



# CABLE RELEASE

Newsletter for Riverwoods Nature Photographic Society

Volume xxix Number 2 October 2010

Editor: Gene Burda

## UPCOMING SCHEDULE

### October 18, 2010 - Program by Sheri Sparks—Better Landscapes

The October Workshop/Program will be "Better Landscapes" by our own Sheri Sparks. This is a digitally projected program that will share information on how to improve your landscape photographs by paying attention to such elements as light, foregrounds, color, filters, weather elements, lines, reflections, cropping, item placement and telling a story. To illustrate, images will be shown from trips taken to Bryce Canyon, Yellowstone, Glacier National Park, the Canadian Rockies, the Smoky Mountains, Michigan's Upper Peninsula and right around our area.

### November 1, 2010- Workshop -Critique Night

This is your opportunity to get outstanding feedback on your images. Our critique panel will be comprised of experienced members from the club who will give their positive comments on images. Everyone is encouraged to bring up to 2 small color mounted prints for evaluation.

### November 8, 2010 - Board Meeting

### November 15, 2010 - Program by Len Messineo - "Florida for the Birds"

Len's program on birds is a continuation of his highly praised series on Florida's wealth of bird life. This new, enhanced program focuses on the state's impressive variety of scenery and environment. Birds within selected groupings are compared, often humorously. The finale features stunning images of birds engaged in surprising and whimsical activities.

### December 6, 2010 - 2nd Competition

Thanks to Todd Gustafon for his great program "To the Ends of the Earth", literally, with inspiring images, techniques and tips. The questions of interest continued way beyond the program.

## Officers 2010-2011

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Jim Sayre  
Vice President – Programs  
Ralph Durham  
Alt – Joan Sayre  
Vice President – Competition  
Rich Fisher  
Co-chair Assistant  
Melissa Alderson  
Secretary  
Norm Carl  
Treasurer  
Karen Frischman  
Outing Chairs  
Jim and Diane Bodkin  
Exhibitions Chair  
Jim and Joan Sayre  
Workshop Chair  
Mel Ellingsen  
Newsletter Editor  
Gene Burda  
Judge Procurer  
Kelley Happ  
CACCA Rep  
Sheri Sparks  
Membership  
Frank Witt  
Alt – Cosmas Liu  
Equipment  
Marty Winn  
Hospitality  
Burt and Irene Kummer  
Website  
Venkat Siva

## Goodies

*Thanks to Venkat Siva for 10/4 and a reminder to Joan Sayre for 10/18.*

## Club News

### Outings

#### Next outing to Jasper-Pulaski Wildlife Area

On overnight outing is being planned to Jasper-Pulaski Wildlife Area in Indiana, Saturday and Sunday, November 13-14, pending reports of significant migration numbers.

The drive from Riverwoods to Jasper-Pulaski is about 3-4 hours. We would plan to be at the observation deck at 4:30 PM Saturday to photograph the flocks coming in to roost in the field, then stay till dark, then drive 45 minutes (about 30 miles) south to Rensselaer to a motel. We would need to leave the motel about 5:30 am the next morning in order to be back at the observation deck at 6:00-6:30 am to photograph the take off from the field. Rensselaer is the closest motels we have found. There are several you could check on the Internet "Motels in Rensselaer, IN".

Please let Diane and Jim Bodkin know if you are interested. [bodkind@comcast.net](mailto:bodkind@comcast.net) and 847-382-7934.



The UP Fall Color group of October 2010  
(photo provided by Mel Ellingsen)

**New Members** - Welcome to Jack Greenberg from Glenview, Stephen Bittner from Deerfield, Suzanne Gravelle from Montreal and Greg Hohner from Libertyville.

**Reminder: You can now pay dues to our treasurer, Karen Frischman**

**Oct 04 Competition**

**Small Color Prints - Class B**

**POM** Milkweed by Kelley Happ

**HM** Got Nuts? By Melissa Alderson  
Teasel by Norm Carl

**Small Color Prints - Class A**

**POM** Monarch Posing on Goldenrod by Don Bolak

**AW** Curled Fern Fronds by Don Bolak  
Northern Cardinal by Mel Ellingsen

**HM** Protecting the Perch by Jim Bodkin  
Red-Collared Widow Bird by Karen Frischman  
Mating Dragons by James Sayre  
Columbine by James Sayre  
Dragonfly on Wildflower by Joan Sayre  
Common Wood-Nymph by Joan Sayre

**Large Color Prints**

**POM** Leopard on A Kenya Morning by Karen Frischman

**AW** Bald Eagle by Mel Ellingsen

**HM** Last Light on the Dunes by Don Bolak  
Moose by Mel Ellingsen  
Potato Patch Falls by Karen Frischman  
Mating Dance of the Secretary Bird by Karen Frischman

**Pictorial Slides**

**POM** Polyphemus Larva by Lilian Fulde (Image not available)

**HM** A Pair of Ladyslippers by Don Bolak  
Turk's Cap Lily by Lilian Fulde

**DPI**

**POM** Stretch by Karen Frischman

**AW** A Tender Moment by Sheri Sparks

**HM** Last Spiderwort Flower by Don Bolak  
Lilac Breasted roller in the Mara by Karen Frischman  
Screech Owl by Sheri Sparks  
American Avocet by Marty Winn

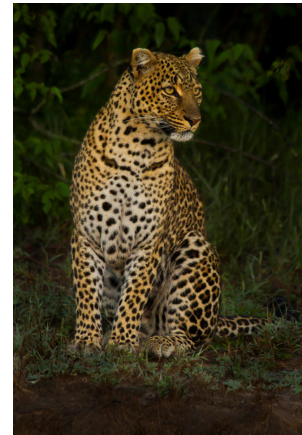
POM



POM



POM



POM

# RNPS Intraclub Competition Scores

## Results after 1st Competition

### Small Color B

Maker	# Entries	Pts	Avg Score	HMs	Awards	POM
Melissa Alderson	3	60	20.00	2	0	0
Norman Carl	3	60	20.00	1	0	0
Kelley Happ	2	41	20.50	0	1	1

### Small Color A

Maker	# Entries	Pts	Avg Score	HMs	Awards	POM
Don Bolak	3	72	24.0	0	2	1
James Sayre	3	72	24.0	2	0	0
Mel Ellingsen	3	70	23.3	0	1	0
Joan Sayre	3	70	23.3	2	0	0
Jim Bodkin	3	67	22.3	1	0	0
Karen Frischman	3	67	22.3	1	0	0
Sheri Sparks	3	67	22.3	0	0	0
Diane Bodkin	3	66	22.0	0	0	0
Len Messineo	3	64	21.3	0	0	0
Matt Plofsky	3	64	21.3	0	0	0

### Large Color Prints

Maker	# Entries	Pts	Avg Score	HMs	Awards	POM
Karen Frischman	3	76	25.33	1	1	1
Mel Ellingsen	3	72	24.00	1	1	0
Jim Bodkin	3	71	23.67	0	0	0
Don Bolak	2	47	23.50	1	0	0
Roland Fulde	3	68	22.67	0	0	0
Len Messineo	3	66	22.00	0	0	0
Julie Cheng	2	45	22.50	0	0	0

### Slides

Maker	# Entries	Pts	Avg Score	HMs	Awards	POM
Don Bolak	3	66	22.00	1	0	0
Joyce Burzloff	3	60	20.00	0	0	0
Lilian Fulde	3	65	21.67	1	1	1

### DPI

Maker	# Entries	Pts	Avg Score	HMs	Awards	POM
Karen Frischman	3	71	23.67	1	1	1
Sheri Sparks	3	69	23.00	1	1	0
Marty Winn	3	68	22.67	1	0	0
Don Bolak	3	66	22.00	1	0	0

## **CACCA News**

By Sheri Sparks, CACCA Rep

Results from Saturday, October 9<sup>th</sup>

### **Color Projected Images**

- “Lake O'Hara Reflection” by Richard Fisher, 24 pts., AW
- “Lilac Breasted Roller In The Mara” by Karen Frischman, 23 pts
- “A Tender Moment” by Sheri Sparks, 23 pts.
- “Last Spiderwort Flower” by Don Bolak, 22 pts.

### **Slides**

- “Jewel of the Mara” by Richard Fisher, 22 pts
- “Starfish Up Close” by Don Bolak, 22 pts.
- “Turk’s Cap Lily” by Lilian Fulde, 21 pts.
- “Bergamot” by Joyce Burzloff, 21 pts.

### **Small Color Prints, Class AA**

- “Monarch Posing on Goldenrod” by Don Bolak, 24pts, AW
- “Broad Billed Hummingbird” by Richard Fisher, 24 pts., AW
- “Northern Cardinal” by Mel Ellingsen, 23 pts.
- “Milkweed” by Kelley Happ, 21 pts.

### **Large Monochrome Prints, Class B**

- “San Marcos” by Karen Frischman, 22 pts.

### **Large Color Prints Class A**

- “Ring-Tailed Cat” by Richard Fisher, 23 pts., AW
- “Bald Eagle” by Mel Ellingsen, 23 pts., HM
- “Last Light Over the Dunes” by Don Bolak, 20 pts.
- “Potato Patch Falls” by Karen Frischman, 19 pts.

### **Special Category Slides-Reflections**

#### **Lloyd McCarthy**

- “Framed by Ice” Best of Show
- “Hull Reflection” AW
- “Cathedral Reflected” AW

### **Individual Nature Slides**

#### **Richard Fisher**

- “Defending His Lunch” Slide of the Month
- “Eurasian Roller” HM

#### **Don Bolak**

- “Streams in Green” AW

#### **Lloyd McCarthy**

- “Bird’s Nest Fungus” HM

### **Individual Nature Prints**

#### **Richard Fisher – Class A**

- “Broad Billed Hummingbird” AW

“Mexican Jay” AW

“Gala Woodpecker” HM

“Ring-Tailed Cat” HM

**Matt Plofsky – Class B**

“Anhinga Posing” AW

“The Color Purple” HM

**November Individual Competitions** are Portrait Slides and Prints and Alteration of Reality Digitally Projected Images. You can submit 4 images in each category. Please turn your entries in to me by the November 1<sup>st</sup> workshop. Alteration of Reality Images should be emailed to [cacca.aris@gmail.com](mailto:cacca.aris@gmail.com) by November 6<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions on how to title your jpg files, just let me know.

The **Special Category Slides** for November is “New or Old.” You can submit 4 slides for this competition for award or honorable mention ribbons. **Special Category DPI** competition for November is “soft focus.” These images are to be emailed to Jerry Hug ([jerryhug@comcast.net](mailto:jerryhug@comcast.net)) by November 6th. You can enter up to 4 images in this competition. The size for DPI images are the same as for our club.

Do you need **mounting boards** for your prints? Please let us know how many small and large boards you would like for this year. Earl Kubis will be taking an order at the next CACCA meeting in November. A box of 100 11x14 mat boards are \$73 and a box of 100 16x20 boards are \$105.

PSA Chicago is hosting a **Workshop with George Lepp – November 6-** George Lepp is a nature photographer and he will be talking about landscape, macro and wildlife subjects from digital capture to computer optimization. The cost for the full day seminar is \$45 for PSA members and \$55 for non PSA members. For further details and registration see the website at: <http://www.psa-chicagochapter.org/> I will have info pamphlets at the next meeting.



**“No matter what camera you use, it is not the camera but your artistic eyes that make the photograph”**

**Taga Creekside**

Eric and Daughter figure out Exposure modes. By Eric Lador

“Dad, why do I always have problems with my exposure? Look, it’s all white!”

“Looks like it is overexposed.”

“Duhhh, dad, this is what I am asking about.”

“I think your camera is set to spot metering. Do you remember what it is?”

“I never even heard this word, and you want me to remember it? You never said anything about it.”

“Spot metering is when the camera determines the exposure from a small spot, where you focus”

“Uhhh, Dad, I don’t want another lecture, I only want to know how to fix it”.

“To start, there are three things you have to do. The first one is to be patient. The camera just does not work if the user is impatient.”

“Dad, will you stop your silly jokes! And don’t lecture me either. So how do I fix it!”

“Second, you listen and understand what the exposure modes are.”

“OK!”

“Third you don’t tell me ‘Borrrring’.”

“I said OK!”

“Most SLR camera’s have three exposure modes, ‘Spot metering’, ‘Center weighted’, and Matrix. In spot metering the camera sets the exposure based on a small circle around your point of focus. In center weighted the camera gives more weight to a circle around the center of the view. For example it may give 75% weight to the center, and 25% to all the rest. In matrix the camera is using about a hundred spots around the field of view and considers all of them. The math of how the camera does it is a little complicated, so just remember that in matrix the camera considers the whole field of view.”

“That’s GREAT! It was too complicated the minute you started! Now I am totally confused. You always make everything complicated.”

“OK, let’s look at them one at a time, and you will see that there is nothing complicated here.”

“Yeah, right!”

“Relax! The spot metering is very simple. One spot in the picture, which is your subject, determines all the lighting information. So when do you think you want to use it?”

“I don’t know, when?”

“Consider a picture with a bright subject and dark background. If the camera considers the whole field of view, your subject will be overexposed.”

“Why?”

“Because the camera will determine exposure to fit the dark parts of the picture. The dark background will be exposed correctly, but the subject will be overexposed. So in such case you want the camera to set the exposure based only on the subject. Do you think it happens often that you take a picture with a bright subject and a dark background?”

“I don’t know... I think so, why not?”

“Sure you do. You often want the subject to stand out, right? One way to accomplish this is to have a bright subject so you eye immediately ‘goes’ to the bright subject. For example, most portraits have a bright subject and dark background.”

“Hmmm, I like that. Makes sense.”

“OK, so you determine the light based on the subject and let the rest stay dark. But when don’t you want to use it?”

“May be when the subject is dark and the background light?”

“why?”

“Because the background will be overexposed, like in my picture.”

“That’s right but keep in mind that there are many exceptions. How about when you take pictures of a landscape without a central subject that you focus on.”

“Oh, yes, of course”.

“For such pictures you should use the Matrix mode. The camera considers the whole area. So when will you use it?”

“You said when you take pictures of a landscapes.”

“Good start! But actually you use it most of the time. But you do have to be careful. What will happen if you have a bright background and a dark subject?”

“The subject will be underexposed?”

“Are you saying or asking?”

“Saying... I think?”

“Right on! And when will you use center-weighted?”

“I don’t know, when?”

“Actually, I don’t know either; I never use it because I can never predict what may happen. ”

“OK, so what should I do with my overexposed background?”

“Try the matrix mode and see what happens. If that does not produce a good picture, there is another thing you can try that is called exposure compensation.”

“Dad, my TV training taught me to think no more than 15 minutes at a time. My time is up. One more word and my brain will explode!”

“Oh NO! I don’t want to clean your brain off he floor.”