



3CT In Focus

Winners in 3CT Photo Contest

Congratulations to those who placed in 3CT's first photography contest. With the theme of "State and National Parks of Tennessee," many beautiful images were submitted. The judges, Lori Kinkaid, Steve Copen, and Mark Gilliland, had a tough job of selecting the winners.

Below is the image that won the Best of Show. Other winning images may be seen beginning on Page 6.



Best of Show
"Icy Fingers"
Wanda Krack, Cookeville Camera Club

Depth of Field for the Technically Challenged

By Sue Milligan

I hate to admit that I am technically challenged but unfortunately it is true. Aperture (those crazy f-stops), shutter speeds (all those TV choices) and how they relate have never come easily to me. I struggle with them to this day. I am probably the last person who should be writing on the subject, or I just might be the perfect person because I will have to keep it as simple as possible for my sake as well as yours.

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President's Message by Sue Milligan, 3CT President



It is both a relief and a bit of a letdown when you wrap up a project you've been working on. There is also a sense of accomplishment, even as you ask yourself what you might have done differently. I am sure Activities Director, Dee Murphy, who organized the interclub field trip experienced this; that Secretary, Pat Gordy, has the same feelings and thoughts when she finishes each monthly newsletter; that our V.P./Web Master, Ron Plasencia feels the same after adding to or updating the Website; and now, as Les and I wrap up the interclub photo contest, we will have a bit of time to reflect and regroup before moving on to the next project. But first I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who entered the Camera Club Council of Tennessee's first interclub photo contest; the judges who did an amazing job and didn't complain when I asked them to break the 9 ties for 3rd place; and last but not least the 3CT Club Reps who helped spread the word. On behalf of 3CT, congratulations to all the winners!

The deadline for the PSA Council Challenge was June 1, and using photos from the interclub contest, I managed to get the entries in at the very last possible moment in two of the three sections, color and mono. Unfortunately, we were unable to enter the print section. (The Board will have to figure out if there is a way 3CT can get into that category next year.) We were able to enter 10 digital images by 10 different makers in each of the two sections. Individual winners will be selected and a ranking for all the groups that entered will be decided and an overall winning "group" will be identified. It is going to be interesting to see how 3CT compares to other groups. You might want to check out the 2011 winners at: <http://www.psa-photo.org/clubs-and-councils/councils-of-clubs/council-s-challenge/> and go to the 2011 slide show of winning images towards the bottom of the page. Entering this contest was actually a year two goal but the timing worked, and we can now add another "first" to the Council's year one accomplishments.

So, now it is time to start planning our Fall Field trip! It is going to be hard to live up to the standard the LeConte Photographic Society set with the Smokey Mountain Spring Fieldtrip but I have no doubt that one of the Council Member Clubs will step up and meet the challenge. In the mean time, I wish everyone a wonderful summer, jam packed with great photographic opportunities.

The Camera Club Council of Tennessee is proud to be an active member of the Photographic Society of America (PSA). Click [here](#) to learn more about PSA and the advantages of being an individual member or a club member of PSA.



3CT Governing Board

President: Sue Milligan

Vice President: Ron Plasencia

Secretary: Pat Gordy

Treasurer: Les Milligan

Web Master/Editor:
Ron Plasencia/Titus Bartos

Membership Director:
Randy Harris for Jim Bruner

Publicity Director: Position currently open

Activities Director: Dee Murphy

Education Director: Jeff Roush

Member Clubs

Brentwood Camera Club

Cookeville Camera Club

Fayetteville Photo Club

Great Smoky Mountains
Institute at Tremont

Jackson Photo Club

LeConte Photographic Society

Memphis Camera Club

Nashville Photography Club

Photographic Society of
Chattanooga

Photographic Society of East
Tennessee

Southern Appalachian Nature
Photographers

<http://3ct.org/>

3CT Board Member Feature: Randy Harris, Membership Director

This month Randy Harris steps down as President of the Nashville Photography Club, he says, "It has been a rewarding experience." He adds, "If anything was learned, it was the more members that you can involve, the healthier the Club will become." He thinks that presidents should be "visionaries" - looking at the club's future and keeping members involved.

In addition to serving his local club, Randy has filled in for Jim Bruner as the 3CT Membership Director during Jim's illness.

In 1976, Randy purchased his first camera, a Canon AE-1 Program, and says "The camera was very popular due to the "automatic" features."

In the late 70's, he won his first photography contest, *The Tennessee* sponsored Kodak Photo

Contest. The winning prize was \$75 and the photo was exhibited at the Kodak Gallery in New York's Time Square.

In the 80-90's, Randy's interest turned to golf and bass fishing but as retirement approached, he was drawn to his daughter's digital camera. He quickly became hooked on digital photography.

Currently, Randy uses a Canon 5D MkII and 7D. His new photography interest is lighting. With strobes and speedlights the opportunities are endless.

During the past two years, Randy was able to shoot the entire season with the Riverdale Lady Warrior Basketball team. The girls won the State AAA Championship and #5 ESPN Girls Hoops. In addition, recently Murfreesboro hosted the TSSAA Spring Fling.



The sports shooting opportunities were numerous.

Randy's other interest in photography is with the Stones River National Battlefield. This New Year will be the 150th Anniversary of the battle. Several of his photos of the Civil War activities have been published by the Stones River Battlefield.

Murfreesboro is where Randy and his wife, Sherry, reside, and much of their free time is spent at the activities of their three grandchildren.

Featured Club: Memphis Camera Club

The Memphis Camera Club (MCC) organized April 1, 1893, exists to promote and educate about photography. The club strives to address the needs of photographers at all skill levels through field trips, photo competitions, educational programs and speakers.

Meetings are held on the first four Thursdays of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Longinotti Auditorium in the back of St. Francis Hospital off Park Street. On the fourth Thursday, the club has a free to anyone basic photography class - this month's topic is "Image Capture and Processing."

The club has just over 100 members ranging from newbies to professionals. There are even some members still shooting 35mm film. Steve Copen, one of the judges for 3CT's Photo Contest, is the President of the Memphis Camera Club.

Go by for a visit if you are traveling through or vacationing in the Memphis area. You may check them out at <http://www.memphiscameraclub.org>. You may also follow MCC on Facebook or read about the club on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/MemCameraClub>.

Education Corner: Depth of Field for the Technically Challenged

By Sue Milligan

Continued from Page 1 (Be aware that different brands of cameras use different symbols and codes for Aperture and Shutter Speed, so check your manual for these if necessary.)

Depth of Field (DOF) is nothing more or less than an area in your photograph that is in acceptable focus. Where that area falls and how deep or shallow it is, is your choice to make. The aperture you choose will control this.

Once you identify your subject look all around it and decide, what in the surrounding area adds to the story your photo will tell and what distracts from it. You might want the entire picture clear or just the front, middle, or back in focus. You also need to assess your available light and decide what millimeter (mm) lens you will be using. So far, so good; we haven't had to touch the camera yet.

Keep this in mind when choosing your lens, *focal length effects two things: the size of the subject in the frame and the intensity of the light that reaches the sensors or film.* Start at 50mm and go down to 25mm and you will cut your subjects size by half...go up to 100mm and you will double the subjects size.

The focal length of a lens is the distance from the center of the lens to the sharp image it forms on the sensor; 25mm equates to one inch, 50mm two inches, 100mm 4 inches, etc. The longer the lens, the less intense the light reaching the sensor will be. Fortunately f-numbers calculate the relationship between focal length and aperture for us (f-8 on a 25mm lens and f-8 on a 100 mm lens will give you the same results all else being equal). If you are using a point and shoot camera with a fixed lens, the zoom feature lets you control the focal length.

- *The shorter the focal length of the lens, the greater the depth of field at any setting.*
- *The longer the focal length of the lens, the less the depth of field at any setting.*

Time to pick up the camera! Now I know it is tempting to turn that dial to fully automatic, and there are situations when that just may be the best answer, but lets assume we have time to think about what we want to achieve. A better choice is to set your camera on either Aperture (AV) or Shutter Speed Priority (TV), depending on the type of photo you are taking, and let the camera automatically select the best setting for the other.

Assuming you understand that Aperture Priority allows you to control how large the shutter opening will be and allows the camera to choose the shutter speed (how long the shutter will stay open) you only need to remember a few things:

- *The smaller the aperture (higher the f-number) the greater the depth of field.*
- *The larger the aperture (lower the f-number) the shallower the depth of field.*

That brings us back to those crazy f-stop numbers. It seems backwards, doesn't it? There is a logical reason for this but you can live without the details if you can just remember: **THE LARGER THE F-NUMBER THE SMALLER THE OPENING!**

Continued on Page 5



Education Corner...continued

- *Opening up one full f-stop doubles the amount of light entering the camera.*
- *Closing down one full f-stop cuts the light in half.*

The scale looks like this:

1...1.4...2...2.8...4...5.6...8...11...16...22...32...44...64,

The secret is that a full f-stop is two steps forward or back, so think of it like this

1.....2.....4.....8.....16.....32.....64
1.4.....2.8.....5.6.....11.....22.....44

(**Note:** the numbers double in each row so a full f-stop would be 1 to 2 or 1.4 to 2.8 etc.)

Be aware of the shutter speed choices the camera is making for you when you are shooting in aperture priority. When you get the feel of it you may just want to take matters into your own hands and select both AV and TV yourself.

Just a few more things that might be helpful when choosing the aperture you want to use:

- *The smaller the aperture the larger your margin for error when focusing (in other words, you have a larger area in which the subject will be in acceptable focus);*
- *The larger the aperture the less margin for error.*
- *You have twice the depth of field behind the point of focus as there is in front of it at any aperture.*
- *The farther away you focus the greater the depth of field.*
- *The closer, less depth of field.*

Understanding Depth of Field and all the options of “selective focus” it offers us is a big step forward in the creative process of photography. By varying the DOF you can create different effects, focus attention on your subject, and simplify your picture by drawing attention away from distracting elements. The possibilities are limitless so get out there and experiment. Set your camera on aperture priority and take the same picture using several different aperture settings. You will be amazed with the effects you can get.

Your Help Is Needed

If you have a good speaker in your club who might be interested in speaking to other clubs, please let 3CT know. A contact and a short description of the program, including subject and type (show and tell or educational) will be needed. You might also review speakers, other than your own club members, who you think other

groups might enjoy! Providing speaker info is probably one of the best ways 3CT can help its member clubs. Send this information to president@3ct.org

If you have written an educational article on any aspect of photography that might be helpful or of in-

terest to 3CT members and you would like to share it, please send it to secretary@3ct.org

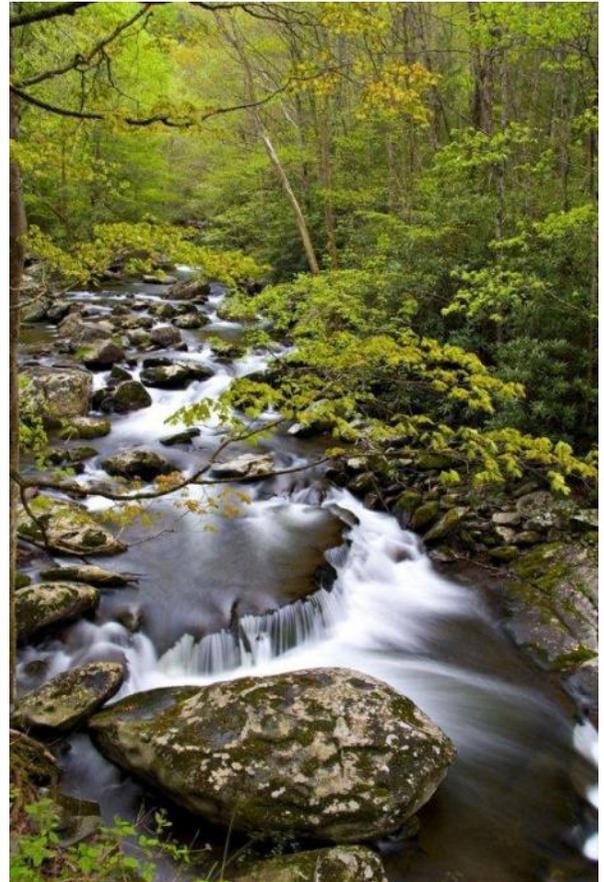
and it will be considered for publication in *3CT in Focus*. Also please share news about your club events ahead of time so it may be put into the newsletter.



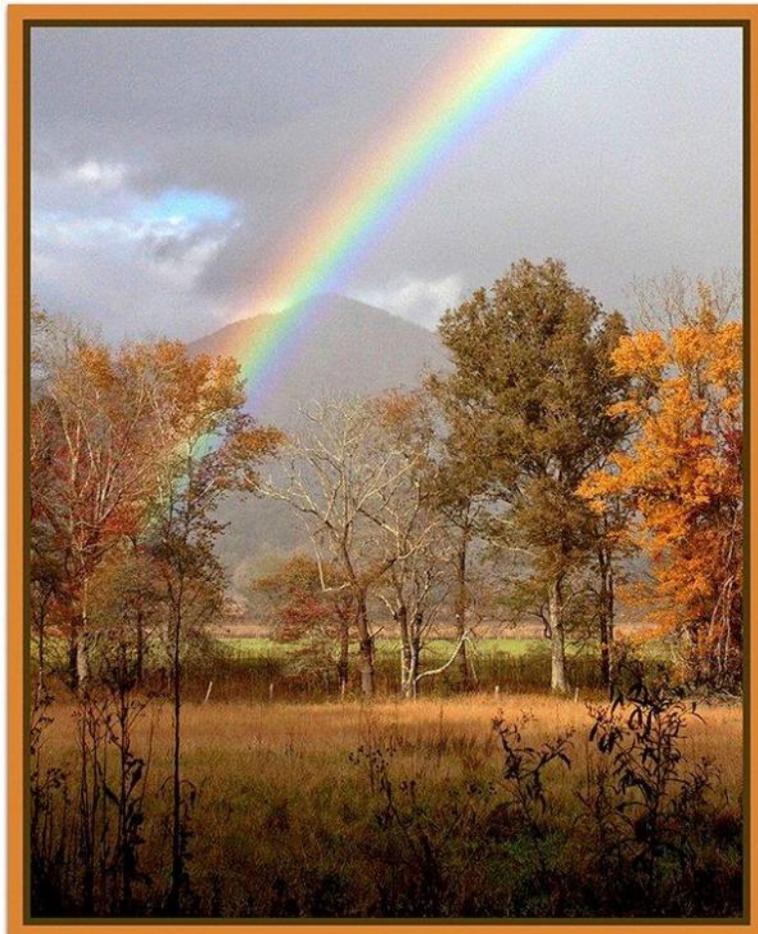
3CT Photography Contest Winners



1st Place
“Last One Standing”
Brent Wright, Nashville Photography Club

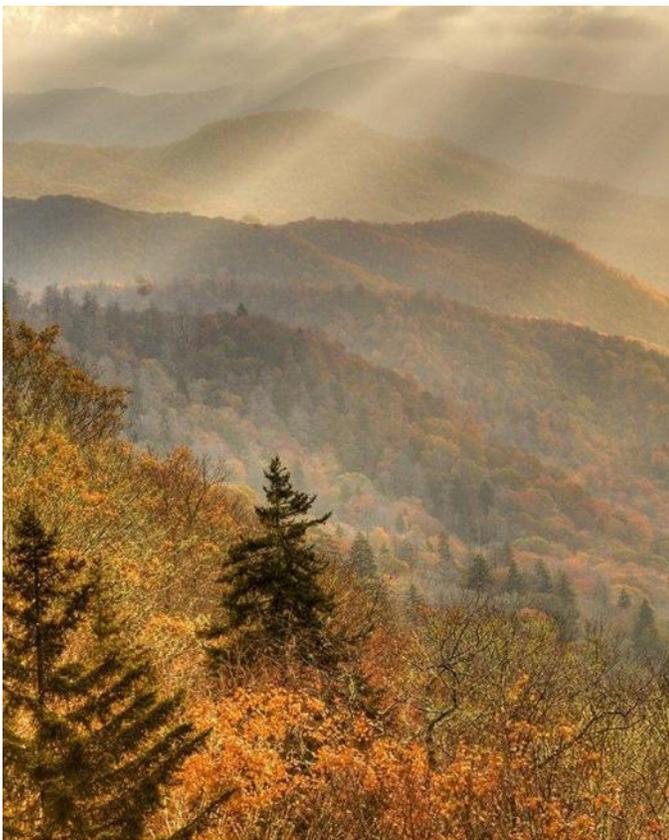


2nd Place
“Tremont, Middle Prong”
Grady Deal, Cookeville Camera Club



3rd Place
“Cades Cove
Rainbow”
Eleanor
Langford,
Cookeville
Camera Club

3CT Photography Contest Winners



HM

“Spring Rays”

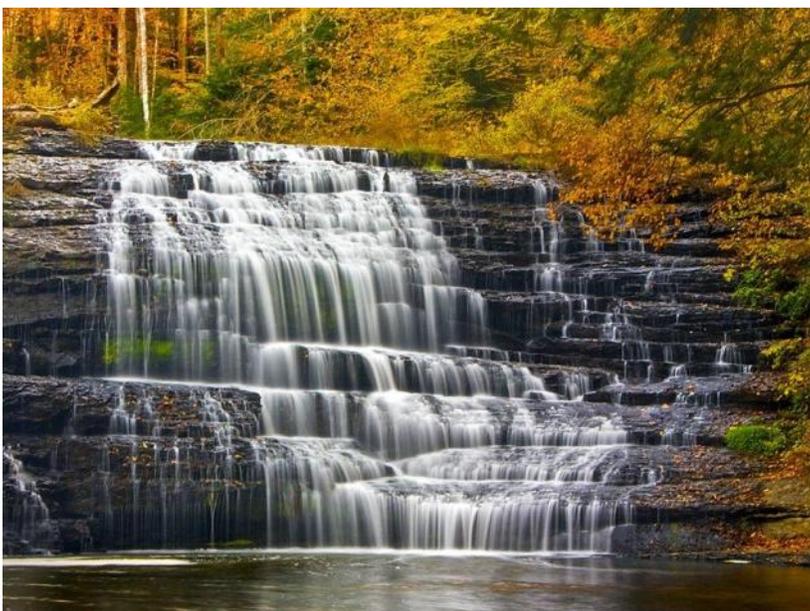
Wanda Krack, Cookeville Camera Club



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“Sun Rise at Reelfoot State Park”

Robert Melgar, Cookeville Camera Club



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**“Middle Falls in
Autumn”**

**Wanda Krack,
Cookeville
Camera Club**

3CT Photography Contest Winners



HM
"Cascades"
Brent Wright, Nashville Photography Club



HM
"The Boss"
Randy Harris, Nashville Photography Club

3CT Photography Contest Winners



HM
"The March"
Randy Harris, Nashville Photography Club



HM
"Cades Cove Morning Fog"
David Morel, Brentwood Camera Club



HM
"Mountain Frosting"
Dreda Murphy, LeConte Photographic Society

3CT Photography Contest Winners



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“Ethereal Cades Cove”

Lin Trentham, LeConte Photographic Society



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“Smoky Mountain Dawn”

Rick Barnard, Memphis Camera Club

Events of 3CT Member Clubs

If your club is a club member of 3CT and you want your club's event (special speaker, seminar, etc.) posted in 3CT in Focus, please send the information to Pat Gordy at secretary@3ct.org

The LeConte Photographic Society will sponsor a photography program entitled "Motley Outdoor Photography" by professional photographer **Harold Stinnette** on June 16, beginning at 10:00 a.m., at the King Family Library, 408 High Street, Sevierville. The program will consist of Harold's outdoor images ranging from wildflowers to city skylines. This program is **open and free to the public**.

Growing up in a rural town in eastern Tennessee, Harold developed an appreciation for nature and a love of being outdoors from his earliest days.

In recent years, Harold has channeled his photographic passion into several commercial enterprises: Natural Impressions, which offers photography workshops based in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park; Harold R. Stinnette Stock Photography, working with advertising agencies both in the US and abroad; and supplying images to a variety of periodicals such as *Outdoor & Travel Photography*, *Birder's World* and *Outdoor Photographer*. Harold's

images have also been featured on numerous postcards, books, calendars and billboards.

Harold's deep affinity for his Tennessee home and his love of sharing it with other photographers lay the base for his informative and creative workshops. As his schedule permits, he also offers private guide services in the East Tennessee area.

The Nashville Photography Club has **Kevin Banks** scheduled to present "Exploring New Zealand" on June 19. See more details at the club's website: <http://www.nashvillephotographyclub.com/>

The Photographic Society of Chattanooga, in conjunction with Canon, and Chattanooga State Technical College, will hold its annual seminar with **Eddie Tapp** as the presenter on Saturday, June 23, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. "Crafting Digital" is the topic of the seminar. Cost is \$30 for non-PSC members. Register online at <http://chattanoogaphoto.org/eddie/> Also, **Jim Zuckerman** will present "Essential Ingredients to Taking Great Pictures" at PSC's regular meeting on June 21, 7:00 p.m. Jim specializes in wildlife, nature, and travel photography, photomicroscopy and digital effects.

Book Review by Sue Milligan

For the last several years I have kept four small, but amazing books by Freeman Patterson on my coffee table, not as décor, although they look good there, but as a constant reminder of the kinds of photographs we can create if we open our minds to all possibilities, and also to remind me that I don't have to go any further than my own little world to create amazing images.

They are part of a series of five instructional books on photography and visual design including

Photography for the Joy of It, Photography and the Art of Seeing, Photography of Natural Things, Photographing the World Around You, and Photo Impressionism and the Subjective Image.

Don't ask me why I didn't purchase *Photography of Natural Things*, I am sure it is just as delightful as the others. In fact, I think I will add it to my Christmas Wish List right now! Actually, I picked these four books up from the library first and then decided that I had to own them.

These books are starting to show some serious wear because I thumb through them often. I never tire of looking at his beautiful photographs and I have highlighted all the things I want to be sure to remember. His writing style is delightful and I dream of having the time to do all of the exercises that he suggests.

I highly recommend them to anyone who has not read them. They are for people who truly want to see!

