



# Film Pack Camera Club FPCC Adapter



Photographic Society of America <a href="http://psa-photo.org/">http://psa-photo.org/</a>

Volume 62 Issue 08 May 2017

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Editor: Jon Fishback., APSA, ARPS

## **Club Officers:**

President—John Craig
Vice President—Frank Woodbery
Secretary Treasurer—James Watt
Social Chair—Sandy Watt
Field Trip Chair—Rick Battson
Web Co-Chair—B. Deming & D. Fischer
Touchmark Rep.: Ray Klein



This is one of the editor's favorite images. It is by Eduard Boubat. This is a perfect example of things that are not as they seem. At first glance, a beautiful bucolic scene with landscape and mist. The fact is; this is an urban scene next to a cement wall.

Books at Abe's page 9

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|                |                                      |  |  |  |  |

Welcome to our recent new members. John Johnson Jr., Mark and Lan Forbes, Rick Swartz.

Cover Image: George Clark

Competition Meetings will be held the first and third Tuesday, 7:30 PM, at Touchmark 2911 SE Village Loop, Vancouver WA. - <a href="http://www.touchmark.com/">http://www.touchmark.com/</a>
FPCC Web Site and calendar <a href="http://filmpack.org/">http://filmpack.org/</a>

Board meetings will be on the 4th Tuesday of every month, location and time to be announced by email.

## **Goodies list and Schedule:**

05-02 G. Noel 05-16 D. Labriere 06-06 End of year banquet Have a nice summer.

The above folks are responsible for bringing snacks and juice to the meeting. If you cannot bring goodies please call Sandy Watt 309-750-4351 and arrange a swap.

# **Last Month Print Night - Results YTD**

## Year to date Color

Color Print Chair: Don Funderburg

## Year to date Mono.

Mono Print Chair: Doug Fishcer

| Large Colour           |     |
|------------------------|-----|
| Cal Schuyler           | 104 |
| Don Funderburg         | 331 |
| Doug Fischer           | 377 |
| Grant Noel             | 41  |
| Jan Pelkey             | 134 |
| John Johnson           | 22  |
| Katie Rupp             | 158 |
| Mark Shugert           | 43  |
| Michael Anderson       | 46  |
| Priscilla Martins Read | 44  |
| Ray Klein              | 85  |
| Rick Swartz            | 114 |
| Sharp Todd             | 327 |
| Tali Funderburg        | 21  |
| Tim Morton             | 273 |
| Wayne Hunter           | 89  |
|                        |     |
| Small Colour           |     |
| Bev Shearer            | 186 |
| Cal Schuyler           | 122 |
| Don Funderburg         | 331 |
| Grant Noel             | 42  |
| Jan Eklof              | 362 |
| Katie Rupp             | 114 |
| Michael Anderson       | 43  |
| Priscilla Martins Read | 23  |
| Rick Swartz            | 89  |
| Sharp Todd             | 322 |
| Stephen Cornick        | 60  |
| Tim Morton             | 218 |

| Large Mono       |     |  |  |
|------------------|-----|--|--|
| Cal Schuyler     | 64  |  |  |
| Don Funderburg   | 329 |  |  |
| Doug Fischer     | 358 |  |  |
| Grant Noel       | 41  |  |  |
| Jan Pelkey       | 90  |  |  |
| Katie Rupp       | 46  |  |  |
| Michael Anderson | 43  |  |  |
| Ray Klein        | 23  |  |  |
| Rick Swartz      | 43  |  |  |
| Sharp Todd       | 331 |  |  |
| Tali Funderburg  | 20  |  |  |
| Tim Morton       | 105 |  |  |
|                  |     |  |  |
| Small Mono       |     |  |  |
| Bev Shearer      | 61  |  |  |
| Cal Schuyler     | 81  |  |  |
| Don Funderburg   | 320 |  |  |
| Grant Noel       | 44  |  |  |
| Jan Eklof        | 178 |  |  |
| Katie Rupp       | 64  |  |  |
| Michael Anderson | 44  |  |  |
| Rick Swartz      | 47  |  |  |
| Sharp Todd       | 327 |  |  |

# Last Month Print Night - Judges Choice



 $Sharp Todd\_Mt Sneffels Range \#4\_LM$ 



SharpTodd\_PurpleIris 4-26-15\_SC



 $RickSwartz\_LaughingGull\_SC$ 

Don't forget the banquet on the 6th of June, at Touchmark.
The meal will be \$28 per person.
Payment and RSVP due by May the 16th



RickSwartz\_SandwichTern\_SM



 $SharpTodd\_LivingOnTheWater~3~mono\_SM$ 



 $RickSwartz\_UnexpectedShadow\_LC$ 



 $JanEklof\_FemaleMerganser\_SC$ 



 $DougFischer\_PeterIredaleUnderTheStars\_LC$ 



 $Sharp Todd\_Music Vendor Mono\_SM$ 

Due to hackers, it is necessary to remove all member emails from the newsletter.

# **Last Month EID Night - YTD**

EID chair: Frank Woodbery

| MAKER                   | YTD MONO<br>TOTALS | YTD THEME<br>TOTALS | YTD OPEN<br>TOTALS | YTD TOTAL |
|-------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|-----------|
| Ambrose, Tom            | 111                | 90                  | 218                | 419       |
| Anderson, Michael       | 68                 | 46                  | 129                | 243       |
| Battson, Rick           | 172                | 177                 | 356                | 705       |
| Boos, Charles           | 123                | 105                 | 302                | 530       |
| Boos, Ruth              | 43                 | 102                 | 306                | 451       |
| Campbell, Tammy         | 63                 | 65                  | 134                | 262       |
| Clark, George           | 175                | 175                 | 361                | 714       |
| Cornick, Stephen        | 81                 | 82                  | 303                | 466       |
| Craig, John             | 175                | 182                 | 368                | 725       |
| Deming, Bob             | 124                | 128                 | 230                | 482       |
| Deming, Sharon          | 172                | 180                 | 359                | 711       |
| Eklof, Jan              | 180                | 183                 | 375                | 738       |
| Fischer, Doug           | 179                | 183                 | 369                | 731       |
| Fishback, Jon           | 175                | 180                 | 366                | 721       |
| Fishback, Rachel        | 105                | 76                  | 191                | 372       |
| Forbes, Lan             | 0                  | 0                   | 21                 | 21        |
| Forbes, Mark            | 134                | 107                 | 264                | 505       |
| Funderburg, Don         | 146                | 157                 | 304                | 607       |
| Funderburg, Tali        | 0                  | 0                   | 41                 | 41        |
| Hunter, Wayne           | 0                  | 0                   | 44                 | 44        |
| Johnson, John           | 0                  | 21                  | 84                 | 105       |
| Klein, Ray              | 182                | 174                 | 353                | 709       |
| LaBriere, David         | 176                | 173                 | 353                | 702       |
| Martins Read, Priscilla | 21                 | 23                  | 43                 | 87        |
| Moore, Lee              | 62                 | 43                  | 133                | 238       |
| Morton, Tim             | 129                | 90                  | 268                | 487       |
| Noel, Grant             | 44                 | 40                  | 88                 | 172       |
| Nuthalamati, Sarma      | 21                 | 21                  | 42                 | 84        |
| Pelkey, Jan             | 176                | 171                 | 357                | 704       |
| Rupp, Katie             | 181                | 155                 | 375                | 711       |
| Schuyler, Cal           | 87                 | 39                  | 249                | 375       |
| Shugert, Mark           | 150                | 131                 | 315                | 596       |
| Swartz, Richard         | 67                 | 44                  | 136                | 247       |
| Todd, Sharp             | 184                | 154                 | 365                | 703       |
| Watt, James             | 43                 | 43                  | 85                 | 171       |
| Watt, Sandy             | 123                | 123                 | 253                | 499       |
| Woodbery, Frank         | 177                | 187                 | 355                | 719       |

**EID Theme for May:** +/- **Exposure** 

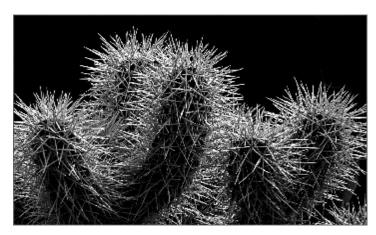
# Last Month EID Night - Judges Favorites



 $01\_RickSwartz\_FPCC\_BlackSkimmer\_O$ 



 $01 Jan Eklof\_FPCC\_Sunrise At Cape Disappointment\_TH$ 



01JohnCraig\_FPCC\_Spines\_M



 $01 Katie Rupp\_FPCC\_Wildebeest Crossing\_O$ 



 $01 Sharp Todd\_FPCC\_Love and Pease 530136\_O$ 

# Last Month EID Night - Judges Favorites- Contd.



02DougFischer\_FPCC\_Feathers&Color\_O



 $02 John Craig\_FPCC\_Crane\_TH$ 



 $02 Sharp Todd\_FPCC\_Cannon Beach 613 mono\_$ 



 $04 Sharp Todd\_FPCC\_Old Tugboat\_O$ 



 $03 katierupp\_FPCC\_HeRoars\_M$ 

# Last Month EID Night - Judges Favorites- Contd.



02\_RickSwartz\_FPCC\_HeronGreeting#1\_O



 $03 Rick Battson\_FPCC\_The Raven\_O$ 



 $04 Don Funderburg\_FPCC\_Old Home Stead\_O$ 

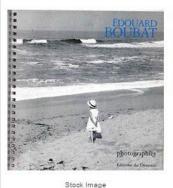


 $04 George Clark\_FPCC\_Southwest Still Lifei\_O$ 



03RayKlein\_FPCC\_FuzzyTail\_O

# **Books** - Abe Books - <a href="https://www.abebooks.com/">https://www.abebooks.com/</a>



Boubat photographies 1950-1987

n/a

ISBN 10: 2877700011 / ISBN 13: 9782877700016

Used

Condition: Fair

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From Better World Books (Mishawaka, IN, U.S.A.)

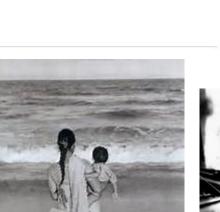
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Search Results Hobart, G. Mathew Brady (Masters of photography)



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Mathew Brady (Masters of photography) Hobart, G.

☆☆☆☆☆ 0 ratings by GoodReads

ISBN 10: 0356105016 / ISBN 13: 9780356105017

Published by Macdonald, 1984

Used

Condition: Used; Very Good

Paperback

Save for Later

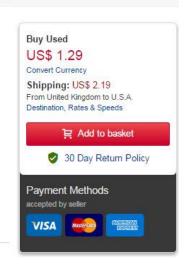
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AbeBooks Seller Since June 24, 2014
Seller Rating Frank A Ratings History

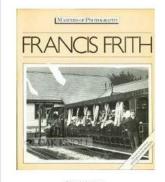
Quantity Available: 1

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> 1 New from US\$ 45.90 → 18 Used from US\$ 1.29

Filter by: Softcover (16) First Edition (5)





Stock Image

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## Francis Frith (Masters of Photography S.)

Smith, Joanna

ឋឋឋឋឋឋ € O ratings by GoodReads

ISBN 10: 0356108511 / ISBN 13: 9780356108513

ublished by Macdonald, 1985

Used Condition: Used; Acceptable

Paperback

Save for Later

From Reuseabook (Stroud, GLOS, United Kingdom)
AbeBooks Seller Since June 24, 2014
Seller Rating Park of Ratings History

Quantity Available: 1

Available from more sellers

>6 New from US\$ 5.93 > 32 Used from US\$ 1.29

Filter by: Softcover (27) Dust Jacket (2) Hardcover (2) First Edition (11)











# **Judge's Corner**

**Judging Chair: Mark Shugert** 

Judges For May: - 05/02 (Prints) J. Fishback, K. Rupp, TBA, 05/16 (EID) R. Klein, TBA

## The Elements

Technical Excellence
Composition
Lighting
Color
Impact
Creativity
Presentation
Story



**Score** 

9/7

**Eduard Boubat** 

## What the judge may be thinking (9)

I think this is a very haunting and beautiful portrait. To me, the eyes draw one into the image and won't let you leave. The shawl, I feel, crates a wonderful element to highlight the beautiful face. The relaxed hands, soft focus, lighting, and slight downward tilt of the head, make this image, for me, irresistible., one that tells a story without words.

## What the judge may say. (7)

I think this is a haunting and beautiful portrait, with nice soft lighting and focus. I think the eyes are in a great place with nice framing of the head. I do feel that the background is a bit distracting and the bright light on the rabbit might be toned down.

This is an exercise to attempt to explain why a knowledgeable judge may not be able to say what he or she is actually feeling about an image. Part of the judging process is to help the maker compete in the Camera Club environment. Certain norms or rules apply. The judge may feel it important to tell the maker what may distract in the future, due to an understanding of the judging process. In this case, the judge might worry that saying what is actually felt about the image and giving it a 9 might very well do the maker a disservice by not pointing out obvious problems that might be perceived by judges in future competition.

The image may, in the mind of some judges, transcend rules and just be wonderful, yet this analysis might not help the maker.

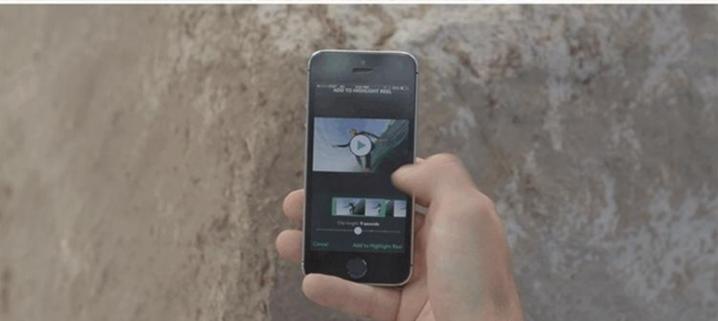
## **Cool Stuff**

http://www.coolthings.com/gnarbox-external-harddisk-media-computer/

## Forget The Laptop And Use The Gnarbox As Your On-The-Go Computer







Between cameras, lenses, and other accessories, photographers and videographers carry a ton of gear when going on shoots. And if they're going to edit their captures on the spot, they'll need to add a beefy computer and a reasonably large amount of storage along for the ride. The Gnarbox eliminates those last additions.

At first glance, it looks like a regular external hard drive – small enough to bring on the road, with a large enough storage to house all the photos and videos you capture. But it doesn't stop there. More than just a hard drive, the enclosure houses a full-fledged computer that you can use in place of a separate laptop.

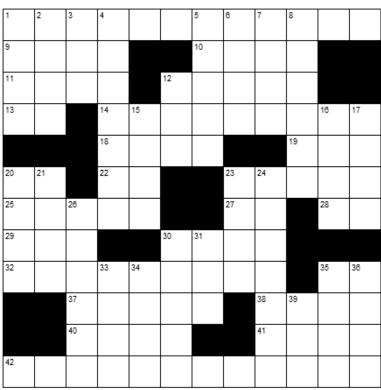
No, the Gnarbox doesn't have its own screen like your laptop. Instead, you interact with the contents of the drive using an accompanying mobile app, which leverages the system's own CPU and GPU to do the heavy processing. That extra processing power allows the system to encode, decode, and stream videos up

to 4K, giving a very powerful photo and video editor to any phone or tablet that connects to the system's WiFi hotspot.

To use, simply upload content from any camera to the Gnarbox (it has USB 3.0, SD, and microSD slots) via the accompanying app. From there, you just use the app to touch up photos, splice together video, and even share them with various social networks. Features include a waterproof housing, up to eight hours of battery life, and a rugged enclosure that's resistant to shock, sand, dust, cold, and heat.

A Kickstarter campaign is currently running for Gnarbox. Pledges to reserve a unit starts at \$149.

## **Crossword** - James Watt



## Down

- 1. Some sports have a Grand one of these. (4)
- 2. Pulled apart by force. (4)
- 3. Broad sash worn with a Kimono. (3)
- 4. A recommended safety limit or marking. (3 4)
- 5. Escape by being clever or skillful. (5)
- 6. French for 'then' or 'at that time'. (4)
- 7. Relating to the laity; secular. (4)
- 8. As a precaution against an event. (24)
- 12. What a 'Wheel of Fortune' contestant might buy. (2 1)
- **15.**Commotions. (4)
- 16. Show a sullen expression. (4)
- 17. Collection of old Norse poems. (4)
- 20. Break quickly with a short, sharp sound. (4)
- **21.** African nation bordered by Ghana. (4)
- 23. What a good novel needs. (4)
- **24.** Japanese tree and fruit of the same name; like a mandarin. (7)
- **26.**Welsh baritone opera and concert singer. (6)
- **30.**To rest or possibly tell a white one. (3)
- 33.A traditional Mexican snack. (4)
- 34. German river and major industrial region. (4)
- **35.**A group of people or countries connected by a treaty or agreement. (4)
- **36.**Plural, obsolete word for eyes; used mainly in poetry. (4)
- **39.** A weapon that shoots bullets or shells. (3)

## **Across**

- **1.** Something a judge will look for in your competition photos. (5 7)
- 9. Your ear has one but your brain many. (4)
- **10.** You might need one of these for a very expensive lens. (4)
- 11. Dry and bare like a desert. (4)
- 12. Relating to gold. (5)
- 13. What you call yourself.? (2)
- 14. Could be a photo or its orientation. (9)
- **18.** A French Idea?. (4)
- 19. Lay a lot of this for a lawn. (3)
- **20**. Abbreviation for where you live, maybe. (2)
- **22.** Short for number or maybe not. (2)
- **23.** A person who pretends to have a lot of knowledge. (5)
- **25.** They could be musical or just jottings. (5)
- 27. Short for a large California city. (2)
- 28. Half of a British farewell? (2)
- 29. To mature or get older. (3)
- **30.** Formed by coagulation. (4)
- **32.** photographers. (9)
- 35.To -- or not to --. Hamlet. (2)
- **37.** French Romantic composer. (5)
- **38.** Turns out the duck wasn't this but a swan. (4)
- **40.** Comes right back at ya. (4)
- **41.** Elementary particle similar to an electron. (4)
- **42.** A judge will also look for this in your competition photos. (5 7)



## Easter at Touchmark - FPCC

















## Fun With PSA - Editor

## Individual Member Discounts

The following product and service providers offer discounts and exclusive offers to PSA that are a significant benefit of individual membership.

Last updated: February 7, 2017

#### Software:

- onOne Software 10% Discount
- Topaz Labs 15% Discount pdf
- · AKVIS software 20% Discount
- HDR Expose 20% Discount & 32 Float 10% Discount
- iCorrect by PictoColor Software 25% Discount
- NEW (2-1-2017): Photodex: ProShow Gold or Producer (pdf) 30% Discount, use code PSA2017- good until February 28, 2017
- CyberLink Photo Editing Tool: PhotoDirector PSA Members click link to get discount
- uMark Software Watermark hundreds of images in one go 30% Discount
- Oloneo PhotoEngine for HDR Processing 15% Discount
- . Portrait Pro (pdf) 10% Discount
- SilverFast Scanner and Image Processing Software 20% discount good from May 15 through August 31, 2016
- Adobe Creative cloud 20% on first year just \$7.99 every month for Creative Cloud Photography Plan Photoshop CC and Lightroom - valid May 16, 2016 to May 31, 2017 - https://creative.adobe.com/promo/PSACCPP? sdid=VKW3KHR2

#### Photo Equipment:

- ioSafe Fireproof Waterproof External Hard Drives 10% Discount
- M-Rock Camera Bags 10% Discount
- Trek-Tek Products 30% Discount
- GigaPan 10% Discount on all items in store
- Hunts Photo & Video Free Shipping in Continental U.S. See the Latest Hunt's Specials at http://wbhunt.com/specials/
  - Video tutorial on LensAlign: http://tinyurl.com/onnfs2n
- Cecilia Camera Straps Use code PSAPHOTO10 for a 10% discount off all orders. Order through website or by call 648-820-5048
- Heliconsoft Products 20% discount code available from pdf
- LumiQuest Products (flash modifiers) 25% discount code available from pdf
- ThinkTank Receive free gear with every order and a percentage will be donated to help maintain PSA's print collection. Use this link to purchase gear: http://www.thinktankphoto.com/affiliates.aspx?code=CC-406

#### Workshops, Tours & Events

- National Geographic Traveler Seminars 10% Discount
- Digital Days Photo Workshops 20% Discount
- · Adventure Photography Photo Tours \$75 or \$50 Discount
- WANT Expeditions \$200 Discount
- Equine Photography Workshops with Tony Stromberg <a href="http://www.tonystromberg.com/Workshops/html">http://www.tonystromberg.com/Workshops/html</a> Click on the Paypal button to register and leave a note that you are a PSA member. 10% discount will be deducted from the final payment to PSA members.
- Photo Quest Adventures Specialized Digital Photography Workshops Across the Globe \$200 off for PSA members download pdf for details
- Scott Deardorff Deardorff Training DVDs \$15 off each DVD or combination of DVDs download pdf for details
- Art Wolfe 15% discount off the series, "Photography as Art" Information and registration at http://events.artwolfe.com/photography-as-art/. PSA members use the code cc16 for a 15% discount

## Book Publishing & Print Products:

- NEW (1-9-2017) ADORAMApix 15% off evertything (prints, mounting, frames, books) USE code pxpsa7442
- NEW (10-5-2016) Shutterfly. Free shipping for photobook orders over \$30. Use code SHIP39
- . Bay Photo, 25% off first book using discount code PSA25
- Red River Paper \$5.00 off your order. Free pack of paper with \$30 purchase.
- Photobook America Exclusive 50% Discount for PSA members
- Canvas 4 Life Photo to canvas provider. 20% discount on canvas print orders

#### Scanning:

ScanCafe - \$29 off first order (~100 scans)

#### Photo Gallery:

SmugMug Gallery - 20% discount on first year

# A STROLL UP THE VIRGIN RIVER NARROWS Michael Kuhl

It all started in the late Spring a couple of years ago. I had finally had it with the long Michigan winters and decided to head out west to do some photography in the Great National Parks of Utah. I had never been out there before, so this was going to be "My Great Adventure". I did some research beforehand, (mostly finding what roads would get me to the various green blobs on my trusty road atlas) but it didn't really help a whole lot.

Having developed a plan of action, I packed up my tent, sleeping bag, backpack, Coleman stove, food that (supposedly) never spoils, and anything else I could possibly get into the car. Then came all the mandatory photo gear every die-hard photographer can't do without, leaving myself just enough room to get behind the wheel to drive the car. So, with everything packed, off I went with my trusty road atlas buried beneath all that necessary stuff piled up on the passenger's seat.

I made it through Iowa, Nebraska and Colorado without incident (unless you count the fact that I never could find the Road Atlas I know I packed), and eventually left I-70 for the road along the **Green River leading to Arches National** Park, my first stop. The drive was beautiful and impressive, with many opportunities to pause for some truly awesome photographs. It didn't take me very long to come to the conclusion that a mere three weeks was simply not going to be enough time to adequately capture the magnificence of Utah's great National Parks. I knew right then and there that this was going to be an ongoing mission.

I knew it was going to be warm out there, but I was really shocked by the searing hundred-plus degree heat that scorched my arms, as well as the desert sand. By the end of my first day of shooting, I looked like an overdone french-fry, and felt even worse. Where were all the familiar trees and lakes I was so accustomed to? As my brand new sunburn was being pelted by the daily sandstorm, the only thing I could think about was that this would be a super place to build a lake!

Soon, I realized I must move on, if I was going to get the most out of this adventure, So, I packed up my sunburn and other essentials and drove to the other parks,

finally ending up at Zion. My expert planning put me into the park right-smack in the middle of Memorial Day weekend, which is not strongly recommended! The traffic was backed up for miles, prompting my decision to never again return here (or any National Park) on a holiday weekend. In spite of the chaotic atmosphere in the Park, I did manage to see some of Zion's most spectacular scenery.

What I wanted to do most, however, was venture up the Virgin River Narrows. So I inquired at the Park Ranger station, where I was told politely, but firmly "no way!" In my best inquisitive photographer's voice, I asked "why not?" It's "too cold", "too deep", and "too fast", the Park Ranger replied. "Oh", I said. He told me that trekking up-river is best done in the late summer or fall. "Well", I vowed to myself, "someday, somehow, I would return to meet the challenge of this "too cold", "too deep", and "too fast" river. So, off I went, back to the chill of Michigan spring, already planning my next assault on the river.

This time, I did a lot more research and pre-planning. I wanted to revisit some of the most impressive landscapes I'd seen on the first trip, and made it a point not to arrive on a holiday weekend.

Unfortunately, I still hadn't gotten the 4x4 I'd wanted to take on this trip, but found my packing skills had improved to the point that I could actually see out the rear window of the car this time!

Remembering that the Park Ranger had said that the best time to traverse the river was in late summer or fall, I arrived at Zion about two weeks after Labor Day. The crowds had gone, but there wasn't even a hint of fall's chill in the air. Nor were there the brilliant orange, red and yellow leaves I expected to see on the trees. As it turned out, it was about 4-5weeks too early for fall to show itself in this splendid canyon. But, I still had the promise of that trip up the river that was "too cold", "too deep", and "too fast". Full of confidence and high hopes, I donned my gear and set off to the Park Ranger station, growing more excited with each step at the thought of my grand adventure on the river.

I was to be disappointed again, as the Park Ranger advised me that rain and snow in the North Country had caused the river to swell to a treacherous level. "It's just too dangerous", he insisted. Despite my woeful pleas, the Park Ranger held firm, advising me to try again another time. Somehow, I

just couldn't comprehend all this danger he was talking about, and I didn't truly understand it until I actually went up there. Although the river was impassable, I still hiked the mile to its entrance, even if it was only to satisfy my curiosity and think about my next attempt.

As I sauntered back toward the park wondering how to revive my sullen spirits, I gathered up my photo gear and wandered around the various trails in the park. "After all", I thought, "there's a lot more to see and photograph than just the river". I spent three full days climbing the cliffs and trails, and had just barely scratched the surface of this unique park. My spirits lifted, I packed up the car and headed back to Michigan, knowing that I still had not conquered the river that seemed forever "too cold", "too deep", and "too fast". I was not going to give up! I discovered that you just have to keep learning from experience and play it smarter the next time. After all, no matter haw many times you go to one of the National Parks, there's always something new to photograph. Sometimes it's just the lighting that makes all the difference on a subject you've seen time and time again.

I planned my next trip for late October, hoping to capture the full beauty of Fall in the desert canyon. This time, I called Zion Park Headquarters ahead of time to check the conditions of the river and the Park itself. I recommend you check with Park Headquarters anytime you want to visit and photograph in any of the National Parks. Things are always changing, especially with the funding cuts that have affected them over the past several years.

When I called, I was informed that the midday temperatures were still up into the 80's, with nighttime temps around 60° F in the canyon, and no, the trees had not yet turned colors, I then asked "what about the river up the narrows? Is it navigable by foot?" I held my breath and began to sweat, for fear of hearing those dreaded words "no way", once again. Instead, the Park Ranger told me, "things could change at any time, but for now, it is safe for hiking".

Continued on f following page.

## A STROLL UP THE VIRGIN RIVER NARROWS

Contd.

I said, "OK! Thank you very much".
"Yes!" I exclaimed to myself, "finally, I get
my chance to go up the river that's "too
cold", "too deep", and "too fast". I was
ecstatic.

I loaded up the gear in no time, (still no 4x4) and headed out once again. By this time, I'd become an expert at the art of packing large loads into small spaces; I still took most everything I took on my first trip, but it was much better organized. There was actually an empty spot on the passenger's seat for the road atlas, but by now I'd memorized the route by heart.

I went straight to Zion this time, not wanting to give that river any chance to change for the worse before I got there. The drive into the canyon was particularly spectacular that early morning, as the cliff formations stood majestically against a deep blue sky with the waning moon still brightly visible in the background. I arrived at the Watchman campground, set up my tent and unloaded all my otherworldly belongings before heading over to the Park Ranger station to see about venturing up the river the following morning. They informed me of the expected status of the river for the next three days, and said it would be safe to go.

I was up at the crack of dawn, heading down Zion Canyon Scenic Drive to the Temple of Sinawava, where parking is available. I recalled how all good Boy Scouts (and outdoor photographers) should always "be prepared", so I took enough photo gear to make a mule cry. Since I had no idea what to expect, I literally packed everything; (3) 35mm cameras, (5) lenses, a Mamiya RB67, (2) lenses, an underwater camera (never used), tripod, spot meter, filters, lots of film, water but not one morsel of food to sustain me through the rigors of the adventure. I found that it takes a lot of energy to fight the currents and carry all that equipment. With no food, it was a real test of my endurance. You'd better believe it when the Park Ranger tells you "this will be one of the toughest things you'll ever do." It's the truth!

I proceeded down the mile-long Gateway to the Narrows Trail. At the end of the trail was the elusive river I had waited so long to conquer. I plunged in at a relatively wide spot in the river; the water there was only about mid-calf deep. Thus, in true

childlike amazement, I began my journey. Everywhere I looked was another of nature's wonders to behold. I was particularly drawn to a canyon wall of radiant gold very early in my adventure. I hurriedly set up my photo equipment and just managed to capture the moment before the sun's illumination faded. This was only the first of many photos that captured the spectacular twists and turns of this narrow river canyon, and my excitement seemed to heighten with each consecutive step. The further up-river I traveled, the darker it got as the walls gradually constricted. I cautiously approached a trout lazily swimming about in the crystal-clear water until he sensed my presence and disappeared. I encountered more trout all swimming without a care, almost as if they had grown accustomed to the splashing of human feet in their domain. Or, perhaps they knew there was "no fishing" law on the river and realized they had nothing to fear. I brazenly thought to myself "this is a piece of cake"!

In some spots, the water reached waist level. The current was swift, and I soon found that I was going to have to stay alert to remain upright. The river-rock under my feet was as round and as slick as ball bearings. Add the rushing rapids, and I was quite a sight, arms flailing about, trying desperately not to drown my equipment or myself. It was not pretty!

I was so caught up in the excitement of my journey that I didn't even realize how cold the river actually was until the end of the day, when my legs stiffened up and strangers commented on my extraordinary purple-blue color. There were few spots on the river to stop for rest periods, so my feet were in the water for virtually the entire trip.

Eventually, I reached the spot where the Virgin River merges with the Orderville River, a narrow slot in the otherwise solid canyon walls. I only pursued this route for about a half-mile before turning back, as this is a difficult passage filled with huge boulders that you cannot get around. Following this river will lead you to sundrenched Orderville Canyon.

I returned to where the two rivers joined and decided to continue my photographic stroll up the Virgin River for about another hour. The canyon is not a brightly-lit place, even at high noon. The several thousand foot narrow canyon walls allow very little sunshine to penetrate into its depths. As

the canyon grew darker, I still found myself tempted to push "just a little further" up the river, however, I knew that it was dangerous to be in the canyon at night, so I called it a day and started my return.

I made excellent time in retreat despite the distance I had to cover, and arrived back at the narrows where the air was noticeably warmer and the waning sunlight was much brighter. I encountered a young couple contemplating an evening excursion, and persuaded them to wait until morning for the safest passage. They offered me some almonds and asked me to take a picture of the two of them standing in the river together. Of course I obliged, however embarrassed by the fact that they had to show me how to use their point-and-shoot. They thanked me for the advice, and then headed back toward their truck. I turned once more toward the river and sat on the shore, basking in the last warmth of the sun's rays, munching almonds and resting from the excitement of the day.

Within minutes, the sun had disappeared beneath the horizon, and the sky took on a warm orange glow. The mile-long walk down the trail back to the car seemed to pass in a heartbeat, as I reflected upon my stroll up the Virgin River Narrows.

This was my one day trip. Twp years latter I did a 7 day 18 mile trip up that narrows. This time I remembered to bring food!

## **FPCC April Board Meeting Minutes**

Because of the increased number of images entered on EID nights, the Board explored ways to manage time for these meetings next year. One option was to start meetings at 7:00 p.m., but the board decided starting at 7:30 gives visiting judges more time to get to the meeting. Other options are to reduce the categories or reduce the number of images entered into the Open category. Restricting judges comments to only certain categories was also discussed. One idea was to separate the Open Category into to entries, one for judging and one for non competing and group discussion. John will discuss some of the options with the membership at the remaining meeting.

Plans for the End of Year Awards Program were also discussed. Judges and a date have be set for May 20, 2017. There are still several members who have not indicated if they can attend.

John Craig will send out an email regarding nominations for club board members.

More clubs are using 1080 projectors or 1080 TV monitors, so 4Cs is exploring changing the dimensions of EID images to 1024 pixels on the longest side and increasing the file size to 1 MB.

## **FPCC Board Nominations for 2017-18**

**Officers** 

**President: Frank Woodbery** 

VP: TBD Secretary: TBD

Treasurer: James Watt

**Standing Chairs** 

Social Chair: Sandy Watt Judge Chair: Mark Shugert Adapter: Jon Fishback

Color Print Chair: Doug Fischer Mono Print Chair: Steve Cornic

EID Chair: John Craig Website: Bob Deming Field Trips: Rick Battson Touchmark Liaison: Ray Klein 4Cs Representative: John Craig



PSA Rep.: Jon Fishback

#### Attend the

2017 PSA Conference

October 8-14, 2017

A great way to meet people, have personal encounters with known photographers, and renew longtime acquaintances.

NOTE: Registration for the Pittsburgh conference will begin April 17, 2017 this year. Mark your calendars!



We could use some greeting cards to send to our members. Sandy Watt would like only those that are made with our members images.

She will send them to a member or a family member when she hears of an illness or death.

She wants to thank the following members for supplying the cards thus far.

John Craig, Jan Eklof, Ray Klein, Katie Rupp, Michael Anderson, David Labriere.



4 C's Rep.: John Craig