

## Film Pack Camera Club



# A dapter

Photographic Society of America http://psa-photo.org/

Editor: Jon Fishback June 2011

Meetings will be the 1st, and 3rd Tuesdays of each month September through May at the Marshall Center 1009 E. McLoughlin Blvd, Vancouver WA 7:00pm—9:00pm

News from another photography world.







Robert Mapplethorpe

Estimate: 100,000—150,000 USD **Lot Sold.** Hammer Price with Buyer's Premium: **313,000** USD

PRICE REALIZED \$158,500

#### Do you wish to compete?

Examine the lives of people who have truly excelled in any of the arts – music, theater, dance, sculpture – and they have one characteristic in common: the capacity to commit themselves wholeheartedly to their chosen disciplines. They do it every day. No excuses. A dancer, for example, cannot compete at even the lowest level without years of daily exercising; a pianist cannot perform at a concert after having taken a nine-month break; actors are not given roles in a Shakespeare play because they feel they should be. So why should photographers expect to reserve one-person exhibitions or publications without similar dedication? Are the standards in photography so low that success can be achieved with so little effort? Of course not.

David Hurn, On Being a Photographer: A Practical Guide by David Hurn, Bill Jay, ISBN: 1888803061, Page: 88

# Goodies list and Schedule

September 2011		October 2011		November 2011	
6th Images	R. Fishback	4th Images	D. Funderburg	1st Images	A. Hendrick
20th Program Night	P. Fossa	18th Program night	J. Harrision	15th Program Night	M. Johnson
27th Board Meeting	D. Fischer	25th Board Meeting	D. Fischer	22nd Board Meeting	D. Fischer

The above folks are responsible for bringing snacks and juice to the meeting. If you cannot bring goodies please call Sharon Deming 360-896-9476 and arrange a swap.

#### FILM PACK CAMERA CLUB SCHEDULE FOR 2011

June 7 END OF YEAR AWARDS DINNER

June 9 / 10 FIELD TRIP STEPTOE BUTTE PALOUSE COUNTRY

July 14/15 FIELD TRIP NORTHWEST TREK, EATONVILLE WA.

Aug. 14 FIELD TRIP DUFFER ORE> STEAN ENGINES AND GRAIN HARVEST

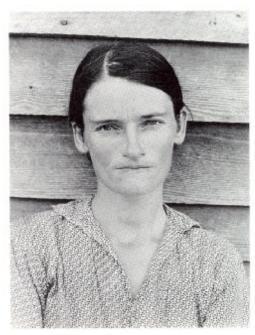
Aug. 30 POT LUCK NEW SEASON STARTS

All this is proposed and subject to change. Will depend on club interest and participation. Ideas and suggestions welcome. I do not expect to go on all trips. Those interested in a trip need to work together on times, etc. CHUCK ye ole pres

PRACTICE AND HONE YOUR SKILLS BY SHOOTING THE REQUEST FROM PARKS AND REC. SHOOT /

PLACE ON DISC / SEND TO TONI WISE AT P&R. SIMPLE AND EASY AND FUN.

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



Allie Mae is very thin, something others take for granted. She, however, is careful on Sundays to dress so as to cover the thinnest parts of her body. Mealtime is just about the only time she sits. The remainder of her waking day is expended toward family and survival. Precious few calories remain after meal preparation, hand laundry, gardening and scrubbing. Her long hair is neatly wrapped in a bun at the nape of her slender neck, less out of a need to be fashionable than one of practicality. A small scar from a long forgotten injury is the only interruption in her neatly parted hair. She nervously bites her lip, a small habit possibly learned from her mother who also was a bit nervous when confronted. The camera after all is the ultimate confrontation. Allie Mae is not intimidated, just quietly introspective. "How will my home and family appear? What reason is there for us to be stripped bare for this camera? I am so thin."

Walker Evans



Walker Evans

Allie Mae's kitchen is clean. Not just tidy and uncluttered, but a clean you can feel. As I stand on the porch looking through the open door I am overwhelmed with an urgency to remove my shoes.

A very clean white towel hangs from a nail driven into the worn wood casing of the door. Just below sits a somewhat rusty enameled basin on a small shelf. The towel and wash basin belong here; they are silent testament to thousands of hands, reverently scrubbed clean before entering.

An oilcloth covered, unpainted wooden table next to the wall, holds a single, half-full, kerosene lamp, wick neatly trimmed, fresh soot on the mantle bares witness to the fact there has never been electricity in this kitchen.

Beyond the table a large pickle crock sits alone on the shelf of a small sideboard.

I suddenly realize it is the kitchen floor that has stopped me from entering: - very wide southern white pine boards, completely naked, clean, not a visible nail head, or splinter. This floor is smooth from hundreds of brush scrubbings: on hands and knees now worn and darkened, rougher than the floor itself.

I remove my shoes.

Walker Evans was born on November 3 1903 in St Louis, Missouri. There is something fitting about his arriving there and then, just as the city prepared itself for its 1904 World's Fair – the brief moment when St Louis came close to being the capital of the world.

Viewed from the early 21st century, Evans is pretty much the pivotal figure in the history of photography. Or, at least, of the photography that – whisper it – thinks of itself as art. He, more than anyone, put photography on the gallery wall. He had his first show at New York's Museum of Modern Art within six years of taking up photography. He also moved photography's intellectual and emotional heart from Europe to the US.

Since him – because of him – photography's central landscape has been America – or perhaps Americana. An everyday, work a day world seen, in glimpses, through artful eyes. Highways and gas stations and advertising and main streets: it was Evans who put these in the photographer's frame. "American city is what I'm after," he wrote. "People, all classes. Automobiles and the automobile landscape. Architecture, American urban taste, commerce, small scale, large scale, the city street atmosphere, the street smell, the hateful stuff, women's clubs, fake culture, bad education, religion in decay..."

It's a temptation to see all photography since Evans – at least, all photography with ambitions to join him on those gallery walls – as a dialogue with his images. It's a temptation to which I succumb, readily. Robert Frank, Lee Friedlander, Stephen Shore, William Eggleston, the Bechers and Andreas Gursky. Diane Arbus, Martin Parr and Richard Billingham, even. All their pictures are, in good part, conversations with Evans.

"I'm not sure any of us has made photographs as good as Evans," said Jeff Wall. He was raised in affluence: in Chicago first; then, when his parents separated, in New York. He went to prep school and an elite university – where he dropped out. There was a year in Paris and a few years hanging out in arty downtown Manhattan, with plans to become a writer. He took to photography in 1928 and quickly gained recognition – that show at MoMA, most obviously. The moment that made him came in 1935, when he was taken on by the government agency set up to document the effects of the Depression on rural America.

Along with other photographers – Dorothea Lange and Ben Shahn, most notably – he made images that have become familiar far beyond the world of art photography. In particular, as an extension of this work, he was commissioned by Fortune magazine to do a photo story on Hale County, Alabama, with writer James Agee. Shunned by the magazine but eventually appearing in a 1941 book, Let Us Now Praise Famous Men, these pictures are what made his name and gave him his commanding place in the story of photography.

They were images of the lives of dust-poor, white sharecropping farmers – faces, families, houses, interiors, still lives. Their simplicity and directness – shaped by Evans's stunning capacity for composition – were revolutionary. They made the viewer feel that the camera had disappeared: that what they were seeing was, well, what they were seeing. They weren't, of course. That was a sleight of hand. A revolutionary one, but still a sleight of hand. Errol Morris's almost forensic study of Evans's pictures has revealed just how much they were creations rather than recordings – artful, thoughtful, deliberate and deliberated on

For Evans's 1971 MoMA retrospective, John Szarkowski wrote: "It is difficult to know now with certainty whether Evans recorded the America of his youth, or invented it." Evans's essential subject (and, truth be told, all photography's) is nostalgia. Remembrances not of the past but of a forgotten (or never known) present. Like all game-changing images, they transformed the way we look – at the world, at ourselves, at art.

Jeff Rosenheim, curator of photography at the Metropolitan: "He set himself up as a historical model to see the present as if it were already the past. And if he could do that at the time, he could stand for all time." If those few dozen pictures were the peak of Evans's life – and impact and import – he did have a subsequent existence.

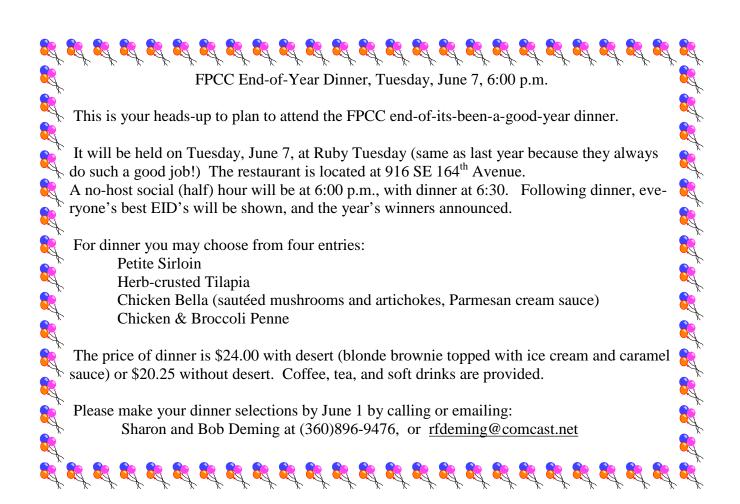
He took secret portraits on the New York subway. He mentored Helen Levitt. He steered Robert Frank to the grant which funded his book, The Americans – and took a picture of Frank's kitchen stove in 1971. He edited – at Fortune magazine, ironically. He took a lot more photographs – for magazine stories, mostly, often of businessmen. He wrote. He taught at Yale. He drank and got married several times – and drank some more. He died, at his home in small-town coastal Connecticut, in 1975.

From Professional Photographer: http://www.professionalphotographer.co.uk/Legends/Profiles/Walker-Evans-Profile

#### The Internet Link of the Month

Each month the editor will attempt to enter an Internet link which may be of interest to our members. Some times it will be educational, at times interesting or fun. Just highlight the link and plug it into your browser.

# http://www.topix.com/arts/photography



#### **Editors Note**

I will attempt to publish through the summer. How interesting the newsletter will be, will be up to you. I will give everyone a challenge and publish the results. There will be no judging, just having fun.

Challenge #2

#### ------

## A Spring Flower

Prints			
Large Color		Electronic Imaging Divisio	n
Name	Total	EID	
Doug Fischer	427		
John Craig	393	Creative Digital	
Joan Bishow	362	Name	Total
Penne Fossa	183	Carl Winston	370
Chuck Sanders	163	Douglas Fischer	362
Milt Johnson	148	Jan Pelkey	187
Lloyd Jones Ken Martin	147 140	John Craig	157
Don Funderburg	92	Avenilla Kersteter	65
Pricilla Martins-Read	90	Lloyd Jones	45
Harold Davis	41	Percilla Reed	44 44
96 Square Color		Ken Martin Steve Piper	44 41
, o oquar o ooror		Frank Woodbery	39
Penne Fossa	182	Tammy Campbell	24
Diana Jones	115	Charles Sanders	22
Harold Davis	115	Doug Funderburg	21
Joan Bishow	85	Claudine Kratzberg	21
John Craig	71	Diana Jones	21
Glenn Smith	63		
Lloyd Jones	48	Traditional Digital	
Ashley Hendrick	43	3	
Don Funderberg	43	Jon Fishback	729
Priscilla Martins-Read	23	Richard Belt	714
Large Monochrome		Ken Martin	662
John Craig	358	Cliff Snell	611
John Craig Lloyd Jones	119	John Craig	585
Chuck Sanders	66	Jan Pelkey	503
Joan Bishow	43	Claudine Kratzberg Avenilla Kersteter	502
Penne Fossa	23	Priscila Martins-Read	446 397
Pricilla Martins-Read	23	Steve Piper	395
96 Square Monochrome		Frank Woodbery	375
<b>'</b>		Douglas Fischer	374
Diana Jones	96	Sharon Deming	363
Michelle Piper	92	Carl Winston	336
John Craig	47	Lloyd Jones	220
Priscilla Martins-Read	44	Dennis Anttila	175
Don Funderburg	44	Bob Deming	154
Ashley Hendrick	22	Gay Angelos	129
Penne Fossa	21	Tammy Campbell	111
****	-	JoAnn Donovan Michelle Piper	111 110
	A.	Diana Jones	86
Notice		Harold Davis	84
If there is sufficient interest I will teach a 3 or		Don Funderburg	64
4 day work shop on Portraits by Available	*	Rachel Fishback	23
light. It will be 2 or three hours each day, on			
a weekend day. I am creating an online class	1		
for PSA on this subject and will be creating			
images for publication at that time.	<b>☆</b>		
If there are at least six (6) persons signed up			
by June 15th the workshop will progress. Jon			
Send an email to jpf1@aol.com			
	^		
***			

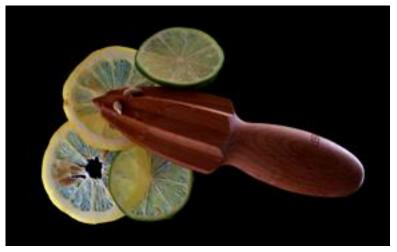
# Kitchen Utensils



**Bob Deming** 



Rachel Fishback



Jon Fishback



**Sharon Deming** 



John Craig

These are the 5 submissions for the June challenge.

On page one there is a short article about competing. One way to improve your work is to practice. One way to practice is to challenge yourself to submit an image to the newsletter.

