Newsletter of
The Pikes Peak Camera Club

PSA
Photographic Society of America

"**Muddy**" **by Tim Starr**
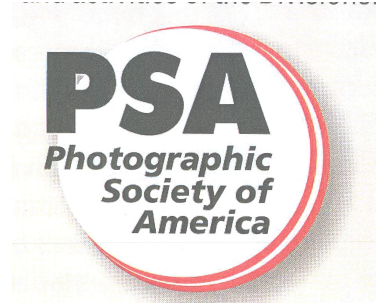
MONTHLY MEETING - JANUARY 7, 2014 @ 7:00 PM

This club was established in 1930 and is believed to be the oldest camera club in Colorado. Meetings are held at 7 PM on the first Tuesday of each month at the Living Hope Church, 640 Manitou Blvd, Colorado Springs, CO.

The Pikes Peak Camera Club is a member of the Photographic Society of America. Visit the club's website at: PikesPeakCameraClub.com Visitors are always welcome to the meetings.

Club Officers for 2014

Co - President   Jim Van Namee   jvannamee@gmail.com

Co - President   Tim Starr timstarr@skybeam.com

Vice President Galen Short   gpsdude@gmail.com

Secretary Nancy Ellis nancyzellis@yahoo.com

Treasurer Bruce du Fresne badufresne@comcast.net

Newsletter Editor Nancy Ellis   nancyzellis@yahoo.com

PSA Representative Al Swanson akswan1969@comcast.net

Public Relations Yolanda Venzor yolanda_venzor@kindermorgan.com

Website Design Tim Starr timstarr@skybeam.com

SALON AWARDS 2013

Editor's Award – Creative/Altered Reality
"Denver at Night" by
TW Woodruff

Deb James Memorial Award - On or Under Water
"Morning Fishing" by Al Swanson

PIKES PEAK CAMERA CLUB 2013 SALON AWARDS

Prints - Bill Stewart Memorial Award - Trees

1st - Tim Starr   The Standout
HM - Tim Starr   Reaching for the Sky
HM - Al Swanson   Road of Gold
HM - Debbie Milburn   Winter Trees
HM - Galen Short   A Survivor

Prints - President's Award - Reflection

1st - Tim Starr   Cathedral rocks
HM - Al Swanson   Seal Harbor Park
HM - Beverly Cellini   Snowy Egret Trio
HM - Galen Short   Mountain Reflection
HM - Al Swanson   Marby Mill

Prints - Open

1st - Tim Starr   Shrouded Peak
2nd - Tim Starr   Going to the Glacier
3rd - Al Swanson   Sunflowers
HM - Al Swanson   The Red Bench
HM - Tim Starr   First light from eye in the sky
HM - Galen Short   Mail Car

**"Mountain Reflection" by
Galen Short**

Slides - Spencer Swanger Memorial Award - Adventurous Activity

1st - Tim Starr   Airborne
HM - Tim Starr   Boat Race

Slides - Open

1st - Tim Starr   Muddy
2nd - Tim Starr   Sands
3rd - Beverly Cellini   First Light at Turret Arch
HM - Beverly Cellini   Prancing Baby Burro
HM - Tim Starr   Balance

"Boat Race" by Tim Starr

Digital - Deb James Memorial Award - On or Under Water

1st - Al Swanson   Morning Fishing
HM - Nancy Ellis   Peekaboo
HM - Debi Boucher   Pacific Sunset
HM - Tim Starr   Rainbow of Colors
HM - Al Swanson   Turtle at play
HM - Debi Boucher   Uncle

Digital - Editor's Award - Creative/Altered Reality

1st - TW Woodruff   Denver at night
HM - TW Woodruff   Black light Abstract
HM - Debi Boucher   Once upon a time
HM - Debi Boucher   White Forest
HM - Tim Starr   Tornado of Color

Digital - Open

1st - Bill Holm   Winter Cold
2nd - Debi Boucher   Queen's Canyon June 26th, 2012
3rd - Debbie Milburn   Point Reyes
HM - Art Porter   Dead Vlei
HM - Debi Boucher   Carson Lake
HM - Art Porter   Rust Mountains
HM - Tim Starr   Eagle on an Iceburg

"Winter Cold" by Bill Holm

Monthly Print Competition

1st - Tim Starr
2nd - Bill Stanley
3rd - Beverly Cellini
3rd - Rita Steinhauer
HM - Jim Van Namee
HM - Galen Short
HM - Marjorie Card
HM - Jacqueline Vignone

Monthly Slide Competition

1st - Andy de Naray
2nd - Tim Starr
3rd - Beverly Cellini
HM - Jerry Moldenhauer

Monthly Digital Competition

1st - Tim Starr
2nd - Debi Boucher
3rd - Yolanda Venzor
HM - Bruce du Fresne
HM - William Hadl
HM - Debbie Milburn
HM - Karen Morris
HM - Al Swanson
HM - Jim Van Namee

"Once upon a Time" by
Debi Boucher

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER
Jim Van Namee

I hope you have a Happy New Year. Looking forward to next year with Tim Starr. Jim

Abstract Photography For Beginniners

Filed in Tips by David Peterson on November 20, 2013
Photography as an art is usually based on your viewer looking at all the parts of a photograph and forming meaning based on their world experiences. Abstract photography removes the parameters of context. So it frees you to create the meaning you wish to convey... so your viewer will be able to look at something in a completely new light. Abstract photography is the art of stripping away and stripping down. It helps to have a keen eye for detail and the ability to see an object (often a common everyday item) as its individual parts rather than the whole. Abstract photography is a challenge but there are some basic tips to get you started off in the right direction.

Look for Lines and Curves

Line and curves are going to give your viewer something to base their new meaning on and add visual interest. Without these shapes, your eye wouldn't travel through and across the image. Instead, it would pull your eye to whatever element catches it first (usually the brightest or darkest part of the photo) and keep it there. So your viewer doesn't get an appreciation for all the details and eccentricities of whatever you have abstracted. Lines have other use too, like in visual design.

Go Macro

Part of abstracting an item comes from compartmentalizing. One way to do just that is to use a [macro lens](#) to get up close and personal with the details of a person, place or thing. While this can be done with cropping in post, you'll [lose some of the resolution](#) and sharpness that comes with getting the shot in camera through proper composition.

Shoot Through Another Object

Abstract photography often makes use of objects and turn them into filters. Shooting through a glass bottle, a rain splattered window, or even water might give you just the distortion or light refraction you need to create a really interesting and truly abstract image.

Experiment and Recognize Your Control

Shoot out of focus, use extreme angles and extreme light. One of the parts of abstract photography that seriously freaks many photographers out is the lack of rules. Despite the 'anything goes' attitude, it's important for you to know how your camera works so you can properly manipulate your results. Embrace your complete control and run with it. Abstract photography gives you freedom not found in wedding or portrait photography. If you feel something would look better red, change the color. Would the photo be more interesting upside down? Rotate it. Get power hungry and don't be afraid to be manipulate reality to your every whim.

Try Off Camera Flash

[Controlling the light](#) is always important in photography but being able to emphasize certain portions of you subject while blowing the highlights or leaving dark shadows on others is a key to removing the context we would typically associate with an object so new connections can form. Using an [off camera flash](#) is an easy way to manipulate the strength and direction of light. Hold the flash at crazy angles or in close proximity for the effect you are looking for.

Seek out Texture and Patterns

[Emphasizing patterns](#) is one way to take a picture of a normal object that is composed abstractly. They are great tools to move your eye across the image in the intended direction and simply make your photograph more interesting in means of color, shape, or depth. The also do a great job of striping associations and creating a space for abstraction to take place.

Start at Home

If you can abstract an item that you look at every day and remove the mundane framework you associate it, you will be able to do that for other people and you will be able to think abstractly when you are on location. One of the coolest abstract photography projects I've seen was done by a friend of mine who is the proud dad to four Labrador Retrievers. All of his dogs are tennis ball obsessed and as such their home has been overtaken by what feels like hundreds of tennis balls. He decided he would try and find a way to abstract them so he went through them and found the ones he felt were the most visually interested and photographed them with a macro lens. He was able to take an item he sees multiple times a day and recreate it through his art.

"Peekaboo" by Nancy Ellis

Various club activities occurring during 2014.....

April - Second Meeting… High School Photography Contest Judging

May - First Meeting… High School Judging Awards

July - Second Meeting… Scavenger Hunt Subjects submitted to Newsletter Editor

August - Last Tuesday (Separate Meeting)… Scavenger Hunt Showing & Critique Night

September TBD… Pikes Peak Challenge

October - First Meeting… Call for Board Nominees

November - First Meeting… Board Elections

November - Third Saturday… (Separate Meeting) Salon Work night

November - Second Meeting… Salon Judging

December - First Meeting… Salon Dinner and Awards Presentation

"Point Reyes" by Debbie Milburn

2014 Monthly Competition Subjects

January - **Fires:** any image of a fire or its aftermath

February - **Things that don't go together:** dogs/cats, fire/water, etc.

March - **Critique Night**

April - **What's for lunch:** something eating something else - kid eating a PBJ sandwich, deer eating your rosebush, birds at a feeder,etc.

May - **Wearing many different hats:** person or animal or object wearing any type of hat, helmet or scarf,etc.

June - **Jailhouse Blues:** any structure or location that holds incarcerated people - jail, prison, police van, internment camp,etc.

July - **Unusual Rock Formations:** any natural, scenic geological feature- GOG, Paint Mines, Volcano, Slot Canyon, Cave Formation,etc.

August - **Birds of a Feather:** natural or captive shot of a single bird or group of birds - flock of geese, birds at a feeder, pet parakeet, etc.

September - **Scavenger Hunt and Critique Night**

October - **River:** Any size - natural or from a flood

November - **Corner of a building:** Photo of something interesting about (inside or outside) the corner of a building

December - **Salon Dinner and Awards**