



## Editor's Snapshot

"Happy New Year!" I hope everyone had a safe, fun holiday season, and that Santa was good to you. I must have been good in 2012 as he left me a Canon EOS 7D camera. I plan to test it out at our initial 2013 photo trip on January 13 at Helvetia/Pickens.

This newsletter includes a new monthly section where we will feature a "member of the month." Our initial featured member is Ron Buckton, who also will do the program at our January 24<sup>th</sup> meeting. I'm looking forward to that. The newsletter covers our Christmas party along with several photos of the festivities. We didn't let a nasty snowstorm stop us from celebrating our survival of the end of the earth predictions. 2013 was a great year for photos and several of our members won ribbons at various local photo contests. The John-boys (Mundy and Simons) each earned "Best of Show" honors this past year. Theirs and other winning photos are showcased on page three. Speaking of photo contests, we'll need to finalize the Strawberry Festival contest rules at our next meeting. John Simons is leading that effort.

Food is the POTM category. I'm looking forward to seeing what good vittles you had over the holidays. See you at The Hutte on Jan 13. Al Tucker

## We Survived the End of the World" Christmas Party Highlights

The Mayan's prediction of the end of the world and winter's first blast of snow could not stop club members from celebrating the season. Thanks to committee chair Mary Orndorff and her merry band of elves (Amanda Hayes, Laura Meese, Bonnie Riffle and Melissa Toothman) and all the delicious food that was prepared by club members or their significant others, a fun time was had by the 13 partygoers who braved the slippery roads. Frank Eskew was seen back at the food table several times. Thanks to Bonnie Riffle, we played "Name that Christmas Tune." Zack Toothman got the tough ones. The exchange gift session was fun with many twists and turns. Charlotte Eskew was the last selector and was kind and took the last unopened photo gift. Everyone submitted excellent photos. Overall, a good time was had by all: Eric Bee & Laura Meese, Frank & Charlotte Eskew, Carol Meese, Dave & Mary Orndorff, Bonnie Riffle, John & Rita Simons, Melissa & Zack Toothman, and Al Tucker. More party photos later in the newsletter.



## Buckhannon Ushur Camera Club

c/o John Simons, PO Box 5, Adrian, WV 26210

### 2012-2013 Officers

President: Laura Meese  
 Vice-President: Sarah Howard  
 Secretary: Mary Orndorff  
 Treasurer: Mary Cameron  
 Editor: Al Tucker

### 2012 POTM Winners

January – Food

- Al Tucker, Lemon Meringue

February – Golden Ratio

- Ron Buckton, Jack in the Pulpit

March – Three of a Kind

- Al Tucker, Cattails in Sunset

April – Humor

- Sarah Howard, Title unknown

May – No contest

Jun – Critters and Animals

- Al Tucker, Foxes and Friends

July – Patriotic

- John Mundy, Patriotic Train

August – People at Work

- Mary Orndorff, Pizza Man

September – Fungi

- Frank Eskew, The Brainy Mushroom

October – Mystery

- Al Tucker, Fast Water Reflections

November – Bridges

- Al Tucker, That's Snow Bridge

December – Holly

- Mary Orndorff, On the Fence

### Next Club Photo Trip

**Date** – January 13 @ 11:15 a.m.

**Location** – Helvetia & Pickens, Meet at The Hutte in Helvetia (Details next page)

### Next Club Meeting

January 24, 7pm – Senior Center. Ron Buckton is the speaker on Amateur Wedding Photography. POTM: Food

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**Photo of the Month Contest (Category: Holly)**

Mary Orndorff's photo "On the Fence" was the clear cut winner in December's POTM contest. Mary also took second with her "Just the Berries" photo. One vote back in third were Dave Orndorff's "Jolly Holly" and John Simons' "Cat in Holly" photos. There were 11 entries and most were shot at Prickett's Fort during the club's photo tour.



**Upcoming 2013 POTM Categories**

- January - Food
- February - White on White
- March - Non Objective/Abstract
- April - Humor

**Member of the Month - Ron Buckton**



*How long have you been a member of BUCC?* I joined BUCC the second year it was formed. I am a past president and past vice-president.

*When and how did you get started in photography?* I started taking photos when I was about 9 years old. My dad had a camera that he never used, and gave it to me.

*What was your first camera and when did you get it?* My first camera was a Kodak Pony 828; I got my first really good camera in 1970. A Canon FTB with all the trimmings. I still have it and still use it occasionally. My first digital was a Canon Powershot 50. 512 pixels, with an 8mb Compact flash. If I looked real hard, I might still have it.

*What comprises your camera equipment today?* I use a Nikon D80 (10.5 mp). My basic kit is a 28 - 70 mm Sigma lens, and a 70 to 300 mm Tamron zoom with built in macro. I also have an 18 mm wide angle with macro. I use lots of filters, etc. On occasion, I still like to use my Konica/Minolta Dimage 4 (4mp)

*What software packages do you use to enhance and manage your photos?* I use almost exclusively Photoshop CS3 although I occasionally use Corel's PhotoImpact and Inkscape. For making DVD's, and fancy presentations, I use Corel's Visual Studio Pro.

*What are your photography interests now?* Eclectic, I shoot whatever appeals to me.

*What is your best photo and why?* Photo of a wood fire with my brother-in-law and father-in-law in the background. The heat from the fire makes it look like a painting.

*What would you like to get better at regarding photography?* I am just starting to learn the joys of ND filters. I would like to get better at portrait photography.

*What other hobbies do you have?* I am an avid scrollsaw artist; it supplants my photography. Occasionally, I can meld the two hobbies and make portraits from photographs.

**Last Photo Trip**



On December 9, Ron Buckton, Dave, Mary & Nina Orndorff, John Simons, Melissa Toothman and Al Tucker ventured to Prickett's Fort for a photo shoot at their 18<sup>th</sup> Century Christmas Market. We met at Denny's for breakfast and then went onto the fort. Later, Al and John went in to Valley Falls. Although it was a rainy day, it was still a good day for photography. For upcoming trips, see below for the draft trip schedule.



**Upcoming 2013 Photo Trip Schedule**

- January 13 - Helvetia/Pickens - Al Tucker
- February - Audra State Park - Bonnie Riffle
- March - Maple Syrup Festival - John Simons
- April - Babcock State Park - Amanda Hayes



2012 Award Winning Photos

Best in Show Winners



"American Made"  
John Mundy  
Taylor County Memorial Day



"Orange I Pretty"  
John Simons  
Upshur County Fair



"Glass Maker"  
John Simons  
Stonewall Jackson Jubilee

M = Morgantown Contest  
SF = Strawberry Festival  
TC = Taylor County



"Dawn over Jackson's Mill"  
Al Tucker  
1st - Taylor County/2nd - SF & M



"Tunnel Vision"  
Al Tucker  
1st - Morgantown/2nd - SF & TC



"Hideout"  
Melissa Toothman  
2nd - Taylor County



"The Boys"  
Melissa Toothman  
2nd - Stonewall Jackson Jubilee



"Lilies by the Bridge"  
Mary Orndorff  
3rd - Upshur County Fair



Christmas Party Fun



Awaiting the festivities!



Carol caught snooping!



Let's get this party started!



Where's Santa?



Mmm, everything looks good!



I can't eat another bite!



Laura displays her photo selection!



It's my turn again?



Charlotte gets the last pick!

Photo Tip of the Month

A circular polarizer work best when you are 90 degrees off sun angle. Think about what a watch looks like at 3:00 PM. That is a 90 degree angle. The effect is stronger when you have the sun at 90° on your left or right. It will be less visible with the sun is in your back and almost non-existent with the sun is in front. A circular polarizer is also useful when shooting rocky streams as it cuts the glare of the rocks and the water. Don't leave home with out one!