

FOCUS

SCHENECTADY PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY NEWS

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April 2004

Number 7

Fine Art photographer Peter Liepke to appear in April

Bob Gough

On April 7th the Print Group welcomes Fine Art photographer Peter Liepke as its speaker of the month. Mr. Liepke will present an impressive portfolio of work using such historically significant techniques as paper negatives and bromoils.

Peter Liepke was born and raised in St. Louis Park, Minnesota. After finishing high school he moved to Los Angeles to attend the Art Center College as a photography major. Upon completion, Mr. Liepke assisted various advertising photographers and, in 1983, opened his own studio. For five successful years he accumulated many lucrative national advertising assignments, primarily as a still life and product photographer. Feeling a need to grow as an artist and with a complete new body of portrait work, he set his sights to the east and moved to New York City. In 1988 at the age of thirty-one Mr. Liepke, inspired by the works of Arnold Newman, Yosef Karsh and Irving Penn, reinvented himself into a fine art portrait photographer. It was during

this period that he produced amazing portraits of many well known people such as film director Martin Scorsese, artist Frederick Frank and journalist Mike Wallace among many others.

His first one man portrait exhibition was held in 1997 at The Museum of Television and Radio in New York. The exhibit is now on tour across the U.S. For the past ten years his clients have included Simon & Schuster, Atlantic Records, Price Waterhouse, Time Magazine, Knopf Publishing, The ABC Television Network and many others.

Today, Liepke draws upon the soft edged pictorialist movement led by Alfred Stieglitz and Edward Steichen for inspiration. The much broader subject matter and imagery are achieved through a process of hand coated paper negatives enabling the prints to resemble the look of a charcoal drawing or etching more than a photograph.

Please see Liepke page 6

Slide group to present a digital question and answer session.

Dave Lilac

The April 14th slide presentation will be a digital question and answer session by Ellen Descisciolo and Paula Symanski of Photo Images Digital Lab in Glenville. It will be an opportunity to have your questions about digital capture and output answered.

Ellen Descisciolo has a B.F.A. in Photography from SUNY New Paltz, and has extensive computer training on Kodak and Noritsu digital printing. She has interned for studios, magazines, and online art galleries in New York City, and is also a freelance photographer for *Metroland* Newspaper, the *Skidmore College Quarterly*, *Scope*, and shoots many of the musicians in the Saratoga area. Her work has been on exhibit at SUNY New Paltz,

Creations Café in Schenectady, and Albany Airport, among others.

Last year Paula Symanski spoke to our slide group, presenting her *Images of the Quilt*, a visual tribute to the NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt, and the *Futures Golf Tournament*, which showcased Professional Women's Golf raising funds for her volunteer organization, Girls, Inc. Her work has been exhibited as part of local and national juried art shows in Clifton Park, and the Fulton Street Gallery in Troy. She has also shown at The Sage Colleges Pride Art Show in Albany and Troy, the CDGLCC Pride Art show in Albany,

Please see slide program page 6

The Photographic Society of America

Robert B. Gorrill, APSA
Region Director, PSA Region 15

At one time or another you may have noticed the logo of the Photographic Society of America and wondered what it is all about. To quote the opening statement on the PSA website, "We are a worldwide interactive organization for anyone interested in photography, be they casual or serious amateurs or professional photographers. We offer our individual, camera club, and council members a wide variety of activities: a monthly magazine, photo and digital competitions, study groups via mail and the internet, how-to programs, an annual conference, and a raft of other activities and services."

PSA offers many services that are available to the individual, which can enhance your photographic experience, as well as services to clubs. No matter where your interests may lie there is a division in PSA that can help you advance your knowledge and provide you with assistance in your photographic pursuits. There are seven divisions with the Society and they are Color Slide, Photojournalism, Nature, Pictorial Prints (color and B&W), Photo Travel, Electronic Imaging (including video and motion pictures) and Stereo (3D). Several divisions publish their

own newsletter and all have services that you can use. A very popular service offered by the Color Slide Division is the slide evaluation service where you send your slides to a qualified member who will evaluate your image and offer you tips on how it can be improved as well as indicating if it has potential for use in a salon.

Several of the divisions have study groups that you can join where you enter your images into the circuit along with notes on how the picture was taken and other pertinent details. The other members in the circuit also enter their images and each member of the group writes a brief comment as to their feelings about the photograph. There are normally two to three group rounds per year (sometimes more) and a general commentator who is an expert in that field who offers a general commentary on each image that has been submitted. On the next round everyone removes their previous entries and submits new

ones so that everything is new when you receive the next group. The Electronic Imaging Division has online study groups where each group has a new round every month of one image each per group member and those members comment on each others current entry. These groups do not have a commentator but all of the images are placed on a web site where visitors can see the work by these PSA members.

One of the monthly events that most of the membership looks forward to is receiving their issue of the Society's magazine, the *PSA Journal*, which has many articles of interest in all areas of photography. Many members find that it is a great educational tool and keep their copies for many years to be able to use for research.

Every month the *Journal* publishes listings of approved exhibitions and salons that take place around the world where you can send in your slides and prints. If you are a PSA member and enter these salons, such as the Greater Lynn Salon, and your images are accepted they count towards points that you can accumulate to earn PSA stars in recognition of your photographic successes.

A major event every year for PSA is its annual International Conference of

Please see PSA page 3



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PSA

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Photography that is held in various locations, usually the first part of September. The conference this year is being held in Minneapolis from September 6 to 11 and in 2005 it will be in Salt Lake City. The first couple of days there are photographic tours of the area followed by various workshops, programs, showing of the PSA International Salons, various meetings on a wide range of photographic topics, presentation ceremonies, noted speakers and the wrap-up awards banquet.

For more information about the Photographic Society of America ask any club member who is a member of PSA or you can check out the Society's website that is located at www.psa-photo.org. Another website is that of PSA Region 15 for more local information and that site can be found at www.photo-ne.com/region15. You can also contact me directly by mail, by phone or by email. My address is 48 High Street, Damariscotta, ME 04543-4632. The telephone is 207-563-7463 and my email is RD15@photo-ne.com.

***Annual banquet will be
Wednesday June 2nd***



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Congratulations to the Grab Bag winners

This year's grab bag winners are:

Linda Heim	Textures	1st
Julia Roberts	Silhouette	2nd
Jim Scribner	Flowers	3rd
Kevin Sarsfield	City	HM
Connie F. Houde	Angles	HM

April digital meeting announced

Bob Riccardo

At the April 21 meeting of the digital group, I will be talking about Photoshop layers. I will discuss the use of layers, layer masks, grouping layers, making layer sets and adding text to photographs and how to enhance the text.

I am presently chairman of the digital group. I have been a professional photographer since 1967; I opened my full time Portrait and Wedding studio in 1972 in Selkirk, NY.

I have been playing with Photoshop for about 8 years, getting very serious with it in the past 3 years. I have been completely digital in my studio for the past 2 years. I am shooting with a Canon 10D and printing all my finished work on an Epson 2200 printer. I am presently semi-retired, working three days a week.

Photo Essay annual competition to be held April 28

Howie Johannessen

This year's photo essay competition will witness a major shift in the technology used to present slide essays. Last year none of the slide essays presented utilized digital technologies. This year, of those putting together a slide essay a majority, if not all, are doing so digitally using various software products instead of the club's dissolve unit. It will be exciting to see what impact this change will have on the essays.

There is still time left before the April 28 competition for those interested in presenting a print essay to put one together. We all have images in our photo albums of family, friends, events, etc. from which a wonderful photo essay can be created.

Please come on April 28 to see the great photo essays being submitted and the effect of digitally presenting the slide essays.

Sunsets - Meter the area of sky directly above sun and use this setting as basis for exposure. Using one f-stop less light will produce effect of photo taken 1/2 hour later.

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Profile of SPS Member

Tom Mack

Jane Riley

Tom Mack is one of the first members to arrive at the SPS club meetings. He helps set up the racks, the tables and chairs, the projector when needed, and anything else that has to be done to make Print and Slide Nights run smoothly. During the program out front, he can be found in the back room helping the chairmen, the assistants, and the judges. Moreover, for several years he spent the evening in the kitchen setting up the refreshments for the break. In fact, the only time he got to stay out front for the programs was in 2000-01 when he served as president.

It may surprise you to know that Tom plays the same role for yet another photography group, PPSNY, the Professional Photographic Society of New York. He is currently the Treasurer of the Society, but he has also served as the President and Vice President. Tom says that he enjoys both organizations very much. "I like the people. They keep me up on things-the latest photo techniques and equipment. I don't read the magazines anymore, so I rely on the members to keep me up to date."

Tom got started in photography at an early age as the family photographer. He remembers that his father would buy a new camera, and "then give it to me to figure out." So it was no surprise that years later when he was employed by the New York Dept. of Agriculture that Tom became their official photographer. In this position he had various assignments. For example, each year he would be

sent to the state and county fairs to record the exhibits for the department's publications or to be used for reference and documents. For several years he was the official photographer of the N.Y. State Arbor Day ceremonies. His photos of local farm produce were used to promote apples, potatoes, and eggs throughout the state.

After twenty years with the Dept. of Agriculture, Tom decided to become a professional photographer, instead of being transferred to Rochester. While he still did some work for N. Y. State, he became a special events photographer, specializing in wedding, store openings, banquets, etc. As a pro he also did photos and articles for various food industry newspapers, trade papers, and supermarket fliers.

These days Tom is semi-retired and does mostly "Drive-by Shootings", as he calls them. That is, he works for real estate agents who hire him to photograph homes that are for sale for their publications. But he admits that once in a while he still has to get out of the car.

For his early family shots Tom says he used primarily

Polaroid instant cameras. However, over the years he has come to have a house full of cameras, "mostly because I can't stop buying the stuff." In his collection are 40-50 cameras. He has several Polaroids, of course, but also some Brownies, a large-format Speed graphics, a twin lens reflex Baby Rollei/127 film size, 5-6 digital cameras and lots of Canon cameras. His current favorite is a Canon G1, and he confesses that he has his eye on a G5.

When he has some free time to shoot for himself, Tom enjoys photographing scenic places, with Cape Cod being

one of his favorite locations.

The SPS members may keep Tom Mack on the photographic "cutting edge." But he does much more for us. Thanks, Tom, for working behind the scenes to make our meetings run smoothly month after month.



March Competition Results

Prints

Color 36 entries

* Kim Koza	Magnolia Leaves	1
Jack August	Touch of Winter	2
Kim Koza	London Train Station	3
Jeff Perkins	Too Much Heat on the Polaroids	4
David Lilac	Pastel Tree Row	5
Jack August	The Pair	HM
Max Tiller	Old Truck	HM
Ken Deitcher	Lost Family	HM
Tony Hilferty	Waiting for Spring	HM
Bill Delaney	Fence Sunrise	HM

Monochrome 27 Entries

** Max Tiller	Forest Edge	1
F. Bumbardatore	Erie	2
Amy Howansky	Little Ducky, You're One	3
Stewart Sacklow	White on White	4
Kim Koza	Window Light	5
David Lilac	Drawer Study	HM
Ray Henrikson	Where Did the Years Go	HM
Jay Freud	Jerry	HM
Max Tiller	Botanical Garden	HM
Ray Henrikson	Alaskan Scene	HM

Assigned Topic Decay 30 Entries

*** Jennifer Young	Pull	1
George DePiro	Past its Prime	2
Tony Hilferty	Industrial Obsolescence	3
F. Bumbardatore	To God the Glory	4
Jennifer Young	The Rise and Fall of Industry	5
Linda Buckman	Old Bessie	HM
Lauren Hilton	Shut(ter)No More	HM
Lauren Hilton	Black Hole	HM
Cynthia Placek	Mayan Ruins	HM
Kevin Sarsfield	No Longer the Way Things Used to Be	HM

Judge Stephanie White

Program Dino Petrocelli / A photographic career

Winner's Notes:

* Kim created this winning image by directly scanning the leaves into her computer. She used no film, filter, tripod or camera. She then put it on a CD and had her lab print it.

** *The Forest Edge* is an infrared image taken at Five Rivers in Delmar with a Minolta DiMage 7 Digital Camera. on a tripod with an infrared filter. Printed on Epson Heavy Weight Matte Paper with an Epson 1270 Inkjet Printer.

*** Jennifer created this winner with a Sony F717 Digital camera and a Carl Zeiss lens. This shot was taken of her 1941 barnstyle garage door before it was replaced. It was shot at sundown last fall.

Slides

General 43 Entries

* Ken Deitcher	Tree Frog	1
Ruby Gold	Siena Inverted #2	2
Kim Koza	Miss Austin	3
Julia Roberts	Untitled	4
Jane Riley	Egret on Nest	5
N. Sukumar	Bash Bish Falls	HM
Warren Burton	Mountain Lion	HM
Nick Argyos	Untitled	HM
Sue Gersten	Sad Truck	HM
Jean Burton	Adirondack Ablaze	HM

Assigned Snow and/or Ice Sculpture 16 Entries

** Dick Tannen	Abstract Sculpture	1
Howie Johannessen	Untitled	2
Ken Deitcher	Ice Formation	3
David Lilac	Crystal #3	HM
Howie Johannessen	Untitled	HM

Judge Michael Ciarmiello

Program Robert Doszois / Adirondack and Western Photography

Winner's Notes:

* Ken took this winner with a Canon A2E and a 100mm macro lens. Illuminated by a ringflash. Image scanned into computer with a flatbed scanner and manipulated to remove the effects of ringflash in Photoshop. Image saved to Zip disc and converted to a slide by Bokland.

** This winner was taken at Bromley Mt., Vermont with a Canon EOS Elan II, a Canon 28-135 lens with a polarizer filter and Fujichrome 100 film.



Schenectady Photographic Society
is a member of the
Photographic Society of America

Plain talk about resolution, from pixels to print

Megapixel Primer

William Sawalich

Just as you'd select a different film format when you're shooting for a slide show, your choice of a digital camera can be affected by how you'd like to use the finished image when you're shooting for a poster-sized print. If your photos are destined for a Website or an e-mail to friends, practically any digital camera offers enough resolution to get the job done. But if you've got a great photo, you don't want to be limited in what you can do with it. That's why most of us are hungry for pixels! More pixels mean bigger prints.

The term "megapixel" represents the size of a camera's sensor. Four megapixels equals four-million pixels. This number comes from the pixel dimensions (or the area resolution) of the sensor. If the dimensions of the chip are 2000 x 4000 pixels, that would be eight-million pixels, or 8 megapixels. (When evaluating a digital camera, be aware that there's a difference between the size of the sensor and the "effective" pixel count. The effective pixel size reflects the actual number of pixels that are used toward the creation of the image. The remaining space is utilized to record a variety of information, including exposure, date and time, and other image-related data.)

Generally, a 2-megapixel camera delivers suitable 5x7s and a 3-megapixel camera makes good 8x10s. A 4- to 6-megapixel can produce enlargements up to 11x14 and larger. Every increase in pixel count is another victory for bigger prints.

Before making a print, you need to resize your image. The original file, if shot and saved in a JPEG format, will be stored at a resolution of 72 dpi that will likely make the image size larger than 16x20. Make a copy of your original file, save it under a different name and then resize it to the appropriate image, e.g., 8x10 at

300 dpi. Make sure to change both the image size and resolution each time you make such a change. Creating a duplicate ensures that you always have your original file to fall back on if you make a mistake when editing your image. Basically you can fool the computer into thinking your image file is bigger than it actually is. It's not as perfect as a raw file, but it's your best shot if you need to print bigger than your camera's CCD will allow.

Don't confuse camera resolution with printer resolution, which is based on the individual droplets of ink that can be applied to paper. A typical photo printer supports a resolution of 720 to 1440 dpi, which means that the printer is capable of applying up to 720 to 1440 droplets of ink to one inch of paper. Although some printers provide a resolution higher than 1440 dpi, you needn't create prints at such a high setting. The quality won't be noticeably better and will only increase the length of time needed to create the print.

Slide program

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and the NYS Museum, a solo show in conjunction with World AIDS day.

Ellen and Paula are photographers as well as printmakers, so we look forward to them sharing their input on how to achieve outstanding results when working with the digital aspects of photography. Their arsenal of expertise is extensive and growing daily as digital photography continues to open up new possibilities.

Liepke

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Peter Liepke's artist statement:

"Many of my images and inspiration are drawn from my simple, yet wonderful experiences as a child growing up in the Midwest. Today as I watch the world through the eyes of my two sons and many other families with children, I search for the brief and fleeting moments in everyday life. Once captured on film those moments transport me back in time to my own childhood again."

"For me it is a personal journey of realization and recollections. A realization that the images captured on film serve as a constant reminder that I will never take for granted those brief and fleeting moments ever again. Although my recollections are captured in memory only, they serve as a catalyst in trying to seek out and hopefully find once again what could be a new, extraordinary moment to be captured this time on film."

"Through my photographs the intent is to inspire a sense of honesty, beauty, and optimism in a world faced with tragedy, hopelessness and cynicism. Most importantly, however, my attempt is to try and show that these brief, fleeting, yet extraordinary moments still exist within all of us, if we simply take the time to look."

I hope that you will join us on April 7th for a presentation by this exceptional photographer.



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News You Can Use

Welcome

Welcome to our newest member,
Deborah A. Hastings

Reminder to board

Board members must have their year-end reports to Linda Buckman by April 21st, preferably via an e-mail attachment.

For Sale Tamron 70-300mm lens with ability to take 1:2 macro images. Brand new, US warranty. Canon mount. Best offer over \$120.00 Contact Ken Deitcher kendeitch@aol.com

For Sale

Sunpak 120J TTL Auto Pro Body Flash Unit \$200
Sunpak Tr-Pak II Battery Pack w/ charger 89
Sunpak CA-1 AF Ded Module F/ Canon.TTL 100

Total \$389

Asking \$275 All were purchased in Feb 03 and not used more than 10 times. TTL function does not work with the Canon 10D.

Will sell to the first to reply.

Bob Riccardo

Photo contest announced

Luba Ricket

In the complimentary March 2004 issue of *Catskill Mt. Region Guide* (found in rest stops and in the I love NY office), there is an entry form for *Catskill Mt Region Guide Magazine/Center for Photography at Woodstock* contest. Or go to the web site at www.catskillregionguide.com Deadline is May 15, 2004. Grand prize is \$1,000. First, second and third prizes will be \$100.00, \$75.00 and \$50.00 in their specified categories which appear on the entry forms.

All photographs must be taken in the following counties: Columbia, Delaware, Dutchess, Greene, Otsego, Schoharie, Sullivan and Ulster.

Keep eyes open, your ideas growing and good luck.

Luba Ricket has entry forms for those who do not want to go online.

Photo Workshop offered by PPSNY

PPSNY is offering workshops from July 18 – 23, 2004 at Hobart & William Smith College in Geneva, NY. Some of the courses given will be:

Digital Dollars by Don Emmerich, an intermediate/advanced Photoshop course

Treasures of the Heart by Vicki Popwell, on portraiture of children and families.

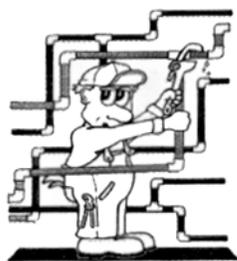
Digital Cookbook by Craig Hutchings, is designed to help those either entering the digital kitchen or those who have already begun to cook but need to refine their recipes.

Lifestyle portraiture by Don MacGregor on environmental portraiture, composition, posing, portrait designing, management sales and wedding.

For further information:

PPSNEWORKSHOP@PWS1893.com

Daughters of Sarah is not having a photo contest this year. The building is undergoing renovations; they hope to re-instate the contest next year.



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