



NEWSLETTER



**“On Golden Pond”
Julie Barnes**

**“A good photograph is knowing where to stand”
Ansel Adams**

Our balmy is autumn weather is well and truly over, and some much-needed rain together with some chilly air has descended upon us. The good news is that we don't have to rise as early to get some great “golden hour” shots (see Julie Barnes' stunning example above). The VAPS Convention has come and gone for another year, (see inside for my review). As I've mentioned previously, the exhibition at the Convention is a great way to get some great inspiration, as well as some reassurance that there is a wide variation in abilities throughout the VAPS community.

More than anything, this year's VAPS reminds us all never to take the judges' opinions to heart – I should know, I got a “7”! Amongst our members, there were shots that have previously been commended as “15 point” winners, and others widely acclaimed from outside VAPS as incredible photographs (and they certainly are, in my humble opinion), yet they failed to earn the highest points. All the judging this year was very hard; there were few scores over 12, and not everyone agreed with the awarding of First Place – but, that's photography!

Keep your sense of humour – and take shots to please just one person – YOURSELF.



A note from the President's desk.....

The days are getting much shorter, so twilight at both ends of the days is at a more reasonable hour for those amongst us who need our sleep. It is therefore a little easier to photograph in twilight, so give it a go and see what you come up with.

I know of one member who has had a go at a stitched panorama; and a very good effort it was. Who else has had a go? We might even make it a topic for next year, to submit a panorama that is stitched from two or three shots at least.

Unfortunately due to family reasons, I did not get to see the exhibition at the VAPS Convention in Geelong, but I hope some of you managed to make the trip, enjoyed the show and managed to get some photos from around Geelong.

It is good to see that many members have booked in for the Judging Seminar on 13th July. I think it is worthwhile having some knowledge about judging photographs, even if you don't actually intend become a judge officially. It would also be good if one or two of our members did take up judging.

On the 31st of May, quite a few of our members attended the seminar by Darren Leal and his son at Frankston Photographic Club, who were great hosts and made it an enjoyable and informative event.

Happy snapping everyone!!



“Yellow Daisy and Buds”
Trish McKeown



“Foggy Morning over Boort
Lake”

Julie Barnes

Congratulations to:
HELEN GLEESON
Our Member of the Month
for JUNE

Some Club members (myself included) travelled to Geelong on the weekend of May 24 and 25, for the Annual VAPS Convention. The Convention was held at the Geelong Mercure Hotel, where a number of workshops and the Convention Dinner on Saturday night, were held. The Convention was hosted by the Geelong Camera Club, celebrating its 125 years of service to the Community.

After the official opening by the Mayor, Darren Lyons, several presentations followed. The first was conducted at very short notice by Mr Peter Kewley, following the unavailability of the scheduled presenter, due to a car accident that morning. Peter showed us several of his photographs from his extensive trips, and did an excellent job.

This was followed by a talk on a proposal to include Photobooks as a category of competition into VAPS Clubs. There is a pilot program being held at both Melbourne Camera Club and Mt Macedon Camera Club, to test the viability of this idea.

The last presentation before lunch was by Michael Norton, a Fine Art Photographer, on "Developing your Creative Gift through Photography". Michael gave us his 10 tips for success, and certainly gave us all food for thought.

After lunch, there were two workshops held: one on "iPhonography" by Kerry Spokes and the other by Beth Jennings on "Documenting Family Life", from her perspective of capturing moments of joy and laughter. These gave us different insights into these aspects of photography and hopefully inspired us to try new ways of looking at photography.

These were followed by two photo shoot opportunities – one at Barwon Grange for Portraits, and the other was a Photo Walk at Queens Park.

Dinner on Saturday night was a three course meal in the hotel, which gave us the opportunity to meet with members from other Clubs, and discuss various topics related to photography, as well as how different clubs operate. Awards were given at Dinner for those achieving milestones for Memberships – from 10 years through to a staggering 50 and even an incredible 60 years. The awards for Interclub Competition placegetters and winners were also announced at dinner.

On Sunday, the day started with a 7 am photo shoot at Balyang Sanctuary. Following breakfast, there was a talk by John Conway, on "Images of Geelong" and later a presentation by Andrew Harrison on "Fine Art Nude".

Lunch followed at the Barwon Rowing Club, whose friendly members did well to feed the crowd of over 150 hungry photographers in their Club Rooms, overlooking the Barwon River.

The best of the Audio Visual Presentations and EDPI (Digital) Entries were then on display in the auditorium. There was also the opportunity to attend an optional photo shoot in the Clifton Springs area, with the Bellarine Camera Club. For those staying another night, there was another photoshoot organised with the Bellarine Club at Queenscliff and surrounds for Monday morning.

As you'll see, the Convention was jam-packed with activities from workshops to photo shoots, as well as plenty of time for socialising. For \$130 for the two days' activities and dinner (drinks are extra), it was certainly great value. For those who weren't there, you don't know what you're missing!

Next year's Convention is on May 23 and 24, 2015 at Phillip Island. Mark the date in your diaries now and join in the fun!

Trish McKeown



“Abandoned at Honeysuckle”
Pat Jemmett



“Derelict Car”
Steve Zonneveldt

Results from VAPS 2014 Convention

Prints

<i>Richard Bartrop</i>	<i>“Golden Hour”</i>	<i>9 Points</i>
<i>Richard Bartrop</i>	<i>“Prismatic Spring awaits the Storm”</i>	<i>9 Points</i>
<i>Tony Breen</i>	<i>“Nectar Quest”</i>	<i>8 Points</i>
<i>Cheryl Burnham</i>	<i>“Old Tree at Sunrise”</i>	<i>10 Points</i>
<i>Cheryl Burnham</i>	<i>“Walking in the Fog”</i>	<i>10 Points</i>
<i>Ernie de Vlieger</i>	<i>“Cherry Topper”</i>	<i>7 Points</i>
<i>Ann Gibson</i>	<i>“Marmalade”</i>	<i>8 Points</i>
<i>Pat Jemmett</i>	<i>“First Fungi of Autumn”</i>	<i>10 Points</i>
<i>Trish McKeown</i>	<i>“Ethan”</i>	<i>7 Points</i>
<i>Trish McKeown</i>	<i>“Flinders Street Angle”</i>	<i>9 Points</i>
<i>Barry Mills</i>	<i>“A Briars Tree”</i>	<i>9 Points</i>
<i>Barry Mills</i>	<i>“Surf Boat and Rowers”</i>	<i>9 Points</i>
<i>Gail Penny</i>	<i>“Stingray Bay”</i>	<i>13 Points * Top Score</i>
<i>Gail Penny</i>	<i>“Tiger”</i>	<i>10 Points</i>
<i>Steve Zonneveldt</i>	<i>“Point Lonsdale Lighthouse”</i>	<i>11 Points</i>



*“Narrows Cottage”
Bob Thornhill*

Results from VAPS 2014 Convention

Digital (EDPI)

<i>Pat Barden</i>	<i>“Bearded Man”</i>	<i>10 Points</i>
<i>Richard Bartrop</i>	<i>“Anyone for fresh Snout”</i>	<i>8 Points</i>
<i>Richard Bartrop</i>	<i>“Eyes off My Supper”</i>	<i>9 Points</i>
<i>Cheryl Burnham</i>	<i>“Ogre Spider & Moss”</i>	<i>10 Points</i>
<i>Ernie de Vlieger</i>	<i>“Majestic Maheno”</i>	<i>9 Points</i>
<i>Jill Fidler</i>	<i>“Evening at Port Melbourne”</i>	<i>10 Points</i>
<i>Helen Gleeson</i>	<i>“Diets after Rain”</i>	<i>9 Points</i>
<i>Helen Gleeson</i>	<i>“Jellyfish, Muggia, Italy”</i>	<i>10 Points</i>
<i>Jenny Maddocks</i>	<i>“Beach Litter Apple”</i>	<i>9 Points</i>
<i>Jenny Maddocks</i>	<i>“Golden Gate Bridge”</i>	<i>10 Points</i>
<i>Andrew Raff</i>	<i>“Emperor Gum Moth Caterpillar”</i>	<i>10 Points</i>
<i>Bob Thornhill</i>	<i>“Boardwalk”</i>	<i>9 Points</i>
<i>Bob Thornhill</i>	<i>“Kimberley Moon”</i>	<i>8 Points</i>
<i>Steve Zonneveldt</i>	<i>“Ferris Wheel”</i>	<i>9 Points</i>
<i>Steve Zonneveldt</i>	<i>“Lake Catani”</i>	<i>11 Points * Top Score</i>

Please remember, for next year: The Club asks for submissions for VAPS **very** early in the year, as they need to be entered by the end of March.

A “Selection Committee” looks at all entries, and selects the ones they think best and these are submitted to VAPS.

This year, as in past years, we only received a very small number of entries offered by Club Members, (especially in Prints), so we then went through entries from our “Rosebud Plaza” exhibition prints, as well as digital entries from the previous year.

YOU can make our job so much easier by giving us a selection of Large Prints from which to choose. They don’t have to be “award winners”, indeed they don’t even have to be anything you’ve previously submitted, just something you look at and think, “I’m really proud of this, and I think it’s good”.

Please don’t be discouraged by this year’s incredibly hard judging – all the Clubs found it tough – and the overall scores reflect this.

JUST GIVE IT A GO!!

WHAT'S ON IN JUNE!

Melbourne International 3 Day Event – Werribee Park
June 6 to 9

Winter Wonderland Weekend – Marysville
June 7 to 9

Winter Wine Weekend – Red Hill
June 7 to 9

Otway Soup Festival – Forrest Public Hall
June 8

Rod Stock and Custom Show – Bendigo
June 7 to 8

Briarolong Film Festival – Briarolong, Gippsland
June 6 to 8

Steam Rally – Echuca
June 7 to 9

And don't forget.....the opening of the Snow Season!

