

HORIZON NEWS #18

NEWS, THOUGHTS AND IMAGES FROM HORIZON PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOPS

Being recorded by a camera has always been somehow more threatening than being seen by eyes alone...Making pictures of people is a delicate matter of working with the fragile elements of privacy, self-consciousness and vanity.

Jeff Berner

STUDENT PHOTOS: CLOSE-UP



Debbie Silbert

Harvey Stein let his Documentary class students loose on Chesapeake City and environs to capture the buildings, flora and fauna and, above all, the townfolks. Notice how natural all these subjects look. Some tips to promote that natural look: talk to your subjects *before* raising the camera. After you start shooting let your subject engage in conversation—with you or someone else—or do whatever they're doing so they aren't self-conscious. (Asking people to say "cheese" can generate a forced smile.) Nail down your exposure—try a test shot of an adjacent spot first—so you can completely focus your attention on expression, body language, etc. Shoot plenty. When shooting people, consider this: smiling pictures, though often flattering to the subject, may lack an intensity, an "attitude," and an emotional depth which are at the core of most documentary photographs.



Caroline Garret



Cindy James



Cindy James

ANNOUNCEMENTS: PART I

>> We are pleased to announce a major expansion of offerings beyond the Chesapeake City, MD area.

1. **Lou Jones**, one of Boston's leading photographers and one of the reknowned Nikon "Legends Behind the Lens," will give travel workshops in Boston and Cape Cod. 2. **Howard Millard**, one of the nation's leading writer/photographers, will teach both travel and garden photography in the New York area, as well as Photoshop here in Chesapeake City. 3 & 4. Horizon regular **Jon Cox** offers "Gardens of the Brandywine Valley," on the Delaware/PA border, while **Jim Clark's** nature and wildlife workshops add locations in Northern Virginia and Eastern West Virginia. 5. **Steve Gottlieb** will teach "Photographing the Nation's Capitol." See our website for course descriptions, dates. . .and don't forget "**Workshop Gift Certificates!**"

>> Our 3rd annual **Summit** on May 2,3 & 4 will feature several new instructors and courses. Unlike last year, you select your classes when you're here. Advance registration is only \$225.

QUICK TIP: FOREGROUND ELEMENTS

Most photographers prefer a clear line of sight between their camera and their subject. They either clear away obstacles or alter the camera position to eliminate visual interference. Whoa, pardner, not so quick on the trigger. A foreground element can often add to, not subtract from, a picture's impact. There are several reasons why. A foreground element can serve as a framing device or add negative space that focuses the viewer's eye where you want it. It can emphasize your visual perspective or angle. It can add a contrasting or repetitive counterpoint to your main subject in terms of color, shape, or subject matter. It can block out unwanted material that would otherwise be in the frame. It can be a visual surprise. So before you instinctively seek out a clear line of sight, look for foreground elements. Here are two well-chosen and very different examples—a screen and bicycle handlebars. When you have chosen a strong foreground element, use it to shoot variations. In this case, maybe the screen with just the bridge, or the handlebars with more yellow line and less sky.



Caroline Garret

Genevieve Boutemy-Buchanan



ANNOUNCEMENTS: PART II

Steve Gottlieb, Horizon's Director, is excited to announce that **Diane Shapiro** (a Horizon instructor) and **Maggie Smith** (a Horizon alumnus) have joined the **SG Business Creativity** team, Diane as Operations Director and Maggie as Marketing Director. **SGBC** focuses on teaching people at all levels in an organization to think and act more creatively to solve workplace challenges. We work with corporations, non-profits, and government entities, offering workshops and presentations that are enlightening, fun and practical. If you think your organization could benefit from more "out of the box" thinking, give us a call or drop us a note. (Should your referral lead to an **SGBC** workshop, you'll earn a *free* weekend photo workshop with Steve!) See our website: www.sgbusinesscreativity.com...and call us for further details.

END FRAME



We'd be hard pressed to explain why this picture by **Genevieve Boutemy-Buchanan** appeals to us. We generally like pictures that have a clear center of interest. This doesn't. We like that center of interest to be, well, interesting. Not so here. Maybe it's that the shot is so unexpected. Or maybe the yellows, blues, whites and blacks just resonate. Or maybe it's something we can't put our finger on. The ability to explain *why* you like something—and the same can be said for not liking it—shouldn't affect *whether* or not you like it. Anyway, we like it.