



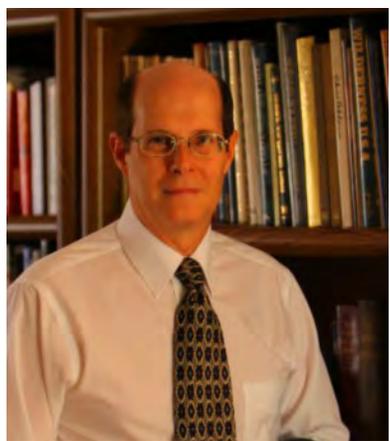
# INFOCUS



January  
Newsletter  
**2013**



2012 Museum Edition 



Bill Menzies, the Indian River Photo Club's President for 2013

## President's Snapshot

16 January 2013

Welcome, members, to a New Year and your new Board of Directors. We have chosen the roles that we will take to serve you.

Our positions are:

- Treasurer - Crystal Samuel**
- Secretary - Stephanie Black**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> V President - Donna Green**
- 1<sup>st</sup> V President - Mike Ricciardi**
- President - Bill Menzies**

*If you do not know them by sight see their photos on page 8*

## NEXT MEETING

Is January 24<sup>th</sup> at the Community Center on 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Be early and bring your entries for the Awards. The theme is "Togetherness".

All of us would like to thank you for your trust and support. It is our mission to represent your collective wishes in a manner that is best for the club. That said, we should not forget the great work done by our predecessors on the 2012 Board of Directors. They worked tirelessly for you all year, and deserve our most sincere thanks and appreciation for their efforts. When you see Jim Riley, Earl Evans, Barbara du Pont, Crystal Samuel, and Mike Ricciardi, thank them personally. I assure you, they will appreciate it.

To run a club takes more than a Board of Directors. In a year our list of helpers is long but committee chair persons and our Newsletter Publisher Keith Wright-Osment are especially deserving of your appreciation. Keith has also taken on the Website and is doing the work of several people. We can always use more wonderful volunteers. (Hint, hint) We have fun together and do something that means a lot to us.

Taking on a new year from the beginning is a big undertaking. We are doing all we can for you. We are planning a fun and exciting year for you. Our success will depend on you, the members, to make it work. It is your club, and we need your input, and help on projects. We can't give you what you want if we do not know what that is, and we cannot make it come true for you without

your volunteer participation. Many hands make light work. (And more horseplay.)

To emphasize photography and maintain an emphasis on judging/contests I have revamped our Monthly Program schedule and am creating a Saturday Seminar to emphasize Contest Judging. This will give our judging presenters a better vehicle for teaching, give them the time they need, and give guests (you) a chance to pose questions that all presenters can address.

Our January Program will be given by Toni Hill who will teach

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us what to do with our pictures when we put them in the computer. Depending on time, the presentation will progress from beginner to more advanced. Toni is a very accomplished photographer and teacher and a wonderful personality. We are very fortunate to have her present for us and I know you will all make her feel welcome, you are a great club. You will read more about her elsewhere in this newsletter.

We will have the Vero Beach Museum Photo Competition Awards Ceremony at our meeting in January and we will be host to non-members who will receive their awards then. This is a wonderful opportunity to showcase our great club to the community. We will also have the Monthly Contest and judging. We will have a very full agenda. Please bear with us and help if you can.

Largely through the efforts of one club member who I will not name (Mary Esther Bollis) we have a really great photo outing scheduled for Saturday January 26<sup>th</sup>. This will emphasize creative thinking and is perfect for photographers of all skill levels. It will be a learning opportunity and will emphasize the mind of the photographer more than photographic equipment. Besides there will be snacks. I give this one two thumbs up!! Thanks to those who will be volunteering for the event and our super-secret organizer.

That is a just some of what we have in store for you and there will be lots more. Photo opps, trips, meetings, contests, competitions, teaching seminars, monthly programs, guest speakers. You are going to have a great year!

I encourage you to tell your friends about us, bring guests to the meeting, support everyone's efforts, and have fun. Most of all, have fun!

The rest will follow. I am proud to be your president, thank you. See you January 24<sup>th</sup>!!

Focus on foto fun,  
Bill Menzies

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## Your Dues are Due.....!

**You may pay any one of three ways.**

- 1) Pay the club Treasurer at our next monthly meeting
- 2) Send a check by mail or otherwise, to Post Office Box 1491, Vero Beach Fl 32961-1491 marked "TREASURER"
- 3) Pay online using PayPal by going to our web site [indianriverphotoclub.org](http://indianriverphotoclub.org) .

If using the third option then you need to make sure you have your special password on hand so that you may enter the restricted web site page to make the payment.

Then on opening the web site, on the home page go to the bottom right hand corner where you will see an area headed "log in" .

Enter your e-mail address and then the password you received from us last year. As you type in your password IT WILL NOT BE VISIBLE, so be careful. If you want to re-set your password to a new password, you may do it at this time.

If all is well you will be allowed entry to the restricted pages. Then go to the **membership** tab at the top of the page and then click on "Members log-in and Renewal" .....and then pay! *It is that easy.....*

If you wish to, you could go directly to the Members log-in and Renewal Tab under **Membership** and you will be prompted for your password and e-mail.....then pay!

NO PASSWORD.....click on **Contact us** and ask for one.....we will generate one for you. This may take up to 24 hours!

# January Program - January 24th

## Adding your Photos to Elements

By Toni Hill

Toni's main focus is on digital photography and printmaking. Currently she is experimenting with using her photography in mixed media work.

TONI has an MFA in Computer Graphics from RIT and a BA from SUNY Geneseo, both in Western New York.

In the past, she has taught software applications at multiple colleges and is currently teaching Adobe CS6 at one of our State Colleges. Her curriculum also includes teaching Photoshop and Illustrator

together with the skills of design innovation.



Toni is also a freelance graphic designer, and undertakes some private tutoring. She is a member of The Sebastian River Art Club and the Sebastian Craft Club.

The program will cover the subjects below which comprise the basics for good photo-housekeeping.....do not miss this, the information is invaluable. You will enjoy this and go away enlightened.

- **Adding files to the Organizer**
- **Understanding Workspaces**
- **Using the Photo Downloader**
- **Creating an Album**



Indian River Photo Club Members  
Are Invited To Attend A

**" THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX "**



**Macro/Micro/Social Photography Event**  
**9:00 AM ~ Saturday ~ 26 January 2013**  
**At Riverside Park**

Five IRPC photographers are each sponsoring one picnic table.

The sponsors will each supply a box of items. Participants will choose items from the boxes and make an arrangement to photograph. You will photograph at each table. If you want help with your camera, they will be happy to do so. If you want to be left alone, they will do that.

One area will be set up for socializing. So, bring your coffee and be ready for a good time. Sign up (for forty member attendees) will be held at the January 24<sup>th</sup> club meeting.

Bring: **Camera(s)/Lens, Tripod, Folding Chair, Coffee**

Each participant will be asked to send a photo taken at the event along with a photo of them self (to be shown, in a slide show), at the February 21<sup>st</sup> club meeting. Please e-mail those **two** photos to:

**David Garrett at [643foto@comcast.net](mailto:643foto@comcast.net)**

**Deadline to submit is Saturday February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2013.**



## A Photographer's View – Nature Photography Class and Guided Park Tour - Jonathan Dickinson State Park -



**Hobe Sound, FL – January 19. 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**

Learn about photographing nature through the eyes of locally renowned photographers Bruce Bain and Durga Garcia.

Bruce Bain, the curator for the Jonathan Dickinson State Park Photo Gallery, teaches and presents at various locations in the Palm Beaches including the Norton Gallery. Bruce's photos have won awards for Best of Show and Best of Category in numerous galleries including the Lighthouse Art Center, Dennis Dean Gallery, and the Artist's Haven Gallery.

Durga Garcia, a well-known portrait photographer, is the curator of the Palm Beach Photographic Center Museum. Durga's photos of people and landscapes have also won numerous domestic and international awards.

"A Photographer's View" begins with a presentation of the photographic elements that inspire great images. The class continues with a guided walk and photoshoot at Hobe Mountain Observation Tower. Images from the photo shoot will then be presented and critiqued giving participants the benefit and experience of professional and peer reviews.

Proceeds from the event benefit the Friends of Jonathan Dickinson State Park, Inc., a community-based, non-profit organization. The Friends organization promotes the historical, educational, and ecological enhancement of Jonathan Dickinson State Park and is directly responsible for funding many park improvements.

**The four-hour program is \$25 per person and includes park entry, class instruction, and light breakfast and refreshments. Advanced payment and registration are requested.**

To register, please contact the park's Kimbell Center, 561-745-5551,  
or email [libby.reinert@dep.state.fl.us](mailto:libby.reinert@dep.state.fl.us).

Visit [www.floridastateparks.org/jonathadickinson](http://www.floridastateparks.org/jonathadickinson) for more information.

**The program will take place at Jonathan Dickinson State Park, Kimbell Education Center,  
16450 SE Federal Hwy, Hobe Sound, FL 33455.**



## Your New Baby, that Lovely New Lens

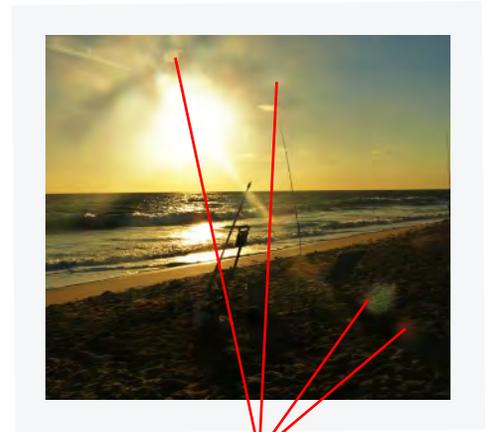


**M**any of us spend a great deal of money buying a camera and more often than not, we spend even more on buying a lens or two. Some lens cost ten times what the camera itself cost but do we spend enough time taking care of these costly and important pieces of equipment?

Often, however, we do not, and just as often we treat the lens with utter disrespect. Taking a casual glance at the lens, sort of inspecting it after use, and then shrugging and saying under our breath "looks OK to me"!

When we bought the lens, we considered many things prior to making the purchase. We dithered and contemplated until we were certain it was just what we wanted. Upon its arrival we treated it like a new baby. We oohed and ah'd and tested it thoroughly. It seemed to be quite "sharp" and gave us the photos we had dreamed of taking and felt we could now challenge the greatest in our photo club.

However, within quite a short while of using it, we felt that something might not be just as right as it was a month earlier. The shots seem to be a little off. What is causing this? We ponder. So we take off the lens cap and take a long look at the lens and lo and behold we have some dust and several finger prints on that special protective filter we so thoughtfully bought. At the time believing it was the complete answer to maintaining perfection in our images by keeping dust and finger prints or other matter away from the lens itself. Ooops, there are also a few nasties on the actual lens. How they got there in both instances is hard to fathom, but they are there.



*The flair circles are caused by dried water spots on the filter lens*

If it is a straight point and shoot camera which many of us use, the fact that this happens and we do not notice it, is simply explained. The camera usually auto closes so we tend not to look at the lens and notice the finger print mark or dust before the lens slides behind its cover. With our bigger cameras, we are often in a hurry to pack up and move on during the shoot, so we tend not to examine the lens when taking it off or changing it. We feel confident that we did not touch the lens and that there cannot be any dust around as the weather is so perfect.....so we don't bother looking for such nasty things. After all it does spend a lot of time in that lovely case it came in. It is safe for sure. What a mistake. We should make a point of treating that expensive lens like a baby. We change the diapers very frequently and we do not let the doo doo ripen on its aperture!

We should check our lens for smudges, prints and dust very frequently. This will ensure that we will get the sharpest images possible. Please remember that finger prints and smudges, as well as dust, can and do ripen. The result can be permanent damage to our lens coatings and there goes our precious baby.

Keep you lenses clean. It is a chore for sure. It does need to be done frequently, carefully and with great thought using the best tools and the proper techniques. So what do you need to have to do this chore? You will need:

Continued on page 7

- 1) An air blower.....not canned air but a squeezey hand held little puffer and not a mechanical blower either.
- 2) A camel-hair brush. The best quality you can buy and a good bushy one.
- 3) Lens tissue.....the real stuff not nose tissue or baby rear-end tissue..... some good micro fibre cloth is ideal.
- 4) Methyl alcohol. Not rubbing alcohol but methanol or wood alcohol. Rubbing alcohol contains water and smoothing solvents and can ruin your lens.



A squeezey

## So how do we do this?

Your camera lens has special coatings on it to maximize color saturation, contrast and color fidelity and to minimize flair. It is not just a bit of well polished ground glass.

Dust and smudges on the front lens element will diminish sharpness and contrast levels for sure but if those smudges are on the rear element you will really see a diminution of quality. You see, the rear lens element is the one that is responsible for projecting your image onto the camera's sensor, and if that lens is not clean your pictures are guaranteed not to be as sharp as you would like them to be.



A brush in pocket slip

The lens coatings can scratch very easily. If dust or fine particular matter is all that is degrading the lens surface then the matter can be resolved very easily. All you need to do is brush the lens very gently with a soft camel-hair brush. If you have one like I use, it is not only a camel-hair brush but also a squeezey that puffs air as you brush. A squeezey is a bulb type air blower. DO NOT use a pressurized canned air blower or a motor blower, and do not use a cleaning cloth at this stage.

Pressurized air blowers can blow the coating right off the lens, and grit, if wiped with a cloth will grind the surface as if you had used sand paper. After you have removed the dust etc. you will then be able to tackle the smudges, finger prints, water marks and other nasties. You will still need to be very gentle.

To start with use a micro fiber cloth or a piece of real lens tissue (folded not bunched up) and breathe onto the lens surface and very gently then wipe the lens using a circular motion. ( Your breath has a certain amount of ammonia in it and acts as a cleaning agent and lubricant....DO NOT SPIT ON THE LENS OR YOUR CLOTH). Never pour cleansing fluid onto any part of your camera but apply it to an absorbent material such as a micro fiber towelette first. Do not wipe in a straight line motion, i.e. backwards and forwards, and be very very gentle. Do this several times, if needed, until the surface is clean, but always do it at least twice and each time use a fresh lens tissue, or a clean section of a small micro fiber cloth. If this does not completely remove the offending crud, try dampening the micro fiber cloth or tissue with a few drops of methanol or wood alcohol based lens cleaning fluid and wipe again gently and only with a circular motion. Take your time, be gentle and do not put pressure onto the cloth and lens. That can cause frictional heat and damage your lens coating. Never use facial tissues, toilet paper, hand wipes (dry or moist), paper towels, polyester based cloth or other materials except "old clean white soft cotton"! Some cloth that maybe soft to our touch can be quite abrasive when used on coated glass such as your lens. Do not use rubbing alcohol, it contains water and lubricants.....it is not pure. It can damage the coatings.

Should your efforts not do the job, or perhaps gritty stuff is embedded in the smudges, then it is time to pass your problem onto professionally qualified technicians and let them find the solution. It could be costly, but it could also be less expensive than purchasing a new lens. Continued on page 8

If you notice that there are a few dust particles floating about in the area between the inner elements of your lens, they may not be of any importance as far as impact on your sharpness levels is concerned and should not warrant the trouble and expense of having your lens disassembled and cleaned. If they are in there, they must be very small, and usually do not append themselves to the lens, but float or adhere to the sidewalls.

It is often assumed that you can see dust in your camera's viewfinder, and yes you can, but that dust is not on your lens but more likely to be on your camera's mirror. Although these marks are of a distracting nature they rarely affect your picture quality. Now wait there.....do not go rushing off and take your lens off and start trying to clean your mirror. The camera mirror is a surface coated mirror, not a bathroom mirror with reflective material on the rear surface, which you can polish away at to improve your looks! Your camera mirror can be easily scratched with little effort on your part. Never try blasting any dust off it with a can of air or mechanical air machine. You will very likely pit or scar the surface or even dislodge the mirror. Also, do not use a vacuum, however small, for suction for the same reasons.



Lens cleansing kit

It is recommended should you try this cleansing, to just gently "puff" away the offending particles with a bulb type "squeezy" blower. Should that not do the trick then take or send your camera to someone trained to do this type of camera maintenance. Sure, dust on the mirror is annoying, but perhaps living with it is the easiest thing to do. Your picture quality will not be really affected.

If you have dust marks or blurry smudge-like marks that appear consistently on the same part of your images, then the cause of that is dust or otherwise on you imaging sensor. Should you wish to try to remove them on your own then the most drastic and least invasive action you *might* try (note "might") is this:



A good lens cleaning field kit

Remove the camera lens, and set the mirror lock to on. Hold the camera face downwards and then with the "squeezy" gently blow the offending substance away, keeping the camera facing down all the time.

If it (the problem) vanishes, all is well and good, but if it is stubborn then let a professional take care of it. Please remember that you must never blast, your lenses, your mirror or imaging sensor with canned air or a compressed air machine. Both can project water vapor or other projectile like impurities at high velocity and the force alone can tear at coatings leaving a worse mess than before you started.

Your lens is your baby, your camera your toddler and they both need loving care gently administered. Either way you have an investment in their now and their future.

## Your 2013 Club Board of Directors



Bill Menzies  
President



Mike Ricciardi  
Vice President



Donna Green  
2<sup>nd</sup> V. President



Stephanie Black  
Secretary



Crystal Samuel  
Treasurer



# The Museum Photo Print Competition 2012 - Awards



Nature's Giant by Anne Malsbury  
Honorable Mention Fauna



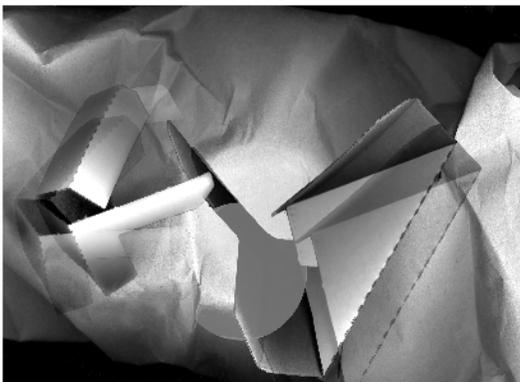
Homeless by David Garrett, First Place People



In The Still of The Night By Barbara du Pont  
Second Place Scapes



Chaos By David Garrett  
Honorable Mention  
Special Techniques



Butcher Paper & Corners By Besty McKean  
Second Place Special Techniques



Enlightened By George Bollis, First Place Fauna



# The Vero Museum Print Competition 2012 - Awards



Sewing Wild Oats by George Bollis  
First Place Still Life



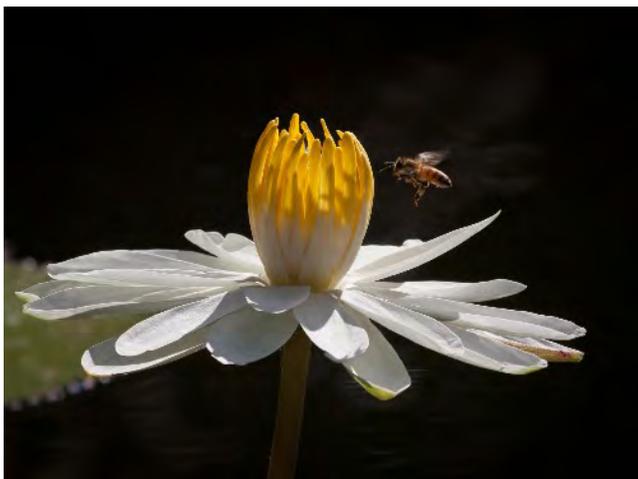
Wild Eyes by Kim Hunt, Third Place Fauna



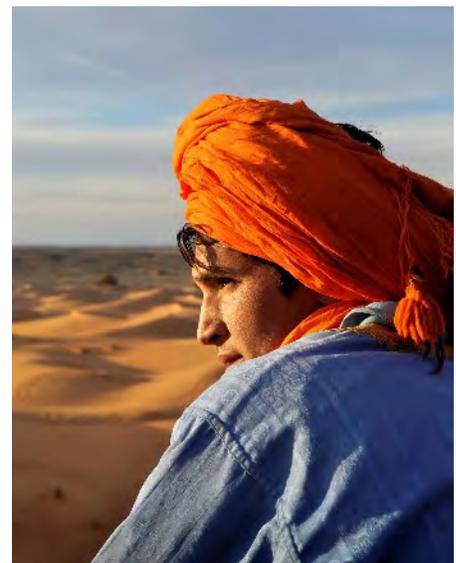
Beginning of a Beautiful Night By Liesl Walsh, First Place Scapes



Nautical Stains By Jim Cohoe  
Second Place Open



First Stop By JR Williams, First Place Flora



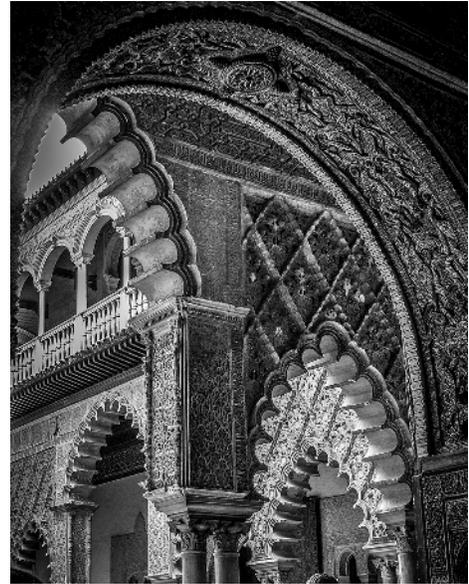
My Berber by Linda Badgley  
Second Place People



# The Museum Photo Print Competition 2012 - Awards



The Challenger By Linda Leonard  
Third Place People



Alhambra  
By Maria Heffernan  
First Place Open



Lemur Motherhood by Mary Lou Christie, Second Place Fauna



Christmas Underwater by Mike Ricciardi Second Place Flora



Stairway to.....  
By Nancy True  
Third Place Special Techniques



Doubly Blessed  
By Patty Corapi  
Third Place Open



# The Museum Photo Print Competition 2012 - Awards



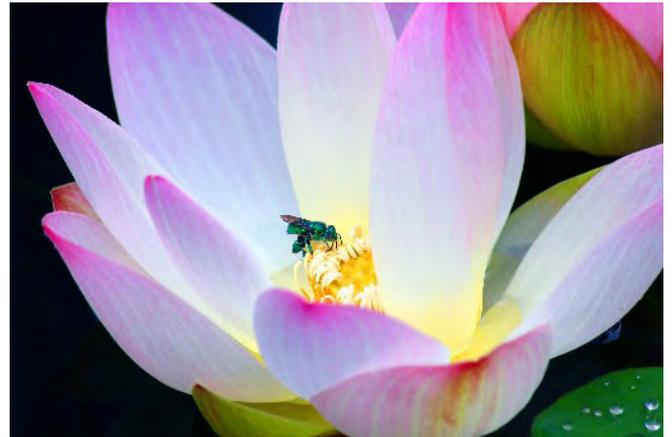
Dancing Ladies By Shelly Stang, Third Place Flora



Dawn on Lake by Susan Wright, Third Place Scapes



Peterson's Plates By Terri Wells  
Second Place Still Life



Green with Envy By Stephanie Black,  
Honorable Mention Flora



Dryad By Jeff Berger, First Place Special Techniques



Stripes By Terri Wells  
Honorable Mention Fauna



# The Museum Photo Print Competition 2012 - Awards



Nevada Fall and Vernal Fall in The High Sierra

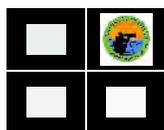
By Bob Strupat

Honorable Mention Scapes



Regeneration by Donna Green

Third Place Still Life



*The editors would like to include ALL the photographs which were selected for the Vero Beach Museum Print Exhibition.*

*However, we do not have copies of all the prints and request that those who were juried in let us have copies. This will also allow us to complete our archive and place them on the web site.*

## FOR SALE

### CANON CAMERA, 2 ZOOM LENSES, SPEEDLITE, CASE ETC

CONDITION - LIKE NEW IN ORIGINAL BOXES + INSTRUCTIONS, & SOFTWARE

RETAIL VALUE When Purchased NEW - \$6650.00

CAMERA BODY CANON EOS 5D

with

ZOOM LENS EF 24-70/2.8L USM with lens case and lens hood

ZOOM LENS 70-200/2.8L USM with lens case and lens hood

- *includes* wide strap, battery charger, battery pack,

- software for windows 98, XP, Mac 10.2-10.4

COMPACT FLASH 8GB and 4GB

CANON SPEEDLITE 270EX

CAMERA CASE which holds all of the above

The above camera equipment is offered through one of our members. It can be classed as "hardly used" and beyond their present day needs. The owner is presently out of town/country, but members who might be interested may contact this publication at [webmaster1491@gmail.com](mailto:webmaster1491@gmail.com) and your enquiries will be forwarded to the owner

# 7 Tips for Wonderful Wildflower Photos



Photo courtesy Henri Phillippe © 2012

Ralph Waldo Emerson once said, “The earth laughs in flowers,” and perhaps that’s part of why we feel so compelled to capture wildflower images come springtime. This spring, as you imbibe in earth’s “laughter” and photograph its “smiles” put these tips to use to collect better images:

## 1) MORNING SHOTS ARE BEST.

You’ll find flowers not only their freshest in the A.M., but you’ll also often find them covered in photo-enhancing dew. Take advantage of that gorgeous moisture, which sparkles just right in morning’s first light.

## 2) MAKE FRIENDS WITH FOG & MIST.

Spring mornings can prove unpredictable and the weather might coerce you to stay snuggled under the covers. But when that sweet golden sunshine is absent, instead of staying in bed grab your macro lens and capture the drama created by the added condensation.

## 3) WIND CAN BE YOUR FRIEND, TOO.

True, in blowing wind photographing small objects like flowers can prove frustrating, especially that in-and-out focus phenomenon. But, wind can actually work in your favor if you slow your shutter speed. Try it and watch as the flowers before you take on new personas. Yes, surprisingly, blur done well can be beautiful!

## 4) CREATE YOUR OWN SHADE WHEN HARSH LIGHT ABOUND.

The nice part about photographing flowers is they’re small enough to shade easily. That provides the flexibility which allows you to work even in harsh light. While early morning and dusk are still the best times for photography, flowers lend themselves to mid-day photo shoots better than many of nature’s other models.

## 5) GET ON YOUR SUBJECT’S LEVEL.

Wear your bum-around clothes when photographing flowers so you can get down and dirty to capture the intricate beauty of these beauties. Let yourself be a kid again (so what about those grass stains!) and hunker down to photograph your petaled subjects at their most interesting angles and viewpoints.

## 6) DON’T PUT YOUR MAIN FLOWER DEAD-CENTER IN THE FRAME.

Remember the rule of thirds? An off-center subject pleases the eye much more than one that’s centered. And don’t forget to apply the rule of thirds to patterns, colors, and empty space as well.

## 7) TIPTOE THROUGH THE TULIPS.

As you get lost in photographing the flora be sure to treat nature’s landscaping gently. To us wildflowers are objects of beauty, but to bees, butterflies, and other animals, flowers provide a means of survival. And the forbs themselves provide a means to perpetuate the species.

With the courtesy of and with thanks to .....©2013 – Jeff Parker ~ [www.ExploreInFocus.com](http://www.ExploreInFocus.com)



**Every year** we have one of the Best Blue Grass Festivals in the country right on our Doorstep.

The photo opportunities and character studies over the four days of the festival are quite fabulous and over the years many of our members have taken some stunning shots of the performers.

The venue is very basic but tented, and that leads to a great atmosphere. As a result the performers are loose and more than photogenic.

We suggest you contact the promoters prior to going if you wish to take some amazing photographs.



Please get permission from Keith & Darlene Bass, mentioning the Photo Club. If your request is accepted, perhaps offer them some samples of your work that could be used for promotional purposes. Members have been visiting the festival for many years. It is great to see your work promoting something local when you travel afield.

The weather is usually very good, the food is different, the sounds are American and the friendship is magnanimous. The entry fee is well worth it.....experience a true American Event with your seeing all camera.

Yeehaw Junction is just west of Vero on SR 60, and the entrance to the grounds are on the right hand side about a half mile west of the Florida Turnpike entrance, and 400 cow pats west of the traffic light at the junction with Highway 441. You cannot miss it.



Keith & Darlene Bass are a great couple who have worked stoically over the years to make this Blue Grass Festival one of the best in the United States with artists and visitors traveling from all over

North America to enjoy great American Music.

Darlene Bass.....863-634-5815



<http://www.yeehawbluegrass.com/>