



# The f – Stop



Newsletter of the Camera Club of Brevard

June 2005

**Next Meeting:** 7:00 PM, Thursday, June 16, 2005, at the Henegar Center for the Arts, 625 E. New Haven Avenue, Melbourne.

**June Monthly Program:** Macro Photography

**An Upcoming Field Trip – June 25** McKee Botanical Gardens

## Bank Hangings

We need framed photos for the **May** bank rotations. **Remember that the frames must have a wire on the back for hanging.** Please bring your photos to the meeting and give them to **Carlos or Linda Davis** or call (259-2470) to make other arrangements. ***We will bring photos to the meeting only if you call and tell us you will be there. All others please call and make arrangements to pick them up at our house.*** The Bank of America banks are located at: **Eau Gallie** – 202 E Eau Gallie Blvd, **Fifth Ave** – 333 5<sup>th</sup> Ave, **Satellite Beach** – 100 Scorpion Ct., **NASA** – 175 E NASA Blvd.

**Eau Gallie:** Anne Du Bois - The Red Door; St Francis; Beach Reflection; **Bob Sprinkle** - The Flower & the Fly; **Genie Jones** - Pecking Order; Mr Big Stuffy; **Hermann Schiefner** - Dogwood Tree; **Larry Davis** - Asheville Fall; **Tom Hand** - Castle Walls; Country Cottage.

**Fifth Ave:** **John Wilmer** - The Desert of Maine; **Keith Johnson** - Viera; Trees; **Lucy Rugg** - The bloom is on the rose; One Perfect Rose; Rose on tree; **Tom Hand** - Fishing Hole; Sheep Season; The Castle; Cape Hatteras Coast.

**Satellite Beach:** **Carlos Davis** - Taste of Tuscany; First Cup of the Day; On the Ball; **Hermann Schiefner** - Camellia; Rock Formation; Angels Trumpet; Azalea Corner; **John Wilmer** - Portland-Head Light; **Lib Schiefner** - Palm Frond; **Tom Hand** - Johnston Castle.

**NASA:** **Debbie Rather** - Pretty Predators; **Hermann Schiefner** - Orchard in Spring; Bumper Cars by Waterbugs; **John Alives** - Foggy Morning; **John Wilmer** - Bass Harbor Headlight; **Keith Johnson** - Preserve; **Lib Schiefner** - Summertime in Seaside; **Mary Ann Skellett** - Alto, New Mexico Deer; **Tom Hand** - Abbey Entrance (England); Red Call Box.

**Ready for pickup:** **Bill Meyers** - Impressions of Venice I; Still Life with pear and grapes; **Doctorsid** - Caged like an Animal; **Hermann Schiefner** - Corvette 1958; **John Alives** - Mrs. Mango's Blue Door; **Keith Johnson** - Teton National Park; Yellowstone; **Lucy Rugg** - Red Bridge; Bridge into Spring; Stone Bridge; **Patty Corapi** - Sun Daze; The Passion; Just Beginning; **Wallace Weeks** - Water on Coleus; Tulip V; Old and older.

## Field Trip

The last field trip was to **FIT's Botanical Garden**. A stream

## Membership Information

Single \$25 per year  
Family \$30 per year  
Student \$10 per year

For more information, call any officer listed in our club directory. Friends and guests are always welcome at our meetings!

## Club Directory

President	Jim Ragan (255-1773)	Photo Display Coordinator	Carlos & Linda Davis (259-2470)
VP. (Programs)	Dr. Sid (698-6428)	F-Stop Editor	Carlos Davis (259-2470)
VP. (Field Trips)	Connie Hayes (779-1474)	Membership	
Secretary	Elaine Christian (259-4759)		
Treasurer	Tracey Wright (956-8187)		



**FIT Botanical Garden.** Photo by Carlos

bordered by a shady hammock abounding in palm trees and other tropical growth winds through the campus and is the setting for a 30-acre botanical garden. One trail has been named the Dent Smith Trail in honor of the founder of the Palm Society, a worldwide organization primarily engaged in the study of the palm family in all its aspects. Florida Tech, through the intense interest of President Emeritus Jerome P. Keuper and the inspiration and help of Mr. Dent Smith, is well on the way to becoming one of the most unique botanical gardens of its kind in the continental United States.

The campus is now beautified by a collection of approximately 200 different species of palms, all of which have been catalogued and marked for students' information. More than 300 palm trees have been donated to the university's collection. Some of these palms have been donated by eminent palm tree authorities and are very rare and **irreplaceable.** **Connie Hayes, Tracey Wright, Linda Davis,**

and **Carlos Davis** attended the field trip.

The next field trip is planned for Saturday, June 25 at the McKee Botanical Garden. McKee Botanical Garden is known for its 18 acre subtropical jungle hammock, filled with plants appropriate for horticultural growing zone 9B. This dense and diverse collection also features several restored architectural treasures.

Be sure to come to the next meeting to get more details. An alternative trip would be to a butterfly exhibit.

### **Helpful Hints Photographing Flowers**

Wildflower photography is a never-ending series of compromises. You may need to move in close to a flower in order to get an image with impact. This reduces the depth of field. If you close down the aperture to increase the depth of field the shutter speed slows down and the wind becomes a problem or the camera's sensor noise becomes an issue.

If we don't know what lies ahead, we can plow headlong into a situation that will force us to start all over again. Being able to photograph with a fluid, sure sense of purpose and getting the results first envisioned can only come after mastering the technical concepts and a lot of time practicing the craft.

Following a checklist until the process is automatic is a good idea when starting out. It is also a good idea for seasoned pros. You should record everything you can about your first attempts. This is because nothing will be a better teacher than reviewing your successes and mistakes. Write down shutter speeds and f-stops and record how the decisions were made. Here are a few steps that you can use to help improve your wildflower photography.

1) After you find your subject, examine it from lots of angles. Ask yourself how you would like to show it. Do you need to separate the main subject from its background? How will you accomplish this? Review the technical problems that you will encounter as well as their solutions (e.g. shutter speed vs. wind action, lighting and shadows, dynamic range of photo etc.). Can changing the composition of the photo solve any of the problems?

2) Find the perspective you want to shoot from and choose the lens or zoom in so that the subject will fill the frame with the composition from that perspective. You have done all of this without a tripod. Continue to look through the camera until you have the exact spot you want to shoot from and then set up your tripod and mount the camera.

3) Fine tune the composition. This may include any selective gardening of the subject area if this is allowed. Never pick or remove any vegetation since you will be preventing others from enjoying the flower composition.

4) Control the lighting (if needed and possible) with an combination of a Diffusion Tent, a black cloth, a reflector or artificial lighting (e.g. strobe).

5) Focus and choose your aperture for your desired depth of field. Some camera's allow you to test the depth of field by pressing a button located on the front of the camera body. Read your instruction manual to see if you can do this.

6) Figure your exposure to find the shutter speed. Do you need to override the meter? Do you need to use a polarizing filter to eliminate the glare on leaves or petals of the flower. The polarizing filter will aid in getting a much deeper color. Be sure to choose the one that will work with your camera (linear or circular polarizer). It will also cost you one *f*-stop in exposure.

7) Watch the flowers with both eyes (not through the camera) for any subject motion. When everything is still, trip the shutter with a cable release. You may need to block the wind with your body, a reflector or other piece of equipment (e.g. backpack). You could also use a small piece of wire to support the flower.

8) If the exposure is in doubt, then bracket the exposure. Reexamine what you have done and record it. You may want to record items like the location, direction of the sun, time of day, overcast conditions, name of the flower, the direction of north, and a small sketch of the setup.