



THROUGH THE LENS

Website: www.arlingtoncameraclub.org Email: arlcamclub@yahoo.com

President's Comments . . .



Happy New Year!

I hope you all enjoyed the holidays and are ready for more photography. We've got an exciting agenda coming up for the first half of 2006 starting off on January 4th with Edith Sieg. Edith is a professional photographer and she will be presenting a program about moving from amateur to professional. If you've ever wondered what it takes to make this transition, be sure to see this program, and bring your questions.

On January 18th we'll expand your creativity by bringing in Tom from Alpine camera to conduct a workshop on hand-painting photographs. In addition to being a great photofinisher and all around good source for camera information, Tom is also an accomplished artist. This will be a hands on workshop so please bring at least one matte finished color or

black & white photo on which you can practice the techniques presented. All paints and brushes will be provided.

Thanks to all who contributed goodies to our Holiday party and especially thank you to all that participated in our critique discussion the same night. Walter Hoffman and Bill Kruser led us in an entertaining and informative discussion of the photos entered in the December 7th competition. Many members have expressed that these sessions have been a positive exercise and personally I find it's greatly helped my photography. We'll hold critique sessions after the February and April competitions. I hope you can all join us then.

Finally Cindy Kuffel has planned some really great field trips for us. I hope to make the Starved Rock outing on January 28th where, in addition to many photo opportunities, there will be a number of seminars and activities related to the park going on. Also on February 18th we'll have an indoor trip to the Volo Auto museum. Don't miss it.

Ken Olson

**Arlington Camera Club Travels & Events
By Cindy Kuffel – ckk116@comcast.net**

Happy New Year!

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season, let's hope 2006 is a prosperous year.

2006 Planned Dates -

January 28 – Starved Rock outing photographing hopefully some eagles and frozen ice falls. Weather permitting I will be leaving

early and spending the day and maybe night up there.

February 18 – Volo Car Museum – more information to follow.

The library display was a huge success, thank you to everyone who participated in it. Let's look forward to October, 2006 main floor display.

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Upcoming Events at ACC

Important: ACC meets at the Arlington Historical Society, 110 W. Fremont, Arlington Heights. {The Arlington Historical Society is located 2 blocks west of Arlington Heights Road, just south of Euclid}

October 5 – Competition

ACC Theme: Reflections

Arlington Camera Club meets on the first and third Wednesday, from September through June

Just Say Cheese!

By Sue Farwick

BUGS WE HAVE KNOWN.

I have, over the past few years, been the recipient of numerous phone calls from all three of our daughters, mostly late at night, that have gone something like this;

Me: "Hello."

Daughter: "Mum." (On the verge of tears.)

Me: "Hello dear. What's wr.....?"

Daughter screams, shrieking down the phone in decibels guaranteed to pierce the ear drum,

Me: (Frantically) "What's wrong? What's wrong?"

Is there an intruder in the apartment? Has she accidentally cut off an extremity while slicing vegetables? Has she received this month's phone bill?

Daughter: "IT'S CLIMBING UP THE WALL!!!!!!!" (More screams)

Me: (Frantically) "What? What?"



Has she given the houseplant too much liquid fertilizer? Could it be the neighbor's boa-constrictor on the loose again or.....even the neighbor? Or is it some grotesque alien monster that has landed on Earth and made my daughter's apartment its first port of call?

Daughter: "A BUG!!!!!!!!!"

Now I'm the last one to be judgmental in matters of this kind. Goodness knows, I have my own phobias so I completely understand where she's coming from on this one. I therefore offer maternal sympathy and helpful advice.

Me: "Hit it with a shoe or something."

Pause as sounds of something substantial crashing into the wall come down the line.

Daughter: (More screams) "IT WON'T DIE!!!!!!!!!"

Good heavens! Is it some mutant strain of earwig, able to withstand the merciless beating of a size nine Dolce & Gabbana platform shoe? Perhaps I could take pictures; flog them to National Geographic.

Me: "Well, alright. Just come home and I'll sort it out in the morning." Or words to that effect.

Usually, by the time I arrive the following day, the offending item has packed its bags and left, probably saying to itself, "I'm not staying here with all this racket going on," although the last time I was called in, to

witness an infestation of termites, the little beggars were still there. I took pictures on that occasion. (I thought the landlord would be interested to see them.)

However, I'm happy to report that most of my photographic experiences with bugs have been much less fraught with drama.

There was, for instance, the time Rupert, a praying mantis, took up residence amongst the chrysanthemums late one summer. (You will notice that we like to name our wildlife) Rupert was very obliging and posed for endless shots (when we could find him; he blended in so well with the foliage) whilst preying on other inoffensive and innocent bugs that carelessly wandered too close and were snapped up as light refreshment. It was really quite entertaining.



Every year we always scour the garden for swallowtail's eggs, so tiny you practically need a magnifying glass to see them. Once located, we consign them to an old empty fish tank and watch as, over the weeks, they turn first to wiggling, black little bits of thread, then rapidly expand into brightly striped caterpillars. The metamorphosis from this to the glorious butterfly that eventually emerges from its chrysalis is nothing short of miraculous and I have frequently sat up till the wee hours waiting to catch this extraordinary phenomenon on film.



One such vigil was well rewarded when we repeated the process, this time with a giant polyphemus moth that happened to hatch out right in the middle of one of our family parties. It probably took one look at all the paper hats, happy birthday banners and brimming glasses and thought to itself, "How kind. Fancy going to all this trouble just for me."



I seem to remember we drank to its health and wished it "bon voyage" as we released it ceremoniously into the night. The resulting pictures weren't bad, although the camera wasn't quite as steady as it might have been. I can't think why.

The Audubon Society Field Guide states that there are nearly 100,000 insect species in North America alone, which probably explains why my photo albums are overflowing with pictures of darting dragonflies, spinning spiders, buzzing bees and cavorting crickets. I even have some rather risqué shots of a couple of grasshoppers, if anyone's interested.



Commercial prints

Dome	Carol Arnolde	21	
A Glimpse of Old World Wisconsin	Ken Olsen	22	HM
Old World Window	Paula Matzek	19	
Untitled #2	Mary Holzer	19	

Slides

The Sea Ranch	Mary Stitt	18
Waiting	Jim Emmerson	18
Family Time	Bill Ditman	20
Lake Tahoe	Scott Gross	20

Small Monochrome

The Lonely Commuter	Bill Kruser	22	
1940 Ford Coupe	Carol Arnolde	19	
Fruit	Susan Farwick	23	HM
Rocking Chair	Paula Matzek	21	

Small Color Prints

Reverie of a Clown	Susan Farwick	21
Autumn on the farm	Bill Kruser	21
Milkweed	Ken Olsen	21
New Orleans Neon	Cindy Kuffel	20



Photos speak to us, sometimes soothingly, sometimes in haunting shrieks.

Dan McGrath, Chicago Tribune

One photo out of focus is a mistake, ten photos out of focus are an experimentation, one hundred photos out of focus are a style.

Author Unknown

SOMEONE YOU SHOULD KNOW

Member Profile: Sue Farwick

I have never found it easy to give one word answers or generalize in response to these kinds of questions but I'll do my best. However, it wouldn't be me if I didn't write three sentences where one would do.

Born: Yes, although at the time my mother swore she found me under a gooseberry bush. Be that as it may, she and my father ultimately admitted responsibility for me; there was no arguing with the birth certificate that stated I had arrived at Queen Mary's Hospital Hampstead in London, England on August 23rd 19** something-or-other, the only girl amid a sea of blue blankets in the nursery that day.

Family: I was an only child. My parents asked me if I would like a little brother or sister and I promptly told them, "No. Quit while you're ahead," so they left it at that. I subsequently failed to follow my own advice and had three children of my own; three beautiful daughters, all of whom, along with our two wonderful grandsons, are a great source of pride to Ken, my husband of thirty-two years, and I.

Hobbies: Where do I begin? I'll just mention the ones that take up the majority of my time these days. Writing; apart from writing articles for the club newsletter, I'm currently working on my second book: Fencing; I love it, despite the bruises. It truly is an exhilarating sport, for the mind as well as the body. Photography; a little less physically demanding perhaps, but challenging nevertheless.

Little Known Fact: I hate to cook; but then again, to anyone who has been unlucky enough to sample any of my cooking, that particular 'little known fact' would be patently obvious.

Favorite Book: Anything written by Alan Coren, but there are several close runners-up including *Three Men in a Boat* by Jerome K. Jerome, *The Man Who Laughs* by Victor Hugo and stories by H.G. Wells and P.G. Wodehouse. Of course, there's always E.F. Benson's

Make Way For Lucia and the books of Dorothy L. Sayers, Daphne du Maurier and Tolkien. Did I mention, I love reading?

Favorite Movie: Another tough one but I think I would have to give the nod to the 1943 version of *Ivan the Terrible*, followed within a hair's breadth by Chaliapin's *Don Quixote*, although I must say I thought Peter Jackson did a terrific job with *The Lord of the Rings*.

Favorite Food: Christmas pudding, without a doubt; but I couldn't rule out scallops, pizza or any kind of French cooking either.

Favorite Music: Classical, for sure. Anything by Tchaikovsky, Rachmaninov or Mussorgsky especially. I love opera and could happily spend the rest of my life listening to Chaliapin singing anything.

Favorite Place To Shoot: A great deal of my pictures seem to have been taken at the Chicago Botanic Gardens but you will also find me quite frequently at the Spring Valley and Crabtree Nature Centers, as well as The Morton Arboretum and Cantigny.

Favorite Photographer: Again it's very difficult to pick just one but for the sake of argument I'll say Anne Geddes; I love those adorable baby pictures; but it would be remiss of me not to give at least a mention to the fantastic shots in *National Geographic*.

How Did You Get Interested In Photography: I think it was when my husband gave me my first SLR camera.



Favorite Picture I Have Taken: Probably *Reverie of a Clown*. Like so many of my pictures it was a lucky shot. Throughout the session, the clown appeared very jolly and animated, but I just happened to catch a moment when she inadvertently let the mask slip. 9

ACC Library Display



Pieces of the Whole by Russ Burden

www.takegreatpictures.com

Properly framing your subject is one of the most basic compositional elements in photography and also one of the easiest to control.

The whole is the sum of its parts. Eliminating an addend prevents a proper total from being obtained. Photographically put, this translates to making sure you don't create an awkward crop of your subject. For example, you wouldn't take a picture of the Empire State



Building and not include the antenna or take a shot of a majestic bull elk and cut into his antlers. These are obvious mistakes. But often very tight cropping of a subject or photographing a strategic piece can net a better image than if presented in its entirety.

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I refer to this concept of photography as "pieces of the whole." Compositionally, the same rules apply as if you are photographing an entire subject. It's just that you concentrate on a small section of the subject. Use the rule of thirds to prevent placing the focal point in the center of the image. It makes a more dynamic photo. Look for color variations to play one against another or blend tones harmoniously. If important tones merge with the edges of your frame, look for ways to change their locations so the eye isn't pulled away from the center of interest.



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Depending on the size of your subject, you may need a macro lens, close up filter, or extension tube to get in tight on the section you want to isolate. For instance, a common subject of nature photographers is a butterfly. While capturing a great specimen perched on a flower makes a



wonderful image, shooting pieces of the whole may net you two additional ones - a close up pattern of the wings and an in tight shot of the flower upon which it sits. A favorite subject of travel photographers is the market area. Close up images of the goods being sold in addition to shots of weathered hands should not be overlooked.

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In the images that accompany this article, I made conscious choices to zero in on small portions of the subject matter before me. The sand pattern was made in the dunes area of Monument Valley. Having been there a number of times, I turned my lens away from the obvious and looked for other shots. What attracted me was the way the beetle prints and rolling dune ripples played off each other. The reflection of Pemaquid Lighthouse is often made including both the reflection and the actual lighthouse. I chose to zoom into just the reflection. The close up of the rose is a tight cropping of just the interesting area of the emerging flower.

Coming In February

February 1, 2006 — Competition: Open to all paid members.

February 15, 2006 — Critique Workshop.

CACCA Theme: "Wild Things"

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