

Sept 2005

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President's Letter

Hello from your new President!

I apologize for not attending my election last month but the emergency room wouldn't let me leave. (Kidding, actually food poisoning is no joke, it can kill you and I felt like I was dying.) Thank you all for your votes and confidence. I was told Jackie did a fine job with her duties of filling in for me. I was also sorry for missing Jackie and Tab's presentation of FotoFusion by LumaPix . We've gotten rave reviews on the software package.

In July we had an informative program about software that enables us to be in control of our own online event ordering and shopping carts. Anyone who missed it, get in touch with Jackie and she will steer you in the right direction to find out about it!

In August we had our annual picnic at beautiful Swartzwood Lake, up in my neck of the woods in Sussex County. There was tons of food, nice sunshine and great camaraderie. We brought our kids and dogs and had a great time. Some of us took advantage of the boat rentals and kayaked, sailed and row boated. We had a "shoot out" of a handsome couple for engagement portraits.

I'm sure you will agree that we have an excellent committee this year. We have come up with some wonderful prospective programs for the coming months.

Jackie Kocsinski, is this year's 1st V.P. Check out her section in this newsletter on "Programs" for a preview of what we are working on. This September, my friend, Kimberly Ross will be out guest speaker. Her program on marketing is very inspiring and I can't wait to see it.

Our good pal Edwin Martinez has moved up to 2nd V.P. and is in charge of memberships. If you know anyone who is interested in becoming a member bring them to a meeting or have them contact Edwin. Any questions or concerns about your membership should be directed to Edwin and he will do what it takes to resolve them.

We have a brand new welcome addition for our 3rd V.P. position, Ray Bracken; you'll recognize him by his Irish brogue. He has a lot of energy and ideas. He has worked for the Federal Reserve in the I.T. department and brings us lots of expertise in the technology arena. I have assigned him to be our Newsletter Editor as well as the cushy job as photojournalist of our events and meetings. I anticipate we will have prompt, monthly publications. Each committee member will create their respective "articles" and submit them to Ray who will create our newsletter.

Dennis Becker will once again remain our treasurer and will continue to do a fine job keeping us on track with our finances.

And Gerry Gully continues to be our secretary. I have adjusted his responsibilities to balance out the different committee member duties. he will be required to submit his minutes from the state council meetings and our regional monthly meetings. They will be posted in our monthly newsletter. And of course he will keep us full of caffeine and sugar at our monthly meetings.

And then there is me. I hope to keep things running smoothly all year during my tenure. I intend to nag everyone appropriately to keep them on track, delivering what they have committed to do for the organization. I am working on all the merits earned by the PPA member attendees at the Kevin Kubota seminar. His seminar was fantastic; don't forget to check out www.kubotaworkshops.com. I worked hard to get him and it was worth it. I have some good leads on few different "stars" for this season's Northern Star. We'll keep you posted.

Cheers!
Janice

Secretary`s Report

Our northern meeting in July was well attended. Our President Janice Hedden opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending. Our 1st. VP Jackie Koscinski was on vacation so she could not attend. Janice outlined the approach she would use to run the affairs of the northern chapter as president. She intends to produce the newsletter each month in a timely manner. She outlined the new duties of each officer and felt the change would spread the responsibilities out more evenly. Janice said that Ray Bracken would be in charge of the newsletter. Each officer will be responsible to send there information to Ray for inclusion in the newsletter. Our past President James Savas received a beautiful plaque from Janice in appreciation for his work as President. Then James Savas presented the gavel to Janice. Ray Bracken took the photos of the activities. Edwin Martinez gave an update on the balloon festival . I gave a summary of the June meeting and an outline of the coming events. Janice proceeded to introduce our speakers Neil van Niekerk and David Mielcarek on posting images on your present website with software that was very economical. Look up these members to get morespecific information on this software at david@catchlightphoto.net and for Neil www.planetneil.com.

I attended the July council meeting and was asked to include some of the highlights from that meeting. Allen Goldberg read a very touching and well written letter from outgoing President Tom Sullivan to the council. Patrick Cox in lieu of Tom Sullivan being present presented the gavel to Bart Stevens our new statewide President. Each member of council was asked to stand and introduce themselves and from which region they belonged. A new member (Annette Jenkins) was accepted into the association. Richard Gross asked for volunteers to serve on the budget committee.

Keith Mills announced that photo albums would no longer be accepted into competition. March 15, 2006 is the deadline for submittal of prints for competition and March 20,2006 will be the date of print judgeing. The statewide seminar will be on October 10,2005 featuring Richard Beitzel on figure study portraiture. Much time was devoted to the financial situation of the association and how best to run operations efficiently and economically.

I will also mention that the new Executive secretary is Annette Somodi and appears to be very capable and experienced. This concludes my account of these events.

Peace,

Gerard Gully

SEPTEMBER PROGRAM

Growing your Portrait Business

Stop procrastinating and Just Do It!

Presented by Kimberly Ross

Kimberly will discuss how she grew her business from 95% weddings to 100% portraits and how used her artistic integrity while doing it. That's quite a transition by any standards!

Kimberly will share the marketing concepts and ideas that really worked for her and how she tied in sales, customer service and studio image to increase the bottom line. You will learn how she breaks the rules and keeps her averages over \$1200 and the many tips she has learned from other photographers. No filler or rhetoric.....just actual ideas that worked for her and can work for you if you...JUST DO IT!

Biography

Kimberly is this years winner of the PPANJ's Fassbender Cup, Best Portrait and Fuji Masterpiece awards. She has been competing for only 5 years. In that brief span of time, awards she has received include: the Kodak Gallery Award, 3 Fuji Masterpiece Awards, several Best Portrait awards and Best in: Show, Child, Bride, Woman and Group categories at the GPPDV and has prints in the General and Loan collections. Kimberly is currently working on her Masters Degree.

Kimberly's work may be viewed online at:

www.kimberleyrossphotography.com

See you at the September meeting,

Jackie D. Koscinski
1st V.P. PPANJ North