

# THE CABLE RELEASE

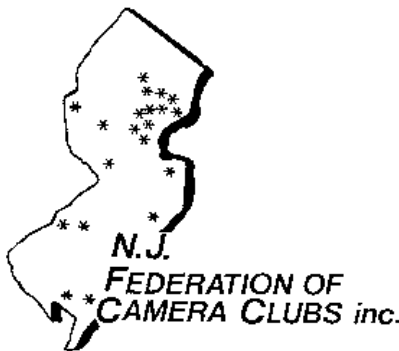
Volume 47, Issue 2  
September 1999

## A few words...

We'd like to welcome a new member club: **The Central New Jersey Camera Club**, represented by Glen Sharko. It's nice to see our organization expanding – we hope to see this trend continue. Welcome aboard!

Many thanks to the clubs that sent their schedules for this season to The Cable Release. Some schedules, however, are still missing – please send them as soon as possible so they may be advertised in The Cable Release and on the NJFCC website.

We're proud to present our first feature article, "You and the Judges – Two Forces" by Ara M. Chakarian, APSA. If you've written an article and would like to see it in print, submit it to The Cable Release!



Organized for the mutual enjoyment and advancement of photography in New Jersey

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## You and the Judges – two Forces

By Ara M. Chakarian, APSA

On a recent "New Members' Night" at our camera club meeting, many aspects of our club's activities were discussed. We talked about PSA, The New Jersey Federation of Camera Clubs (NJFCC), and competition. I was asked to talk about what a judge looks for when he or she evaluates a picture. The ideas I shared with the group that night are listed here for the consideration of some of the newer members of PSA.

Competition night brings two forces face to face – one force is the club members who are entering their work into competition; the other force is the individual we ask to evaluate our material and score it – the judge.

Competitors rightfully expect the judge to be objective, to offer helpful comments, to be consistent in scoring and respectful of the presentations. We rightfully expect the judge to be knowledgeable of photographic technique and, ideally, to have reached some stature as a competitor. Our local judges are people who have been asked to be placed on the New Jersey Federation of Camera Clubs' listing of judges. There are no requirements the individual has to meet.

The judge expects you to enter into competition only those slides or prints that are free of dirt and lint. A photograph that is "dirty" will be so noted and scored low.

While dirt will be quickly noted, so will poor exposure. This is a mechanical function. Learn quickly if your camera meter reads high or low. A full roll of overexposed slides strongly suggests an ASA setting adjustment is necessary. Also, determine the direction of the lighting on these poor shots. The odds are you had direct overhead lighting. Overexposure is the biggest fault of "B" workers. At a recent competition night at a local club, as I sat judging the "B" class, slide after slide was overexposed. Most were taken in the middle of the day with an overheard sun.

(continued on page 3)

- Check out the Special Events Calendar! Find a competition or workshop that may interest you...
- If you have an article you'd like to see in The Cable Release, send it to the editor!
- Don't forget to send your club's 1999-2000 schedule to The Cable Release! Not only will your events be published in The Cable Release, they'll also be featured on the NJFCC website.

# Special Events Calendar

If you know of any upcoming events, please send your submissions in early so that your fellow photo-enthusiasts have an opportunity to participate!

## Cosmopolitan Chapter of the Photographic Society of America (PSA)

- 9/18 Field trip to the Clown Festival in Seaside Heights, NJ. Field trip is also on 10/19
- 11/7 FOTOFEST will be presented at the Skyline Hotel, 725 Tenth Ave (between 49th and 50th streets) in New York City. The event will begin at 9am and continue until 5pm. Programs include: Reggie Wickham • Helen & Sherrill Lynch, APSA • Alison Dawson – author of "Building Graphics" • Workshops: • Model Setups • Indoor Silhouettes • Mylar • Glassware • and more!  
Admission: Members – \$15 prepaid, \$18 at the door; Non-members – \$20 prepaid, \$23 at the door. For more information please contact Jim Iannizzotto, Treasurer. Email: jimissp@aol.com, Address: 835 Rockland Ave, Staten Island, NY 10314

## Unique Photo

The following events are sponsored by Unique Photo at 11 Vreeland Rd in Florham Park. Call 973-443-9392, ext. 243 for more information and reservations. **Note: Due to a conflict, the trip to Ellis Island has been postponed until the spring.**

- |       |          |                                     |
|-------|----------|-------------------------------------|
| 10/7  | 10am-5pm | Mamiya Day, Clean & Check           |
| 10/7  | 7pm-9pm  | Mamiya Seminar with John Woodward.  |
| 10/14 | 10am-5pm | Hasselblad Day, Clean & Check       |
| 10/14 | 7pm-9pm  | Hasselblad Seminar with Tony Corbel |
| 11/17 | 7pm-9pm  | Hasselblad Seminar                  |

## NJ Photo Forum

The NJ Photo Forum is sponsoring a 5 session Fall Workshop with Ross Wagner. All sessions will be held at the Watchung Arts Center from 7:30pm – 9:30pm, on 9/14, 9/28, 10/12, 10/26, and 11/9. The 5 week session is \$45. Checks should be made payable to the Watchung Arts Center and mailed to Ross Wagner, 265 Oak Ridge Ave., Summit, NJ 07901. For more information, call 908-522-1120.

The NJ Photo Forum will meet on 9/22, 10/18, 11/17, and 12/20 at 7pm at the Watchung Arts Center. Call Michael Creem at 908-273-1572 for more information.

## Nikon School

Nikon School is coming to NYC. One-day classes are scheduled for 12/11 & 12/12 in 1999, 3/11 & 3/12, and 5/20 & 5/21 in 2000. Class runs from 9am-5pm and includes lunch and the Nikon School Handbook. Cost is \$99 per person. For more information or to enroll, call the Nikon School at 516-547-8666.

## Photo Exhibits

Sheilia Lenga, Judy Levine, and Sue Puder, from the Cranford / Millburn Camera Club, are among a group of NJ Photo Forum members that are displaying their work at the Children's Specialized Hospital in Mountainside. The exhibit will be on display through October.

"The Endurance: Shackleton's Legendary Antarctic Expedition" is currently on exhibit at the Museum of Natural History in NYC. It contains 125 photographs taken on the ice flows and Elephant Island. The exhibit runs through October 11, 1999.

# OCEAN COUNTY CAMERA CLUB PHOTOGRAPHIC TRADE SHOW

Sunday, Oct. 31, 1999 10 AM - 3 PM

Lakewood High School Gymnasium

East 7th Street, Lakewood, New Jersey

Sponsored By: Lakewood Community School

Table Reservations \$30.00 Preview Admission \$8.00 (9AM - 10 AM)

General Admission \$4.00 With This Card \$3.00 (10 AM - 3 PM)

For Information, Please Mail or Call Inquiry to:

Heike Graef  
847 Royal Lane  
Toms River, NJ 08753  
(732) 270-6428

Harold Kessler  
1195 Cecil Court  
Lakewood, N.J. 08701  
(732) 363-8099

Sal Tozzi  
13 Hemlock Hill Road  
Jackson, NJ 08527  
732-364-4939

## OVER 170 TABLES AVAILABLE

ALL DEALERS ARE REMINDED TO BRING A N.J. SALES TAX ID #

*Clip this advertisement and present it at the door between 10am and 3pm and only pay \$3 for general admission!*

# NJFCC Competitions

The following is the list of competitions for the 1999-2000 season. The first date listed is the date the prints/slides are due to the competition chair. The second date listed is the competition date, hosted by the noted club. **Please note the change in date for the Skibneski Nature Competition.** Please see the blue NJFCC Competition Flyer for submission rules.

## **Print Competitions:**

1st Print (B/W, Color, Trade)	10/15	10/25	Hillcrest Camera Club
2nd Print (B/W, Color, Trade)	1/1	1/10	Livingston Camera Club
3rd Print (B/W, Color, Trade)	2/26	3/7	Teaneck Camera Club
Tops in NJ			Studio One

## **Pictorial Slide Competitions:**

Annual Fall Color Slide	10/15	10/22	Morris Photocolor Club
Tops in NJ (color slide)	11/9	11/16	South Jersey Camera Club
Photo Travel (color slide)	2/23	3/2	Essex Photo Camera Club
Annual Spring (color slide)	3/29	4/5	Plainfield Camera Club

## **Nature Slide Competitions:**

Annual Fall (nature slide)	10/16	10/26	Millstone Valley Camera Club
Skibneski (nature slide)	2/1	2/10	Camera Naturalists
Restricted (nature slide)	3/16	3/23	Raritan PS
Annual Spring Inter-Club	3/30	4/6	Vineland

Please send entries to the appropriate competition chairperson by the listed deadline:

## **Print Competitions**

Howard Royce  
1916 Shadowbrook Dr.  
Wall, NJ 07719  
732-974-0517

## **Pictorial Slide Competitions**

Marian Boyer  
27 Sand Spring Rd.  
Morristown, NJ 07960  
973-538-3209

## **Nature Slide Competitions**

Ira Finke  
17 B Andrew Jackson Ct.  
Cranbury, NJ 08512  
609-655-9521

## You and the judges - two forces (continued from page 1)

Proper focus is also a mechanical function. Handling a camera while wearing glasses is awkward. Can you get a corrective eyepiece for your camera's viewfinder? Do you use hyperfocal distance focusing for your landscapes, or when you are using a wide angle lens? We do. Does your viewfinder show full frame?

Dirt, exposure, focus - a good judge will observe these aspects almost at once. The slide or print must pass these three inspection points before its value as a picture is considered.

Now let's think about the picture as you recorded it. How did you plan and compose your image? What went through your mind as you looked through the viewfinder? The following topics should have been among your thoughts, as they are some of the basic tenets upon which your picture will be judged:

- Is this an interesting shot, with a center of interest? Be it a portrait, nature, scenic or abstract, this tenet applies.
- Where to place the center of interest. The rule of thirds, it might surprise you to learn, is not a PSA rule. Before going out judging, I bought an art book. There was a rule of thirds. A leading line might dictate the placement of a center of interest. In nature, we would not like to see the stem of a flower come in from the side of the frame, but from the bottom.
- Lighting, if directly frontal or overhead, will rarely produce a properly exposed shot. If the sun is in front of the camera plane, from the side to the front, lens flare could be a problem. On a hazy day, the odds are that you will suffer overexposure. On sunset shots, do not expose with the sun in the picture unless you can comfortably look at the sun. Move the camera to one side to avoid the sun, set your exposure, then recompose your shot. Bracket. Learn to take silhouettes of trees, parts of trees or anything that can be an interesting shot.
- Distracting elements such as bright areas, busy backgrounds, a too-large dark area. If you have a preview button on your camera, do you use it? It is surprising what shows up when the lens is stopped down.
- Vertical or horizontal? Like crossing a street, look both ways. Nature subjects usually, like portraits, look better when shot vertically.
- Learn how to crop. Rare is the picture that does not need some in-camera cropping.

All of these points are covered in some of the fine recorded lecture programs available to you as a member of PSA. Use them. It is like one-on-one teaching. You can contact headquarters for a free catalog of available programs.

*This article originally appeared in the PSA Journal - April 1999. It is reprinted with the permission of Mr. Chakarian.*

# NJFCC Contacts

Send announcements and corrections to:

Barbara Svachak  
257 Berthold Avenue  
Rahway, NJ 07065  
Phone: 732-680-0708

Reach us on the Internet!  
Email: njfcc@hotmail.com  
http://members.tripod.com/njfcc

### Officers:

President (acting)	Howard Royce	732-974-0517
Vice President	Sheilia Lenga	908-687-2617
Treasurer	Lew Schor	610-252-3217
Secretary (acting)	John Davidson	973-625-4820
Trustee	Ray Armstrong	856-662-5465

### Supporting Staff:

Print Comp (acting)	Howard Royce	732-974-0517
Nature Slide Comp (acting)	Ira Finke	609-655-9521
Pictorial Slide Comp	Marian Boyer	973-538-3209
The Cable Release	Barbara Svachak	732-608-0708
Directories	John Davidson	973-625-4820

### **Deadline for the next edition of The Cable Release is Wed, October 13th**

The August Cable Release incorrectly listed Ross Wagner's name on page 2. He is conducting a fall workshop for the NJ Photo Forum in Watchung.

Meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of each month (August – May) at 8:00PM at the Watchung Arts Center.

## Upcoming NJFCC MEMBER Club Events

- ⇒ **Camera Naturalists:** 10/14 Competition "Close Up Macro", judge Stanley Jacobson
- ⇒ **Cranford / Millburn:** 9/27 Competition "Blue", judge Dorothy Spillane; 10/4 "Poloroid Image and Emulsion Transfer" demo by Nancy Bernhaut; 10/17 Fieldtrip to NYC (rain date 10/24)
- ⇒ **Essex:** 9/16 Presentation by Walter Choroszewski; 9/30 Competition, judge Andre Cantelmo; 10/7 PSA Lecture "Slide Painting"
- ⇒ **Livingston:** 9/13 "Beyond Basics" by James Stachecki; 9/27 Competition, judge John Copeland
- ⇒ **Mapleshade – Moorestown:** 9/14 "An Evening with Reginald Wickham – Part 2"; 10/12 "Africa" by Buck Sleuman
- ⇒ **Morris:** 9/17 Competition: Open Pictorial, judge Stan Jacobson; 9/24 Competition: Nature, judge Dorothy Spillane; 10/1 Program: "Light and Color in nature Photography" by Joan Case; 10/8 Program: "Update on Camera and Film Developments" by Jim DelGuidice; 10/15 Competition: Flowers, judge Keli A. Dougherty
- ⇒ **Plainfield:** 9/21 Host NJFCC Competition Pictorial & Nature; 10/6 Competition: PSA Nature
- ⇒ **Ridgewood:** 9/15 Nature Competition, judge William D. Griffin, FPSA, NJFCC, ADVC; 9/22 Pictorial Competition, judge Timothy White; 9/29 Program: "Patagonia – Land of Fire and Ice" by Alyce Pareghian; 10/13 Nature Competition, judge Phil Echo

## NJFCC Member Clubs on the web

Cranford/Millburn Camera Club: <http://members.tripod.com/CameraClub> [cmcameraclub@hotmail.com](mailto:cmcameraclub@hotmail.com)  
 Morris Photo Color: <http://www.users.nac.net/jmp/mpc.htm>  
 Raritan Photographic Society: <http://www.eastbrunswick.com/rps>

## Build a free web site for your club!

You don't have to be a Webmaster to build your own web site. The NJFCC and New Jersey Online (NJO), [www.nj.com](http://www.nj.com), invite you to build a free website for your non-profit group with NJO's Community Connection. If you already have a site, list it in our directory so people throughout New Jersey can find and learn about your group. And building your site is easy!

Community Connection is an easy-to-use program that allows groups to build and maintain their own web sites for free. You don't need to know any programming or HTML. All you have to do is type information about your group in the boxes provided and you're done. You can even include your own logo or artwork. Later this fall we will be adding a photo gallery where you can download up to 50 images.

Use your web site to spread your group's message, announce upcoming events, and encourage volunteer sign-ups. Community Connection makes it easier for residents throughout NJ to locate your group. It's also a great way to keep members in touch without the expense of costly mailings.

If you already have a web site, list it in the Community Connection Directory. All sites built and registered with Community Connection will be included in the searchable, statewide directory so users and other groups can find you.

What's the catch? There isn't one! This is not a limited time offer and there are no fees or catches. New Jersey Online is committed to serving the community and becoming the online source for news and information for people who live or work in NJ. Working with the Star Ledger, Times (Trenton) and Jersey Journal we provide reliable, up to date information about NJ.

Create your own web site today! For more information about Community Connection and how you can build or list your own web site, visit <http://www.nj.com/cc> or call 201-459-2876.