

The View finder

Newsletter of the Pikes Peak Camera Club

Member of the Photographic Society of America (PSA)

Volume 20-4 April 2008



"Colors of the Rainbow"
Tom Moldenhauer



www.pikespeakcameraclub.com

April 2008 Events

Meeting/Competition

Where: Living Springs Worship Center
604 Manitou Blvd.
Colorado Springs, CO

When: 7:00 pm
Tuesday, April 1st, 2008

Competition Subject: Spring Scavenger Hunt

Board Meeting

The members of the board will meet April 15th, 2008.

New Members

No new members to announce this month.

PSA

No PSA announcements at this time.

Travelogue/Workshop

Tuesday, April 15th - Workshop on Photoshop presented by Tim Starr, Bruce du Fresne and Deb James

Field Trip

To be announced...

Questions? Call Jerry Moldenhauer at 237-8728 or email him at streetroder@netzero.net.

President's Corner

If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is!!

My Daughter recently got a job with her college newspaper as a writer/photographer. (She done write more better than me). The job required a digital camera and she had a film camera. Guess who lost their Canon 30D digital camera?

I didn't actually lose it; (all the time) but every time I wanted to photograph it seemed she was on an assignment. I decided I really wanted to upgrade to the 40D anyway but not at this time.

I always purchase through with B&H photo and video out of NY, but thought I would search the net for a better price than \$1136.00. One site had the 40D camera which cost from \$1,100 to \$1,500 listed at \$399.00 brand new Cannon USA one year warranty, wow what a deal! I placed a call to the company to order this camera and save myself a few hundred bucks.

After being on hold for 10 minutes I finally got an unenthusiastic I-hate-my-job kind of person. I knew right after he said "yea whadya want" that customer service wasn't a top priority.

"I would like to order the Canon 40D for \$399.00."

"Ok that's an import."

"but I thought it was USA warranty,"

"Yea we warranty it our self for one year".

"How long will it take to ship it to me?"

"that's on back order, so 6 to 8 weeks."

" Forget it."

The next place had it for \$549.00 and their customer service was somewhat more friendly. I launched into ordering;

"Do you have this camera in stock?"

"It's on two week back order".

" Is this an import?" (by now I was a little more wary)

"Yeah".

"What is it made out of?" (Metal is more durable than plastic, for the asking price I was looking for metal)

" It's made from a composite plastic material."

" OK thank you."

Another place had it for \$859.00, and the specks on the web site said it was made from magnesium-alloy. I called the company and cut to the chase

"Is this camera made of plastic?. It was. (Caveat Emptor, buyer beware)

I guess these cameras are OK, same weight and specks, and I don't know if I could tell the difference but, constructed of 'light weight and ultra rigid magnesium-alloy' just sounds better than 'composite plastic'. I feel better having the real deal.

B&H just e-mailed me that my Canon 40D an 4 gig card had been sent.

When will I ever learn?

T.W. Woodruff

Winner Gallery



"Open Church Window"
Bruce du Fresne



"Open Red & White Flower"
Bill Holm



"Taos Pueblo in Winter"
Bill Stewart

Winner Gallery



"Winter
Ptarmigan"

Bill
Stewart



"Rhino Beetle"
Andy deNary

Winner Gallery



"Common Snipe"
T.W. Woodruff



"Oxbow Bend"
Tom Moldenhauer

Winner Gallery



"Sparrow"
Bruce du Fresne



"Oops Wrong Season"
Art Porter



"Bobkat Kitten"
Beverly
Cellini

Future Focus

Membership Dues

Just a reminder that it's once again time for Bruce to collect our annual membership dues. The cost for 2008 is still \$30. For those members who would like to mail the dues, send them to:

Bruce du Fresne
4791 Bunchberry Ln
Colorado Springs, CO 80917

Spring Scavenger Hunt - Results during April's Meeting!

1. Candy - A photo including the edible treat as the primary subject
2. Fence - Any shot with a fence playing a prominent role
3. Appliance - Stove, refrigerator, computer, etc. (can be industrial or home use)
4. Live Carnivore - Any animal or plant that eats meat, better if caught in the act
5. Hand Tool - nothing with a motor
6. Office - Single room or whole building
7. Park - a scene taken from inside any public or private park
8. Camera - A camera itself as a subject
9. Stream - Any type of liquid flowing
10. Toy - Kid or grown up kind OK
11. Rock - Natural or modified OK
12. Live Bird - preferably in a natural environment

New Electronic Scoring System

The club recently purchased and received a new electronic scoring system for use during PSA judging, etc. We tried it out last Tuesday night for the Spring scavenger hunt scoring and it worked like a charm! We'll be putting it to use again on April 1st during the monthly meeting for the PSA judging.

Be sure to come along and check it out!

2008 Competition Subjects

January

Horses - Scene containing at least one horse

February

Portraits - An expressive view of someone else

March

Camouflage - An example of something camouflaged

April

PSA/Spring Scavenger Hunt - See page 7 for list of subjects.

May

Planes, Trains and Automobiles - Photograph containing any of these things

June

Inclement Weather - Dramatic view of Mother Nature in action

July

Flowers - Scene containing at least one flower

August

Bugs - Insect type stuff (spiders, etc.)

September

Reflection - A subject that is being reflected or the reflection itself

October

Fall Scavenger Hunt - Subjects to be announced

November

Landscape with Windmill - Classic landscape shot with windmill as central subject

December

Salon - Subjects to be announced later in the year

Print Competition as of March 2008

| Entrants | Subject | | Maker Made | | Commercial | | Total | |
|--------------|---------------|-----|---------------|-----|---------------|-----|---------------|-----|
| | Current Month | YTD | Current Month | YTD | Current Month | YTD | Current Month | YTD |
| Boone | 0 | 17 | 0 | 16 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 33 |
| James | 19 | 60 | 16 | 52 | 0 | 0 | 35 | 112 |
| Lloyd | 14 | 29 | 0 | 12 | 0 | 0 | 14 | 41 |
| Meisenheimer | 0 | 30 | 0 | 34 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 64 |
| Meisenheimer | 0 | 31 | 0 | 35 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 66 |
| Saj | 0 | 32 | 0 | 34 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 66 |
| Snow | 0 | 0 | 7 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 7 |
| Stanley | 14 | 52 | 0 | 0 | 21 | 53 | 35 | 105 |
| Steinhauer | 15 | 44 | 0 | 0 | 19 | 55 | 34 | 99 |
| Stewart | 0 | 0 | 20 | 59 | 0 | 0 | 20 | 59 |
| Vignone | 18 | 47 | 0 | 0 | 16 | 50 | 34 | 97 |

Slide Competition as of March 2008

| Entrants | Subject | Open | | Total | | | |
|--------------|---------|---------------|-----|---------------|-----|----|-----|
| | | Current Month | YTD | Current Month | YTD | | |
| Cellini | Beverly | 17 | 34 | 13 | 42 | 30 | 76 |
| de Naray | Andy | 18 | 50 | 14 | 48 | 32 | 98 |
| Meisenheimer | Carol | 0 | 35 | 0 | 40 | 0 | 75 |
| Meisenheimer | David | 0 | 32 | 0 | 33 | 0 | 65 |
| Moldenhauer | Jerry | 15 | 44 | 14 | 50 | 29 | 94 |
| Moldenhauer | Tom | 15 | 33 | 20 | 40 | 35 | 73 |
| Stewart | William | 18 | 54 | 15 | 47 | 33 | 101 |
| Swanger | Spencer | 15 | 37 | 19 | 39 | 34 | 76 |
| Woodruff | T.W. | 16 | 16 | 0 | 0 | 16 | 16 |

PRINT

Subject: Camouflage

Awards:

Camouflaged Crab by Deb James

Honorable Mentions:

Given Away by His Shadow by
Jacqueline Vignone

Open Commercial

Award

Lonely Beach by Bill Stanley

Honorable Mention

Geometrics by Rita Steinhauer

Open Maker Made

Award

Skyline Arch by Bill Stewart

Honorable Mention

Wupatki by Bill Stewart

SLIDE

Subject: Camouflage

Awards:

Rhino Beetle by Andy de Naray
Winter Ptarmigan by Bill Stewart

Honorable Mentions:

Common Snipe by TW Woodruff
Bobcat Kitten #1 by Beverly Cellini

Open

Awards:

Colors of a Rainbow by
Tom Moldenhauer
Evening Light by Spencer Swanger

Honorable Mentions:

Taos Pueblo in Winter by Bill Stewart
Oxbow Bend by Tom Moldenhauer

Digital Projection Competition as of March 2008

| Entrants | Subject | Open | | Total | | | |
|--------------|---------|---------------|-----|---------------|-----|----|-----|
| | | Current Month | YTD | Current Month | YTD | | |
| Boone | Ramona | 0 | 0 | 0 | 13 | 0 | 13 |
| Du Fresne | Bruce | 18 | 56 | 18 | 56 | 36 | 112 |
| James | Deb | 0 | 35 | 0 | 33 | 0 | 68 |
| Mikalaitis | Laura | 0 | 14 | 0 | 13 | 0 | 27 |
| Meisenheimer | Carol | 0 | 0 | 0 | 37 | 0 | 37 |
| Meisenheimer | David | 0 | 0 | 0 | 40 | 0 | 40 |
| Porter | Art | 9 | 9 | 17 | 30 | 26 | 39 |
| Stanley | Bill | 13 | 42 | 15 | 44 | 28 | 86 |
| Steinhauer | Rita | 0 | 28 | 0 | 29 | 0 | 57 |
| Woodruff | T.W. | 14 | 45 | 15 | 48 | 29 | 93 |

Digital Projection

Subject: Camouflage

Awards:

Sparrow by Bruce du Fresne

Honorable Mentions:

Oops - Wrong Season by Art Porter

Open

Awards

Red & White Flower by Bill Holm

Honorable Mention

Church Window by Bruce du Fresne

March Field Trip

The weather forecast for March 22, 2008 said snow showers through out the day with only slight accumulations. After rising at 3:45AM I looked outside and the sky was clear with a beautiful full moon. I get dressed, eat breakfast, load my photography gear into the blazer, pick up Andy de Nary, and head for the appointed Village Inn. Patiently awaiting our arrival are Tim and George Starr in Tim's truck. I tell Tim that I'm going to top off the gas tank in the blazer and get a cup of coffee at the near by 7/11. With this completed we head south on I-25 for the Monte Vista NWF in search of the evading sand hill crane.

On our way over LaVetta Pass the sun is just starting to rise. It was a gorgeous orange/red ball just over the horizon. I mention to Andy that Monte Vista will have to wait a bit; I'm going to stop at the sand dunes and catch the morning light on the dunes. Andy was all for that idea, and so was Tim when I asked him at the dunes turn off highway / 160. By this time the sun was moving fast, and was already on the dunes. Like I told Andy, we should have left at four. We get to the visitor center parking lot and by the time we reach the edge of the dunes the shadows on the ripples of the sand were almost nonexistent. At first I was disappointed, but I soon started seeing other things on the dunes to photograph. Shadows from grass, drift wood, tracks in the sand. This stop didn't turn out the way I played it in my mind, but everyone seemed to enjoy the detour.

After our detour at the sand dunes we headed for the Monte Vista NWR. As we traveled from Alamosa to Monte Vista we started to see crane. And then from Monte Vista to the national wildlife refuge we started to see lots of crane. We saw cranes in the grain fields, cranes in the sky. We stopped at the NWR visitor's center, and I picked up a map, and we drove around the wildlife observation loop drive. We saw crane, but they were all south of us in the sky. I then noticed some of the cranes were flying toward us. I stopped the blazer and got out with my camera and we got some in flight shots.

That's the way it went through out the day. We drove around stopping to photograph them when we saw them in fields or as a group flying over us. At 3pm we went back to Monte Vista for gas in the blazer and bit of Dairy Queen in our tanks. After we were topped off we headed back to the refuge for the golden light on the cranes. The sky was still free of clouds and we needed only to wait for the golden moment to come. We stopped at an abandoned farm house and photographed around the house and yard for a while. I then gathered the group and we headed in the refuge for those golden crane shots.

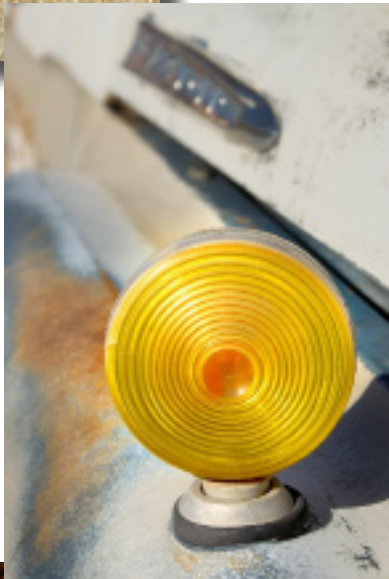
No sooner than we got there a group of crane flew by. I noticed that these birds were not golden. In fact the grain fields were not golden either. I looked to the west and sure enough a cloud, a cloud blocking the sun's golden evening light. That didn't stop us. We kept shooting when the opportunity, or crane, arrived.

We tried to chase the light, but where we went the shadow soon followed. Darn, foiled again, the first field trip down there we were chased off in the evening by bad weather. We got back to Alamosa a little after 7pm. We noticed that the mountain range the LaVeta pass goes over was shrouded with clouds, dark clouds. From Alamosa Tim and George took off for the sands dunes to spend the night, and Andy and I ate dinner at a Mexican Restaurant.

After dinner Andy and I headed for home. Over the top of LaVeta pass, to Walsenburg, it started to snow. Between LaVeta and Walsenburg the snow was so thick I could only see the yellow center line. I had amber lights on my Ford bronco. I wish I had them now on the blazer. The white light just bounced back. Funny, we were just talking about bouncing light at Dairy Queen. It snowed hard like this until we were just south of Pueblo, then the snow let up, the temperature warmed to 34, and snow turned to sleet until just south of town. At south Academy and I-25 the temperature dropped to 30 and it was snowing hard. The roads were packed and I put the blazer into 4WD for the five mile ride home. At Andy's house they had around 4-5 inches of snow. So much for "only slight accumulations".

Jerry Moldenhauer

March Field Trip Images



Images
courtesy
of
Tim Starr



2008 Club Officers

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Pikes Peak Camera Club

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