

Newsletter

November/December 2009

President's Letter

"The Road Ahead"

Ah, autumn: season of changing leaves, sparkling days, chilly, star-sprinkled nights. The frost is on the pumpkin, the frog is on the wing. It is time to go on the Club Columbus Day Weekend Field Trip in search of the above. Except, since the leaves have been turning later in recent years, we have moved the trip, (along with the end of daylight savings time) to the end of October.

We require a van to haul those without car space who have signed up. I find an AAA-member 15% off a Ford Explorer available from a nearby Hertz, which carries 7 passengers—according to the website—but Chuck informs me we need to bring 8 passengers, including luggage and camera equipment. I switch gears and find a low cost local rental place in the Yellow Pages where I score a 15-passenger van for half the cost of the Hertz deal. I walk over the day before the trip and see I'll need the back seat removed to provide luggage/equipment space and that I should bring a footstool to allow passengers to get in and out without embarrassment.

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PARK WEST CAMERA CLUB

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

The Park West Camera Club is an independent not-for-profit corporation. Guests are always welcome at meetings and activities.

The *Park West Camera Club NEWSLETTER* is published every month by and for the members of the Park West Camera Club. Subscriptions are included with Club membership. Yearly subscriptions are available to non-members by e-mail (free) or postal service (\$10 per year). Individual issues are available at PWCC meetings.

Submissions of full-length articles or smaller items of photographic or general interest are always accepted. The staff of the Newsletter reserves the right to edit any submissions which are published.

Deadline for submissions is the first Monday of each month.

This Newsletter is optimized for viewing on the internet.

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Cover Photo
Tent Rocks National Monument
by Chuck Pine ©2009

President's Letter

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At the appointed hour—11 a.m.—most of the passengers are at the rental place, so I sign the forms and am instructed to pick up the van and vamoose right away to make way for other customers. I find the black van getting its final rinse, hop in and drive east on West 36th Street and at Ninth Avenue am pulled over by a traffic control officer directing me to a space he has thoughtfully reserved near the corner. He attends to another lucky driver across the street then asks me if I know why?

“Blocking the box?” I murmur. “That’s right,” he responds, “I’m not going to ask for your license or registration, just your first or last name.”

I craftily supply just my first name, but he gets all the info he needs from the license plate and hands me a printout from his hand-held computer.

“No points off your license, this time. Just a fine.”

I’m supposed to be relieved. I stuff it in my pocket and 45 minutes after leaving the lot I arrive back in front of the rental place. Wrung out by this adventure I allow Barbara DeMarco to take the wheel. Amidst frowns and relief we glide off.

The van is much more reliable mechanically than the one we rented last spring which made strange moans through the speakers in the door and broke down completely when we got back into the

(continued on page 4)

Did You Know?

Did you know that the on-line PDF version of the Park West Camera Club *Newsletter* offers you advantages?

Did you know that all of the website and e-mail addresses are hyperlinks? That means if you double click on them, you will be taken to that website (if you are connected to the internet) or to your e-mail program to send an e-mail.

Did you know that the images are in color and of higher quality than when printed out? And, you can enlarge a bit, too, for detail.

Did you know that reading the *Newsletter* on-line saves trees, landfills, inks and toners, and other natural resources?

Did you know that reading the *Newsletter* on-line saves the Club over \$100 each and every month?

NEWSLETTER STAFF

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Contributors: Janna Amelkin, Bill Apple, Annette Chapman, Susan Hoehn, Paul Perkus, Chuck Pine, Cheryl Richer, and Cindy Walpole

President's Letter

(continued from page 3)

City, adding another couple of hours to our trip. But, it does have some defects, such as acid-etched graffiti on one of the side windows, ink and spray graffiti on the dash and visor, a couple of missing armrests, holes in the ceiling fabric, and mirrors that kept shifting position. The driver's side mirror seemed to be held in place by strapping tape and a wad of chewing gum. Hertz would never have rented out such a heap. You get what you pay for.

The trip despite the van, the cloudiness, the sometimes drenching rain, the long delay at the GW Bridge, was terrific. Most of the leaves had fallen but there were lovely pockets of color still to be found.



Red Leaves
© 2009 Susan Hoehn

The waterfalls at Bushkill and elsewhere nearby were entrancing. The company was almost as entrancing. Even the food was mostly terrific (not always a given). And, this sounds corny, but it was good to get away to the country, enjoy the scenery, and, of course, take lots of pictures with fellow enthusiasts.

We'll keep working on the transportation challenges. Onward and upward!

Paul

Competition Info

Here's some information for our members regarding our Club competitions. All the details may be found in the *PWCC By-Laws* (Article III) and/or in the illustrated *PWCC Competition Manual*.

There will be one slide, one print, and one projected digital image (PDI) competition each month.

Each member may submit up to two images into each competition each month (a total of six images per month).

Print and slide entries must be submitted to the Competition Committee by 6:45 p.m. on the evening of the competition. PDIs must be submitted via e-mail to <pwcccompetition@yahoo.com> at least one week prior to the scheduled competition.

All entries must be sized, labeled, formatted, etc. as described in the *Competition Manual*.

Here's a hint for the Year-End Competition (held in June). Each member may submit up to four prints, four slides, and/or four PDIs. Only images which competed in this year's (October through May) monthly competitions are eligible. These entries must be unchanged from their original entry. The Club does not keep records of which slides or PDIs you entered. You should make a list of all your entries (and their scores) for your own benefit when you are ready to select which images to submit to the Year-End Competition. And, be sure to check it twice!

November Competition Results

by Susan Hoehn

Congratulations to the winners and to all those who participated in the November competition.

PDI of the Month

Breeding Egret by Eileen Duranko

Honor PDIs

Butchart Gardens by Janna Amelkin
Marguerite by Evelyne Appel
Blue and Red Shed by Lee Backer
Five Pointz by Lee Backer
Dainty Polar Bear by Sarah Corbin
Doors by Carole De Beer
Prospect Leaves by Barbara De Marco
Parker Girl by A. Gherardi
Harry by J. Gherardi
Regatta by Susan Hoehn
3 Pigs by Gladys Hopkowitz
New York City Skyline by Hedy Klein
Admirals Row by Ruth Lowell
Rainbow by Chuck Pine
Copenhagen by Helen Pine
Victoria by Rita Russo

And, special thanks to our November judge, Mary Fran Loftus, the owner of <omniphoto.com>



November PDI of the Month
Breeding Egret
©2009 Eileen Duranko

Print of the Month

Balloons by Gladys Hopkowitz

Honor Prints

Chambord by Evelyne Appel
Meeting House Steps by Lee Backer
NM Mountain Range by Maddy Barbara
Roxy Paine on the Roof by Barbara Berg
Evening by Eileen Duranko
Zoe by Susan Hoehn
Windows by Natalie Manzano

November Print of the Month
Balloons
©2009 Gladys Hopkowitz



The November Slide of the Month was not available at press time.

Slide of the Month

Portrait of a Lady by Rita Russo

Honor Slides

Dining with the Bull by Maddy Barbara
Ornamental Cabbage by Joan Slatkin

Cumulative Point Totals

Through November 2009

by Susan Hoehn

PDI's

Eileen Duranko	40
Helen Pine	36
Carole de Beer	34
Chuck Pine	34
Janna Amelkin	30
Evelyne Appel	30
Lee Backer	28
Jane Brown	24
Barbara De Marco	24
Nicole Dosso	24
Cheryl Richer	24
Rita Russo	24
Bob Wine	24
Gerry Harawitz	22
Gladys Hopkowitz	22
Hedy Klein	22
Bill Apple	20
Maria Fernandez	20
Len Lowell	20
Rain Bengis	18
Angelo Caminiti	18
Christine Doyle	18
Natalie Manzano	18
Valerie Brissett	16
Sarah Corbin	14
A. Gherardi	14
J. Gherardi	14
Dottie Mills	14
Judy Rosenblatt	14
Elsa Blum	12
Susan Hoehn	12
Ruth Lowell	10
David Alpert	8
Annette Chapman	8
Fonda Charne	8
Madeleine Barbara	6
Kathy Warner	4
Stephanie Charczenko	2

Slides

Rita Russo	28
Joan Slatkin	26
Maria Fernandez	22
Hedy Klein	18
Dottie Mills	18
Susan Sigrist	16
Madeleine Barbara	14
Marilyn Fish Glynn	12
Pierre Henri	8

Prints

Elsa Blum	34
Lee Backer	32
Eileen Duranko	30
Gladys Hopkowitz	28
Stephanie Charczenko	24
Evelyne Appel	22
Bill Apple	22
Maria Fernandez	22
Len Lowell	20
Barbara Berg	14
Susan Hoehn	14
Natalie Manzano	14
Madeleine Barbara	12
Annette Chapman	12
Fonda Charne	8
Sarah Corbin	8
Ruth Lowell	8

The following image was inadvertently omitted from the listings last month:

Honor PDI's

Manhattanhenge by Bob Wine

After only two months of competitions, 43 PWCC members have competed in at least one category.

Imaging Workshops

One of the advantages of being in a camera club, especially Park West, is all the feedback you can receive from people who know more than you do. This could be from one of our judges at our monthly competitions; it could be one of the professionals we hire to lead our Print Workshops; or it could be some of our PWCC members in the case of the Projected Image Workshops (for both slides and PDIs).

Again this year, we have scheduled four of each Imaging Workshop on alternating months, as follows: Projected Images during October, December, February, and April; and Prints during November, January, March, and May.

These imaging workshops are designed to help you improve your photographs for competitions, for presentations, for exhibitions, and for your personal use.

[See Schedule for details]

Big Winner

At PhotoPlus Expo last month Nik Software, Nikon, Lensbaby, DataColor, Pictorico, and Graphic Authority got together and offered a raffle. Annette Chapman, one of our members, entered and won \$11,000 worth of camera and accessory equipment. The biggest item? A Nikon D3X camera and lens. Loads of other goodies from the other participating companies. "Needless to say, I am very happy," Annette told us.

PWCC's Yahoo Group

by Cheryl Richer

Have an idea to go shooting but don't want to go alone? Have a question about Photoshop, or your camera, or some technique but don't have someone to ask? Know of a great photo op or workshop that you'd like to share with your fellow Club members? What to do?

Ta Da! The Club's Yahoo group is the answer to your questions. You can communicate with other PWCC members about these and more. All you have to do is sign up for the group. It's easy and it's free.

In order to sign up and be included, all you have to do is send an e-mail to me at <cheryl_richer@sandp.com> I will respond with an e-mail from the group website, and... you're in.

If you have a Yahoo e-mail account (or if you set one up), you can go into the group site. There you can see all prior e-mails sent, post pictures, post links to other websites of interest, and more. If you don't have a Yahoo account, you can only send and receive e-mails.

Note: if you *reply* to a group e-mail, it will bounce to everyone. For some responses, it is more appropriate to write to one member only; you will have to *forward* your response to them, as opposed to *replying* to the e-mail. If it's an e-mail asking "Where can I buy an old Polaroid camera," perhaps you want to *reply* because this information could be of interest to all. If you are saying "thanks for the information," for example, perhaps you should *forward* your response to only that one member.

Hi Res

By Bill Apple

Time flies, and our 2009-2010 Club year is well under way: a couple of competitions, guest speakers, a gallery exhibit and one international photo exchange with the camera club from Hartlepool, England. Promises of more, too.

While that new-year smell is fading, it's still not too late (or early) for New Year's resolutions! Who doesn't want to be a better photographer? Make a list, and be ready when the ball drops in Times Square.

Some things I hope to do photographically:

Get to those mags. An aging pile of Popular Photographies clutters my coffee table. When I subscribed, I vowed to read every issue within a day or two of arrival. Never works out that way with magazines, does it?

But there's valuable intel inside—you just have to harvest between the glossy covers. I plan to plow through and clip what's promising: a piece on best websites for free stock art; lighting black on black' problems with white balance; and so on. I'll then toss the "chaff."

Troll the Internet. Search engines like Google offer help when you need to know how to do something fast in Photoshop (or whatever software you use). Just ask—people love sharing and posting great tips, even how-to videos. No charge.

Not long ago, I was working on a friend's

brochure, which needed a bit of faux signage, maybe something in granite with chiseled, gilded Roman lettering. No time (or money) to visit the stonecutter, but a few clicks yielded "cookbook" directions for a Photoshop trompe l'oeil: a "carved" plaque with drop shadows, color codes for gilding, and more. It became a learning experience. More important, results conveyed classical *gravitas*.



Carved in stone? A Photoshop recipe from the Internet helped me create a plaque with a "chiseled," gilded look, for a friend's business brochure. I Googled for instructions.

Mine your files. You didn't start taking pictures yesterday, so you likely possess a photo backlog going back years, or decades. Take time for a second look. Photos can improve with age—you never know what gems you may have passed over.

It's painless to review big batches of digital photos. You can click through hundreds effortlessly and earmark whatever merits further work. Your digital-dark-room skills have probably improved too, so now you can take your older work to the next level. Or maybe you'll see *two* images miles apart. Put together, they may create something great.

With film, of course, looking back is cumbersome, but not impossible. I plan to review old contact sheets too and get the promising negatives scanned.

Revisit old haunts. Chances are, places that have afforded some of your best work in the past could yield even more. You're older, wiser, and have better equipment, so you may bag better shots nowadays. But you do have to go back.

I have found myself revisiting places, not to repeat *specific* shots. Rather I *refine* a prior photo at the "scene of the crime." I may change viewpoint or lens, or sample a time of day or a season different from my original shooting. It will be a new photo, but colored by what has come before. Try it.

FotoWeek

by Cindy Walpole

Smile. FotoWeek DC is back. This annual event is a week long festival, from November 7th to the 14th. There will be exhibitions, lectures, portfolio reviews. All is free, but registration is required. Here is the link for more info and to register: <www.fotoweekdc.org>

I am a finalist in the fine arts competition with a series of six images. They will be displayed at FotoWeek Central, 3338 M Street, NW. Over 3500 images were received from photographers in 39 states and 28 foreign countries.

As you can tell by the title, FotoWeek DC takes place in our nation's capitol. Why not register, take a ride/drive/flight/etc. down there to see what it's all about?

B & H Event Space

B & H Photo is offering free workshops in their newly redesigned presentation space. Here is a sampling of some of the photography offerings this month:

Monday, November 9
Indoor and Outdoor Lighting Techniques
Speaker: Rick Sammon

Tuesday, November 10
Central Park Shoot Out
Speaker: John Williamson & Rick Sammon

Tuesday, November 17
Better Photographic Composition
Speakers: B&H Maven David Brommer

Thursday, November 19
Portraits with Conceptual Significance
Speaker: Tom Sperduto

Sunday, November 22
The Sandhog Project
Speaker: Gina LeVay

Tuesday, November 24
As Seen Through the Lens
Speaker: B&H Maven Allan Weitz

Wednesday, November 18
SmugMug User Group
Speakers: Jason Group

Check out the website (bhphoto.com) for all the details as well as a complete list of additional presentations, and to register for the course(s) of your choice.

Inquiries

By Chuck Pine

Lou Manna, food photographer and our October speaker, boasted that his 2-megapixel shot was 'flawlessly' blown up into a 30 x 40-foot Times Square billboard. I know if I tried to print a 2-megapixel JPEG even in 8x10, it would look dotty. So what did Lou do?

Not being Lou, and not being able to ask him specifically, I'll have to make a few guesses here. First, there are several software programs (*Genuine Fractals*, *Blow Up*, etc.) that are designed to do this kind of thing. They look at all your pixels and interpolate (guesstimate): What would happen if the original pixels were spread out? What color pixels would have to fill the spaces? How many? And so on? Most of these programs increase the size by about 10%, interpolate, and then ask the same questions again and again until the desired size is attained.

Believe it or not, this method works. And it's my guess that Lou Manna's giant image was done this way.

Second, I'll assume that Lou shot in the RAW format which has a lot more information than a jpg file.

Third, Lou's image probably does look dotty—at least if you were up close to it. At the distance you are from the billboard, you would never be able to see the dots. Instead, they all meld together and start to look like a finely resolved photograph.

Or, perhaps, Lou was just pulling our proverbial legs?

Business Meeting Minutes

by Janna Amelkin

October 27, 2009

{These minutes are a draft copy and have not yet been approved by the membership.}

This mini business meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by President Perkus.

Treasurer's report. The current balance is \$23,465.06, of which \$1,816.65 are trip deposits. The true balance is \$21,648.41.

Old Business:

Extended Field Trips. Chuck reported that 16 people had a wonderful time during their recent trip to New Mexico. Twenty two people are going on the Fall Colors trip to Bushkill Falls. The Hawaii trip is scheduled for April 17 thru May 1st. The cost will be \$4,000 for 8 to 11 people and \$3,500 for 12 or more people. We are already taking deposits for this trip. A flyer with more information can be found in the *Newsletter*.

Hartlepool Camera Club, U.K. Image Exchange. Helen announced that 37 members are participating. The Committee consisting of Chuck, Myrna, Gladys, Bill, and Helen will soon finalize their selection of images. On November 23rd we will view the images from the Hartlepool Camera Club as well as our own.

Village Care Center Exhibit. Helen indicated that our images will be on exhibit from November 9th till November 28th. There is room for one more participant. The hanging will take place on Saturday November 7 starting at noon. Rain will be

in charge of the reception which will be on Tuesday November 10th from 5:30 till 8:30 p.m. Rain asked for assistance with the reception and several members offered to help. We are also trying to organize a reception for the photographers and the clients of the center.

Website. Lee announced that Bob Wine has provided his expertise for the website and that the website will hopefully be updated by the end of next week. Winners of the October competitions as well as those who received honors are invited to send their images to Lee. In the future those images should be sent in within one week of the competition. Bob indicated that the priority now is to set up a context management system to facilitate updating in the future. The members galleries will be taken care of later.

Club's Night Out. Paul announced that on the night of the scheduled October Club's Night Out he received a letter from B&H with proposals for programming that they are able to provide. He suggested that the Club's Night Out scheduled for April be held at B&H. In the meantime the options B&H suggested can be discussed. On our actual October Club's Night Out we met at the Skyline Diner. Eleven members attended and had a nice discussion.

Holiday Party. The Holiday Party will be on December 21st at Chuck and Helen's place. Sid noted that Stephanie will keep a record of payments and will organize what people will bring.

Brenton Memorial. A Memorial will be held for Myron Brenton and Irene Cope-land Brenton at the Soho Photo Gallery the evening of November 6th.

New Business

From the Chair:

Projector operator for non-competition purposes. It was noted that while Chuck recently re-calibrated the computer and the projector, Lou Manna changed it so his images would look better. Chuck indicated that it needs to be re-calibrated. It was noted that we need members to volunteer to operate the computer for guest speakers, movie night, and other non-competition purposed. Nicole, Hedy, and Ruth Lowell volunteered.

From the Floor:

Susan Sigrist requested that members who sign up for field trips put their phone numbers on the sign up sheets. We need to be able to find you, also in the evenings and on weekends.

In response to a member's question about the Yahoo group, Cheryl indicated that if members send her their e-mail address, she will send an invite. In order to participate in the Yahoo group, it is also necessary to set up a (free) Yahoo account. The group is useful for arranging field trips on short notice. There will be a summary about the Yahoo group in the *Newsletter*.

Chuck Pine noted that some members don't have the means to digitize their slides. It was suggested that someone announce on competition night that they can scan slides that month. Chuck noted that the file should be reduced in the usual way for the *Newsletter* and he also explained that 72 ppi is sufficient for the *Newsletter*.

Good and Welfare

From the Floor:

Sid announced that he made plenty of spaghetti this week.

Cindy Walpole indicated that she is a finalist in *Photo Week*. Her work will be on exhibit in Washington, DC from November 7th till November 14th.

Myrna announced that she is in a show at the West Side Arts Coalition. The reception is on November 7. Her son David will have a trunk show of ceramics on Sunday November 8th from 11 a.m. till 3 p.m. at The Shop at the Wave Hill Garden in Riverdale.

Marilyn Fish-Glynn noted that she has 3 photos in *100 New York Photographers*, a new book of photographs by photographers from NYC. She expects she will be able to get a discount on the book for Club members of 40 % off the publishers price, plus shipping.

Chuck Pine noted that last week Annette won the raffle at PhotoPlus Expo. She won a Nikon D3X camera and Nik software. Chuck also indicated that he purchased the soft ware suite *Topaz*, promoted by Rick Sammon. There will be an article about this software in the *Newsletter*.

Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m. for refreshments, socializing and mini-workshops. Chuck Pine gave a workshop on the preparation of images for competitions and Ed Lee gave a workshop on how to obtain free and low cost photography related items on the internet.

Man Ray

Alias Man Ray: The Art of Reinvention is a new show by the world-famous Dada and Surrealist artist, leading light of the avant-garde, acclaimed portrait and fashion photographer, Parisian expatriate and provocateur. This groundbreaking presentation of over 200 works explores Man Ray's diverse artistic achievements in all media—paintings, photographs, objects, sculptures, films, and writing.

The show opens on November 15th and continues through mid-March (unless it gets extended). The venue is the Jewish Museum—5th Avenue at 92nd Street.



Le violon d'Ingres
© 2009 Man Ray Trust

You can get all the nitty gritty details at thejewishmuseum.org

It's the Law

Law of Mechanical Repair—After your hands become coated with grease, your nose will begin to itch and you'll have to pee.

Law of Biomechanics—The severity of the itch is inversely proportional to the reach.

Zap the Pap(arazzi)

By Bill Apple

Does the name Roman Abramovich ring a bell?

Abramovich, a 43-year-old Russian oligarch, is the 51st richest man in the world, worth \$8.5 billion, mainly oil money. He owns Britain's Chelsea Football Club, a spate of jets, priceless art, and several homes, including the world's most expensive: a half-billion-dollar villa on the French Riviera.

Abramovich's latest toy, however, is one that will interest photographers. It's the 557-foot yacht *Eclipse*, valued at nearly \$1.2 billion. It comes with two swimming pools, two helipads, a six-foot HDTV in every cabin, a mini-submarine and missile-proof windows to put pirates off.

But the camera-shy tycoon has also installed a high-tech, anti-paparazzi "shield." According to Wired magazine, onboard lasers "sweep surroundings, and when they detect a (camera's) CCD (ie sensor), they fire a bolt of light...to obliterate any photograph." In other words, they fry it. Now *that's* an eclipse. Hovering helicopters are especially pesky.



All of this could be illegal: damaging people's property and maybe blinding them as well. But if the system works, look for celebs wearing laser-equipped Ray-Bans to go with "penetrating" get-lost stares.

P.S. Abramovich recently visited New York and dined with nine of his closest friends at Nello's, a fancy-shmancy restaurant on upper Madison. The tab for the white truffles, filet mignon, and vintage wines: \$47,221.09, according to the TMZ website. Onto which an over-\$12,000 gratuity was added. But where were the paparazzi?

[I wonder how they were able to get the photo of the yacht! Were the lasers off-line? Was the photographer in a plane with a long telephoto and out of range? Maybe we'll never know.—Ed.]



Memorial

The memorial service for Myron Brenton and Irene Copeland Brenton, both long time former PWCC members, was held on Friday evening, November 6th at the

Soho Photo Gallery. The room was filled to capacity as we remembered My and I (as they often called themselves). Thanks to the more than 20 Club members who came, participated, and remembered.



Schedule of Activities

All Club Monday night meetings take place at the Soho Photo Gallery located at 15 White Street, between West Broadway and the Avenue of the Americas (6th Avenue). Meeting sites for other Club activities are included within the listing.

Following the schedule of activities are detailed directions to each of our meeting sites. Also, please check the Club Website

<www.parkwestcameraclub.org> for late-breaking details on all meetings and other PWCC activities.

All meetings begin at 7 p.m. unless otherwise indicated below.

The Park West Camera Club meets every Monday night (with some exceptions for holidays). Please join us at a meeting or on one of our many scheduled field trips.

An asterisk (*) preceding the date indicates an official Park West Camera Club activity. Other listings included below are *Photo Events*, which may be of interest to photographers, and *Photo Ops*, which offer opportunities to take pictures.

* Monday, November 9

Movie Night—*Public Eye*

Tonight we will spend the evening viewing one of Hollywood's best movies dealing with photography. *Public Eye* is a story about Leon Bernstein, a 1940s New York City street shooter and photojournalist. The film's tagline is *Murder. Scandal. Crime. No matter what he was shooting, "The Great Bernzini" never took sides; he*

only took pictures... Except once. The film is loosely based on the career of Arthur Felig, aka Weegee. It stars Joe Pesci and Barbara Hershey and was written and directed by Howard Franklin. There will be free popcorn for all! Bring your own liquid refreshments.

Tuesday, November 10

Photo Event—Photoshop SIG Meeting

The Photoshop SIG (special interest group) of the New York Personal Computer User Group (NYPC) meets this afternoon. This get-together begins with lunch (optional) at the Tick Tock Diner in the Hotel New Yorker (at 8th Avenue and 34th Street) at 11:45 a.m. At 1:00 p.m. the group moves upstairs to the NYPC office (Suite 551) for the meeting. Today's topics are (at 1 p.m.) assigning keywords to photos and then using them to locate images and (at 3 p.m.) problem solving with your images (bring them on a flash/thumb drive).

* Tuesday, November 10

Field Trip—Battery Park

Battery Park is a 25-acre public park located at the Battery, the southern tip of Manhattan. The Battery is named for the artillery battery that was stationed there at various times by the Dutch and British in order to protect the settlements behind it. At the north end of the park is Pier A, formerly a fireboat station and Hope Garden, a memorial to AIDS victims. At the other end is Battery Gardens restaurant, next to the United States Coast Guard Battery Building. There are excellent views of the Statue of Liberty, Ellis Island, New Jersey, Staten Island, and Governors Island. We'll meet at the Staten

Island Ferry Terminal between 4 and 4:30 p.m. [Note: this is a new time!] Be sure to sign up for the trip at any Club meeting. If you can't make it, please contact the leader. Leader: Carole DeBeer, 718-789-6014 or <etccdb@aol.com>

* Tuesday, November 10
Exhibit Opening Reception

Tonight is the gala opening reception of PWCC's latest gallery exhibit. The show is being held at Village Care of New York's Adult Day Health Center, located at 644 Greenwich Street (not Avenue) between Barrow and Morton Streets. The reception will be held from 5:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. The exhibit will hang through November 28th. [see page 24]

Tuesday, November 10
Photo Event—Tuesday Evening Hour

Tuesday Evening Hour is an artists' non-profit slide-show program whose mission is to expose the works of the artist to the public. Each Tuesday a working artist presents a slide show/lecture. No reservations required—just arrive. Tonight's program is a digital presentation entitled *New England—Trolleys, Trains, and Canals* by Steven Kalka, a railroad fan and photographer. The show begins at 6:30 p.m. and is held at St. Margaret's House, 49 Fulton Street (near the South Street Seaport). The closest subway is the #2 or #3 train station at Fulton Street, but others are nearby. A \$2.00 donation is requested.

Wednesday, November 11
Photo Op—Veteran's Day

Come out and celebrate the men and women who have served in our military

forces since the first Armistice Day. The 90th New York City Veteran's Day Parade kicks off at 11 a.m. and marches up 5th Avenue from 23rd Street to 57th Street. The parade, filled with bands, flags, soldiers, and veterans, should last until 3:30 p.m. Also going on in Manhattan today are the Veteran's Day Parade Block Party (on 56th Street from Madison Avenue to 6th Avenue) and the Veteran's Day Festival (on Broadway from Cedar Street to Battery Place).

Wednesday, November 11
Photo Event—Photography Meet-Up

The Photography Meet-Up is a gathering of people with an interest in, of all things, photography. Tonight's meeting is a social get-together at which we will share images and chat about photography. The meeting place is the Skylight Diner (402 West 34th Street—across from the B&H Superstore). The meetings begin at 6:30 p.m. Check the website for the latest details or to register as a meet-up member, <meetup.com> There is no fee.

* Monday, November 16
Guest Speaker—Viviane Moos

Viviane Moos was born in New York and was raised in Brazil and Europe. She speaks six languages. Viviane resides in New York City. Her international life and viewpoint is reflected in the multifaceted body of her work. She covers social and political issues and shoots assignments for magazines all over the world. Among Viviane's clients are the following American magazines: *Time*, *Newsweek*, *U.S. News & World Report*, *Forbes*, *Smithsonian*; and from around the world: *Der Spiegel*, *Stern*, *Das Magazin*, *Die Zeit*, and



from *The Girls of Recife*
© Viviane Moos

many others. The curtain raiser for tonight is PWCC member, recording secretary, and world traveler, Janna Amelkin.

Tuesday, November 17

Photo Event—Audubon Camera Club

The New York City Audubon Society's Camera Club is holding its meeting tonight. Dexter Lane will present his workflow for creating, printing, and selling his spectacular panoramic prints. Members are also encouraged to bring up to three digital images to share with the group. The meeting, open to the general public, is held in the Coffee House at 20 West 44th Street, 6th floor, and begins at 6:30 p.m. A donation is collected at the door.

Tuesday, November 17

Photo Event—Tuesday Evening Hour

Tonight's program is a digital presentation entitled *Eastern Arabia's Three Nations—Yemen, Oman, The Emirates* by Helga Smith, a travel enthusiast, and a member of Servas. See the listing under Tuesday, November 10th for the details.

Wednesday, November 18

Photo Event—Sierra Photo

The New York City Sierra Club's Photography Committee is holding its meeting tonight. The Photo Committee has a long history. The program tonight will be a viewing of several old programs made up of photos from former and current members. The meeting, open to the general public, is held on the second floor of St. Paul the Apostle Church at 405 West 59th Street, just west of Columbus/9th Avenue, and begins at 6:30 p.m. A \$5 donation is collected at the door.

Thursday, November 19

Photo Event—NYPC Meeting

The general meeting of the New York Personal Computer Group (NYPC) is scheduled for tonight. This special meeting is the annual pre-holiday digital shopper's guide presented by David Brommer of B&H. David is great at separating important features from marketing hype, and he is not shy about offering his personal opinions. The meeting will be held in the B&H Event Space on the second floor beginning at 6 p.m. Please be on time, or better yet, come early. Admission is free; membership is appreciated.

Sunday, November 22

Photo Event—PFLI Class

The Photographic Federation of Long Island offers monthly classes of interest to photographers. All classes are given at the Plainview-Old Bethpage Library, 999 Old Country Road, Plainview, Long Island. For more information and travel directions, go to PFLI's general website at <pflionline.com> Today's presentation by

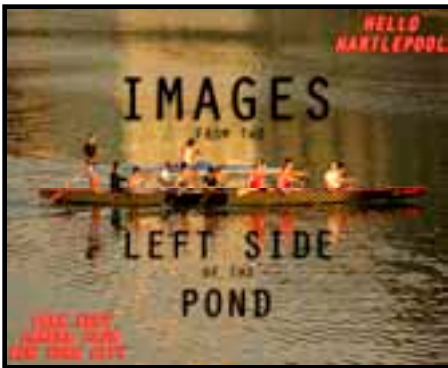
Dick Hunt is *The Key to Great Photographs*. It will cover 25 major photography tips and techniques that Dick has learned and perfected over his long photographic career. The lecture covers aspects of composition and shows how to create professional looking images. Door prizes will be drawn for and awarded.

* Monday, November 23
Executive Committee Meeting

The Club's officers will meet tonight prior to the regular meeting to plan our future.

* Monday, November 23
Across the Pond

For the last few months we've been talking about our image exchange experiment with the Hartlepool (UK) Camera Club. Well, tonight is the night when it all comes together. We'll have two shows to view—the one Hartlepool sent to us and the one we sent to them.



Title Slide
© 2009 Gladys Hopkowitz

Tuesday, November 24
Photo Event—Tuesday Evening Hour

Tonight's program is a slide presentation entitled *Train Ride through Copper Canyon, Chihuahua, Mexico* by Jane Hassler, a birder, former bond manager, and photographer. See the listing under Tuesday, November 10th for all the details.

* Monday, November 30
Field Trip Committee Meeting

Prior to this evening's business meeting, the Field Trip Committee will be meeting to plan the Club's outings for the next few months. All members are welcome to participate, make suggestions, and, of course, volunteer to lead some of our trips. The meeting will begin at 6 p.m. promptly at the Soho Photo Gallery.

* Monday, November 30
Business Meeting

Tonight's business meeting will pick up where last month's meeting ended, and since October's business meeting was one of our mini-nights (both business and a workshop), we have lots to pick up on. Our next business meeting won't be until next year. Of course, the meeting will be followed by refreshments and socializing. Don't forget, you must attend at least two business meetings a year to be a member-in-good-standing of the Club. Have you met your responsibility yet?

Tuesday, December 1
Photo Event—Soho Photo Opening

The Soho Photo Gallery, the host for our PWCC meetings, has its monthly exhibit opening tonight. Soho Photo is pleased to announce that in December, the guest exhibitor is Haitian photojournalist Daniel Morel whose show is entitled *Facing Our History*. Seen on front pages all over the world, Morel's photos were rarely seen in Haiti by the people he documented for two decades. The opening is from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.; the show runs through January 2nd. The gallery hours are Wednesdays thru Sundays, from 1 to 6 p.m., and by appointment.

Tuesday, December 1

Photo Event—Tuesday Evening Hour

Tonight's program is a digital presentation entitled *Japan* by Matias Okawa—a neuroscientist and photographer. See the listing under Tuesday, November 10th for all the details.

Wednesday, December 2

Photo Event—PWP Monthly Meeting

Professional Women Photographers is a group of women photographers who network and share their images and experiences. Tonight's program is the annual holiday season members' night. The meeting is held at St. Paul the Apostle Church at 405 West



Parfait
© Lou Manna

59th Street, just west of Columbus/9th Avenue, and begins at 6:30 p.m. There's a \$10.00 fee for guests.

* Monday, December 7
Monthly Competition

Tonight is our monthly competition of prints, slides, and PDIs. Who will win the top honors? What will the judge say about your images? Will you agree? The only way to find out the answers to these probing questions is to come on down and enter. Full rules are available from the Competition or the Membership Committees at any meeting. Remember, print and

slide entries must be submitted by 6:45 p.m. so that we may get under way with the competition promptly at 7 p.m. PDIs must be submitted by midnight, November 30th. Tonight's judge is slated to be Lou Manna, the food photographer who was our guest speaker in October. We will be able to take advantage of his expertise as he critiques and scores our images.

Tuesday, December 8

Photo Event—Tuesday Evening Hour

Tonight's program is a slide presentation entitled *The Six Nations of West Africa* by Laurie Campbell—an outdoor enthusiast, and world traveler to 181 nations. See the listing under Tuesday, November 10th for all the details.

Wednesday, December 9

Photo Event—Photography Meet-Up

The Photography Meet-Up is a gathering of people with an interest in, of all things, photography. Tonight's meeting is a social get-together at which we will share images and chat about photography. The meeting place is the Skylight Diner (402 West 34th Street—across from the B&H Superstore). The meetings begin at 6:30 p.m. Check the website for the latest details or to register as a meet-up member, <meetup.com> There is no fee.

* Friday, December 11
New Mexico Reunion

This is the gala reunion of the 16 PWCC members and friends who went southwest to shoot the Albuquerque Balloon Fiestas and the landscapes and sights around Albuquerque and Santa Fe. Come join us as we share our images, relive our trip,



Shootin' the Balloons
© 2009 Chuck Pine

and taste some of the local flavors. We begin at 7 p.m. at the home of our trip leaders, Chuck and Helen Pine. Food and drink will be served.

and begins at 6:30 p.m. A donation is collected at the door.

Wednesday, December 16

Photo Event—Sierra Photo

The New York City Sierra Club's Photography Committee is holding its monthly meeting tonight. The show this evening is a members' night—a presentation of nature, landscape, and wildlife images by the members of the Committee—and the annual holiday party. The meeting, open to the general public, is held on the second floor of St. Paul the Apostle Church at 405 West 59th Street, just west of Columbus/9th Avenue, and begins at 6:30 p.m. Refreshments will be served. A \$5 donation is collected at the door.

* Monday, December 14

Guest Speaker—Wayne Parsons

Wayne Parsons will be our guest photographer tonight. Wayne's work has been described as *conceptual photography*. In addition, Wayne is the president of Soho Photo Gallery, the host for our weekly



Thrice Removed
© Wayne Parsons

meetings. Tonight's curtain raiser is PWCC member, Angelo Caminiti former president of the Staten Island Camera Club.

* Thursday, December 17

Projected Image Workshop

All Club members are invited to bring a dozen or so images for this every-other-month event. Bring your 35mm mounted slides or your PDIs (on a flash/thumb drive or a CD) for an honest, but gentle, critique of your work. These may be finished images, works in progress, shots you're thinking of entering into competitions, whatever. We get started at 7:00 p.m. The doors open at 6:30 so you may enter your images. (Please don't arrive any earlier.) All this will take place at the home of Chuck and Helen Pine. See below for the address and directions.

Tuesday, December 15

Photo Event—Audubon Camera Club

The New York City Audubon Society's Camera Club is holding its meeting tonight. Tonight's program is yet to be announced. Members are also encouraged to bring up to three digital images to share with the group. The meeting, open to the general public, is held in the Coffee House at 20 West 44th Street, 6th floor,

Thursday, December 17

Photo Event—NYPC Meeting

The general meeting of the New York Personal Computer Group (NYPC) is scheduled for tonight. Tonight's topic(s) has not yet been announced. Admission is

free; membership is appreciated. The meeting is held in the auditorium of P.S. 41, 116 West 11th Street (just west of 6th Avenue), beginning around 6:30 p.m.

* Monday, December 21

PWCC's Annual Holiday Party

Time to check your calendar and make your plans to attend Park West's annual holiday party. Come celebrate Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, et al. Please check out "You're Invited to a Party," on page 6 of this Newsletter for all the details.

Directions to Soho Photo Gallery

at 15 White Street, between Avenue of the Americas/Sixth Avenue and West Broadway. Take the #1 or #9 train to the Franklin Street station (one stop below Canal Street). Walk one block north on West Broadway to White street, make a right turn, and walk half a block to the gallery. Take the A, C, or E train to the Canal Street station. Walk south on Church Street 3 blocks to White Street, make a right turn, and walk half a block to the gallery. Although a little bit longer walk, take any other train to Canal Street, walk south a couple of blocks to White Street, turn right, and walk to the gallery. Evening parking is limited, but available.

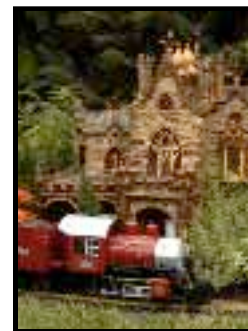
Directions to the Pine Apartment

at 680 West End Avenue (at 93rd Street), Apartment 5D: Take the #1, 2, or 3, trains to 96th Street (exit at the south end of the station) or the M7, M11, or M104 bus to 93rd/94th Street. From the train or bus, walk the few steps to 93rd Street, make a right turn and head west to the apartment entrance on the corner of West End Avenue and West 93rd Street.

Holiday Season Photo Ops

Ice Skating at Rockefeller Center, Central Park's Wollman Rink, and the Bryant Park Rink—ongoing

Holiday Train Show at the NY Botanical Garden (in The Bronx)—November 21st through January 10th



Holiday Store Windows (at Macy*s, Saks Fifth Avenue, etc.)—ongoing

Macy*s Balloon Inflation—Wednesday afternoon and evening, November 25th



Macy*s Thanksgiving Day Parade—Thursday morning, November 26th

Tree Lighting and chorus at South Street Seaport—Friday evening, November 27th

Tree Lighting at Rockefeller Center—Wednesday evening, December 2nd

Menorah (world's largest) Lighting at Grand Army Plaza (5th Avenue and 59th Street)—date to be announced



Fireworks in Central Park—Thursday night, December 31st

November

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9 Movie Night	10 Field Trip Photo Events Exhibit Opening	11 Photo Op Photo Event	12	13	14
15	16 Guest Speaker	17 Photo Events	18 Photo Event	19 Photo Event	20	21
22 Photo Event	23 Across the Pond	24 Photo Event	25	26	27	28
29	30 F T Com Mtg Business Mtg					

Please refer to the Schedule of Activities starting on page 14 for all the details.

December

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
		Photo Events	Photo Event			
6	7 Competition	8 Photo Event	9 Photo Event	10	11 New Mexico Reunion	12
13	14 Guest Speaker	15 Photo Event	16 Photo Event	17 Projected Image Workshop Photo Event	18	19
20	21 Holiday Party	22	23	24	25	26
27	28 No Meeting	29	30	31		

You're Invited to a Party

It's that time of the year... again!

Time to check your calendar and make your plans to attend Park West's annual holiday party.

This event is scheduled for Monday night, December 21st. This year's Holiday Party again will take place in the home Chuck and Helen Pine—the renovations are done and everything is new and shiny.

Our party is a pot luck affair. Each person attending is asked to provide a dish of one kind or another. It could be something you whip up in your own kitchen, or it may be something you purchase with your hard-earned dollars (many of us are culinarily impaired). If you're bringing a main course dish (chicken, meat, etc.), it should be able to feed six or so PWCCers. If you're providing a side dish, salad, dessert, or something similar, it should be able to serve 10 to 12 people.

The Social Committee is keeping a list (and checking it twice) to make sure that we don't end up with 40 desserts, or 45 boxes of KFC, or some similar disaster. Stephanie Charczenko is the one to contact before you light your oven or make your purchases. You may speak to her at (just about) any meeting or contact her by phone at 212-475-1074 or by e-mail at <stefography@att.net>

We would like to encourage you to think



healthily; we can watch those calories and still have a great dinner! [*I hope this doesn't apply to the desserts—Ed.*]

In addition, there is a fee of \$5.00 per person to cover the costs of paper and plastic goods, beverages, and a few other essentials. Our treasurer, Myron Galef, will be accepting your cash or check (made out to PWCC) at Club meetings or you may mail him your check (no cash in the mail, please) at: Myron Galef 345 East 73rd Street, #8L, New York, NY 10021.

As usual, there'll be plenty of seasonal cheer. We'll have some presentations, a reading or two, and some surprises as well. All in all, this is one of the yearly Club events that nobody should miss.

Directions are given at the end of the Schedule of Activities on page 20 of this issue of the *Newsletter*.

You may start arriving around 6 p.m. (Be prepared to help with the set up of the buffet tables and other vitals.) We'll aim to serve dinner around 7 p.m. Members are expected to pitch in and help—you will be asked to sign up for either set-up, kitchen duty during the party, and/or clean-up details. (You don't have to salute, just have fun.)

Bring your family.

Bring your friends.

Bring your appetite.

We'll provide the holiday cheer.



PhotoShopping

by Chuck Pine

Back in the old days of darkroom work there was a trick we used to improve most, if not all, of our black-and-white prints. We would darken the edges and corners of our prints. This would keep the viewers' eyes from wandering out of the picture. It was a subtle trick, but it worked like a charm.

The following steps will enable you to create a similar vignette around your digital images. I use Camera Raw in CS4 to accomplish this procedure. You can also achieve the same effect using Camera Raw in Elements or by using Lightroom.

Open your RAW file in Camera Raw. You will see the Basic palette open up.

Make your adjustments to White Balance, Exposure, contrast, etc. Straighten the horizon and/or do any cropping to your image.

When your image looks the way you want it to look, but before you click on Done or Open Image, your image will look something like this:

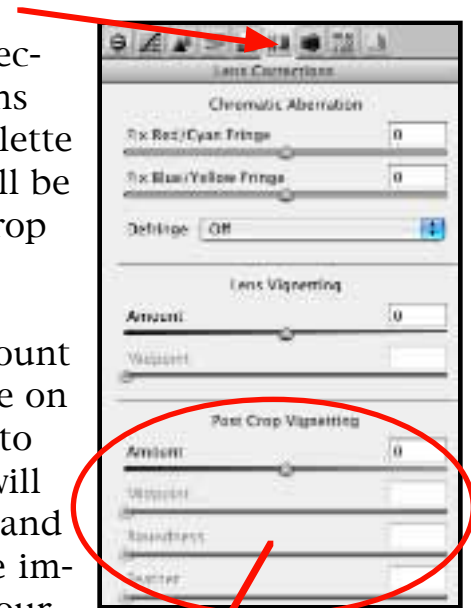
before



Click on the sixth palette icon (shown) to open the Lens Correction palette.

The bottom section of the Lens Correction palette is the one we'll be using—Post Crop Vignetting.

Using the Amount slider (the one on top), move it to the left. You will see the edges and corners of the image darken. Your



eye (and that of the viewer) will automatically go to the center of the image. You may now use Midpoint, Roundness, and/or Feather sliders (if needed) to adjust your vignette.

after



You'll be amazed at how this simple trick will improve your images.

Village Care Exhibit

The grand opening of the Club's exhibit at the Village Care of New York's Adult Day Health Center was a grand success. About 50 or 60 PWCC members, family, friends and others attended the reception down in the West Village.

Fifteen of us have two images each in the show. They are hung on the walls of the brightly lit halls of the center, in full view of the clientele and guests. They make a wonderful addition to the Center for everyone.

For those of you who were unable to attend the reception or would like to see the show again, please follow these two simple requests:

- You may view the exhibit between 2:30 and 5 p.m.
- Call the Center at 212-337-5871 to let them know that you're coming.

Village Care is located at 644 Greenwich Street (not Avenue) between Barrow and Morton Streets.

A special thanks to Valerie Brissett for organizing the show; to Rain Bengis for coordinating the reception; and to all the other members who pitched in and helped at the hanging and before, during, and after the reception.

Thanks to the staff and clients of Village Care for hosting this exhibit.

And, of course, thanks to all the PWCCers who are participating in the show.

Paradise, Here We Come

Park West Camera Club's next extended field trip will be a journey into paradise, the 50th state,... Hawai'i.

We will spend two plus weeks exploring the state's two largest, and most beautiful islands, starting off with The Big Island of Hawai'i and then we'll follow that up with Maui. Wowwee!



The trip takes place from April 17th thru May 1st, 2010 and includes round trip and inter-island air fare, 15 nights' of lodging, car rental (with insurance), most admission fees, photo instruction, a luau, and more.

The cost, for double occupancy, is only \$3,500 with 12 or more participants; \$4,000 with less than 12 participants. There is a single supplement of \$1,200 if space is available.

The deadline for the \$1,200 deposits is the night of the Club's Holiday Party, December 21st.

Contact <bohpin@aol.com> for more detailed information.



Park West Camera Club

www.parkwestcameraclub.org
pwccny@aol.com



presents

Hawai'i

The Big Island & Maui



- Hawaii Volcanoes National Park • Kilauea • Mauna Loa
- Haleakala National Park • The Hana Coast
- Kailua-Kona • Hilo • Lahaina • Hana • Kahului
- Beaches • Tropical Forests • Waterfalls
- Botanical Gardens • Sculpture Gardens • Zoos
- Whale Watching • Hawai'ian Luau
- Museums • Plantations • Missions
- and so much more

April 17th — May 1st, 2010 • 16 days/15 nights

Price: \$3,500.00 (with 12-16 travelers) \$4,000.00 (with 8-11 travelers)



(per person, double occupancy)
(single supplement—\$1,200.00—if available)

\$1,200.00 Deposit holds your place

Limited availability—so act quickly!



includes: round trip air fare cars (4 per car plus insurance)
lodging admission fees photo instruction

Contact Chuck Pine for further details or reservations at:
212-932-7665 or <bohpin@aol.com>

Park West Camera Club

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