the Captain’s Quarters”

Second Place

“Pigeons and Umbrellas”

First Place

“The Wheel”

Second Place Special Techniques



**Earl Evans, continued**

“Making Snow at Ski Beach”  
First Place



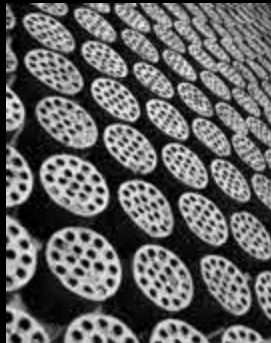
“Saved You a Seat”  
First Place



**David Garrett**  
“Water Lilies in Oil”  
Second Place Special Techniques



**Donna Green**  
“Charcoal Bricks”  
Third Place



“Gotta Tissue?”  
Second Place



“Kaleidoscope”  
Honorable Mention



**Jemal Hayes**  
“Alter Ego”  
Second Place Special Techniques

“Been There Done That”  
Third Place Special Techniques



“Believing”  
Second Place Special Techniques



“What”  
Second Place



“Album Coming Soon”  
Honorable Mention



**Judy Ivery**  
"Stick Marsh"  
Second Place



"Moment in Time"  
Honorable mention

**Curtis Jensen**  
"Falling"  
First Place



**Debra Kappel**  
"Immortality in Ancient Egypt"  
Third Place

"Love Birds"  
First Place



**Sarah Kappel**  
"Apache Territory"  
Honorable Mention

"Blowing Bubbles"  
First Place



"Quechee Gorge"  
Third Place

"Ramses II"  
Third Place



"We are in This Together"  
Third Place

**Susan King**

“Buckeye Butterfly Beauty Spots”  
Honorable Mention

“Fog on the Farm”  
Honorable Mention

“Gardening Support Group”  
Third Place

Reflection Inside Old Cupboard”  
Third Place

“Sunshine on a Stem”  
Second Place

**Casey Kio**

“Dust off Your Spurs & Cowboy Up”  
Second Place

**Hazel Lacks**

“A Pair”  
Second Place

“Hey! Lady”  
Second Place

“Where’s Mama?”  
Third Place

**Jennifer Lahman**

“Circles of Doom”  
Second Place

“In Loving Memory”  
Second Place



Jennifer Lahman, continued

“Once a Nole, Always a Nole”  
First Place Special Techniques

“The Thrill of it All”  
Second Place Special Techniques

“Space Balls”  
Second Place

Justin Lahman  
“Face by Nature”  
Third Place

Linda Leonard  
“A Friendly Face”  
First Place

“A Bahamian Fisherman”  
Third Place Special Techniques

“The Classic Pout”  
Honorable Mention

“Got Meat”  
First Place

“Focused”  
Honorable Mention

“City Sailing”  
Honorable Mention



**Edwin Link**

‘Mountain View Zion National Park’

Second Place



**Christine Martire**

“Shadow of Love”

Second Place

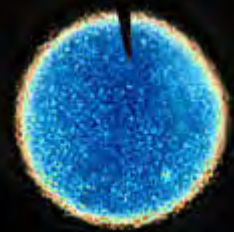


“Bee Happy”

Third Place Special Techniques

“Blood Cells Inside The Body”

First Place Special Techniques



“Seed Thief”

Honorable mention

“Do Not Pass on a Double Line”

Third Place



“Get Fish”

First Place Special Techniques

“Hay, Can You Help Me Please?”

First Place

“Our Independence Day 234 Years Ago”

First Place Special Techniques



“Poker Fasce”

Second Place

“Under a Mountain Lies a Gem, Ruby Falls”

Second Place



Cristien Martire, continued

“Wierded Our”

Second Place Special Techniques

“Double Your Chances”

Third Place



Jacob Martire

“Comkitty”

Second Place

Zachary Matire

“The Hang Over”

Third Place



“Early Morning at camp Woodruff”

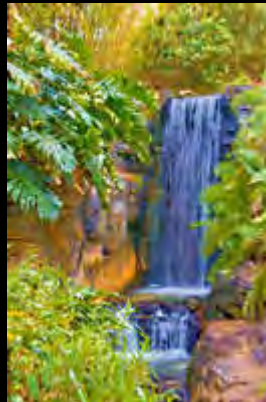
Honorable Mention



Celeste McWilliams

“Painted Falls”

Third Place Special Techniques



Bob Mitchel

“El Tepyac”

Second Place Special Techniques

“59 Gem”

Second Place



“Parto & Piecec”

Third Place

**Bob Mitchell, continued**

“Celebration”

Third Place Special Techniques

“Team Captain”

Second Place Special Techniques

**Mark Mittleman**

“Mauri Frown”

Honorable Mention

“What’s up There?”

Honorable Mention

**Bob Nece**

“Butterfly Beautiful”

First Place

**Barbara Negreira-Harrell**

“Pur-fect”

First Place

**Billy Ocker**

“Biking on the Beach”

Honorable Mention

**Tania Ortega-Cowan**

“Inside Joke”

Second Place

“Diva and Amos”

First Place

“Cuban Hombre”

First Place

“Oliver”

First Place



**Pamela Price**

“ DC Insiders”

Second Place

“Reflections on a Street”

First Place



**Larry Renert**

“Caged”

Second Place

“Inside Scoop”

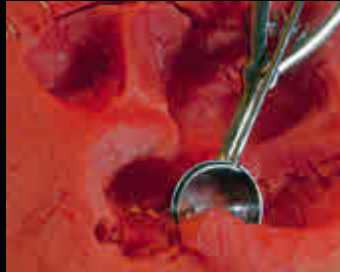
First Place

“Inside Destruction”

Third Place

“Reflections”

First Place



**Theresa Reynolds**

“Best of Summer”

Third Place

“Zwei Fly”

First Place Special Techniques

“Never Alone Even by Myself”

First Place



**Marie Riley**

“Turtles on a Log”

Second Place



**Mike Ricciardi**

“Deep Blue Companions”

Second Place

“Hold That Pose”

Honorable Mention

“Look who’s Inside”

First Place

“Things are Looking Up”

Second Place

“Stargazer”

Second Place

**Jim Riley**

“Flaming Wheel”

First Place Special Techniques

“Tequila Sunrise”

First Place

“Inside The Lighthouse”

Second Place

“Double Take”

First Place Special Techniques

“Chic Chihuahua Chick”

Second Place Special Techniques



**Susan Ridlon**

“Tiger”

Third Place



**Henry Scherrer**

“Double Deer”

Honorable Mention



**Donald Schuster**

“All in a Row”

First Place



“Casting at Sebastian Inlet”

Honorable Mention

**Nancy Seabol**

“Back Seat Barkers”

Honorable mention



“Let’s Paint”

Honorable Mention

**Ed Smith**

“In Bloom”

Third Place



“Sparse Shade x 2”

First Place

**Tom Smoyer**

“Palenque Women”

Second Place



**Roger Sobkowiak**

“I’ll Be Your Friend”  
Honorable Mention



“Marching in Circles”  
First Place

“Music Inside”  
Honorable Mention



“Front & Back Cheese Carriers”  
Second Place

“Sharing”  
Third Place



**Susan Steinke**

“Serene Reflections”  
Second Place



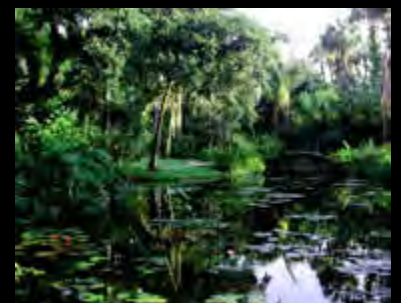
“Signs of the Times”  
Second Place



“Weathered and Worn”  
Second Place

**Carl Tanner**

“Nature’s Reflection”  
Honorable mention



**Jenifer Taylor**

“See No Evil, Hear No Evil, Speak No Evil”

Second Place

“Barking up the Wrong Tree”

First Place Special Techniques



**Richard Thomson**

“Harvey’s Grove”

Honorable Mention

“Bicycle at the Beach”

Honorable Mention



**John Troutman**

“To The Victor”

Second Place



**Nancy True**

“Reflections in the Pond”

First Place

“The Zipper”

Third Place



**Denise Tucci**

“Love American Style”

Honorable Mention

“Post-op Sally”

First Place



**Susan Webb**

“Making Music”

Third Place

**JR Williams**

“Doe in The Fog”

Second Place

“Happy, Happy, Joy, Joy”

Third Place

Love Song”

Honorable Mention

“Moon Over Vero”

First Place

“Roloids Please”

Honorable Mention

“Spring Has Sprung”

Third Place

**Arlene Wilnow**

“Reflection on a Lilly Pond”

Second Place

**Richard Woodard**

“Field of Pipe Dreams”

Third Place

“Lotus Seed Pot”

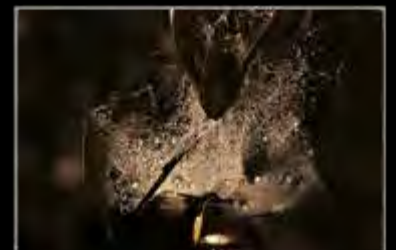
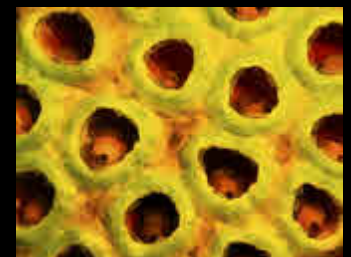
Second Place

“Pearls of Dew”

Third Place

“Morning Launch”

Third Place



**Keith Wright-Osment**

“Higher Education”

First Place Special Techniques

“Lonely”

Honorable Mention

“Oops Missed”

Third Place

“Second Tri”

Second Place

“Surgeon Inside”

Honorable mention

**Stefania Wright-Osment**

“The Hidden Me - Self Portrait”

Third Place

“Summer Lovin”

Third Place

“The Man from Gwent”

Honorable Mention

“War’s Reflections”

First Place

**Joleen Zubeck**

“Dual Dimensions”

Second Place

“Hallowed Ground”

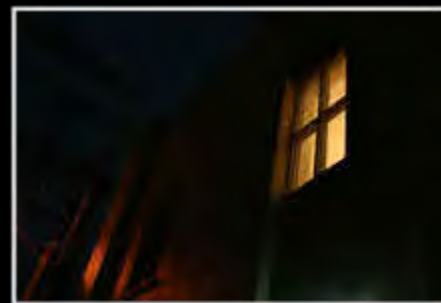
First Place



Joleen Zubeck, continued

“The Light Within”  
Honorable mention

“Young Love”  
Third Place



## Our Monthly Photo Themes for 2011

Now is a good time to take note of next year’s monthly award themes so that on your daily and longer travels you might be aware of what to look out for, and make that award winning photograph in plenty of time. It is never too early to place great photographs into your library.

January	Forgotten Things	July	Shadows
February	The Road Ahead	August	Motion
March	Open	September	Open
April	Diamonds	October	In Between
May	Emotions	November/December	Best Photo of The Year
June	Open		

### Something of Interest in our “*Bits and Pieces*” section.

Just recently the editor received a letter from a company referring to information that could only have been obtained from confidential communications between the editor and a guarded source. It meant that some where along the line the information had been re-directed without permission. This brought to mind an article published in a national newspaper which you might find of interest. A preçise of the article is below:

**W**hen you search for information online, you're not the only one who learns something. Microsoft retains data identifying your search—including the words and sites you searched for, and the time and date—for 18 months. Google keeps this data for nine months. In response to pressure from privacy advocates, Yahoo! dropped its data-retention time to 90 days.

Searches you make on line can be traced to you by **name** through your computer's IP address (the unique identifying number assigned to all computers to access the Web). As a result Internet search companies have a detailed profile of your personal interests and tastes. Experts worry that this private data could be misused and probably is already.

In 2006, America Online (AOL) shared the search records of 658,000 computer users, with academics for research purposes. Even though AOL tried to protect the identities of its users , some data were able to be linked back to specific individuals.

"What if every phone conversation you had was recorded and used to make decisions about you?" asks Paul Stephens of the Privacy Rights Clearinghouse, a consumer-advocacy organization. "Your online computer searches may provide information that's just as personal, such as illnesses you are researching or even persons you are communicating with."

"We as consumers have no control over how our most intimate data are used," says Marc Rotenberg, executive director of the Electronic Privacy Information Center.

Currently, there are no comprehensive laws that provide privacy protection for data submitted to or collected by search engines. If someone opened your snail mail and read it, no doubt, you would be very upset. Our great fondness for our social networking sites is not the best of ideas. You know the old saying, “Don’t wash your laundry in public”, and maybe that is just what we are doing without realizing it!