



# CABLE RELEASE

Newsletter for Riverwoods Nature Photographic Society

Volume xxix Number 11 July 2011

Editor: Gene Burda

## UPCOMING SCHEDULE

August 28, 2011—Annual Picnic

See Page 4

September 12, 2011 - Program  
- Review and examples of new rules being installed this year/DPI

September 19, 2011 Workshop - 1st Critique, featuring 1 DPI image, 1 judge with parameters

September 26, 2011 - RNPS Board Meeting

Thanks to Stan Kirshner for his program on fill flash in Nature Photography on July 18, 2011. He coupled his unique background with a good presentation.



## Dues Are Due

Dues for the coming year are due now. They are \$30 for an individual or \$45 for a couple.

You can pay Karen Frischman, our treasurer, at the picnic, or you can mail the payment to her.

Her address is:

One East Schiller Street, #8a  
Chicago, Il 60610

## Officers 2010-2011

President  
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 Shiva

## Goodies

*Thanks to Julie Cheng for 7/18*

## Club News

### **Discussions/Actions from RNPS Board Meeting June 27, 2011 - by Jim Sayre**

The following topics were discussed at the RNPS Board Meeting on June 27<sup>th</sup> with the indicated actions taken.

1. The Brochure is being finalized with new photographs and should be available before the end of July.
2. The tentative Schedule of Program/Workshops/Activities for FY 2011/12 was presented by the Committee (Ralph, Matt P., Joan S, & Mel). It will be posted on our website during August, with periodic updates as the schedule is finalized. It will include the Chicago Area Photography School (CAPS) to be held November 20, 2011 at Elgin Community College.
3. Financial issues were discussed including the 2010/11 YTD Expenses vs Budget and the Proposed Budget for 2011/12 was approved. Our club is financially stable with a current cash balance of approximately of \$3,000.
  - Dues collected at the August Picnic will not be deposited until Sept. (start of new FY).
  - The Visitor's Fee of \$3.00 (for Programs nights) was eliminated.
  - Annual Dues were increased by \$5.00 (individual \$30, couples \$45) – first increase in over 10 years.
  - Four members receive the monthly newsletter by First Class Mail – we decided to continue the practice of not charging these “grandfathered” individuals for extra mailing costs. All new members must receive their newsletters electronically.
  - We decided to continue the practice of not charging members to attend the Picnic. This is a social event in which members bring a dish to pass and the club underwrites the cost of the main entrée.
  - We decided not to purchase a spare bulb for the digital projector (approx. \$275.)
  - The cost of the Mounting Boards will not be increased (currently small \$0.75, large \$1.00).
  - We will review the YTD Expenses periodically during the year.
4. Changes have/will be made to the RNPS Website: [riverwoodsnaturephoto.org](http://riverwoodsnaturephoto.org)
  - New Competition Rules for FY 2011/12 will be posted shortly.
  - Links to websites maintained by members of RNPS will still be allowed, but links to commercial sites of non-members will not.
  - We are happy with our current website host (1&1) and will not be changing to a new host such as WordPress.

- Venkat will pursue getting a backup person to help maintain our website.
  - The section on Travel Tips will be expanded to also include Photographic Locations, Restaurants, etc.
5. The Picnic will be at the home of the Bodkins on Sunday, August 28<sup>th</sup> – details and map to follow. Complete Sign Up Sheet for food to bring and help with tent setup/take down.
  6. The two Award Committees have completed their selections for this year.
  7. Ralph will coordinate the preparation of a survey, using a website tool, to collect information on preferences for cameras, computers, editing program, etc. The data will be used to help plan programs and workshops.

Note: These were condensed. The full minutes are on page 6



Picnic map large. The star locates the Bodkin's home.



As has been our custom, everyone is encouraged to bring either an appetizer, salad, side dish or dessert to share. The club will provide the meat for the main course and drinks.

A sign-up list is available so we know how many will be attending and what you plan to bring. If you don't have access to the sign-up sheet you can advise Jim or Diane by phone 847-382-7934, or e-mail [jrbodkin@comcast.net](mailto:jrbodkin@comcast.net). Please direct any questions relating to the picnic to either Diane or Jim.

Please include your name, number of people attending, and the item you are bringing: salad, appetizer, side dish or desert and include specifics (like cole slaw) so that we will have an idea if there are too many of one type of item is being brought )

Club members and their spouses/significant others are invited. Prospective new members are welcome.

**Schedule:**

**12:30-1:00 pm for those helping Jim and Diane with set-up**

**1:00-1:30 members arrive with food for socializing and appetizers**

**1:30-2:30 meal**

**2:30-3:30 awards presentation**

**3:30-4:30 more socialization and help with cleaning up**

**This is a partial do-it-yourself event: The club will provide the entrée.**

**Members will bring their own CHAIRS and a choice of one of the following: Appetizer or Salad or Side Dish or Dessert. (note: there are usually around 50 attending)**

**RNPS Picnic – August 28<sup>th</sup> - by Jim Sayre**

As stated, our End-of-Year Picnic will be at the home of Diane and Jim Bodkin on Sunday, August 28<sup>th</sup>. As in the past, we look forward to approximately 50 attendees and we will cross our fingers for great weather. The afternoon activities will include refreshments, camaraderie with club members and guests, a fine meal of Chicken or Beef, and the awards ceremony for year-end honors.

We want to make the hosting task as effortless as possible for the Bodkins and are asking all members to use the Picnic Signup Sheet and indicate if you will bring an Appetizer, Soda, Salad or Dessert. We also need help with setting up the tent (1 or 2 days prior) and take down (after picnic). We always look forward to this Picnic and the informal, friendly atmosphere for closing our RNPS fiscal year. We hope you can all attend this event.

“A good photograph is knowing where to stand”

Ansel Adams

# Riverwoods Nature Photographic Society

June 27, 2011

## Minutes of The Board Meeting

The meeting was called to order by the president at 7:30 PM. All board members were present with the exception of James Bodkin and Diane Bodkin. Minutes of the board meeting of March 21, 2011, had been approved at a prior meeting, and therefore, were not discussed at this meeting.

Reports by Board Members:

**Brochure Status and Finalization:** The process of finalizing the choice of photographs submitted by members is ongoing, but just about completed. There was discussion regarding credits for submitted images and it was decided to use the phrase "Photos by Members" rather than each individual's name. There has been some difficulty in obtaining a very sharp image of the logo used by RNPS and Mel Ellingsen offered the services of his son in this effort. There is a major effort to be made to finalize everything by mid July and send the brochure off to a printer, possibly Vista with an estimate of \$300 for 500 copies. There were a few suggestions for minor changes in language in the body of the brochure. Mel Ellingsen and Rich Fisher offered their assistance to Melissa Alderson to help her complete the project.

**Programs and Workshops for Fiscal Year 2011/2012:** The committee now has four members with the addition of Matt Plofsky. The initial draft of the coming year's programs and workshops was distributed to the board. Questions were raised regarding how to encourage more DPI entries in addition to mounted prints. Discussion was made to limit entries for the First Critique, now scheduled for September 19, 2011, to DPI only. The decision was made to impose this limitation without a formal vote of the board. Additional suggestions were made to make mention of CAPS on the Programs and Workshops Schedule and to potentially offer programs on video since most new cameras now offer that feature, also to include a black and white special competition. Additionally, there were a few other minor corrections and additions.

**Financial Issues:** The majority of discussion involved the revised budget for the coming fiscal year and changes to reporting of income on the accrual method versus the cash basis. The determination was made that RNPS will use the accrual method going forward. This will begin by deferring the deposit of any funds received for 2012 dues at the coming picnic until the beginning of the new fiscal year. Following are the other financial issues raised and changes made as a result of discussions: (1) The visitor's fee of \$3; vote was to abolish this charge; (2) increase the annual dues by five dollars. This issue created the most discussion. The current budget shows a surplus and comments were made that with this amount of money actually on the books, a dues increase was not necessary. It was then pointed out that there were a number of cash outlays coming due shortly that would significantly reduce the surplus, in addition, funds needed to be available in the event of equipment failure or other unforeseen events. A vote was then taken and an increase of five dollars in RNPS dues was passed. (3) Discussed the possibility of charging the four members who receive copies of the newsletter by first class mail, but it was decided not to pursue this issue; (4) The issue was raised to begin a charge for attending the annual picnic, but this was voted down; (5) also, it was decided not to purchase a spare bulb for the digital projector; (6) finally there was discussion regarding the price charged for mounting boards and it was decided to allow the current charge to remain in effect. A motion was made and seconded to approve the budget as proposed for fiscal year 2012. The motion was passed. It was announced that if anticipated year end expenses are paid by the end of August, the budget for fiscal year 2012 should be in balance. Subsequent to the Board meeting, Jim Sayre and Karen Frischman agreed that going forward, in addition to the June financial review, there would be an additional review to be held at the November Board meeting. At this meeting there would be a review of the actual versus budget items for fiscal year 2011 and for fiscal year 2012 year to date actual expenses versus budgeted expense. These discussions and reviews are meant to provide a mid-year snap shot of the financial status of RNPS.

**Website Updates:** It was stated that the new competition rules will soon be posted on the website via a link

and that the current problems with links on the site are being worked out. Additionally, it was suggested that a copy of the member handbook be available via a link. Links to sites maintained by members of RNPS will still be allowed, but links to commercial sites of non members will not. It was noted that some casual photos of groups of members should be changed to provide a better image. It was determined that changing the host for our website could potentially require a complete rewrite and that Venkat was satisfied with the use of the current host. There was discussion and agreement that a person should be trained to backup Venkat on web related matters. A suggestion was made that an area titled "Travel Tips" be added to the existing "Photo Tips" area. This addition could be used to provide places to photograph, places to eat and places to stay while traveling to sites visited by other members.

**Picnic:** An announcement was made that some volunteers are needed for tent set up and take down for the coming picnic. The picnic sign up sheet will again be available at the July 18<sup>th</sup> meeting and that picnic time and a map will be available shortly for distribution.

**Special Awards:** Sheri Sparks announced that the selections for the Grace de Wolf Award and the Alma Goldstein Award have been completed and taken care of by committees.

**Equipment Survey:** Ralph Durham suggested that RNPS conduct a survey of members to obtain information regarding camera brand, computer type, preferred editing program, etc. It was stated that the information could be obtained on line at no cost. The data would be used to help plan programs and workshops. The board by vote approved such a survey of the membership.

No other business being presented, the meeting was adjourned by the president at 9:45 PM

Respectfully submitted by:  
Norman H. Carl, Secretary



Turks Cap Lillies by Don Bolak. Slide of Year.

## **CACCA News**

By Sheri Sparks, CACCA Rep

Here are a few things to note from the CACCA summer board meeting.

### **Portrait Slides**

Individual Portrait Slide Competition is being discontinued due to lack of participation. There will still be a Portrait Slide Competition for the Spring Salon. Individual Portrait Print Competition will continue in November, January and March.

### **Slide Competitions**

Starting this fall there is a change in the slide competition rules. Any slide submitted to any slide competition which includes Interclub Pictorial Slides, Individual Nature Slides, Individual Photojournalism Slides and all the slide categories for the Spring Salon must be film based only. This means all slide entries must be exposed in the camera on film. No computer manipulation is allowed.

### **Individual Nature Competitions**

There is a schedule change this year for Individual Nature Competition. Individual Nature Print Competition will be held in October, December and February with the Individual Nature Print of the Year and Grace DeWolf Award Competition held in February following the regular competition. Individual Nature Slide Competition will be held in November, January and March with the Individual Nature Slide of the Year and Grace DeWolf Award Competition held in March following the regular competition.

For the Spring Salon we will add a Nature DPI competition also.

### **Individual Photojournalism Competition**

Individual Photojournalism Print and Slide Competition will be held in October, December and February. In addition to Photojournalism Slides and Prints, for the Spring Salon we will add a Photojournalism DPI competition also.

### **Alteration of Reality DPI Competition**

Alteration of Reality DPI will be changing. The competition will now be called Artistically Rendered Images and the new broader definition of eligible entries will be coming out in the near future. Hopefully it will get you interested in trying it out especially since our first successful year of Special Category DPI. The competitions will continue to be held in November, January and March following the Interclub DPI competition.

**Save The Date**  
**For the**  
**Chicago Photographic School**  
**Mark your calendar for Sunday, November 20, 2011**  
**8 AM - 5 PM, Elgin Community College**

Pick up a copy of the CACCA News at the next club meeting or you can read it online at the CACCA website [caccaweb.com](http://caccaweb.com) under the heading "home" and scroll down to "newsletters." The May newsletter has information on many of the classes that will be offered at CAPS this fall. Online registration will be coming this summer.

### **Judging Class**

A seminar on "judging" will be coming out this fall. If you are willing to become a judge for the Chicago Area Camera Clubs let me know and I will have your name put on the list.