



# the Viewfinder

the Newsletter of the Syosset Camera Club

<http://www.syossetcc.org>

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## Spotlight on New Members **Michael Kaplow**

Michael Kaplow is a retired New York City School Teacher and a first time camera club member. Michael joined the club during the 2004 season. He has a Masters degree in broadcasting and was a cameraman at Brooklyn College, where he also taught Computer Technology. Michael has been using a Canon D20 digital camera for the past three months, which seems to be cooperating with him since it earned him two eights In his Feb. 05, first ever competition.



Michael's other hobby is spending time with his adopted Siberian Husky Dog, which he obtained from the "Siberian Husky Club of Greater NY."

Michael is retired and a father of two adult daughters. Welcome to the club we are glad to have you.

## “Black and White and the Digital Darkroom” presented by **Bill Schmidt**

The Feb. 17 program presented by Bill Schmidt was a great success. Bill covered the very technical and often-confusing subject of color to black and white conversion in great detail while keeping the discussion at a level appropriate for all. Congratulations on a job well done Bill. It is most heartening that black and white photography not only lives on, but also prospers with new tools previously unimaginable.

## Meeting Schedule

### March 2005

- 17<sup>th</sup> Critique Night
- 24<sup>th</sup> “Morocco’s Imperial Cities” presented by Carol-Ann Rogus

### April 2005

- 14<sup>th</sup> Competition judged by Art Inselsberger
- 21<sup>st</sup> Theme Competition “Children” Judged by Leon Hertzon
- 28<sup>th</sup> Photos of Southeast Asia Experience presented by Doug Going

### MAY 2005

- 5<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting
- 12<sup>th</sup> Competition Bill Rudock
- 19<sup>th</sup> I Got a Nine!! Presented by members of the SCC
- 26<sup>th</sup> End of Year Competition judged by Andrew Kurchey, Art Donnelly, & Paul Weitman


### JUNE 2005

- 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Awards Dinner Don't forget 8 am Sunday at the Parade Dinner

<http://www.syossetcc.org>

## March Competition Eights and Nines

Judged by Mel Ettinger

 = Print or Slide of the Month

### B&W PRINTS - A

-  Alan Agdern (9)
- Barry Goldstein (8)
- Bill Schmidt (8)
- Marty Silverstein (8)

### B&W PRINTS - B

- Robert Glick (8)
-  Peter Metzger (9)
- Alan Ross (8)

### COLOR PRINTS - A


- Alan Agdern (8)
- Gerald Harrison (8)
- Moshe Markewitz (8)
-  Sy Roth (8)

### COLOR PRINTS - B

- Ken Eastman (8) Charles Hollander (8)
- Carol Goldstein (8)
- Alan Ross (8)

-  Peter Metzger (9)
- Maylan Monahan (9)
- Barry Goldstein (9)
- Robert Glick (9)
- Marty Silverstein (9)

### SLIDES - A

-  Ramesh Patwa (9)

## Notable Quote

"A great inkjet print looks really nice. A great silver-gelatin print takes your breath away." *D. Taylor, Photo Net Forum participant*

**Is it just me?** Some of the most technologically advanced photographic equipment comes with instruction manuals that are nearly impossible to read. The following excerpt is from the Nikon SB-600 Speedlight manual. *"In Advanced Wireless Lighting, set the flash mode of the remote flash units on the master flash unit; therefore, when the SB-600 is used as a remote flash unit, do not set the SB-600's flash mode to Auto Aperture (AA) or Non-TTL auto (A) flash because these modes are not available with the SB-600. If set, the SB-600 will not fire.* Speaking of which, the camera industry seems to have a fascination with obscure and annoying acronyms (OAA). The following is a sampling of acronyms, in no way complete, that may be helpful in understanding camera specifications and claims.

- A-** The original bayonet lens type used by Nikon.
- ADR-** 'Aperture Direct Readout.' The aperture scale can be seen in the finder via an overhanging prism. First used by Nikon in 1977.
- AF-** 'Autofocus.' Also the Pentax abbreviation for 'Automatic Flash.'
- AFD-** 'Arc-Form Drive.' A type of autofocus mechanism (Canon).
- AFI-** An autofocus lens with an internal coreless motor (Nikon). All AF-I lenses are D-type but sthe N60 and N8008 cannot autofocus with them.
- AI-** 'Automatic Indexing' A Nikon lens type that allows focusing of the camera at maximum aperture.
- AI Servo AF-** A Canon autofocus system that tracks subject movement until the start of metering.
- AI-P-** A variant of the Nikon AI lens that contains a chip to send data to the camera.
- AI-S-** A variant of AI to be used with Program and shutter-priority exposure modes. AI-s lenses are manually focused and distinguished by the smallest aperture being printed in orange and a small scoop on the bayonet flange to transmit aperture info.
- AIS-** 'Automatic index shutter' (Nikon)
- APO-** Apochromatic; a type of lens which focuses all wavelengths of light on the same plane for improved image sharpness.
- APS-** 'Advanced Photo System' a film format smaller than 35 mm with a magnetic backing for recording data that supports various camera features e.g.- mid roll film change.
- ASA/ISO/DIN-** Systems of describing film speed/sensor sensitivity. ASA values are linear e.g.- 200 is twice as fast as 100. DIN values are logarithmic e.g.- 24° is twice the speed of 21° and half the speed of 27°. ISO values are the current standard and are expressed as a combination of ASA and DIN e.g.- 100/21°
- ASP-** 'Aspherical.' A lens element that has a curvature that changes continuously in the direction of the lens diameter.
- A-TTL-** 'Advanced TTL.' Flash uses a 1/20<sup>th</sup> strength preflash to determine flash exposure and how far down the aperture can be stopped while still providing adequate exposure with the flash. This aperture is compared with the aperture that would be selected by normal Program mode. The smaller of the two apertures is selected. When the shutter button is fully depressed the flash fires and is quenched using the TTL flash circuitry (Canon).
- AV-** 'Aperture value.' Used on some camera information displays as a shortened way to refer to aperture settings. Also 'Audiovisual.'
- Bokeh-** A term derived from the Japanese word for 'fool' which refers to the pleasing quality of the out of focus areas of an image produced by the lens. Thought to be related shape of the aperture and other factors.
- C-** A lens coating type (Nikon Integrated Coating) for Pre-AI lenses. Distinguished by a C after the lens designation and a black filter ring.
- CCD-** 'charge coupled device' a type of digital camera sensor
- CF-** 'Compact flash' a type of flash memory card.
- CFE-** Electronic indicating system (Hasselblad).
- CGI-** CF version improved (Hasselblad)
- CLA-** 'Clean lubricate and Adjust.' Routine maintenance operation recommended for cameras every 5 to 10 years.
- CLS-** Nikon 'Creative Lighting System.'
- CMOS-** 'Complementary Metallic Oxide Semiconductor' a type of digital camera sensor
- CRC-** 'Close Range Correction.' A lens adapted to reduce distortion at macro settings.
- D-** A Nikon lens design that adds distance information to the data transmitted to the camera.
- DC-** 'Defocus Control.' The ability to control the zones in focus.
- DOF-** 'Depth of Field.' Usually refers to depth of field preview.
- DX-** Digital Index. Coding on film cartridges used to transmit information in relation to film speed the length of film and the exposure latitude to the camera.
- DX-1-** Nikon designation for lenses designed for digital cameras.
- ED-** Extra-low Dispersion element(s) used in the lens.
- EF-** 'Electronic Flash'

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718-279-4447

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**Sy Roth**

### Publicity

**Linda Volin**  
516-681-6040

### Olympus Liaison

**Moshe Markewitz**

### Viewfinder Editor

**Barry Goldstein**  
[barryg@acmenet.net](mailto:barryg@acmenet.net)

Syosset Camera Club  
Officers may be contacted by using the link in-  
[/www.syossetcc.org](http://www.syossetcc.org)

- EMD-** 'Electro-Magnetic Diaphragm.'
- EOS-** 'Electro-Optical System.' Canon's designation for the line of cameras, which control their lenses electronically. Aperture and focus are controlled by motors in the lens rather than in the camera body (Canon).
- eTTL-** A flash control system used in Canon digital SLRs
- Exif-** 'Exchangeable Image File- The File Format.' Used by most digital cameras. When a typical camera is set to record a JPEG it's actually recording an EXIF file that uses JPEG compression to compress the photo data in the file
- EZ-** Olympus Zuiko designation
- FireWire-** A short-range communication standard for connecting electronic devices.
- FL-** 'Fluorite.'
- FL-** A special type of optical glass containing fluorite which controls the 'dispersion' of light rays into their spectral components- useful in controlling chromatic aberrations.
- FP-** Focal Plane flash mode used by Nikon that allows the flash to operate at higher sync speeds for Balanced Fill Flash in bright light.
- FPS-** 'Frames per second.'
- G-** Nikon designation for lenses that have no aperture dial. The camera body controls lens openings
- GMS-** 'Gliding Mirror System' (Hasselblad)
- IDM-** 'Integrated Direct Metering.' The term used by Pentax referring to the off the film metering used in the Pentax LX.
- IF-** 'Internal focusing'
- iTTL-** A flash control system used in Nikon digital SLRs with advanced features over D TTL.
- JFET-** 'Joint Field Effects Transistor' a type of digital camera sensor
- K-mount-** a bayonet lens mount developed by Pentax.
- LD/ED/UD -** Low/Extra low/Ultra low Dispersion - Special glass that doesn't disperse the light as it enters the lens.
- M42-** A lens mount that is 42mm in diameter and with a metric pitch of 1mm. Also called 'Universal Mount.'
- Macro-** indicates a lens that focuses at very close distances
- Medium Format-** Cameras that use 120 or 220 film producing a negative of 2.25in. square.
- Memory stick-** Sony designation for their memory card.
- MF-** 'Manual Focus'
- Micro** - Usually synonymous with 'macro' a lens capable of focusing at a very close.
- MLU-** 'Mirror Lockup.' A camera design whereby the mirror can be locked in the up position to eliminate mirror vibration during long exposures.
- MM-** 'Micro Motor.'
- MMC-** 'Multimedia Card' A flash memory card used in some digital cameras and MP3 players.
- MTF-** 'Modular Transfer Function.' Data concerning the optical performance of a lens at various apertures.
- NOCT** - 'Nocturnal' Nikon's designation for very 'fast' lenses capable of taking pictures in low light. e.g.: The Nikkor AIS Noct 58mm f/1.2 lens.
- NTSC-** 'National Television Standards Committee.' The Standard broadcast signal for televisions in the U.S.
- OTF-** 'Off The Film.' An exposure mode where the light reflected off the film is used to determine the exposure especially when taking pictures using flash.
- PAL-** 'Phase Alternation Line' The standard TV broadcast signal used in most European countries. The main difference between NTSC and PAL is that NTSC delivers 525 lines of resolution at 60 half-frames per second whereas PAL delivers 625 lines at 50 half-frames per second.
- PC** - 'Perspective Control.' Describes lenses that have a lens element that can be tilted in relation to the film focal plane. Also refers to the socket provided on older cameras for the connection of a flash. Some cameras have FP and X PC connections. FP is for focal plane shutter sync which introduces a lag time in sync of about 5 milliseconds the time required for a flashbulb to heat up. 'X' is for electronic flash and has no delay.
- PIC-** 'Programmed Image Control.' Canon's term for program modes outside of the standard P Av and Tv. modes.
- PictBridge-** a standard that allows transfer of images from the memory card in a digital camera directly to a printer without using a computer.
- PK mount-** lens mounting standard used by Pentax and compatible cameras such as Vivitar and Phoenix
- QCD-** 'Quick Control Dial.'
- RTF-** A term used by Pentax for a built in pop-up flash.
- SAI-** 'Self adjusting Interface' (Hasselblad)
- SD-** 'Secure Digital' small media type (same as MMC) that has extra connections to secure data.
- SDIO-** 'Secure Digital Input/Output.' Card slots that will accept not only memory but expansion hardware as well. Will support SDIO Bluetooth a short range wireless standard used for cross-communication between many different types products.
- Series E-** Nikon lenses made for the DM camera bodies.
- Smart Media-** a memory card format that is essentially obsolete.
- SMC-** Pentax designation for 'Super Multi-Coating' a optical coating technology that reduces internal reflections and improves contrast.
- SWM-** 'Silent Wave Motor' used in Nikon AF lenses.
- TC-** 'Teleconverter.' A device that is mounted between the lens and camera that increases focal length of the lens by a fixed factor e.g.- 1.4x or 2x.
- Tessar-** a Zeiss four element lens design (tessares is 4 in Greek). Tessar lenses are relatively small and light.
- TTL-** 'Through-the-lens.'
- UD-** 'Ultra-low Dispersion.' A type of optical glass.
- USB-** 'universal serial bus' a method of connecting cameras and other peripheral to a computer.
- USM-** 'Ultrasonic Motor.' A type of motor used in more recent Canon lenses. There are two variants- ring-shaped and 'micro'. The ring shaped motor is found in Canon's higher-end USM lenses that has high torque and does not require gearing. The 'Micro-USM' is cylindrical cheaper to manufacture and requires some form of transmission.
- UV** - Special lens design that passes 'ultra-violet' light. Also used to designate a filter that reduces the amount of ultra-violet light reaching the lens.
- UW** - A special lenses designed for 'underwater.'
- VR-** Nikon's 'vibration reduction' lens system
- XD-** 'Extreme Digital' an Olympus/Fujifilm memory card format characterized by high capacity and small size.

## Huntington Tulip Festival Photo Contest

### *Now you can take flower pictures and win a prize too.*

The Huntington Tulip Festival will take place on Sunday May 1 2005 at Hecksher Park. Entries must be received by July 31 un-mounted 8X10 color prints and should express the spirit of the Festival. There will be cash awards. \$350 for first place \$200 for second place and a third place prize of \$100. The application can be found in pdf format at [http://town.huntington.ny.us/permit\\_pics/347.pdf](http://town.huntington.ny.us/permit_pics/347.pdf). You will

need one application for each submission. This may come as a shock for you digital photographers who normally take 3000 shots of a subject, but the limit is 2 entries.

## PFLI Competition Scores For February

### Color B

Robert Glick 26 points	<i>'Roberta's Parachute'</i>
Alan Ross 22 points	<i>'White Plumeria'</i>
Ira Scheinerman 22 points	<i>'Brave Little Tree'</i>
Ed Starling 22 points	<i>'Street Light'</i>

### Black & White B

Robert Glick 22 points	<i>'Mayan Warrior'</i>
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## What's New?

**Face priority AF-** Nikon's new Coolpix S1 recognizes faces and focuses on them. When you're ready to take a portrait, select the camera's Portrait Mode and Face-priority is automatically activated. A digital detection program will scan for facial details and then control autofocus operation based on the location of the detected face. Even if the subject moves, or as the photographer recomposes the picture, Face-priority AF will respond and keep focus on the subject's face. Manual techniques that formerly required the focus lock can be avoided. It is said to be faster, more responsive to creative composition, and makes portrait picture taking easier than ever.

**Burn Images Direct to Disk without Using a PC-** you can store digital photos on DVD or CD directly (without a computer) by connecting an IR series Olympus digital camera to the S-DVD-100 DVD Reader/Writer.

**Waterproof camera-** the new Pentax OptioWP can be submerged in up to 5 feet of water for 30 minutes.

**8 Megapixel Rebel-** Canon has upped the anti on the consumer SLR market with the Digital Rebel XT. At 17.1 ounces, the new 8 megapixel Rebel is the worlds lightest D-SLR. It faster than the original Rebel, with a start up time of 0.2 seconds, and burst mode of 3 fps for 14 shots, and it a flash recycle time of 3 seconds.

**Super zooms-** Sony is competing with Panasonic with its Cyber-shot DSC-H1. Both the Panasonic Lumix and Sony H1 have 12X optical zoom. The H1 throws in optical image stabilization.

**18.6 Megapixels-** Pentax has announced an 18.6 Megapixel 645 format DSLR.

**Super Batteries-** A rechargeable battery that can be fully charged in just 6 minutes, lasts 10 times as long as today's rechargeables and can provide bursts of electricity up to three times more powerful is showing promise in a Nevada lab. For more information go to [www.newscientist.com/article.ns?id=dn7081](http://www.newscientist.com/article.ns?id=dn7081) on the web.

## SCC Standings as of the March Competition

(Three highest scorers in each category, listed by total of six highest scores from each competition.)

### B&W PRINTS - A

Silverstein, Marty	53
Agdern, Alan	51
Edwards, Orrin	48

### B&W PRINTS - B

Glick, Robert	52
Harrison, Gerald	51
Lloyd, Loretta	46

### COLOR PRINTS - A

Agdern, Alan	52
Harrison, Gerald	50
Edwards, Orrin	46

### COLOR PRINTS - B

Glick, Robert	53
Ross, Alan	53
Metzger, Peter	51

### SLIDES - A

Rothman, Stan	59
Patwa, Ramesh	52
Edwards, Orrin	49

### SLIDES - B

Harrison, Gerald	51
Volin, Linda	37
Volin, Stanley	31