



# The Viewfinder

the Newsletter of the Syosset Camera Club

Volume 37 Number 8

April 2006

## President's Message *Aileen*

Surprise, surprise, never thought Medicare would give us a paid vacation in Florida. At least we managed to cover every bird sanctuary on the east coast of Florida and some interesting spots in Georgia, before the fit hit the shan. Will have lots of pictures when we get home. Will try to keep you all informed.

Editor's note- the interest in Gerry's status has been overwhelming, so please get back here as fast as you can Aileen and Gerry.

### PFLI COMPETITION SCORES FOR FEBRUARY

Judges- J. Senzatimore, E. Sambolin, R. Caldwell

#### Black & White A

Marty Silverstein	'Snow Leopard'	25
Alan Agdern	'Flower 16'	23
Barry Goldstein	'Illuminated Tree'	22
Robert Glick	'The Great Estate'	22

#### Black & White B

Matthew Tropper	'Night Train'	23
Peter Metzger	'Recess Is Over'	23
Carol Goldstein	'Succulent'	22
Mike Kaplow	'The Little Volunteer'	22

#### Color A

Peter Metzger	'New Orleans Plantation'	24
Sy Roth	'Golf Course From 11E'	24
Gerald Harrison	'Rainbow In South America'	23
Alan Ross	'The Street Gypsy'	22
Peter Newman	'The Groomer In A Shower'	22
Ramesh Patwah	'Thunderous Waterfall'	22
Robert Glick	'Bad Hair Day'	22

#### Color B

Ed Starling	'Kerala Haye Boat'	24
Marty Silverstein	'Alan's Bloom'	24
Aileen Harrison	'Waiting Patiently'	23
Loretta Lloyd	'Hawkeye'	23
Matthew Tropper	'Bird At Beach'	23
Barry Goldstein	'Sleepy Day'	22

#### Slides A

Ramesh Patwah	'Monument Valley'	22
Ramesh Patwah	'Fall Colors'	22

#### Slices B

Linda Volin	'Rocky Mountain High'	22
Linda Volin	'Beyond The Trees'	21

## Letters

I want to add my thoughts to the editorial (a section reproduced here) that Barry expressed in the March issue of the Viewfinder.

*It was not very long ago that the understanding of the term "Amateur Photographer" included the developing, printing and presentation of photographs. To produce a photograph, one had to understand the elements of exposure and the mechanics of the camera and related equipment. One had to mix chemicals, control temperatures and master the techniques of handling emulsions in total darkness. Even the process of drying the print was not straightforward. A well executed image was not uncommonly, the result of many hours of work in the darkroom. The modern digital camera has automated everything short of selecting the subject and it even has "modes" to help you take it. It seems that the working definition of Amateur Photographer needs some work. But then again, we are just a Camera Club*

It is somehow difficult to understand why any serious photographer would want to replace prints with digital projected images. One thing seems to surface and that is that those planning it are pushed by computer

## Meeting Schedule

POB Community Center  
Meetings start at 7:30 pm  
[http- //www.syossetcc.org](http://www.syossetcc.org)

### March

3/23 Presentation by Bill Schmidt

### April

4/6 Competition judged by Barry Kurek

4/20 Presentation by Ivan Rothman, The Falkland Islands

4/27 Theme Competition "Architecture" Judged by Dave Green

### May

5/11 Competition judged by Art Inselsberger

5/18 Presentation by Tom Mantana, "Travel."

5/25 End of Year Competition judged by Mel Ettinger, Sherman Paur and Andrew Kurchey

### June

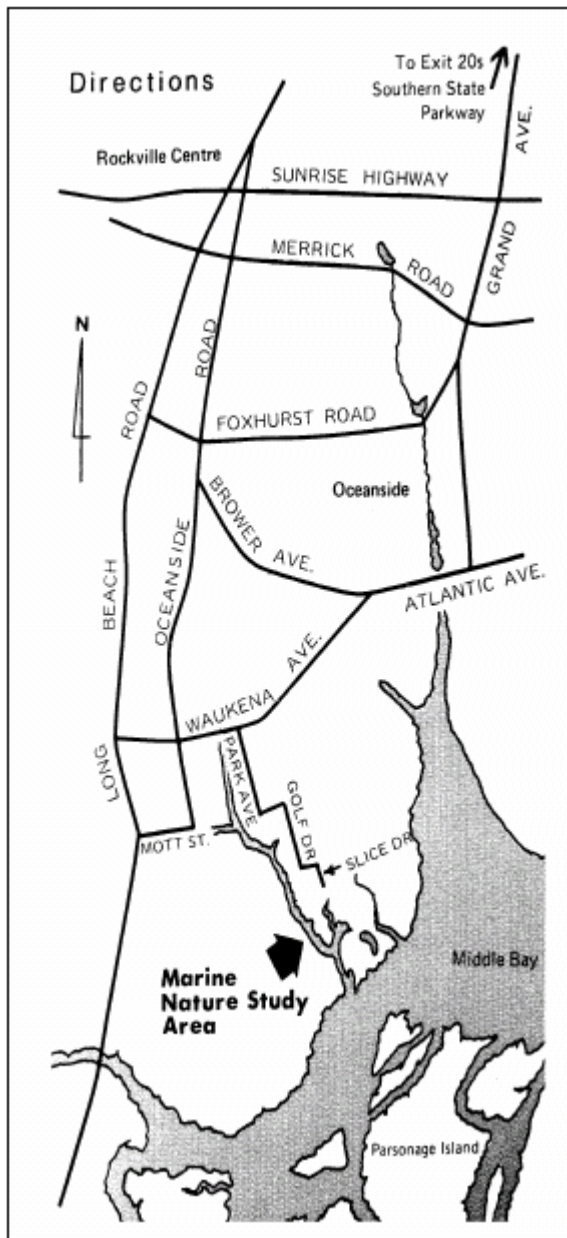
6/16 end of year Honors Award Dinner at the Milleridge Inn 6/16

technocrats and some engineering members of the PLFI. Those of us who became photographers through the darkroom and who have respect for the print, will be lost and feel very uncomfortable. Will this process eliminate camera clubs since one can e-mail an image for competition which might not even be his or her photograph? I hope that there will be more thought and exploration before implementing this concept.  
*Moshe*

First Light Photography is pleased to announce an exciting season of photographic Workshops and Safaris for 2006. For more details on our exciting workshops and Safaris for 2006, go to [www.firstlightphotography.com](http://www.firstlightphotography.com)

There was an interesting article in the NY Times regarding street photography. Check it out at <http://www.nytimes.com/pages/arts/index.html>

### Field trip to the Marine Nature Study Area



For those who love nature photography, birds or just getting up early, there will be a special opportunity on May 6 at the Marine Nature Study Area in Oceanside. Bill Overton, one of the Biologist in charge of the facility will open the gate for us at 6:00 am. It is important to be there promptly, because he will lock the gate behind us to insure that we have an undisturbed access.

Make sure you bring a tripod and a telephoto lens. If you have a zoom lens that goes to 200mm or more and a digital conversion factor of 1.5, you will be OK for the majority of photo opportunities. If you have a tele-extender, all the better. Even without a telephoto lens, there are some birds that are less shy than others and will let you get reasonably close. In particular, there is a now famous egret called

## Officers & Appointees

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*Robert Glick*
  - Judges**  
*Moshe Markewitz*
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*Bill Bowie*
  - Records**  
*Barry Goldstein*
  - Exhibits**  
*Gerald Harrison*  
*Aileen Harrison*
  - Field Trips**  
*Alan Agdern*
  - PFLI Delegate**  
*Al Herbst*
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*Marty Silverstein*
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*Linda Volin*
  - Competition**  
*Barry Goldstein*
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*Barry Goldstein*
  - Webmaster**  
*Ed Starling*
- SCC Officers may be contacted by using the link in [www.svossetcc.org](http://www.svossetcc.org)



Finger Lickin, that will allow you to get as close as you like. You should be able to get some photos of the Osprey that will have returned to the Nature Study Area by May 6.

**Reminder- The competition previously scheduled for April 13 was changed to April 6<sup>th</sup> to avoid a conflict with the Passover holiday. The Board meeting will be rescheduled.**

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### **Photo Exhibition**

"Snap Judgments: New Positions in Contemporary African Photography" continues through May 28 at the International Center of Photography, 1133 Avenue of the Americas, at 43rd Street, (212) 857-0000 or [www.icp.org](http://www.icp.org).

### **Preliminary End of Year Standings and Competition Rules**

This years crop of photographers are causing a close race for end of year honors in many categories. Here's how it's done.

The best single score for each category in each competition is used to find the High Avg. Awards for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, & 3<sup>rd</sup>. We do this by using the highest single score in each of six competitions. Those high scores are used to determine the end of year standings. The highest total score of 6 monthly high scores in each category and class gets first place. If a tie exists, the 7th, 8th, and 9th monthly high score will be used until the tie is broken. If a tie still exists after the 9<sup>th</sup> competition, the scores for the member's second highest monthly entries will be used until the tie is broken or the competition chairman drops.

<b>High Score Standings as of March '06</b>			
	<b>Cumm. Score</b>	<b>7th Highest Score</b>	<b>Cumm. With Tie Breakers</b>
<b>B&amp;W PRINTS - A</b>			
Glick, Robert	54	8	62
Silverstein, Marty	54	8	62
Agdern, Alan	51		51
<b>B&amp;W PRINTS- B</b>			
Tropper, Mat	53		53
Scheinerman, Ira	49		49
Lloyd, Loretta	48		48
<b>COLOR PRINTS- A</b>			
Glick, Robert	54	9	63
Roth, Sy	54	9	63
<b>COLOR PRINTS- B</b>			
Silverstein, Marty	54	9	63
Tropper, Mat	54	8	62
Starling, Edward	52		52
<b>SLIDES- A</b>			
Patwa, Ramesh	53		53
<b>SLIDES- B</b>			
Volin, Linda	50		50
Volin, Stanley	44		44

The following table lists the highest scores for those members who have had entries in at least 6 competitions as of the March competition.

It has been suggested that the scoring system be changed so that we maintain the minimum of 6 competition but instead of using only the high scores we use the average score or total of all scores.

For example: If a member scores 7, 8, and 9 and another member scores 6,8, and 9, under the current rules there is a tie at that point because only the high score of each competition counts, hence they each get 9. Under the proposed averaging system, the first score would be 8.00; and the other would be 7.66 and there is a clear winner. This issue will be discussed at the next Board meeting. It would be helpful to have as much member input as possible.

**Please forward your comments to the Viewfinder or to any Board member.**

### Photography Gold Rush

From the NY Times, Friday February 17, ,2006. By Randy Kennedy ; Leisure/Weekend Desk

Photography has had "it" moments before - times when the comfortably concrete



facts of the marketplace signaled to curators, dealers and photographers that the medium had finally arrived, fully embraced by the world of fine art and serious collecting. In 1981, a huge print of Ansel Adams's famous "Moonrise, Hernandez New Mexico" sold in Los Angeles for \$71,500. Last year a Richard Prince photograph sold for \$1.2 million at Christie's. Recently Sotheby's announced the sale of "The Pond-Moon Light," a platinum print for \$3 million. Another six-figure sale (\$3,000,000) took place during the week of February 27, for Alfred Stieglitz's "Hands."

## The Human Side of Leitz

The following article from a Milwaukee newspaper about 6 years ago, Was forwarded to us independently by Carol Greenberg and Stan Rothman.

### Competition Results 3/9/06

Judged by Dick Hunt

#### Black and White Class A

##### Nines

Robert Glick- Print of the Month

Alan Agdern

##### Eights

Marty Silverstein

#### Black and White Class B

##### Nine

Mat Tropper- Print of the Month

##### Eights

Jules Weisler

Loretta Lloyd

Al Herbst

#### Color Prints Class A

##### Nines

Peter Metzger- Print of the Month

Alan Agdern

Robert Glick

##### Eights

Bill Bowie

Moshe Markewitz

Ramesh Patwa

Bill Schmidt

#### Color Prints Class B

##### Nines

Mat Tropper- Print of the Month

Barry Goldstein

Stan Rothman

Marty Silverstein

Ed Starling

Ira Sunshine

##### Eights

Carol Goldstein

Al Herbst

Loretta Lloyd

Maylan Monahan

Ira Scheinerman

Jules Weisler

#### Color Slides Class A

##### Eight

Ramesh Patwa- Slide of the Month

#### Color Slides Class B

##### Eight

Linda Volin- Slide of the Month

The Leica is the pioneer 35mm camera. From a nitpicking point of view, it wasn't the very first still camera to use 35mm movie film, but it was the first to be widely publicized and successfully marketed. It created the "candid camera" boom of the 1930s. It is a German product - precise, minimalist, utterly efficient. Behind its worldwide acceptance as a creative tool was a family-owned, socially oriented firm that, during the Nazi era, acted with uncommon grace, generosity and modesty.

E. Leitz Inc., designer and manufacturer of Germany's most famous photographic product, saved its Jews and Ernst Leitz II, the steely eyed Protestant patriarch who headed the closely held firm as the Holocaust loomed across Europe, acted in such a way as to earn the title, "the photography industry's Schindler." As George Gilbert, a veteran writer on topics photographic, told the story at last week's convention of the Leica Historical Society of America in Portland, Ore., Leitz Inc., founded in Wetzlar in 1869, had a tradition of enlightened behavior toward its workers. Pensions, sick leave, health insurance - all were instituted early on at Leitz, which depended for its work force upon generations of skilled employees - many of whom were Jewish.

When Adolph Hitler was named chancellor of Germany in 1933, Ernst Leitz II began receiving frantic calls from Jewish associates, asking for his help in getting them and their families out of the country. As Christians, Leitz and his family were immune to Nazi Germany's Nuremberg laws, which restricted the movement of Jews and limited their professional activities. To help his Jewish workers and colleagues, Leitz quietly established what has become known among historians of the Holocaust as "the Leica Freedom Train," a covert means of allowing Jews to leave Germany in the guise of Leitz employees being assigned overseas. Employees, retailers, family members, even friends of family members were

"assigned" to Leitz sales offices in France, Britain, Hong Kong and the United States. Before long, German "employees" were disembarking from the ocean liner Bremen at a New York pier and making their way to the Manhattan office of Leitz Inc., where executives quickly found them jobs in the photographic industry. The refugees were paid a stipend until they could find work. Out of this migration came designers, repair technicians, salespeople, marketers and writers for the photographic press. Keeping the story quiet The "Leica Freedom Train" was at its height in 1938 and early 1939, delivering groups of refugees to New York every few weeks. Then, with the invasion of Poland on Sept. 1, 1939, Germany closed its borders. By that time, hundreds of endangered Jews had escaped to America, thanks to the Leitz's efforts. How did Ernst Leitz II and his staff get away with it?

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Leitz Inc. was an internationally recognized brand that reflected credit on the newly resurgent Reich. The company produced range-finders and other optical systems for the German military. Also, the Nazi government desperately

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needed hard currency from abroad, and Leitz's single biggest market for optical goods was the United States. Even so, members of the Leitz family and firm suffered for their good works. A top executive, Alfred Turk, was jailed for working to help Jews and freed only after the payment of a large bribe.

Leitz's daughter, Elsie Kuhn-Leitz, was imprisoned by the Gestapo after she was caught at the border, helping Jewish women cross into Switzerland. She eventually was freed but endured rough treatment in the course of questioning. She also fell under suspicion when she attempted to improve the living conditions of 700 to 800 Ukrainian slave laborers, all of them women, who had been assigned to work in the plant during the 1940s.



**"Your x-ray showed a broken rib, but we fixed it with Photoshop."**

(After the war, Kuhn-Leitz received numerous honors for her humanitarian efforts, among them the Officier d'honneur des Palms Academique from France in 1965 and the Aristide Briand Medal from the European Academy in the 1970s.

Why has no one told this story until now? According to the late Norman Lipton, a freelance writer and editor, the Leitz family wanted no publicity for its heroic efforts. Only after the last member of the Leitz family was dead did the "Leica Freedom Train" finally come to light. It is now the subject of a book, "The Greatest Invention of the Leitz Family: The Leica Freedom Train," by Frank Dabba Smith, a California-born rabbi currently living in England.

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## Theme Competition Results "Eyes" Judged by Arnold Brower

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### **Color Prints- Class A**

Robert Glick- Print of the Month

### **Eights**

Moshe Markewitz

Ramesh Patwa

Alan Ross

### **Color Prints- Class B**

Ken Eastman- Print of the Month

### **Nines**

Charles Hollander

Ira Scheinerman

Marty Silverstein

### **Eights**

Al Herbst

Richard Nussbaum

Edward Starling

Ira Sunshine

Mat Tropper

### **Black and White- Class A**

### **Nines**

Robert Glick- Print of the Month

Marty Silverstein

### **Eights**

Moshe Markewitz

Ramesh Patwa

### **Black and White- Class B**

Jules Weisler- Print of the Month

### **Eight**

Al Herbst

**Note: Theme competition scores are not counted for the purpose of end of year high score standings.**

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Nikon D70s Body	<b>\$829.99</b>	Pantone ColorPlus	<b>\$99.99</b>
Nikon D2X Body		Giotto Pocket Rocket Cleaning Kit	
(\$500 Rebate)	<b>\$4599.99</b>		<b>\$19.99</b>

## Digital Photography 101

Monday January 30th - 6:30pm - 8:30pm Amityville Store  
Monday February 13th - 6:30pm - 8:30pm Syosset Store  
Monday February 27th - 6:30pm - 8:30pm Amityville Store  
Monday March 13th - 6:30pm - 8:30pm Syosset Store  
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**Class Fee: \$50 or FREE with camera purchase**

**SUMMARY:** This 2 hour class will cover the basics of the exciting new world of digital photography. This course is geared toward new owners of Digital SLRs and Point-N-Shoot Digital cameras.  
**TOPICS INCLUDE:** Digital Photography Terms, Camera functions, Resolution and Compression, White Balance, Shooting Techniques, Storage and Archiving, E-mailing Your Photos, Getting the Best Possible Print and Fun ideas for using your photos!

Digital 101 is held every 2nd Monday at our Syosset Store and every 4th Monday at our Amityville Store, unless noted

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