

SIERRA PHOTO | NYC

New York City Sierra Club Photography Committee Newsletter

March/April 2012 Issue

Vol. 35, No. 4

Meetings

St. Paul the Apostle • 405 West 59th St. • 2nd floor • New York, NY
(1½ blocks west of Columbus Circle, between 9th and 10th Avenues)

Suggested donation \$5.00 • Optional dinner after each meeting.
The restaurant will be announced at the meeting.



Mangrove Family © Carlos L. Esguerra

March

Wednesday, March 28, 2012—6:30 PM
Doors open at 6:00 PM

Carlos L. Esguerra *God Made*

Carlos L. Esguerra presentation will be based on the first volume of *God Made, Man Made*, a two-volume coffee table book project he's currently working on. The first volume is *God Made* and features landscape and nature images; the second volume, *Man Made*, features images of works by selected architects.

Carlos is a fine art prize-winning photographer who captures the beauty of nature with an economy of means—simple, clean, and

uncluttered. Among his awards are: First Place in Night Photography at the International Photography Awards last August; he received the “Ani ng Dangal” (Harvest of Honors) award from the National Commission on Culture and the Arts (NCCA) of the Republic of the Philippines; Gold Medal at the 2010 Trierenberg Super Circuit, Linz, Austria. In 2009, he received an Individual Artist Support grant from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs. In 2008, he received the “Pamana ng Pilipino” (Philippine Heritage) award from the Republic of the Philippines, the highest award given by the President of the Philippines to Filipinos overseas.

His works can be seen at:

<http://www.carlosesguerra.com>.

April

Wednesday, April 25, 2012—6:30 PM
Doors open at 6:00 PM

Hardie Truesdale *Iceland and Other New Works*

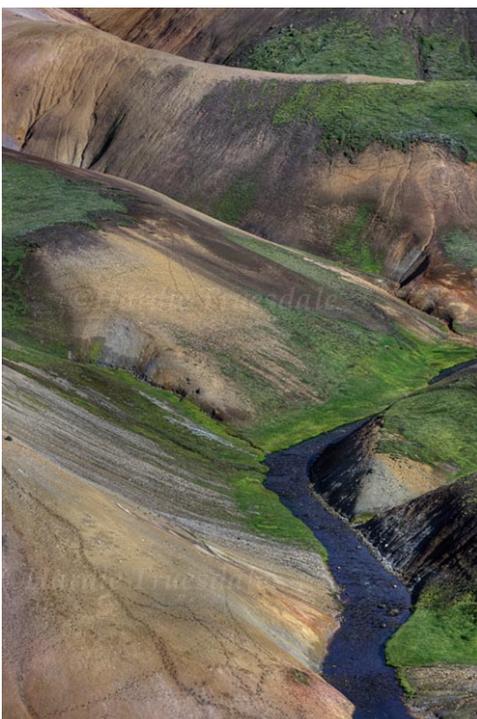
Hardie Truesdale's presentation will feature his current work particularly focusing on Iceland and HDR images.

Hardie began photographing seriously when he was still in high school and studied at the Banff School of Fine Arts and the International Center for Photography. Under the tutelage of Michael O'Neill he learned the art of large format photography. He currently does freelance photography for Mohonk Preserve, *I Love New York*, calendars

and books. His prints are shown and sold by galleries throughout the country. A published author/photographer he has a new book, *Hudson River Towns*, due out this fall.

Although he has been influenced by many photographers, his own particular mentor was Ansel Adams. Adams' photographs were never merely “pretty,” they captured a mood or a feeling; they were a way of life. Hardie has learned patience, sensitivity to light and shadow, and craftsmanship from studying Adams' work.

He is most interested in capturing nature in dramatic yet subtle circumstances; rain, sleet, snow, or mist when the mood and quality of light is intensified. Hardie uses large- and medium-format cameras for their great clarity and their capture of subtle texture and detail. It also forces him to work slowly and patiently so that he really “sees” what he's photographing.



Meandering River, near Landmannalaugar © Hardie Truesdale

Spring 2012 Outings

From the Former Chair

Dear Friends: In order to devote more time to my other (business) life, I've resigned as Chair of the NYC Sierra Club Photography Committee. I will remain an active member of the Board as a program coordinator. Although I'll miss my role, I'm excited and encouraged that Charles Dexter was nominated and elected as the new Chair by acclamation at our February Board meeting. It's a wonderful appointment for the Photography Committee and I know that I speak for all of us in welcoming Charles to his new responsibilities, and offering him all possible support in the days ahead. I want to thank the Board and all Photography Committee members for the enthusiastic participation, commitment and hard work that made this past year a productive one

—John Wazeter, *Former Chair*

From the New Chair

It is an honor to be elected Chair of our NYC Sierra Club Photography Committee. I am indebted to all of you who are part of this wonderful group that meets monthly to explore, promote, create, and celebrate nature photography and our world.

I am truly grateful to former Chair, John Wazeter, every one of our previous board members and our newsletter editors. These individuals, working as a team, kept our committee running smoothly, provided an excellent speaker program, created the successful photo exhibits at Calumet, informed us of our events and made our meetings an exciting, fun place for us all to gather! I want to do my part to continue that excitement. In that spirit, I fondly remember John Smith and am saddened by his passing.

I want to congratulate another former NYCSCPC chair Thelma Fellows, who is the newly elected Chair of the Sierra Club New York City Group Executive Committee. She will be a valuable contributor to the Sierra Club cause.

I look forward to seeing you all at the next meeting!

—Charles Dexter, *Chair*

Date: Saturday, March 17, 2012

Location: Delaware Water Gap region in NJ and/or PA

Photograph: Waterfalls (Hopefully with snow and ice!)

Hike: Short, but possibly slippery trails with stones

Additional information: Plan for full day of cold weather. Wear hiking boots, layered clothing, wool hat, gloves and rain gear. Bring lunch, snacks and water. Dinner in diner afterwards.

NYC start: 9:30 am; NYC return: 10:00 pm. Blizzard postpones or cancels.

Leader: Charles Dexter, 212-315-1963, call until 10:30 pm

Date: Saturday, April 14, 2012

Location: Branch Brook Park, Newark, NJ

Subject: Cherry Blossoms, Forsythia, Hundreds of trees blooming pink and white in a park designed by Frederick Olmsted. Perhaps late evening twilight light.

Walk: Easy walkways in one-mile area, slight hills

NYC start: Possibly two shooting shifts. Morning and/or afternoon shoot to sunset. Starting times and dinner details to be worked out.

Additional information: Bring water, rain gear, walking shoes

Leader: Charles Dexter 212-315-1963 until 10:30 pm. Car pool drivers greatly appreciated.

Date: Saturday, April 21, 2012

Location: Audubon Kimberlin Nature Education Center, Greenwich, CT

Subject: Visit NYCSCPC members Photo Exhibit *Inspired by Nature* then photograph on nature trails

Walk & Photograph: Assorted trails, meadows, woods, hills—choose from easy to moderate

Additional information: Bring lunch, water, rain gear, walking shoes

NYC start: 10:00 am: late morning arrival, visit exhibit, picnic lunch, afternoon shoot, dinner somewhere in Greenwich. Details to follow.

NYC return: 8:30–9:00 pm

Leader: Charles Dexter 212-315-1963 until 10:30 pm. Car pool drivers greatly appreciated.

Date: Saturday, April 28, 2012

Location: New York Botanical Garden, Bronx, NY. Meet at Garden at 10:00 am, Metro North Train to garden.

Subject: Spring blossoms: tulips, daffodils, dogwoods, and more.

Additional information: Dinner afterwards at Emilia's Restaurant on Arthur Avenue
NYC return: 9:30 or 10:00 pm. Car pool drivers greatly appreciated.

Leader: John Wazeter, work: 212-812-1112 until 5:30 pm, Cell: 914-522-5365 or jwazeter@mna.com.

Date: Saturday, May 12 or May 19, 2012

Location: Hunterdon County, NJ. One or two of these locations to be chosen:

Ken Lockwood Gorge, Teetertown Ravine, Black River Preserve, Schooley's Mountain, or Hacklebarney State Park

Photograph: Wildflowers, spring foliage, rushing river and perhaps a waterfall

Hike: Short hikes totaling one to three miles along stream, or in a meadow or woods.

Additional information: Plan for full day, bring hiking boots, rain jacket, sunblock, bug spray, lunch and water.

NYC start: 9:30 am long day shoot, dinner afterwards in the vicinity, to be researched.

NYC return: 8:30 or 9:30 pm

Leader: Charles Dexter, 212-315-1963, call until 10:30 pm

Members of the Sierra Club Photography Committee Executive Board

Charles Dexter: Chair, Outings Leader, Sierra Club Liaison

Trudy Fritschi: Membership Coordinator

Sid Georgiou: Recorder & Membership Coordinator

Claudia Perko: Membership Coordinator

Claudia Schellenberg: Treasurer

Stephanie Schmidt: Director of Exhibits

John Wazeter: Program Coordinator

Tom Wysmuller: Membership Coordinator

Off-Board Members

E-mail Communication Coordinator: Helen Pine, e-mail: sierraphotonyc@aol.com

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Newsletter Mailing: Penny Smith

Committee Historian: Jacqui Bonavito

Newsletter Editor: Corinna Chifari, e-mail: cchifari@nyc.rr.com

The Passing of a Committee Member



Wild Blueberries / Bar Harbor, Maine © John Smith



Oxeye Daisies, Water / New Hampshire © John Smith



Sunset / Herring Cove, Cape Cod National Seashore, Massachusetts © John Smith

John J. Smith

Many Photography Committee members will be saddened to learn of the passing of **John Smith**. John's unfailing politeness and warmth, his love of nature and respect for the ideals of the Sierra Club were qualities that attracted many new members to the Committee in its early years. —JOHN WAZETER

What follows is a brief tribute from Don Young, a long-time friend who recruited John to the Sierra Club Photography Committee.

Tribute to John J. Smith

BY DON YOUNG

John J. Smith, a fine art nature photographer and a popular member of our committee for many years, died in his home in Lancaster, NH, on January 26, five months after 60 friends attended his 94th birthday celebration. John served in the Army during World War II, and almost his entire career was with the *Encyclopedia Americana* in top editorial positions. His meticulous attention to detail served him well as both an editor and a photographer.

A personal note: John hired me when I was 30-years-old; he was the greatest boss I ever had. When I phoned him just after the holidays, he was excited about the publication of his new book *Wildflowers of New England*, a project he had worked on for many years, ultimately tracking down and photographing every flower. John's wife Ann, a marvelous person with a crisp New England accent, died in 1996.

Click on this link, <http://www.blurb.com/bookstore/detail/2427399>, to see a brief excerpt from John's book *Wildflowers of New England*.

More about John Smith's life can be found at the funeral home's website:

[http://www.baileyfh.net/obituary.aspx?MemberId=101267&MName=John %20J.%20Smith](http://www.baileyfh.net/obituary.aspx?MemberId=101267&MName=John%20J.%20Smith). There, you can share your thoughts of John online with friends and family. A brief and touching video from John's last birthday party can be seen at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xuXjpp-tt2I>.

Member Activities

Tuesday Evening Hour presentations by Sierra Club Photography Committee Members: 49 Fulton Street, NY, NY. Presentations begin at 6:00 pm in the dining room (**Note: New start time**). Website:

www.tuesdayeveninghour.com/

March 13: **Lee Backer**—*Beyond Stonehenge: Rock Stars of the Neolithic Era*

March 20: **Vlassios Pyrpyris**—*The Islands of Greece*

April 10: **Carlos Esguerra**—*Architectural Abstracts, Los Angeles, Belgium, Spain & NYC*

May 1: **Jacqui Bonavito**—*Former Estates of New Jersey, History and Land Preserved*

May 8: **Louise Luger**—*Chinese Scholar Garden in Snug Harbor, Staten Island*

Jacqui Bonavito has two photographs in the *Voices for the Marsh 2012* juried exhibit, D&R Greenway Land Trust, 1 Preservation Place, Princeton, NJ 09540, March 1–early May, M–F 10:00 am–5:00 pm, 609-924-4646, www.drgreenway.org/art_galleries.htm.

Please send your Member Activities or field trip submissions by May 1 for the May/June 2012 issue (which will include activities from mid-May to mid-September) to **Corinna Chifari** at cchifari@nyc.rr.com. In the activity information include your name, a brief description and/or title of the event, the location, hours and contact information.

2012 Meeting Dates and Speakers

May 30, 2012 TBA

June 26, 2012 Members' Night
(Note meeting is on Tuesday)

If you are still receiving a printed copy of this newsletter in the mail, please send your e-mail address to Helen at sierraphotony@aol.com and receive a color PDF of the newsletter via e-mail.