

## NEWSLETTER

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### Special points of interest:

- For Ever Florida photo safari Nov. 19th
- Best Picture of the Year club contest Dec. 01
- Club officer elections at Dec. 01 meeting
- 2006 Photographic Print Exhibit intake Jan. 16

## ANSEL ADAMS AND THE ZONE SYSTEM

BY: ANNE MALSBAR Y

Has everyone seen the Ansel Adams show at the Vero Beach Art Museum? I saw it approximately 15 to 35 times. Yes, I am a great admirer of Ansel Adams. I have read all the books by him and about him and have been to three workshops to learn his Zone System. If you have never heard of the Adams Zone System or have heard of it but are not sure what it is ...it's a system of dividing a possible image into tones, from the whitest tone to the blackest and giving those tones a number between 1 - 10. One being the blackest and 10 the whitest.

So how does the Zone System work? It's a combination of testing your film, your chemicals and your developing times in the darkroom. One problem...many of us do not have darkrooms. So how can you utilize it without doing your own developing. Well, I think I have figured it out. Yes, you do have to test your film. Find a black and white film you like the best. (I don't believe this will work with digital. Sorry... but then, I could be wrong.) I personally use Tri-X 400 ISO film. I set my ISO at half the film's rating so I set my ISO at half the film's rating so I set my light meter at 200 ISO. Years ago Kodak recommended you do that when using their black and white film. Why they didn't rate it at 200 to begin with was a question I never got answered. I then point my 1 degree meter at the darkest



Hackberry Hammock by: Anne Malsbary

area I want to photograph that will have some detail in it and make that a zone 3. Your meter will read it as if its zone V which means you will have to open up two stops. I suggest you start out by bracketing. Bracketing is when you shoot two stops below the meter reading, then one, then on target and one stop up then two stops up. Adams always photographed a f/16 making the shutter speeds slow requiring the use of a tripod. This is extremely important for obtaining the clarity in the closest items to the farthest away. A fast shutter speed will not give the lens time to focus close up or far away. If your camera does not allow you to set the ISO manually, then I would bracket 4 or 5 stops more each way. When

I took my film to the lab that I would be using ALL the time (Southern Photo comes to mind in Florida), I asked that they develop the film without correction and keep the photos in order with the negative so that later I can look at my notes and compare the photographs. Which one gives me better detail in my B&W pictures? Is it exactly what the meter read? Is it a stop over, a stop under? It took a couple

INDIAN RIVER PHOTO CLUB



www.irphotoclub.org



*“One of the most important benefits of club membership, is the learning opportunities club members afford one another ”*

*Bill Menzies*

## MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 22, 2005 MEETING

President Bill Menzies opened the meeting at 7PM. He introduced a new member and welcomed visitors. There were 40 people in attendance.

Mike Ricciardi invited everyone to sign up for the picnic on Saturday at the River House. At 1:30 there will be a photo opportunity as wildlife will be brought in for the afternoon. He reminded everyone of the photo of

the year contest on December 1st and the Vero Beach Museum contest coming up in January.

Before he started the program, Pat Rice informed everyone that a car pool trip to Forever Florida is planned for November 19th. Pat's program was on Photoshop. As his computer screen was projected overhead, he guided us through some of the steps he uses in the

program. Pat's emphasis about Photoshop was how easy the program is to use, it's inexpensive, and has a good organization of photos. He emphasized its simplicity, and that much can be accomplished with the help of a couple of books he recommended.

Following tonight's contest (category was open), the meeting was closed at 8:50PM. Submitted by **Jeannine Demers.**

## MONTHLY CONTEST WINNERS

### Color Prints—Class A

1. Richard Deyo—"Teddy Toucan"
2. Barbara duPont—"Penaquid Lighthouse"
3. Mike Ricciardi—"The Palouse in its Golden Phase"

### Color Prints—Class B

1. Amy Spence—"Disco Yoga"
2. Donna Green—"Weathered Latch"
3. Betsy Matheney—"Self Portrait"

### B & W Prints Class B

1. Betsy Matheney—"View Between the Windows"

### Digitally Altered Class A

1. Richard Fisher—"Oz Head"

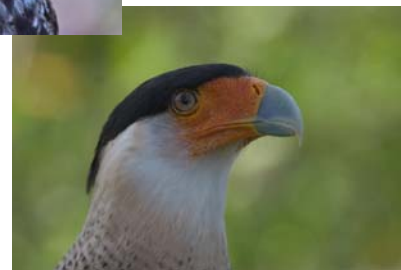
### Digitally Altered Class B

1. Sarah Loudermilk—"Mother's Caress"

## SEPTEMBER CLUB PICNIC

We had a wonderful Picnic on Saturday September 24 with 41 people in attendance. Bush Wildlife brought four guests to be photographed. They were very professional models, beautiful feather, gorgeous enigmatic eyes, and loved to be photographed. The barbeque was outstanding and a great time was had by all. We encourage everyone in our group to participate in our outings, the next one will be Saturday, November 19, a car pool to Forever Florida.

**Pictures & text by Maria Heffernan**



# BITS & PIECES

### For Sale or Swap table

Each month the items are growing. Please label your items for sale with contact information, price, etc. Also consider bring in old photography related magazine and books. One member last month offered several magazines to members for free rather than discard them in the recycling bin. If you have a large item which you do not wish to bring to the meeting please bring pictures of it.

### Election of Officers

The slate to elect officers for next year are as follows:

- Mike Ricchardi—President
- Pat Rice—Vice President
- George Bachman—Treasurer
- Donna Green—Secretary

### Forever Florida Field Trip

We will all meet at the Cracker Barrel Restaurant on Route 60 near I-95 at 8:00 AM on Saturday—November 19th to car pool. The cost of admittance is \$20/each and there will be facilities available to purchase lunch. A great opportunity to capture some native Florida wildlife. Be sure to mark your calendars.

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## MONTHLY CLUB PHOTO CONTEST THEMES

- October 27th Night Time
- Dec. 1st Best Picture of the Year
- Jan. Landscapes
- Feb. Open
- Mar. Pets
- April White on White, Black on Black, Green on Green, etc.....
- May Open
- June Doors and Windows
- July Architecture

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## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



President  
Bill Menzies  
772-569-8842

Secretary  
Donna Greene  
772-562-1945



Newsletter Editor  
Carolyn Shafer  
772-340-5570



1st Vice President  
Mike Ricciardi  
772-231-3588



Treasurer  
George Bachmann  
772-778-8995



2nd Vice President  
Pat Rice  
772-569-8213



Trips Coordinator  
Maria Heffernan  
772-461-1811

We need volunteers to:

- Assist with member check in at meeting.
- Assisting with monthly photo check in / contest
- Greeting guest and new members.

Indian River Photo Club

P.O. Box 1491  
Vero Beach, FL 32961

We're on the web  
[www.irphotoclub.org](http://www.irphotoclub.org)

*The Indian River Photo Club exists to promote the art and science of photography and to encourage the learning of the skills necessary for such promotion, and to provide an atmosphere, through meetings and programs, whereby friendly relationships between the member photographers can be realized.*

## OCTOBER PROGRAM

Our October meeting will be held in the Florida Room at the Vero Beach Community Center on 10/27 at 7:00. This month's program will feature Pat Rice describing some special effects in photo editing software.

Please bring any photo equipment you may have that you would like to put on the sales

table. We will try to give each member with something to sell time to describe the item and give the asking price.

If you attended the Club Picnic last month, please bring in any photos taken for our "show and tell" table.

Please log on to our web page

to familiarize yourselves with the "Best Photo of the Year" Rules and the January IRPC "Photographic Print Exhibit" at the Art Museum in January. We also have the point used for judging included for your reference.

## ZONE SYSTEM *CONTINUED*

of years of bracketing for me to gain my confidence in my readings and instincts.

Keep in mind that you have to consider the tones of the whites and blacks and particularly the light when deciding to photograph anything. If there is not enough differences in the tones, it will turn out bland. If you have to matte your work in black in order to achieve the contrast you want, you didn't get it right. Its' only correct if you

can matte your work in white and it will still look fantastic! Keep in mind, this is the mechanics of it, but one thing I learned about Ansel Adams was his heart and soul was in his work. He would spend an entire day at one particular site photographing until he was confident he had captured the essence of the scene. If there is more than a 4 stop difference in the whites and blacks, then you need a darkroom and that's a whole

other article. Please, if you have any questions, you may email me at: [annemalsbary@earthlink.net](mailto:annemalsbary@earthlink.net) Identify your message as a photo question and I will try to answer it.

**Anne Malsbary**

## WEEKLY SNAPSHOT

Scripps Treasure Coast Newspapers run a weekly snapshot of pictures taken on the Treasure Coast. If you want to submit a picture you may email it to: [brightman.brock@scripps.com](mailto:brightman.brock@scripps.com) or mail it to Scripps Treasure Coast Newspapers, c/o Brightman Brock, 1939 S. Federal Hwy., Stuart, FL 34994. Tell Brightman where your photo was taken and remember, the photo must be

taken on the Treasure Coast. They also ask that you include a daytime phone number and a stamped envelope if you would like your photo returned.

The Pelican Island Wildlife Festival in March 2006 will sponsor a photo contest as they do every year, check their web page early in the year to get contest rules

<http://www.nbbd.com/npr/pips/index.html>