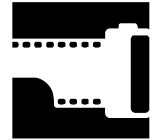


Point of View



Newsletter of the McLean Photography Club



President's Message

Bill Prosser

Sometimes we forget how important our sponsors are for the health and security of our club. If it weren't for our sponsors our dues would have to be much higher. Because of sponsor fees we have been able to keep membership fees constant for several years. Some sponsors give members discounts on purchases from them. Recently, I received a call from one of our sponsors inquiring why the newsletter was promoting the services of a non-sponsoring competitor. I did not think the article was a promotional for that competitor, but after re-reading the article I could see why he felt it was worth drawing my attention to this possible breach of support. We had a nice conversation about our mutual needs and expectations of each other. I came away from this experience with a renewed appreciation for our current sponsors. I also found out that they do read our newsletter too. So, when you frequent one of these sponsors please let them know you are a member of the club and how much you appreciate their support.

April Program: Chip Clark, "Tales of a Smithsonian Staff Photographer."

At our April 13th meeting we will be privileged to have as our speaker, **Chip Clark**. Chip has been a staff photographer for the Smithsonian's Museum of Natural History since 1973. His official title "Scientific and Studio Photographer" understates the range of his assignments and techniques, including macro-photography, high speed and time lapse cinematography, and imaging in the infrared and ultraviolet wavelengths. His atypical studio subjects include dinosaurs, mummies, living insects, skulls, famous blue diamonds, and the occasional grumpy scientist. On Scientific expeditions, Chip has found himself photographing caves in Jamaica and Guatemala, coral reefs in Belize and Cuba, the Amazon Rain Forest of Peru, Kwakiutl ceremonial dances in British Columbia, and street folk artists in India. He taught high school (Newport News, Virginia) and does freelance photo assignments for the National Geographic Society, National Wildlife Federation and the publishers of Scientific American. Come for an entertaining evening.

Critique: April 27, Bring Your Images!

The purpose of critiques is to help members get feedback on their images concerning composition and technical details which make a good competition entry. This is an informal session where comments from everyone is expected and encouraged. Images must be at least 5"x 7", but do not have to be matted. Slides welcomed.

April 13th Challenge: "Color is everywhere!"

The challenge is an opportunity for each member to bring images related to a particular subject. It is meant to encourage each and every member to get out, shoot images, and display them for others to see and discuss. Please bring several matted, if possible, images to the 7 pm "meet and greet" time before Chip Clark's program.

Congratulations to Tony Hathaway, Susan Isakson, & Jan Ponder for placing in Vienna Photography Contest; and Joe Buchino for his exhibit!

(Please see page 5 for details.)

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MPC's Quick-Look April Calendar

Program: Apr. 13 (Wed.), "Tales of Smithsonian Staff Photographer." Meet & Greet, 7:00 pm.

Meeting starts at 7:30 pm.

Critique: Apr. 27 (Wed.).

Upcoming Activities

For the Northern Virginia Alliance of Camera Clubs (NOVACC)

The "Alliance" is an informal organization started in the spring of 1997 by Joseph Miller with the assistance of Dave Carter and Ed Funk. Its purpose is to promote communication and cooperation among camera clubs. Each Virginia member club agrees to publish in its newsletter a calendar of open events for the current month held at other Virginia member clubs. Check out the NOVACC site at <http://www.nvps.org/NOVACC.html>.

(As a member of the McLean Photography Club, you may attend any of the activities listed below.

If you plan to attend an event, it may be best to verify its time and place beforehand.

The information on this page has not been verified.)

Loudoun Photography Club

Contact: Lisa Duncan at (703) 725-2931 or LoudounPhotoClub@cox.net. **Website:** <http://www.loudounphoto.org>.

Meetings are held on the 1st Tue. at 7:00 pm at the Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road, Ashburn, Va., or as indicated.

Program: Apr. 5 (Tue.), Pinhole and Portrait Photography, Linda Conti-White.

Competition: Apr. 19 (Tue.), Loudoun County competition with Josh Taylor judging.

Manassas Warrenton Camera Club

Contact: Andrew Jezioro (703) 361-8542 or ajeziro@comcast.net. **Website:** <http://www.mwcc-photo.org>.

Meetings are held on the 1st and 3rd Thur. at 7:30 pm, Manassas City Hall, Old Town Manassas, or as indicated.

Program: Speaker on Apr. 7th (Thur.) will be Bert GK Shankman .

Competition: Apr. 21st (Thur.), competition is Nightscapes.

Field Trip: April fieldtrip to Bull Run Regional Park. Time and date TBA.

McLean Photography Club

Contact: William Prosser at (703) 821-2670 or prosserwm@aol.com. **Website:** <http://www.mcleanphoto.org>.

Meetings are held on the 2nd Wed. at 7:30 pm (meet & greet at 7:00 pm), McLean Community Center, or as indicated.

Program: Apr. 13 (Wed.). Chip Clark will talk about his work at The Smithsonian.

Critique: Apr. 27 (Wed.), 7:30 pm.

Northern Virginia Photographic Society

Contact: Carl Zelman at (703) 404-4769 or reston@aol.com. **Website:** <http://www.nvps.org>.

Meetings are held at 7:45 pm at Dunn Loring Fire Station, 2148 Gallows Rd., Dunn Loring, Va.

Program: Apr. 5 (Tue.), "The State of Today's Digital Photography." Elliot Stern.

Competition: Apr. 19 (Tue.), Open competition, Kathryn A. Brown, Judge.

Workshop: Apr. 12 (Tue.), Creative Photography Techniques. 7:15 pm meet & greet, 7:45 pm for the presentation. Location is the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Pkwy, Fairfax, VA, Conference Center. Meeting Room No. 8. Contact Fred Chitty, (703) 493-8530.

Forum: Apr. 26 (Tue.), Infrared Photography by Carla Steckley.

Field Trip: Apr. 22-24 (Fri.-Sun.). Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge. For more info contact Ralph Edwards, (703) 878-2882 or ralphsedwards@comcast.net.

Reston Photographic Society

Contact: Jim Schlett at (703) 476-6538 or rpschair2@leagueofrestonartists.org

Website: <http://www.leagueofrestonartists.org/>.

Meetings are held at 7:30 pm at RCC Hunters Woods, rooms 3 & 4.

Program: Apr. 18 (Mon.), Night Photography, Gary Silverstein.

Vienna Photographic Society

Contact: Dave Biehler at (703) 533-8318 or DABiehler@aol.com; Warren Standley at (703) 979-3838 or

VPSEditor@verizon.net. **Website:** <http://www.viennaphotographicsociety.org>.

Meetings are held on the 1st and 3rd Wed at 7:30 pm in the main lecture hall of the Thoreau Middle School, 2505 Cedar Lane, Vienna, VA.

Program: Apr. 6 (Wed.), 7:30 pm, presentation by Bert GF Shankman on the theme "beauty in life as I interpret it through the form of flowers."

Competition: Apr. 20 (Wed.), 7:30 pm, open competition (no theme) with JoAnn Simmons as the judge. She is a widely published photographer known for her portraits and people-documentary images and she is the owner/operator of Clifton Photography.

Field Trip#1: Apr. 2 (Sat.), 8:00 am – 1:00 pm, exploration of spring photo opportunities at Scotts Run Nature Preserve. Departing Vienna Metro (North Lot) at 8:00 am, congregating at the park at 8:30 am. For more information, contact Bill Kyburz at William.Kyburz@gd-ns.com.

Field Trip#2: Apr. 30 (Sat.), 8:00 am – 1:00 pm, exploration of River Farm, the home of the American Horticultural Society with 25 acres of gardens and landscaped lawns, plus attractive buildings and walkways. Departing Vienna Metro (North Lot) at 8:15 am, congregating at the park at 9:00 am. For more info, contact Bill Kyburz at William.Kyburz@gd-ns.com.

The Editors would like to thank **McLeanCopy** for printing this newsletter free of charge. For quality printing at very reasonable prices, contact Gregory Lehr, (703) 827-5734 or glehr@mclean-copy.com.

"Backfence McLean" about to be Launched

A group of McLean people are beginning a new effort called a hyper-local online community. Named "**Backfence McLean**," the hometown site will feature content generated solely by people and institutions in McLean, and be focused on the McLean Community. Mark Potts, a local journalist and former staffer for The Washington Post and Washingtonpost.com, and others plan to begin publishing **Backfence.com** in April. Backfence is part of a new category of "open source" journalism that includes blogs and list serves. It will be entirely written by neighbors, for neighbors, eschewing the need for professional journalists. Their site will have plenty of room for photos. They want to encourage MPC members to display our photos on their web site. They are most interested in pictures of families and family events. There is no cost!!! And they have lots of capacity.

They are getting excellent response from the community to the April launch of their site. You are encouraged to discuss with them how you can use **Backfence McLean** to show your photography. You can read more about it at <http://www.backfence.com/> If you are interested in learning more, you can e-mail Bob Kelly at bob@robertckelly.com or call him at (703) 534-3635.

DigiPixArt—An Opportunity for Photographers to Display and Sell Images.

Danny Chou of DigiPixArt at Fair City Mall (Corner of Rt. 50 and Blake Lane in Fairfax) has space for photographers to display their photographs. He has a nice space devoted mainly to portraits and weddings, but will make wall space available for photographers from local clubs. Tony Hathaway has inspected the space and reports there is some nice space to display your images. Danny will sell the pictures for the displaying photographers and collect the money for them. We believe he will do this free of charge, but a 10 % cut for his trouble has been proposed. Apparently our club was the first club to discuss this offer with Danny. Tony and Gary Oddi are going to be the first Alliance of NoVa Camera Clubs photographers to display their images starting the month of April. Works will be displayed for one month. The Alliance has asked that each club appoint a club contact so that Danny does not have to interact with too many individuals inquiring about the display space. Tony Hathaway is the MPC contact. If you are interested in displaying your photographic images at DigiPixArt, please contact Tony, not Danny.

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Meadowlark Exhibit Update: The 2006 Meadowlark Exhibit dates will be February 25 and 26.

Rules of entry will remain the same except that only new work may be shown in 2006 -- that is work that has not been shown before at Meadowlark. There will be no wall space for framed prints at the 2006 show.

Special Contest – Meadowlark Appreciation Presentation: In addition to the juried exhibition and the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority (NVRPA)-themed competition, a new contest will be unveiled in 2006. The new special contest is a Meadowlark Appreciation Inter-Club Competition. Like the NVRPA-themed competition, each Club will select its own representative image; unlike the NVRPA-themed competition, the Meadowlark Appreciation Presentation is not judged nor voted on by the Visitors to the Expo. Rather, these six Club-selected images will be a “thank you” and special recognition for Meadowlark. It is the consensus of the Committee that, once a photograph has been exhibited in a special contest (whether the NVRPA-themed contest, or the Meadowlark Appreciation contest), that image is ineligible for subsequent special contests. However, said image remains eligible for entry in a future general (juried) exhibit. You are encouraged to go to Meadowlark to photograph the gardens and architectural features. The photos for the thank-you project do not need to be categorized as “nature” photos. The idea here is to capture the beauty of the place with no restrictions on content. Each club will select one photograph from its members to exhibit during the '06 Expo in the Atrium. This is not a contest; there will be no ribbon, prize, or award; our only incentive is to express our gratitude through our art. NVRPA/Meadowlark will get non-commercial publishing rights for all six photographs so that they can publicize this project with photos. Photographers will be credited whenever a photo is used. The photographers will retain ownership rights over their photos.

The next NVRPA-themed Meadowlark competition (it was herons this year, bluebells last) will be announced at a later date. If you have any questions, contact Tony Hathaway, our MPC Meadowlark Exhibit representative.

URGENT!!!

MPC is Looking for Graphic or Website Designers and a Newsletter Editor

The club is looking for someone to redesign our website masthead and make suggestions to improve the overall visual design of the website: <http://www.mcleanphoto.org>. If you are interested and believe you have graphic art and/or website design skills, contact: Bill Prosser, Tony Hathaway, or Bruce Copping. If you have questions about the website, contact Bruce at (703) 264-8873 or bcopping@gmail.com.

For the **Newsletter Editor** position, we can start training you now so you can pickup as Editor in the next season. All you need is a PC and we will provide the software and all the help you need to get started.

If you have any interest or have questions, please contact Bill Prosser or Gary Oddi.



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CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MPC MEMBERS WHO DID SO WELL IN THE VIENNA 2005 PHOTOGRAPHIC CONTEST!

Tony Hathaway:

People's Choice Award-Scenic (Please see below.)
1st in Scenic Color
2nd in Black & White Pictorial
2nd in Animal-Color
HM in Nature Color

Susan Isakson:

1st in Architecture-Color
3rd in Nature- Black & White
HM in Digital

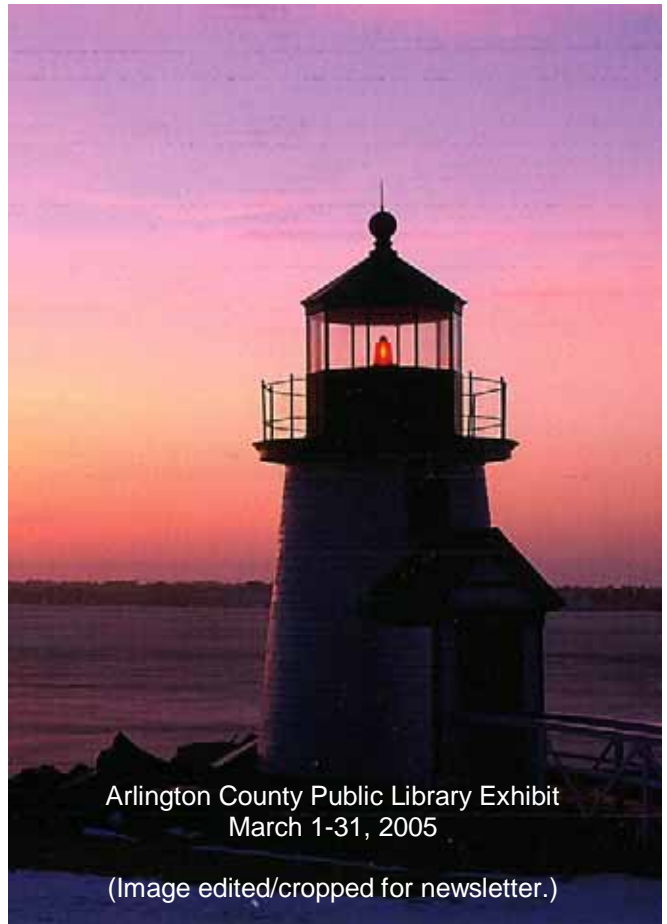
Jan Ponder (new member):

2nd in Scenic-Color
3rd in Digital

WAY TO GO!!!!!!

(The judges were Erwin Siegel and Wayne Wolfersberger, both of NVPS)

If it is March, it is not too late to see:
KEEPING THE LIGHT by Dr. Joe Buchino



Tony Hathaway's Winning People's Choice Image: "Bar Harbor Sunset."



The Challenge of Photography by Joe Miller

What is the definition of photography? A few years ago that was a much easier question to answer. Now, in the digital age with the web, clip art, scanners, computer software programs and pixels to the right of us and pixels to the left of us, what is photography today? Where does photography end and digital imaging begin?

Technology has always altered photography, and each new development has had its supporters and detractors. Today with the transition from film to digital, it is even more appropriate to ask what photography is, and because of the digital influence, what is imaging? Some camera clubs have accepted the premise in their competitions that "an image is an image" without regard for how it was put together. Several years ago a stunning image was entered into a club competition, won a ribbon and was judged among the top ten prints at the end-of-year competition. The maker proudly announced it came from computer clip art and had been manipulated in PhotoShop.

There are those in camera clubs who say whatever can be done in a wet darkroom should be permitted in the "dry darkroom" -- i.e., the manipulation of images using computer technology. Few, if any, master printers throughout the entire history of photography with all their wet darkroom knowledge and expertise could equal what a novice can do today using available software programs. Some refer to Photoshop as PS. I think of Photoshop (PS) as Photography on Steroids. Computer software programs are absolutely amazing, and no doubt "we ain't seen nothing yet." But is all of this photography or is it imaging?

For the past several years I have been amazed at what can be done with digital imaging and have even given ribbons to highly manipulated images because they were stunning -- the 747 in a vodka bottle, as it were. But now, maybe because the novelty has worn off -- or maybe because I have become old and senile -- I find I am more impressed with a simple, straightforward, non-manipulated photograph that was seen/composed in a viewfinder. Recently I judged an exhibition at a prestigious museum where there were many stunning manipulated images. I chose for First and Third Place black and white photographs that, in my view, had more emotion and feeling, even though they used a technique many consider to be from an earlier generation of photography.

Today the photographer who gets it right in camera has become an endangered species. It has become so easy to "fix it" in the computer that many do not feel the need to be exacting. It may take a bit of time, but correcting careless camera technique can now be done in the comfort of ones home between sips of coffee. To some it may seem archaic, but I feel the greatest challenge in photography today is to get it right in camera without the need to alter, abridge, amend and adjust in the computer.

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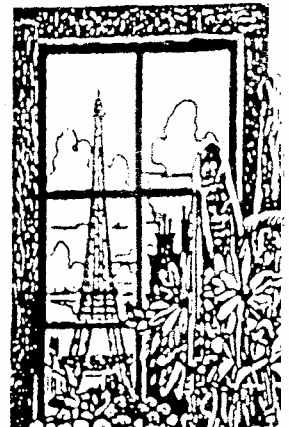
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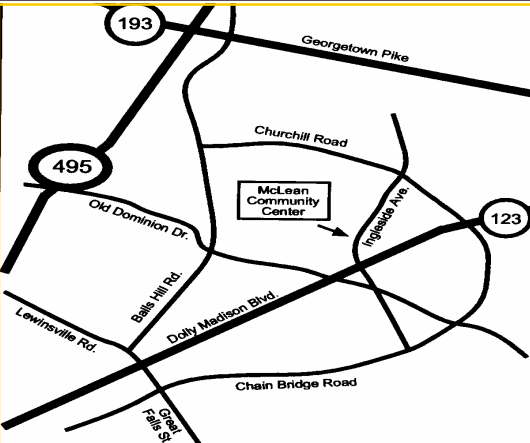
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MPC meetings are held on the second Wed. of each month from Sept. through June, at the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave. Meet & greet from 7:00–7:30 pm. Programs start at 7:30 pm.

Directions: The McLean Community Center can be reached from the major intersection of Old Dominion Dr. and Dolly Madison Blvd. (Rt. 123). Go east one block to Ingleside Ave. & turn left.

Visitors are always welcome!



See our web site at:
<http://www.mcleanphoto.org>

McLean Photography Club's Executive Board

Elected Officers

| | | | |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|--|
| President | Bill Prosser | (703) 821-2670 | prosserwm@aol.com |
| Vice-President | Minnie Gallman | (703) 356-0856 | pggallman@verizon.net |
| Treasurer | Sue Teunis | (703) 536-9873 | sueteu56@aol.com |

Appointed Board Members

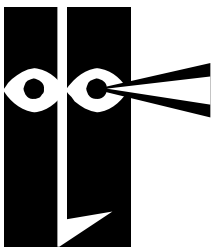
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|--------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| Programs | Mona Smith | (703) 442-8029 | mwriter123@yahoo.com |
| Competitions | Margaret Huddy | (703) 356-2363 | mthuddy@aol.com |
| Membership | Sue Teunis | (703) 536-9873 | sueteu56@aol.com |
| Newsletter Editors | Gary Oddi & Bill Prosser | (703) 437-8316 (703) 821-2670 | goddi@erols.com prosserwm@aol.com |
| Members' Gallery | Rosemarie Bowie & Minnie Gallman | (703) 522-0648 (703) 356-0865 | rbowie@bonzai.net pggallman@verizon.net |
| Meadowlark Exhibit | Tony Hathaway | (703) 281-9127 | tonyhath@cox.net |
| Webmaster | Bruce Copping | (703) 264-8873 | bcopping@gmail.com |
| Sponsors | Bill Prosser | (703) 821-2670 | prosserwm@aol.com |
| Publicity | Rosemarie Bowie | (703) 522-0648 | rbowie@bonzai.net |
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| Workshops | Vacant | - | - |
| Field Trips | Vacant | - | - |
| Technical Advisor | Dave Clem | (703) 356-8699 | clempix@dc.net |
| Technical Advisor | Bill Prosser | (703) 821-2670 | prosserwm@aol.com |

Annual dues are \$25 for individuals and families; \$10 for full time students.

**DEADLINE FOR MATERIAL FOR
MAY'S NEWSLETTER IS
APRIL 15th**
(the sooner the better)



Gary Oddi
Newsletter Co-Editor
McLean Photography Club
11891 Fawn Ridge Lane
Reston, VA 20194



All members are invited to send photography related articles, tips, quotations, and/or technical or artistic questions to be included in the Newsletter. Contributions should reach the editor no later than the 15th of the month prior to the month of publication.

E-mail, US mail or call either co-editor, Gary Oddi or Bill Prosser, if you have submissions or questions.

**Address Correction
Requested**