

The Grand Canyon Photography Club

VOLUME 17 ISSUE 1 January 2017



©Bill Wolfe "Yosemite Valley"

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January 10 Program: "Composition, from Capture to Post Processing"

The Grand Canyon Photography Club will hold its first meeting of the new year on Tuesday, January 10, 2017 at the Gmeiner Art & Cultural Center in Wellsboro, PA. The program will begin at 7 p.m. and feature a look at one photographer's approach to composition from the time of capture through post processing.

"Last year we spent several months discussing composition," said President Mia Lisa Anderson. "It is one of the building blocks to good photography and certainly a topic worth re-visiting."

Mia will show a youtube video by French photographer Serge Ramelli. Serge divides his time between Paris and LA and is one of the best-selling photographers in France. He is primarily a landscape and urban photographer who has produced several books, and his fine art prints are sold in galleries around the world. Serge has his own youtube channel with over 370,000 subscribers.

"This video is about 30 minutes in length and shows Serge's thought process as he captures several images in Paris. He is thinking about composition as he takes the images," Mia said. "Then he brings them into Lightroom to process them, again keeping composition in mind."

You can learn more about Serge Ramelli at www.photoserge.com



Serge Ramelli

The December meeting featured favorite images of the members from the past year and they are also featured in this newsletter. Looking back over work done in the previous year is a helpful way to see our advancements in photography and give us direction for the coming year. Some of the images (not quite room for three images per member in one newsletter) are featured in this newsletter.

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The Pictorialist: Adolf “Papa” Fassbender by Bruce Dart

Adolf Fassbender (1884-1980) who made a substantial contribution to twentieth century photography in America, was in the top echelon of American pictorial photographers in the 1930's - 1940's. He was inducted into the Photography Hall of Fame upon his death.

Paying close attention to the creative possibilities of photography in purely artistic or pictorial photographs, Fassbender left his studio work and devoted his life to this genre and being a teacher. He was affectionately called “Papa” by his students.

He described it as the “artist is able to recreate and rebalance the values of light and shade until by the very ingenuity of his appreciative treatment, an artistic creation results.”

Fassbender described this process as the enduring worth of Pictorial Photography. He reportedly designed and constructed much of his own darkroom equipment and used more than 20 stages to create an image!

In a 1933 article in *Camera*, Fassbender opined: “If we see a view, presented by Nature which, because of its subject, arouses in us that peculiar mood of mystery, depth, and our imagination paints a beautiful picture and then the lens, with its cold, hard, fact-producing qualities, brushes away that dream-like vision we sought to record, why should we not grasp the weapons (tools of photography) and restore or even recreate that which seemingly had passed beyond recall in the developing tray.”

Often using two or three negatives to create a composition, Fassbender asserted that it was “mankind, not nature, who placed visual atrocities like telephone poles, billboards and other things in the midst of a picturesque landscape that only darkroom sleight of hand could remedy.”



© Adolf Fassbender “Green Pastures”



Adolf Fassbender



© Adolf Fassbender “Daisy Trail”

© Estate Adolf Fassbender,
Fassbender Foundation



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy New year and welcome to 2017! This year is a big one for me. I will turn sixty, and that is a bit mindboggling. It is certainly an appropriate time to reflect on life goals. I think goals are important. They can give a sense of purpose and a desire to improve. For now, I will concentrate on those goals pertaining to photography.

For GCPC, my goal for 2017 is to continue providing learning opportunities for the membership. I feel it is my responsibility to present things pertaining to photography that you might not know about or have limited knowledge of or experience with. Another goal is to encourage members to try new techniques, software, or to experiment in new photographic genres. Lastly, I hope to make the experience at GCPC fun.

For me personally, I have decided to continue my explorations in food photography. I have had a blast learning new techniques and acquiring some new skills. In the image accompanying this message, I learned how to create a gradient with light to add depth to the bottle. What are your 2017 photography goals? If I can help you achieve them, it would be my pleasure.



©Mia Lisa Anderson "Bottle & Glass"

Learn, practice, and most of all, have fun!

Mia



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About The Banner Photo

This month's Banner Photo was made by Bill Wolfe while on a tour. The iconic view of Yosemite Valley was made with his Nikon D7100 and 18-300 mm lens at 18 mm. A hand-held exposure was made at 1/320 at f/9, Bill says.

"The Merced River is in the foreground and El Capitan is on the left of the photo," he points out.

Because of the overcast sky, the lighting conditions were good and he only slightly tweaked the exposure on Photoshop.



The Grand Canyon Photography Club

2017 Officers:

President: Mia Lisa Anderson

Vice President: David Ralph

Treasurer: Gary Thompson

Recording Secretary: Paul Bozzo

Corresponding Secretary:
Judith Giddings

Directors:

2016-2017: Ann Kamzelski,
Kenneth Meyer

2017-2018: Sharon Connolly
Bob Stoffregen

Committee Chairpersons:

Newsletter: Judith Giddings,
Bruce Dart

Membership: Gary Thompson

Exhibits: Bruce Dart

Website: Mia Lisa Anderson

Publicity: Lonny Frost

For more information, please contact:

Mia Lisa Anderson

E-mail: president@gcphotoclub.org



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December 13, 2016 Meeting of the Grand Canyon Photo

At 7:06 on a snowy evening Mia Lisa Anderson asked all present to be seated. (I counted 17 souls at that time; a few more arrived a bit later.) Mia told us that Rob Colley of Hoyer's Photo Supply couldn't be here for his presentation of the newest in cameras and gear from his store in Williamsport. The snow storm was more severe to the south of Wellsboro. With just two business items, we would go right to our Christmas slide show and then to the treats that we all provided!

1. Mia passed around a sign-up sheet for refreshments in the coming year.
2. She passed around a post-processing sign-up sheet where we could pick which computer program/programs we would like to learn more about during a future meeting.

We saw many wonderful and varied images in the slide show. We were all heartened to see a portrait of a smiling Judith Giddings captured by her husband Bill. (Judith is home recuperating from a health issue.) We were charmed by a chipmunk peeking out of its habitat shot by Diane Cobourn. Russ Dodson challenged us with three images of people and their reflections in the Chicago "Bean." Bob Stoffregen's image of the "Heavens Rising" wowed us with the always impressive Milky Way which was coupled with a sun set. Mia was asked to post the slide show on the GCPC's website.

The meeting was adjourned early because of the storm.

Respectfully submitted,
Paul Bozzo, Recording Secretary



2017 Club Dues Are Now Being Accepted

Please bring your cash or check (payable to GCPC) to the next meeting or send your dues to the GCPC treasurer:

Gary Thompson
285 Owen Hollow Road
Big Flats, NY 14814

Individual: \$20.00

Family: \$35.00

Treasurer's Report For December 2016

Beginning Balance	\$1,177.08
Cash IN (2016 dues)	
Cash OUT (Reception)	\$127.35
Ending Balance	\$1,049.73

Respectfully Submitted,
Gary Thompson, Treasurer



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Annecdotes

Ann Kamzelski
presents tips, techniques,
and creative ideas for
getting great photos.

Butterfly Heaven

For all of the years that I have been coming to Cedar Key, FL, I have never been here in late October or early November. This year, for a change, we decided to head south about a month earlier than usual, arriving in mid-October. Cedar Key is always full of photographic amazements and this fall was no exception.

I was out on my mobile stealth photo vehicle (golf cart for short) a few days after arriving, looking for wading birds. While nonchalantly driving down the street, I noticed a gulf fritillary butterfly flitting across the street. I paused to see where it was going and to my surprise it landed on a bottle brush bush at the side of the road. That was when I noticed that the bush was literally covered with butterflies. All of them except one (a monarch) were gulf fritillaries. I parked the golf cart and proceeded to take a collection of butterfly images. The butterflies were so intent on feasting on these beautiful red flowers that they totally ignored my presence.

I mentioned this occurrence to a neighbor who pointed me to a location where two large bottle brush plants grew. When I got there, the bushes were covered with butterflies. However, except for one or two, this time they were all monarchs. It was the same plant, but a different butterfly. The blue sky above the bushes was a dance of flying monarchs. Well, I thought I had died and gone to butterfly heaven, but I was wrong.

The next morning when I was out for my daily walk, at the very end of the island I came across a groundsel bush that was completely orange with a kaleidoscope of monarch butterflies (yes, kaleidoscope is the name of a group of butterflies). I hurried home as fast as I could to get my camera. Happily, the butterflies were still there when I got back. I took lots of photos, but was so excited about seeing this that I went to get a couple of friends to share the experience with. There were so many butterflies that it was hard to get nice shots, so at one point, I started taking videos. It was an amazing thing to witness. The butterflies were never as thick as that morning, but they stayed on that bush for three days.



Photos ©Ann Kamzelski

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Butterfly Heaven (continued)



Note: an interesting fact about groundsel is that the male and female flowers are on separate bushes. These bushes grow next to each other. The female flowers are a showy fluffy white while the male flowers are small brownish clusters. The butterflies were ONLY on the male bushes.

Photos ©Ann Kamzelski

Groundsel is a common bush on the island so I started looking around for more butterflies. I found a few more bushes with butterflies about a ¼ mile from the first one. Not as many butterflies, but still nice. However, these bushes had a mix of monarch and queen butterflies. The queen butterfly is the southern counterpart of the monarch with rich orange coloring. By this time, I think a butterfly shaped image was imbedded on my camera's sensor.



But Mother Nature wasn't through with me yet! On my way to check out the bald eagle's nest, I passed a Turk's Cap hibiscus bush. Once again, a butterfly caught my eye. I parked the golf cart to see if I could get some photos. This time, the bush had lots of butterflies, but there were all different kinds. There were monarchs, fritillaries, cloudless sulphurs, long tailed skippers and the Florida state butterfly, the Zebra Heliconian; as well as a moth disguised as a wasp. All of these on a single bush about 6 foot across. My computer is now loaded with butterfly images.

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Butterfly Heaven (continued)



Photos ©Ann Kamzelski

I realize now that what I had witnessed was a butterfly migration. The butterflies, for most part, have moved on. There are several that hang around Cedar Key all winter, but never in the numbers that I had seen. So yes, I had landed in Butterfly Heaven at just the right time. Now it is time to get back in the mobile stealth photo vehicle and look for birds.





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©Bill Giddings “Casper”



©Bruce Dart “Hills Creek Canoe”



©Mia Lisa Anderson “Sheer Delight”



©Linda Stager “Benezette Beauty”



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©Gary Thompson “Rock Energy”



©Suzan Richar “From my Window”



©Bob Bair “Horseshoe Bend”



©Gerald Bailey “Ball, Bat, Glove”



GCPC 2017 Calendar of Events

Meetings are at 7 p.m. on the 2nd Tuesday of every month
at the Gmeiner Art & Cultural Center unless otherwise noted.

Mini-solo Shows at the Native Bagel, Central Avenue, Wellsboro:

January: Max Johnson

February: Bob Stoffregen

March: Linda Stager

The Warehouse Theatre: Various Members

Paul Bozzo, Linda Stager,

Bruce Dart, Bernadette Chiarmonte Brown

January - Composition, from Capture to Post Processing

Theme: Holidays

February - Photography: Not Just for Your DSLR-Mia Lisa Anderson-
Theme: Still Life

March-Advanced Light Painting-Bob Stoffregen-Theme: Winter
(photos taken with any device but using an "untraditional camera"
is encouraged)

April-Wildlife Photography-Scott Dere-Theme: Painting with Light

May - Photographing Elk at Benezette-Linda Stager-Theme:
Wildlife

June-Preparing Prints for Exhibition-Various-No Critique

Please contact Bruce Dart at bdphoto@ptd.net if you are interested in displaying your photos at
the Native Bagel or if you have images suitable for display at the Warehouse Gallery.

What is this? Send your
guess to bdphoto@ptd.net



Mystery Macro

How observant are you?

No Correct
guesses:

Wood Strips
(Several did note
the wood.)



©Jan Keck





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©Dwayne Gipe “Millionaire’s Row”



©Bob Stoffregen “Cascades”

January Meeting At A Glance

Composition from Capture to

Post Processing

Theme: Holidays

January-Snacks: Bob Bair, Beverages: Bob
 Stoffregen

February-Snacks: Karin Meyer, Beverages:
 Bruce Dart



©David Ralph “Fairfield, CA”



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©Ann Kamzelski “Jumping Fox”



©Judith Giddings “Bill”



©Sharon Connolly “At Ease”



©Russ Dodson “Cloud 1”



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©Karin Meyer “Tree Copse in Hayden Valley”



©Jan Keck “Kinzua Bridge”



©Sandy Foor “Walkin’ the Beach”



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©Nancy Bickham “The Spirit of Freedom”



©Ken Meyer “Summertime and the Livin’ is Easy”



©Paul Bozzo “Stony Fork Creek”