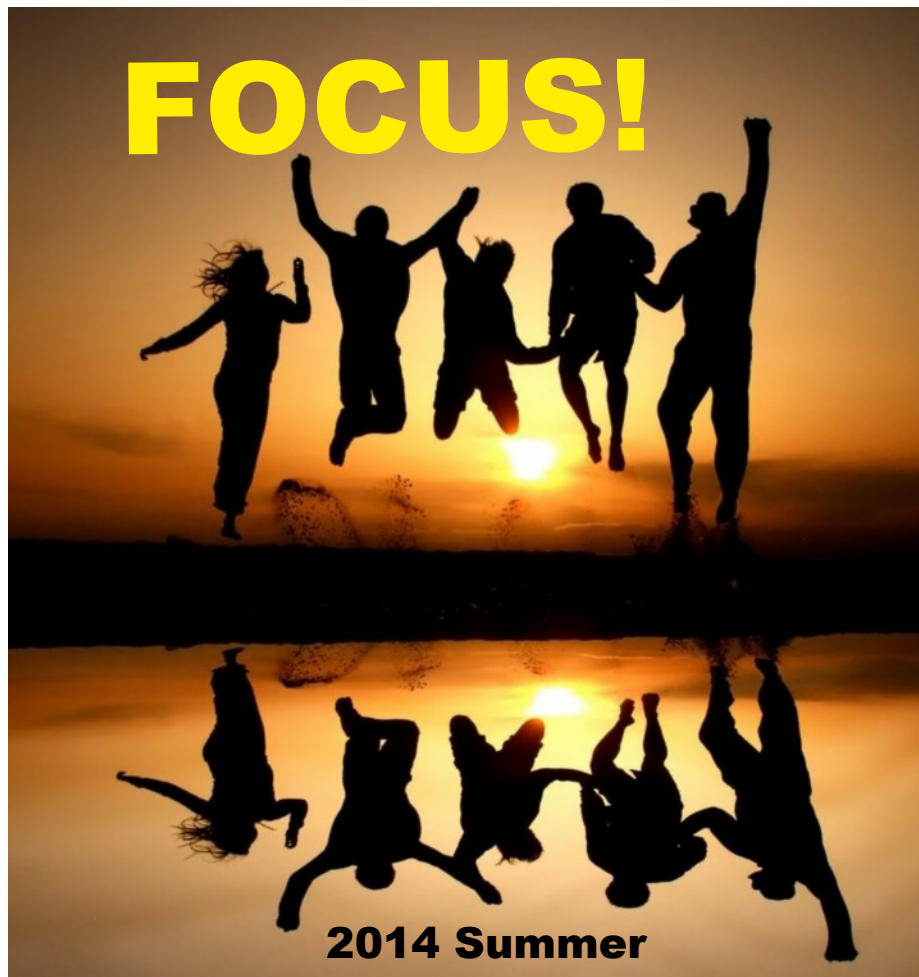


Focus Group CAMERA CLUB, RICHMOND VA

Serious photographers sharing their knowledge and experiences

June 2014

VOL 2 #6



The FGCC Officers and Staff

Cyane Lowden	President
Cindy Krumbein	VP and Programs
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Frank Feigert	Membership
Debbie Roberts	Field Trips
Bill Billings	Website Coordinator
Al Warfield	Roundtable Org.
Hal Tyler	Exhibits
Linda Warfield	Past President

Club Meetings are held second Tuesday 7:30 PM

River Road Presbyterian Church

8960 River Road. Richmond

Follow-up on Framing Without Reflections

by Al Warfield

In the May issue I introduced a new technique for framing to eliminate reflections. Prints are made on either canvas or fine art matte paper, varnished with an aqueous varnish called Timeless by Breathing Color, glued with Miracle Muck to Mighty Foam Core Board, and then framed with no glazing in front of the print. I have had good success with this technique, and have tried some variations to see what the options are and get the best possible results.

I tried using a luster paper by Red River called Arctic Polar Luster with the new method. This paper requires use of Photo black ink instead of Matte black. Like Epson Luster and also any other papers using Photo black ink, the back of the paper is quite slick. It's not the ink, but the slick back that causes problems. When Miracle Muck is used to glue the print down to the board, the smooth back causes a lack of adhesion in some areas and bubbles form after the print is framed. So if prints are made on these papers, another method of attaching the print to the backing is required, such as acid-free adhesive spray. Also, when the paper is varnished with Timeless, the varnish dries with beads that give a texture when dry. This may not be desirable, and it can be avoided by spraying with a product designed to preserve photos. By using these two modifications, prints on glossy or luster paper can be displayed in a frame without glazing and avoid at least some of the reflections. Dry mounting may seem like an option, but a slick back can also cause that to fail.

When fine art matte paper is used with this new method, the Timeless varnish can get under the print, which can cause the print to stick to the mat board the print is resting on. If this is not noticed right away the print can be ruined when attempts at separation are made. So I tried gluing the print onto the board before varnishing, and then varnishing after the glue is dry. Varnishing first makes the gluing step easier because the varnish protects the face of the print. Without the varnish on the print surface it is important to prevent any glue from coming in contact with the printed side of the paper. It is impossible to remove without damaging the print. I've been successful gluing the print down first, but I'm still working on the best way to do this. Mainly it takes extreme care, and a lot of practice. I leave the gloves off because they seem to

pick the glue up very easily. But after the print is glued down, varnishing the print is extremely easy.

With canvas there is no need to glue it down first because even if the canvas does get stuck it's easy to remove the underlying paper without damaging the print. Most of my canvas prints are very good. But not all images print well on canvas. I mentioned the qualities that make a good canvas print in my last article. If in doubt I use fine art matte paper, either textured or smooth. Epson Cold Press (textured) or Hot Press (smooth) Fine Art Papers work very well, as does Breathing Color's Pura Velvet.



Save the date!

Vicky Eicher's next solo exhibit opens on June 27 in the UVa Hospital's Main Lobby and runs until September 5. This exhibit incorporates a variety of subjects from flowers to battling elephant seals.

***Images from a recent trip to the Richmond Metro Zoo in Moseley, VA.
By John Garofalo***





Weather was sunny and clear but I wish I could have been admitted earlier than 9:30 am for better light.

Members select their 2014 favorites.



Havana Gossips

By Frank Feigert



Taken at the Venice (FL) Audubon Rookery, it's my favorite simply because so many different things had to come together at the same moment to make it happen.

by Durwood Felton



Interesting action shot with blue sky background.
Required fast frame rate, super telephoto lens and luck.

By Steve Baranoff



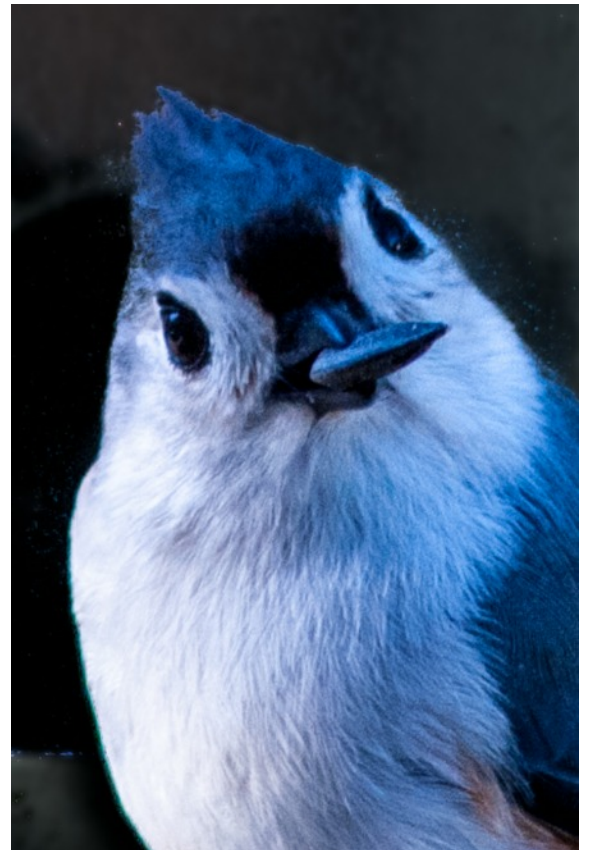
This is among my earliest macro images and I've never been able to duplicate it!

By Vicky Eicher



Woman

By Ralph Sell



The little Titmouse is so fast once he has a seed
i *By Ron Ratcliffe*



©Debra K Roberts Photography

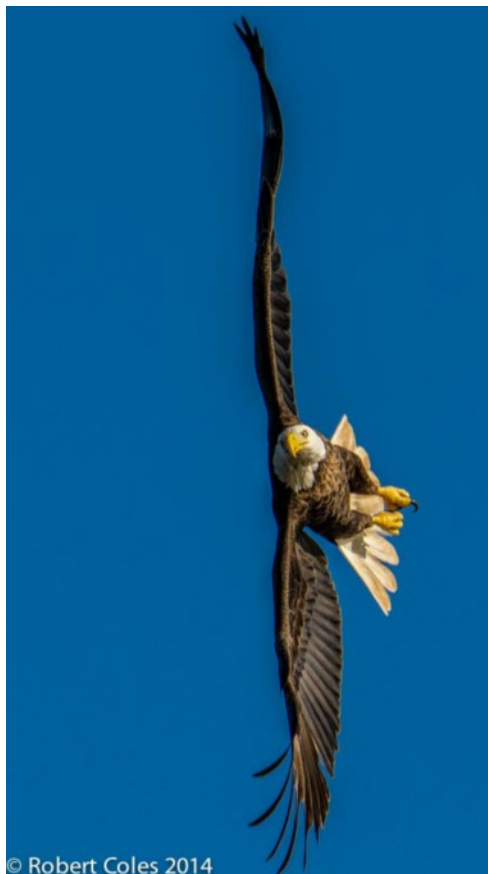
"Fire in the Sky"

This image was taken out of my sliding glass doors in my backyard.

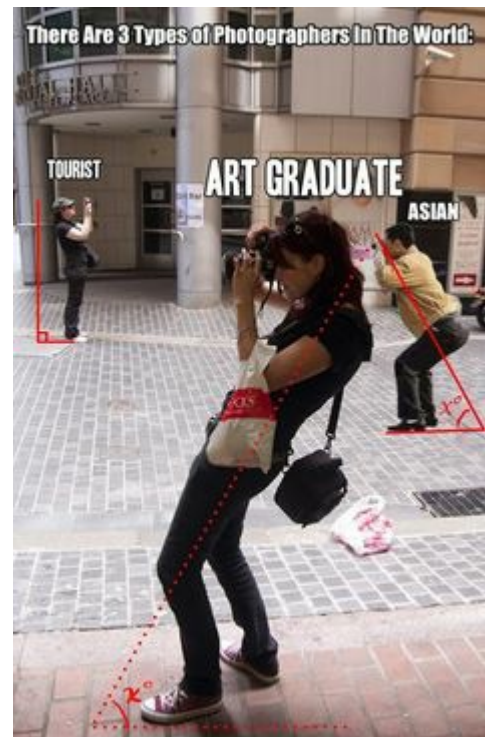
By Debbie Roberts

Bald Eagle on James River April 2014

by Robert Coles

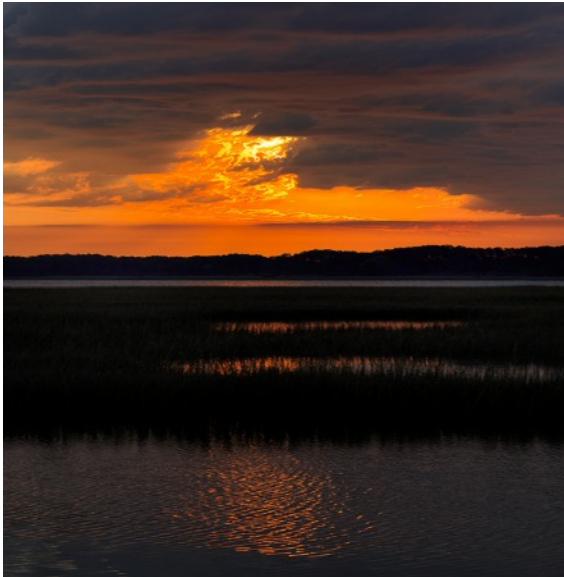


© Robert Coles 2014





I selected this image because it is the most exotic flower I saw in Costa Rica (over 8' tall), and because it turned out well despite the challenging light situation. By Linda Warfield



My website decided which image was my best this year so far. This vertical landscape is the image that received the most hits in the last month. Landscape shots are my favorite types of images. The dark marsh under angry clouds that are trying hard to hide the sun just after sunrise in Chincoteague, combined with vertical alignment of four separate reflections, make for a pretty dramatic scene.

By Al Warfield





This great egret flew into a sunny spot just below my feet as he gathered nesting material in the Venice (FL) rookery. He simply demanded to be photographed and I was much too pleased and surprised to refuse.

By Lynn Felton

And from our past president:

I want to thank everyone for a great year and I know we will continue a dynamic season under Cindy's leadership. The website and newsletter continue to be great exposure for our club (so to speak). The SunTrust gallery is one of the best spaces we have ever had to show our creativity off.

I hope everyone has a summer filled with new places to explore and images to show come next fall.

Cyane



This image while maybe not my best, was certainly the most interesting

Cyane

February in China

By Cindy Krumbein

When we traveled to China in 1997, we carried one PhD film camera to capture the sights of Beijing, Xi'an, Guilin, Hong Kong, and a Yangtze River Cruise. In February 2014, we returned to China, this time with digital cameras, to photograph the Minorities of Guizhou celebrating Chinese New Year, the Yuanyang Rice Terraces of Yunnan (a World Heritage Site) and the scholar gardens of Suzhou, just outside of Shanghai.

Although we had no common language with people along the way, smiles broke down any barriers, and we were photographed as frequently as we took photographs of others! We were part of a group of 9 photographers from the US and Australia, along with a talented photographic guide from Beijing who led us to festivals in small villages, markets and terraced mountaintops.

At the festivals we watched the young women dancing to capture the hearts of young men from other villages. The costumes of each village are different, some with long skirts, some with specific colors, and some with distinctive headscarves. In the markets we watched shoppers choosing ducks & pigs & chickens to take, alive, to homes where there was no refrigeration for pre-prepared food.



Warm, open smile. Gray hair escaping from head covering. Village of the long-skirt Miao.

When we arrived on the mountaintops of Yunnan Province, we were greeted with sun shining on the water-filled rice terraces. We assumed that would continue, but that clear day was followed by days of fog so thick that we could only see an occasional rock or tree by the side of the road. We retreated to the villages and markets again where we could photograph people and animals at closer range. Two days later there was another break in the clouds and fog for one more chance to photograph the terraces and to play with the white balance on our cameras to enhance the early morning light.

Back in Shanghai the group tour ended, but we two continued on for another week with our Chinese guide to see the famous Scholar Gardens of Suzhou, each one filled with intricate intimate and open spaces. We learned that images of Scholar Gardens are best captured as verticals, showing from bottom to top: the water, a boat or room to reflect the creative hand of man, and a tree or bush to represent Nature. We spent a day in Hangzhou, a deep-water port at the end of the Grand Canal, visited by Marco Polo in the early 1300s. We went to the top of the tall towers of Pudong across the river from the Shanghai waterfront on The Bund, and we visited the Shanghai Museum. And finally, we took the maglev high-speed train (187 MPH) for 8 astonishing minutes to reach the airport for our flight home.



Chinese Year of the Horse. Reflections in a store window. Shanghai by Charles Krumbein

Fieldtrips Calendar for 2014

Sunday June 1st

-The Gardens at Serenity Cove

5254 Windsor Park Circle, Louisa, VA 23093

(804) 457-4535 [www.http://GardensAtSerenityCove.com/](http://GardensAtSerenityCove.com/)

Refreshments will be served from 11-3.

Sat. June 7th 6:00am -2:00pm

Bill & Linda Lane Workshop

(804) 883-7740 \$20.00/person

Nature's Image Photography Workshops

15325 Mountain Road, Montpelier, Virginia 23192

www.LanePhotoWorkshops.com

Workshop plan from Linda Lane: "We plan on participants being here around 6-6:30 to shoot the light on the pond.... We'll double check sunrise later and get back to you. I'll have coffee. Then we'll shoot around the yard, have outside discussions, discuss and display various pieces of equipment outside. Then come in for classroom. We would like to have a critique session as well. Everyone could bring up to 5 images for us to view and discuss. We'll have lunch around 11:00am. Then depending on the feel of the class, the temperature and weather, either go back outside to shoot or have more classroom. We'll wind up around 2:00pm.

If you are planning to attend you must confirm with Debbie at dkroberts1@gmail.com by June 3rd. If there are fewer than 10 signed up, the workshop may be opened to friends of members also.

If you want the Lanes to consider a particular area of photography to study, please let Debbie know.

Sat. July 26th

Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens "Lotus Flowers" Admission is FREE

1550 Anacostia Ave. NE, Washington DC 20019

(202) 426-6905

<http://www.nps.gov/keaq/index.htm>

The lotus flowers should be blooming. If so, there will be several acres of ponds filled with beautiful pink and white blooms. An age-old dance wind, water, and land combine here, sparkling in the sun on a breezy day. This natural area of Anacostia Park has origins in a 1926 act of Congress to preserve the forests, water quality, and

recreation value of the waterways of Washington, DC. The park reflects the policies that affect rivers and wetlands.

If participants want to carpool, we will designate a safe place to meet and leave cars. We will meet at 6:15AM, and wait until 6:30 am before we drive to DC.

Sun. August 24th

River Boat Canal Cruise and Walk

(Time: TBA) \$6.00/person

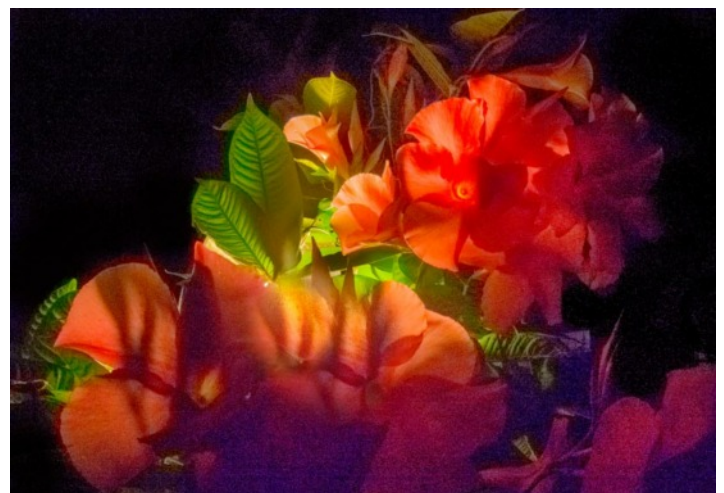
14th & Dock Streets, Richmond, VA, 23219 (804) 649-2800

<http://www.venturerichmond.com/experience/canal/rides.html>

<http://www.venturerichmond.com/experience/canal/index.html>

The boats leave from the Turning Basin on the Canal Walk at 14th and Dock Street, and follow the canal through the heart of downtown. There should be some good photo ops, and in the early morning there can be dramatic light. The tour is about 45 minutes and boat driver Rusty Gross will be providing his lively tour narrative as we go. You can see a map of the Turning Basin at http://binged.it/12t80Z5_

The Canal Walk also offers scenic views of Richmond, and the group can decide what to explore. If you have read something interesting about Richmond, you can share what you have learned as we go!



This is mandevilla that completely covered our lamp post. Shot was done at night ISO 1600.

By Ratcliffe

More on Paranoia

By Frank Feigert

There has recently been a good exchange of emails on recovering data from crashed disks. I touted the Lexar program, which comes free when one buys a Lexar disk. Regardless, it can be downloaded for a demo.

Having mistakenly formatted an SD card, I tried to recover the data with the Lexar program (Image

Rescue 4). It works, TOO well! After starting the program on a 4 MB disk and letting it run overnight, I discovered, to my horror, that it was recovering seemingly every picture ever taken on the card, regardless of camera used, over many years. Not only that, but it was finding 3 copies of each.

When over 35K pictures had been “recovered,” I took a look at the program recommended by Stephen Retherford on May 3 (another case for saving old emails). This program,

<http://www.z-a-recovery.com/> is also free and, like Stephen, I found that it worked to recover old data, despite reformatting. The real benefit was that I could specify the dates for the files wanted, and these were quickly recovered.

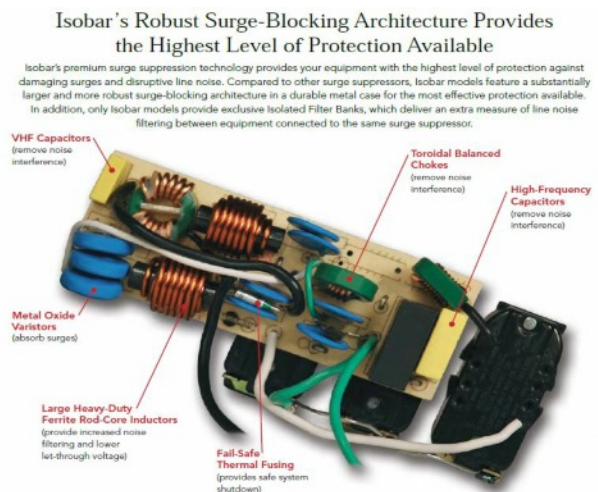
Lessons learned:

1. Save old emails from FGCC members, especially those who know their subject (thanks, Stephen!);
2. Old SD cards can hold old images forever.
3. Lexar Image Rescue is quite usable on chips used only once or twice. Beyond that, it is overkill, like using nuclear weapons on mice.
4. Zero Assumption Recovery, the program recommended by Stephen, has many options. And, the price is right!
5. SD cards are cheap enough that they need not be re-used endlessly. Some members file theirs as backup to what is on their hard disks.

Disaster Planning Part III

By Ron Ratcliffe

Each system should have an UPS (Uninterruptable Power Supply), also known as a battery backup or a good surge protector. The most important point to retain here is that there are surge suppressors and there are power strips. Power strips may have a circuit breaker but most are nothing more than an extension cord. Look at the label on a surge protector – it should have a minimum “clamping” rating of 330 joules. Below is a inside view of Tripp-lite’s surge protector. You will pay a little more but it is cheap insurance. Also, if you have cable TV, try to find a surge protector that includes the incoming cable.



Lightning damage can be catastrophic from blowing a few light bulbs to setting your house on fire. If you are really concerned about getting a hit, you can install a whole-house lightning protection system (LPS). This will protect your home from fire and have surge protection installed in the breaker box. I have seen computer circuit boards that had a lightning hit and the copper printed circuit etch was vaporized leaving just little curls of ash. Lightning hit a transformer in my brother’s neighborhood recently in Chesapeake, VA. Items were damaged on both sides of the street. He was not home and lost two TVs*, microwave and a radio, but the computer was plugged into a small UPS had no damage. In this case an incorrect transformer installation caused the problem and VEPCO covered the damage. **Not all home owners insurance will cover surge damage without fire.**

* So how were the TV sets damaged when both were “off”. TVs and many other devices are not really off when not operating. If they were really off, you would not be able to turn on with a remote.

June	5	Board meeting	All are welcome	Cindy
	10	Club Meeting	At SunTrust	
		SunTrust Exhibit June		
July		No Meeting No Newsletter		
August		No Meeting		
	25	Deadline for Newsletter	September newsletter	Ron
September	4	Board meeting	All are welcome	Cindy
	9	Club meeting	TBD	
	29	Deadline	October newsletter	Ron
October	4	Show	Deliver to James Center 9am	Vicky
	5	Show starts	James Center 10/5 - 10/26	Vicky/Peggy
	9	Board meeting	All are welcome	Cindy
	14	Meeting/Reception	James Center 6 PM to 7:30 PM	Vicky/Peggy
	25	Show ends	Pick up work after 2 PM or on 26 th before 10 AM	Members
	27	Deadline	November Newsletter	Ron
November	6	Board meeting	All are welcome	Cindy
	11	Club meeting	<i>The Annual Critique</i>	Cindy
	24	Deadline	December newsletter	Ron



Easily the coolest photographic discovery of the year

Nearly Intact Century-Old Negatives Found in Antarctica

Cameras/Reviewed .com NEWS

By Christopher Snow

Famous explorer Sir Ernest Shackleton left more than just his whiskey behind during the Imperial Trans-Antarctic Expedition of 1914. A cache of 98-year-old celluloid negatives has been discovered in the field darkroom of expedition photographer Herbert Ponting. Ponting was a member of the Ross Sea Party, a sub-expedition sent to resupply Shackleton's camp.

Amazingly, damage to the negatives is largely restricted to the edges of the frame. This allowed a nearly complete (although painstaking) recovery of 22 images, including two shots of Ross Sea Party member Alexander Stevens, Shackleton's Chief Scientist, standing on-board the Aurora. Other shots show recognizable landmarks around McMurdo Sound. The Aurora famously broke away from its moorings during a gale, stranding members of the expedition for months.



Chief Scientist Alexander Stevens on the Aurora

The negatives were discovered during the Antarctic Heritage Trust's efforts to restore a supply hut of Captain Robert Falcon Scott, who led earlier expeditions.

“It’s an exciting find and we are delighted to see them exposed after a century. It’s testament to the dedication and precision of our conservation teams’ efforts to save Scott’s Cape Evans hut,” said Nigel Watson, Antarctic Heritage Trust’s Executive Director.

Photographic Conservator Mark Strange separated, cleaned, and converted the negatives to digital positives. All imagery is available on the Antarctic Heritage Trust's website.

Via: The Verge, Imaging Resource