



CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

by **Barbara Bovat**

Happy New Year to all of you! I hope you had a great holiday season and are enjoying this lovely winter weather!

Sadly, I must announce the resignation our secretary, Bernie Herman. He is relocating to the Kingston area and will probably be joining the Hudson Valley Section. Although his term was brief, Bernie gave his all to us and we will really miss having him as an officer and member. His position needs to be filled, so if there are any of you who would be interested in learning more about the job, please contact me.

Our January Print Critique is our next event. It will be held on Monday, January 24, 2011 at Moscatiello's. Mike LaRose is chairing the critique and he has sent out the requirements for the preparation and submission of your digital files. If you have not received that information, please contact him at mike@larosephoto.com.
(ed. note: see article on this page)

February brings our Print Critique. After your images have been viewed and critiqued at our January meeting you should make prints and submit them for judging and final critique in preparation for the annual PPSNYS print competition. This is a great learning process that has helped Capital-Champlain produce many Master Photographers over the years. Don't be shy or afraid that you are "not good enough" to participate. We all must start somewhere and now is the best time!

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Digital Critique – January 24

Mike LaRose, critique chairman

Why Enter?

Increase your skill and confidence

Preparing to submit entries to a photographic competition (gathering images, tweaking images, discussing choices with peers) forces you to look more deeply at your own photography. Competition gives you new ideas to explore and helps you see techniques to improve.

Earn PPSNYS awards and earn merits towards a PPA Masters Degree

PPSNYS awards and PPA degrees recognize a level of commitment and skill in photography. If your entry scores above a certain level, you will earn a merit, which adds up to a PPA degree.

NOTE: CCPPSNY's digital critique is designed to help everyone prepare for the upcoming print competitions. Judging is structured as a preparatory review; no points or awards are earned.

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Be sure to check out the PPSNYS web site www.ppsnys.com for all of the information on the joint convention with New Jersey that will be held at the end of March. There is a terrific line-up of talent that is certain to send you home with an edge over your competition. There will be lots of parties, networking and fun to go along with the education and you wouldn't want to miss that either!

Mark Sweeney, Ken Bovat and Dave Jeffery have been working on an all-day seminar for April. Mark your calendar for April 18, 2011 – that's the date and the instructor will be Jim Chamberlain from Naples, Florida. He is an amazing photographer who creates and very successfully markets fine art images. The details are being finalized now and will be announced soon.

As I am writing this, I am preparing for the PPA Imaging USA Convention in San Antonio, Texas. For those of you who have attended a PPA Convention, you know what a valuable learning experience it can be. If you are not a PPA member, I encourage you to investigate becoming a member and taking advantage of the wonderful benefits the membership offers. For more information you can who belong visit the PPA web site at www.ppa.com or speak with our members.

See you all in a couple of weeks!

Remember... "The seed of your next art work lies embedded in the imperfections of your current piece. Such imperfections (or mistakes, if you're feeling particularly depressed about them today) are your guides -- valuable, reliable, objective, non-judgmental guides -- to matters you need to reconsider or develop further." -- David Bayles and Ted Orland, Art and Fear.

Barb

(Digital Critique, continued from page 1)

How to Enter?

E-mail entries to mike@larosephoto.com

- ✚ Maximum four (4) images per entrant
- ✚ Files are to be named: Image_Title (use an underscore (_) for spaces, e.g. See_Spot_Run.jpg)
- ✚ E-mail images in a folder with your name (*ed. note: Outlook doesn't allow folders; I've never had a problem sending 4 attachments*)
- ✚ **NEW IN 2011!!!!** PPA requirement of 16x20 images has been lifted. As of 2011, you may submit images in any size, with images sized no more than 4,000 pixels (20 inches at 200 dpi) on the longest dimension.
- ✚ Total file size should not exceed 3.5MB
- ✚ Image quality set at 10 (when using PhotoShop) in sRGB color space.

Entry Deadline

**** Thursday, January 20, 2011 ****

Entry Deadline

Are you ready for Print Competition?

CCPPSNY's members have always stood out in PPSNYS competition, due to our preparation. Just look at the [results from 2010!](#)

Members send their possible entries in for our January digital critique, take the judges' comments to heart, and bring the images back for our competition in February. Even if you're NOT entering, these two preparatory sessions provide valuable insight & education!

Calendar of Events

JANUARY 24 – DIGITAL CRITIQUE 6:00 P.M.

NOTE DATE CHANGE

FEBRUARY 21 – PRINT COMPETITION 6:00 P.M.

NOTE DATE CHANGE

MARCH 26 – 29 – PHOTO NORTH EAST

WOODCLIFF LAKE, NJ

APRIL 18 – TEP WITH JIM CHAMBERLAIN

LOCATION TBD

JULY 17 – 22 – PPSNYS WORKSHOP

GENEVA, NY

Photo North East

In 2010, PPSNYS and PPANJ combined efforts to present our first regional conference. It was a smashing success – the promise of greater attendance stimulated vendors and they came in droves.

From March 26 – 29, 2011, our second annual conference, [Photo North East](#), will be held in Woodcliff Lake, NJ.

Fifteen speakers, print competition, CPP (Certified Professional Photographer) Prep class and test, several 'add-on' events... all for \$125 if members* register before January 15 (\$195 for non-members). And only \$195 (or \$245 non-members) after that date.

The fifteen presentations include:

- 4 on business (including one on law);
- 8 on live shoots (including amping up to video by an SNL veteran and one being presented in Spanish); and
- 3 on processing image.

The opportunity to observe the intense photo competition is an education in itself. Five judges discuss the merits of each print and accord it a score based on the [Twelve Elements](#). Membership is not required to submit prints for consideration. A maximum of four prints may be entered.

[Portraiture Workshop](#), a \$15 'add-on' scheduled for Saturday evening, will be a hands-on seminar with live models. Group will be divided by ability/experience.

A [Sunrise Excursion](#) to the Ramapo Reservation is scheduled for early Sunday morning. Coffee and donuts will be provided on this \$10 'add-on'.

Additional social events include a \$25 Ladies' Brunch, the Animal House party (Sunday night), and the [\\$35 Cocktail Hour & Awards Reception](#) which is scheduled for Monday evening.

Tuesday morning offers two seminars before the 2011 Photo North East concludes.

The full schedule is [here](#).

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION CLOSES JAN 15!!!

*Includes members of PPSNYS, PPANJ, GPPDV, CTPPA, PPA of PA, and APA.

PPSNYS Workshop

What aspect of your business would you like to learn more about?

PPSNYS' annual [Photo Imaging Workshop](#), held **July 17 – 22, 2011** in Geneva, NY, holds your answer.

You'll spend five days with one of the nationally renowned instructors (you get to choose which one!) – absorbing more about:

Adding multi-media to your repertoire (Ken Sklute)

Exploring photography as an artistic medium (Michael Barton)

Travelling beyond image capture (Michael & Tina Timmons)

Story-telling a wedding (Storey Wilkins)

Understanding Lightroom (Marty Grivjack)

All for \$875 – which includes your class, room & board, parties, a lot of 'goodies', and an amazing opportunity to network! **How can you beat that?**

Educational Opportunities

ADOBE PHOTOSHOP USERS

Feb 16, 2011 [One day, multi-session seminar](#)

Ramada Plaza

3 Watervliet Ave. Ext., Albany

2 tracks: Basics & Experienced users – can mix & match

UNDERSTANDING LAYERS: AN INTENSIVE WORKSHOP

Aaron Pepis, Master Photographer, Cr.

February 15, 7 – 10 p.m.

Pepis Studio, 40 N Route 9W, West Haverstraw NY

- Introduction to the power of layers.
- The use of duplicate layers.
- Combining images in layers to expand your creative horizons.
- File manipulation and file saving options.

This three hour intensive course focusing on layers will show you how your creative vision can go to a whole new level of sophistication and fun.

Call to reserve space: 845-429-3999

Send check (\$89) to:

Aaron Pepis, PO Box 465, Thiells, NY 10984

LINKS OF INTEREST

Joan Heffler highly recommends [Leapfrog Web Marketing](#) (and specifically Darcy Knapp). Joan says, "In less than 30 minutes, I could not believe how much information I learned about site optimization, social media advertising and how to stay on top of the Google list. I really think we need Darcy to do a program for us." *(that's a hint, Mark!)*

[Julianne Kost](#), a 'digital evangelist', offers a multitude of tutorials on all three versions of Lightroom, including a 9-page Tips & Tricks with keyboard shortcuts and lots of other goodies!

[Portrait Professional](#) has received rave reviews as a quick and easy fix for normal 'cosmetics', such as blemish-control, and more sophisticated cosmetology, such as lengthening the neck, adjusting the jawline, plumping up the lips, etc. Free trial available – also currently on sale for just \$39.95.

If you're interested in landscape photography and don't know [Alain Briot](#)'s name, you should. Sign up for his free newsletter – and get 30 pdfs on a wide range of topics from equipment reviews to excerpts from his "Mastering Landscape Photography" to "Being an Artist in Business" to "How to Mat Your Photographs".

Seth Resnick's article on the [State of Doing Business for the Digital Photographer Preparing for 2011](#) presents ideas, facts and experience that is worthwhile for all of us to consider. Continue reading the comments – especially John Gillooly's regarding Seth's high end/stock world vs. 'our world' and the need to be able to take the CONCEPTS and adapt them for our reality.

What are some of YOUR favorites?

WHAT MEMBERS ARE DOING

Bob Riccardo's "Dirt Track Racin' at Fonda Speedway" will be presented at the Lansingburgh Rotary Club at the Freer Park Pub, Troy, NY on January 18. This will back-to-back with the Bethlehem Lions Club at the Normanside Country Club, Delmar, NY on January 19.

New member **Katelyn Buress** has generously offered to consult with members who would like to learn more about how to set up and begin implementing some of the techniques that JP (*Elario, November's presenter*) employs.

Quote of the Month – **NEW!!!**

Get It Right in the Camera

Don't say "I'll fix that later." **Photoshop is not a hospital for terminally wounded pictures.** Work hard in the field to master the camera, the lens, and the techniques of shooting. *(thanks, Mark!)*

\$\$ WANTED – or – FOR SALE \$\$

This will be a new, regular column, available to anyone who either has something to sell or is looking for something to buy. Let's keep it photography related – but if you're having a winter TOSS party (as we are this weekend), and it's something you don't need but is useful – put it out here!

CCPPSNY and/or In Focus editor assumes no responsibility for objects sold or purchased. Transactions will be strictly between the two parties involved.



Professional Photographers of America