

# In Focus

Volume 5, Issue 4  
 Sep/Oct 2011  
[www.grandphotos.org](http://www.grandphotos.org)



Member Club of the  
 Photographic  
 Society of America.

**PSA Award Winning Newsletter**  
 2008 Directors' Award for Variety of Information  
 2010 Honorable Mention



*Cimarron at Sunset-Brady Conn*

A Newsletter of Grand Photos of Sun City Grand

## THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER



by Sue Marrugi

Ahhhhhh. Summertime in Surprise, Arizona.

The snowbirds were gone. The world travelers had departed for the four corners of the earth in search of prize-winning photographs. The rest of us were left to delight in the following:

- The new version of Grand Avenue had turned into a super highway, with very little traffic. It was possible to go fast enough to exceed the speed limit.
- Lines at the stores were almost nonexistent. We felt important...like we owned the place, even if we couldn't find a sales clerk.

- Reservations at the restaurants were a thing of the past, especially if we went for dinner at 4:30 PM to catch "Happy Hour".
- The heat was a "dry heat" – like walking into a pizza oven. Our clothes didn't get sopping wet from the humidity, and we hardly perspired because we were dehydrated.
- Certainly, we **must** have gotten more vitamin D from the stronger sun, though I don't have scientific proof of this.

Did I want all these advantages to continue? **NOOOOOO!** Welcome back to all you returning snowbirds and travelers!! We've missed you. We have an exciting year ahead of us with our first Membership Meeting to be held on Wednesday, October 12<sup>th</sup>.

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Remember to visit our website at [www.grandphotos.org](http://www.grandphotos.org) for the weekly schedules, member slideshows, and just about everything you ever wanted to know about Grand Photos!

## On-Going Lab Events

### General Club Activities

#### **Open Lab (9:00 AM - Noon)**

Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday

#### **Workshops (Lab)**

Monday through Friday

#### **Travelogues (Lab)**

2<sup>nd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday  
6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

#### **Membership Meetings (Cimarron Center)**

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month  
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM  
3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month  
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

#### **Board Meeting (Lab)**

2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month  
9:00 AM - Noon

#### **First Thursdays (Cimarron Center)**

Travelogues 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month  
6:30 PM

### Grand Photos Contacts

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<b>Past President:</b>	<b>Dik Salsbury</b> <i>dikenjoyce@yahoo.com</i>

### Special Interest Groups and Get-togethers

(In Photo Lab unless specified otherwise.)

#### **Canon 20D and up**

1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month (10:00 AM - 12:00 PM)  
Closed-No Facilitator

#### **Canon Rebel**

2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month (3:00 PM - 5:00 PM)  
Open all summer

#### **Creative Eye (currently filled)**

1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month (3:00 PM - 5:00 PM)  
Start date-Oct 5<sup>th</sup>

#### **Digital Scrapbooking**

1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month (3:00 PM—5:00 PM)  
Start date-Oct 6<sup>th</sup>

#### **Elements 6-9**

2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month (1:00PM - 2:30PM)  
Open all summer

#### **HDR - High Dynamic Range Photography**

4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month (1:00 PM- 2:30 PM)  
Start date-Oct 20<sup>th</sup>

#### **Lightroom 2**

1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month (10 AM - Noon)  
Start date-Oct 6<sup>th</sup>

#### **Nikon Intermediate DSLR**

2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month (9:30 AM - 12:00 PM)  
Start date-Oct 13<sup>th</sup>

#### **Nikon D300 and up**

3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month (3:00 PM-5:00 PM)  
Start date-Oct 20<sup>th</sup>

#### **Mac Photography Group**

3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month (1:00 PM - 3:00 PM)  
Open all summer

#### **Photo Shop CS**

1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month (12:30 PM - 2:30PM)  
Start date-Oct 6<sup>th</sup>

#### **Slide Show Skunkworks**

3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month (10:00 AM - Noon)  
Start date-Oct 20<sup>th</sup>

#### **Wildlife—Nature**

4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month (10:00AM - Noon)  
Open all summer

## *Library*

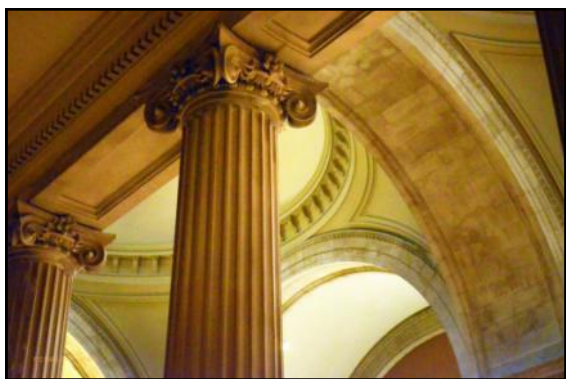
*By Barbara Wallenberg*

Just a reminder. If you have an overdue book hiding on your desk, sitting on your night stand or lurking anywhere. Please bring it back so that others may have a chance to check it out. Thank you.

## *Marilyn's Musing*

*Letter from the Editor*

Wow!! Ask and ye shall receive! IN FOCUS was inundated with photos from so many of you for "Where is This?" and "What I did on my Summer Vacation". Thank you so much. There were many more than can be used in one edition. Therefore, IN FOCUS will be using several of them throughout the year. It was fun to see some of the places our members have ventured to during the summer. So if you don't see your photos in this edition don't be discouraged, they will show up at some point. Thank you again, you guys are grrrrreat!



*MMA NY by Ron Melchionda*

## *Where is this?*



*Taken with a Samsung Smart Phone 5 MP,  
ISO 64, Focal Length 4mm, f/2.6*

Where was Jeanne Hladek?

Hints:

- In the Northern Hemisphere
- View from the terrace
- Wine tastings are held here
- NOT in Napa Valley

Guys, this one is a toughie. Put on your thinking caps. If you like wine it may help, but not too much!!

Relax, the answer is found somewhere in IN FOCUS....just keep reading!

## *Notice*

The new member orientation scheduled for October has been canceled. It has been rescheduled for January. Details will follow

## *Fall 2011 Photo Competition*

*By Larry Lindner and Lyle Patton*

We expect you've all taken some great photos this summer and hope you'll share them in one or both of the two fall Photo competitions easily open to all our members: The Grand Photos Fall 2011 Competition and the ACCC (Arizona Camera Club Council) 2011 Fall Roundup.

The **Grand Photos Competition**, which is only open to our members, is first. The turn-in date is Tue., Oct. 4, 9:30 to 11:30 am, Sonoran Plaza, Palo Verde Room. The Show displaying all entries and awards will be at our regular monthly meeting in the Cimarron Center on Wed., Oct. 19, 2:00 to 4:00 pm,

Print categories will be: Open, Nature, Vista, Black and White (sepia), and Americana.

Digital categories will be: Open, Nature, Creative, Motion, and Americana.

Category definitions, rules, entry forms and instructions can all be found on our website [www.grandphotos.org](http://www.grandphotos.org) at the tab labeled "Fall 2011 Competition".

The **ACCC Competition** is open to most photo club members in Arizona is next. The turn-in date for our members is the day immediately after the Grand Photos Show Thur., Oct. 20. It will be held at the Cimarron Center, Agua Fria Room, 9:30 to 11:30 am.

This Fall, Grand Photos is **hosting** the ACCC Roundup at the Sun City Grand Sonoran Plaza, Sat., Nov. 19 from 7:45 am to 3:30 pm. The program, includes a continental breakfast, lunch, display of entries and awards plus an outside speaker. This event requires advance registration and a fee. The form is on our website. We're hoping for a great turnout encompassing both entries and attendance from Grand Photos members at this event.

ACCC Categories, which are not the same as the Grand Photos categories, competition entry forms for our members, and the registration form are on our website: [www.grandphotos.org](http://www.grandphotos.org). Look for the tab: "Fall 2011 Competition". Additional

ACCC information including competition rules and category definitions can be found at <http://www.arizonacameraclubcouncil.org/Competition.html> by following links to "The Chronicle" and to "Competition".

We hope you'll all show off your work by entering one or both competitions.

Address any questions to:

Lyle Patton (Digital Chairman) [pattfam@cox.net](mailto:pattfam@cox.net)

Larry Lindner (Print Chairman) [llindner1@cox.net](mailto:llindner1@cox.net)

Where were Joe, Ron and Brady?

Brady—El Presidio, Tucson, AZ  
reconstruction site.  
adjacent to the World Trade Center  
Ron—World Financial Center in NYC  
(worst weather in world)  
Washington, NH  
Joe—Mt. Where was Jeanne??

## Vice President's Report

*By Jim Smith*

I wish to begin by thanking our excellent and dedicated Nominating Committee, Chairwoman: Sherry Weinstein; surprisesw@cox.net, along with Liz Burke; Liz-GrandPhotos@cox.net, and Jerry Weinstein; jerritaww@cox.net. They have almost completed the slate of officers and directors for 2012. The committee has done a swell job selecting worthwhile candidates, most of whom have accepted their respective positions for next year. The committee will be making their announcement at the October meeting. Voting will take place at the November meeting.

If you are interested in being on the Board, please contact one of the committee members to volunteer. If you are interested in participating as a committee chairperson please contact me: jamesmith@cox.net for available openings.

I have already booked travelogues for the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday in November. Gail McCall will be the presenter and in December Dik Salsbury will do the honors. October is open at this time. There will be no travelogue shown in September. After the first of the year this responsibility will belong to John Wolff. I will be happy to pencil in anyone interested in making a presentation, but will leave the final decision to our new coordinator.

I should add I am aware a number of our members have done extensive traveling this past summer. They should have some marvelous presentations. So please give me a call.

You may also wish to consider the Thursday night travelogues at our Photo Lab beginning at 6:30. As of this writing all Thursday nights are open in the Photo Lab for next year.

I was very pleased to see a number of our members receiving acceptances in the recent PSA International Competition. These were in the Open, Wildlife, and Wildlife sections. This is not a complete tabulation yet, just the first one that has been published.

Marvin Weinstein had three acceptances in Open, Stan Bormann had two in Wildlife, Shirley Bormann had one in Open and yours truly received one in Wildlife.

Keep up the good work folks!

## Membership

*By Sue Penney*

With the fall season upon us, membership looks forward to meeting new Photo Club members each month. If you know someone who is thinking about joining, please invite them to a meeting, or a workshop that might interest them. New members who join in Oct. through Dec. pay their membership now, but then they are paid up until December 2012. We have information available about joining at the photo lab. Everyone can help us keep the club growing, and that's good.

## SIG Updates

*By Jim Smith*

The Canon Digital SLR Camera SIG needs a facilitator. John Macy, who has been acting in this capacity since the passing of John Hertia, is not continuing. As of now the SIG is disbanded. If you are interested contact Jim Smith at: jamesmith@cox.net

## Social Committee

*By Liz Burke*

It has been an interesting and busy year for the Social Committee. We have had some wonderful people working on some amazing events, haven't we? Please e-mail me: [Liz-grandphotos@cox.net](mailto:Liz-grandphotos@cox.net) with any ideas you might have for the coming year as we will have an organizational meeting in October to plan next year's events. If you want to get in on the planning fun please let me know as well. You only work on one event of your choosing for the year, how easy is that?

YES, there will be one more social event this year and it will be a great big welcome back party on October 11 5 PM in the Lakeside Pavilion. The details have not been worked out but PLEASE put this one on your calendar as you do not want to miss it.

## *Education Report*

*By Jim Smith*

As I am sure most of you are aware the summer class schedule was somewhat brief. There were some excellent classes conducted which were very well attended. John Macy kept the summer going with his **Studio Lighting** group.

Jim Urquhart kept his **Image Improvement** group busy, until he left to do some more award winning photography around the country. I really have to say that Jim has a special talent photographing and conveying it to his students. Look at the results of any of our photo competitions and Jim will be right up there with ribbons on six out of eight entries. Some of his students (and I was one of them) were successful in this last competition in receiving their first awards. I know they were thrilled as I received a personal note from one of them thanking me for pointing her in Jim's direction. When he reconvenes, in a month or so, I would suggest you sit in on a few of his classes and I'll bet you will become a regular.

Class schedules will pick-up in September. They will be going full blast by October, and continuing for the balance of this year and into next year.

If you have any suggestions for new or repeat classes, let me know. I can put on a **Macro workshop** that was presented in May by Vern and Barb West. That class will be limited to sixteen students, but can be repeated anytime. The cost has not been determined, however last time it was \$30.00 including lunch.

Bruce Taubert will be conducting a **photo shoot at Santa Maria Lodge in Madera Canyon**. You will be notified of the dates as soon as I have them. Most likely that will be limited to eight students for a three day shoot. I am sure I can get two sessions from Bruce depending on space available at the lodge.

Colleen Minuik-Sperry will be available if we can gather fifty participants to teach her usual **Basic Digital and Advanced Digital workshops or any subject of your choosing**. I believe the cost will be \$30.00 including lunch.

One class that will be going in October will be Joyce Seddon's class on **Lightroom 3**. The class will be three sessions, each one-week apart. There is a bonus for signing up for those classes. Adobe has provided us with some prizes to be given away in a drawing. The best one is a **free software program of Lightroom 3 which is a \$299.00 value**. You must attend all three classes to be eligible. A number of folks attended Joyce's last class on July 21st, 28th, and August 4th. They will also be participating in the drawing for Lightroom 3.

## *Photo Forum Amid the Pines*

*By Jim Smith*

August was the second gathering of ACCC member clubs representatives to discuss what ACCC can do to support member clubs. This gathering in Prescott, was attended by a sparse twenty folks.

The program included of a nice Mexican buffet by our hosts at Plaza Bonita Restaurant.

Following our lunch, there was a presentation by H. Minuskin on "The Future of Photography". Mr. Minuskin also presented a critical discussion on Photo Software and Photo Hardware. It was quite interesting. He is very knowledgeable about these subjects.

Next, Joe Webster, President of Prescott Camera Club, reviewed last year's topics.

Following a break we discussed what clubs could do to help bring in more Arizona photo clubs to ACCC. Two topics drew quite a bit of discussion. First, was the judging of competition photos. The general opinion was that there was too much inconsistency among the judges. Second was about copyrights and the protection of photos published or viewed on the internet. There was a great deal of misunderstanding on this topic within this group of photographers.

I personally picked up a lot of new ideas for Grand Photos. I will be putting together a detailed tabulation of the various topics and my personal responses. I will be sharing this information with our Board of Directors and anyone else who might be interested.

At the end of the meeting, I invited the participants to ACCC's Fall Round-up hosted by Grand Photos on November 19<sup>th</sup>.

## *Fun and Friendly Monthly Photo Competition*

*Will YOU be ready?*

*It's easy and it's fun...No pressure...  
just a chance to show off your photo  
endeavors.*

*By Arnie Becker*

Grand Photos will begin its "new season" in October. Each month the Club will hold a "Fun and Friendly Photo Competition". The idea is to give all the members an opportunity to "show off" a bit and you, the members will be the judges. It will also give you an opportunity to get some new ideas and test out your skills. In October the Fun and Friendly Photo Competition will be held at our meeting on the 2nd Wednesday of the month, October 12.

The main subject of the picture will vary from month-to-month. (See list below). For October, the subject will be "How I Spent My Summer Vacation". All photos submitted must have been taken between Memorial Day (May 30) and Labor Day (September 5) 2011.

November—Be Creative—Anything Goes

December— Things that have Special Meaning to you

January—Reflections

February—Black and White Only

March—Sunrise, Sunset

April—Flowers

Specific restrictions for some subjects will be posted in a timely manner

The rules are simple:

- Prints can not be larger than 8.5 x 11 inches; they may be unmounted or mounted. If mounted, they may not be any larger than 9.5 x 12 inches.
- Manipulation of the image is limited to: Cropping; Adjusting Levels, Hue and Saturation, Brightness and Contrast; and Sharpening. You may do nothing, a little, or as much manipulation as you wish within these parameters.
- The print may not have won a ribbon (Acceptance or higher) in any previous competition.

- One print per member with the member's name on the back of the print. Each month is open to all members unless stated otherwise in the announcement for a specific month.
- The members present at the meeting will judge the competition and select the winning photograph and the "Blue Ribbon".

If you have any questions e-mail Arnold Becker at [photo-mentoring@aol.com](mailto:photo-mentoring@aol.com) and I will be happy to make up an answer.

Please enter and let's have some fun!!!

**Our Goal is 20 prints each month!**



*Ron Pescitani*

Where was Jeanne??

Jeanne, was relaxing on the terrace of the Karmere Vineyards and Winery in the Shendoah Valley, Amador county, California. She left her camera in the car as this was to be a quick stop. She loved the view and used her Smart Phone to take a photo.

*Photo Shoots*



*Short Shoot, Group Two, July 24<sup>th</sup>*



*Short Shoot Photo Group , May 11<sup>th</sup>*



*Short Shoot Photo Group, July 24<sup>th</sup>*

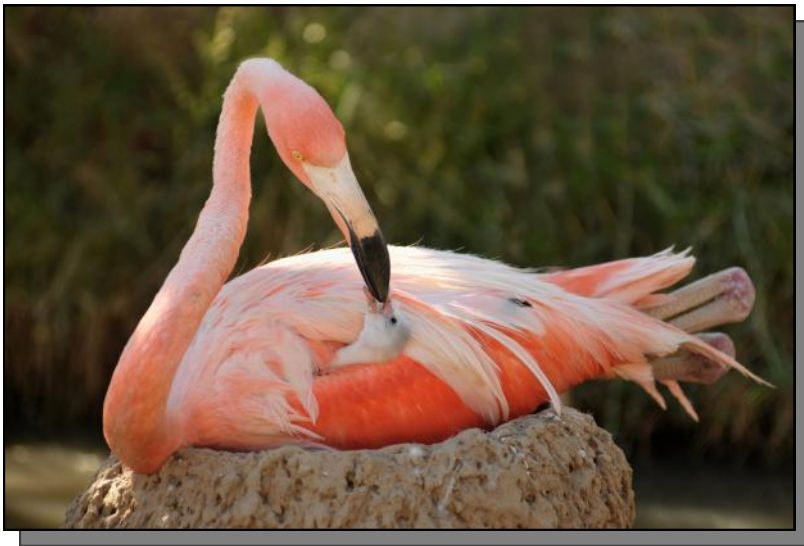


*Short Shoot Photo Group, May 8<sup>th</sup>*

*Photo Shoots*



*Bathing Flamingos*



*Newly Hatched*

*Off to the World Wildlife Zoo  
to watch the flamingo chicks*



*Graceful at Three Weeks*



*Feeding at Three Weeks*

*All Photos on this page were  
shared by Brady Conn*

# Grand Photos Helps to Build a Playground.

Story by Gene McDermott

Photos by Mel Whaley, Brady Conn and Gene McDermott

In a serendipitous moment Mel Whaley, member of Grand Photos, was attending a seminar and learned that a group of people were going to get together and build a playground, **in one day!** They had signed up volunteers to complete this project at the Children's First Academy in Tempe. To Mel it seemed like a visually interesting event. After some meetings and conversations, it was agreed that Grand Photos would provide photographic coverage of the building of a playground as a donation since the labor and lots of materials had been donated. The moving forces behind this one day event were, 'KaBoom! It all starts with a playground' and 'Fairytale Brownies'. You can get more information on these fine organizations on "Goggle."

It all started in late April when 200 plus volunteers showed up at an empty play area.



After an orientation meeting and a pep talk volunteers were anxious to start to work.



WOW, It's done!

When it was all done it was really all about the kids. Grand Photos was happy to have helped.



**Photo Tech Notes:** Several hundred photos were taken with some in-camera editing. All of the images, with minimal post processing, were copied to CD's and given to the organizers to use for PR or their website. A variety of lenses were used and fill flash techniques were also used. We all shot JPG to expedite file transfer.

## *Photo Shoot*

*Led by Richard Coles and Mel Whaley*

*Text by Dan Jacob*

This was a TEAM effort! To my knowledge, this process was started here by Richard Coles and Mel Whaley. Both are very innovative and curious guys! Apparently they came across this while surfing the web. They shared it with the rest of us one night in the desert.. Also on this shoot were Larry Lindner, Ron Pescitani and Marilyn Vosburg.

### To make the "Orb"



*Richard Coles*



*Marilyn Vosburg*

Basically, you attach any kind of light such as a flashlight, "party light", LED light to a string, rope, cord, 2-4' in length, whatever. You can even use multiple lights of different colors! To make a more smooth and even circle, the cord can be attached to an old paint roller. To make it even more steady, rest the roller on a mono pod or hiking stick or any old stick. While swinging the light, YOU rotate around the stick or mono pod...SLOWLY. You wait until dark or dusk depending on your intent and desire for details. Make sure you dress in black!

If you are going to have another object in the photo like the Ocotillo Cactus, you need to paint it with light. During the light swinging part of the exposure have someone "paint" the cactus. I did this for about 10 seconds using Mel's 10 million (?) candlepower light. This may take some practice to get an even paint of the object balancing the exposure with the "Orb".

Set up your camera to Manual Mode and Manual Focus. ISO 100 or 200. Set shutter to 30 seconds. Set F stop to 5.6 or 6.3. Use a shutter delay of 10 seconds. You can use AWB or set to Daylight or Tungsten. Focus on the person swinging the light. Have that person begin swinging the light. After a few swings, press your shutter release to begin the exposure. By setting the camera to go off in 10 seconds, you allow the light swinger to achieve a uniform swing.



*Dan Jacob*

## Summer Photos

*People take pictures of the summer, just in case someone thought they had missed it, and to prove that it really existed.*

Ray Davis



*His and Hers at Albert's Landing*

*Ron Melchionda*



*Chaparral Center*

*Brady Conn*



*The Bridge*

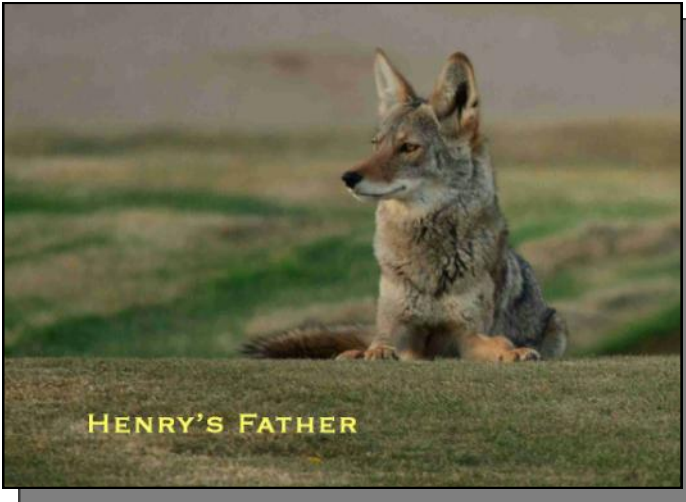
*Ron Melchionda*



*Rock Lake Loons*

*Jim Smith*

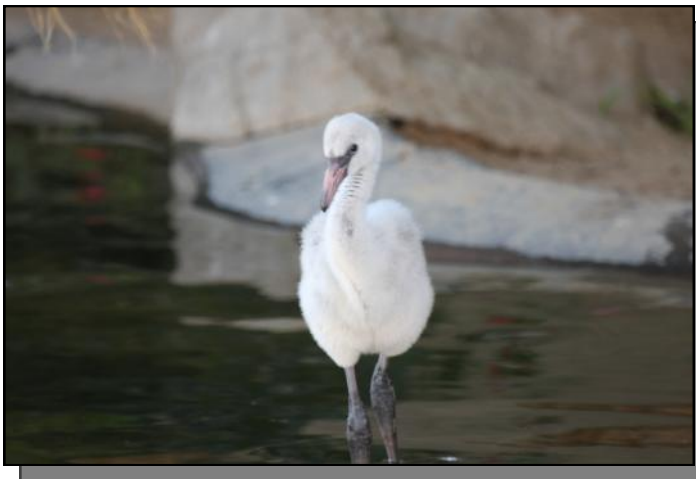
*Summer Photos*



*Henry's Father*  
*Jay Gardella*



*Burrowing Owl*  
*Dan Jacob*



*Jim Smith*



*Jay Gardella*

*The tans will fade, but the memories will last forever.*

*Anonymous*

## Where was.....?

Let's do a few more. If you don't want to play just enjoy the great photos.



**Joe Scanlon**

*Canon 50D, ISO 100, 1/60, f/7, 28mm*

*Drive or take a train above the clouds.*

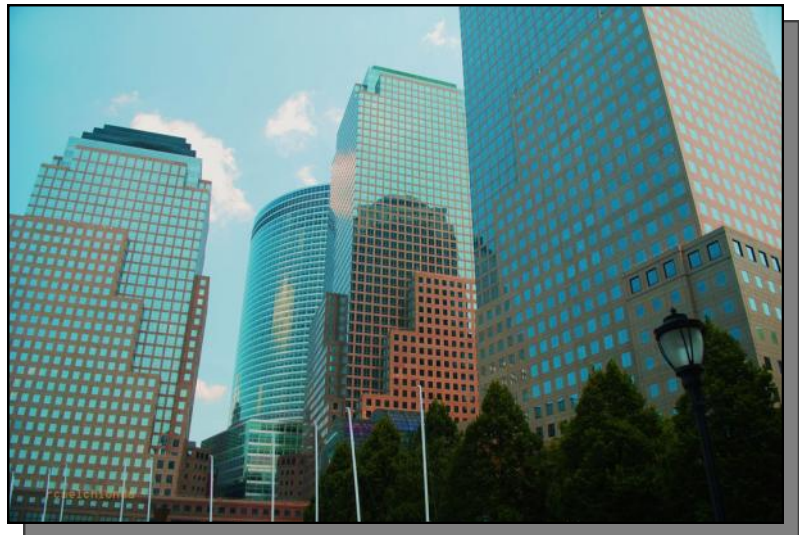
*View of four states, Canada and the Atlantic Ocean.*

**Ron Melchionda**

*Nikon 7000, ISO 6400, focal length 38mm, 1/30 sec., EB-1, A 4.7*

*Way down south on the island where money comes from.*

*"The City that Never Sleeps"*



**Brady Conn**

*Nikon D300, 1/200 sec., f/8, ISO 200, Nikon 18-200mm lenses*

*Arizona Town*

*City Center*

*Empty Office*

The answers are just a few pages back.



## *Classified Ads*

### *For Sale:*

Canon Pro 9500 ink jet printer  
Like new, excellent condition  
Accepts 13 inch paper, front and rear paper feed.  
Archival quality pigment inks.  
Complete set of new Canon inks included  
Price: \$300.00  
Contact: Charlie Ferrell  
Phone: 623-266-3578  
Email: Canon.red@cox.net

### *For Sale:*

Samsung, 20" LCD flat panel monitor, \$25.

Sigma Lens, w/ Canon mount.  
170-500 mm focal length,  
f5.6-6.3,  
Includes lens hood, tripod mount, Tiffin UV  
filter and padded case.  
Excellent condition. \$500.  
Contact: John Wolff  
Phone: 623-544-8275  
Email: jnjwolff@cox.net