

Southeastern Photographic Society Exposure Notes

February 2011

www.spsatlanta.org

Our Next Monthly Meeting is March 4, 2011

March Competition - Travel

The primary criteria here is that the image must give the viewer a sense of place outside of Atlanta. This might be someplace out in the country [near Atlanta] or some far away land.

President's Message

FINALLY the weather is giving us some consistent spring-like days and nights to get out and shoot. Flowers and trees are starting to bloom and any minutes now they'll probably all be crushed by that surprise ice storm that seems to appear just as we think winter has finally loosed its hold. Oh well, it's the regular cycle of things here (with the exception of the unusual number of "snow days" we had) and very soon now we'll bumping into summer so we can start complaining about the heat and humidity.

Along with the quickly changing weather, we have our first SPS show of 2011! This is at a new venue for us, the Red Brick Brewery, and being a bit experimental we of course have an extremely tight deadline for entries. If you've been watching your SPS Meetup email you've probably already read about it by now and I know Josh will have more of the details later in this newsletter. We're excited about the opportunity to do our first corporate sponsored show and will be looking for more of those opportunities to exhibit SPS member's work to the public.

Also, if you're not able to participate in this show, don't worry – we already have several other shows lined up for this this year and will be publishing more details on those as we get closer (and you'll have more notice than with this first show). Our new show and gallery committee chair Sheila McIntosh is working very hard organizing these events and I know you'll all be very pleased with the results. If you know of any opportunities to show SPS work, please her know.

That's about it for me for this month. I'll see you all soon at an SPS meeting, workshop, or field trip.

Ken

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March Speaker and Judge

Our speaker and judge for our March meeting will be Marti Jeffers. Marti is an Atlanta based photographer whose love of photography spans more than 25 years. In 2006, after leaving a long and successful career as a software engineer, her interest in photographing people led her to create Marti Jeffers Photography, Inc., specializing in portrait and fine art photography.

One of Marti's passions is teaching and inspiring other photographers. In early 2007, she began teaching workshops with Craig Tanner and with Radiant Vista. She continued her passion for teaching with Craig Tanner and The Mindful Eye and contributing to the site. Marti was also the workshop coordinator for The Mindful Eye from 2008 through the end of 2010, planning and administering the workshop program, and running the program through Marti Jeffers Photography, Inc. In addition to teaching many workshops with Craig, she also taught Foundations in Photography for Women workshops for Radiant Vista and The Mindful Eye.

Marti has had the good fortune to travel to and photograph many scenic areas in the country. Her fine art prints are shown in various venues in the Atlanta area and are collected in the southeastern states. Marti has studied at the Southeastern Center for the Arts, Callanwolde Fine Arts Center, The Showcase School of Photography, Rocky Mountain School of Photography, and with photographers Larry Winslett, Craig Tanner and Mark Johnson. Marti continues to study and refine her photography with workshops every year.

Marti will be presenting a presentation titled "What do you see?"

"When you take a photography, what do you see? What do you really see? What attracted you to the scene and motivated you to click the shutter? Join Marti Jeffers at the next meeting of the Southeastern Photographic Society to explore what and how we see. Whether we are documenting a trip, making images of our family or making fine art images, what and how we see with our eyes before we click the shutter has a profound effect on the image we create."

For more information about Marti, and to check out her work, visit www.martijeffers.com.

Membership News

Please welcome the following 14 new and renewing members to SPS since February 1st. *Mary Bachner, Frederick Espy, Frank Fuerst, Joanne Green, Charles Harbin, Peter Kilpo, Al McLeod, Fritz Rauschenberg, Lani Rickard, Mike & Kareen Riley, Hoke Smith, Don Stewart, Nancy Stewart*

Congratulations to SPS Member Carl Fredrickson for being selected as a Finalist in The Nature Conservancy's 5th Annual Photo Contest! There were a lot of great images submitted and you can check them out [here](#). To go directly to Carl's image, click [here](#).

Also, congratulations go to SPS Member Al Levine. Al won a Silver Award in COLOR Magazine's "Color Single Image Contest 2011" for his image "Celebrate" in the Cityscapes/Streets category! The image will be published in the Special Issue #13 of COLOR magazine, scheduled to arrive on newsstands early March. There were only 15 winners in this category (out of a total of 390 entries comprising 2407 images).

If you are an SPS member and win an award, are published, or otherwise recognized for your **photographic talents, let us know! We'll spread the good news!**

Meet-A-Member—Harriet Dye

Where do you live in Atlanta? I live near Spaghetti Junction.

What is your profession? I am retired from state government. For most of my career I held various positions in Information Technology; my favorites were programming and later managing programmers and analysts, aka herding cats.

How long have you been a member of SPS? I first joined SPS about 1989 and was very active for many years, serving as president for two years in the mid nineties. Conflicting priorities, mainly work related, caused me to drop out of photography and SPS for a few years, but I found my way back a couple of years ago.



How long have you been into photography, and how did you get started? I bought my first SLR camera outfit in 1988 for multiple reasons. A friend had gotten a “real” camera, and his photos impressed me. I was also pretty ignorant, thinking that photography was the “easy” art form – after all, you just pointed the camera at something beautiful and clicked the shutter! The final impetus was that I was going to China so I prepared for my trip by purchasing my first SLR camera which I had no idea how to use. (Ironically, I returned to China 20 years later with my first brand new DSLR camera which I had no idea how to use. Some people never learn!)

Tell us about your equipment (camera brand, lens set up, gear, etc.) I have a Nikon D90 and Nikon lenses. I almost always use an 18-200mm zoom lens, but if I’m traveling, I usually carry a 50mm faster lens for places where the light is really low. If possible, I shoot using a tripod. Last year I replaced my old tripod legs with a Gitzo carbon fiber model. I use a Slik pistol grip head which I bought secondhand 20 years ago. For years, I used a fishing vest for shoots but finally upgraded to a real photo vest so my friends wouldn’t act like I wasn’t with them.

What are your favorite subjects/what inspires you? I don’t really have a favorite subject but enjoy travel photography. Have discovered lately that I really like the intensity of travel photography workshops. Shooting all day for several days with dedicated photographers and leaders like Larry Winslett and John Mariana both facilitates and forces learning more about equipment and photography. For the last year, I have been dabbling in black and white which is new to me. I usually photograph “found” subjects and scenes, but lately have thought more about ideas for creating specific images. I am constantly inspired by seeing others’ images and awed by the variety in subject matter and treatments. I find that the many excellent photographs presented at the SPS monthly competitions and critiques provide worlds of inspiration!

If you do your own post-production work, what software are you using? Compared with many, I’m pretty frugal about software. I used Elements for a couple of years and finally upgraded to CS4 at a bargain price just before CS5 was released. I recently bought Lightroom (again at a bargain price!) to try to get more organized. I’m tempted by the NIK software, but my next purchase will likely be an HDR product.

Do you do your own printing? What type of printer do you use? I do my own printing using an Epson Stylus R2880 printer. Love the printer, but if I had it to do over, I would pony up the extra bucks and go up a level to avoid having to switch out the printer ink for different papers. Next self assignment is to experiment with different papers.

Anything else you’d like to share about yourself or your photography? Just want to add how much photography and SPS have meant to me over the years – can’t imagine a better hobby! I have met so many exceptional, creative people at SPS who are willing to share their knowledge of and enthusiasm for photography. Thanks to all at SPS who make it possible but especially to Elton for all those Tuesday Learnshops! Also, thanks and kudos to Laura Kresmin for the portrait shown above.

Come In My Friend

by Tony Thaxton

Now that the weather is cooler you may not want to go outside to take those marvelous pictures. Well, there are numerous indoor venues to visit. But before you set out on a photo trek be sure to check the photography policy of your destination. Many of the museums, indoor gardens, and galleries allow photography; however, they have rules that may limit what you may photograph and what equipment you may bring along.

The *High Museum* allows pictures to be taken of some of their exhibits, but not all. At the entrance of the museum there is a photo cop at the front desk to review the policy with you. You are given a written photo policy to read and sign off on. You are then given a sticker to display during your visit to establish that you know the rules and are allowed to take pictures of the approved exhibits. Flash photography and tripods are not allowed in the High Museum. Please see their website <http://www.high.org> for additional information. From the home page select Visit and then Visitor Information. There you will find a paragraph on Cameras.

The *Booth Western Art Museum* in Cartersville allows non-flash photography of their exhibits. On a visit in early December I was told that I could photograph everything. And there is plenty to see there: photos, sculpture, artifacts, and a interactive hands on gallery. There is a restaurant inside the museum but it closes earlier than the museum (around 3pm). Please see the website www.boothmuseum.org or call 770.387.1300 for more information.

The *Atlanta Botanical Garden* has a large green house called The Dorothy Chapman Fuqua Conservatory. Here the garden displays various desert and tropical plants, and a few frogs too. There are five venues to the conservatory: the Main Lobby, Tropical Rotunda, Desert House, Special Exhibits and Orangery. Please be careful to protect your camera and lens when entering into the humid tropical displays, and when the plants are being watered from above. The Garden has a written photography policy that allows the use of tripods. You will need prior approval for professional and group photography. You can pick up a copy of the policy at the Visitors Center. Please see the web site www.atlantabotanicalgarden.org for additional information.

Zoo Atlanta has limited indoor exhibits. However, many of the animals are behind glass. The World of Reptiles is one such venue. The use of a polarizing light filter will be necessary for good results. This is one filter that can not be replaced with digital adjustments. One advantage of the cool weather is that the Pandas are displayed in their outside habitat. They are behind glass in the summer. See the web site www.zooatlanta.org for additional information.

On a recent visit to the *Hammonds House Museum* to see Charlotte Riley-Webs *No Crystal Stair* exhibition, I was told that I could take pictures as long as the art work was not the main subject of my photo. To find more locations like the *APEX Museum*, the *Fernbank Museum*, and many others Google Atlanta Museums. This will provide you with many locations to practice the art of photography during the long, cold winter months. But remember to check the policy before you shoot.

Tony Thaxton Jr.

" Since an image merits a thousand expressions"

Tony has been an SPS member for since October 2010, and interested in photography since the days of Kodak's Magicube.

Color Print Winners February 2011

Theme-Landscape Judge-Kim Bates

The subject for this theme should be a natural outdoor setting showing an expansive point of view. Grand vistas with few (if any) man-made objects are what we're looking for.

Laura Kresmin

Mike Boatright

1st

Gorge

2nd

White Rock Canyon at Sunset



Harriet Dye

3rd

Cover Acadia

Carl Fredrickson
Great Sand Dunes

4th



Bonnie Gallow

HM

Red Rock

Jackie Porteous

HM

Landscape—Maine



Digital Winners February 2011

Theme-Landscape Judge-Kim Bates

The subject for this theme should be a natural outdoor setting showing an expansive point of view. Grand vistas with few (if any) man-made objects are what we're looking for.



1st Paul Shimek
Love Valley-Turkey



2nd Chet Burgess
Bass Head Harbor Light



3rd Jim Gallow
Fire on the Mountain



4th Roy Gordon
Grand Tetons



HM Ken Ross
Main POV1



Laura Kresmin **HM**
Butte

Black and White Print Winners February 2011

Theme-Landscape Judge-Kim Bates

The subject for this theme should be a natural outdoor setting showing an expansive point of view. Grand vistas with few (if any) man-made objects are what we're looking for.



1st Mike Boatright
Taos Mountain



Al McLeod **3rd**
Galway Bay



2nd Mary Jean Jackson
Zion Isolation



Harriet Dye **HM**
The Sky's the Limit



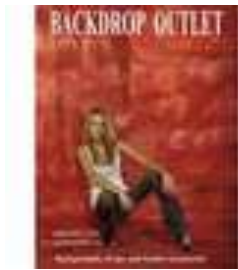
4th Jim Gallow
Pinnacle

*Image
not
Available*

HM Jack Martin
Cades Cove

SPS Club Sponsors and Supporters

Click on the image to access their websites.



Oops

Correction

Oops

Last month, one of the Honorable Mention winners in the Black and White category for the Open Theme competition was incorrectly attributed. Jim Gallow's image was included, but the other winner should have been Lee Goss, with his image "Man Day, Decatur, GA". Congratulations Lee. Sorry for the confusion.

HM



Lee Goss

Man Day, Decatur, Ga

Procedure for Digital Submission Image Sizing

SPS has a new digital projector. The new projector has much higher resolution, greatly expanded color gamut, and dramatically increased contrast ratio. All of our images should look much better on the screen as the new projector will handle them much more accurately.

One change you'll notice right away—the projector will fill less of the height of the screen. Because the picture is more oblong, keeping the sides in bounds means a shorter height.

High resolution projectors are designed for HD movie and TV content, and follow the HD specs. Our projector supports 1080p, meaning its resolution is 1920 x 1080 pixels. The old projector was 1024x768.

Aspect Ratio Change

Aspect ratio refers to the ratio between width and height. The 35mm / APS-C size all of our standard cameras produce is 1.5 : 1, meaning the width is one and a half times the height.

The old projector's aspect ratio was 1.33 : 1. This is why you had to either crop your horizontal images on the left and right or not quite fill the screen.

The new projector's aspect ratio is 1.77 : 1. Once again your image will have to be cropped a bit top and bottom or display some black borders.

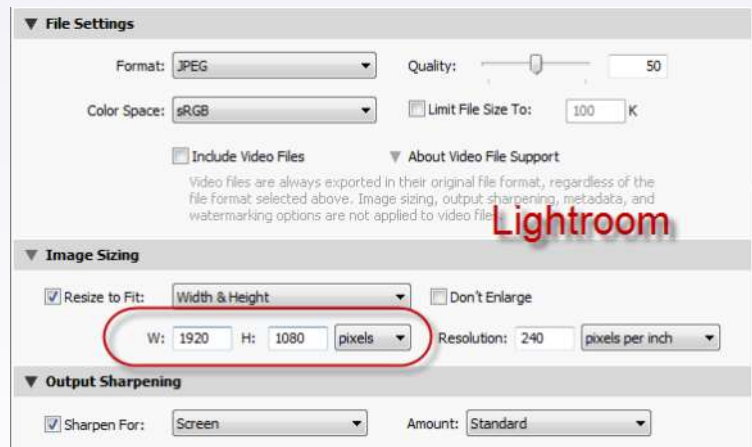
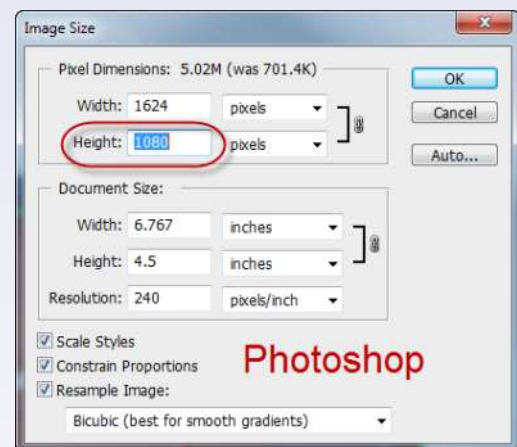
Sizing your image un-cropped

If you want to display your image un-cropped, size it so that it fits within the 1920x1080 projector dimensions. Both horizontal and vertical images will show some black margin on the sides.

Photoshop In Photoshop, for both horizontal and vertical images set the height to 1080 and allow the width to size automatically (it should end up around 1624 for horizontal and 718 for vertical). The projector will have empty black space left and right.

Lightroom

In Lightroom, set the Export Image Sizing to 1920x1080. These are constraints, so Lightroom will automatically size the image without cropping to fit in these dimensions.












2011 Competition Themes

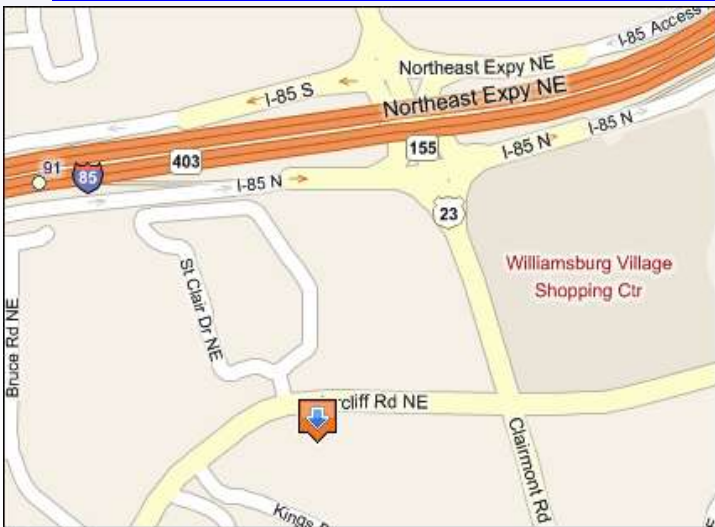
Meeting Dates Monthly / 4th Tuesday	Theme
January 7 / 25	Open (Vintage): The Open competition allows photographers to enter their best work on any subject. Since this is also a "vintage" competition, the image can be from any prior year (not just within the past 12 months as for the non-vintage themes).
February 4 / 22	Landscape: The subject for this theme should be a natural outdoor setting showing an expansive point of view. Grand vistas with few (if any) man-made objects are what we're looking for.
March 4 / 22	Travel: The primary criteria here is that the image must give the viewer a sense of place outside of Atlanta. This might be someplace out in the country [near Atlanta] or some far away land.
April 1 / 26	Macro: Show us a world in that is seldom visited, sometimes too small to appreciate in any other way. Macro is extreme close-up photography – the eyes of a bee, the ridges on a coin, or some other creative subject too small for us to appreciate without your skill and vision.
May 6 / 24	Portrait (not formal portraits): What we're looking for here is to have people (person) as the primary subject but not done as a formal portrait (not posed). Catch people in the act of being...people.
June 3 / 28	Churches and Graveyards: Explore the architecture and mood of these beautiful and sometimes haunting environments.
July 8 / 26	Death and Decay: No, not CSI photos – we're looking for images of deserted old buildings, rusting cars, deserted urban decay and maybe even some interesting dead trees. Since we already have a separate "graveyards" theme, let's avoid them for this theme.
August 5 / 23	Shot in the Dark: The obvious interpretation here is for an image taken in the dark, using natural or artificial lighting (including light painting). However, you're free to play with the theme if you have a different interpretation.
September 9 / 27	Flowers: Not much to clarify here – flowers of any and all varieties in any composition you can envision.
October 7 / 25	Patterns and Repetition: Repeating patterns is one of the strongest elements in art and something we always notice in photography. Here your challenge is to present strong repeating patterns or shapes (3 or more) in your composition.
November 4 / 22	Sunlight and Shadow: Light and shadow is what photography is all about and in this theme we ask you to really explore that relationship by making the light and shadows the actual subject of your image.
December 2 / 27	Members Choice: Show us your best image from the last 12 months whether you've already had it in competition or not. Digital submission only – no prints – and one image per person.

*4th Tuesday Topics To Be Determined. And Dates Subject to Change

*July and September Monthly Meetings are on the SECOND Friday due to holiday weekends

2011 Officers	
President 	Ken Ross ken@kennethrossphotography.com
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Exposure Notes

Published monthly by the Southeastern Photographic Society
 P. O. Box 49646, Atlanta, GA 30359.

Newsletter Submittals: Information and articles for the newsletter should be submitted two weeks prior to the meeting date. Articles should be sent electronically to Josh Earhart at the email address above (please no .pdf documents).

Meeting Location: The Southeastern Photographic Society (SPS) normally meets in the Fellowship Hall of *Briarcliff Baptist Church*, 3039 Briarcliff Road, on the first Friday of each month at 7:30 PM.

Directions: Take the Clairmont Road exit from I-85. Go south on Clairmont Road toward Decatur/Emory. At first light, turn right onto Briarcliff Road. Turn left **into the drive way adjacent to the wrought iron fence adjacent to Ed's IGA and park in the lot.** An awning labeled 7'6" CLEAR covers the entrance to the hall that leads to the Fellowship Hall.