



The Viewfinder

Bowie-Crofton Camera Club • Volume 23, Number 2 • October 2003

OCTOBER SNAPSHOT

GRANT AWARD

Apply for up to \$2000 in Grant Awards. see page 5

EXHIBIT

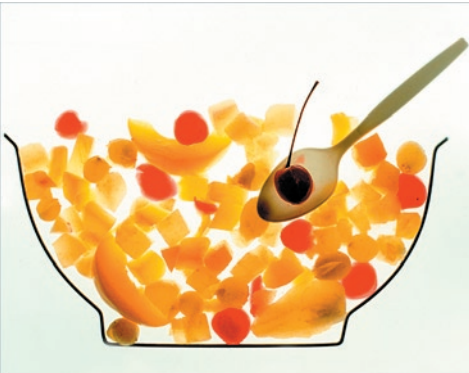
Club prints at Bowie City Hall

see page 6

PSA Honors All Around

Newsletter, Club Members Receive Awards at PSA Convention

by Robert J. Leonard, FPSA



Bob Leonard's image "A Spoon Full"

The Viewfinder and its editor Jeff Kendrick were honored in Houston, Texas. It was all part of the Photographic Society of America 65th International Conference held at the Adam's Mark Hotel in Houston from September 1-6, 2003.

Part of the opening ceremonies and general meeting is the presentation of Society awards. Each year PSA holds a contest for camera club newsletters. This year *The Viewfinder* and editor Jeff Kendrick won third place in the large club class. The September 2002 issue was submitted for judging. This is *The Viewfinder's* first ever place in the competition after several Honor Awards and Awards of Merit.

continued on page 3

President's Comments

Don't Let Another Season Pass You By

by Roz Kleffman

October is here and the frost is on the pumpkins. Don't let another season pass you by. You missed the beautiful new leaves of spring and the tropical summer storms and unique skies. You missed the planet Mars as it came closer to the earth than it has in 60,000 years. DO NOT miss the frost on leaves and grasses too. Plan to capture this beauty early in the morning before the sun breaks the horizon. Frost is delicate. You need to plan that photo before you bend over to take the picture.

It may help to pre-focus the scene the day or night before you shoot it. Often the mere fact that you are up close and breathing warm air on the plants will melt the ice crystals. You can capture the sheer beauty of the frost with just a little pre-planning.

Now that was a good idea...let's try it!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

OCTOBER

6 Competition Meeting

Slide Topic: Unrestricted
Judge: Joe Miller

11 Field Trip

Cambridge Maryland, possible Saturday / Sunday trip. See page 3

13 Photo Talk

Review / discussion of Competition Rules by Scott Swanson; Slide Mounting for greater impact by Thelma Loret de Mola. See page 5

20 Program

Macro / Close-up by Fred Siskind (speaker and topic may change due to possible schedule conflict. Announcement will be made at a club meeting)

27 How-To

Care and feeding of computers, printers, scanners, and digital cameras. See page 4

NOVEMBER

1 Field Trip

OysterFest at the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum in St. Michaels

3 Competition

Slide Topic: Macro / Close-up
Judge: John Boretos. See page 4

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since 1977

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GRANT PANEL (2003-04)

Roz Kleffman, David Ebert,
 Jeff Kendrick, Appointed - vacant,
 Elected - vacant

Articles for The Viewfinder

THE VIEWFINDER is distributed at the first meeting of each month during the club year (and once, via mail, during the summer). All contributions of interest to photographers are welcomed.

The deadline for submitting articles is the first Monday of the month prior to publication (ie, articles submitted on October 1 will be published in the November newsletter).

It is preferred that articles be sent via e-mail to jdkphoto@aol.com with

the text directly in the body of the message. File attachments (MS Word, .txt, .rtf) are acceptable, but not preferred.

Photographs should be submitted electronically as uncompressed TIF or Bitmap (.BMP) files with a minimum size of 4"x6" at 200dpi. JPEG files are acceptable when they are compressed at a "high" quality setting.

Content submitted from other sources (ie, internet or periodicals) should include source information to provide credit to the author.

Membership Rates

Junior (ages 12-17) \$5.00
 Individual \$12.00
 Family \$18.00

Meeting Nights

The Bowie-Crofton Camera Club meets the first through fourth Monday nights of each month September through May - in the Fellowship Hall of the All Saints Lutheran Church at US 301 and Mt. Oak Road in Bowie. Meetings begin at 7:30. Visitors are always welcome.

Photographic Society of America

The Bowie-Crofton Camera Club has been a member of the Photographic Society of America (PSA) since 1977. Dick Whitley, a PSA Region Director, is B-CCC's representative to PSA.

For information regarding the benefits of a PSA individual membership and for PSA-sponsored events contact Dick Whitley (301) 899-6457 or e-mail whitleyr33@aol.com.

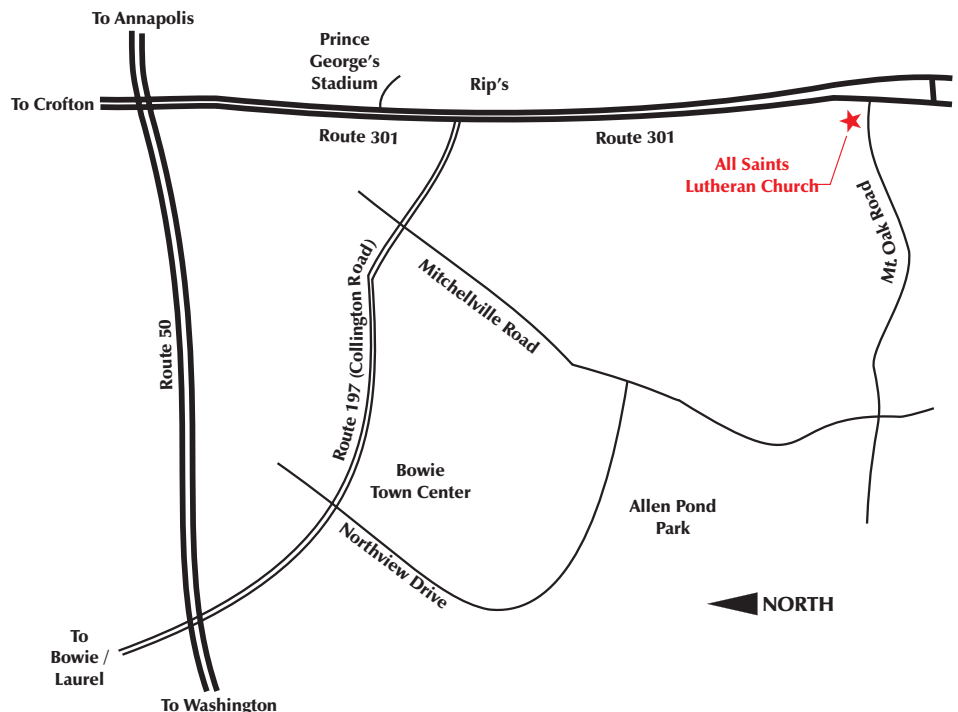


Photo Field Trip: Cambridge, October 11

by Mark Laster, Field Trip Captain

Cambridge, on Maryland's Eastern Shore, was founded in 1684 on the Choptank River. Its location made it a leading city for shipping, and a center for marketing tobacco, seafood, and pelts. Ships from London and Liverpool docked in Cambridge, attracting wealthy farmers and merchants who could afford fine goods from England. Seafood packing plants, lumber mills, and flour mills contributed to the prosperity of the city, as did its location as the county seat of Dorchester County. However, since the 1950s, Cambridge has experienced no significant growth, so it is refurbishing itself and trying to provide tourists with a sense of its history.

The 100 through 300 blocks of High Street and nearby streets contain many beautiful homes, mostly from the latter half of the 19th century, in many recognizable styles, including Queen Anne, Federal, Tudor, and Greek Revival. Distinctive public buildings are on adjacent blocks. So, if you like photographing beautiful old architecture, Cambridge provides a lot of opportunities.

Within 10-15 minutes' drive west of Cambridge you can visit an historic Episcopal Church and "atmospheric" graveyard in one area, and nearby a colonial tenant house, one-room school, and wooden windmill. About 10 miles south of Cambridge is the Blackwater Wildlife Refuge, an area of marshes that is a haven for three endangered species: the bald eagle, the Delmarva fox squirrel, and the peregrine falcon. The automobile entrance fee for Wildlife Drive is \$3.00.

Plans and Logistics

Let's meet at noon on Saturday, October 11, for lunch at Snapper's Waterfront Cafe (112 Commerce Street, Cambridge, phone 410-228-0112). We can discuss our individual and joint plans at that point. Those who stay for dinner can return to the same restaurant at 6:00. This column was written early in September, so the results of the September 22nd discussion, pertaining to a Saturday / Sunday overnight trip could not be included.

If you leave from Bowie or Crofton, allow about an hour and a half for travel. The following route can take you to the restaurant where we'll meet for lunch:

1. From US Route 50 at Maryland Route 3, head eastward on US 50 toward the Bay Bridge, (\$2.50 toll). Approximately 33 miles from the junction of US 50 and MD 3, the highway splits; take exit 46 to US 50 (eastward, toward Ocean City).
2. Travel another 33 miles, until you cross the Choptank River, and see the Visitor Center at Sailwinds Park. Take the third right turn, onto Maryland Avenue.

3. Travel 0.4 mile on Maryland Avenue, which becomes Market Street after you've crossed the small bridge.

4. Travel 0.2 mile on Market Street, then turn right to Academy Street.

5. Travel 0.1 mile on Academy Street, which becomes Spring Street.

6. Travel less than 0.1 mile on Spring Street, and turn right to High Street.

7. Travel about 0.2 mile on High Street, and turn right onto Commerce Street.

8. Our lunchtime destination, Snapper's Waterfront Cafe, is located at 112 Commerce Street, about 250 feet from High Street.

There is a website, <www.baydreaming.com/submitinfo.htm>, that may be willing to display your photo(s) from Cambridge, but the site does not offer payment or copyright restriction.

If you plan to go on the field trip, please let me know by 10:00pm on Friday, October 10, or, if that's not possible, by 8:45am on Saturday, October 11. Call me at 301-805-4462 or send me e-mail at mlaster@smart.net. When you make your reservation, please let me know how to reach you on the morning of the trip, if need be.

PSA Honors from Houston Convention

continued from page 1

This was not the only B-CCC member who won a newsletter-editing award. Bob Leonard also won third place, but in the Chapter class. In addition his newsletter, *Double Exposure* won a special award for the best PSA information. Bob also picked up two other major awards. In the small and commercial print section of the International Exhibition, Bob won the "Best of Show" gold medal for his creative photograph "A Spoon Full." His second award was a runner-up HM in the Published Picture of the Year competition, with "Spray of Champagne," a 3-D photo that was published in "Stereoscopy" Magazine.

Ron Leonard received his "Proficiency" (PPSA) award for earning his 5th star in stereo exhibitions. (We understand that Dick Whitley qualified for the "Proficiency" award, but missed the deadline for presentation at this conference. He will receive the award next year.) Dick Whitley, Ed Pastula, Bob Hall and Bob Leonard had slides shown in the Chapter Showcase, and in various sections of the International Exhibition.

Competition Meeting: November 3

Macro/Close-ups, Judge: John Boretos

By Pete Banholzer, Competition Assistant

The topic for slide entries this month are macro or close-up images, which are essentially a full frame image of any object no larger than 2" x 3" (1/2 life size on the transparency). Subjects can be from nature or household or other man-made objects. Print entries are unrestricted and may be on any subject. As a reminder, all digitally produced work can be entered.

John Boretos of NIH Camera Club will be our judge. He has extensive experience in nature, travel, and commercial photography. Learn more about his work at "The Digital Window" at www.geocities.com/jboretos.

Get Ready! Slide Shows Are Coming

Annual Slide Show Workshop

by Dick Russell

Did you add to your collection of images in the past year? Are you planning to take a few rolls of Fall Foliage? If so, you may be the perfect candidate to put together a slide show. For several years, the club has sponsored a workshop designed to help you sort and organize your images into a show, synchronized with music and/or narration. Last year we expanded beyond film slides to include digital shows, principally constructed with PowerPoint.

The shows are then presented at a club meeting in May for all our members and guests to enjoy. First timers as well as previous participants are welcome to join in the fun. A call for participants will be announced later in the year and the action usually starts just after the start of the new calendar year. In the meantime, there are a few things to think about as you take and review your pictures.

The workshop will cover the topic of constructing the show and will provide the necessary projection equipment. But before that, you will need a collection of slides from which to build a story ('story' is loosely interpreted to mean the theme that links the images). So for now, let me offer some thoughts to ponder while you are out there taking pictures. A good starting point is to consider about ten slides per minute of show time.



How-To Meeting: October 27

Care and Feeding of Computers, Printers, Scanners...

By Clarence Carvell, VP - How-to

Photoshop freezing up too often? Printer output not measuring up to your expectations? Everything is running slower than it used to? Your internet downloads taking up your vacation? Your new digital camera output looking like the ads? Afraid to open the cabinet for fear of voiding the warranty? Shouldn't the computer come already calibrated? How do I install more memory? Why can't I use Windex on my monitor?

All of these questions and more will be answered at the October 27 How-to meeting. Come prepared with a notebook and pencil.

Remember that you will want to have images that visually flow from one to another. Pay attention to the use of filters. A single polarized image (read deep blue sky) may not mix well in the midst of similar scenes with light blue skies. Typically, it is more comfortable to change gradually from one such characteristic to another. Similarly, it is preferable to avoid frequent switching between horizontal and vertical presentations. It is good to be able to group at least three of the same orientation. Many scenes can be nicely composed as either horizontal or vertical. Capturing both will give you more options when it comes time to assemble a show.

When taking a series of shots to be used together, use the marks in the viewfinder to help position objects in favorable places to make a smooth segue from one image to the next. Example: In a series of shots with a horizon line, if it is compositionally acceptable, keep the horizons at about the same place. This allows movement from one slide to the next without bouncing the viewer's eyes.

Take many more pictures than you think you will need. This will give a better opportunity to flow from one set of colors to another or from mountain peaks to valleys. You may want some intermediate images to help you move from compositions with rocks on the left to those with rocks on the right.

If you are trying to capture the mood of a place, take time to pick up some local music that could be used in the background.

Photo Talk Meeting: October 13

Review of Rules and Tips for Presentation

by Chris Hunt, VP for Photo Talk

The new competition season brings some significant changes to the rules. The changes have been published and the first competition will be held this month.

Our Competition VP Scott Swanson will start our Photo Talk season with a discussion of the competition rules and some helpful information to guide us through a successful competition season.

Scott will be followed by Thelma Loret de Mola who will present us with some quick, easy, and inexpensive ways to present prints for competition. She will also show us how to reframe our slides using Erie Slide Mounts. Thelma is a frequent winner in club competitions, so she must be on to something.

Join us on October 13 to learn how you can improve your odds in our monthly competitions.

A Grand Opening

Labor Day Pig Out Huge Success

by Thelma Loret de Mola



The opening of B-CCC's new year could not have been better: the weather held, the home of Miles and Gail Smith was as always welcoming and comfortable, their hostmanship warm and attentive, and the food abundant and delicious.

There were about 45 of us and a good mixture of newer and "seasoned" members. Two especially welcome guests who came with Jay Lamb were Aubrey Mumford and his new wife, Peggy. What a surprise on both counts! Aubrey ran into some serious health problems a few years ago and we've missed that handsome face of his for too long.

When we managed to stop stuffing our faces for a while (there were at least 112 desserts!), we settled in for The Show. With the kind of photographers we have in Bowie-Crofton, it's not possible to have anything but a near-professional pack of pictures.

All in all, if this opening Pig Out is an omen of the year to come, it has to be outstanding, new competition rules notwithstanding. Gail sent us off with a great surprise: light, dark, and white chocolate cameras to choose from! You can bet these won't be the last! You and Miles are gems, Gail, and we thank you for the wonderful Grand Opening Celebration.

Club to Award Photography Grants

\$2000 Available for Photographic Explorations

The Bowie-Crofton Camera Club may have just the program for you! Since the 1998-99 club year, B-CCC has had up to \$2000 per year to give away in the form of grants. Provided as a gift to the club, the funds are intended to be used to award grants to photographers who displayed enthusiasm for photography and a desire to improve their skills.

All club members are encouraged to apply for a Grant Award. Money provided by the grant may be used for a wide variety of purposes: coursework (college courses, workshops, etc.); equipment or expenses related to the coursework (books, babysitting costs to allow time for course attendance, travel expenses, etc.); equipment to pursue improved photographic activities; research into new, experimental, or unusual photographic techniques.

These examples are not intended to be all inclusive. Applicants are asked to be both creative in suggesting uses that will help them meet their photographic goals. Applications are accepted through the end of October and awards are announced at the club's Holiday Dinner.

Written applications are accepted through the end of October and must address the following points:

- For what will the grant be used?
- When and where will the funds be expended?
- What benefits will be derived by the applicant?
- What benefit will be derived by the Bowie-Crofton Camera Club? (Refer to "demonstrate, to the B-CCC membership, the benefit gained..." described below.)

Other supporting information may be included in the written application.

In addition to the written application, several other requirements must be met. The applicant must:

- be a member in good standing of B-CCC with a consistent record of attendance for at least a year.
- have demonstrated a desire to improve their photographic skills.
- be willing to submit to an interview by the panel.
- provide receipts acceptable to the panel to verify grant expenditures.
- demonstrate, to the B-CCC membership, the benefit gained in the form of a presentation at a regular monthly meeting or at the Holiday Dinner or in another form acceptable to the panel.

All members are encouraged to apply to: B-CCC, PO Box 515, Bowie, MD 20718-0515 (ATTN: Grant Panel)

Tired of the Same Old Faces

by Clarence Carvell

You'll notice a lot of new names on the program schedule this year. One of the things the various program VP's have hoped for during the '03-'04 season, is to have more people involved in the presentations. There is a great deal of latent talent in the club and the hope is, some of that talent will come to the surface this year.

If you are interested, or even think you might be interested, in trying your hand at a short presentation, please talk to me about it. Even though it looks like the schedule is full, we can always find a few minutes for a dissertation on something such as depth-of-field, cleaning your lens, selecting a tripod, etc. These might seem like simple things to many but they can be valuable lessons for the confirmed novice.

Annual Show at Bowie City Hall

by Ann Krumrein

Traditionally, during the month of November, the Bowie-Crofton Camera Club has the distinct honor of exhibiting photographs at Bowie City Hall. We have been asked to show again in November 2003.

All prints (that's right, all prints, not just last year's competition winners) will be welcome and will be collected, framed and ready for hanging early in the new club year. You will also be able to bring your prints to the exhibit site on the day of the hanging. Listen for announcements at club meetings. We need volunteers to collect prints and to assist with hanging / takedown.

This is a wonderful opportunity to connect with the community and attract those who are looking for a place to further their interest in photography.

The Viewfinder

Bowie-Crofton Camera Club
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