



© 1989

The Lens and Eye

Volume 38 Number 2

<http://nbccmd.tripod.com>

North Bethesda Camera Club

October, 2002

Calendar

Competition topic: *Images of Maryland*

October, 2002

- 1 PCR: 7:00 pm
- 2 Print night: 7:30 pm:
Speaker judge: Chip Clark
Hospitality: Jean Hanson, and
Steve Martin
Set-up: Bill Richards and
Jim Render
- 9 Slide night: 7:30 pm
Speaker judge: Ted Raper
Hospitality: Lori Ducharme, Allen
Chang, Ann Jorgensen
Set-up: Jose Cartas, Carl Root, and
Tom Sullivan
Gallery: Sigrid Vollerthun
- 16 Board Meeting: Sullivan's, 7:30 pm
- 20 Field Trip: Westminster, MD: Meet at
visitor's center, 9:30am.
- 23 Workshop, 7:30
Frank Van Riper: Night Photography
- 22, 24 The Craft of Photography, I and II,
7:30: Kent Mason's house.



November, 2002

- 5 PCR: 7:00
- 6 Print night: 7:30
- 13 Slide night: 7:30
- 20 Workshop: 7:30
- 25 Board meeting: TBD: 7:30
- ?? Field trip: TBD
- 19,21 The craft of photography: 7:30

Chip Clark is Print Night Speaker.

This will be Chip's third visit to the club in recent years. Chip is the Scientific and Studio photographer for the Smithsonian's Museum of Natural History, a job he's held since 1973. He adds that this job means that he can do anything photographic anywhere on earth, with no budget.

Chip said that most of his work is done with 35mm cameras, but he shoots everything from cinema to digital video to 8x10 still photography. And he's mostly self-taught. Anyone interested in photography will agree with Chip's assessment, "I've got the greatest job in the world."

His assignment is the entire museum. This includes almost everything from objects, exhibits, architecture, staff, and activities. He's covered scientific exhibitions from caves in Jamaica and Guatemala, coral reefs in Belize and Cuba, the Amazonian rain forest of Peru, marine dives in the Caribbean, Kwakiutl ceremonies in British Columbia and folk artists in India.

Chip has a degree in Biology from Virginia Tech. Over the years he has worked for NASA, the Virginia Institute of Marine Science, and taught high school

Ted Raper to be speaker for slide night.

Ted has been a photographer for 35 years. He studied the traditional studio arts in college: drawing, painting, sculpture, and design. He is currently employed full time by the Park & Planning Commission, Arts Department, in Prince George's County. He resides in Silver Spring, Md.

His professional memberships include the Rehoboth Art League (RAL), the International Society of Photographers (distinguished member, ISP), Strathmore Hall Arts center, and Creative Partners Gallery. Recent exhibits of his photographs have taken place at Creative Partners, Rehoboth Art League, and Wilmington College in Delaware. His awards include an Editors Choice Award from the ISP, and the Lucille Meggee Award (first place, any media) at the RAL members show in 1999. He has a photo being published in Photographers Forum magazine's annual issue in December.

(Continued on p.3)

What's Inside

Member profile.....	2
New member	2
Notices.....	3
Who Me Buy a Digital Camera?	4
Field trip	5
Workshop.....	5
September competition results	6
Cumulative competition tally	7

(Continued on p.3)

Member Profile

Bill Richards



A relatively new member in the North Bethesda Camera Club, Bill Richards started in photography when he was in a Southern Ohio 4-H Club. A thoughtful and quiet man, Bill said that a 4-H photo course taught him how to operate his camera. He recalled an instruction book on lighting, composition, and other photo skills and techniques.

He began with a Brownie. Then his mother, a teacher in an Appalachian community, bought him a Ricoh range-finder type camera that had a fast advance lever across the base. The shutter was so quiet that he was occasionally uncertain whether he had taken the picture. Eventually, he added got a close-up filter.

"I remember going out all day," he said, "and measuring the distance

to a flower. Then I waited for a bee to land on it and hoped I could snap the picture in time. And I managed to get a few good photos that way."

He learned to develop black and white film and make enlargements in a friend's dad's darkroom, recalling that he sometimes spent all day making prints. In college he got an Asahi Pentax Spotmatic 35mm SLR from Hong Kong by mail before SLRs with through-the-lens metering were generally available in this country. Total cost, including duty, was \$91. He used it for years and, in fact, still has it. While in college, Bill made pictures for an art gallery that wanted a photographic record of its exhibits and close-ups of each of the art objects. He used filters to balance the various types of lights illuminating the exhibits. The gallery director bought the slides for \$1.25 each.

His film was Kodachrome rated at ASA 10. Later he moved up to the ASA 25 version. "Back then I could handhold slow shutter speeds, and the pictures still looked OK," he chuckled.

At Ohio State, Bill earned a bachelor of science and a Ph.D. in biochemistry. Enroute to achieving those degrees, he took a course in scientific photography. In one course project, he made a high-speed movie of a match lighting and burning. Another involved taking

pictures in the dark with a sound-activated microphone. He explained, "We placed the (human) subject at a table and we turned out the lights. The microphone triggered a strobe light to photograph a subject's sneeze." The trigger for inducing the sneeze was a large living cockroach of a type known to secrete a nasal irritant. In another project, he used a 3-foot bellows camera, a tiny macro lens, and banks of lights to photograph the tip of a ball point pen.

After graduation, Bill was a cancer researcher at the University of Wisconsin and the National Cancer Institute. He frequently used photomicrography and histochemical staining techniques to document changes seen in 10 micron tissue sections during the course of animal development or during progression from normalcy to cancer. As an aside, he noted that thin sections of developing teeth produce beautifully colored crystalline patterns under polarized light. "These pictures could be wonderful abstracts," he said. His laboratory didn't want to purchase a polarizing microscope, so he developed a surrogate using polarizing filters and an ordinary microscope.

Text and photo by Joe Razza

Welcome New Members

We extend a hearty welcome and hope you will add them to your new membership booklet.

Joe Dinsmore
2000 So. Eads St
Arlington, VA, 22202
703-685-0776
jdinsmore@aol.com

Patrick W. Brown
18741 Birdseye Drive
Germantown, MD 20974-1967
301-515-4057
pwb@mitre.org

Chip Clark (continued).

in Newport News, VA. He has done freelance photo assignments for National Geographic, National Wildlife and the publishers of Scientific American.

Marcia Loeb

Ted Raper (continued)

He owns and operates a small business, Available Light Photography, dedicated to the pursuit of photography as fine art.

Ted will give us some general remarks on how he came to be a photographer and some things he's learned over the years. He will show us some close-ups and images of Maryland.

Barbara DeLouise

Notices

- Ross Pierce has a one-person photography exhibit running thru the end of September 2002, at the CyberSTOP cafe, which is located at 1513 17th Street, NW, Washington, DC, 20036 (1/2 block North of P St.) 202-234-2470 Hours: 7am-Midnight Mon-Fri; 8am-Midnight Sat & Sun The exhibition, consisting of over 25 black and white and color silver gelatin and digital prints is entitled "Nature and Nurture, Cacti and Young Men!" The photos feature landscape photographs taken at the Huntington Library and Gardens in San Marino, CA, the Japanese Tea Garden in Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, Skimboarders at Dewey Beach, DE, figurative studies constructed in the studio and at McCrillis Gardens in Bethesda, photographs from Spain, and some domestic urban images.
- Dave Freeman will be offering a 6-session digital photography short course this fall. Participants will meet Tuesday evenings weekly at 7:30 starting October 29. The course requirements are a home computer, digital camera or scanner, and Photoshop (V.6 preferred). Course content includes elements and applied principles of using digital camera, flatbed and slide scanner, with output to printer, email and PowerPoint. The aim is to facilitate the transition to the world of digital imagery with emphasis on the digital darkroom using Photoshop. The basic elements include input, process and output using a work-flow approach. The cost is \$200 plus \$50 for notes, text, take-home exercises using images on provided CD, and a color/BW standard. To register please contact Dave Freeman or Jim Hawkins. Hand-outs will be available at NBCC meetings.
- Reminder of our Eggs exhibit at the Glenview mansion in Rockville in February 2003. Please consider reviewing your entries in the previous club eggs competition for submission to this exhibit. In addition, you may submit new images for the exhibit. The deadline for submission of entries is the November 6 print night. A selection committee will be given the submissions on that night and will review all entries – prints and slides; black and white, and color – to choose the images that will be included in the exhibit. The slides and prints will be returned on slide night, December 13. Please call me if you have questions.

Barbara DeLouise; 301-530-3479

- The Washington National Cathedral will be holding an exhibition in the spring of 2003. They invite photographers to capture the fleeting moments and pervasive atmosphere of the Cathedral grounds, gardens and building and submit entries for consideration in this show. They have early December deadlines for submission for entries. Further information can be obtained by calling (202) 537-2223. Also you may check their web site at: www.cathedral.org/cathedral/programs/entries.shtml.
- The deadline for entries for the Nikon Photo Contest International, 2002-3, is October 31, 2002. In addition to the normal "Free subject" category, Nikon has chosen "Love and Peace" as its "Category B" theme. Up to five photographs can be submitted in each category. For more info, go to the Nikon NPCI web site at: <http://nikon.yahoo.co.jp/eng>. Or contact Jose Cartas at club meetings.
- Thought to ponder: If the weather is cloudy, is it still "good light" at dawn and dusk?

Who Me? Buy A Digital Camera?

In a marketing sense, we are perhaps at the midpoint of a broad transition between film and digital camera purchasing, although not all photographers are convinced that digital cameras make better pictures than film cameras. However, ask a digital darkroom person about that, and you will be assured that picture quality is easily made better with good darkroom work—which, of course, takes time to learn. (Is that news?) But a digital camera is faster, involves no direct contact with chemicals, offers exposure settings like a typical SLR, and gives instantaneous and detailed feedback on the quality of the image captured.

Many members of the North Bethesda Camera Club have been moving in the digital direction. Their first steps have been film to scanner, to Photoshop, to inkjet printer. A smaller number have begun to go direct: camera to Photoshop to printer. This movement has become more compelling: image quality from the latest 6 Mp digital camera sensors, should be at least as good as, and certainly faster than, the 6-Mp image scans of 35-mm film.

Are 6-Mp enough?

A 28-Mp sensor is on the distant horizon, but for most of us, that would be an over-kill. Only nine of its voluminous files would fit on a CD, and a computer with 2-G of RAM would be barely adequate. (For commercial photographers, 100 Mp camera backs are available.) Another debate concerns the new CMOS (complementary metal oxide semi-conductor) pixels—are they better than CCDs, or is Foveon's pixel technology twice as good, as they claim? Experienced engineers know when to say good enough is good enough. Here is a small table of print sizes relating to pixel number to help you decide:

Mp	Print Size (cm x cm)
3.3	19 x 25
4.0	22 x 29
5.0	25 x 34
6.0	28 x 36
28.0	50 x 90

The story does not end there; you can use Photoshop to double the Mps and then use image sharpening to help reduce resolution loss. This is

called “res-ing up.” Doubling the number of pixels increases print dimension by 41 percent.

Where do you buy?

For personal interaction, use a camera store. For a lower price, use the web, or call a discount dealer such as J&R, or B&H.

When do you buy?

Enthusiasts try to get there first, and they have to be willing to pay the most. Wary and informed buyers read magazines such as PC Photo and scout the web thoroughly to examine and compare reviews. Price-conscious buyers take their time and may hold off until the price is below half of the original list price. They then buy on the web—because the cameras have gone out of production and dealers have run out of stock. Make sure you are not buying “grey” market gear – it has no warranty. Ask and they will tell you.

What should you buy?

Digital cameras that take Nikon or Canon lenses from film cameras can now be ordered. Some cameras in the \$500 - \$1000 range take wide angle or telephoto converter lenses. If you plan to travel, ask about battery energy in terms of picture quantity, and ask if the charger will work on 220V/50 cycle current. You also need adequate flashcard memory. This costs around 50 cents/Mb. A 256-Mb card on a 6-Mp camera should hold 100 fine quality JPG pictures. That could be enough for a day's shoot—if you delete the out-takes as you go. Alternatively, consider a battery operated hard drive like the Digital Wallet. I have one of these well-engineered devices. It holds gigabytes of images, and it rarely needs charging. Finally, besides a manufacturer's warranty you should consider buying a 5-year warranty. It is not cheap, but neither are repairs.

What are the important accessories?

LCD screens on the back of the camera are next to impossible to view in direct sunlight. The Xtend-a-View Pro (www.photosolve.com) is the best answer I have seen. On-board camera flash power may not be bright enough so you might consider adding to your detachable flash a slave accessory—it is not expensive.

Cont'd on p.5

Workshop; October 23

Frank Van Riper; Night Photography

Mark your calendar and make sure you're at NBCC's October 23 workshop. The event starts at 7:30 p.m., at the Faith United Methodist Church.

Frank Van Riper will share his expertise, skills and techniques for making successful and arresting photographs from sunset to sunrise.

The February 2003 competition assignment is "Night Shots: A photograph of an outdoor scene taken after sunset and before sunrise, with no illumination from the sun or electronic flash. Moonlight is acceptable." (Hmm, no prohibition on moonshine.) Oh, yes, the photo must have been made after June 1, 2001.

Frank Van Riper has shared his photographs and experience with NBCC on several occasions. He's an acclaimed author, photographer and journalist. An award-winning former White House correspondent for the *New York Daily News*, he has been the photography columnist of the *Washington Post* since 1992. His column now

appears in the Camera Works section of washingtonpost.com.

Van Riper is the author of *Glenn: The Astronaut Who Would Be President*, as well as two photography books, *Faces of the Eastern Shore* and *Down East Maine! A World Apart*, which was nominated for the Pulitzer Prize. He was a 1979 Nieman Fellow at Harvard. His latest book is *Talking Photography*, a collection of his outstanding popular columns. The book contains photographs that illustrate his essays, interviews and practical photographic techniques. Frank will bring along some copies of *Talking Photography* to sell and sign.

Joe Razza

Field Trip; October 20

Westminster, MD

For this month's field trip we will travel to the countryside of Carroll County, MD. We will seek out opportunities for fall foliage images. The area around Westminster and New Windsor is chock-full of gently rolling hills, farms, and quaint towns.

Buy A Digital Camera? (cont'd)

As to filters, unlike film cameras, you can get almost any filter effect you want with digital processing. However, you should buy a circular polarizing filter and ND filters are a possibility.

You should understand key specifications before you buy, particularly key features such as:

- What lenses exactly will the camera accommodate;
- White balance control that allows you to change the type of "film" quality;
- The noise penalty when you boost the ISO value;
- Having an audible click for the shutter;
- Signals to indicate what part of a scene is in focus and whether focus has been established;
- The burst capability--the number of rapid-fire exposures per second;
- Is a detailed record made of exposure settings; and
- A capability to reset all exposure settings to a default value.

Then, when you get the camera, you should digest the manual, not just carry it around;
October, 2002

learn all of the controls and how to use them. Make it unnecessary for Tech Support to ask if you have "read the manual?"

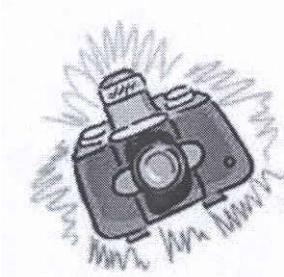
Longevity?

My Nikon camera, now in its third year of service, has passed its 10,000-exposure mark and has traveled over 20,000 miles trouble-free.

Obsolescence?

While technical advances will always be coming along it seems fair to say that digital cameras are competing with and overtaking 35 mm film cameras.

© 2002 Dave Freeman



Results of Competition for September, 2002 - Open

Prints

Judge: Ira Wexler

Black and White, Novice

1 st	Les Trachtman	Handrail and stucco
2 nd	Jean Hanson	Spring meadow
3 rd	Steve Martin	Ma's dining

Black and White, Advanced

1 st	Bob Peavy	Clean up
2 nd	Sue Oberthaler	Sunset view
3 rd	Bev Gordon	Heavenly sails
HM	Tom Kraly	Flower close-up
HM	Chuck Bress	Barn & Shadow
HM	Ross Pierce	Japanese tea garden

Color, Novice

1 st	Roy Sewall	Great Falls at dawn
2 nd	Barbara DeLouise	O, say can you see
3 rd	Len Friedman	Blue heron on water
HM	Wendy Ellman	Moment of truth
HM	Richard Huang	Climbing rose
HM	Richard Huang	Waterlily reflection
HM	Ann Jurgensen	Colorful culture
HM	Bill Richards	Succulent at Sunset Cliffs
HM	Bill Richards	Magnolia blossom

Color, Advanced

1 st	Bev Gordon	Geometrics; red/white/black
2 nd	Dan McDermott	Slot canyon
3 rd	Carl Root	Red door
HM	Chuck Bress	Airlee fall tree
HM	Chuck Bress	Vineyard and red tractor
HM	Jose Cartas	Big Ben
HM	Jose Cartas	Roses are yellow
HM	Marianne Davis	Study in color
HM	Anita van Rooy	Boat reflection
HM	Laura Winslow	Attack at dawn

Altered

1 st	Jim Hawkins	Galaxies
2 nd	Sue Oberthaler	Mirror triptych
3 rd	Jim Hawkins	Astral garden
HM	Anita van Rooy	Torn curtain
HM	Les Trachtman	Modern sculpture

Slides

Judge: Chuck Veatch

Novice

1 st	Lindley McGrew	Swirl
2 nd	Bill Richards	Finding the light
3 rd	Carol Lee	Lupine dreaming
HM	Cezary Raczko	Electric sky
HM	Bill Richards	Clematis #2
HM	Carol Lee	Boulder beach
HM	Barbara DeLouise	Harley Davidson
HM	Shereen Kopp	Gone with the blues
HM	Les Trachtman	Museum curves and angles
HM	Sue Milestone	Lewis Falls - Shenandoah

Advanced

1 st	John Telford	Flower swirl to orange, #2
2 nd	Chuck Bress	Ceiling #5 arches
3 rd	John Telford	Slot canyon, #3
HM	Jose Cartas	Double crested cormorant
HM	Gordie Corbin	Tree times nine
HM	Ross Emerson	Korean war memorial
HM	Laura Winslow	Squiggle
HM	Laura Winslow	Interlude
HM	Susan Helzer	Mount Rainier with wildflowers
HM	Miranda Chin	Spring in the Smoky

Web site tips

> David Middleton's site includes a list he calls "The Photographer's Year." It includes his recommendations for the best nature photography locations each month of the year; great for someone wanting to time a trip just right! Take a look at: www.davidmiddletonphoto.com

> Thanks to Lori Duscharme we have a beginning of links for photo workshops? For starters: www.LanePhotoWorkshops.com; Rocky Mountain School of Photography (www.rmsp.com); www.SantaFeWorkshops.com; Maine Photo Workshops (www.theworkshops.com); Great American Photography Weekends (www.gapweb.com); even www.WashingtonPhotoSafari.com ...

> Some real neat photos with interesting critiques. <http://www.photo.net/>.

Cumulative Scores for 2002-2003

Prints

Black and White, Novice

10	Les Trachtman
9	Jean Hanson
8	Steve Martin

Black and White, Advanced

10	Bob Peavy
9	Sue Oberthaler
8	Bev Gordon
6	Tom Kraly
6	Chuck Bress
6	Ross Pierce

Color, Novice

12	Richard Huang
12	Bill Richards
10	Roy Sewall
9	Barbara DeLouise
8	Len Friedman
6	Wendy Ellman
6	Ann Jergensen

Color, Advanced

12	Chuck Bress
12	Jose Cartas
10	Bev Gordon
9	Dan McDermott
8	Carl Root
6	Marianne Davis
6	Anita van Rooy
6	Laura Winslow

Altered

18	Jim Hawkins
9	Sue Oberthaler
6	Anita van Rooy
6	Les Trachtman

Slides

Novice

15	Bill Richards
14	Carol Lee
10	Lindley McGrew
6	Cezary Razcko
6	Barbara DeLouise
6	Shereen Kopp
6	Les Trachtman
6	Sue Milestone

Advanced

18	John Telford
12	Laura Winslow
9	Chuck Bress
6	Jose Cartas
6	Gordie Corbin
6	Ross Emerson
6	Susan Helzer
6	Miranda Chin



More Notices

* National Geographic is hosting a 5-part lecture series titled "Masters of Photography." The series begins Oct. 16 and features Frans Lanting, David Doubilet, Sam Abell, Emory Kristof, and Karen Kasmauski. Tickets are \$75 for the series, or \$16 per lecture. All lectures are at the Grosvenor Auditorium at NG's headquarters (16th and M). (For more info, go to www.nationalgeographic.com/lectures and click the "Masters of Photography" link at left.)

* New membership booklets for the Club's 2002-03 program year, which include the revised Competition Rules, membership list, competition assignments, etc. have been distributed to club members, who are current with their dues, at club meetings.

A few more web sites:

> Our old friend Freeman Patterson's site:
<http://www.freeman-patterson.com/frameset.htm>.

> The Ridgewood, NJ camera club:
www.ridgewoodcameraclub.org.

> Beautiful birds and wildlife photo art, Douglas Goodell photography;
<http://www.goodellphotoart.com/>

> How to articles on Popular Photography's site:
<http://www.popularphotography.com/HowTo/index.html>.

> Some nice shots from Philpott Photography:
<http://www.philpottphotography.com/nature/>

More next month

Executive Board, Standing, and Special Committees

President Jerry Gordon	Vice President Bob Peavy	Secretary Chuck Lee	Treasurer Sue Oberthaler	Directors Gordie Corbin Ross Emerson Joel Hoffman
Print Program Marcia Loeb Jim Hawkins	Print Competition Carol Lee Bob Peavy	Print Hospitality Mike Fleming John Grupenhoff	Bulletin Editor Tom Sullivan	Workshops Joe Razza Les Trachtman Ted Oberman Dan McDermott
Slide Program Jose Cartas Miranda Chin Barbara DeLouise	Slide Competition Judy Switt Jim Hammock Ruth Crozier	Slide Hospitality Beverly Gordon Ruth Crozier	Publicity Jim Hammack	Field Trips Tom Sullivan Ross Emerson Cezary Raczko
Exhibits Barbara DeLouise		Membership Gordie Corbin	PSA Representative Ruth Crozier	
Print Set-up Laura Winslow	Membership Booklet Gordie Corbin	Gallery Hans Adler	Craft of Photography Workshop Kent Mason John Telford	Print Night Sales Virginia & Jim Render
Slide Set-up Carole Cavanaugh	Webmaster Tom Sullivan	Sunshine Committee Helen Berkson	Technical Advisor & Answer Man Hans Adler	Slide Night Sales Duncan Whitaker
Workshop Set-up Bill Richards	Review Committee Judy Switt Kent Mason Joel Hoffman	Awards Dinner Coordinator Nancy Peavy		Church Liaison Janet Myder Hammack
Community Outreach Joe Razza				

First Class Mail

North Bethesda Camera Club
8208 Scotch Bend Way
Potomac, MD, 20854

