



January • 2007 Volume 24 • Issue 1

Louisiana Photographic Society • P.O. Box 80644 • Baton Rouge, LA 70898 • Website: laphotosociety.org

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President's Message

by Gordon Buck

With the launch of a new and updated website, the Louisiana Photographic Society should be off to a grand and glorious start for 2007. We have a new slate of officers and many new volunteers for our various operating committees. LPS is only as good as you make it so please consider helping with one of our many committees.

One of our goals is to quickly establish a program for the entire year so that we can all help publicize LPS events and meetings. We still have openings for presentations and speakers at the regular LPS meeting. If you know of anyone willing and able to make a presentation, please let me know.

Our January meeting should be an interesting one. We will learn how to find and navigate the new website. David Dendy will have a short presentation on past and future field trips. Jay Patel will have some good photography tips. Each of the LPS officers will have a short presentation of their plans for the year.

Be sure to come to the 2007 Kickoff meeting!

Meet Your New Officers

President Gordon Buck:

Gordon is a mechanical engineering graduate of Mississippi State and Louisiana State Universities. He is Chief Engineer - Field Operations for John Crane Inc. Prior to becoming president of LPS, Gordon was vice president. Before being elected vice president, Gordon served as educational chairman. Gordon and his wife, Jean, have been members of LPS for the past four years.

Gordon first became seriously interested in photography while working for Eastman Kodak - but in the chemicals division where he belonged to the company sponsored photography club. After leaving Eastman Kodak, he had his own darkroom-in-a-closet for a few years but gradually did less and less in photography. By the mid-1990s, Jean had become the family photographer and was getting seriously interested. Together, Gordon and Jean began to attend photography workshops. Today, they use mostly (but not entirely) digital cameras.

Gordon's current photographic interest is in making "High Dynamic Range" (HDR) images for which several exposures and heavy computer processing are needed.

Gordon and Jean have a website, HornerBuck.com, to display their photographs.

Vice President Vickie Veal:

I enjoy film and slide photography. I especially like black and white photography. I dabble with a wet darkroom and will always be a student. I use projects to force myself to explore the different aspects of photojournalism. I like recording history in places and people. I constantly clean my cameras. As a result I end up cleaning fellow employees cameras. Consequently, I have been given two manual 35 mm cameras, one 2x2 manual focus and several excellent manual focus lenses that are older than I am. I own several cameras and I use each one of them equally. I do have a digital camera. I finally found a project that will force me to study a digital photo manipulation program in order to complete the work. I love every aspect of photography and look forward to spending the rest of my life exploring each and every facet.

Treasurer Sharon Turner:

Sharon is a long time member of LPS with years of experience in professional photography. She maintains a studio excelling in many facets of photography and does many landscapes and a lot of portraiture. She may be the only member of LPS who has a degree in photography. We are fortunate to have her as an active member.

Secretary Jim Thibodeaux:

Jim is one of our long time faithful members. He has served as GSCCC chairman for a number of years and we welcome him to the position of secretary.

Photographs by our new officers are on page 5.

2006 Competition Blue Ribbon Winners

Color Prints

January: S. Sanders - Red Rose
March: J. Collins - Lily
May: J. Easley - Barge & Skyline
July: J. Easley - Salt Lake City Mormon Temple
September: G. Buck - Sunrise Pier

Black and White Prints

January: D. Dendy
March: J. Easley - Black & White & Red All Over
May: V. Veal - Beethoven the Cat
July: D. Dendy - Modern Dance

Digitally Enhanced Prints

January: T. Low - Capital Moon
May: G. Bachman - Painted Pony
July: M. Giurgin - Round Earth

Digitally Projected Images

February: C. Nall-The Bench
April: G. Buck - Crown
June: E. Arbeneaux - In the Beginning
August: G. Buck - Montana Sunrise
October: G. Bachman - Rosedown Seamstress

Slides

February: K. Kurhnert - Montana View
April: N. Klumb - I'm so Pretty
June: K. Kurhnert - Williamsburg Hats
August: R. Tilley - Falling Giants
October: J. Thibodeaux - Autumn Abundance

Kudos to:

Pat and Cliff Mauras, and Marie and David Dendy for making our Christmas Party/Exhibit Opening Reception such a roaring success. The party was wonderful and the exhibit is one of our very best.

Thanks to each of you who worked so hard.

Scheduled Events

Jan. 18 6:00 p.m. LPS Board Meeting All members welcome.

Jan 18 7:00 p.m. LPS Meeting, BREC Garden Center, 7500 Independence Blvd. Members and visitors welcome. All competition prints must be signed in no later than 7:15. See website for details for entering. (lphotosociety.org)

All of January: Exhibit at Woman's Hospital by T. Goss, D. Lusk and B. Coats.

The February Focus will feature photos related to hearts and flowers. Please send them to me as 4"X6" jpgs saved as an 8 at emangham34@yahoo.com. Thanks.

Ask the Expert

By Reggie Keogh

(Do you have a legal or technical question regarding your photographs? If so ask our expert: email to emangham34@yahoo.com.)

Please explain the laws of copyright of photographs to me?

There are two kinds of copyright, common law and statutory. In common law you put a c in a circle and the year in a noticeable place. You do not get statutory penalties or attorney fees for infringement and the proof of who had the earlier date is a problem. With the statutory you also put the same mark but register the image with the copyright office. The application can be downloaded and there is a \$45.00 fee. You can register a "collection" of photos under one application/fee. Copyright is good for photographer's life plus 70 years. In the case of photographs, it is sometimes difficult to determine who owns the copyright and there may be little or no information about the owner on individual copies. Ownership of a copy of a photograph as the tangible embodiment of the work is distinct from the work itself as the intangible intellectual property. The owner of the work is generally the photographer or, in certain situations, the employer of the photographer. Even if a person hires a photographer to take pictures of a wedding, for example, the photographer will own the copyright in the photographs unless the copyright in the photographs is transferred, in writing and signed by the copyright owner, to another person. The subject of the photograph generally has nothing to do with the ownership of the copyright in the photograph. If the photographer is no longer living, the rights in the photograph are determined by the photographer's will or passed as personal property by the applicable laws of intestate succession

Exhibits

By Pat Mauras

A special thank you to Marie and David Dendy for helping to make our Christmas party/exhibit opening a grand occasion. The exhibit is a true success again this year. Thanks to our members for contributing. Be sure your images have been picked up by now.

Exhibits will be organized a little differently this year. The only exhibits we will have are those that we have a member to coordinate. As of now we have Darelyn Marshall as coordinator of the Greenwell Springs Exhibit in August. Bill Burks has agreed to coordinate the Art's Council exhibit for 2007.

Congratulations:

Rhonda Mock entered two photos into The Everyman contest this year. Her entry in the black and white category made honorable mention, and was actually in the top 10 picks of 3 of the judges. Not bad for almost 300 entries in this category. All of them are very good. You can check it out at www.theeveryman.com

She also has a full page photograph in an informational book that Birds and Blooms publishes. They also used this in one of their desktop calendars.

Great news, Rhonda!

Contests:

As Reggie Keogh used to remind us, “You can’t win if you don’t enter”. Have you entered and won? Notify the editor. Tips for entering:

1. You must enter and enter often in order to win.
2. Read the agreement carefully. You may or may not like what you agree to.
3. Look at previous winning entries.
4. Search for contests that meet your needs on the internet.
5. I never enter if there is a charge, unless it is something to which I would like to donate. After all I usually do not win.
6. Follow the submission instructions carefully.

A website for sports and cityscape photographic contests that you may want to check into:

http://photocontest.shutterstock.com/action/photocontest/viewContest?cid=SEGOAG15AA&ovchn=GGL&ovcpn=18photo+contest&ovcrn=sr2sh49go29543sb23492pi72ai13156+digital+photo+con&ovtac=PPC&SR=sr2sh49go29543sb23492pi72ai13156&CMP=KNC-google&HBX_PK=digital+photo+contest&HBX_OU=50&paidcampaign=18photo+contest

Or try <http://www.photoworkshop.com/public/contests.html>



Figure 1 by E. Mangham

Photoshop Tips:

By Toni Goss

Often an image can benefit from slight “tweaking”. While there are many good image editing programs available, Reggie Keogh and I use Adobe Photoshop and each month we will share some tips!

Compare the “before” and “after” versions Figures 1 & 2) of Elizabeth Mangham’s Cathedral Mountain. Some simple adjustments often make a good image even stronger.

Step 1. Working with an image digitally allows us a second chance to crop...and what we pre-visualized when we made our shot may not have been a typical “4”x6”, etc. format. Feel free to crop your image to eliminate distracting elements or make it true in proportion to your initial vision. Using the Crop Tool (3rd icon down on the left in the Tool Box) click and drag a “box” around your selection. This selection can be moved by clicking in its center and dragging the entire selection. The size of selection can be adjusted by clicking and dragging on the small boxes at the corners or any side of the selection. When you are satisfied with your crop, double click inside the selection to accept the crop. I felt the bottom sliver of this image didn’t add anything to its strength and I liked the new “shape”.

Step 2. To add a bit more contrast and deepen the mid-tones, I went to Menu Bar at the top of the screen, then clicked Image/Adjust/Levels. I saw a silhouette that looked like a mountain. Underneath it were 3 sliders: one controls the shadows, one controls the highlights and the center controls the mid-tones. I moved this mid-tone slider slightly to the right until I liked what I saw on the screen. I then clicked OK to accept the adjustment.



Figure 2 Enhanced by T. Goss

Step 3. Sharpening is a key element in digital imagery. All images need some sharpening, but do be careful not to overdo it! First I double clicked on the zoom tool (11th icon down on the right side of the Tool Box). This gave me a view of the image at 100%, which is the best percentage for critical viewing of an image being sharpened. On the Menu Bar, I then clicked Filter/Sharpen/Unsharp Mask. Next, I set the Amount to 500%; I then experimented with the radius setting and finally selected .2; finally, I moved the Threshold slider to 1. (There will be a hand-out at the January meeting that will fully explain how to determine these settings.) When I clicked OK, what I saw was this final version, which is cropped a little tighter, contains richer mid-tones with more image contrast and is slightly sharper.

Exhibits of Interest

By E. Mangham

Dede Lusk, Beverly Coats, and Toni Goss have an exhibit at Woman's Hospital on Airline Hwy. in the main lobby and the second floor lobby. This is a wonderful exhibit of high quality images that you do not want to miss. I can personally attest to the quality. This exhibit will hang until the end of January.

A juried invitational exhibit of photographs by the New Orleans Photography Alliance and the students of the Art Administration Department Graduate Program at the University of New Orleans will hang until January 12 at the Contemporary Arts Center in New Orleans. Gallery hours are 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. Thursday – Sunday. On Thursday, January 11 several of the 87 selected photographers will be available for a discussion of their images. The address is 900 Camp Street and the exhibit is free. 504-528-3805 or www.cacno.org.

Two Historical exhibits are available for history –photography buffs. At the Acadian Museum of Erath photographs, illustrations, documents and artifacts are available for viewing throughout 2007. These items relate to the legacy of Jean la Fayette. 37-937-5468 or www.acadianmuseum.com. The second exhibit is Pictures from the Past in Natchez, Ms. These are available only through January. 601-445-4555 or www.RosalieMansion.com.

(Please notify your editor of any exhibits you visit and recommend or participate in so that we can share this information with fellow club members.)

Speaking of guidelines, the digital projection guidelines as well as rules and guidelines for other monthly competitions can be downloaded from the website. In fact, the website also contains past newsletters and even tips, techniques and various articles and publications from LPS members.

The LPS website will be updated monthly so that we can use and refer to it as our principal means of communication. All this and more will be explained at the January LPS meeting so be sure to be there!

LPS Website

If you downloaded this newsletter, you've already seen our new website. If not, be sure to check it out. The website address is

www.laphotosociety.org

but we are temporarily using

www.laphotosociety.com

while some of the domain naming and registration details are being worked out. If you use the .org address, you'll see the old website; this should be a temporary situation.

Browse around and you'll see that we have big plans for the website. You'll also see that there are big gaps and missing information – this is because we need your help, especially with images. LPS is a photo club and we want to display our photographs. If one of your photos was a monthly competition winner or received honorable mention in 2006 or if you have photos from field trips or exhibits during 2005 or 2006, please email those images to Gordon Buck. Use the new email address for the LPS president

president@laphotosociety.com

For all images to be displayed in the LPS website, use the same guidelines as used for the digital projection competition. The displayed version will actually be downsized to a smaller file and lower resolution.

Images by Officers and Chairpersons:



By Gordon Buck



Favorite Place by Vickie Veal



Mono Lake by Vickie Veal



Humming Bird BY Jay Patel



By David Dendy



By Marie Dendy



Natchez Soft Light by Gene Bachman

January 2007

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
	1 All month: Exhibit at Woman's Hospital by 3 of our members	2 All year: Historic exhibit at Acadian Museum	3 CAC exhibit until 1/12/07	4 Natchez exhibit throughout January	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18 Board Mtg. 6:00 LPS mtg 7pm	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	<i>Feb. 1</i>	Feb. 2	Feb. 3

2007 Monthly Competition Schedule

	Format	Theme
January	Prints	none
February	Projection (Slide & Digital)	Portraiture (close and personal; no studio)
March	Prints	none
April	Projection (Slide & Digital)	none
May	Prints	Photojournalism (relates a story/event)
June	Projection (Slide & Digital)	none
July	Prints	none
August	Projection (Slide & Digital)	Critters (animals or bugs)
September	Prints	none
October	Projection (Slide & Digital)	none
November	Prints	none
December	(no competition)	none