Reflections in Vancouver
by Yolanda Venzor

March 2013 Events

MONTHLY MEETING - **Tuesday, March 5,2013 - 7:00 PM at Living Springs Worship Center, 604 Manitou Blvd.**
Colorado Springs, CO.

Balance
by
Tim Starr

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER
Jim Van Namee

Do you remember when you were a kid and totally afraid to jump in the water and swim? We've all been there. In life, some things just freak us out, and it's no different in photography. I know it sounds strange, but we all need to be pushed sometimes. We need someone to force us to do something in a new and different way. So today I'm going to act as that person. I want you to try these 5 things.

Challenge yourself to get up close

We're all too comfortable using the zoom feature on our cameras, but the real gold lies in getting up as close as possible to your subjects. That's why I'm challenging you to forget about the zoom on your camera and just walk up as close as possible to your subjects. Try to fill the entire frame with someone's face. Even better, fill the frame with a part of someone's face. It's an entirely new perspective that makes you see the importance of focus and composition.

Photos need to have a consistent theme. They need to be about one or two things, and usually nothing more. By getting up close, you force yourself to find a theme for your images, and that's a very good thing

Challenge yourself to avoid centering your subject

It's our default wiring to place the subject of our images smack dab in the center. Most of the time, this backfires on us. While it works for us to look directly at things, it doesn't look good in a photo. You need to place your subject somewhere else to create an image that looks interesting.

So I challenge you to place your subject anywhere but the center of the frame. I honestly don't care where just as long it's not the center. Put your subject all the way up in the top corner. Cut off someone's legs. It might not look pretty, but it's usually ten times better than simply placing your subject in the center of the frame.

If you want to follow the officially established rules, you'll consider placing your subject in one of the [four thirds of the frame](#). I'm talking about the upper right, upper left, lower right, or lower left thirds. This is what we call the rule of thirds, and it works in a lot of shooting situations. It creates a space for your eye to move through the photo, automatically making it appear more interesting.

Challenge yourself to learn manual photography

If you read up on it and start doing some experimentation, you can actually [learn manual photography quite fast](#). I learned it mostly through trial and error. I would try one setting, check the LCD screen, find out it needed to be brighter or whatever, and then I'd make an adjustment until I liked what I saw. There are a number of modes on your camera ([shutter priority](#), [aperture priority](#), etc.) that you can use to learn manual photography. You just need to play with them.

By the way, if you own a point-and-shoot camera that doesn't offer manual settings, this challenge does not apply to you. In that case, it's better for you to learn as much as you can about the way your own camera works. There are a number of ways to make your images more [colorful](#) and [interesting](#), and none of them involve manual settings.

Challenge yourself to add more color to your photos

I think there's one big thing that differentiates great photographers from ordinary Joes, and that is color. Experienced photographers know that photography is not about replicating what you see in real life. It's about taking what you see in real life and making art out of it. To do that, you need to make your photos more colorful than life

The best way to start with this is to use your camera's own artistic modes or [white balance](#) settings. Depending on the camera model you own, you might have a vivid color or extra vivid color mode you can use to get more color out of your photos.

If you don't have those modes, you can always adjust your white balance to get more color from your images. The easiest way to do this is to set your camera to the "cloudy day" setting even though it's perfectly sunny outside. When you do that, you're basically tricking your camera into thinking it needs to add more color to a scene.

As you perfect your technique, you'll learn ways to add more color in [Photoshop Elements](#) and through other means. Do have a look at [my other tutorials](#) on Photoshop Elements. They're very handy when you want to get started with adding color after you've taken the photo.

Challenge yourself to do what you would never do

It's perhaps the hardest challenge of all. We all know we do it. We get into a niche we really enjoy, and we never push ourselves to try anything outside of it. The next time you grab your camera, think to yourself, "what else could I be photographing? What am I missing out on?"

If you only shoot [action](#), consider getting down low and [shooting macro](#). If [landscape](#) photography is your thing, try taking some candid [portraits](#) of your friends. Who knows, you might learn a thing or two that can help you out in your favorite niche. The best way to become a better photographer is to step outside of your comfort zone. The skills you learn in other domains will translate over to the areas where you're most comfortable.

PHOTOGRAPHIC TRUTH: By 2017 someone will merge every digital photo ever made into one giant Photoshop file and we will all be done.

PRINT COMPETITION RESULTS– Feb. 2013

PRINT COMPETITION - MONTHLY STANDINGS AS OF FEB 2013		SUBJECT		OPEN		TOTAL	
	PREV CUM TOT	CURRENT MONTH	YTD	CURRENT MONTH	YTD	CURRENT MONTH	YTD
Lee Bernhardt	21	0	0	0	21	0	21
Bill Lloyd	0	14	14	14	14	28	28
Galen Short	0	16	16	18	18	34	34
Bill Stanley	35	13	31	17	34	30	65
Tim Starr	36	17	31	20	42	37	73
Rita Steinhauer	36	15	35	15	31	30	66
Jim Van Namee	18	22	22	16	34	38	56
Jacqueline Vignone	30	13	27	15	31	28	58

**Sunrise Shapes
by
Karen Morris**

SLIDE COMPETITION RESULTS– Feb. 2013

SLIDE COMPETITION - MONTHLY STANDINGS AS OF FEB 2013		SUBJECT		OPEN		TOTAL	
	PREV CUM TOT	CURRENT MONTH	YTD	CURRENT MONTH	YTD	CURRENT MONTH	YTD
Beverly Cellini	36	16	31	17	38	33	69
Andy de Naray	30	14	28	14	30	28	58
Jerry Moldenhauer	34	0	17	0	17	0	34
Tim Starr	35	17	33	18	37	35	70

SUBJECT:

AWARD: In the Door, Out the Window by Beverly Cellini

HONORABLE MENTION: Balloon by TIm Starr

OPEN:

AWARD: Balance by Tim Starr

HONORABLE MENTION: Storm & Bristlecone by Beverly Cellini

Abstract Columbine
by
TW Woodruff

Digital Competition Results
February 2013

DIGITAL COMPETITION - MONTHLY STANDINGS AS OF FEB 2013		SUBJECT		OPEN		TOTAL	
	PREV CUM TOT	CURRENT MONTH	YTD	CURRENT MONTH	YTD	CURRENT MONTH	YTD
Debi Boucher	45	16	37	15	39	31	76
Sherwood Cherry	31	15	29	16	33	31	62
Andy de Naray	17	0	0	0	17	0	17
Bruce Du Fresne	40	15	35	20	40	35	75
William Hadl	31	15	30	17	33	32	63
Debbie Milburn	34	13	31	6	22	19	53
Jerry Moldenhauer	37	0	17	0	20	0	37
Karen Morris	31	17	34	14	28	31	62
Tim Starr	33	17	35	21	36	38	71
Al Swanson	36	20	39	17	34	37	73
Jim Van Namee	26	19	26	15	34	34	60
Yolanda Venzor	34	20	40	22	36	42	76
Jacqueline Vignone	37	14	31	17	37	31	68
T.W. Woodruff	0	14	14	20	20	34	34

Steps
by
Jim Van Namee

SUBJECT:

AWARDS:
Reflections in Vancouver by
 Yolanda Venzor
Steps by Jim Van Namee
Rockefeller Bridge by Al Swanson

HONORABLE MENTIONS:
Sunrise Shapes by Karen Morris
Thunderbird F4 by Al Swanson
Windows by Tim Starr

OPEN:

AWARDS:
Long, Windy Road in Canyonlands
 by Yolanda Venzor
Abstract Columbine by
 TW Woodruff
Waters Edge Seating Available
 by Bruce du Fresne

HONORABLE MENTIONS:
Dream Lake by Tim Starr
Rocky Mountain National Park
 by Tim Starr
First Light at Mesa Arch
 by Yolanda Venzor

2013 Monthly Competition Subjects

January - **Person or People having fun**

February - **Geometric Shape(s) as the main subject**

March - Critique Night

April - **Food (must be the primary subject).**

May - **Street Scenes (including a person or people)**

June - **Abstracts (expressing a quality apart from an object).**

July - **Primary Colors (red, blue and yellow must ALL be prominent in the photo).**

August - **Photojournalism (The picture tells the story).**

September - **Scavenger Hunt and Critique Night**

October - **Photo depicting activity at any State or County Fair**

November - **Leading Lines (Draw the viewer's eye THROUGH the photograph).**

December - **Salon Dinner and Awards**

Club Officers for 2013

President	Jim Van Namee	jvannamee@gmail.com
Vice President	Galen Short	gpsdude@gmail.com
Secretary	Debbie Milburn	ddmilburn3@aol.com
Treasurer	Bruce du Fresne	badufresne@comcast.net
Field Trip Coord.	Jerry Moldenhauer	streetrodder30@q.com
Newsletter Editor	Nancy Ellis	nancyzellis@yahoo.com
PSA Representative	Al Swanson	akswan1969@comcast.net
Public relations	Yolanda Venzor	yolanda_venzor@kindermorgan.com
Travelogue	Andy de Naray	andydenaray@msn.com
WebPage Design	Tim Starr	timstarr@skybeam.com

Rockefeller Bridge
by
Al Swanson

THINGS TO KNOW.....

1. The March meeting is critique night. Please send
    any images you want critiqued to Bruce several
    days ahead of the meeting. (March 5th.)

2. Welcome to two new members: Mike Kinate and
    Tibor Vari.

3. On April 12-14 at The Westin Denver Downtown
    Hotel, three nature photography masters -
    Thomas D. Mangelsen, Frans Lanting and Art Wolfe

    are conducting a weekend of photgraphic
inspiration. For more details, go to www.
MastersofNaturePhotography.com

Waters Edge Seating
Available
by
Bruce du Fresne