



THROUGH THE LENS

Great People and Great Images Since 1988

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

President's Comments . . .



It certainly hope that all of you had an enjoyable time at our January 20th anniversary celebration party. It sure was a lot of fun, and the food was great too!

We had so many raffle prizes that it made it fun for everyone. Thanks to Nora Liu for providing some of the wonderful consolation prizes. Nora wanted to help us out with something, and that sure made a lot of people happy. Thanks again, Nora.

Imagine 20 years from now: What will the club be like? Where will the club be headed? For a camera club, we have made some significant gains. I believe we will continue to stay active and come up with innovative ideas and exciting areas to venture into.

Personally, I believe that the members' exhibits at various locations are one of the best things we do. Furthermore, we maintain a visual presence by being in the parades and photographing the Arlington Heights area. Our donating photos to the museum are a wonderful way to assist in the

continued history of the village. If you are not sure what is required to donate photos to the village, see Bill K., and he will provide you with information. All of this work keeps the Arlington Camera Club and its members in the limelight, so to speak. Please keep up the good work.

Several of our members have suggested printing shirts, vests, or jackets with the club name and logo. What are your thoughts? Is there any preference to the items listed above? The current club logo is a film can with ISO shown as ACC 1988 (founding year). Any comments or ideas for changes are welcome. We do have member patches for sale at a cost of \$5.00 which can be sewn on to your own hat, vest, jacket, camera bag, or shirt. See Cathy Berner if you would be interested in some patches.

Next, I would like to mention our upcoming exhibits; one will be in Prospect Heights this April. We will be having an artist reception, and there will be an evening set aside to discuss our individual work with the visitors at the library. I do not believe a theme has been submitted as of this writing, but I am sure we will have some information to you at the January meeting.

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Upcoming Events at ACC

ACC meets at the Arlington Historical Society, 110 W. Fremont, Arlington Heights.
(2 blocks west of Arlington Heights Road, just south of Euclid)

February 6 — Competition

Open to all paid members

CACCA Theme — Cats (wild or domestic)

February 20 — Workshop

Critique Workshop

Arlington Camera Club meets on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday, from September through June at 7:30

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SOMEONE YOU SHOULD KNOW

Member Profile: Linda Romanow

Born: July 28

Family: I live in Elk Grove with my husband Jon and my Cat named Smokey Bones

Hobbies: Travel, Photography, Graphic Design, Web Design, Reading & Movies

Check out my web portfolio for updated designs and photography: www.LR-Designs.com

Favorite Book: Well, I am not sure about a favorite, but a book I really enjoyed reading recently was "Bag of Bones" by Stephen King. I also enjoyed reading "White Oleander" by Janet Fitch and almost anything by Michael Crichton

Favorite Movie: I am pretty much open to all movies. (Especially action movies with corky characters like The Mummy.)

Favorite Food: I LOVE Italian and Mexican Food

Favorite Music: Rock/Rock Alternative or what ever is on the radio

Favorite Place to Shoot: I love to take photos while traveling. Mostly landscapes and nature scenes

Favorite Photographer/Photograph: Of course Ansel Adams, but also Robert Turner, Keith S. Walklet, Clay McLachlan and Callie Lipkin. I have posted links to

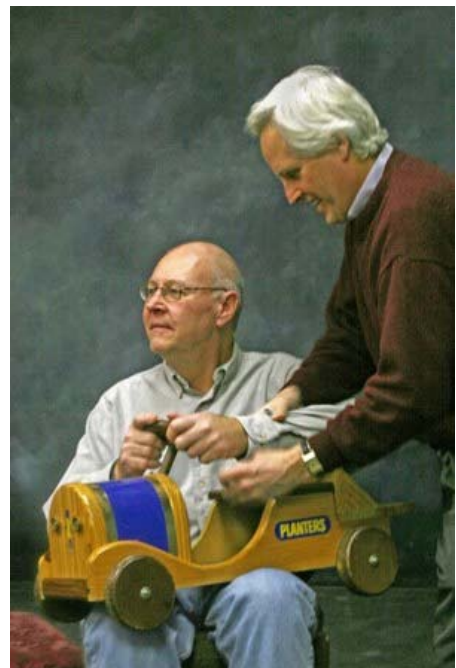
websites of these photographers as well a many other artists on the weblink section of my website, www.LR-Designs.com

How Did You Get Interested In Photography: I have always been interested in graphics, but while in college I was able to take a class that involved 2 weeks of photography. Since then, I was hooked and I try to learn more about photography every chance I get



KRAMER PHOTOGRAPHY STUDIO

Thank you to Bob Kramer of Kramer Photography Studio for allowing club members to invade his space at our last outing. Bob and staff even treated us to a group photograph of the all the club members present. Everyone enjoyed seeing the workings of the studio and watching Isaiah work his magic on the Wacom Pad.



CACCA JANUARY COMPETITION RESULTS

Slides

Pat Wadecki	Sunset on the Mississippi	21
Donna Thomas	Early Morning Maple Leaves	20
Bill Ditman	Buttressed Point	19
Ray Perry	Reflection	16

Small Color Prints

Ken Olsen	Autumn in Motion		AW
Marlene Jones	Is there a Cave?	22	
Carol Arnolde	Purple Iris	22	
Kent Wilson	Cattle Egret	22	

Large Color Prints

Nathan Silvers	Falls of Maui	22
Kent Wilson	Narrows Bridge	22
Nancy St. Clair	Old Santa Fe	21
Carol Arnolde	Group of Iris	19

Small Monochrome Prints

Ken Olsen	Cozy Nook	21	HM
Nora Liu	There Could be Another Chance	20	
Sue Farwick	Ferris Wheel at Dusk	18	
Paula Matzek	At the Fountain	18	

Large Monochrome Prints

Norm Plummer	Night Rain	21
Walter Hoffman	Michigan Avenue Bridge	20

HAVE FUN By Ed Martin

Barb and I took our granddaughter to the zoo a few weeks ago. This wasn't Brookfield or Lincoln Park Zoo. We went to the Cosley Zoo, an accredited zoo in Wheaton, IL. The animals consisted of such non-exotic animals as pigs and rabbits. As it is with the big zoos it was quite fun to seeing the many domestic and wild animals up close.

Getting good pictures was difficult though. I couldn't seem to position myself so that the people-animal compositions looked good. So I just walked around with the family happily taking "snapshots". When I got home and loaded the images on the computer I found some that needed, well, more. That's when I got silly and added commentary. The one included with this article took me the longest to do. I asked Barb what I should do with the picture and she said it was crying out for a lollipop. A trip to the store and a few licks resulted in a blue background image of my hand holding a tootsie roll pop. I incorporated that in the original,

added a shadow, and some caption bubbles. The text was obvious.



NEW MEMBER Q&A

WHAT ARE THE ACC YAHOO GROUP SITE AND THE ACC WEBSITE?

ACC Yahoo Group Site

Our Yahoo Group site is the primary method for transmitting information via email to our club members. It is basically an email forwarding service, where a member can post an email that will automatically be sent to all members of the group. Members receiving the messages can reply to everyone in the group or just the individual initiating the message as appropriate. An archive of the messages is also maintained on the site and is searchable by keywords.

If you haven't already joined the group site please do so by following these instructions:

Go to: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/arlcamclub> and click on "Join now." If you're not a Yahoo user, you'll be asked to register for a Yahoo Account which can be done by clicking "sign up now", located on the left hand side of the login page. Then you'll be directed to our group to join.

Your request to join the group will be forwarded to our group's moderators who will in turn approve your request to join. You'll get a confirming email back within a few days and you'll be part of the group!

Once you are a member of the group, if you come across information you think others would like to know, or have a question, you can send the message to the group by sending an email to arlcamclub@yahoogroups.com.

ACC WEBSITE

The Arlington Camera Club website can be viewed at the following URL:

<http://www.arlingtoncameraclub.org>

New members are welcome to submit images to the website at any time. A member's personal gallery can be put up on the website with as few as 6 images. You can include as many images as you would like up to 30. To start your gallery, save original (full size and resolution) digitized images on a CD-ROM and bring them to a meeting, or send them to Jim Roberts, our Webmaster. E-mail, or telephone to (847) 394-2478, for his home mailing address.

Printed instructions on how to submit images for the website are available at our meetings, and on the website:

Click "**NEWSLETTER > Education-Articles > Judging Competitions > "ACC Photo Details" and "Post-Processing of Competitions"**".



In brief, all images must be given a file name (Title) that represents the image in some appropriate way (such as "Handsome" used on our Home Page for the May "Photo of the Month" by Ken Olsen. The actual file name is "handsome.jpg"). Any images can be submitted for the website; they do not

have to be images that you have shown in our competitions.

Your personal gallery will be shown in our "GALLERIES" section under "ACC MEMBER" alphabetically by member name. It's good to take a look at how some of our other members have presented their galleries. If you would like your images presented in a specific order, identify the file names using numbers such as "01_Handsome.jpg", and then "02_Here They Come.jpg", etc. If your images are not numbered, they will be displayed alphabetically.

Prints and slides will need to be scanned. These can be submitted in TIFF or JPEG format on the CD-ROM. Digital camera images should be submitted in full resolution. Our Photoshop program sizes the images and reduces their resolution to Web friendly size for presentation in the galleries.

ACC members who already have a personal gallery on our website are encouraged to change out their images as we enter the next Club season in September. This will help to keep the website fresh with your new images. Personal galleries can be updated at any time by sending images via e-mail attachment to robertsjamesw@comcast.net. You can also identify specific images you would like to remove from your current gallery. If you wish the gallery to be presented in number order, please list and number **all of the images** to be included in your refreshed gallery.

The Digital Corner

DIGITAL MANIPULATION By Vesela Zlateva

In today's digital age, there are a variety of photo editing programs available to us. Photoshop seems to be one of the more popular out there, but whatever your preference, they all make digital manipulation an easy task. However, many people wonder whether digital manipulation is ethical.

Research on this topic has revealed the following prevailing ideas and thoughts on the subject.

Photo manipulation is not really new, nor does it affect only digital images. The software programs and tools just make the process easier. History knows many other examples before digital photography came to light. Commercial photographic studios used to superimpose family members into a portrait when they could not arrange to all be at the studio at the same time. A real example of a famous manipulation dating back to the black and white photography days is the composition of the "Fairy" photograph in which two cousins produced photographs of what they claimed were fairies in their garden in England. It was later found that the fairies were edited into the picture and did not actually exist.

The question that many photographers and critics ask themselves is "What was the purpose of taking the picture?" Generally, it is not an acceptable practice to alter documentary photographs used in photojournalism, especially if the intent is to deceive the public. However, if the manipulation was made specifically with the intent to point out something, the authors were forthcoming about it and declared that the picture had been altered. This form of manipulation may then be considered acceptable. An example of this scenario would be the cover picture on a magazine depicting a well-known public figure intentionally made to resemble someone else to point out the similarities with this person's views and opinions.

In the field of science, it is generally not ethical to alter images, since these images are used mostly for research or illustration of a scientific fact. One acceptable alteration might be a color change for more visibility. But, it is generally expected to disclose such manipulations.

When photographs are taken with artistic purpose, then the question of whether digital manipulation is ethical becomes a little more complex. Is it okay to add

something that was not there in the original scene? It generally depends on what photographer's purpose is. If the purpose is to portray as truthful, then manipulation is not acceptable. If the artist was trying to create fiction or "art," then it is acceptable as long as the artist is forthcoming.

Some photographers argue that it is okay to remove items from images to make them esthetically pleasing to the viewer's eye. For example, if there is a distracting object near the animal (subject of picture), and the photographer would remove it if she wasn't afraid of disturbing the animal, then this would be considered an acceptable practice.

No matter what the opinions are, one point is continuously brought into many discussions regarding digital manipulation: making photographs is already a form of manipulation because the eyes see things differently than the camera does. Photographers routinely manipulate field of view, white balance, and color space through their camera or in the darkroom. The use of these techniques in Photoshop or any other photo editing software to achieve the same goal is generally considered acceptable as well.



"The virtue of the camera is not the power it has to transform the photographer into an artist, but the impulse it gives him to keep on looking."

Brooks Anderson

"Success is what happens when 10,000 hours of preparation meet with one moment of opportunity."

Anonymous

"It is part of the photographer's job to see more intensely than most people do. He must have and keep in him something of the receptiveness of the child who looks at the world for the first time or of the traveler who enters a strange country."

Bill Brandt

Q&A: TRIPODS

Q: *I would like to update my camera equipment and get back into close up photography. Could you recommend a good tripod that would get me down to the flower level?*

A: Bogen/Gitzo is the company that is the industry standard for tripods and they have a number of tripod styles. I would pretty much stick with this company (stay away from Slik), but I advise that if you are serious that you not buy Bogen tripod heads with their quick release system. Given a choice try to stay away from the Bogen hexagonal quick release plate, instead consider the Arca Swiss style quick release system which is what most serious nature photographers use (more later on this). If you already have the hexagonal plate, it's OK, just not the optimum.

I started with the Bogen 3021 which was the basic good entry level (reasonably priced) standard 20 years ago, but it required having the center column cut down manually for the serious macro enthusiast to get down to the ground. As my interests became more complicated I bought a second tripod which actually came with NO center column at all (just a plate onto which the separately purchased ball head was screwed). It is heavy, but gives the needed stability for weighty lenses, although without the center column that did save some weight. The center column is not necessary since you should NOT crank it up EVER. You lose stability.

Make sure that the tripod you buy is tall enough so that when you extend the legs you can look into your viewfinder without hunching over AT ALL. Your back will thank you. Take a look at Bogen/Gitzo products at a place like Helix or Calumet (but perhaps NOT buy there). Check their prices against a place like family owned Hunt's Photo and Video in Massachusetts. Owner Gary Farber is good about working with camera club folks (he was at CAPS; tell him you are part of CACCA). Use Helix/Calumet just to get a feel for the proper height/weight if their prices are not competitive. DO NOT let them sell you what they want. Too often potentially serious photographers treated like amateurs and sold off-brand, flimsy tripods (probably what the sales staff needed to get rid of), or the photographer made decisions based on weight rather than stability. They often try to sell an inappropriate head (like a pistol grip) that would not serve your needs for the long term. Do research first and talk to serious photographers who have had experience with a product rather than listening to the sales staff at many camera stores.

Gitzo/Bogen now offer many tripods which are stable AND lightweight (made of carbon fiber – very pricey). The price can be hundreds of dollars, but if carrying a tripod is a challenge for you it might be worth the money. Many of the newer model tripods allow the center column to be removed and replaced horizontally to get it out of the way for macro, but I can't confirm if that works well.

Another requirement is that the legs must have the ability to "splay out" to get you down to the ground. Most newer models do that. Never consider the tripod which has support

connectors that make the legs immovable. The legs should be able to be moved to almost a horizontal position, which puts you not only down close to the ground but allows you to put your legs in a variety of locations if you are in tight quarters (like working among rocks).

Ball heads are the standard for nature photographers. Loosening one knob allows you to move in all directions. Some of the most popular are made by Mike Kirk Enterprises out of Angola, Michigan (a father son outfit). They succeeded many years ago in producing a knock-off of the Arca Swiss ball head and have two sizes. Be prepared to pay more than \$200 for this type of ball head. The head accepts the Arca Swiss style quick release plates, which are rectangular and slide into a rail that clamps them down. Various rectangular plates are sold by companies like Kirk and Really Right Stuff. The reason for this many plates is that each is designed (1) to fit the bottoms of specific camera bodies so that the camera will not torque/loosen as it begins to spin around on the screw that holds it (this is a problem sometimes with the hexagonal Bogen plates), AND (2) to fit the collar of longer lenses (various length plates for different lenses) to balance the lens over the center point of the ball head. Since the Arca Swiss style quick release are the standard, when new accessories are designed they are designed to fit with that type of system. Example: Wimberly's Side Kick which balances very long lenses used by bird photographers, also a modular system for placing a flash in the correct position for use in macro shots or high enough to aim over very long lenses.

Read reviews online to find a ball head that is reported to be SMOOTH and hold tightly once locked down. Having several quick release plates can be quite expensive. I often carry much more weight than I should because these matched plates stay permanently not only on my camera bodies, but also on my collared lens like my 200mm macro. Why the collar? By using a plate which attaches to the collar instead of the camera body it keeps the weighty lens balanced over its center of gravity on the ball head and keeps the weight of the lens from tugging at the much lighter camera body (which can ruin the connection). Also the collar allows you to spin the longer/heavier lens and camera body easily from horizontal to vertical without loosening the ball head and repositioning and locking down the ball head. All this sounds expensive, but buy right at the beginning so that you can grow into the system. IAll these things are NOT quite as necessary if you will only use the lightest/shortest of lenses. Will you ever be serious enough to have a 200mm macro, or a 500mm bird lens? I never thought I would be carrying around such equipment when I started.

I was glad to have a support network when I started out that could give me advice. I've seen many beginners who did not know where to get good advice and initially bought stuff that did not serve their needs later and they had to purchase a second set of equipment. That too can be expensive. So buy something you can grow with rather than need to replace because the purchase is inappropriate for the long haul.

AFTER THE HOLIDAY/20TH ANNIVERSARY PARTY

The AFTER THE HOLIDAY/20th ANNIVERSARY PARTY was a huge success. Thank you to everyone who braved the frigid weather to come out and have a good time with fellow members and their significant others. The food from Jimmy D's was great and the anniversary cake and coffee we had for dessert was the finish of a fabulous evening. A special thank you goes out to Nora Liu who graciously donated some items for our grab bag. Congratulations to our grand prizewinners, Walt and Kathy Hoffman who walked away with \$75.00 in cash. We hope that everyone had a great time.



HANDLING OF PRINTS DURING ACC COMPETITION

Even though we have tried to be very careful with the prints from our competitions, we have received a few complaints from our members. There are a few things which we need to incorporate into the handling of the prints during competition, such as, the placing the first print right side up on the table and the following prints are face down. We will wear white cotton gloves while handling the prints during pass through and are also going to cover the tables with linen tablecloths. Hopefully this is help prevent any future problems.

Some prints have received marks while traveling down to the CACCA Competition. This is unfortunate, but due to the volume of prints, this is also unavoidable. We will handle prints with care, but we cannot be responsible for any damage to images either at our club or at CACCA. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to email (pcarnolde@sbcglobal.net) or call me (847/382-9995). Thank you very much for your understanding.

Carol Arnolde
ACC Competition Chairperson

TRAVEL AND EVENTS

By Cindy Kuffel

- April, 2008 Prospect Heights Library Display and Reception
- April 27, 2008 Hank Erdmann Outing – Photographing local spring wildflowers open to all members who have not done a program with him before, \$75.00 per person.
- October 11-13, 2008 Door County Weekend – make your reservations NOW.

If any club member has a suggestion for an outing or knows of an event that would be interesting to photograph please let me know and I will pass it along.

If You Love Photography, You Belong in PSA . . .



Benefits of PSA Membership:

- *PSA Journal* monthly magazine
- Opportunity to submit articles for potential publication in the *PSA Journal* which is written by and for members
- Three noncommercial ads each year (no more than 5 lines or 175 characters including punctuation and spaces) in the *PSA Journal* at no cost
- Annual Conference with workshops, field trips, photo shoots, and featured speakers at reduced registration fee
- Listing in and access to “Members Only” Membership List on PSA web site
- Publication of photos on the PSA web site, e.g., a photo in the New Member Gallery on joining and in the Show Your Stuff Gallery on renewing for year two
- Access to New Member web site services and activities including: image evaluation, mentors and consultants, resource links, and galleries
- Use of PSA logo on personal web site and business card
- Reduced registration fee at local Chapter meetings
- Opportunity to present programs and workshops at local, regional, and international meetings
- Opportunity to earn PSA Star Ratings and recognition of photographic achievement with PSA Distinctions for Proficiency (PPSA) and Excellence (EPSA)
- Opportunity to be elected an Associate (APSA) or Fellow (FPSA) of the Society
- Study Groups: online for digital images and via mail for prints
- Competitions regarding specific topics/themes (e.g., Creative, Extreme Sports) or format (e.g., digital essays, monochrome prints)
- One dollar (\$1.00) reduced entry fee for each section of the PSA International Exhibition
- Reduced fee for PSA Adventures (e.g., cruises)
- Free services such as Species Identification Service, Photography Travel Planning Service, and Digital Product Information
- Discounts on products and services of interest to photographers

Photographic Society of America ~ APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Please type or print legibly:

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____ Birth date (MM/DD/YY): _____

Address: _____ Telephone: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Country: _____ Postal Code: _____

Email Address: _____ Website: _____

Sponsor: _____ Automatic Renewal (with credit card payment): YES NO

Check desired membership level:	North America/Overseas		
	<u>1 Year</u>	<u>2 Years</u>	<u>3 Years</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Youth (18 & under)	\$29/35	\$56/68	\$80/99
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual	\$45/53	\$88/104	\$128/152
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual Senior (72 & older)	\$40/47	\$77/91	\$113/132
<input type="checkbox"/> Camera Club/Council	\$45/53	\$88/104	\$128/152
<input type="checkbox"/> Business Membership	\$45/53	\$88/104	\$128/152

<input type="checkbox"/> Joint Membership	North America/ Overseas		
	<u>1 Year</u>	<u>2 Years</u>	<u>3 Years</u>
	\$68/76	\$133/150	\$196/221
(Joint member: spouse or other individual residing at same address, one <i>PSA Journal</i> .)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Joint Senior Member	\$62/69	\$122/136	\$180/201
<i>(Both members over age 72.)</i>			
Joint Member Name: _____			
Joint Member Email: _____			

MAIL COMPLETED FORM WITH PAYMENT TO:

PSA Headquarters
3000 United Founder's Blvd., Suite 103
Oklahoma City, OK 73112-3940
(www.psa-photo.org)

Make check payable to **PSA**. Check **MUST** be written on US bank in US funds.

Visa MasterCard Number: _____ - _____ - _____ - _____ Expiration Date: ____/____

Card Holder Signature: _____

Member Gallery

Competition Awards and Honorable Mentions



Gypsy Smile
Nora Liu



Cozy Nook
Ken Olsen



Ford Hood
Carol Arnolde



Fall Tranquility in Mountain
Chris Solum



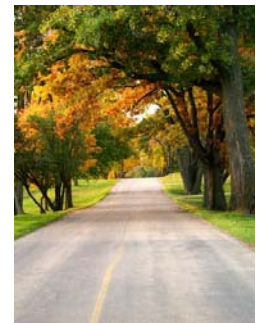
Repairs Needed
Nancy St. Clair



Tulip Opening Petals
Marlene Jones



Iris
Carol Arnolde



Journey Into Fall
Chris Solum



There Could Be Another Chance
Nora Liu



Ceiling Mosaic
Barbara Borchert



Rufous Hummingbird
Kent Wilson



The Apprentice
Ken Olsen