



The Viewfinder

the Newsletter of the Syosset Camera Club

Volume 38 Number 5

January 2007

President's Message *Aileen Harrison*

After 5 weeks of travel, the first thing I enjoyed was being in my own bed once again. The trip was wonderful. Of course seeing our children and grandchildren is always worth the travel. Seeing them in a place as beautiful as California made it twice as wonderful.

We started the trip in San Francisco at the San Francisco Symphony Hall where we saw the San Francisco Symphony perform. The music was exciting and the architecture of the hall was thrilling. We then went north as far as Yosemite. After a heavy all night rain, the falls were especially spectacular. We couldn't go further north due to heavy weather. Highway 120 which could take us to Mono Lake and Death Valley was closed. So we headed south as far as Arcadia.

After going through San Louis Obispo, Solvang, Santa

November Digital Competition

The results of the first SCC digital competition were not available when the December Viewfinder "went to press," so here they are. Congratulations to Robert for the first Digital Projection Of The Month

Eights and Nines		
Name	Title	Score
Alan Agdern	Mon Valley Sunset	9
Robert Glick	Swan Reflection	10
Barry Goldstein	BW Barn	8
Gerald Harrison	Macaw 4948	8
Marty Silverstein	Flower Power	9

Barbara, and Pasadena, we spent a beautiful day at the Los Angeles Arboretum. The highlight was the Santa Barbara Zoo and the Chocolate Éclair at Solvang.

We 'hit' as many beaches as we could in order to catch the surfers. The

best surfing ended up as a day trip to Half Moon Bay near our daughter's house.

PROGRAM 2006-07

December

- 21 "Black and White Techniques" Presented by Art Inselsberger
- 28 Theme Competition- "Main Street Northport" - Adolfo Briceno

January 2007

- 11 Competition- Bill Rudock
- 18 "Bird Photography" by Dave Gardner
- 25 Ed Sambolin- "Zoom Photography"

February

- 8 Competition- Dick Hunt
- 15 "Zoo Photography" presented by Sheldon Pollack
- 22 "How to Select a PC for Photoshop" presented by Bill Schmidt

March

- 8 Competition- Barry Kurek
- 15 "Orchids" presented by Bill Overtoon
- 22 Critique

April

- 12 Competition- Leon Hertzson
- 19 Presentation TBA
- 26 Theme Competition- Manipulated images
















































May

- 10 Competition- Andrew Kurchey
- 17 Presentation by Ivan Rothman
- 24 End of Year Competition- Sherman Paur, Arnold Brower and Art Donnelly

Don't forget Sunday mornings, 8 am at the Celebrity Diner

The San Francisco area has the best photographic opportunities, especially at the Berkeley Marina. We walked across the Golden Gate Bridge. That makes two bridges in our lifetime, Brooklyn and Golden Gate.

Gerry bought an 8 gig compact flash card and did his best to fill it. He downloaded our cards to DVDs every night. I have not been able to see my pictures yet but if they are half as good as Gerry's the trip will have been a success.

- 40000_{bc}  Cave paintings
- 5000_{bc}  Tally stick
- 2000_{bc}  Papyrus
- 100_{bc}  Paper
- 1440  Printing
- 1750  Punch card
- 1845  Punched tape
- 1877  Phonograph
- 1898  Telegraphone
- 1928  Magnetic tape
- 1932  Magnetic drum
- 1946  Williams tube
-  Selectron tube
- 1949  Delay line memory
-  Magnetic core
- 1956  Hard disk
- 1963  Music tape
- 1966  DRAM
- 1968  Twistor memory
- 1970  Bubble memory
- 1971  8" floppy
- 1976  5,25" floppy
- 1980  CD
- 1981  3,5" floppy
- 1984  CD-ROM
- 1987  DAT
- 1989  DDS
- 1990  MOD
- 1992  MiniDisc
- 1993  DLT
- 1994  CompactFlash
-  Zip
- 1995  DVD
-  SmartMedia
-  Phasewriter Dual
- 1996  AIT
-  CD-RW
- 1997  Multimedia card
- 1998  Memory Stick
- 1999  Microdrive
- 2001  USB key
-  SD Card
- 2003  Blue-ray
-  xD-Picture card
- 2004  WMV-HD
-  HD-DVD
- ?  Holographic

PFLI Dates to Keep Open
April 22 Spring spectacular, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm, featuring Rick Sammon

Honors Awards: APFLI, FPFLI, Leonard Victor, and Sidney B. Goldstein

Sept. 1-30 PFLI Exhibit at Plainview-OBP Library

February 22 Program

Are you in the market for a PC for use with Photoshop? Are you confused about backing up your photos? How about 'Scratch Discs'? Any questions? If you answered yes to any of the above, make sure you attend the February 22^{cd} meeting, at which time, Bill Schmidt will explain those issues and many more, as well as providing guidance in selecting a new PC.

Moore's Law and More

About 30 years ago, Gordon E. Moore, a computer scientist and co-founder of Intel, made the prediction that the number of transistors on an integrated circuit would double every 24 months as cost remained essentially unchanged. So far, Mr. Moore has remained secure in his prediction. But there appears to be a practical limit to the amount of processing power that can be concentrated on a single processor chip. The culprit is heat. Every time a transistor changes state (flip-flops between one digital level and another) a small amount of heat is generated which must be dissipated, or else the whole thing will melt or burn. A peek at the geeky section of your local computer store will reveal a variety of solutions for the heat problem, ranging from clamp on heat sinks with fans to water-cooled units. A more practical approach, which is now seen in the new dual core processors, is to use multiple processors in a single case rather than increasing the number of transistors on a single chip of silicone. Computer scientists tell us that dual or even quad cores are not the current limit. The number of processors

December High Scores

Judged by Dave Gartner

B&W- A

Marty Silverstein	10
Alan Agdern	9
Marc Bellow	9
Robert Glick	9
Gerald Harrison	9
Clem Kleinmann	8

B&W- B

Jerome Sax	9
Al Herbst	8
Ira Scheinerman	8

Color- A

Marc Bellow	10
Alan Agdern	9
Bill Bowie	9
Robert Glick	9
Gerald Harrison	9
Bill Schmidt	9
Marty Silverstein	9
Peter Metzger	8
Ramesh Patwa	8

Color- B

Jules Weisler	10
Barry Goldstein	8
Sarah Kleinmann	8
Alice Langholz	8
Maylan Monahan	8
Jerome Sax	8

that can be used in a single computer is virtually unlimited. The implications of this are nothing short of enormous. The ability to use multiple, relatively inexpensive components, instead of high cost new technology means that huge improvements in computing power are possible with current technology. The only limitation would appear to be in user software and the ability of the operating system to parse the information to be processed among the multiple processors. Hyperthreading technology already several years old shows that there are solutions to this problem. In fact, NEC has developed software that can prepare current versions of software to take advantage of multicore processors.

What's next? Look for near microscopic computer processors built with 'carbon nanotube' technology. At the submicroscopic level carbon takes on new properties including incredibly good electrical conduction, making it possible to increase the density of a computer chip without increasing the heat load. An even more fantastic development seems to be brewing in the physics labs of Drexler and Harvard Universities. It uses wires only 10 atoms wide and water to create non-volatile memory with the potential of 12,800,000 gigabytes per cubic centimeter. The technology is based on 'ferroelectricity' (See www.physorg.com/news66555256.html for a further description).

Advances in computer processing power combined with similar advances in Internet bandwidth, beg the question, why do we need software on individual computers. Some of the most widely used applications in fact are Internet based. The scenario of applications like Microsoft Office and Adobe Photoshop becoming available online for minimal or no cost if you accept the advertising or at a higher monthly fee without advertising, is not only becoming feasible, but in the author's judgment, likely. Imagine never again upgrading. The home computer (or handheld device) will become a 'dumb' but very powerful terminal connected to a world of software that is yours for the asking.

"Limitless" Memory?

Samsung Electronics is planning to produce a 16-gigabit memory chip that should be available late in 2007. That's about [125 Gigabytes](#).

Speaking of software, Microsoft will be releasing the long awaited upgrade to Windows, called 'Vista,' by January 30. Why do you need it? You don't, but unless you go to a MAC or switch to an

alternate operating system like Linux, it will be the only game in town in a few years. Microsoft promises that it will have improved security, but we've heard that before and I have more faith in the ability of hackers to overcome security patches than I have of Microsoft to protect us from them. Aesthetically, Vista will have a feature known as Pixel Shading, which may be worth a little explanation. A pixel Shader is used to render a surface realistically. The technology for pixel shading is embedded in the computer's graphics card and enables extremely realistic rendering of materials. To be compatible, the computer must have a DirectX 9.0 capable graphics card.

Because of Vista's imminent release, there are some great deals on computers with Windows XP. The important thing to know is that if you buy a new computer without Vista, make sure that you get a great price and a coupon for a Vista upgrade in the future.

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SCC Officers may be contacted by using the link in www.syossetcc.org

Congratulations

Robert Glick and Marty Silverstein each earned a "27" at the December PFLI contest. Marty also earned a 25 at the same event.



Beating A Dead Horse

The controversy about digital manipulation versus straight photography has been ongoing since the invention of digital photography. The mainstream opinion about the issue seems to be that the end justifies the means- the final image is all that matters. It is difficult to counter that argument, never the less, many are still are not comfortable with the concept because it offends some inner value with regard to photography.

I was recently listening to an interview with Eliot Erwitt on the Leonard Lopate radio show. Erwitt is a member of the illustrious group of photographers that belong to Magnum. If you are not familiar with Eliot Erwitt, 'Google' him. His images are reminiscent of Cartier-Bresson's.

In the interview, Erwitt stated that digital manipulation is anathema to photography. "Photography documents what is." On another occasion he is quoted as saying "Digital manipulation kills photography, It's enemy number one." He also stated that much of the photography by modern workers "is crap."

The recent digital recreation of Walker Evans prints on display at the UBS Art Gallery at first glance would seem to dispute the above arguments. The NY Times article describing the images called them "uncomfortably beautiful," being images of depression era farmers. But the author goes on to state that while the images may have been technically enhanced, they were not an improvement over the originals, because the originals captured the entire story.

Well, now that I have that off my chest, I'll let the subject rest for a while.

Another New Nikon

Just when you thought there were too many new cameras to keep track of, Nikon came out with another one. The new



D40 is a 6-megapixel camera like the D70 and D50. It has the same processing engine as the D200 and the same 420-pixel sensor 3D Color Matrix Metering II metering system found in the D80. Not bad for \$600 with an f/3.5-to-f/5.6 18-55 mm lens. In what is likely a cost saving strategy, what it does not have is

a status LCD on top of the camera. To see your current settings outside of the viewfinder, you have to press a button and view them on the monitor. A second press allows you to navigate and change the settings using the four-way-plus-OK navigation switch and command dial. For some-

PFLI 2007 Schedule

January

- 12 – Competition Night 7:45 PM
- 26 - Delegates Meeting 8:00 PM

February

- 9 - Competition Night 7:45 PM
- 23 - Delegates Meeting 8:00 PM
- 25 - Educational Seminar 1:30 - 4:00 PM

March

- 9 - Competition Night 7:45 PM
- 18 - Educational Seminar 1:30 - 4:00 PM
- 23 - Delegates Meeting 8:00 PM

April

- 13 - Competition Night 7:45 PM
- 22 - Spring Festival
- 27 - Delegates Meeting 8:00 PM

May

- 11 - Competition Night 7:45 PM
- 20 - Educational Seminar 1:30 - 4:00 PM

June

- 1 - Delegates Meeting 8:00 PM
- 8 - Leonard Victor Competition 7:45 PM

September 2007 - PFLI PHOTO EXHIBIT at the Plainview - Old Bethpage Library

Competitions and Seminars are held at the Plainview - Old Bethpage Library

one who would like to get into SLR digital photography at a rock bottom price, this camera could be the ticket, especially if you

Already have a Nikon lens or two. The extra menu fumbling is a drawback but not a disaster.

How Many Pixels Is Enough?

The answer to that question is part factual and part emotional. The factual part has to do with the amount of cropping you do and the size of prints you make. We have all seen some superb 8x10's and larger taken with 3 megapixel cameras. It may be said that the amount of cropping you do is proportional to how sloppy you are in composing the picture. But that's your business. One test that I read showed that a digital image from a Canon D60 had approximately the same resolution as a film image taken with the same lens on a Canon Elan 7e using Fuji Velvia film.

The new defacto standard in digital cameras appears to be 10 megapixels, which implies that we have now reached the resolution of most 35 mm film for practical purposes.

Improvised Studio Lighting

In the last issue of the Viewfinder, I described a homemade lighting setup that utilizes high efficiency light bulbs. These bulbs have the advantages of cool operation and low energy usage. A picture of one of the author's completed units is shown here. It should be noted that if you use these screw in fluorescent bulbs, make sure that you allow about 10 minutes warm up time so the lamps can reach their maximum brightness and proper color temperature.



What Are You Using?

It has been suggested that it would be useful to make an inventory of the equipment and supplies that members are using. This will help us learn from each other. With that in mind, we are asking that you complete a little survey with as much information as you can. This will be of great benefit to newcomers who would like some guidance on what to buy as well as those who are looking to upgrade. It is frequently more valuable to get input from people you know than reviews in magazines or on the Internet. Please also tell us where you purchase your inkjet ink and paper.

The following is a sample of a survey with a few items filled out. You will receive a similar survey via email. Please click the reply button on your email application and fill it out when you receive it. The results of the survey will be published in the viewfinder.

Equipment Survey

Name: *Joe bloe*

email: jbloe@yahoo.com

Item Eg-Camera, Tripod, lens, printer, etc.	It's perfect for me because:	I find it adequate because:	Looking to replace it because:	I hate it because:
Nikon D70		I can make up to 11x14 with adequate resolution, uses my Nikon lenses etc.		
Hp 4215 printer			It has only 3 color inks. I think I could get better quality with 6 inks	
Nikkor 70-300 f4- 5.6 G	It's extremely sharp, lightweight and inexpen- sive		Maybe someday when the price of VR lenses in down by >50%	

December PFLI Scores

Black & White Prints A	Score	Title
Robert Glick	27	'Monkey See, Monkey Do'
Marty Silverstein	25	'Curley Gurley'
Black & White Prints B		
Bill Bowie	22	'Waterfall'
Color Prints A		
Marty Silverstein	27	'Black Skimmers'
Marc Bellow	24	'Milk Weed'
Robert Glick	24	'There Is Always Year'
Clem Kleinmann	23	'The Owl'
Gerald Harrison	23	'Brook side'

For Sale

Gossen Digiflash Light Meter

The Digiflash is a digital light meter that reads reflected light, incident light or flash. It also includes a temperature reading and timer.



Original retail \$216.00
Like new with soft case. \$50.
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- ◆ Accessories
- ◆ Photographic Literature

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