

# **Focus Group Camera Club**

Annual Meeting Minutes June 14th, 2011

Club President Kathy Benham called the FGCC annual meeting to order at 7:30 PM at the Science Museum of Virginia with about 28 members and two guests in attendance.

## **Club Business: Announcements (Kathy Benham)**

September 13, 2011 will be the next meeting  
Planned summer activities: club social

## **Club Business: Membership Committee (Linda Warfield)**

Linda circulated an attendance sheet and introduced and welcomed the guests. She announced that Stephen Retherford had been accepted as the newest member of the Focus Group Camera Club.

## **Club Business: Program Committee (John Garofalo)**

Events planned for fall 2011 include:

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

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

John offered thanks to the program committee members (Tim Slaven, David VanGelder, Cyane Lowden, Chuck Spalding, Gilpin Brown). Club members offered a round of applause for the committee's substantial efforts.

## **Club Business: Exhibit Committee (Al Warfield)**

Club exhibits are set for:

July: Capital 1 at Innsbrook

October: at the James Center

More details will follow via email.

## **Club Business: Election of Officers for 2011-2012 (Kathy Benham)**

Kathy presented the slate of officers for the upcoming year.

Secretary: Larry Ruyon  
Treasurer: Ken Hitchens  
Vice President: Tim Slaven  
President: Ralph Sell

The slate was unanimously accepted by the membership. Kathy will also serve on the board as past president. She offered thanks to the outgoing board for their work over the past year.

## **Club Business: Field Trip Committee (Linda Warfield)**

Linda reviewed the upcoming field trip on a Richmond Canal boat set for Friday evening June 17<sup>th</sup> at 6PM. Payment for the event can be in cash or check in person or by mail ahead of time or at the event.

## **Club Business: Recognitions and Announcements (Kathy Benham)**

Steve Girimont recently sold two framed fine art prints (20x30") to Capital 1's permanent art collection. Prints purchased were his:

*Mesa Arch Sunrise* and *Sunrise at Larkin's Garden*

He also made note of a book he found informative: Alain Briot's new book *Marketing Fine Art Photography* and recommended it to anyone wishing to sell their photographs.

Linda Warfield reminded everyone that there was still time (until August 1) to vote for her submissions to the National Wildlife photo contest at

<http://www.nwf.org/PhotoContest/PhotoContestHome.aspx?perma=lindawarfield01@yahoo.com>

On behalf of the membership, Tim Slaven took this opportunity to thank Kathy Benham for her service as club president for the past two terms. Sustained and exuberant applause greeted his thank you note announcement.

Club president Kathy noted that club members should expect to receive in the near future an email presenting for approval the club's proposed budget for 2011-2012.

Bill Billings, extolling the virtues of small is better regarding camera gear, showed off his recent \$129 purchase of a Samsung HZ30W camera (12 mega pixels, 3.9mm-58.5mm lens, ISO 80-3200).

### **Tonight's Program: Critique Night John Garofalo**

John introduced long term club supporters and advisory members Linda and Bill Lane. The Lane's offered comments about images submitted by members. In preliminary remarks they noted two of their most important insights in making good photographs and their criteria for comments.

First, use a white/grey card to set correct white balance in-the-camera rather than try to get it right after-the-fact in post processing.

Second, in setting up the photograph, try to answer the question. How will the light from the scene be recorded? Good direction and quality of light are needed for a good photograph.

Gary Sargent then displayed 25 photographs submitted by members for the Lane's critique. Members submitting were: David Van Gelder, Sally Jennings, John Garofalo, Gary Sargent, Larry Runyon, Gilpin Brown, Bill Billings, Al Warfield, Tim Slaven, Hal Tyler and Ralph Sell.

The Lane's remarked on the difficulty of making critiques of these photographs. Clearly they were drawn from members' "best shots." They suggested that submitting less-than-the-best would generate more insightful critiques.

A round of applause thanked the Lanes for their efforts.

### **Roundtable**

Club members presenting photographs in roundtable were: Bob Jones (in absentia), Bill Billings, Gilpin Brown, John Garofalo, Hal Tyler, Larry Runyon, Steve Retherford, Ralph Sell, Tim Slaven, Al Warfield and Gary Sargent.

President Kathy Benham adjourned the meeting at 9:15.

Submitted by Ralph R. Sell, June 22, 2011