

Jacksonville Camera Club

CLICKS

Newsletter

Published in the Pursuit of Better Photography, Creativity and Communication

Volume 18, No. 1

February 2009

A Message from the Prez **LOOKING BACK & LOOKING** **FORWARD**

Well, here we are two months into the year and as they say "time has really flown by." In looking back and thinking about most of the programs and events that this club has to offer our membership, it has been a wonderful ride. In case you are a newer member or haven't attended these programs and events, in the past we have visited a working portrait studio, we have had a portrait and posing program, workshops on photo editing, a program on marketing your work, a program on seeing what to photograph, and numerous other activities. It seems like there has been something for everyone.

Looking forward we have upcoming competitions in both slides and print categories, outings to Charleston and Darian Ga. and many other activities. Past, present and future club activities in this club were made possible by hard work from a core group of members. All volunteers, I might add. So this brings me to a point, and my point is that in order to keep going in a positive direction we will need for some of you to step up and volunteer to help out. It could be something simple like helping out the print or slide chairperson or in helping setup or take down the sound system at our meetings or taking over a chair position like Secretary or any of the other positions that a member has held too long and would like to pass on at least for a while. When we all pitch in and help

it makes things a little easier. Our club can only be successful if we have a willing membership. To this end we have written documents that spell out what each chairman, officer, and board member's duties are. These will be constantly updated and will hopefully instruct our future volunteers. I want to convey this to you because we are a growing club with many more members joining all the time and have vacancies to fill from time to time and it would be best to have willing volunteers rather than having to go out ask and plead for help.

So if you are inclined to do so, please talk to me about what you are able to do to make the year 2009 and beyond even better.

Thank you
Bill Coppedge

Banquet Declared a Huge Success

The 2008 year end Camera Club banquet took place on January 31st at Deercreek Country Club. The evening was perfect thanks to the tireless work of Linda Carter and her volunteers. Prints and Slides were judged and awarded the coveted best of the year ribbons as well as the progressive point plaques being distributed. The Vernon Nalley award went to Robert Clark and the Shutterbug trophy went to Don Fraser. I agreed that both of these members deserved their respective awards. I have been to 4 or 5 banquets so far and I think this was our best so far. All of us in attendance shared good photography, comradeship, music and food. Photographs from the banquet are on the website.

Coping With Technology by John Reed

I don't know about you guys, but the shrinking time frame between new camera models is getting to be a bit of a pain in the butt. Canon just announced the 50D and then "boom" Nikon has the D90. (We've got to be careful to get the "D" in the right place don't we!)

First it was megapixel madness. Then that rather peaked and you got into sensor cleaning technology. OK, great. Then it was bigger LCD's on the back. Terrific. What about ISO? Never mind that only bats can "see" at ISO 6400, we've got to have cameras that can see at ISO 25,600! Image stabilization – used to be only on lenses, let's cram that in the body too.

Let's see, let's see, hmmm, what else can we pile on there? Of course, let's add "live view" so that the DSLR now is "equal" to a point-and-shoot. What about movies? Of course, point-shoots have that too! What next? Lord only knows but we can be sure of one thing, it probably won't stop anytime soon.

In truth of course, all this is really to our benefit. Competition among manufacturers only drives innovation and improvement and despite my grumbling, I must confess this is a good thing. The competition is heating up even more now that really high quality DSLRs are coming from Olympus, Pentax and Sony in addition to Canon and Nikon. Not all innovations catch fire of course, even though maybe they should. For example, the Olympus innovation of 4:3 sensor size ratio matching most monitors and TV screens instead of 3:2 common to most other cameras has not really taken off. This is a bit surprising because the 3:2 ratio is a legacy from film and largely irrelevant. The simple fact is that 35mm film had a 3:2 proportion so sensors were made with the same ratio. Doesn't it totally make more sense to have a ratio more compatible with the way most images are now viewed? Guess not.

So now I've rambled and ranted for a while, where the heck am I going with this anyway? Here's where. Unless you're a total "gearhead" with the

cash to support it, don't fall victim to the marketing and hype. Remember, remember, remember – it's not the camera that makes the image. It's only a tool. It's YOU – the eye, the head, the heart behind the camera that makes the magic. We all work hard for our money and the reality is that we do NOT need to buy a new camera every time a new body comes out. Do your homework. Read about them. Study the features. Learn as much as you can and decide if the new features are really that much of an improvement over what you have.

Be a smart shopper as well as a smart photographer. If you're getting good results with the camera you have, keep it. Learn every single feature it has. Make it a true extension of you so it's operation is second nature. I think you'll find that more valuable than simply having the latest and greatest logo on the front of your camera.

Member News

Our very own Bill Coppedge has a one man show of his photographs at the Jewish Community Alliance. The Photographs will hang in the JCA gallery through the end of February. The JCA is open seven days a week and accommodates anyone wishing to visit the gallery.

John Reed is the featured photographer at the Holborn Gallery for the month of February. John's nature photography is always a treat and the Holborn Gallery is just a block off of King Street in St. Augustine.

While you are in St. Augustine, Nancy "Hooky" Bagnall has a one woman show of her photographs inside Wachovia bank directly on King Street. Nancy's photographs are an eclectic mix of some of her best work and always worth a trip to view them.

The Limelight Theater in St. Augustine was gracious enough to allow Pete Peterson to hang the JCC photographs from the downtown library show in their gallery. The show is over but I would like to thank Pete for his hard work in transporting as well as hanging the photographs and now retrieving and returning all photographs back to club members. Pete will have the photographs with him at the February 18th meeting. Please pick up your photographs at the meeting so Pete does not have to transport and store them.

Outings

Jim Niss has put together two out of town outings for February and March. The February outing will take place on the 28th in Darien Georgia. You can either stay in Darien and Jim suggests the Quality Inn for a rate of \$55.00 with an AARP discount or \$65.00 without an additional discount other than a group camera club rate. The phone number for Quality Inn is 912-437-5373. Be sure and get Jim's cell phone number so you can catch up with he and whoever else is staying in Darien for Friday evening shooting and dinner. John Reed has volunteered to put together a "first things first" workshop, which John does so well, in Darien on Saturday morning. John is planning on a "seeing in black and white, recognizing and capturing" lesson which starts at 7:30 a.m. on Saturday the 28th at the McIntosh County Welcome Center and Riverfront Park, located in downtown Darien near the foot of the US 17 bridge. Please don't forget your tripod or as Rick Hartmann says, "if you want lousy pictures, don't use a tripod." In addition to the first things first workshop that morning, John is inviting any club member to a sunrise shoot at the same bridge area and sunrise is 6:53 a.m. that morning. Jim has planned a full day of activities for both overnights and day trippers starting sunrise at the same riverfront park and boardwalk. If you want to meet for breakfast, Jim has chosen BJ's restaurant on US17 at 8th street and suggests an 8:00 a.m. meeting time. At 9:00 a.m. the group plans on meeting at Fort King George for picture taking opportunities. At high noon lunch is planned for Skippers on the waterfront just west of the US 17 bridge. At 1:00 p.m. a walking tour of Darien is planned or for those who want to wander further down the road, Hofwyl Plantation is just a few miles away.

Be sure to check with Jim about details of a car pool which is being planned to drive up to Darien.

Silas Osborne from the Portrait lighting Outing Last Year



Outings continued

Charleston South Carolina is scheduled for March 26th through the 29th. Club lodging will be at the Clarion Inn near Charleston airport. A rate of \$65.00 per night has been negotiated but it wouldn't hurt to inquire about additional discounts if at all possible. Just be sure to call 843-554-4140 by March 1 to guarantee a room for yourself. The Clarion Inn has free wi-fi, continental breakfast and coffee. Jim plans on arriving on Wednesday and stay through Sunday so any days in between he will be available to help you plan your time. Charleston is a beautiful southern city and always ranks at the top of everyone's list to visit. Between the historic homes and plantations, there will be more than enough to keep you busy photographing until your memory cards are full. Jim has planned a visit to Magnolia Plantation---Saturday March 28, 2009 www.magnoliaplantation.com.

This is one of the finest plantations in the Southeast. We will plan to have lunch at the plantation at noon on Saturday and plan to stay until dusk. I will be arranging a group rate which will include the admission and the Audubon Swamp. I will need a check for \$13.50 for each person attending no later than March 4, 2009.

Jim will gather information on walking tours, a tour of the Citadel, Middleton Place plantation-www.middletonplace.org-- and other important photo ops in Charleston. I found discount coupons on the official Charleston website for discount admissions to Middleton Place and other points of interest so you may want to take a look and print the coupons to bring with you.

This is a lot of information and if you have questions please call Jim Niss at 249-2191 or email jjniss@comcast.net. I hope to see you at the outings.

Jacksonville Camera Club *Celebrating Our 73rd Year!*

**A Proud Member of
Photographic Society of America**

Meetings are held at:
**First Christian Church
11924 San Jose Blvd.
Mandarin, Florida**
on the
1st and 3rd Wednesdays
of every month at 7:00 p.m.

Our Web Site is
www.jaxcameraclub.com

***Visitors and Potential
New Members
Are Always Welcome***

Got an interesting photo related
story or idea? Send it to
tmetz1@mac.com

Upcoming Meetings Programs

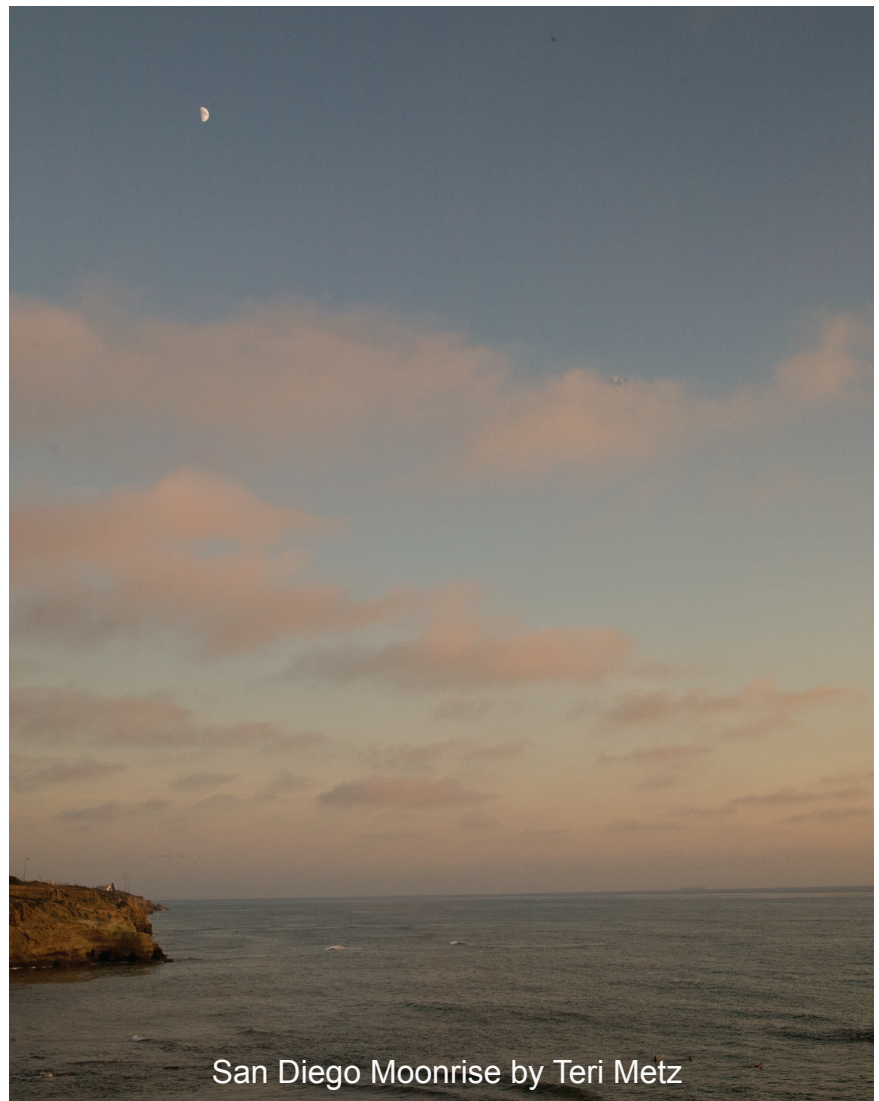
02/18: Digital Photo Academy presentation with
Milton Heiberg.
03/04: To be announced.
03/18: To be announced.

Outings

02/28: Darien Ga. and First Things First. Details
on website and via email from Jim Niss and
John Reed.
03/26-03/29: Charleston SC. Details via email
from Jim Niss

Website

Please note that our club website had problems
and you will need to add your photos back into
the galleries if you added them after Oct. 2008.



San Diego Moonrise by Teri Metz

Board of Directors and Chairpersons

President:	Bill Coppedge 721-5598
V. President	Jim Lowell 519-9430
Treasurer:	Dee Hartmann 269-1315
Secretary:	John Reed 764-5796
Membership:	Marsha Malone 388-6835
Mentor Program:	Gordon Ira 771-0214
Slide Program:	Lynda Smith 646-5830
Print Program:	Richard Krenn 288-6965
Librarian:	Marianne Pophal 731-8579
Director:	Gordon Ira 771-0214
Director:	Jim Niss 249-2191
Director:	John Reed 764-5796
Editor:	Teri Metz tmetz1@mac.com 382-6345
Please feel free to contact your board members with any questions or concerns.	

Get your kicks out of *CLICKS!*