

## Camera Club of Oak Ridge

## Oak Ridge, Tennessee Newsletter

This month's meeting – Tuesday, March 10, 2009, 7:30 PM at Roane State Community College, Oak Ridge Campus, 701 Briarcliff Avenue

THE DIGITAL PROJECTOR IS ON THE WAY: We currently have a digital projector on order! That is the result of saving over time, generous member donations, and workshop fund-raising. We have resisted jumping into this technology because of the lack of money necessary to buy suitable equipment for our purposes. We could always wait longer and save more money to buy better; however, the board of officers consisting of myself as president, Hal Smith as program chairman, Bob Stone as competition chairman, and Tony Habenscheus as Secretary/Treasurer; have met and decided that, because our members have expressed their strong desire for digital projection and have made contributions showing they are serious about it, we should proceed. The projector ordered is nowhere near the ultimate but believe it is better than most of them you see used in our area. We also wondered whether we should go ahead with the projector or wait until we could also purchase the necessary software and computer but decided to proceed with the projector purchase. We will continue building our equipment fund to make those necessary purchases as we have the means. If you are one of those who wanted digital projection and have not yet contributed; you still have the opportunity. I am going into detail because this is important to the club and will impact how we conduct our meetings.

We will still do prints! There will be both a print category and a digital projection category. With experience with the equipment in hand, we will establish standards and procedures for digital submission.

### **FEBRUARY MEETING:**

Our speaker for the February meeting was Bruce Cole; a local photographer who has traveled the world with his work, has done considerable commercial photography, and was director of photography for IPIX for 10 years. IPIX was an immersive photography company where he earned recognition as an international expert on immersive photography. He is currently freelancing

and teaching Advanced Digital Imaging at Pellissippi State Technical Community College.

Bruce gave an informal talk with pictorial examples of his commercial work and also discussed the fascinating world of photography where you can literally look around the room - ceiling to floor or 360 degrees around the room. He explained how this was accomplished using only two (2) cameras and software to stitch them together. It was a very interesting talk with unusual photography which everyone found very entertaining. This was a change of pace which was enjoyed by all in attendance.

### **MARCH MEETING:**

Bob Stone has selected an interesting topic for our monthly competition with the broad subject of INANIMATE OBJECTS, which includes traditional still life, architectural details, and other objects smaller than a car. Baldwin Lee, of the University of Tennessee, will be the judge; so, let's have a good showing of entries to best utilize his time. Even if you do not have a "great" entry, please try to bring something so that we can have a better learning experience. The more entries we have, the easier it is for the judge to give helpful information to our group.

We have stressed the "learning" aspect of the monthly competitions, where we can take advantage of the specialized skills of our professional judges. The success of our new members should give confidence to those who have just joined our club. Please bring an entry to contribute to the program's success. The judge will answer questions and make comments concerning the good and areas needing improvement for many of the prints including many of those not receiving an award.

Recently, there have been many questions raised about the requirements of our monthly contests. Although the Annual Salon has very formal requirements, our monthly requirements are less stringent. Most of you know the rules by heart; but, the following will be a quick guide



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for our new members. A wide variety of mounting and print sizes are acceptable for this forum but here are a few points to remember. The smallest print size is 60 square inches (i.e., 6"X10"= 60" or 8"X 10"=80) and the largest is 320 square inches (i.e., 16"X20"=320). The mounting board can be anything but a 16"X20" X1/4" thick form core board is inexpensive and preferred. The print can be mounted using two sided tape designed for this purpose, spray glue, or any other method is OK. Print the name of the photograph, the photographer's name, and a direction arrow for UP on the top left hand corner of the back of the print or mounting board. Matting is not necessary or normally done for print judging, but is acceptable. The most important aspect of the image is that it should reflect the theme of the competition. We vary the topic and try to have judges who are especially good at that subject; and, who can use this forum as a tool of instruction.

LIGHTING WORKSHOP FUND RAISER:

Ron McConathy and I conducted a lighting workshop primarily emphasizing basic studio portrait lighting in a way that hopefully helped participants with everyday photography beyond the studio. All the profit was added to our equipment fund which also included money donated by our members. Our member's show of support has been gratifying and had material rewards as well as intrinsic ones. Our goals of education, fund raising from the event, significant member donations, and club exposure were all met. Thank you for this support! We still have significant needs in this area for ancillary equipment. If you have a suitable lap top computer, which you can donate to the common cause, it certainly is needed and would be appreciated. If you have not contributed, and feel that this endeavor to buy digital projection equipment for the club has value to you, please make a donation marked for this purpose to our treasurer, Tony Habenschuss.

If you have either positive or negative comments, we would like to hear them.

We owe our thanks to Ron McConathy for his considerable effort, knowledge and time required to present such a quality program. Larry Perry promoted our workshop

which generated a lot of interest and Roane State gave the use of their facilities. This project was a success on many levels and we would like to hear from you on additional ideas for similar programs.

#### **IDEAS:**

We are soliciting your ideas for programs, competition topics, and new projects that you would like for your club to address. Please let these, and any other suggestions, be known.

Thanks to all of you who make this club work!

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