

The Aperture

Newsletter of the Johnson County Camera Club

Established April 1963

www.jococameraclub.org

Meeting: March 8, 2010 (second Monday)

Time: 6:30 P.M. (chat time), 7:00 P.M. meeting

Location: Asbury United Methodist Church

Music Room

75th St. and Nall Avenue, Prairie Village, Kansas

(Park behind the church; the meeting entrance is near the corner on the back of the building near Nall.)

Meeting Agenda - Marla Craven, Program Committee Chair

Rick Stare, an accomplished photographer currently focusing on “motion photography” will be our guest speaker. You can check out his bio and gallery at www.rickstare.com.

Hopefully he will have some suggestions for us to improve our own attempts at this style.

Member Show and Tell We will also have member’s show-and-tell—bring some images you wish to share and/or discuss—this is your opportunity to participate. Please remember to adjust the size of your images at 72 in the resolution box and then 1024 pixels for the longest side. This is very helpful to the person loading images into the computer for projection.

Subjects for next year’s Year End Contest It’s also time to think about year-end categories for 2010-2011. E-mail me your suggestions by March 15th. I will then send out a list to vote on to narrow the options.

Notes from Our Last Meeting

- President Dick O’Kell called the meeting to order.
- Bruce Hogle provided a step-by-step tutorial (via his computer screen and our digital projector) on how he created some of the images we viewed last Fall.
- There was a discussion on printing with members commenting on their favorite papers and sharing tips on how to get the best prints.
- Marla gave a short presentation on Red River papers.
- Time was allotted for show and tell featuring member’s images.
- With the conclusion of business the meeting was adjourned.

At The Galleries – Michael Stone *(Photography currently on display)*

Images Art Gallery, 7320 W. 80th Street, Overland Park, KS (913-232-7113).

Hours: Tuesday thru Saturday 10am-5pm.

"Julie On Canvas" JCCC member Julie Johnson gives her latest exhibit a distinctive new look by printing her images on canvas surfaced paper. Julie says her new approach has proven popular with your standard brush and paint artists who exhibit at the gallery - Closes March 31.

Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art - Block Building, 4525 Oak, KCMO (816-561-4000).

Hours: Wednesday 10am-4pm, Thursday and Friday 10am-9pm, Saturday 10am-5pm, and Sunday noon-5pm.

"Exploring Egypt" Presents the 19th century (1845-1860s) photographic discovery of Egypt, highlighting popular sites that were visited including the pyramids, Karnak and Philae. Through these early photographs, many people in the western world obtained their first view of the region that would become the ultimate tourist destination - Closes July 18.

The Editor's Corner – Bill Staudenmaier

Is it wrong to imitate another photographer's work? This is the subject of a post on photographer Mike Johnston's site "The Online Photographer". It seems that David Burdney a Canadian photographer is being accused of trying to duplicate the subject matter of two photographers, in his own exhibit, with images shot in the same places, exhibited in the same order, and with similar commentary. Sze Tsung Leong is accusing Burdney of copying his work; too many similar images taken at the same locations. Whether Burdney deliberately tried to copy these locations or not is debatable; he states that these are common tourist areas where anyone could have made a similar shot. He additionally notes that many photographers mimic the work of others. That he attempted similar arrangements and notes sort speaks for itself. The other photographer Elger Esser isn't suing but implies that Burdney borrows from several noted photographers. Burdney will probably never admit that he deliberately visited the same locations and copied the format and construction of Leong and Esser's images, and perhaps he didn't intentionally, at first. You can view the write up and photos in The Online Photographer web site (February 2010), and the Photo District News story references, and decide for yourself.

Who has not attempted to copy the style or format of a great image? How many times have you been so taken with either a famous photographer's image or perhaps even something taken by another member in the camera club that you feel compelled to go to that location and capture a similar image of your own? At one time or another everyone who loves landscape photography has wanted to take photos of the scenic landscapes that Ansel Adams is famous for. The sites in Yosemite, the area of the Tetons, and many more images are examples of great craftsmanship and a study in perfect exposure. One that I particularly like, though not one of his most popular images, is a shot taken in Silverton, Colorado that features a wood fence in the foreground, a church and its steeple in the near distance with a mountain in the background. Behind the fence the backs of three houses of no significance appear to stand across the street from the church. The image is not outstanding for its subject matter, it appears to have been shot from an alley, rather it works because of the light and shadow created by mid-morning sunlight. It is disturbing to me because there is no real focal point, but it is at the same time a captivating image. I would like to try to get my own interpretation of this image and would probably try to frame my image in a similar manner. I would try to copy the light that he captured, but I would also take it at various times of the day just to see what I prefer. However with the passage of time since Ansel's image was created, I suspect the buildings may not even be there. Even if they are there, a good span of time separates the two of us, and our choice of equipment, so although the images might be similar they wouldn't be the same. And, unlike Burdney, I would be not be planning to sell my image.

Copying works of art almost to the last brush stroke was considered a means of learning to paint in the days of the old masters. There is an interesting story behind a copy of one of Leonardo da Vinci's paintings that was detailed in the newspaper a few years ago. Leonardo's "La Belle Ferronniere" has a twin sister, except that one is an imposter. La Belle was owned by a prominent French family, who gave the painting to their daughter, upon her marriage in 1920, to Harry Hahn of Junction City, Kansas. The couple tried to sell the painting (as the original they believed it to be) at a later date to the Kansas City Art Institute. Hearing of the proposed sale, its authenticity was challenged by a London Art Dealer. A court battle ensued for many years, with the dealer finally giving in and the couple receiving a settlement. The Louvre supposedly has the original.

At last report the Hahn painting of "La Belle Ferronniere" belonged to a nephew of the Hahn's and at the time of the article in the Star he was attempting to sell the painting again. Another British expert after viewing the work had again declared it a copy, but the owner was attempting to sell it as a Leonardo and new tests were in process to authenticate the work.

In late January of this year the painting sold for \$1.5 million dollars in a Sotheby's auction to an unknown American buyer who just liked the painting. The selling price was three times the estimated value.

Is it wrong for photographers and artists to imitate the work of others; is this flattery, a learning exercise, or blatant theft?

Categories for the Year-End 2009-2010 Photo Contest

Submittals for our Year-End-Contest are due at our May 2010 meeting. Only slides or digital images shot since May 2009 are eligible. There are nine subjects to choose from. You may select a maximum of six subjects with a maximum of two entries for each of the six subjects chosen. A professional photographer will judge the contest, with the results to be presented and discussed at the June 2010 meeting.

2009-2010 Year-End-Contest Subjects		
Intimate Detail	Damaged	Long Exposures
Minimalism	H-2-O	On The Streets
Reflecting	Night Lights	Back-lit

Please patronize the following area businesses when you need photographic supplies or camera repairs.

<u>Overland Photo Supply, Inc.</u> (913) 648-5950, Sat 10-5	8967 Metcalf, FAX (913) 648-5966,	Overland Park, KS 66212 e-mail – sales@overlandphoto.com , Hours: M-F 10-7,	(Gateway 2000 Plaza)
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<u>Crick Camera Shop</u> crickcamera@sbcglobal.net	7715 State Line Rd. Established in 1946	Kansas City, MO 64114 (816) 444-3390,	e-mail -
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***The Aperture**, newsletter of the **Johnson County Camera Club**, is published monthly. Meetings are held the second Monday of each month, unless otherwise announced, at the Asbury United Methodist Church. Short articles written by club members, or selected from other sources of possible interest to club members, may be sent to the editor for inclusion in the newsletter. Membership dues of \$25.00 for one year are to be paid during the month of September, which is the beginning of the club year.*

For additional information or questions on the Johnson County Camera Club, activities, meetings, and membership contact the following members:

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