

## From The President

**Which lens should I use?** I learned a very important lesson about lens selection during our FWCC outing a few weeks ago to the Wichita Mountains in Oklahoma.

In the last six months or so I have read and also heard that it has become more desirable to take images of wildlife that include their surrounds than just a close-up of its head. With that in mind I hurriedly put my 14mm wide-angle lens on my camera body and set out through the campground to where Don had seen a bison leisurely eating in an adjacent field. To my delight this large beast seemed not even to notice me approaching. Stopping at about 30-35 feet, I looked through the viewfinder. The lens was quite new and I had not used it much so

was totally surprised at how small the bison appeared – almost an incidental part of its surroundings. I certainly didn't want a judge to look at this picture and say, "***I'm not sure what the subject is!***" so I began slowly walking forward while looking through the viewfinder. Reaching the point where I was pleased with the composition I glanced up from the camera just in time to realize that I was within 12-15 feet from Mr. Bison who now had his tail straight out behind him and his head lowered –but he wasn't eating!! As I quickly sidestepped he went thundering past shaking the ground beneath my trembling knees.

Back at my campsite, I pondered how it must have looked to this bison to have me approaching him

with what appeared to be a 3.5-inch eyeball. Along with the flood of relief and thankfulness came feelings of embarrassment and shame that I had carelessly put others in the campground as well as myself in jeopardy.

**Which lens should I use?**

While it is very true that you can control the size and look of the background, depth of field, and detail in the foreground of an image by the focal length of the lens you choose, there are other important factors that should be taken into consideration.... *things like safety!* Needless to say, my bison pictures were all taken with at least a 200mm lens even those taken from my kayak. After all, bison might swim!

**BJ Beckner**

### Photographic Society of America 65th Annual International Conference of Photography Houston, Texas

September 1 - 6, 2003 Adam's Mark Hotel 29 Briarpark Drive Houston, Texas

You do not have to be a member of PSA to attend this conference. Anyone with an interest in photography is welcome to attend. PSA's website has the listing of the programs to be presented at the conference now online. Be sure to check out the Program Page. Registration Forms are online and available to download. They are in Adobe Acrobat PDF format and can be printed on any printer - laser or inkjet. On the Conference Information page, you can find the schedule for the various Division meals that have been planned along with the menus.

Visit <http://www.psa-photo.org/conference/index.html> for more information.



## Fort Worth Camera Club 2003 Governing Body

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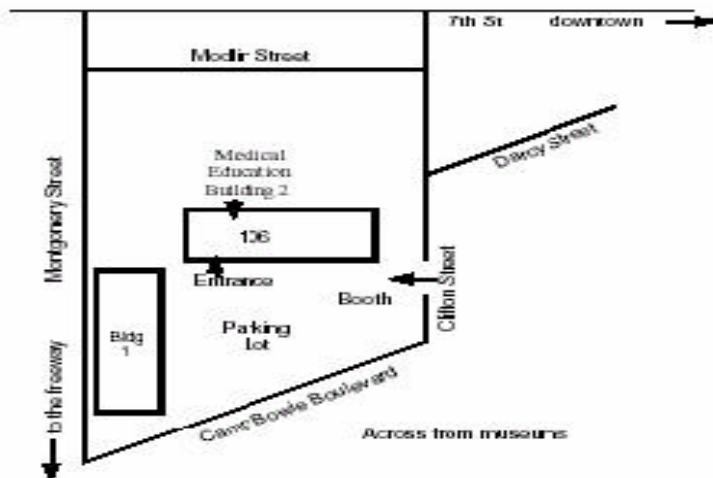
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## Meetings

First and Third Thursday, 7:30 pm  
(every month except December)

North Texas Health Science Center  
3500 Camp Bowie Blvd  
Medical Extension Building 2, Room 2-106  
(room is on the ground floor)  
Map shows parking lot A on Clifton

contact: B J Beckner, 817-361-8662  
4636 Brandingshire Place, Fort Worth, TX 76133



## MAY 2003 COMPETITION RESULTS

<u>Title</u>	<u>Score</u>			<u>Title</u>	<u>Score</u>		
<u>Class B Color Prints</u>				<u>Class A Color Prints</u>			
Waiting for Flight	7			Pillars with a Red Tree	13		
Red Maple in the Gardens	10			Pretty Poppy	12		
Purple Majesty	11			Azaleas and Stone	10		
Spring is Green	11			Nature's Flower Pot	10		
Water Droplets	12	HM	Grace Mercado-Marx	Golden Light	11		
Garden Gates	13	3rd Place	Mike Gill	Exotic Blossom	9		
Morning Glories	15	2nd Place	Grace Mercado-Marx	Frog Gazing Over Garden Pool	13		
Reflection of a Water Lily	15	1st Place	Don Beckner	A Peaceful Place	9		
				Snow on the Bridge	9		
<u>Master Color Prints</u>				Mr Goldfinch on the Thorn Tree	14	HM	BJ Beckner
Brandon, Victoria, & Max	12			Water Flowing Beneath the			
Splash of Fall	11			Garden of Pansies	15	3rd Place	Joanna Sherman
Happy Go Lucky	12			Red Velvet	15	2nd Place	Barb Miazgowicz
Cats on a Ladder	11			New Born Leaves	15	1st Place &	BJ Beckner
Even Tide	12	HM	Donald Dashfield			Judges Favorite	
Keeping Cool	13	3rd Place	Pete Vollenweider				
Harbor Bridge, Corpus Christi	15	2nd Place	Ken Spencer	<u>Artistic Expression Prints</u>			
Cooling Off	15	1st Place	Dick Coers	From My Perspective	9		
				Balance	10		
<u>Class B Slides</u>				Haiku and Bamboo...	11		
Japanese Silhouette	10			In Full Bloom	13		
Bamboo Path	12			Accented Palm	14	HM	Grace Mercado-Marx
Reflections in Stone Path	10			Angles, angles, everywhere	14	3rd Place	Barb Miazgowicz
If I Don't Move, Will They See Me?	10			Botanic Frog	15	2nd Place	Ray Sampson
Fishing Spot	11			Psychodelic Gourds	15	1st Place	Dick Coers
Watching the Falls	11						
A Pair of Beauties	13	HM	Joyce Jackson	<u>Black &amp; White Prints</u>			
A Place in the Sun	13	3rd Place	Ken Marx	Under the Bridge	13		
On Close Inspection	15	2nd Place	Don Beckner	Lonely Bush	13		
Dew Laden Rose	15	1st Place	Don Beckner	Patterns in the Sky	11		
				Wagon Wheel	14	3rd Place	James Donnell
				River Road	15	2nd Place	Curtis Daniel
				Electric Tower	15	1st Place	James Donnell

Historic Camp Bowie Initiatives is producing a new and exciting festival for the cultural district in Fort Worth, Sept. 19th & 20th. The inaugural *Jazz By The Boulevard* will feature a celebration of culturally enriching performances of all types of jazz, from classic and big band, to Latin and rhythm & blues. Their goal for the festival is to blend a blissful union of music, art, food and ambiance; to embrace, both tradition and innovation; and to usher in a new era of expansion and redevelopment in the historic district of Fort Worth focused on heritage, education and unforgettable cultural experiences.

HCBI is inviting you to participate by submitting an application for the professional craft / fine artist market. You may download the application from the website at [www.fortworthjazz.com](http://www.fortworthjazz.com) (the website is currently under construction, however the application is available). We hope you join us and help support this exciting new event as we embark on a startling journey to provide a significant gift that will reverberate in our community for years to come.

The widow of former member Ed Murphy, Marie Murphy, has 7 or 8 Kodak Carousel slide trays she would like to sell. Call her at 817-927-8026, if interested.

## MAY 2003 COMPETITION RESULTS

<u>Title</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Score</u>
<u>Class A Slides</u>		<u>Masters Slides</u>	
Zen from the Shadows	11	Leaves	13
Bee 4 the Ice Storm	11	Iris Group	13
Stepping Stones	9	Sunlight and Shadows	10
Quiet Place to Rest	8	Frog Fountain	10
Walkway to the Roses	11	Resident	11
The Bud	13	Gotcha'	12
Inner Glow	12	Portal to the Redbuds	10
Red Poppies	10	Top of the Crop	13
Fast Flight	9	Charred Leaf Detail	14 HM
Spring Flowers	11	A Monet Moment	14 3rd Place
Spiral Tree	11	Whisking in the Wind	15 2nd Place
Bench Among the Roses	14 HM	Joanna Sherman Floating on Light	15 1st Place &
Heyday in the Palms	14 3rd Place	Barb Maizgowicvz	Judges Favorite
Blossom of Yellow	15 2nd Place	Darren Huski	
Infrared Garden Scene	15 1st Place	Jack Milchanowski	

**Visit our website!**

<http://www.fortworthcameraclub.com>

*If you have any links of interest, articles or items for the calendar, please email me at [gmercadomarx@charter.net](mailto:gmercadomarx@charter.net) or fax 817-232-8982.*

*Thanks!  
Grace Mercado-Marx*

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Jun 5	FWCC meeting
Jun 5-8	Fort Worth Botanic Garden - Concerts in the Garden
Jun 6-7	Fort Worth Botanic Garden - North Texas Daylily Show
Jun 12-15	Fort Worth Botanic Garden - Concerts in the Garden
Jun 19	FWCC meeting
Jun 19-22	Fort Worth Botanic Garden - Concerts in the Garden
Jun 26-29	Fort Worth Botanic Garden - Concerts in the Garden
Jul 3	FWCC meeting
Jul 3-6	Fort Worth Botanic Garden - Concerts in the Garden
Jul 17	FWCC meeting
Aug 7	FWCC meeting
Aug 21	FWCC meeting
Sep 1-6	Photographic Society of America 65th Annual International Conference - Houston, TX
Sep 4	FWCC meeting
Sep 18	FWCC meeting
Oct 2	FWCC meeting
Oct 11	Fort Worth Botanic Garden - Fall Plant Sale
Oct 16	FWCC meeting
Oct 18-19	Fort Worth Botanic Garden - Fall Festival in Japanese Garden
Nov 6	FWCC meeting
Nov 8	Fort Worth Botanic Garden - B G Squirrel Run
Nov 20	FWCC meeting
Dec 6	Fort Worth Botanic Garden - Birds' Christmas Tree

## DISPOSABLE CAMERAS

We participants in this year's shoot-out were required for the first time to take all our pictures using only disposable or "throw away" cameras. We had to put away our expensive cameras with all their fancy features such as auto exposure, auto focus and zoom lenses and use cameras whose only feature was a shutter release and maybe, depending on the camera, a flash. We discovered that these little inexpensive cameras (\$10 or so) are really good at what they are designed to do, expose 35mm negatives with sufficient sharpness and exposure to produce a good 4 x 6 inch print.

So how do they do it? What's the trick? The trick is that print film has an extremely wide tolerance for over exposure (a decent print can be made from a negative overexposed by as much as 5 or 6 stops). The manufacturers realize that the average snap shooter will be taking pictures in a wide range of lighting conditions so they use a fairly fast film usually 400 or 800 ASA and then install a camera lens with an aperture sufficient to provide the proper exposure for low light levels such as deep shade. When the camera is used in a full sun condition, overexposing the film by 4 stops or more, a reasonably good print can still be made.

The Kodak camera I bought for the shoot out used ASA 800 film with a lens set at f10 and a fixed shutter speed of 1/100 second. The sunny 16 rule states in full sunlight the appropriate exposure for any film is f16 with a shutter speed of 1/the films ASA. This would indicate that the proper exposure for my camera in full sunlight should be f16 at

1/800 second but the camera was set to expose the film at f10 and 1/100 second the equivalent of f16 at 1/40 second or 4 ½ stops over. Because of the films latitude, this was good enough for direct sunlight and great for conditions in lower light.

So what about the flash? The flash produced its maximum output every time. It didn't vary the amount of light like the more expensive flashes most of us own. So why doesn't it overexpose the film in certain instances? Well, in fact it can, if used at too close a distance while shooting in bright light. Kodak wants the flash to go off with every exposure figuring that most shots would be taken outside at normal distances of 6 feet or more where the flash could act as a fill light or inside where the flash would really be needed. Tests I did with the camera gave overexposure with flash in bright sunlight at distances of 4 feet or less. Distances of more than 4 feet would have produced a satisfactory print even in direct sunlight with the flash.

OK. So the cameras handle exposure alright but what about focus? Well, most if not all the disposable cameras, have wide angle lenses. Wide angle lenses have wider depths of field, especially at smaller apertures. If the lens is pre-focused at its hyperfocus distance, the depth of field is extended to the point that focusing is not necessary. The 30mm lens on my camera produced a fairly sharp image from around 3 feet to infinity.

Why 27 exposures instead of the 24 or 36 we expect to get from a roll of film? To avoid having to include the gearing to rewind the film, the manufacturers pre-load the film completely

unspooled from the canister. The user then rewinds the film back into its canister as it is advanced frame by frame. This is why some camera counters count backwards. When we load film ourselves, a few inches of film are wasted as we pull out enough to reach the take up spool. Since the manufacturer loads the film in the dark and it then gets pulled back into its canister, the film normally wasted can be used, yielding 3 extra exposures.

Unless you ask, the camera will not be returned when you leave it for processing. This is because the camera is sent back to the manufacturer for recycling. I dissected my camera, a Kodak Max HQ flash, which I bought for \$10.95 (the second one was \$9.95 with a coupon) and found quite a bit of electronics associated with the flash and an elaborate spring and gear mechanism controlling the shutter, flash sync and film counter. The entire mechanism including the two element lens was assembled as one piece which was snapped into a plastic clamshell along with a AA battery. It was obvious this piece could easily be tested and slipped into a new plastic housing for reuse. This is why the camera sold for \$10.95. If Kodak had to build the entire camera from scratch each time, the price would have had to be much higher.

This may be the first time many of us have had the opportunity to shoot these disposable cameras and some may be surprised at the photos they can produce. They really are a well engineered product at a very affordable price.

**Ken Spencer**



This guide aims to reveal the secrets of good panoramic photography and to help amateurs and professionals alike create the very best panoramic images not just for use on websites but also for CD or print too.

Visit <http://www.panoguide.com> for more information





## 2003 COMPETITION SCHEDULE

	Master	B & W Prints	Color Prints	Slides	Artistic Expression	Enter	Judged
<b>January</b>	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	2-Jan	16-Jan
<b>February</b>	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	6-Feb	20-Feb
<b>March</b>	Open	Open	Song Titles	Spirals	Open	6-Mar	20-Mar
<b>April</b>	Open	Hands	Open	Open	Open	3-Apr	17-Apr
<b>May</b>	Open	Open	Botanic Gardens	Botanic Gardens	Open	1-May	15-May
<b>June</b>	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	5-Jun	19-Jun
<b>July</b>	Open	<b>Self Portrait - Face</b>	Open	Open	Open	3-Jul	17-Jul
<b>August</b>	Open	Open	Open	Open	<b>Architecture</b>	7-Aug	21-Aug
<b>September</b>	Open	Open	<b>Stockyards</b>	Open	Open	4-Sep	18-Sep
<b>October</b>	Open	<b>Silhouette</b>	Open	<b>Transportation</b>	Open	2-Oct	16-Oct
<b>November</b>	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	6-Nov	20-Nov

- Hands** One or more hands at rest or at work
- Self Portrait - Face** A self portrait with the face as the center of interest
- Silhouette** Any subject with strong back lighting but still distinguishable
- Song Titles** A photograph that illustrates the song title ; the song title must be the title of the photograph
- Botanic Garden** All images taken within the confines of Fort Worth Botanic Gardens of subject matter within the Gardens
- Stockyards** The photograph must have been taken in the close vicinity of the Fort Worth Stockyards
- Spirals** A three dimensional curving object such as a watch spring
- Transportation** Anything that moves people or things from one location to another
- Architecture** A building regardless of type or size

## PHOTOSHOP PLUG-IN FILTERS

Dear Ken and Grace Marx and the Fort Worth Camera Club,

I'd like to make you aware of two unusual, useful and affordable Photoshop-plug-in filters (from [www.theimagingfactory.com](http://www.theimagingfactory.com)) which surprisingly quickly and easily correct two very common but previously bothersome-to-correct problems.

"Squeeze" corrects the unflattering widening distortion that becomes especially disturbing when wide angle lenses are used on 3-dimensional subjects (e.g., people) near the edge of the photo. Squeeze will return to normal appearance people near the edge without affecting those near the center and without bending straight-line architectural elements into a fisheye effect.

"Vignette" corrects illumination falloff (vignetting) from wide angles -- especially noticeable in traditional extreme wide angle designs for large format where the corner

illumination could be as little as 14% of center, almost 3 stops darker (cosine to the 4th power), and could traditionally be only partially corrected with very expensive custom center-filters. It corrects falloff from telescopes and mirror lenses or fast lenses used at wide apertures. It also corrects for uneven spatial (non-radial) illumination patterns from flash. Or, you can choose to instead deliberately introduce creative vignetting.

A story in itself, these filters are the result of an unusual collaboration between a software developer in the Netherlands (Oscar Rysdyk: [opgr@theimagingfactory.com](mailto:opgr@theimagingfactory.com)) and one of his customers halfway around the world in California (me). Their creation is a rare example of a programmer actually listening to the needs of his customers.

Although I'm just a satisfied customer, I am naturally anxious that these two products become widely known, used and enjoyed by professionals as well as snapshotters. Para-

doxically I've found that it was the snapshotter who more quickly grasped the need for and benefits of these two filters, having repeatedly experienced the disappointments arising from the problems they correct -- I suspect the pros have learned to avoid those situations whenever possible.

Please download the filters at [www.theimagingfactory.com](http://www.theimagingfactory.com) and enjoy their full functionality free for 30 days. You'll probably wonder why no one ever thought of creating them before. I'm sure you'll be pleased with the results and find them quite indispensable.

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact Mr. Rysdyk or me.

Thank you,  
Francis Sakamoto  
[telescapes@earthlink.net](mailto:telescapes@earthlink.net)

**FORT WORTH CAMERA CLUB**

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*The Fort Worth Camera Club is a non-profit organization, founded in 1930, dedicated to the cultivation of photography as an art form and hobby through the sharing of knowledge.*

**Member**  
Gulf States Camera Club Council  
<http://www.gulfstatesccc.org>



**Why Join FWCC?**

*To share with others our knowledge of and interest in photography as a form of artistic expression. Club activities are group activities that allow us the satisfaction of sharing our experiences and learning from others. The myriad of photographic interests and capabilities within the group help us achieve a higher level of technical ability while nurturing our capacity to see.*

**FORT WORTH CAMERA CLUB  
Official Newsletter**

Return Undeliverable Mail To:

4125 Staghorn Circle South  
Fort Worth, TX 76137-1159

