

# Film Pack Camera Club

Columbia Council of  
Camera Clubs

# Adapter

Photographic Society of  
America

L. Jones Editor

March 2007

PO Box 2041  
Vancouver, WA 98668

## Programs

The March program will be the 2006 Best of the Northwest competition and the 4C's top 80 on March 27th. If you have wondered what the best of our competition looks like this is your chance.

## Field Trips

**Painted Hills, Prineville and beyond:** This three day trip leaves Friday April 20 and returns Sunday April 22. We will have all day Saturday in the central Oregon area to find those perfect images and have time for leisurely travel, with lots of stops for pictures, to and from Prineville. Smith Rocks State Park is also on the way. Even if you cannot make all three days we can meet you at the Motel in the morning or evening. We hope to catch the spring flowers in and around the painted hills and the fossil beds. Forest Grove Camera Club may be joining us on this trip. Book your lodging at Prineville Best Western 541-447-8080. They have rooms as of March 14 when Diana and I made our reservations. If you tell them that you are with Film Pack Camera Club the rate will be \$73.58 for a room with a King size bed. The rooms include microwave and refrigerator. There is a restaurant next door so we won't starve. There is at least one, probably more, quality eatery downtown. Mickey also has his eye on Sheep Rock where there are some interesting formations. Check out my Painted Hills image on our web site for a sample of what's there. <http://www.filmpack.org> [Start thinking of where you would like to go next.]

## Pictures for our website

**It's time to update our web pictures:** E-mail Lloyd images (up to 20) that you would like to have shown on our website. They need to be jpegs that are 520 pixels on the largest dimension. If you have a question give Lloyd a call.

## Words from the president (fearless leader) Chuck Sanders

1. We have been asked to provide judges for a local civic calendar photo contest. Any one interested in being a judge please let Chuck know. The dates have not been finalized yet.
2. The photo shoot- in was discussed and had an overall good reception. Some discussion was held as to the possibility of upgrading it to make it a profitable venture for the club. Any ideas?
3. Your votes on the digital projector need to be turned in to Chuck or Lloyd. If approved we need knowledgeable volunteers to sit on a committee to make recommendations to the board as to what to buy. **Last day to vote is March 31 2007.** If approved we need to be ready to use it next club year.
4. End of year activities are fast approaching. Volunteers needed to scout out a good eatery for our awards banquet. It is normally held the next week after our last meeting. This gives the photo chairpersons time to finalize awards.
5. End of year judging will soon be in order for all clubs. Judges will be needed. Mickey will be doing PSA judging in April. Volunteers to help him?
6. The Parks and Rec. still needs photos shot of their activities. This is a good way to meet people and hone your skills.
7. We will need a new slate of officers for the next season. All members are eligible to participate. Volunteer yourself or propose someone for the board positions. The President position is easy so jump in.
8. Think get well thoughts for Lloyd and Diana as they cope with his surgery
9. A welcome to all the new faces we have attending now. This is the place for all those interested in photography. If you need help in an area we will try to provide it. If you can teach us new skills we welcome the chance to learn.

## Goodies list and Schedule

March 2007		April 2007		May 2007	
6th	Board Planning..... C. Sanders	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Board Planning..... C. Sanders	1 <sup>st</sup>	Board Planning..... C. Sanders
13 <sup>th</sup>	Slides (Projected images).....C. Winston	10 <sup>th</sup>	Slides (Projected images)..... R. Belt	8 <sup>th</sup>	Slides (Projected images).....N. Chappelle
20 <sup>th</sup>	Prints..... B. Demming	17 <sup>th</sup>	Prints..... R. Bergen	15 <sup>th</sup>	Prints.....D. Fischer
27 <sup>th</sup>	Program.....C. Snell	24 <sup>th</sup>	Program..... M. Bonner	29 <sup>th</sup>	?? Annual Dinner???

**The above folks are responsible for bringing snacks and juice to the meeting.  
If you cannot bring goodies please call Sandy Matis at 450-2068 and arrange a swap**

## Slide Category for 2006 – 2007

Sept. 12 <sup>th</sup> .....	Spirals	Oct. 10 <sup>th</sup> .....	Chrome	Nov 14 <sup>th</sup> .....	Voluptuous Vegetables
Dec 12 <sup>th</sup> .....	Odd Couple	Jan. 9 <sup>th</sup> .....	Centered Subject	Feb. 13 <sup>th</sup> .....	Coffee Break
Mar. 13 <sup>th</sup> .....	Blue Moods	April 10 <sup>th</sup> .....	Rock, Paper, Scissors*	May 8 <sup>th</sup> .....	In the Distance

(\*Choose one or more)

Mickey says THANKS for bringing some slides to the Tuesday meeting.

## Print Categories for 2006 - 2007

Sept. 19 <sup>th</sup> .....	Rim Light	Oct. 17 <sup>th</sup> .....	Stars combined with earthly presence
Nov. 21 <sup>st</sup> .....	Group shot (4 or more)	Dec. 19 <sup>th</sup> .....	High key lighting with white background
Jan. 23 <sup>rd</sup> .....	Demonstrate speed	Feb. 20 <sup>th</sup> .....	Night scene (not stars)
Mar. 20 <sup>th</sup> .....	Leading Lines	April 17 <sup>th</sup> .....	Abstracts from nature
May 15 <sup>th</sup> .....	Still Life		

## Judging and Scoring

Ever wonder what the judges are looking for during their evaluation of an image? I have included these pages from the 4C's web site in hope that it will make clear or at least clearer. Please take a look below since we all judge sooner or later.

Most of the clubs in the Columbia Council of Camera Clubs participate in interclub judging of images. This guide has been developed with the objective of assisting individuals and clubs in the 4Cs with their judging responsibilities. It presents a set of guidelines for judging and the reasons behind them, an overview of the scoring system, and scoring guidelines. It also includes a single page summary of judging info for clubs to copy and share with members.

### JUDGING OVERVIEW

Anyone can decide whether a photograph is appealing, but skilled judging is about more than a personal reaction: it requires a good understanding of how photographs communicate. For a description of characteristics to look for in evaluating a photograph, see the 4Cs' document "A Guide to Evaluating Photographs". When you have been selected to be a judge, this means a group of your peers think enough of you as a photographer to ask you to judge their work. This is the ultimate honor your peers can confer on you as a photographer. Always treat the invitation accordingly.

### JUDGING GUIDELINES

The 4Cs asks that judges of 4Cs' competitions observe the following nine guidelines:

- 1) Use the 9-point scoring system described later in this document.
- 2) Be consistent: do not change your scoring in the middle of a session. This most often occurs when a judge notices that his or her scores are generally higher or generally lower than the scores of the other judges. The goal for a judge is to score the images so that, in the judge's best opinion, all of the 9s are better than all of the 8's, all of the 8's are better than all of the 7's, and so on all the way down. If a judge changes scoring in the middle of a session, this will not be true. It may even become embarrassing if you find that your scores are much different than the other scores, but you must stay consistent throughout the entire judging session for complete fairness of the competition.
- 3) Set aside your personal biases on subject and style. A judge has the simple but serious challenge of being as fair as possible to all photo entries regardless of personal biases or emotional response to a subject. Even though art is subjective, simply reacting to the image is not adequate; it is important for a judge to analyze his or her reaction to an image, screen out any personal bias, and using consistent reasoning in evaluating the image. This is not easy, but is critical for fair judging.
- 4) Do not indiscriminately apply the "Rules of Composition." The "rules of composition" are one-size-fits-all guidelines that in many cases are completely inappropriate for a given image. Evaluate composition based on how it works in the image, not how it follows or fails to follow the rules.
- 5) Do not give a disproportionate number of high and low scores. It is possible for one judge to single handedly determine the winners in a competition by giving only scores that are either very high or very low. This is not an acceptable practice in 4Cs' competitions. For almost any collection of images, the majority of the images will fall in the middle of the group, fairly close in quality to the average for that particular group. Every judge's scores should reflect this.
- 6) Take lint, dirt, and fungus into account if significant. It is the responsibility of the slide and print chairmen for each club to make sure the images submitted for competition are clean and are shipped such that they will arrive clean. So if there is a lot of material on the image, score it down to the extent that the debris is distracting. However, realize that even a clean slide may pick up a small amount of debris during projection. So if the amount of debris is limited, give the photographer the benefit of the doubt.
- 7) Take scratches into account. It is the responsibility of the slide and print chairmen for each club to make sure the images submitted for competition are free of significant scratches. So if an image has a noticeable scratch, score it down to the extent that the scratch is distracting.

- 8) If you see an image that looks like it was computer generated or manipulated, score it normally: this is okay in 4Cs' competitions.
- 9) Judges are discouraged from discussing images during the preview and initial scoring stages of judging.

## SCORING OVERVIEW

A 4Cs' competition should use a panel of 3 judges, each using the 9-point scale described below. The minimum *total score* an image could receive would be 3 points (1 point from each judge) and a maximum of 27 points (each judge giving a score of 9). Ideally, a judge should not know how another judge has scored an image before presenting his or her own score. As a result, verbal scoring is discouraged. Where possible, use scoring machines, individual scoring sheets for each judge, or score cards. If verbal scoring is the only option, rotate the order in which judges call out their scores. Most judges will find it helpful to preview all the images in a competition before starting to score; previewing makes it easier to maintain scoring consistency throughout a session. If time allows, you may opt to preview them multiple times. Clubs are encouraged to judge prints in a well-lit environment.

## SCORING GUIDELINES

All 4Cs' competitions should be judged on a 1-9 scale (unless specifically noted otherwise). Please use the following guidelines in giving scores:

- **1 POINT:** Use this score to disqualify an image. An image may be disqualified if it clearly infringes on another artist's copyright or if it is submitted for a category competition and you feel that it clearly does not fit.
- **2 POINTS:** The image shows serious technical defects: gross under or over exposure, very poor focus or significant (and clearly unintended) camera movement, or similar problems.
- **3 POINTS:** The image either has significant technical defects, serious shortcomings in image content, or some combination of these problems. Because most of the photographers who compete in 4Cs' competitions have at least some photographic experience, this score and lower scores are rarely awarded in 4Cs' competitions.
- **4 POINTS:** The image does not have significant technical defects or serious shortcomings in image content. However, it may have minor technical defects, and the content (composition, lighting, etc) is not well handled.
- **5 POINTS:** The image is acceptable in most respects but does not create any significant interest.
- **6 POINTS:** The image is reasonably solid, creating at least a little interest. Technical aspects and image content all competently handled. This is generally the average score for 4Cs' competitions.
- **7 POINTS:** The image is very strong. Handling is a notch above competent, and the image rewards contemplation.
- **8 POINTS:** The image is exceptional: unique and worthy of special recognition. You should feel excited about the image.
- **9 POINTS:** The image is of the very highest quality; equal to the best you have seen. You feel that it should win a medal in salon competition or slide of the year in 4Cs' competition. This score is awarded only rarely in 4Cs' competitions.

## Evaluating Images

This document is a brief summary of considerations for evaluating image quality. It is not intended to be comprehensive; if you seek a thorough guide, there are many other sources available to you, i.e., in bookstores, libraries, or members of your club. However, much of the evaluation of images, especially in a camera club context, can be distilled into a relatively small number of concepts. All photographers' benefit from at least considering the following points, and judges in particular should be used to thinking about them. When you are judging prints, you have the actual print quality to evaluate as well as the image content.

### BASIC TECHNIQUE

- ◆ Is focus appropriate for the subject? Is depth of field appropriate?
- ◆ Is it exposed in a way that works for the image?

### SPECIAL TECHNIQUE

- ◆ Are special techniques like multiple exposure, sandwiching, panning, or cross processing used effectively?
- ◆ If the image is digitally manipulated, is the manipulation done well?

### COMPOSITION

- ◆ Is the image balanced or unbalanced? Is the balance level appropriate? If there is a main center of interest, is it well placed in the frame?
- ◆ Are there distracting elements in the picture that could be eliminated?
- ◆ Are there too many unrelated elements? Too few elements?
- ◆ Does the composition make effective use of leading lines?
- ◆ Is depth used (or not used) to good advantage?
- ◆ Does the composition make use of repeating forms?

- ◆ Does the framing work? Or Mergers?

#### **LIGHTING**

- ◆ Does it show off the subject well?
- ◆ Is the contrast level appropriate?
- ◆ Is there lighting that would work better for the subject?
- ◆ If the lighting is controlled, is it well controlled?

#### **SUBJECT/INTEREST**

- ◆ Does the subject have interesting connotations or associations?
- ◆ Color interest?
- ◆ Interesting textures?
- ◆ Interesting juxtapositions?

#### **ORIGINALITY**

- ◆ Does the image show an original subject or an original approach to a standard subject? Is it anonymous, or does it show a visual signature or convey a personal vision?

#### **STORY/MOOD**

- ◆ Does the image effectively tell a story or convey a mood?

#### **PRINTING TECHNIQUE**

- ◆ Is the contrast level appropriate for the image?
- ◆ Are there artifacts that make any dodging and burning too noticeable?
- ◆ Is toning well handled?

Image Competition Rules And Guidelines 07/20/02  
Billy Burke, APSA, Forest Grove Camera Club  
John Dean, FPSA, Spokane Valley Camera Club  
Max Burke, Boise Camera Club  
Rick Charlton, Oregon Color Slide  
Carol Todd, Oregon Coast Photographers' Association  
Ed Gervais, 4Cs Vice Chair, Boise Camera Club  
Gordon Battaile, 4Cs Chair, Forest Grove Camera Club

#### **Film Pack's Officers**

President	Chuck Sanders	Vice Pres. / Program Chair	Doug Fischer	Secretary	help!
Treasurer	Milt Johnson	Slide Chair	Mickey Simonson	Print Chair	Diana Jones
EID Chair	Doug Fischer	Parks Coordinator	Cliff Snell	Goodies Coordinator	Sandy Matis

4C's Reps are Milt Johnson and Chuck Sanders

**It is not too late to join Film Pack Camera Club for the 2006 – 07 season.**

Send \$20 (\$30 for 2 members at the same address) dues to Milt Johnson PO Box 2104, Vancouver, WA 98668. Or better yet join at one of our meetings.

**Visitors are always welcome to meetings and field trips!**