



The Sioux Projector

The Official Newsletter of the Sioux Falls Camera Club

<http://www.geocities.com/sfcameraclub>

In This Issue



The "Prez Sez!"
Page 2

*November Judging
Results*
Page 3

New Member Profile
Page 4

*N4C Judging
Results*
Page 5

Take Your Best Shot!
Page 6

DECEMBER 2006 Edition *"Gettin' Ready for Christmas" Edition* *Monthly Meeting Schedule*

Tuesday, December 5, 2006

The Sioux Falls Camera Club will meet at 7:00 p.m. at the Kenny Anderson Community Center, at Ann Sullivan Elementary School, 3701 East 3rd Street, Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

We're excited to have award winning photographer *Greg Latza* on hand to give us a program featuring his latest book entitled *Spirit*. His other books include *Hometown SD*, *Back on the Farm*, *Blue Stars*, *The Missouri* and the *South Dakota ABC Scrapbook*. It should be a most enjoyable program.

December subjects are "*Street Scenes*" and "*Nature.*" *Laurie Brenneman* will be providing refreshments.

Tuesday, December 19, 2006

Special Note: Our annual SFCC Christmas Banquet will be held at the Sunnycrest United Methodist Church at 4801 West 41st Street (just west of the Days Inn). **The banquet will start promptly at 6:30 pm.** Cost will be \$9 per person. Please pay Linda Rensberger before December 12th, so we have a count.

December judging and N4C awards will be announced.

Here's Wishing You ALL A MERRY Christmas!

Sioux Falls Camera Club 2006-2007



Officers and Board Members

President:	Ken Starkenburg	605-338-0209
Vice President:	Jennie Patrick	605-690-5700
Secretary – Treasurer:	Linda Rensberger	605-361-2708
3 Yr.:	(1 yr. remain) Steve Thompson	605-528-3675
3 Yr.:	(2 yr. remain) Ken Eckert	605-332-0657
3 Yr.:	(3 yr. remain) Eric Merrill	605-339-3075
1 Yr.:	Ron Balthazor	605-371-1607

Chairpersons

Programs:	Greg Honermann	507-283-3625
	Ken Eckert	605-332-0657
SFCC Prints & Slides:	Terry Rea	605-338-5842
	Chastity Merkwon	605-366-0898
Newsletter Editor:	Marty DeWitt	605-594-8198
Club Historian:	Ken Starkenburg	605-338-0209
Hospitality:	Lori Fisher	605-376-1454
Promotions:	Tim Breikreutz	605-428-5740
N4C Entries:	Jim Stone	605-339-0187
	Teresa Lane	605-338-1206
N4C Digital:	Eric Merrill	605-339-0187
Points & Awards:	Jim Stone	605-339-0187
	Laurie Brenneman	605-359-8635
Sioux Empire Fair:	Bill Leshovsky	605-728-4140
	Val Goering	605-335-3834

Feel free to contact the board members or chairpersons concerning Camera Club business.

Dues

Individuals: \$18.00 Family: \$27.00

Please pay Linda Rensberger, Secretary-Treasurer

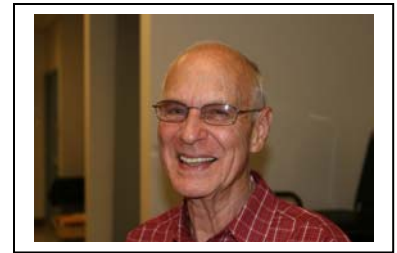
The Sioux Falls Camera Club meets at 7:00 P.M., the first and third Tuesdays, September through May, in the Kenny Anderson Community Center, at Ann Sullivan Elementary School, 3701 E 3rd Street, Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!

The Sioux Projector

The Sioux Projector is a monthly publication, (except for July and August), of the Sioux Falls Camera Club, Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Newsletter Deadline is the second Tuesday of the month. Contact editor Marty DeWitt at martydewitt@hotmail.com.

THE NEW PREZ SEZ!



In Marty's recent photography article in the South Dakota *Conservation Digest*, he wrote that he started taking photos with his dad's Vivitar 35mm camera. My dad had a box camera, a Kodak 116, but he took some great photos with it. We lived on a farm with a 65' windmill, which is as tall as I've ever seen. He climbed to the top and took pictures of the buildings on the farm. I don't know how he composed them so well in such an awkward position, especially through that very small waist-level finder!

When I was in grade school, I saved up my money and bought a Kodak 120 box camera for the large sum of \$2.00. It wasn't until I was stationed in Germany with the Army that I bought my first 35mm camera. It was a folding Zeiss Ikon without a rangefinder.

I started to become more interested in photography and wanted to move up to an SLR camera. I decided to quit smoking "cold turkey" and used my cigarette money to purchase one. It was an Exacta VXIIA. It was a professional camera, though it did not have a light meter. Later, a meter was available which replaced the prism. It took meter readings through the lens, but was not coupled to the camera. Meter readings had to be transferred manually to the camera, making it cumbersome for action shots. As cameras became more advanced, I decided to switch to Nikon. *(And now the old duffer has gone digital! Goes to show... you CAN teach an old dog new tricks! – ed.)*

**Ken Starkenburg
SFCC President**



NOVEMBER 2006

Contest Results

The November subjects were
"Forests" and "Nature"

Judges were Lorele Johnson, Tim Breitkreutz,
Greg Honermann and Don Rensberger

Member Surveys Appreciated

As a final reminder, if you could please turn in your member survey by the banquet on December 19th, it would be greatly appreciated. Again, the goal of the survey is to have you comment about what you would like to see SFCC accomplish in the coming year. This information will be very important to the Board and committees, so please take the time necessary to complete the information. If you did not get one, contact Marty at 605-594-8198 or at martydewitt@hotmail.com. THANKX!

Color Prints: 36 Entries

1st.	"Stampede"	Keith Anderson
2nd.	"Mesa Verde"	Roger Rose
3rd.	"Fenced In Fall"	Ron Balthazor
H.M.	"Season Glimpse"	Jennie Patrick
H.M.	"Autumn Mirror"	Ron Balthazor
H.M.	"Hey, You Old Coot!"	Marty DeWitt
H.M.	"Sunrise Ducks"	Marty DeWitt

Black & White Prints: 21 Entries

1st.	"George, Tom, Teddy & Abe"	Sandy Tebben
2nd.	"Just Getting Started"	Ron Balthazor
3rd.	"A Torch To Light"	Sandy Tebben
H.M.	"If It's Soft, Pull On It"	Eric Merrill
H.M.	"Push Me Dadda"	Eric Merrill
H.M.	"Deerview Deer"	Tim Breitkreutz

Color Slides: 18 Entries

1st.	"Beauty of a Feather"	Sandy Tebben
2nd.	"Into the Woods"	Ron Balthazor
3rd.	"Glacier Melt"	Marty DeWitt
H.M.	"Turkey Buzzards"	Ken Starkenburg
H.M.	"Forest Home"	Ron Balthazor
H.M.	"And There Was Light"	Marty DeWitt

*Congratulations to our winners!
Especially to Keith, Roger and
Jennie, new members who are
becoming forces to reckon with
as they share their great images.
Great Work!*



Monthly Subjects

December: Street Scenes

(Avenues, Lanes, Drives,
Highways, Roads,
Boulevards, etc.)

January: Cityscapes

February: Snow

March: Security

April: Rain

May: Anything Goes

New Member Profile



Although Keith Anderson has only been with the club about a year, he brings more than 40 years of photographic experience to the table. He credits his beginnings to his dad's encouragement when he was young. Now, he finds his

favorite photo haunts in the outdoors, and especially getting up close and personal with birds and other macro subjects. He has had a number of images published, including a cover shot for the South Dakota *Conservation Digest* magazine. (*I guess Ken Starkenburg and I have a new challenger as we compete for page space in that particular publication... ed.*)

When asked what he considers to be his favorite photograph, Keith recalled a shot he made of his wife and young son at the Sioux Falls zoo. "It was just a grab shot of them as they enjoyed an animal exhibit," he said.

Keith really enjoys exploring the beauty of nature that is often overlooked, that being subjects found in the macro world. And when asked what he hopes to achieve with his photography, his answer was simply that his personal satisfaction comes from having others enjoy his images as much as he does. And judging from the fact that his recent color print entitled "*Stampede*" took first place honors in the November competition, I'd say we've just seen the beginning of what this fellow can do!

Hospitality List

The following members have graciously agreed to bring tasty treats to our meetings. Many THANX in advance for your assistance!

December 5th – Laurie Brenneman
December 19th – Christmas Banquet

January 2nd – Rensbergers
January 16th – Chastity Merkwon

February 6th – Ron Balthazor
February 20th – Val Goering

March 6th – Bill Leshovsky
March 20th – Terry Rea

April 3rd – Steve Thompson
April 17th – Jim & Dorothy Stone

May 1st – Loreale Johnson
May 15th – Spring Banquet

***"Once the mind has been stretched by a new idea,
it will never again return to its original size."
Oliver Wendell Holmes***



JANUARY THEME ***"CITYSCAPES"***

Last month's assignment should have been a good warm-up exercise for the January theme. Again, I'd encourage you to seek out scenes others have not photographed before, or take new and creative approaches to the images everybody else shoots. Dare to be different! If you always shoot with color in mind, cross over to dabble in black and white. Try some abstract treatments and submit some contemporary/creative shots for N4C. Good Luck!

NAC Judging Results

Once again, SFCC had a great presence in the NAC circuit, including a CLEAN SWEEP in the Small Color Prints category! Here's the latest!

B&W Pictorial Prints - Small

2nd Place – “Clark Tower”
By Robert Tebben

HM – “Favorable Skies”
By Ron Balthazor

Nature Prints - Small

2nd Place – “Sundown Arrival”
By Lori Fisher

3rd Place – “Simply Grass”
By Ron Balthazor

Color Prints - Large

HM – “Window”
By Tim Breitreutz

Color Prints - Small

1st Place – “Oats Are Ready To Harvest”
By Sandy Tebben

2nd Place – “Early Riser”
By Ron Balthazor

3rd Place – “Winter Frost”
By Bill Leshovsky



Photojournalism Slides

2nd Place – “Farm Tours”
By Ron Balthazor
(Ron’s slide was actually in a 3-way tie for first!)

Digital Pictorial Slides

2nd Place – “Mount Rushmore Fireworks”
By Sandy Tebben

SPECIAL NOTES!

A number of comments were received from judging clubs about mistakes in labeling prints and slides. It was clearly implied that, in the future, entries may be disqualified if labeling instructions are not followed.

Specifically mentioned in this cycle were the following:

Some writing was not legible – please print clearly or create your labels on a computer.

More than half of the prints were improperly labeled! Prints need the following information clearly referenced on the back:

Category

Size (Large or Small)

Title

Photographer’s Name

Club

And Finally – Remember that categories for Class A & Class B Prints no longer apply!



Take Your Best Shot!

By Marty DeWitt, SFCC Editor



Well, I'm back from another cross-country excursion, and here it is time once again to wrap up another exciting issue of the *Sioux Projector*.

Cathy and I traveled east this year to check in with friends and family. Somewhat reduces the photo opportunities, but the hospitality and food is great! The 5500-mile journey took us northeast to Vermont and then south to the Carolinas. Weather was great when we needed

it to be, and snowy or rainy when it didn't matter. Only real close call was when the nearly closed down the Smoky Mountains. They did close the park after we'd made it through, so things worked out fine.

One thing I did discover was that some really neat shots can be captured when the weather is being less than cooperative. The picture above was taken in the Smoky Mountains just before dark. The top of the mountains and Newfound Gap were pretty much shut down due to snow and ice. We made it through that, and were taking the nature drive along the Roaring Fork just outside of Gatlinburg. It was actually dropping a mix of rain, sleet and snow most of the way, but at this lower elevation it was a fine drizzle. I had traveled all that way to capture some waterfalls and mountain stream shots, so I wasn't going to let a little rain deter me.

Another thing I learned on this trip was that there are several reasons I enjoy nature photography. It has allowed me to see some really unique sights throughout our great country, and forced me to learn a great deal about my natural surroundings. More importantly, however, I've found it's a lot easier than taking pictures of people. Now don't get me wrong, both of our families are really neat, but trying to get a group of relatives together and smiling all at once for that all-important family portrait has proven to be more challenging than stalking an elusive grizzly bear, rare native wildflower or undiscovered landscape. The fact that you always show up with a pack full of fancy camera gear makes you some sort of expert, so it's only natural you get the job! Thank goodness for digital! I just kept shooting in hopes that at least once all the eyes would be open, all the kids would be smiling and all us "old folks" would be playing along. But it turns out that was the easy part. My advice? When it comes time to go through the pictures on the computer, don't have that same group of people looking over your shoulder. There aren't enough features in Photoshop to fix all the quirks and foibles that everyone will discover when they see themselves on the "big screen"! So my hat is off to those portrait and wedding photographers out there who make this their living. They're worth every penny they get (well, except for the bozo that shot our wedding 28 years ago...but that's another story...)

Now I know that not everybody feels the same way I do about photographing people. There are some folks in our very own SFCC ranks who have demonstrated that special skill time and time again in their monthly entries. Furthermore, I have to think there are others out there, who, like me, might want to pick up on some tips for making it easier to do. So, here's my challenge. Why don't some of you "portrait" shooters get your heads together and put together a program for the rest of us. Maybe you could set up a hands-on demonstration for lighting, give us tips on how to keep the little ones interested, and discuss a little bit about posing and arranging groups. I know I could sure use the help. It might make me seem even more like a "real" pro next time I get roped into the role of family photographer. And trust me... I need all the help I can get!

Until next time, Cathy and I wish you all the best during this frantic holiday season. Be sure to take some time out for yourselves. Grab your camera and head out for a spontaneous photo trek. Grab a cup of hot chocolate, snuggle up in a warm blanket and cozy up to a good photography book. It will be time well-spent. And in the meantime, I hope all your family portraits are full of smiles and lasting memories.

Merry Christmas, and Happy Shooting!

The Fine Print – The opinions expressed in "Take Your Best Shot" are those of the SFCC *Sioux Projector* editor, and not often (but occasionally I get lucky) those of the SFCC and its awesome photographers. Corrections, rebuttals, and certainly kind words are graciously invited but, depending on my mood, may or may not be published in future issues. Got a better idea? Think I'm all wet? Bring it on!!!