



The Newsletter of the New York Botanical / Zoological Photographic Society

THE IRIS

Founded in 1953 - Dedicated to the art and fun of photography!



On the Web: www.nybzps.org • E-mail: PhotoSociety@nybzps.org

Volume 55 Issue 1

Our 55th Year!

Summer 2008

'08-'09 Season Begins!

Believe it or not, summer is almost behind us, and we're ready to begin a new season this Saturday, September 6th. Our presenter, Enid Alvarez, is a hometown gal...born, raised and working the beat in the Bronx. In addition to her creative photo journalistic work for the New York Daily News, she is an accomplished freelance photographer. See her web site for more info: www.enidalvarez.com But, business before pleasure. In addition to reworking the Club's By-Laws and important changes to the Rules of Competition, the Board faced as number of issues following the close of last season. Please read Sharon's Message from the President...below:

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome back to the 55th season of NYBZPS! I hope your summer was full of fun, excitement and opportunities for wonderful picture taking.

The Club's Executive Board has been hard at work over the summer break not only planning for a terrific new season of club activities, but also dealing with some serious club issues as well as revising both the Club's By-Laws and Rules of Competition. (Note: Copies of the revised By-Laws and Rules of Competition will be distributed on Saturday. We will vote on acceptance of the new By-Laws on September 20th.)

Here's a brief rundown of the Board's summer activities:

I'm sad to announce that Nelson Rodriguez, our Competition Chair, has decided to leave the Club to focus his time and energy in new directions. Nelson had put a tremendous amount of energy into ensuring our smooth transition to digital competitions as well as having a hand in many other club activities. The club has been much enriched with his support and help and we will miss him. Thankfully, Harvey Augenbraun has agreed to take over as Competition Chair, leaving a vacant spot on the Board as Secretary. Clubs are run only with the help and support of its members.

If you are interested in helping us fill this vacancy or helping the club in any manner, please let me know.

As some of you may be aware, the Board found itself in a difficult position at the Club's End of Year Party. During the wonderful slide show of last year's images (beautifully put together by Nelson, I might add), it became apparent that two of the photos put into our competition during the year by one of our Members were virtually identical to each other. For years, up until 2003/2004 in fact, the Club had a rule specifically prohibiting images from a single maker that are substantially similar to each other. This avoids having a Club Member submitting virtually the same photo over and over again during the competition year, something clearly unfair to the rest of the membership. However, the rule was not in place at the time, and the competition was already over. No challenge was made during the competition and prizes were already awarded. In the end, the Board voted to let the scores stand and advance the Club Member in question to the next level. In addition, because the

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THIS MONTH:

September 6th

- Presentation by Photographer, Enid Alvarez
- Opening Day Brunch

September 20th

- Competition #1 Judge: Roz Rosenblum
- Theme: Clouds & Sky
- Vote on Ratification of New By-Laws

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT - CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Board felt that the situation wasn't fair to the two Members who would have been promoted if the image in question had been disqualified, we voted to move them up as well. As a result of this situation, we did make a number of changes to the rules. When you read the latest Rules of Competition (and I strongly urge you to do so) you'll find a new rule about "substantially similar images." You'll also find a challenge/appeal process in place should any Club Member spot a similar issue.

I'd also like to take this opportunity to point out another major change in Club policy. There's a new rule in place that sets a minimum number of three (3) competitors for each category (i.e. digital B, A, Salon, black & white; slides or prints) in order for the competition to take place. And, at a point in time it is determined that there will be fewer than six (6) competitions for the year, that category will be eliminated for the remainder of the year. This will particularly impact those of you who compete in prints or slides, so I urge you to read the new rules.

Finally, as many of you know, I'm quite pregnant with twin boys due in November. That means that you may not see me at every meeting, but rest assured that I will be working with the Board to ensure that everything runs smoothly during the season. And yes, if you see some adorably cute baby photos crop up amongst the flowers and "chickens," it's likely to be one of mine!

While it was a challenging summer for the Board, I'm pleased to say that we've made significant progress in moving the Club forward. We're going to have a terrific season this year!

I hope to see you all on September 6th!



Sharon Gumerove - President, NYBZPS

YOUR BOARD'S SUMMER VACATIONS...



Sharon Gumerove & "The Twins" in Atlantic City

More photos on page 4



Executive Board

President & Webmaster	Sharon Gumerove
1st Vice President & Competition Chairperson	Harvey Augenbraun
2nd Vice President & Program Chairperson	Veronica Saunders
3rd Vice President & Membership Chairperson	Annabelle Washington
4th Vice President & <i>Iris</i> Editor	Linda Tommasulo
Secretary	- Open -
Treasurer & Historian	Pam Boyle
Field Trip Coordinator	Stephen Berger
Sergeant-At-Arms	Robert Potter



NYBZPS '08-'09 CALENDAR

2008

September 6 - Opening Day

Photographer, Enid Alvarez

September 20 - Competition #1

Theme: Clouds & Sky; Judge: Roz Rosenblum

October 4 - Competition #2

Theme: Macro; Judge: Ann Harper

October 18 - Presentation

November 8 - Competition #3

Theme: Bridge(s); Judge: Chuck Pine

November 15 - Presentation

Adobe Lightroom by Adolfo Briceno

December 6 - Competition #4

Theme: Eye(s); Judge: Stan Kantor

December 20 - Holiday Party

2009

January 10 - Competition #5

Theme: Shadow(s); Judge: Vinnie Kempf

2009 - cont'd

January 17 - Presentation

Photographer, Jon Ortner

February 7 - Competition #6

Theme: Insect(s); Judge: Phil Echo

February 14 - Ridgewood International

Digital Presentation by Chick Chakarian

March 7 - Competition #7

Theme: Puddle(s); Judge: TBA

March 21 - Presentation

Elinor Stecker-Orel

April 4 - Competition #8

Theme: Hands and/or Feet; Judge: John Wazeter

April 18 - Presentation/Workshop TBA

May 2 - Competition #9

Theme: Street Fair or Flea/Green Market; Judge: TBA

May 9 - End of Year Competition

Judges: E. Stecker-Orel, A. Briceno and Marie Kane

June 6 - End of Season Party & Awards Luncheon

Note: Presentations and judges are subject to change. Check the Iris or the web site for updated information and announcements.

NYBZPS '08-'09 THEMES

September 20/Competition #1 - Clouds and/or Sky: Dominant focus is the sky; must include cloud(s).

October 4/Competition #2 - Macro Really close, parts of small objects, *excluding* flowers.

November 8/Competition #3 - Bridge(s)

December 6/Competition #4 - Eye(s) Must be *non-human*.

January 10/Competition #5 - Shadow(s) *No silhouettes.*

February 7/Competition #6 - Insect(s)

March 7/Competition #7 - Puddle(s)

April 4/Competition #8 - Hands and/or Feet

May 2/Competition #9 - Street fair or Flea/Green Market

Show the wares with the seller and/or customer(s).

KEEP TRACK OF YOUR IMAGES!

Last season a number of End-of-Year images were disqualified because they were not entered into regular competition during the season. Images entered into Theme competitions ONLY are NOT eligible for End-of-Year. Images must have been entered in B, A, AA or B&W to be eligible for EOY. To avoid this problem, those competing in digital should keep appropriate folders on their desktop (or wherever you can find them) marked "NYBZPS_0809_Digital" and/or "NYBZPS_0809_BW" and/or "NYBZPS_0809_Theme" Use these folders for your final, submitted images. The numbering designation will tell you the competition number in which they were entered, and you can choose from the "Digital" and/or "BW" images ONLY to enter the End-of-Year Competition.

Due to scheduling with Fordham Prep, there's just one week between Competition #9 and End of Year...so we'll have very little time to upload the final EOY images. (You can enter them ahead of time and change before the deadline, if you so choose.) More reason to keep good records!



Harvey & Anastasia, shadows of their former selves.
in Rockport, MA



**MORE PHOTOS OF
YOUR BOARD'S
SUMMER
VACATIONS...**

Left and below: Cape Ann, MA
©Annabelle Washington



Rosie & Baby @ Yellowstone National Park
©Linda Tommasulo



Wave Hill ©Pam Boyle

The New York Botanical/Zoological Photographic Society invites photography enthusiasts of ALL LEVELS to join us at our bimonthly meetings (Saturdays at 9:30 AM), Sept. thru June, at Fordham Prep, room 243/244 (on the campus of Fordham University, Bronx, NY). Check the web site (www.nybzps.org) for program details, field trips and more!

Photos/articles/comments/suggestions for future editions of The Iris are always welcome.

E-mail text and photos (approx. size 4"x 6" at 200 dpi min.) to:
iriseditor@verizon.net