“Travel and change of place impart new vigor to the mind.”
Seneca (4 BC—65 AD)

Student Photos Up Close

Just 20 miles from Horizon's Chesapeake City home is Odessa, Delaware. It's a town filled with 18th and early 19th century architecture, lovely walking paths, restaurants and shops, and more. (Information: 302.378.4119; www.historicodessa.org.)

We are embarrassed to confess that we were unaware of Odessa until recently. Once we “discovered” it, we took our students there on a mostly overcast day in early spring when trees and flowers had just started to bloom.

Elaine Hancock used a telephoto lens to bring together a cluster of homes and a springhouse. From near where Elaine stood, Jeff Allen focused on an old bucket, using the architecture as a backdrop. Moving the bucket 7 or 8 inches from the relatively dark wall brightened the dark side of the bucket. Judy Diver's fence and path photo captures the feel of walking through the town's backyards.

Old towns offer a wealth of backgrounds for portraits. Karen Nussle took advantage of old barnwood, while Jeff Allen shot down from a stone wall so that cobblestone became the backdrop for this energized group portrait.
I’ve long held a prejudice against point and shoot and cell phone cameras. Over many years, I’ve become comfortable with the physical heft of an SLR...I like seeing the image in a traditional viewfinder...and I appreciate having a wide choice of lenses. In the event my shot is worthy of a big enlargement, I want to have a large file size. There’s a huge downside to my prejudice: missed photo opportunities. Because of the SLR’s size, I don’t carry it unless I’m in “photography mode.”

Belatedly, I’m singing a different tune. I have joined the ranks of the hundreds of millions of cell phone and point and shoot camera users. I now capture some of the “little” moments in my life that I used to miss, while my mindset to produce great pictures has turned decidedly more casual. A few examples:

• The Howard Theatre, a famous DC jazz venue in the 1930s and 40s, has just been renovated. I photographed Michael Marshall, the Howard’s architect/interior designer (with partner Paola Moya) standing with my mom—93 years old and still vibrant. What was she doing at the theatre? She and Michael are standing under a classic 1948 photograph taken by my father, William Gottlieb, of the legendary Billy Holliday.

• My partner Anne and I visited my friend (and Horizon Alumnus) David Herman in Los Angeles, who took us to the imposing Getty Museum, where I photographed them on a balcony. (By using the telephoto end of the P&S zoom, and standing back from the pair, I was able to eliminate the bland sky and fill the entire background with building. Until iPhones have zoom lenses, I prefer using my diminutive P&S.) Inside the Getty, David went nose to nose with the bust of I can’t remember who.

• The woman bending down is cleaning up after her dog, who relieved himself at the entrance of an exclusive Rodeo Drive shop in Beverly Hills. This shot warrants the comment I sometimes make in my class critiques: “Close... but no cigar.” To earn a cigar, I needed to be faster—capturing the dog in the act with the startled owner looking helplessly on. In fact, I saw the dog arch his back and I raised my camera in anticipation, but I’d forgotten to turn it on. Since I don’t use this camera that often, it took me a few seconds to locate the on-off switch—and by that time the dog had completed his business.
Upcoming Workshops:

- **Ireland: Landscapes and Locals** - Don’t miss this opportunity to photograph and travel through Ireland. Deposit Due, May 15, 2012; Travel Dates, August 6 - 12, 2012.

- **May**
  - 4th-6th - Chesapeake City thru Nat Geo Eyes
  - 7th-13th - Montana Adventure
  - 12th - Central Park in Season
  - 19th - From Click to Print
  - 20th - Photoshop Elements
  - 25th - Camera Basics
  - 26th-28th - Creative Vision: 3 Day

- **June**
  - 2nd - Old Town, Alexandria: A Photo Tour
  - 9th - The Creative “i”: Shooting with the iPhone
  - 16th - Camera Basics
  - 30th - Adobe Lightroom

- **July**
  - 7th-8th - Flash Magic: Indoors & Outside
  - 14th - Glamour & Beauty
  - 20th - Camera Basics
  - 21st-22nd - Creative Vision: 2 Day

- **August**
  - 6th-12th - Ireland: Landscapes & Locals

- **September**
  - 8th - From Click to Print
  - 9th - Photoshop Elements
  - 22nd - Adobe Lightroom
  - 29th - The Creative “i”: Shooting with the iPhone
  - 29th-30th - Washington DC: Icons w/ a Creative Eye

- **October**
  - 6th-7th - Boston: A Nikon Legend views his Hometown
  - 12th - Camera Basics
  - 13th-14th - Creative Vision: 2 Day
  - 13th - The Spirit of Manhattan
  - 19th-21st - Canon Experience (New Date)
  - 20th - Central Park in Season
  - 26th-28th - Chesapeake City thru Nat Geo Eyes

- **November**
  - 3rd-4th - Real People, Real Places