

Focus Group Camera Club

Meeting Minutes April 12, 2011

Club President Kathy Benham called the FGCC meeting to order at 7:35 PM at the Science Museum of Virginia with about 28 members and guests in attendance.

Club Business: Membership Committee (Ken Hitchens)

Ken circulated an attendance sheet and introduced and welcomed two guests.

Club Business: Program Committee (John Garofalo)

May: Brown Bag presentation.

June: Critique Night.

November: "Awake the Light" presentation: - "From Ordinary to Extraordinary."

December: Victoria Dye presentation - "Art in Nature."

Club Business: Exhibit Committee (Al Warfield)

Al announced that a club exhibit will take place at Capital 1 in Innsbrook with a start in late June or early July. More details later.

The Steward School will host a club exhibit in 2012.

Club Business: Field Trip Committee (Linda Warfield & Larry Ruyon)

Larry reported that unfortunately a conflict has occurred and he cannot coordinate the planned April 30th field trip to Charlottesville. He called for volunteers to take over this field trip. No one came forward at the meeting and unless this changes, the field trip will not take place.

Club Business: Recognitions and Announcements (Kathy Benham)

Al and Linda Warfield have photographs on exhibit at St. Giles church.

Cindy Krumbein has an exhibit at Bank of America.

The most recent issue of *Fifty+* magazine contains five of Gilpin Brown's images.

Frank Feigert's image of the Nile in Aswan, Egypt was a runner-up in the March "Chasing the Light" competition in their "Landscapes: Beyond the Mundane" category.

Sid Koerin announced that he is updating the club website and there may be unavailabilities along the way.

Hal Tyler reported that the nominating committee has obtained a full slate of proposed officers for next year. Names will be announced at the May meeting.

Show and Tell (Kathy Benham)

Wade Emmett displayed recent images from a horseshow and recent work for DominionAutoGroup.com in which he photographed their inventory of automobiles for Internet display.

Steve Girimont showed off a recent gallery wrap project for one of his western scenic images.

Bob Coles introduced three recent books of photography.

Tonight's Program
A Role Play Assignment from *National Geographic*
John Garofalo and Tim Slavin

Here was John's assignment for club members:

"Imagine yourself as a fairly successful freelance photographer who has developed a reputation with ad and stock photo agencies and magazine editors for interesting perspectives, high quality images and most important, in their minds at least, your ability to respond creatively, quickly, work under some pressure and always, always making the deadline.

So Thursday morning you get a call from the photo editor at *National Geographic*. You have done work in the past for them and you're seen as the "go to" guy/gal for clever images with a quick turnaround. After chit chat, the editor says..." We are going to do a very different feature this fall on a new kind of land and its culture. The land is the imaginary world of Emota. On Emota there are three kingdoms which seem to live in some harmony... the Kingdom of Glad, the Kingdom of Sad and the Kingdom of Mad. He adds that we are just beginning to develop the story line so we are "wide open" to fresh ideas.

He goes on to say that the images don't necessarily have to be people, but they need to express in some way, based on your unique view, the emotions (hence "Emota") of Glad, Sad and Mad. You can be literal, abstract, figurative, expressive...whatever you want."

Ten club members responded with 30 *Glad, Mad or Sad* images: Gilpin, Bob C., John, Larry, Ralph, Sid, Chuck, Hal, David VG and , Al. Tim and Gary projected these emotive images to the audience for a voice vote to select which emotion each image elicited. In general there was high agreement among the audience. Pictures of animals had the least agreement.

Kathy led a discussion of emotions and images noting that it is hard to decide if multiple emotions occur in the same photography. It was remarked that the role of an editor is to decide how the “average” reader will respond to an image.

A drawing was held to select winning photographers from among those submitting. Three winners (Larry, David and Chuck) each received a prize bag of goodies.

Kathy thanked virtual *National Geographic* for their presentation to the club.

Roundtable

Club members presenting photographs in roundtable were: Bev (abstractions), Gilpin (birds), Hal (variety), John (B&W variety), Gary (ducks), Chuck (Williamsburg HDR panorama) and Al (B&W conversions)

Kathy Benham adjourned the meeting at 8:50.

Submitted by Ralph R. Sell, May 25, 2011