



# the Viewfinder

the Newsletter of the Syosset Camera Club

Volume 33 Number 9 May 2004

## Sure It's Art, But Is It Photography

The Viewfinder can serve as a good medium for discussion of issues related to photography. That can only work if the Editor receives your viewpoints. Perhaps this editorial will stimulate some debate. Please send your comments to [barryg@gbronline.com](mailto:barryg@gbronline.com).

**Photography:** *The art or process of producing images by the action of light on surfaces sensitized by chemical processes.* OK, perhaps that definition is in need of modernization. Eliminating the part that specifies the process still leaves us with a procedure that produces images by the action of light. Those images are by nature, a representation of the real world from which the light was reflected.

The question of whether or not Photography is an art form was settled generations ago. Similarly the question of whether digital photography is actually photography has been settled by fiat.

Photographs become art when they portray reality in a way that connects with our sensibilities. This can happen in a number of ways. One-way is when we capture a "slice of life;" A moment in time that conveys the subjective meaning and the essence of the subject. Another way is to capture scenes from nature that recall our own visual experiences through the rendering of tonality, texture and perspective. When images are distorted through computer editing, they continue to be art, but whether or not they qualify as photographs depends upon the degree of distortion. When an image departs from reality to the point of not being recognizable, it is no longer an image made by the action of light in the spirit of the definition. In my opinion therefore, it departs from photography. What is your opinion? Please send your comments to [barryg@gbronline.com](mailto:barryg@gbronline.com).

## Digital Help Line

It has been suggested that a list of digital cameras and their owners be compiled and published in the Viewfinder, so that members can request help from other members who have the same camera. If there is sufficient participation, the editor will maintain the list and publish it on a regular basis. If you are willing to be included, Please send the name and model of your camera with your phone number or email address to [barryg@gbronline.com](mailto:barryg@gbronline.com).

## Photography Through The Eyes Of A Teenager

Several of us recently had the privilege of participating as evaluators at a photography exhibit. The exhibit was the work of High School students held at Five Towns College. The degree of technical competence of the students

### Officers

#### President

**Sy Roth**  
516-433-2516

#### Vice President

**Aileen Harrison**  
516-938-6769

#### Second VP

**Bill Schmidt**  
631-266-3354

#### Treasurer

**Carol Greenberg**  
516-674-6056

#### Secretary

**Judy Ruderman**  
516-935-8742

#### Programs

**Mel Wachspress**

#### Judges

**Moshe Markewitz**

#### Membership & Records

**Orrin Edwards**

#### Exhibits

**Gerald Harrison**  
**Aileen Harrison**

#### PFLI Delegate

**Sy Roth**

#### Publicity

**Gerald Harrison**  
**Aileen Harrison**

#### Olympus Liaison

**Mel Wachspress**  
**Moshe Markewitz**

#### Viewfinder Editor

**Barry Goldstein**  
[barryg@gbronline.com](mailto:barryg@gbronline.com)

was quite variable, but the impact and maturity of the majority of the work was indeed impressive. After having viewed the work of these students, I feel somewhat challenged. It is refreshing to see the world through the eyes of a teenager. The next time you look through the viewfinder of your camera, try thinking like a teenager. Perhaps your work will acquire a new look.

## April Competition Results

Judged by Art Inselsberger

### Black & White Prints "A"

Print Of The Month- **Barry Goldstein**  
Eight- Orrin Edwards, Moshe Markewitz

### Black & White Prints "B"

Print Of The Month- **Bill Schmidt**  
Nine- Bill Bowie, Alan Ross

### Color Prints Class "A"

Print Of The Month- **Alan Agdern**  
Nine- Moshe Markewitz  
Eight- Gerald Harrison, Orrin Edwards, Sy Roth

### Color Prints Class "B"

Print Of The Month- **Aileen Harrison**  
Nine- Bill Schmidt, Jerome Sax, Ira Sunshine, Alan Ross, Ira Scheinerman  
Eight- Peter Metzger, Barry Goldstein

### Color Slides Class "A"

Slide Of The Month- **Ramish Patwa**  
Eight- Stan Rothman, Orrin Edwards, Annette Fox, Eugene Fox

### Color Slides Class "B"

Slide of the Month- None

## Photos Wanted

In case you didn't get the email, Annette Scarpa is looking for nature photos to use in illustrating words for an educational video for toddlers. The videos are marketed under the Da Vinci Baby Company trademark, a company founded by the Scapas. Any photos that are used will be given a credit in the published product. For more information, please email Annette Scarpa at [netchin@optonline.net](mailto:netchin@optonline.net)

## The Future of Film

We have heard that Kodak will not be developing (pardon the pun) new films. A letter to a Kodak customer however, contradicts that news release. Here in edited form, is that letter.

*Dear Photographer,*

*. . . . . I want to avoid any potential misunderstanding about Kodak's commitment to traditional film photography . . . . Kodak remains committed to film, photographic paper, and traditional photography now and in the future. In fact, we will aggressively defend our leadership positions in film and paper. . . . . At the upcoming Photographic Marketing Association meeting in Las Vegas next month, we will introduce four exciting new consumer films and one-time-use cameras and four new films and papers for professional photographers and professional labs. We will introduce a number of new digital products and services as well. These products, and more like them in our product roadmaps, underscore our commitment to photography. . . . .*

*Best regards,*

*Bernard Masson President Digital & Film Imaging Systems Eastman Kodak Company*

## Finally, A Rangefinder Digital Camera With Interchangeable Lenses

Epson has announced the R-D1 'Rangefinder Digital Camera'. This is the first digital rangefinder camera, the result of collaboration between Epson and Cosina. The camera supports Leica M mount and L mount lenses with an adapter and has a six-megapixel APS size sensor with an image size of 3008 x 2000 pixels. If you



## Senior Moment

By Carol Goldstein

"Your finger's on the lens again!"  
That's what he said to me.  
I've had this camera for twelve  
years. Is this senility?  
Of the twenty-four pictures on the  
roll,  
I messed up only two.  
When I used my old box brownie,  
I never obstructed the view!!

are rangefinder camera fan and want something beyond a point and shoot, this one looks like it might be worth waiting for. Unfortunately, there is no release date or price at this time.

## Name the Camera

### This month's mystery camera



This is a 35mm “plain vanilla” camera for beginners made from 1950 through 1954. It is a pure American made camera. The lens is a Kodak coated Anaston 51mm F4.5 that collapses inside the body. The shutter is not self-cocking. Focusing is by a rotation of the lenses front element after first measuring or estimating the camera to subject distance. The body is all-plastic. The shutter is a Kodak Flash 200 with speeds form 1/25 - 1/200sec. There is a flash terminal attached to the lens barrel. After each exposure, one must move a lever to permit film advance and then manually cock the shutter for the next exposure. By any standard, this is a crude device, but in the eyes of someone advancing from a Brownie or other camera with no adjustments, it represented a leap forward. Many a teenager drooled over this one in the drug store window. Care to take a guess. Please contact [barryg@gbonline](mailto:barryg@gbonline) with your answer.

#### Reminder

The annual Awards Dinner will be June 18. Please make your \$42 check payable to the Syosset Camera Club and give it to Aileen or Gerry at a membership meeting.

*Ticket availability is on a first come basis.*

### Last month's mystery camera

The camera shown last month is a Dollina Super Sport of 1935 vintage. Although the light meter is not much better than a guess, it was the best technology of the time and is a quality camera all the way, from the Tessar lens to the Deckel shutter. The f 2.8 maximum aperture is fast for a 75 mm lens, Which is why the camera was used by many newspaper photographers of the time.

***Looking for a used camera or wish to sell one? Before going to Ebay, try the Viewfinder. We will be happy to run personal ads for members who wish to buy or sell used equipment***

## New Batteries and Fast Chargers

If you are buying new batteries for your flash or digital camera, consider one of the new versions of NiMh batteries that are available. The Ray-O-Vac 15 min. recharge battery that was mentioned in the viewfinder a few months ago is now available at Radio Shack under the name of I-C<sup>3</sup> (In-Cell Charge Control). There are two chargers available: a 2-cell charger and one that handles up to four AA or AAA cells. Regular NiMH and NiCad type cells can also be charged but their use turns the charger into a slow, overnight trickle charger. The chargers have a built in fan to keep the temperature manageable.

Duracell has a new AA battery with 2050 mAh that charges in 30 minutes with their new charger. The next fastest charger is the Lenmar “Mach1 Gamma Speed Charger.” It charges one to four NiMh AA or AAA cells. The charger works on a patented ‘NeoTherm active pulse speed charging’ technology. The batteries remain cool thanks to pulse charging and a built-in cooling fan that runs during the charge cycle. Approx. charge times: 55 min for 1600mAh, 60 min for 1800mAh, 65 min for 2000mAh.

## Storage Solutions

Computer storage capacity is becoming a serious issue, as digital cameras continue to increase their pixel count and resultant file size. At the same time, higher capacity cards are encouraging more photos between downloads. It is now possible to buy cards with up to 4 gigabytes of capacity if money is no object.

An obvious solution is to increase the size of the hard drive in your computer or to add a second hard drive dedicated to storage of image files. With the availability of hard drives that connect to the computer via USB cable, this is no longer a solution for experts only. A less expensive way, and one that provides for backup when the inevitable hard disk crash occurs, is the use of CD's and DVD's for file storage. You will of course need a CD or DVD drive on your computer that has both read and write ability.

Recordable CD's with 650 MB+ of storage capacity are a good option for saving those storage hungry image files. DVD's are even better in terms of capacity, holding 4.7 Gigabytes (4,700 MB). A 650 MB disc can hold about 60,000 average JPEGs. Prototypes are now available from Pioneer, Philips, and Mitsubishi that have two recording layers. By adjusting the focus of the laser beam each layer can be targeted without disrupting data on the other. This allows for up to 8.5 GB of data to be stored on a single-sided disc. Dual-layer discs are already supported under the DVD-Video format and some commercial videodiscs already use the format. If you've seen a momentary pause in the middle of a DVD movie that's likely the player switching from layer one to layer two. According to a recent article in PC World, we can expect 50 GB discs within the next two years.

## **In Search Of A New Home**

All good things must come to an end. Our love affair with the beautiful Olympus facility was relatively short lived- About five years. As you may know, Olympus America is leaving Long Island in 2006 for a new home in Eastern Pennsylvania. Fortunately, we will be able to use their facilities until our last meeting in September 2006. Please contact any officer of the Club with any suggestions you may have regarding a possible meeting place for the future.

*Moshe*

## **Bulletin Board**

Sunday April 25, 2004, starting 9:30 am, **Canon and PFLI presents** Jack Reznicki, Joyce Tenneson and Rick Sammon, at the C. W. Post Hillwood Commons, Route 25a, Greenvale, \$25 PER PERSON For more information contact Sid Goldstein at 516-731-6380. **Tickets are available from Sy Roth.**

6/1-7/29/04, **"Print and Photograph Portfolios"** Emily Lowe Gallery, Lowe Hall, Hofstra University

**International Center of Photography**, "Only Skin Deep; Changing Visions of the American Self." 1133 Ave of the Americas at 43rd St. (212) 768-4682. Adm. \$8, Students/Senior \$6.

Visit **phototakers.com** on the web for photography discussion and inspiration. Also, visit the websites of Alan Agdern, Orrin Edwards, Frank Iraggi and Maurice Yohai available as links from the club website.

Friday April 30, 2004, **Annual Photography Exhibit**, 3:00-5:00 pm at the Plainview Library

Sunday April 25, 2004, Jack Resnicki, Rich Sammon and Joyce Tenneson. Program starts at 9:30 AM at the C.W. Post Hillwood Commons, Rt. 25A, Greenvale.

Sunday May 2, 2004, Huntington Tulip Festival, 11AM-4PM Hecksher Park. Entry deadline for photo contest is 7/31/04, \$650 in prizes.

**Don't forget Sunday 8 am at the On Parade Diner**