



THE CABLE RELEASE

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Organized for the mutual advancement and enjoyment of photography .

BASICS OF STAR TRAIL PHOTOGRAPHY

Roman Kurywczak, NJFC

EQUIPMENT:

All you need for star trail photography is a fully charged camera with a bulb setting, a lens (wide angle preferably), sturdy tripod and head, a cable release that is able to be locked for at least an hour, bubble level for hot shoe, compass, and a powerful flashlight to aid in composition.



Camera batteries vary, but I have

gotten over 3 one hour exposures on a single charge, even on a very cold night.

COMPOSING AT NIGHT:

You really want to do this when **there is no moon**. To achieve star trail circles, you must find the North Star (or Southern Cross) and shoot with it in your frame.

By far, the hardest part of night/astral photography is composing at night. One method is to scout a subject during the day, compose it, focus it, and mark your lens so



that when you return at night, you are ready.

This is not always practical but it can be done. New technology has made that much easier.

I use a 10 million candle power flashlight that I purchased at Cabella's for around \$40. By pointing this light at the edges of your foreground subject, you can compose almost as easily as you would during the day. You can also use this to "paint" your subject if they are large or far away from you that a normal light can't reach. Remember that you don't have to paint. You can have a silhouette with the stars or trails.

SETTINGS FOR STAR TRAILS:

The best starting point for star trails is ISO 100 and the next to widest opening on



your lens (example; you have an f4 lens-set at 4.5) and the camera set to **Bulb**. That's it! You composed your image as to the instructions above, now lock the shutter open.

You can now begin your painting if you choose. Try to keep them open for at least an hour. The longer you keep the shutter open, the longer or full circle your trails will be.

If you are pointing away from the North Star, your trails will be sideways or up and down. These are just starting points. You can experiment with higher ISO's but re-

member that you start to introduce much more ambient light into the picture and that includes city light pollution!

SETTINGS FOR STAR POINTS:

The aperture for star points will be the same but the ISO should be raised as high as you possibly can. The higher the ISO the greater the amount of stars you will see in the final image.



Exposure times should not exceed

30 seconds as after that you will start to see trails. This image of Delicate Arch was taken at ISO 3200 while this one below was taken a few days later at ISO 6400 .

You should turn on your camera's high ISO noise reduction on. Post processing noise reduction is also available and will improve your final results.

PRECAUTIONS:



Night photography poses many challenges that daytime photography does not.

I have on one headlamp while I'm walking and keep a spare in my back-

pack with extra batteries for both so as not to get stuck anywhere without a light source.



If you are hiking around at night serious injury or worse can happen as uneven terrain is not as easily visible as it is during the day.

Extra attention should be paid while walking

around at night but it is well worth the reward.

See you in the night,
Roman Kurywczak

Editor's Note: Do you have a "How To" you'd like to share with other NJFCC Camera Club Members? Send it to me at jsandstedt@comcast.net and we can include it in a future Cable Release issue.

FROM THE PICTORIAL CHAIR

Diane Dugan

As your club is preparing its schedule for the upcoming year, **please consider hosting an NJFCC Pictorial Image competition.** Now with the inclusion of digital images, these competitions have been very well received and it is an excellent opportunity for your members to watch the judges score our images first hand. The NJFCC contributes \$75 to the host club so your club should not have to incur any out-of-pocket expenses. We also provide all of the equipment so only a screen and some volunteers are needed.

Please choose from the following competitions -- however, at this point, a definite date that your club will host the competition is not required - a firm date will be needed by the end of May/early June.

Fall - (October, 2008)
TOPS - (end of November/December, 2008)
Travel - (January/February, 2009)
Spring - (March/April, 2009)

I look forward to meeting some new clubs or re-visiting past hosting clubs! If anyone has any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Diane Dugan 908-507-7084

RESULTS OF THE NJFCC 2008 56TH SPRING COMPETITION

Host: PLAINFIELD Camera Club

CRANFORD, NJ

APRIL 1, 2008

JUDGES: Judy Helderman
Joseph Tanski
Skip Williams

TITLE	MAKER	CLUB	S/D	
Dreamy Water Lily	Susan Candelario	GSSSCC	D	Medal
Osprey with Fish	Raymond Meltzer	Cranford/Millburn CC	D	MA
Park Ave Star Trails	Roman Kurywczak	Cranford/Millburn CC	D	MA
Star Trails over South Window	David DesRochers	Cranford/Millburn CC	D	MA
Framing the Sneffel Range	Dave Mills	GSSSCC	D	MA
Odd Ball	Tracey Bodeo	Hillcrest CC	D	MA
Cyclone	Stanley Kantor	Ridgewood CC	D	MA
Flying Hooves	George Hall	Ridgewood CC	D	MA
A Load Of My Feet	Sean Rhinehart	Teaneck CC	D	MA
When Mermaids Sleep	Diane Glasner	Teaneck CC	D	MA
Alaska Scene	Phil Echo	Tri-County CC	D	MA
Grizzled Veteran #2	Ron Denk	Cranford/Millburn CC	D	HM
Surfs Up	Cathy DesRochers	Cranford/Millburn CC	D	HM
Casting the Net	Paul Boyer	GSSSCC	D	HM
Hummer at Pink Flower	Marian Boyer	GSSSCC	D	HM
Japanese Iris	Dave Mills	GSSSCC	D	HM
Narcissistic Little Blue	Paul Boyer	GSSSCC	D	HM
Single Pod 2	Simon Leventhal	GSSSCC	D	HM
Iris	Bob Thompson	Hillcrest CC	D	HM
Open Oak Alley	Merle Waterman	Hillcrest CC	D	HM
Sunrise on Saucon Creek	Mike Brint	Hillcrest CC	D	HM
The Colors of Fall	Diane Dugan	Hillcrest CC	D	HM
Legend of the Hookerman	Robert Pilkington	HUB CC	D	HM
Philadelphia City Hall	Andy Daspin	HUB CC	D	HM
Vintage Manhattan	Andy Daspin	HUB CC	D	HM
Lady in White	John Murray	Livingston CC	D	HM
The Grid	Rick Perkowski	Livingston CC	D	HM
Landscape in the Sand	Art Miceli	Monmouth CC	D	HM
Please Get it Straight				
Next Time	Paul Lenz	Monmouth CC	D	HM
Prize for the Ladies	William Imhof	Monmouth CC	D	HM
Disturbed	Dave Kirkwood	Plainfield CC	S	HM
Cactus Flower	Rich Gheno	Ridgewood CC	D	HM
Chinese Lantern	Dieter Steinmeyer	Ridgewood CC	D	HM
Dianthus	Marie Kane	Ridgewood CC	D	HM
Hummingbird Impression	Connie Fox	Ridgewood CC	D	HM
Speed Demon	Marie Kane	Ridgewood CC	D	HM
Water Lily Close-up	Della O' Malley	Ridgewood CC	D	HM
Let's Rumble	Dan Kingcaid	Teaneck CC	D	HM
On Top of the Porch	Tibor Vari	Teaneck CC	D	HM
Orchard Blast	Joe Giordano	Teaneck CC	D	HM
Rainbow Hill	Rob Sayegh	Teaneck CC	D	HM
Ripples to the Dunes	Jeff Norton	Teaneck CC	D	HM
Totem Pole Sunrise	Joe Giordano	Teaneck CC	D	HM
Wine with Dinner	Michael Elliott	Teaneck CC	D	HM
Grist Mill	Phil Echo	Tri-County CC	D	HM
Pont St Espirit	Francoise Rutilinoll	Tri-County CC	D	HM

RESULTS OF THE NJFCC 2008 56TH SPRING COMPETITION

Host: PLAINFIELD Camera Club

CRANFORD, NJ

APRIL 1, 2008

~Continued~

Number of Clubs Participating:	11	Number of Qualifying Images:	174
Number of Slides:	8	Number of Digital Images:	166
Percentage of Slides:	4.6%	Percentage of Digital Images:	95.4%
Number of Awarded Slides:	1	Number of Awarded Digital Images:	45
Percentage Awarded Slides:	2.5%	Percentage Awarded Digital Images:	27.11%

Score:	Number:	Percentage:
27	0	0.0%
26	0	0.0%
25	1	0.6%
24	10	5.7%
23	35	20.1%
22	43	24.7%
21	50	28.7%
20	26	14.9%
19	8	4.7%
18	1	0.6%
17	0	0.0%
16	0	0.0%
15	0	0.0%
14	0	0.0%
	174	100.00%

Club	Awards	Total Entries	Total Score	Average
Cranford/Millburn CC	5	18	396	22.00
Essex CC	0	0	0	
Gateway CC	0	0	0	
GSSSCC	7	18	401	22.28
Hillcrest CC	5	18	388	21.56
HUB CC	3	18	375	20.83
Livingston CC	2	18	376	20.89
Mapleshade-Moorestown	0	0	0	
Monmouth CC	3	18	386	21.44
Morris Photo Color	0	0	0	
Plainfield CC	1	8	169	21.13
Ridgewood CC	8	18	398	22.11
South Jersey CC	0	4	84	21.00
South Jersey PS	0	0	0	
Teaneck CC	9	18	396	22.00
Tri-County CC	3	18	387	21.50
Vineland CC	0	0	0	
	46	174	3756	21.59

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WHAT'S HAPPENIN' AT NJFCC MEMBER CLUBS
IN
MAY 2008?

Club	Location	Date	Topic	Judge or Speaker
Camera Naturalist	Somerset Co. Env Ed. Center	5/8	Weather Make-Up	
		5/22	Competition: Open and Assigned Topic: Botany	Marie Kane
Central NJ	Ray Dwier Centre Groveville	5/1	Competition: Hot and Cold	TBA
Cranbury "Digital"	UMC Church	5/14	TBA	
		5/28	TBA	
Cranford/Millburn	Spanish Tavern Mountainside	5/5	Mounting and Framing Workshop	Stephanie Lalor
	Bauer Comm. Center Milburn	5/12	Annual Year End Competition	Chick Chakarian, Phil Echo, Joe Tanski
Essex	Caldwell United Methodist Church	5/1	Creating Panoramas	Greg Miller
E.C. Nature	Essex Co. Env. Center Roseland	TBA		
Gateway	Staten Island	TBA		
Greenbriar @ Whittingham	G@W Towne Centre Monroe Township	5/7	TBA	Stan Jacobson
		5/21	Competition: Open and Themed - Lighthouses	TBA
Hillcrest	Phillipsburg Pilgrim Presby. Church	5/12	Competition	TBA
HUB	Mountain Lakes Library	5/19	Program: Hudson Valley Sites	Gordon Emmerich
Livingston	Sr./Comm. Center Livingston	5/12	Program: Sardinia	Vinnie Kempf
		5/20	Year End Awards	
Mapleshade/Moorestown	Mapleshade Municipal Building	5/13	Program: Photoshop Basics	Steven Krouch
Monmouth	Colt's Neck Reformed Church	5/8	Program: Landscapes	Tibor Vari
		5/22	Program: Small is Beautiful	William Imhof
Morris	AT&T Building Florham Park	5/7	Competition: Open Pictorial	Skip Williams
		5/21	Party	
Ocean County	Lakewood High School	5/5	Workshop: Snap, Crackle and Pop	Tom Icklan
		5/12	Program: Flash and Focus	DVD Show
		5/19	Competition: End of Year Prints and Slides	
		5/27	Competition: Ralph Krubner Memorial Award	

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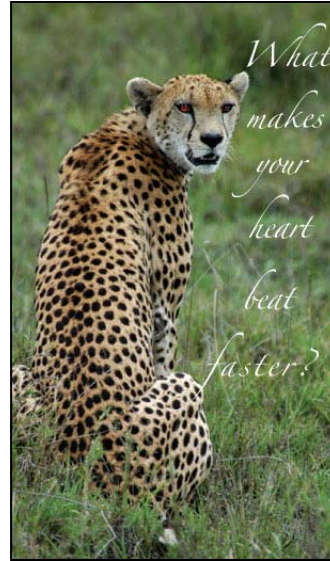
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WHAT'S HAPPENIN' AT NJFCC MEMBER CLUBS
IN
MAY 2008?
[CONTINUED]

<u>Club</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Judge or Speaker</u>
Palisades	Palisades Medical Center	TBA		
Photographers of Sussex County	Sussex Co. Fairgrounds	5/19	Photo Essay	
Photographic Soc. of So. Jersey	ACUA Bldg. Egg Harbor	TBA		
Photographic Soc of Vineland	Christ Church Newfield	5/1	Competition: Open-Open, Slides and Prints	
Plainfield	Cranford Alliance Church	5/6	Competition: Assigned Subjects Abstracts and Glass	
		5/20	Competitions - Print and Slide of the Year	
Princeton Photography Club	The 1860's House Skillman	TBA		
Raritan Photographic Society	Library East Brunswick	5/8	Competition: Open	
	EB High School	5/22	Presentation	Michael Yamashita
Ridgewood	Women's Club Wyckoff	5/14	Annual Competition and Election of Officers	Walter Oliver Lila Polinger Howard Knauer
		5/21	Program: Reading Pictures	Jpel Margovsky
Somerset County	Co. Library Bridgewater	5/13	Competition: Flowers	Doug Slobodien
		5/27	Member Critique Night	
South Brunswick	South Brunswick Public Library	TBA		
South Jersey	Medford Leas Community Center	5/6	Creating a Slide Show with ProShow Gold	Skip Vandergrit
		5/18	Photographing Orchids	Skip Vandergrit
Teaneck	Roda Rec Center Teaneck	5/6	Studio Workshop	
	Villa Roberto West Passaic	5/13	Program: Color Calibration	Joel Fischer
		5/20	Competition: Prints and Projected	George Hall
		5/27	You Be the Judge	
Tri - County	Nutley High School	5/1	Competition: Annual Pictorial Image	Marie Kane, Howard Knauer, Joe Thomas
		5/8	Competition: Annual Nature Image	Joe Stachecki, Stanley Kantor, Ben Venezia
		5/15	Competition: Annual Print	Vinnie Kempf, Roman Kurywczak, Tom Icklan
		5/22	Annual Awards Dinner	