

# Essex Photo News

December  
2006



Our 57th Season

SPECIAL SUBJECTS:  
PICTORIAL-FENCES & NATURE-WEATHER

## DIRECTORY OF OFFICERS

President ..... JoAnn Tucker  
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Delegate-At-Large...Caroline Ades

Newsletter Editor:  
Nancy McMurtrie .. (973-239-4843)

## NJFCC Print Competition

At the Monmouth Camera Club on October 26, 2006, Leslie Hill won an Award of Merit for "A Romantic Rose".

## PHOTO FARE:

"Right Around Home: A New Jersey Sampler" - that's the title for the season's 2<sup>nd</sup> Photo Fare booked for Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> At

7:45PM at the home of Joe Thomas. Attendance is limited to nine people and you will find a signup sheet available at



the information desk at the Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> meeting, or you can call Joe Thomas @ (973-239-5192). If you do sign up and can't make it, call in advance in case there is a waiting list. In contrast with the opening program in this series, which was instructional, this program will provide information and photos on some of this state's photographic hot spots. A dollar tossed in the kitty covers the refreshments that will be served.

## SPECIAL SUBJECTS COMPETITION ON DECEMBER 21ST BE READY WITH ENTRIES ON DECEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup> by Howard Knauer

Well folks, it's assigned subject time. As we do each year, at our second December meeting we have our Christmas party and the members get to judge the assigned subjects. Time is getting short, but you still have time to get out there and capture the winner.

As a reminder, this year the assigned subjects that you voted for this spring are, "Fences" and "Weather". We are usually pretty liberal in our interpretations, but the subject of the photograph should clearly be representative of the category.

Here are some other things to keep in mind. You may submit 2 prints and 2 slides for each subject. The photos should have been taken this year, and "Weather" is a "nature" category (photograph should not contain anything that derives from the hand of man). Prints must be at least 5x7 and mounted. A difference from monthly competitions is that there is a single print category for each subject. (REFER TO EPC PHOTO RULES FOR DETAILS)

At our next meeting, 12/7/06 you must hand in your slides and provide the names of the prints. This gives us a chance to make up the voting slips. The actual prints are to be brought in on Dec. 21<sup>st</sup>, the night of the competition. Good Luck!

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## AH, THE TRIPOD

Nature Photographer Timothy Edberg

Nobody, but nobody likes to carry one. Yet nothing, but nothing, will improve your photography as much. The tripod is the single most important camera accessory most photographers can have. The most obvious advantage is that it gives your camera a stable mount from which you can use any shutter speed, no matter how slow. For slow shutter speeds, be sure to use a remote release to trip your shutter; you are wasting the stability of the tripod if you push the button with your finger. Another, less obvious, but very important utility to the tripod is that it lets you study the scene through the viewfinder and contemplate what you really want to capture. You can scan the edges of the frame for distracting elements, you can ponder the position of your main subject of interest, and finally you can get a feel for the balance and flow of the image. None of this can you do when the viewfinder image is jiggling around with a hand-held camera.

<http://www.edbergphoto.com/pages/Tip-tripod.html>

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## OUR COMPETITION ON DECEMBER 7TH

The judge will be Tibor Vari of both the Ridgewood and Teaneck camera clubs.

## RIDGEWOOD INTERNATIONAL

Entry forms for the Ridgewood International Salon, one of the most prestigious PSA-sanctioned salons in the U.S. are currently being distributed to slide and digital shooters in Essex Photo Club by our contact person, Joe Thomas. This is the first year that digital projection images can be submitted, according to new rules drafted by Ridgewood and explained on their entry form.

As you may remember from the past, EPC members are given a \$2.00 entry fee discount because entries from members are submitted as a package. Members may submit up to four images in the main slide/digital section and four others in the Special Theme category, where the themes are "structures" and/or "patterns". We encourage as many members as possible to enter because, for the past decade, Ridgewood has juggled its schedule to include Essex among the clubs where the outstanding entries from around the world are shown.

The showing, a rousing two-projector program set to music, is booked for March 1<sup>st</sup> this year. It includes a special section in which images from New Jersey entrants are featured. It has always been a thrill to see the work of some of our own members get recognition, not only here but also at the five other New Jersey clubs where the program is shown.

## WEBSITE OF THE MONTH

By Nath Kaplan

Do you get Popular Photography, Outdoor Photographer, or any other photography magazine? Did you know that all of the top magazines have web pages that are chock full of articles and information? The next time you get a photography magazine, check to see if they have a website. You might be pleasantly surprised. Here are five magazine web pages to visit.

Popular Photography

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

Outdoor Photographer

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

Shutterbug

<http://www.shutterbug.net/>

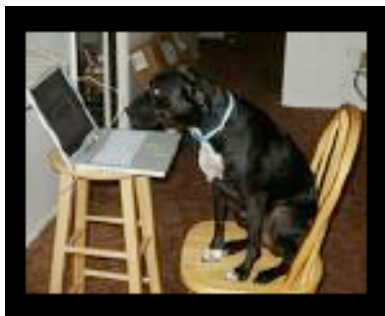
PC Photo

<http://pcphotomag.com/>

Nature Photographer

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

## WHO'S IN CHARGE?



Membership .... Ira Rosen  
Newsletter ..... Nancy McMurtrie  
NJFCC Print Competitions ..... Gordon Emrich  
NJFCC & PSA Slide Competitions.... Jill Booth  
Photo Fare ..... Joe Thomas  
Photo Lab ..... Joe Thomas  
Print Competition Facilitators .... Caroline Ades & JoAnn Tucker  
Programs .... Volunteer Needed  
Refreshments ..... Kati Deniflee & Lucia Myers  
Slide Competition Rules ..... Ruth Hager  
Slide Projector Operator ..... Scott Smith  
Website ..... Leslie Hill  
Weekend Warriors ..... Volunteer Needed

**Cut out this list and post it near your telephone. These are the members you may need to contact at some point during the year.**

Assigned Subjects ..... Howard Knauer  
Banquet Chairperson ..... JoAnn Tucker  
Exhibits..... Michael Pagliuca  
Field Trips ..... Volunteer Needed  
Graphic Artist ..... Joan MacGilvray  
House Chairperson ..... Bart Costello  
Judge Selection ..... Joe Thomas & Ruth Hager

**COMING SOON**  
The EPC Membership Roster will include names, addresses, telephone numbers, and email addresses.

## JUDGING by Joe Thomas



At the request of Nancy McMurtrie, who rides editorial shotgun over this newsletter, we're going to begin a series of articles on the intricacies of our judging system. What do the scores mean? Who are the judges? How are they selected? Are scoring systems the same from club to club? With each EPC meeting bringing new members, this is an opportune time to explain a system seemingly as arcane as Olympic gymnastic judging.

Let's start with what happens on competition night. Ruth Hager and I arrange for the judges, completing the schedule by June with selections from a list provided by the New Jersey Federation of Camera Clubs. On arrival, whether the judge has been here before or not, he or she is given a written summary and an oral briefing on our system, which is as follows:

We do not provide a preview of some entries (some clubs do, but more on that at another time). We have two scoring rounds. The first round has a range of four to seven; the second has a range of seven to nine. We want a comment on all entries in the first round, but no commentary in the second unless necessary. The purpose of the first round is to identify above-average work. In the second round an honorable mention is given to any photograph achieving a final score of seven. A photograph elevated to an eight receives a merit award. A photo elevated to a nine receives a top award. A best is chosen when there is more than one nine-rated photograph or even if there are no nines at all.

Although there are standards (again, more later), judging is obviously subjective; therefore, if you receive a score of four, five or six, and you disagree, you are entitled to reenter the work another time.

## GUESTS ARE WELCOME

**Meetings are held on the 1st & 3rd Thursday of every month @ 8PM @ the Caldwell United Methodist Church, 8 Academy Road, Caldwell**



## IMPORTANT WEBSITES:

Email: [Info@essexphotoclub.org](mailto:Info@essexphotoclub.org)

[www.essexphotoclub.org](http://www.essexphotoclub.org)

[www.essexphotoclub.blogspot.com](http://www.essexphotoclub.blogspot.com)

<http://nbkaplan.com/digital>