

**Costa Rica  
by Michael Lowenstein**

Tired of Winter? Come to the next meeting and visit Costa Rica!

Michael Lowenstein, a travel and commercial photographer who has relocated from western Oregon to the area in the summer of 2000, along with his wife, the new Spanish professor at Lycoming College.

They spent a month in Costa Rica in May and June of 2001, hiking and photographing the wildlife and scenery. Though a small country, due to its varied climate zones, it is rich with exotic birds, flowers, and exotic animals. They were fortunate in that they were able to see a wide variety of them. There are also a good number of scenic and historic locations, several of which they were fortunate enough to be able to visit. Michael shot approximately 1800 transparencies and jokes that he will subject you to only about 140.

Come join us for this trip to the tropics and forget about the snow outside!

**2002 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME**

As of the mailing of this newsletter, the organization officially has only two members!! The good news is membership is only \$24.00 a year. Get your spouse to join with you and the two of you pay only \$36.00. If you are a starving student, the fee is still \$12.00 for the year. Complete a membership form at the next meeting and join for another year of fabulous photographic fun: monthly meetings that include Wayne's Tech Tips, a speaker or other special program for the evening, monthly theme contests and snacks; at least two major photo exhibitions a year; field trips; and lots more.

**RENEWAL FORM ON PAGE 7**

**President  
Erent Shirk**

**Vice President  
Wayne Calmer**

**Secretary  
Kathy Etzel**

**Treasurer  
Elizabeth Cowney**

## Brent's Babble

Happy New Year, it's 2002, I hope everyone had a great holiday. Our December show was a big success. We got some nice press from another area art organization, the Coalition of Independent Artists & Artisans (CIAA). In the CIAA's newsletter, In The Works, there is a column called the Phantom Critique. In this column the CIAA sends out people to critique area art shows, keeping their identities secret so they can be completely honest. This month's phantom 1 and 2 visited our show. They had some interesting comments. In general they speak very highly of our show and our group, but did have some criticisms and many questions. From their comments, it would appear that the phantoms were not present at our opening. I think most, if not all of their questions, would have been answered if they had. I think we put a lot of effort into the opening and then tend not to give it much thought after that. They do have some good points that we should take a look at for our next show. We have reprinted their article on page three of our newsletter. Take a look.

Speaking of the show, it is time to take it down, Saturday 12-2 or Monday at the meeting. If you can't make it, please make some arrangements or at least give us a call.

It's that time again, time to renew your membership and pay your dues. If you can't make it to Monday's meeting, drop a check in the mail.

This month's meeting should be fun with Michael Lowenstein giving us a brake from winter with his photos from Costa Rica.

Keep Shooting!

See you Monday!

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### SVS MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

#### TREASURER ELIZABETH ANSTADT DOWNEY January 2002

	<b>December Meeting - Balance in Account</b>		<b>\$751.96</b>
	12/2/01 Melissa Rogawisz for food purchases for opening	\$28.63	
	12/2/01 Kathy Otzel - food	\$15.22	
	12/10/01 Deposits: 2001 dues Dunlap; 2002 dues Downey & Dart; patron funds, entry fees, donations from opening		\$531.99
	1/5/02 Ralph Wilson - food, wine & show expenses	\$88.98	
	1/5/02 Mail Boxes: Nov newsletter & show expenses	\$108.23	
	1/10/02 Dec newsletter	\$28.91	
	1/20/02 Stephanie Carey - show ribbons (\$111.11) & food	\$154.88	
	<b>January Meeting - Balance in Account</b>		<b>\$859.10</b>
	<i>(Note: December Holiday 2001 Show Financial Report to be presented at meeting 1/28/02)</i>		



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This article is reprinted from January 2002 CIAA newsletter "In The Works". Contact: CIAA, P. O. Box 114, Williamsport, PA 17701

## Phantom Critique

This month's \*phantom critique\* was done by Phantom 1 and Phantom 2, two area artists who spent a morning at the Historical Museum studying the holiday exhibit by the Shutterbugs Photography Club. First we want to state that the work of the Shutterbugs is highly recommended, as this group of professional and amateur photographers has consistently shown an outstanding level of work. We do feel, however, that there are some details to the exhibit itself that we hope they will address in the future, and that the Shutterbugs will take our comments as helpful suggestions and not intended as criticism in the negative sense. We will also comment on the work itself.

As we entered the room to view the exhibit, we could not find any signage or pamphlets. We do not know if the exhibit has a title, we do not know a history of the organization, we know nothing of the judging process, who the judges were, how the viewers choice awards were given, or any explanation of the categories. We were told by museum personnel that there had been handout sheets, but they were gone. In future, these phantoms hope the Shutterbugs at least place a poster on an easel or sign on the wall giving some details of the project.

Another annoying problem was the labeling. Labels by each framed piece were attached to the walls with masking tape, which, of course, did not hold. We never did learn the title or photographer for some pieces, others were discovered only after we removed the piece from the wall and looked on the back (not recommended behavior at an exhibit!). We hope the Shutterbugs will find a more reliable labeling system in the future.

We discovered that there were four categories of work: people, animals, abstract and things. We wondered what the criteria was for \*abstract\* , as almost all photos in that category were recognizable as to what they were. Each category had both judged and people\*s choice prizes. These two phantoms tended to agree more with the people than with the judges, except where it was obvious that a photo won an award because the family of the subject (read: small child) was present and voted with great enthusiasm.

We did not agree, for instance, with Best of Show, \*17th Inning\* (good composition, but probably a happy accident), or Second Place \*Walking C.B.\* (humorous, but no \*wow,\* or should that be \*bow-wow\*), both good photos, but not our choices (remembering that judging is subjective!). We did like Third Place \*Adirondacks\*, a photo that was compositionally good and kept you searching for more detail.

Phantom 1 was particularly taken with the work by John Noble II entitled \*The Light at the End of the Tunnel\*, a photo of a series of arched openings and varying areas of light, dark and highlight that was indeed abstract pending further study. Both Phantoms were enthusiastic about Wayne Palmer\*s \*Fish Tales,\* First Place People\*s Choice winner in the \*things\* category. Crisp detail of the pointy tails of fish, shadows where tails overlapped, the unusual burnt sienna and blue coloring on the fish, the close-up view making it all so interesting to look at - this should\*ve been a judges award winner. . .

Both phantoms were also amused with the work by David S. Richard \*Eye of the Beholder\*, a face-to-face with an interesting old coot, standing in front of an even more interesting building. Phantom 2 thought the background was a little out of focus, and Phantom 1 thought the mat and frame, so traditional in brown and cherry wood, was totally out of character with such a funky photo.

Other works we enjoyed: any of the intensely beautiful black and whites by Katarzyna Siedlecki, Wayne Palmer\*s humorous \*Packard Bell Beach\*, \*East Troy School\* by Joe Gatsch (wondering if this cold foreboding old building is how most children view school?), and Jessica Boyer\*s \*Untitled\* with the ghostly figure behind the curtain and the old dress form.

These Phantoms wish the Shutterbugs much success, and hope they continue experimenting with computer manipulated work, lop-sided mats, double exposures, hand coloring and other techniques that add interest and intrigue to photography. We recommend that all readers of this publication go see the exhibit and draw their own conclusions. We also invite YOU to find an exhibit to review and become the next Phantom Critic. Contact Judy Read at 327-1489 to be put on our list.

**The International Library of Photography**  
**Free Photo Contest**  
**\$60,000.00 in Prizes**  
**Your Favorite Snapshot Could Win \$10,000.00!**

The International Library of Photography is now accepting entries for its amateur photography competition. The contest is open to everyone and entry is free.

"Everyone has at least one memorable photo that captures a special moment in time," stated Jeffrey Bryan of The International Library of Photography, an organization dedicated to bringing the work of amateur photographers to the public's attention.

"When people learn about our free photography contest, they suddenly realize that their own favorite photos can win cash prizes, as well as gain national exposure," continued Bryan. "In the last ten years we have awarded over \$150,000.00 to talented amateurs, many of whom have never before entered any type of artistic competition."



**Gain National Exposure!**



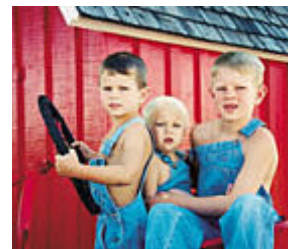
Many of the photos received in the contest will also be considered for publication by The International Library of Photography. Previous titles include *Cherished Moments in Time*, *Images of Yesterday*, and *Treasures to Behold*, among others.

**How To Enter This Free Contest**

The International Library of Photography holds continuous contests, about one every month. Entries for these contests are accepted on an ongoing basis. *For more information, or to enter the contest online "click" on this link ...* <http://www.picture.com/contest/enter.asp?Suite=WS21>

To enter the current contest by mail, please send ONE photograph in ONLY ONE of the following categories: Action, Children, Humor, Nature, People, Animals/Pets, Portraiture, Sports, Travel, or Other.

Your photo must be a color or black-and-white print (unmounted), 8" x 10" or smaller. All entries must include the photographer's name and address on the back, as well as the category and the title of the photo. Photos cannot be returned. Photographers retain all rights to their images. Photographs should be sent to:



**The International Library of Photography**  
**3600 Crondall Lane**  
**Suite 101-3111**  
**Owings Mills, MD 21117**

**Submitted by Megan Wells Bassett**

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**A Photo Funny from the Internet**

I was taking a shower when my 2-year-old son came into the bathroom and wrapped himself in toilet paper. Although he made a mess, he looked adorable, so I ran for my camera and took a few shots. They came out so well that I had copies made and included one with each of our Christmas cards. Days later, a relative called about the picture, laughing hysterically, and suggesting I take a closer look. Puzzled, I stared at the photo and was shocked to discover that in addition to my son, I had captured my reflection in the mirror wearing nothing but a camera!

- Name Withheld

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**Susquehanna Valley Shutterbugs  
Meeting Minutes  
December 17, 2001**

**Guests**

Brook Mann, Chris Lorson, Michael Loewentstein, Brenda Watts and Mark Applebee

**Discussion** of the Holiday Show, Great Success....

**Committees**

Show

\*We made money on the show.

\*More detailed discussion will be done at committee meeting...

\*Spring Show

3 month hanging offer

Should we have 2 shows? Disposable cameras, pinhole cameras???

\*Holiday Show comes down at the January meeting and Saturday, January 26<sup>th</sup> from noon-2.

Publicity

\*We need someone who can submit articles to the paper more often.

Program

\*Mark Nance?

\*Michael Loewentstein offered to show his slides from Costa Rica.

**New Business**

Should we do a Members Show and Tell at meetings?

Or a contest between members instead of a monthly theme?

Feb. meeting, we could bring in holiday photos....

**Program**

Critique of Show

Submitted by Lisa Mody McNerney

**Shutterbugs in the News**

Elizabeth participated in the Fifth Annual Pennsylvania State Farm Show Scholarship Foundation Art Exhibition. This juried show exhibited about 50 of the over 200 pieces submitted from throughout the state. Artists in all media are permitted to submit slides of two works for consideration. Over \$2,500 was dispersed in prize funds, with \$1,000 going to Best of Show. All works must be for sale with a percentage of the sale price going to the scholarship fund. Both of Elizabeth's submissions were accepted; one was awarded second place and the other received an honorable mention award. One piece was purchased by the Department of Agriculture. For information on participating in the January 2002 Exhibition, watch the Farm Show web site.

### Mardi Gras Photo Shoot!

Maria Daniele of Franco's is interested in having the Shutterbugs shoot the Mardi Gras event. Our photographs will be on display next year at this time to announce the coming of Mardi Gras. We will have a small reception where the winners will be announced. Judging will be done by the Downtown Hospitality Group and prizes, including gift certificates for dinner at local restaurants, will be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place.

There are a lot of interesting themes that we could capture: the different bands that play both in the restaurants and in the streets, people's decorative costumes, the fireworks, the food being served at participating restaurants and the parade. The parade will start at 6pm on Saturday. This is not your normal parade. You will see clowns on stilts, people dressed in lavish costumes, dancers, area business floats, and a motorcycle group that comes through riding in costume! The parade ends with the crowning of King or Queen and an announcement of how much money was earned for 13 charities and the city of Williamsport. The fireworks, which always have a distinctive flare which I feel is more interesting than the 4th of July, are the grand finale. This will be an interesting and fun event for us to participate in so I hope to see you all there!

More specifics will be available at Monday's Meeting!

Lisa Mody

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## SHOW COMMITTEE MEETING UPDATE

Thanks to the following for attending the Show Committee meeting last Monday: Brent, Maddi, Wayne, Lisa and Kathy. The opening of our Members Only show will be Friday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Sandy, from the museum, asked us if we would be willing to do a joint opening with photographer Elizabeth Burkhart. She is a psychotherapist living in N.Y. City. She also has a degree in journalism and does photojournalism as a hobby. She has approximately 14 images from Ground Zero two days after 9/11. We said yes, of course. We think this could draw a good crowd. Her work will be displayed in the front of the museum.

We will have the walls from May 3<sup>rd</sup> to July 22<sup>nd</sup>. That is a long time for one show to hang, so we came up with the idea for a second "fun" show using images from one-time use cameras. We will all be using the same type of camera and shooting within the same time frame. Let's be creative and see what we can produce with these simple cameras! It was suggested that we could do some research as to what the technical specifications of the cameras are to assist in shooting. Brent, Wayne and I agreed to shoot with one this weekend and bring in the results on Monday. If you have any good photographs that came from a disposable camera, please bring them on Monday.

Our Members Only show will run through most of June. (The first weekend in June is when the Festival of the Arts takes place at Penn College.) We will plan to hang our second show at the meeting on June 24<sup>th</sup> and take it down at the meeting on July 22<sup>nd</sup>. We still have details to work out and will keep you updated.

STEPHANIE

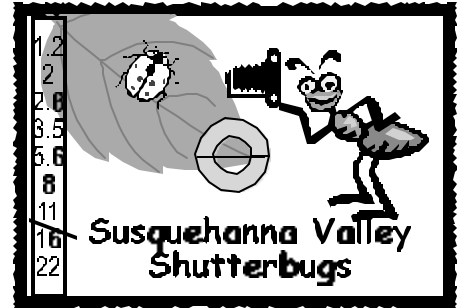
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# Susquehanna Valley Shutterbugs

## 2002 Membership Application

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail \_\_\_\_\_



My primary photographic interest is: \_\_\_\_\_

I am also interested in: \_\_\_\_\_

Meeting topics I would like to see include: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I will help the club by serving as or on: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I agree to abide by the By Laws of the Susquehanna Valley Shutterbugs.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

### Membership Type:

(Dues pro-rated for new mem-

Regular \$24  Joint/Spousal \$36  Student \$12

Please remit with a check for the appropriate amount to:

**Susquehanna Valley Shutterbugs**  
 c/o Lycoming County Historical Society  
 858 West Fourth Street  
 Williamsport, PA 17701

### CAMERA FOR SALE

It was time for a change in equipment and Elizabeth has her **Minolta 5xi** system for sale. The system includes: **Minolta 5xi**, Camera Manual, Creative Expansion Card – Portrait, eye piece cap, remote flash stand, Stroboframe Minolta adapter, Minolta Maxxum 3500xi Flash w/pouch and manual. Lenses include:

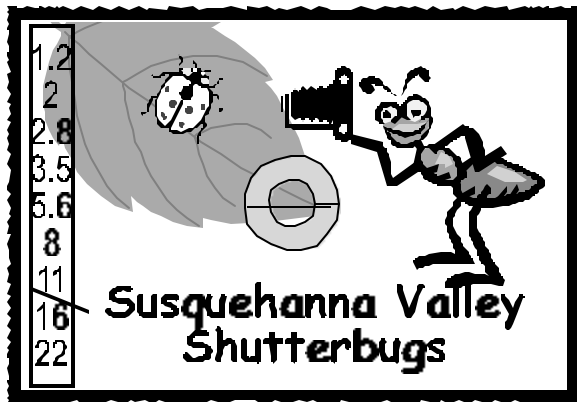
- Minolta Maxxum AF Zoom XI, 28-80mm, w/ Phoenix 55mm UV, F:1.4-5.6, 55mm w/cap keeper;
- Minolta Maxxum AF Zoom XI Lens, 80-200mm w/ Phoenix 55mm UV; F:1.4.5-5.6mm, 55mm, w/cap keeper
- Minolta Maxxum AF Zoom XI, 100-300mm, w/Vivitar UV Haze, 55mm1:4.5-5.6mm, w/cap keeper;
- Minolta Maxxum AF 50mm 1:1.7mm, 49mm, w/cap keeper and Photoco Sky (1A).
- Manual/folders for all lenses.

Everything well cared for. Check out the web and come up with the best offer. Questions, edowney@uplink.net or leave message & phone number at 570-435-2007.

### About The SVS Newsletter

The Susquehanna Valley Shutterbugs Newsletter is published monthly. The club meets monthly at the Lycoming County Historical Museum on the fourth Monday of each month at 7:00 P.M. The address of the museum and the club is: SVS, c/o Lycoming County Historical Society, 858 West Fourth Street, Williamsport, PA 17701. The newsletter is created by Wayne Palmer (321-9660) and assisted by Stephanie Carey, Brent Shirk, and Lou Hunsinger. Submissions for the newsletter are welcome and must be submitted by the 10th of each month. Past issues and articles of interest and other club information can be found on the Web at:

**[www.palmermultimedia.com/SVS.htm](http://www.palmermultimedia.com/SVS.htm)**



c/o Lyco. Co. Historical Society  
858 West Fourth Street  
Williamsport, PA 17701

Place  
Stamp  
Here

*Next Meeting January 28 - 7:00 at the  
Lycoming County Historical Society*

**Costa Rica  
Michael Lowenstein**

*Mail To:*