

# THE PILCHUCKER MAY 2014

NEWSLETTER FOR PILCHUCK CAMERA CLUB EVERETT WASHINGTON

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If you have something you would like to share in the newsletter, suggestions of things you would like to see, or just general comments, please forward to [sonyalang@hotmail.com](mailto:sonyalang@hotmail.com)



# The Pilchuck Camera Club Newsletter

Serving members from the Puget Sound Area of Washington State



The Pilchuck Camera Club was organized June 12, 1964 and is a member of the Photographic Society of America (PSA) and the Northwest Council of Camera Clubs (NWCCC). Membership is open to anyone interested in color or monochromatic digital photography. Club meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month in the Baker Heights Social Hall, 1401 Poplar Street, Everett, WA.

**Pilchuck Camera Club Web Page:** <http://www.pilchuckcameraclub.com>

**Photographic Society of America (PSA) Web Page:** <http://www.psa-photo.org>

**Northwest Council of Camera Clubs (NWCCC)** <http://www.nwcameraclubs.org>

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**Secretary - Linda Davis**  
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[lightle@comcast.net](mailto:lightle@comcast.net)

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## COMING EVENTS

### Monthly Club Meeting:

7 pm at the Baker Heights Social Hall  
1401 Poplar Everett Washington  
May 8, 2014

3 Regular Competition Images  
3 Challenge Images — Patterns in Nature  
To: [jbasingerokie@comcast.net](mailto:jbasingerokie@comcast.net)

3 PSA Creative Images  
To: [lightle@comcast.net](mailto:lightle@comcast.net)

Up to 2 sets —'Before and After' images  
To: [sonyalang@hotmail.com](mailto:sonyalang@hotmail.com)

**SEND ALL IMAGES**  
**No later than**  
**May 6, 2014**

Dimension requirements for submitted images:  
No larger than 1024 pixels wide or 768 pixels tall.

## PROGRAM Before and After

## MAY REFRESHMENTS

**Sonya Lang**



**Cover Image:  
My Lunch**

**By Jim Basinger**

This images was taken October 19 2009  
at Ediz Hook Port Angeles Washington

Canon 7d 100-400 lens set at 400. Ap-  
erture priority 1/1025 of a second at  
F5.66 ISO 500



**April  
Challenge  
Reflections**

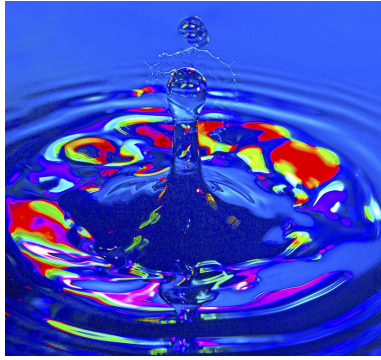
**First Place  
City Hall  
By  
Kevin Siefke**



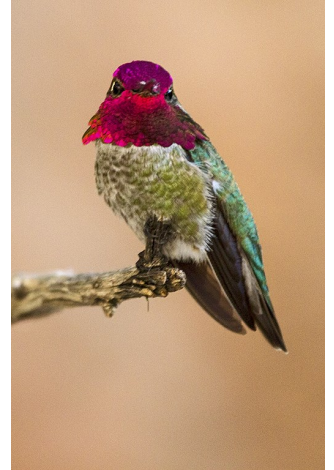
# APRIL COMPETITION WINNERS



First Place  
Horned Owl  
Sharon Ely



First Place  
Water Drop  
Renata Kleinert



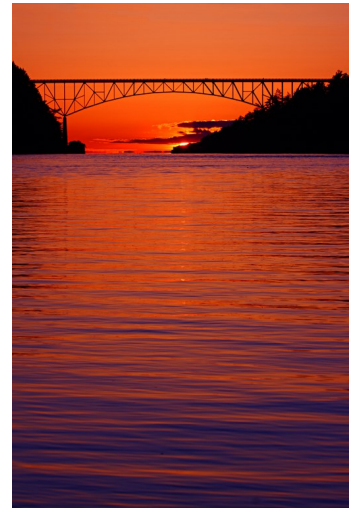
Third Place  
Make My Day  
Sharon Ely



Third Place  
Southwestern Redtail  
Sharon Ely



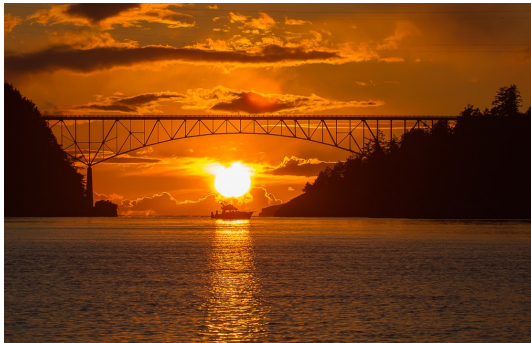
Third Place  
Snow Geese Landing  
Renata Kleinert



Honorable Mention  
Spring Equinox at Deception Pass  
Steve Lightle



Honorable Mention  
Snohomish RR Bridge  
Sonya Lang



Honorable Mention  
Following Pathway to the Sun  
Greg Thomas



Honorable Mention  
Sekei  
Sonya Lang

**PILCHUCK CAMERA CLUB APRIL 2014 SCORESHEET**

<b>Nbr</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Maker</b>	<b>Score</b>	<b>Honor</b>
1	AMERICAN KESTREL	LINDA DAVIS	14	
2	B&W FERRY REFLECTION	GREG THOMAS	18	
3	BIRD OF PARADISE	JANET WRIGHT	17	
4	BOAT IN SUNLIGHT	NORM KREGER	17	
5	55TH BIRTHDAY	BOB PATRICK	18	
6	CHETTAH	JIM BASINGER	18	
7	CITY HALL	KEVIN SIEFKE	18	
8	COUPEVILLE DOCK	PAULA BAILLY	17	
9	EVERETT MARINA SUNSET	STEVE LIGHTLE	17	
10	FOG SETTING IN	RENATA KLEINERT	17	
11	HORNED OWL	SHARON ELY	23	1ST
12	JAG	TRACY CARSON	19	
13	SEKEI	SONYA LANG	21	HM
14	LEVERAGE	TIM GARTON	18	
15	BLACK NECKED STILT	LINDA DAVIS	14	
16	FOLLOWING PATHWAY TO THE SUN	GREG THOMAS	21	HM
17	FERRUGINOUS HAWK	JANET WRIGHT	19	
18	DECEPTION PASS SUNSET	NORM KREGER	16	
19	IRON BUTTERFLY	BOB PATRICK	17	
20	LION	JIM BASINGER	19	
21	CITY HALL2	KEVIN SIEFKE	19	
22	ROAD TO BAKER	PAULA BAILLY	18	
23	PAST PRIME	STEVE LIGHTLE	19	
24	SNOW GEESE LANDING	RENATA KLEINERT	22	3RD
25	MAKE MY DAY	SHARON ELY	22	3RD
26	TROPICAL BLOOM	TRACY CARSON	18	
27	SNOHOMISH RR BRIDGE	SONYA LANG	21	HM
28	SILK	TIM GARTON	16	
29	REFLECTION	LINDA DAVIS	17	
30	THE WASH CYCLE	GREG THOMAS	20	
31	WALLABY AND BABY	JANET WRIGHT	16	
32	DECEPTION PASS SUNDOWN	NORM KREGER	16	
33	SUNDAY RIDER	BOB PATRICK	17	
34	MY LUNCH	JIM BASINGER	18	
35	GRASS WIDOW	KEVIN SIEFKE	18	
36	SNOHOMISH FALL TIME	PAULA BAILLY	20	
37	SPRING EQUINOX AT DECEPTION PASS	STEVE LIGHTLE	21	HM
38	WATER DROP	RENATA KLEINERT	23	1ST
39	SOUTHWESTERN REDTAIL	SHARON ELY	22	3RD
40	ZEBRA GOT AN ITCH	TRACY CARSON	17	
41	UW CAMPUS TREE	SONYA LANG	19	
42	WHISKEY RIVER	TIM GARTON	19	

# Essay: What makes a good photograph.

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I just completed the Photographic Society of America course on judging (the Image Analysis course). More about that later.

If ever there were a subjective topic, this is it! So... what you are going to get is my opinion. I hope it doesn't offend.

I have several pet measurements when it comes to proclaiming (in my own mind, at least) an image GOOD. I'll refer to these as personal and I'll use the term again later.

**The Wow Factor:** The most difficult to describe and maybe the most important. It's the first impression. It is the initial impact. (Usually evidenced by a reverentially spoken — almost whispered — “wow”).

**New Take on an Old Subject:** If it looks like the post card I'm not impressed.

**Creativity and Cleverness:** Not necessarily bullets passing through light bulbs but inventive ways of presenting things.

**Emotion Invoking:** George Lange (in his book The Unforgettable Photograph...) says “The unforgettable photograph is one that makes that intimate connection understood and *felt* by the viewer.” My italics.

**Inviting:** Ever feel like you could walk into a photograph?

**Composition:** Particularly black and white (since I'm color challenged).

You might notice that I didn't include technical excellence (exposure, perfect focus, etc.). Correct technique helps but, for me, it is down the list somewhere.

In my way of thinking, any one (maybe even JUST one) of the above personal measurements can make an excellent image. And let us not forget that the viewer decides whether or not a photograph is good. If it is good in the viewer's perception, then...well, it is good.

Formal judging (as in club competitions) can be a little different.

Continued on next page

## Cont.—Essay: What makes a good photograph.

As mentioned above, I've just completed the Photographic Society of America's Image Analysis course. I took the course so that I could judge club and other competitions and so that I could improve my photography. I am very, very glad that I took the course. (If you are a PSA member I highly recommend it. Jon Fishback is a thorough and patient instructor. And, if you are not a PSA member, I recommend you join so that you can take the course and enjoy the other benefits that come with membership.)

Formal judging examines the elements of a photograph against accepted, competitive norms. And, I think, that is as it should be. If a photograph is to be submitted to a competitive environment it will be judged in that community. I believe that the uniformity of those accepted norms is what makes the competitive arena fair.

Now, there is one more thing to consider — and this is big. The trained, formal judge will not make unequivocal statements. If he knows his business he will never say that this is a good photograph, that the contrast is not great enough, or that the white balance is off. He will offer an opinion.

*And take ownership of it.* For example, "In my opinion you get high marks for creativity. The initial impact of your image really works for me." Or he may say, "I like the way you used shallow depth of field to direct the viewer's eyes."

Nor do we need to forget that judges are human persons with different backgrounds, skills, and biases. A photo can be judged exceptional by one judge and only good by another. The accepted norms, however, will even out these differences in the long run.

So...Dear Reader, where does that leave us?

It leaves us with the flexibility — and responsibility — to make the "good" or "not good" decision on the bases of place and purpose. Suppose I am judging competition entries at a camera club. I will put on my competitive hat and, possibly, give a very high score to an image of a flower. Against the standards established by the formal community, this image deserves very high marks. If, on the other hand, that same image were hanging in a gallery I might give the flower picture a nod but my eyes would drift — in real admiration — to the adjacent image of a seascape. I've applied competitive standards to the flower at a club competition and personal (admittedly biased) standards to the flower and seascape in another apace.

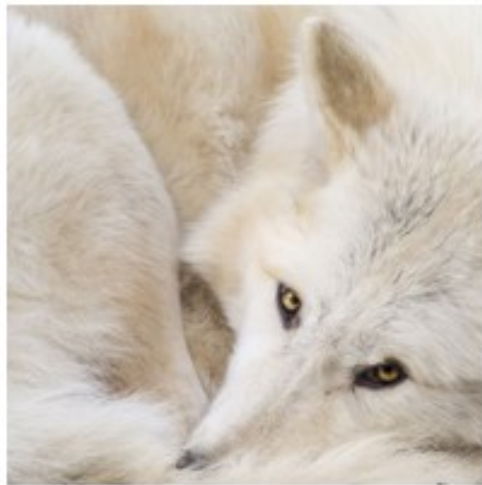
"I sought my subjects from the house-tops, and finally from the hill-tops and about the surrounding country; the taste strengthening as my successes became greater in proportion to the failures."  
- William Henry Jackson

# PSA Projected Image Division (General) – March 2014 Results



"Board Grab" – 13 Pts HM

Steve Lightle



"Gray Wolf " – 12 pts

Sonya Lang



"Here We Come " - 14 Pts Honor

Sharon Ely



"Tallahassee Lassie P47T" – 11 Pts

Bill Dewey



"Water Columns" – 9 Pts

Tim Garton



"Redwoods" – 9 Pts

Renata Kleinert

GROUP C						
CLUB Standings – PID/IC	LOCATION	Nov	Jan	Mar	May	totals
Forest Grove Camera Club	OR	60	62	75		197
London Camera Club	Canada	59	64	67		190
Green Briar Camera Club	IL	56	59	73		188
Houston Camera Club	TX	52	72	63		187
Lenske <u>Boortmeerbeek</u>	Belgium	54	58	71		183
Charlotte Camera Club	NC	54	58	69		181
Bowie-Crofton Camera Club	MD	61	54	65		180
<u>Fotoclub Jap Deurne</u>	Belgium	59	59	62		180
<u>Pilchuck Camera Club</u>	WA	52	59	68		179
SLIC	England	55	57	65		177
Atlantic Lighthouse Photo Group	Canada	52	62	62		176
<u>Kodaroamers</u> of Bloomington	IL	49	60	66		175
Manchester Camera Club*	FL	54	60	59		173
Thunder Mountain Camera Club	CO	56	55	62		173
Northern Tasmanian Camera Club	Australia	45	57	63		165
ABC Photo Society	PA	46	57	60		163
Camera Club of Los Altos	CA	53	46	54		153
<u>Fotoferia</u> Club	Poland	67	0	74		141
Tacoma Photographic Society	Washington	0	63	68		131
PC Double <u>Declie</u>	Belgium	60	0	66		126
Lone Tree Photography Club	CO			67		67
Fall River Camera Club	MA	0	0	0		0
Photo Club <u>Beringen</u>	Belgium	0	0	0		0



# PILCHUCK CAMERA CLUB MEETING MINUTES

## MEETING MINUTES

The April meeting of the Pilchuck Camera Club was called to order by President Sonya Lang at 7:04 p.m. on April 10, 2014. There were 17 members present and 2 guests, Joe Fackler (speaker) and Sonya's mom Jeannie.

The minutes of the March meeting are approved as printed in the March Pilchucker.

Treasurer Steve Lightle reports we have \$1,812.66 in the treasury.

Vice President Greg Thomas presented certificates to the winners of the March competition.

The program this evening is Portrait Posing and Lighting Tips by Joe Fackler.

### Committee Reports:

Social: Renata reports social signups for refreshments are good until July.

PSA Representative: Steve Lightle reports for Kevin Siefke that Jerry Sorenson has received an honorable mention award from PSA.

Field Trips: Steve Lightle reports that April 13 will be a field trip to the tulip fields in Skagit Valley. May 15-18 there will be a trip to the Palouse in eastern Washington. Motel reservations have been made.

NWCCC: Renata reports that the next Northwest Council of Camera Clubs Conference will be April 26 and April 27 in Gig Harbor.

### Image Competition:

Image registration by Jim Basinger and projection by Steve Lightle. Tabulation by Jim Basinger. Judges Jerry Sorenson, Shane Elan and Greg Thomas.

Number of images: 42 for regular competition, 19 for the monthly challenge and 15 for PSA travel.

### Announcements:

Old business: Sonya will do a presentation at the May meeting of before and after images. She would like everybody to send her both a before image and the after image (after corrections by a software program) by May 6.

Meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Davis, Secretary

# PILCHUCK CAMERA CLUB MEMBERS

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