



InFocus

*Awards
March 8, 2012*

“Our New Judging System?”

On March 8th, the Indian River Photo Club moved another step forward in its mission to provide consistent educational help to all its members.

The club tried out, under meeting conditions, a method of assessing member's printed photographs by actually scoring each print submitted and giving the print a level of acceptance against other similarly printed photographs. Not just those on view on the easels, but also against a mind set of criteria held by each of the three judges who viewed and judged each print thoroughly and in detail.

As we all realize, any determination that a photograph has reached a certain standard is purely a subjective point of view by the viewer. A view that can be proffered in as many different ways as there are persons

viewing, and judging. Yes, in the end, all judgments are purely an individual subjective statement.

There are, however, some established criteria by which that photographic art might be assessed. It must be made clear that these criteria are not rules — they are only suggested guide lines that might indicate a level of acceptance by the viewer.

Each viewer is naturally a judge, and how the viewer perceives what is seen, is registered in a level of acceptance of the viewed piece.

This might ultimately dictate whether or not the picture is purchased, hung on a wall in our home or office, or utterances of derision are made.

The most used of the many criteria is the method of

Continued on page 2



Right
“Icy Shadows”
By Liesl Walsh
First Place
Monochrome
Class B



splitting an image into a set of thirds both vertically and horizontally. The major part of the image which is greatest in subject importance, then should find itself positioned on or near one of the intersecting lines that delineate the "thirds". This is known as the "rule of thirds".

On March 8th, the judges who had attended a series of training courses on the basics of this method of competition judging, assembled to judge and give their opinions on 63 photographs submitted by our members. They applied their training well.

The whole procedure went extremely smoothly and the resulting scores generated by the judging are included here in this special newsletter, together with photographs that received an award. Although the scores are presented in descending order it is important that the reader understands that the scores shown only indicate the opinions of three judges and are not meant to destroy anyone's pride for a particular picture submitted. The scores should be used, along with the comments made by the judges during the presentation, to help the photographer and those viewing the judging, to improve their artistic composition and photographic skills.

We invite the readers to review the award photographs and assess the scores given.

The writer would like to point out that the type of judging system that we have been trying out here in

Vero, is used by clubs and art associations all over the world. Often, when having photographs judged in Europe, the writer has had to swallow very hard and often accept some humiliating criticism from judges on his submissions. Talk about deflation of one's ego. But, and it is a very big but, each time, upon further personal review of the submitted photograph it has become quite clear that, indeed, the judge was right.

Your score is just another person's opinion

I could have done better or presented the photograph more skillfully. My photographs did not meet the standards that would have placed them at the level I had presumed they were at. Each time this has happened I have learnt how my photography can improve. Yes my ego has been hurt, but it's not where your score is positioned on the final category list but what you have learnt.

Your score is just another person's opinion given at one particular point in time, and we should humbly accept it as just such.

That is why, for several years, the newsletter has referred to our club monthly competition results as the "awards". It has always been felt that each month we never have any losers, as by exhibiting our skills to our peers and asking for their opinion about our shots, we are always improving our abilities not trying to beat or to "win". ***We always win.***

Through the Eye of the Camera

The Annual Juried Photography Show at the Backus Museum in Fort Pierce

Full details & Entry Forms will be e-mailed to you in the next few days.

Our Club Members, over the years, have achieved many awards at
This prestigious Annual Show.

Now is the ideal time to select your entries and get them framed.

Further details can be found on line





Indian River Photo Club Monthly Print Competition Meeting

by Susan King

March 8, 2012

This evening saw the first Monthly Awards Print Competition using the new judging system. It was held at our usual meeting location, the Community Center. Entries were received starting at 6:30 PM by smiling volunteers Anne Malsbary and Linda Leonard, supervised by Club Secretary Barbara DuPont. Our Club Treasurer Crystal Samuel was present to receive the \$1 entry fee for each photo, assisted by Patty Corapi.



Photo Club President Jim Riley started the meeting at 7:15 PM by introducing the judges for the competition: Kim Hunt, Brian Drinkwater, and George Bollis.

Roger Sobkowiak was responsible for photographing each entry as it was announced by number and title by Jim Riley and displayed on an easel by JR Williams. Audience members viewed each entry immediately projected on a screen. After viewing each entry the judges' scores were announced by Jim Riley then each judge critiqued the well-lit image displayed on the easel in front of them. The judges commented on composition, sharpness, contrast, saturation, title, printing, and any emotional impact of the images. Susan Webb did scoring calculations, assisted by Anne Malsbary.

At the end of each category the winning titles and photographers' names were announced. The prints from each category were placed on easels by Patty Corapi with the entry forms placed below. Placement ribbons were attached to the winning entries.

At the conclusion of the competition audience members strolled by the display tables to view and assess the entries.



Congratulations to all the Awardees!

Thank you to the judges and all hard-working volunteers assisting with the competition and setup!

Monthly Awards Competition Rules

The monthly photo contest will be held at a club meeting each month, except the meeting at which the Best Picture of the Year Contest is held. Only Indian River Photo Club members in good standing are eligible.

Contests are divided into two Classes:

Class “A” for accomplished photographers: any member who has won two or more awards in any prior Indian River Photo Club contest or exhibit.

Class “B” for beginners: Class B members will stay in Class B until they choose to move to Class A, or until the judging panel promotes them.

A panel of three member/judges will consider promoting any Class B member whose pictures have won first place in Class B more than twice.

All other members may choose their class, upon their first entry.

Entries

- Each entry must be appropriate to the published theme for the month and be in one of the following categories: Color Prints, Monochrome Prints, or Special Technique Prints*
- Prints must be at least 8”x 10“
- Prints should be matted.
- The maximum mat size is 16’ x 20” and either colored black or white only.
- Each entry must have a FULLY completed left half of the entry form attached to the back of the print or mat. The right hand half of the entry form must be handed in to the cashier with the payment for the entry.
- The identity of the photographer should not be visible on the face of the picture or mat
- ***Special Technique** submissions must have the original image/images affixed to the back of the submitted photograph.
- Pictures must be the work of the entering photographer
- Pictures must have been made within the past two years, and must not have won an earlier award in any contest or exhibit, anywhere
- Each member may submit only one entry per category, a maximum of three. All entries must be in the same Class.

***The Special Technique** category includes out of the ordinary techniques and digitally altered images of any subject. It 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.

Photographs using substantial alteration including such actions as: printing with multiple layers, adding, removing or rearranging elements of the picture, use of digital filters that alter the exposure, time lapse, as well as hand tinting, etc., should be entered in this category.

It does not include normal imaging processing by digital means, such as cropping, dodging, burning, or contrast or density control. Photographs that have been 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 using conventional darkroom techniques, unless they have been substantially altered as described above.

Indian River Photo Club Print Competition - Entry



Tape **this half** to the **back** of your print - TOP CENTER

Class _____ Date _____

Category _____

Entry Title _____

Photographer _____

Total Score

Placement

Submit this half to the **Competition Committee**

Class _____ Date _____

Category _____

Entry Title _____

Photographer's name - please PRINT _____

E-mail address Required _____

Scores

Placement

---Please fold and tear into two parts

---Please fold and cut/tear

Indian River Photo Club Print Competition - Entry



Tape **this half** to the **back** of your print - TOP CENTER

Class _____ Date _____

Category _____

Entry Title _____

Photographer _____

Total Score

Placement

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Class _____ Date _____

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Photographer's name - please PRINT _____

E-mail address Required _____

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Placement

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Tape **this half** to the **back** of your print - TOP CENTER

Class _____ Date _____

Category _____

Entry Title _____

Photographer _____

Total Score

Placement

Submit this half to the **Competition Committee**

Class _____ Date _____

Category _____

Entry Title _____

Photographer's name - please PRINT _____

E-mail address Required _____

Scores

Placement

---Please fold and tear into two parts

Awards Results and Scores for March 8th 2012

Class	Category	Score	Total	Ribbon	Photographer	Title
A	Color	6-9-7	22	1st	Susan Webb	Predator
A	Color	7-7-7	21	2nd	Richard Thompson	Balls
A	Color	6-9-6	21	3rd	Mary Lou Christy	Hooded Amsterdam
A	Color	5-8-7	20	HM	Ed Link	Reflection
A	Color	6-7-7	20		Maria Heffernan	For My Home
A	Color	5-7-8	20		Barbara du Pont	A Foxy Lady
A	Color	5-7-7	19		Mike Ricciardi	Ugly
A	Color	6-5-7	18		Linda Leonard	African Queen
A	Color	5-6-7	18		Patty Corapi	Dinner
A	Color	6-5-6	17		Donna Green	Structural Designs
A	Color	7-4-6	17		Dave Garrett	Re-enactor
A	Color	6-5-6	17		Billy Ocker	Fawntastic
A	Color	5-7-5	17		Shelley Stang	Purple Lily
A	Color	6-5-5	16		Arlene Willnow	Great Blue
A	Color	5-5-6	16		John Waite	alligator Love
A	Color	5-5-5	15		Larry Renwert	At The Fair
A	Color	5-4-6	15		JR Williams	Roseate Spoonbill chick
A	Color	6-3-5	14		Roger T Sobkowiak	One More Chair



"Predator"

By Susan Webb

First Place Color Class A

The Photographer's notes:

The White-tailed sea eagle, a very large bird of prey, sits on the pack ice off the coast of Rausu, Hokkaido, Japan. Lens 70-200mm



"Apocatastasis"

By Jeff Berger

Honorable Mention Special Techniques

Class A

Awards Results and Scores for March 8th 2012 continued

Class	Category	Score	Total	Ribbon	Photographer	Title
A	Mono	5-9-7	21	1st	Susan Webb	Spiraling Downward
A	Mono	6-8-6	20	2nd	Mary Lou Christy	Whitney in A Bonnet
A	Mono	6-8-6	20	3rd	Carolyn Shafer	Circles of Confusion
A	Mono	8-6-6	20	HM	Barbara du Pont	On the Run
A	Mono	7-7-6	20		JR Williams	Black Buzzard
A	Mono	5-6-7	18		David Garrett	The Look
A	Mono	6-7-5	18		Billy Ocker	Pouring Diesel
A	Mono	5-7-6	18		Roger T Sobkowiak	Cleansing Ceremony
A	Mono	5-7-5	17		Jim Riley	Father Time Sand Castle
A	Mono	4-7-6	17		Donna Green	Weathered Façade
A	Mono	6-5-5	16		Larry Rewert	Looking Up
A	Mono	5-7-4	16		Shelley Stang	White Lily
A	Mono	5-6-4	15		Patty Corapi	King Claw
A	Mono	4-3-5	12		Richard Thompson	War
A	Mono	5-3-4	12		Arlene Willnow	Water Wheel



"Spiraling Down"

By Susan Webb

First Place Monochrome Class A

The photographers notes:

The Vatican Museum stairway is one of the most photographed spiral stairways in the world. Lens 17-40mm



"Whitney in a Bonnet"

By Mary Lou Christy

Second Place, Monochrome Class A

The photographers notes:

This shot was of my God child, one of my best models! It was taken late afternoon with a 70-200 Nikon lens, F/2.8, 1/80s, ISO 100, with a reflector off to the side.

Awards Results and Scores for March 8th 2012 continued

Class	Category	Score	Total	Ribbon	Photographer	Title
A	Spec Tech	7-9-7	23	1st	David Garrett	Chaos
A	Spec Tech	7-8-6	21	2nd	Barbara du Pont	Pansy's Hands
A	Spec Tech	7-7-6	20	3rd	Billy Ocker	Photo Finish
A	Spec Tech	6-6-7	19	HM	Jeff Berger	Apocatastasis
A	Spec Tech	6-4-6	16		Linda Leonard	Live Simply
A	Spec Tech	5-4-6	15		Richard Thompson	Ski's
A	Spec Tech	5-5-4	14		Patty Corapi	Gull
A	Spec Tech	5-3-5	13		Larry Rewert	Peace Through Strength
A	Spec Tech	4-4-4	12		Arlene Willnow	Time Stands Still



"Hooded Amsterdam"

By Mary Lou Christy

Third Place Color Class A

The photographers notes:

This is called "Hooded Amsterdam" and the shot was taken of a car hood with a reflection of the old Amsterdam buildings, parked next to a canal in Amsterdam. It was the late afternoon light on the canal, probably an hour before sunset. F/18, 1/13 s, ISO 200.



"On The Run"

By Barbara du Pont

Honorable Mention Monotone

Class A



"Pansy's Hands"

By Barbara du Pont

Second Place Special Techniques

Class A



"Chaos"

By David Garrett

First Place

Special Techniques

Class A

Photographer's Notes:

This was managed in PhotoShop CS4 with Efex Pro and Topaz for further adjustments.

Awards Results and Scores for March 8th 2012 *continued*

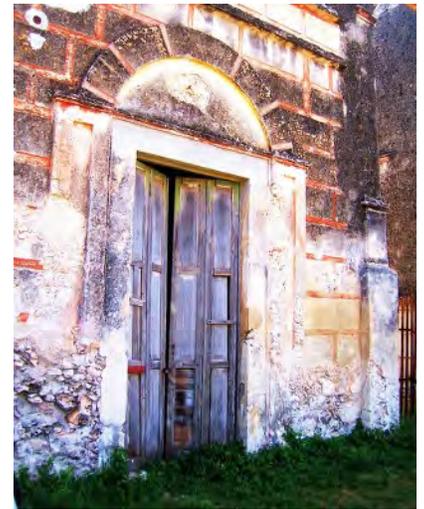
Class	Category	Score	total	Ribbon	Photographer	Title
B	Color	5 9 7	21	1st	Chad Ward	Rainbow Rock
B	Color	5 7 8	20	2nd	Don schuster	Anticipation
B	Color	5 6 7	17	3rd	Liesl Walsh	Hacienda Ruins
B	Color	5 5 6	16	HM	Joe Denny	Pelican
B	Color	4 6 5	15		Hazel Lacks	Looking for Love
B	Color	4 6 5	15		Christina Wassi	Pucker Up
B	Color	4 5 6	15		Karen Schuster	Blowing Bubbles
B	Color	4 5 5	14		Dave Farrier	Resting Place
B	Color	3 4 7	14		Darlene Miller	Blue Bird
B	Color	4 4 6	14		Lee Benson	Blue Gray Gnatcatcher
B	Color	3 4 4	11		Melissa Leshner	Mirror Reflection



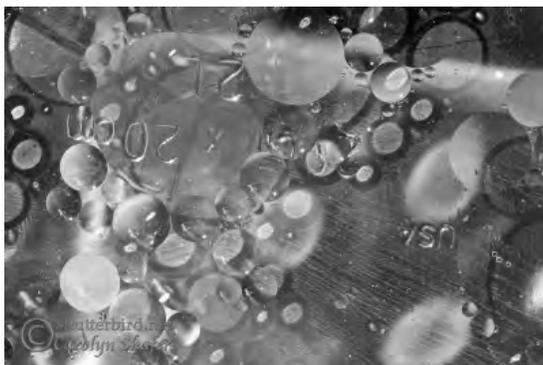
"Rainbow Rock"
By Chad Ward
First Place Color Class B

Photographer's Notes:

I took this photo at the House of Refuge Museum. As I was driving up it began to sprinkle and there appeared a small rainbow as you can see in the sky. I threw down my tripod with my camera, lined up the composition and took this photo. After that the rainbow was gone.



"Hacienda Ruins"
By Liesl Walsh
Third Place Color
Class B



"Circles of Confusion"
By Carolyn Shafer
Third Place Monochrome Class A



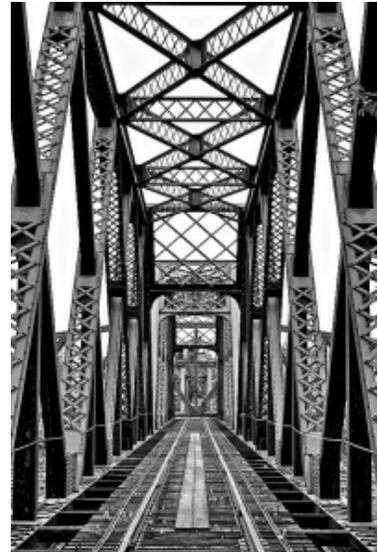
"Photo Finish"
By Billy Ocker
Third Place Special Techniques
Class A

Awards Results and Scores for March 8th 2012 continued

Class	Category	Score	Total	Ribbon	Photographer	Title
B	Mono	6 8 7	21	1st	Liesl Walsh	Icy Shadows
B	Mono	6 7 8	21	2nd	Dave Ferrier	Trestle Geometry
B	Mono	5 7 7	19	3rd	Hazel Lacks	Pow Wow Nobility
B	Mono	6 7 5	18	HM	Karen Schuster	Simple Beauty
B	Mono	5 7 5	17		Marie Riley	Savannah Cemetery
B	Mono	4 5 6	15		Melissa Leshar	Night Time Beauty
B	Mono	4 3 8	15		Chad Ward	Dead Mangrove



"Icy Shadows"
 By Liesl Walsh
 First Place
 Monochrome
 Class B



"Trestle Geometry"
 By David Ferrier
 Second Place Monochrome
 Class B

Photographer's Notes:

This is the view from my front yard in Pennsylvania looking across the street to a dairy farm. You can see the silos and dairy store in the distance where I used to buy bottled milk. There was a thick layer of ice on the lawn. I like how the photo captures the ice texture, tree shadows, and the sun's rays.

Photographer's notes:

Originally edited in Aperture and then with Siverfex Pro 2. Taken with a Nikon D 700 and N kor 35-70mm lens
 Bridge is near Middleton Ct.



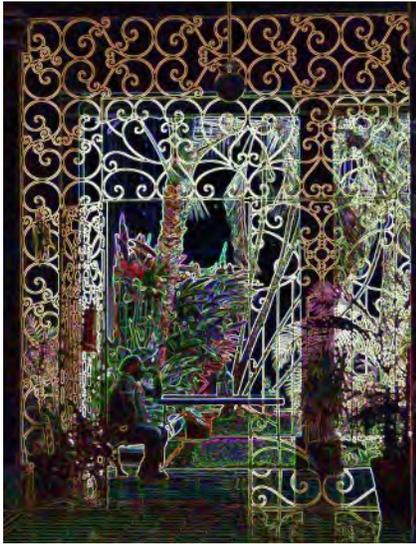
"Pow Wow Nobility"
 By Hazel Lacks
 Third Place Monochrome Class B

Right
 "Reflection"
 By Ed Link
 Honorable Mention
 Class A Color



Awards Results and Scores for March 8th 2012 continued

Class	Category	Score	total	Ribbon	Photographer	Title
B	Spec tech	598	22	1st	Chad Ward	Sunrise at Ft Pierce
B	Spec tech	776	20	2nd	Liesl Walsh	The Thinker
B	Spec tech	456	15	3rd	Melissa Lesher	Flower Solar Flair



"The Thinker"
 By Liesl Walsh
 Second Place
 Special Techniques
 Class b

Photographer's Notes:

I took this photo when I was walking down a street in Merida, Mexico, and looked inside an old building with beautifully detailed iron gates that opened into a courtyard. I used a glowing edges filter to make the detail of the iron gates stand out.



"Sunrise at Fort Pierce"
 By Chad Ward
 First Place Special Techniques
 Class B

Photographer's Notes

This photo was taken in downtown Fort Pierce. It is two exposures blended together



"Flower Solar Flair"
 By Melissa Lesher
 Third Place Special Techniques Class B



"Simple Beauty"
 By Karen Schuster
 Honorable Mention Monochrome
 Class B

Awards Results and Scores for March 8th 2012 *continued*



"Anticipation"
By Don Schuster
Second Place Color Class B



"Pelican"
By Joe Denny
Honorable Mention Class B Color

Monthly Awards Competition Rules *continued from page 3*

Judging & Awards

A panel of several judges, as available, will critique and judge the entries at each monthly contest. The panel will be drawn from members and from non-member resources.

Judges will comment aloud on each picture after it is judged, as to photographic techniques and recommendations. Selection of winners will be determined by the judges, and will be announced at the end of the contest. First, second, and third places shall be awarded in each Class and Category of competition. Honorable Mention will be awarded only if warranted. All entries will be scored and the scores will be published in the newsletter.

Members will be required to refrain from commenting during the contest, but are encouraged to applaud upon presentation of the award.

Procedures

An entry form listing the photographer's name, class, category, and picture title must accompany each entry. The entry form must not be removed from the venue by the contestant, or handled by viewers. All prints accompanied by an entry form must be presented to the judge's table no later than 6:45 PM on the night of the contest.

To the extent possible, prints will be displayed on easels for member viewing before and after the contest. Photographers will only pick up their entries at the end of the judging session.

All awardees are required to submit a jpg image of their print, by e-mail, to the Newsletter within 5 days of the competition day. The image size should not be larger than 1025 pixels on its longest edge and be 300 pixels/inch in resolution. The e-mail should contain the "award" picture title used for the photograph, and details of the award received including the *awardee's* name. The photograph should be attached not embedded in the e-mail. Other interesting comments by the maker are encouraged.



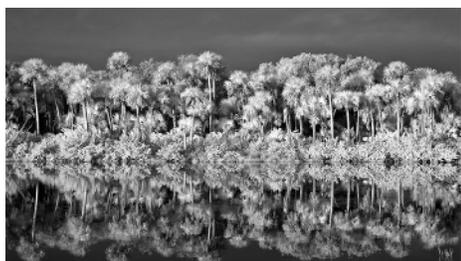
With Deborah Sandidge

We are privileged to have our next meeting on March 22nd devoted entirely to Deborah.

A world renowned photographer. The whole evening will be given to her program on infra red photography and **there will not be any awards competition.** We can then devote all the time to this excellent speaker and give our members time to interact with her.

Photography has been part of award-winning professional photographer, Deborah Sandidge's life since she picked up her first camera - it has evolved into her passion.

Deborah is the author of Digital Infrared Photography published by Wiley. She is an instructor at BetterPhoto.com and shares her knowledge and enthusiasm with photographers in her online classes.



Recently, the captivating architecture and beautiful people of Cuba captured her heart.

Deborah's passion is not only capturing images of people, places, and things with her digital cameras, but also in the creative work she does in the digital darkroom. She considers Photoshop her "artist's palette".

