



PRETORIA PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

www.pretoriaphotographic.co.za

Photo-Vault-Online Entries

www.photovaultonline.com

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ORGANISATION	WEB-SITE LINK
Steve's Digicams (Reviews)	www.steves-digicams.com
Digital photography review	www.dpreview.com
Photoanswers (Practical Photography)	www.photoanswers.co.uk





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March.

for answers on new membership and the workings of the Pretoria Photographic Society. Contact Pine at pienaar459@gmail.com
As per usual, the annual subscription fees are reduced by half for members who join after

Pine Pienaar our Vice President is the contact

WHAT'S HAPPENING			
1 October 2024	Photo Café @ NG Church		
Hybrid meeting	Lynwood Sussex Avenue		
	19H00		
15 October 2024	Formal Meeting @ NG		
Hybrid meeting	Church Lynwood Sussex		
	Avenue 18H45		
Judges:	Thelma van der Schyff		
August 2024	Roelof Groesbeek		
	Hendrik Grobbelaar		

PROMOTIONS

PLEASE REMEMBER when you receive a promotion to update the Star Level on PhotovaultOnline before your next entry. These levels should just be a single digit: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5.

KNOWING YOUR STATUS IN STAR RATING

Photovault can now generate this information.

Please verify your rating to ensure that

Photovault is correct. Please contact Sonja de

Klerk at sonsdeklerk@gmail.com

END OF YEAR CATEGORIES 2024			
The competition categories for the Junior and Senior streams are:			
Landscapes	Outdoors scenes, seascapes, urban/cityscapes.		
Visual Art Photography	Achieving an artistic effect through application of creative techniques.		
Nature	Living, natural organisms (undomesticated) in their natural habitats. Plants and animals included. Excluded: Scenic/ landscapes/ cityscapes. Images may not be manipulated and must conform to the PSSA Ethical Guidelines		
Macro and Floral	Includes both Macro (Close-up pictures of any subjects) and Floral (Flowers in their natural state or under controlled conditions)		
Photojournalism	Newsworthy, story-telling pictures including sport. Images may not be manipulated		
Portraits	Includes both Animal and Human portraits.		
Pictorial	Open category. It includes Architecture.		
Monochrome	In this category the subject is totally open. Colour images will be disqualified.		
Best of the Year	All category winners will compete automatically		
Most Versatile Author	Entrants shall submit a panel of five (5) images each selected from five (5) different categories.		
Most Golds and COM's	The member who achieved the most Gold and COM awards in monthly competitions, as recorded in the results of the competitions		
Article for e-flash	Most articles written for the e-Flash		

SET SUBJECTS 2024		
MONTH	SET SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION
JANUARY	Monochrome Minimalism in any Genre	Eliminate the clutter with clean lines, empty spaces and only the essential elements
FEBRUARY	Blue sky thinking	Make the special "Blue light" just after sunset or before sunrise the focus of your land, sea, or cityscape.
MARCH	Fine Art Colour Image using negative space	Create a Fine Art Colour Image using negative space. Use artistic freedom to manipulate the image
APRIL	Low Light Photography	Astro, Milky Way, star or light trails, Cityscapes, amusement parks or street photography using only existing light.
MAY	Macro or Closeup Patterns in Nature	Focus on the natural world by filling the frame with your subject. Illustrate patterns, leading lines, or repetition.
JUNE	Panorama	Use symmetry, mirroring, or repetition as an instrument to enhance a Panoramic image.
JULY	Create Silhouettes or shadows	Enhance the characteristics of any living creature in any genre or colour.
AUGUST	Patterns, Repetition or Reflection to enhance Architectural Details	Focus on Patterns, Repetition or Reflection to enhance Architectural Details in an image.
SEPTEMBER	Pictorial Landscapes With abandoned buildings as main focal point and subject	Create a Pictorial Landscapes with abandoned buildings as focal point.
OCTOBER	Flowers, leaves or insects as subjects	Put all emphasis on the detail by use of focus stacking, or in contrast create out-of-focus images using movement, colour contrast, negative space and bokeh.

INNING THEMES 2024			
MONTH	INNING THEME	DESCRIPTION	
JANUARY	Solo Pet Portraiture	Only one pet portraiture	
FEBRUARY	Reflections, no water	No reflections in water	
MARCH	Oil on water in colour	Oily patterns in water	
APRIL	Minimalistic Flower	Only flowers and minimalism	
MAY	Visual Art	In camera or post edited manipulation is encouraged.	
JUNE	Shadows	Shadows must be the main object in your composition	
JULY	Double exposure	In camera double exposure	
AUGUST	Minimalism in any form	Any genre minimalism	
SEPTEMBER	Emotions	Emotions in human or animal subjects	
OCTOBER	Vintage objects	Focus on vintage objects, tools or any detailed object.	

MONTHLY ENTRIES FOR CLUB COMPETITIONS:

Dear PPS club members

When entering your photos for the formal evenings, could you please remember the following:
Only members who have judged the previous month are allowed to enter more images.

You are allowed one entry in the SET SUBJECT

and **four entries** in either of the following categories:

- 1. VISUAL ART
- NATURE OR PJ according to PSSA rules
- 3. OPEN Manipulation allowed

SERVICE TO THE CLUB:

You can serve the club by providing two or more of the services listed below throughout the year. Remember you must provide **regular** service to the club for it to qualify.

List of services:

- Judging at the monthly competitions.
- Writing articles for the e-Flash.
- Writing tutorials for the e-Flash.
- Assisting with / hosting outings.
- Assisting with / hosting workshops.
- Assisting with / hosting tutorials.
- Providing snacks and refreshments for informal meetings.
- Organising a speaker or speaking yourself for either the informal or formal meetings.
- Photographing the year-end function.
- · Organising the end of year function.

NATIONAL SALON DATES	2024/2025	
Tygerberg Digital Salon	12 October	
PSSA Up & Coming	19 October	
Krugersdorp Camera Club Digital Salon	26 October	
SPC National Digital Salon	9 November	
Bethal National Salon	11 January 2025	
WCPF Salon for Projected Images	25 January 2025	
Krugersdorp Camera Club Digital Salon	1 February 2025	
AFO National Salon	8 February 2025	
ACC 3 rd Digital Salon	22 February 2025	
Visit <u>www.pssa.co.za</u> for more information and entry forms.		

All salon results administered by Photovault are registered automatically by the system. Please ensure correctness of your details in Photovault regularly. Those salons, not using Photovault still need to be captured manually. Contact Sonja de Klerk if there are any discrepancies, at ppsannouncements@gmail.com

We would like to motivate all members to take part in the PSSA salon and international scene where possible. Advancement from 3-star and 4-star require a few salon acceptances. The salon acceptances that are used to calculate promotions have a cut-off date 14 days before the meeting, to allow the competition secretary to update files. Acceptances after this date will be considered the next month.

SALON ACCEPTANCES

2nd Durban Digital Salon

Giuseppe Carbonatto

An ever watchful eye Skilpiesbaai

Boshoff Steenekamp



Lilac breasted roller at rest



Lilac breasted roller in flight

George StevensDirt therapy



Messy - Certificate of Merit

Linda Martin

Slow Down Dont Rush

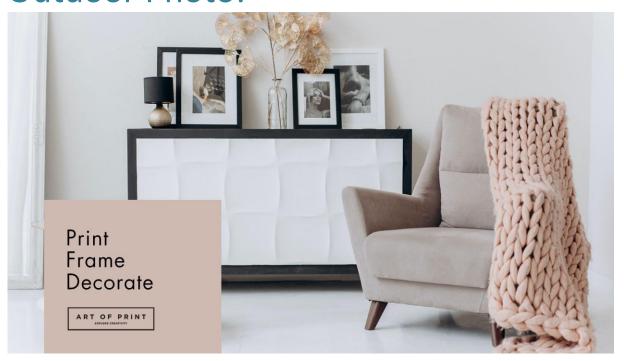
Fransie Stevens

Dancing is silent poetry
Fuel your passion
Going through a rough patch
Dancing and graceful



Graceful grooming

Outdoor Photo:





Contact Nr: (012) 348 3693/www.outdoorphoto.co.za

President's Page - Thelma van der Schyff

THE STEPCHILD IN PHOTOGRAPHY – THE STILL LIFE

It is time to sit back and contemplate a genre that has been neglected, due to the emergence of technology and possibilities opening up to us and helping us to capture birds in flight with eye tracking. The same goes for wildlife. The thrill of having a lion in all its glory looking me in the eye, never loses its fascination.

However, back to the "boring" still life. It is time to get rid of the old idea of still life being depicted as a rose in a long thin vase with a drop of water on a petal. Oh, good heavens, there is so much more to it!!!

Still life is a genre that falls under fine art photography. Instead of chasing the fast and difficult speeding predator, you now take a deep breath and focus on the quiet, the unmoving object, the colour and composition you can control.

Your still life can be either something you found or otherwise something you created. The "found" category will be random collections of things that are arranged without any outside help, meaning you don't move them to make your picture look the way you want it. Just walk into the garage and kitchen and observe.





When you are an avid Instagrammer, you can photograph your arty latte or cappuccino. As this coffee is going nowhere, you can use a slow shutter speed. Nothing to chase here.

When rather creating your image, you can decide on how you would like it to be. Your composition can make good use of space, harmonious colours, interesting textures that can be emphasized with lightning and shadows. Start in the kitchen....





Move to the garden and see the vast display waiting for you to be discovered. Trees have interesting leaves and blossoms. Flowering shrubs can entice you to do something with them. When you are lucky enough to be at the seaside, you will find a host of objects crying out for your attention.





There are many pitfalls one must be aware of. Do not fall into the tourist trap of making people or animals (mice, frogs, puppies) out of shells. Or flowers. Or mushrooms. Make use of the shells, focusing on their beautiful colours and forms. Show their beauty.





I think the most important factor in still life is lightning. One can get inspiration from the old masters. They did a perfect job of creating great impact by using light. When visiting museums one can get your fill by seeing all the masterpieces. They also sometimes pop up at auctions where it can be viewed.



Left: "A Glass Compote with Peaches, Jasmine Flowers, Quinces and a Grasshopper" by Fede Galizia (1578-1630)

Right: "Still life with Flowers in a Vase with a Pineapple, Peaches and Grapes on a Stone Ledge" by Jan Frans van Dael (1764-1840)

Throughout history it has been about composition and light and the ability to convey volume and texture of individual objects. So, by keeping this in mind, you can take the most mundane of kitchen objects and create powerful images.

All still life pictures require a background of some sort. This can be as simple as a plain piece of cloth or a battered old table. Choose carefully and do not let the background take over the image. Make sure it complements the objects placed on it, or in front of it, but that it is the last thing you notice in the picture. Always ask yourself what is the 'star' of a picture and make sure that your eye goes to that object/person first.





Taking your cue from the great painters, put things next to a window, or drape a sheet over it to soften the light?

Use the horizon line to anchor an image by taking your eye straight to the object of your picture. Make lots of small adjustments. Moving an element just a centimetre can make a difference to the finished picture.

Use a tripod to help with camera shake and to achieve beautiful sharp pictures.

Depth of field can transform a still life image, so try bracketing and see the difference. There is a big difference between f/2 and f/16

Lastly, there is a take on a more modern approach that can also speak to you if the "older" take is not to your liking.





Have an open mind and get creative. You might be surprised at what springs at you and what you can achieve. Impress us!

Until next time

Regards

Thelma

Winning Photos September 2024:



Best 1 Star: Layers of Pitori Kagiso Langa



Best 4 Star Her daily toil Pine Pienaar



Best 2 Star: Scoot Mary-Ann Costello

Best 5 Star Say aaaa Sonja de klerk





Best 3 Star
COM &
Best Junior:
Messy
George Stevens

Best Nature/PJ
COM
Thats mine
Giuseppe Carbonatto





COM Bluewaxbill No 2 George Stevens

Best Open & Best Senior: Golden Flight Giuseppe Carbonatto



Set Subject:



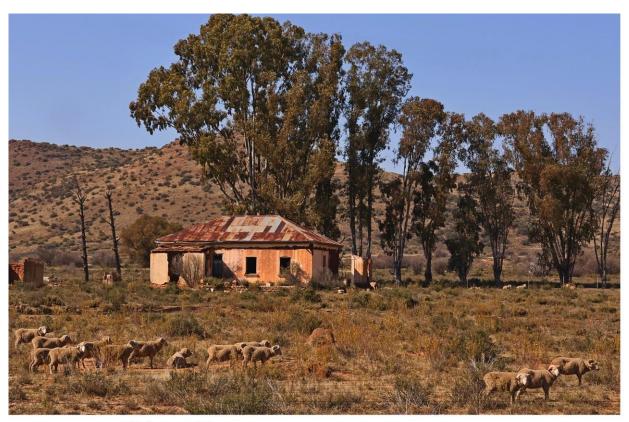
Best Set Subject: Deception Tony Roberts



Remote Solitude Johan Hosten



Unfinished business Karin du Toit



If I could tell my story Marianne Ver Loren van Themaat

Once upon a time Geoge Stevens



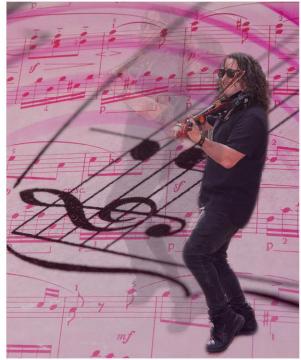


Only a memory left Johan ver Loren van Themaat

Abandoned dream
Boshoff Steenekamp



Open & Non-manipulated Images:





Best Visual Art Music is life Karin du Toit

Good Open
Out ahead
Giuseppe Carbonatto

Busy bee Boshoff Steenekamp





Spill the beans Sonja de Klerk

Sacred space Lloyd Munday





The builder
Mary-Ann costello



Enjoy the sun Sonja de Klerk



First bloom of spring Joan Fouché



Bougainvillea Joan Fouché

Articles:

CALIBRATION CHECK AT HOME - Sonja de Klerk

Photographers all dread the comment by a judge "the photo is overexposed or too dark". Then we are upset as the exposure was correct when we view the photo at home on our system.

The projection system at the club is calibrated and the images used for checking the calibration are often projected before the meeting starts. Calibration is also performed on systems used for salon judging.

The club has a Spyder, which is a device that calibrate your system. This will ensure that your system and the projection system of clubs and salons are in-line. The Spyder is available to all PPS club members. Contact Sonja for use of the device at ppsannouncements@gmail.com or 082 778 9249.

It is, however, easy to check your system's calibration at home without the Spyder. If it is not correct, the Spyder can be used to calibrate your system at home.

The images that are used as standards at the clubs and for salons for calibration, are available from Photo Vault. The following can be done as a quick check to determine if the system that you are using at home is calibrated.

On Photo Vault

1. Before you login: Select Help

Photo Vault Online



2. Then Calibration



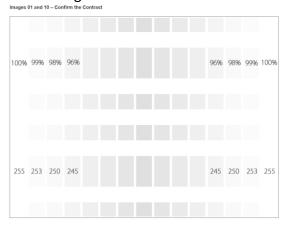
3. The calibration images needed to check your system can be downloaded.

Photo Vault Online - help with calibration

The Photographic Society of South Africa (PSSA) kindly gave permission to publish their information on calibration and a colour management work flow on this site. See the original article here.

Use this link to download the latest set of calibration image. Download calibration images

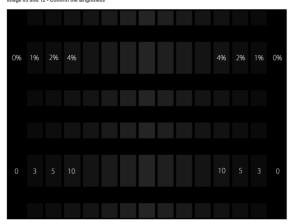
- 4. A quick check of your system can be done by using the following images:
- 4.1 Images 1 & 10 for contrast You should be able to see the 98% or at least 96% blocks.



4.2 Images 2 & 11 for focus



4.3 Images 3 & 12 for brightness You should be able to see the 2% block.



4.4 Images 4 & 13 for colour

Image 04 and 13 - Familiar colour checker



4.5 Images 5 & 14 for colour cast on monochrome images

Images 05 and 14 – Check for a colour cast on monochrome images

Pixl Test image

This image may be used for non commercial proofing purposes only.

No resale, or commercial use of this image is allowed without prior written permission.





- 4.6 Images 6, 7, 15 & 16 for red
- 4.7 Images 8 & 16 for green
- 4.8 Images 9 & 18 for blue

The Smiths – Frans Mohr

The Smiths were unable to conceive children and decided to use a surrogate father to start their family. On the day the proxy father was to arrive, Mr. Smith kissed his wife goodbye and said, 'Well, I'm off now. The man should be here soon.'

Half an hour later, just by chance, a door-to-door baby photographer happened to ring the doorbell, hoping to make a sale.

'Good morning, he said, "I've come to..."

"Oh, no need to explain," Mrs. Smith cut in, embarrassed, "I've been expecting you."

'Have you really?" Said the photographer. "Well, that's good. Did you know babies are my specialty?"

"Well that's what my husband and I had hoped. Please come in and have a seat."

After a moment she asked, blushing, "Well, where do we start?"

"Leave everything to me. I usually try two in the bathtub, one on the couch, and perhaps a couple on the bed. And sometimes the living room floor is fun. You can really spread out there."

"Bathtub, living room floor? No wonder it didn't work out for Harry and me!"

"Well, none of us can guarantee a good one every time. But if we try several different positions and I shoot from six or seven angles, I'm sure you'll be pleased with the results."

"My, that's a lot!" Gasped Mrs. Smith.

"In my line of work a man has to take his time. I'd love to be In and out in five minutes, but I'm sure you'd be disappointed with that."

"Don't I know it," said Mrs. Smith quietly.

The photographer opened his briefcase and pulled out a portfolio of his baby pictures. "This was done on the top of a bus," he said.

"Oh, my God!" Mrs. Smith exclaimed, grasping at her throat.

"And these twins turned out exceptionally well, when you consider their mother was so difficult to work with."

"She was difficult?" Asked Mrs. Smith.

"Yes, I'm afraid so. I finally had to take her to the park to get the job done right. People were crowding around four and five deep to get a good look."

"Four and five deep?" Said Mrs. Smith, her eyes wide with amazement.

"Yes", the photographer replied, "And for more than three hours, too. The mother was constantly squealing and yelling I could hardly concentrate, and when darkness approached I had to rush my shots. Finally, when the squirrels began nibbling on my equipment, I just had to pack it all in."

Mrs. Smith leaned forward. "Do you mean they actually chewed on your, uh equipment?"

"It's true, yes. Well, if you're ready, I'll set-up my tripod and we can get to work right away."

"Tripod?"

"Oh yes, I need to use a tripod to rest my Canon on. It's much too big to be held in the hand for very long."

Mrs. Smith fainted.



Photography Terms Part 3 – Linda Martin with help from Expertphotography.com

Greetings and salutations

Here is another bunch of "random" terms that we happily use and hope we and everyone else know what they are!

Terms for Photography Equipment Cold Shoe

A cold shoe is a holding area for a flash or other device. It doesn't allow a connection between the camera and the device.

Extension Tubes

Extension tubes are used to further extend the zoomable area of lenses in macrophotography. They sit between the camera body and the lens.

They come in 1x, 2x, and 3x options. A 100mm macro lens with a 3x extension tube turns your lens into the equivalent of a 300mm lens.

Flash

A flash is basically a light source that produces a burst of artificial light. It lights just for a short time (flashes). This is where its name comes from.

It can be built into the camera or sit on top via a hot shoe, or you can use it on a stand. A flash is commonly used in studios and low-light conditions, like at different events. Sometimes also called a speedlight.

Graduated Neutral-Density Filter

A graduated neutral-density filter (GNU) is a neutral-density filter. But it's an ND filter that's graduated from the centre upwards. This helps to darken specific parts of your scene, primarily the sky.

Grey Card

A grey card is a card with a colour of 18% grey. Photographing this before any photographic shoot helps you ascertain a correct white balance from the light found in the scene. This is considered "neutral grey".

Hot Shoe

A hot shoe is a holding area for a flash or other device that connects the camera and the device.



Neutral Density Filter

A neutral density filter (ND filter) limits the light that hits the sensor. We use it on the front lens of a camera. A one-stop ND filter will let only 50% of the light in. So, you can set your camera for one f-stop higher value.

They are perfect for shooting in bright light conditions. They are also used for long exposures in the daytime. ND filters come in various strengths and can usually be stacked to prevent almost all light from entering the camera to shoot ultra long exposures.

Polarizing Filter

A polarizing filter is usually placed on the front element of the lens. It can help to eliminate reflections, stop glare, and even darken skies.

Remote Flash Trigger

A remote flash trigger connects the camera and the flash unit when the flash unit is off-camera. This works using infrared signals or a wire.

Remote Trigger

A remote trigger is a device that lets you take a photograph without pressing the shutter release on your camera. They can connect via Bluetooth, an app, infrared, or a wire.

Strobe

A studio strobe is a flash unit that has lightning-fast recycle times. So, strobes can flash fast many times in a row. They also provide brighter and stronger light than a simple flash.

Teleconverter

A teleconverter is used to further extend the focal length of a telephoto lens. They sit between the camera body and the lens. And they come in 1x, 2x, and 3x options. A 200mm telephoto lens with the teleconverter x3 turns your lens into the equivalent of a 600mm lens. A 1.4x teleconverter on a 70-200mm lens, makes it a super-telephoto lens with a 280mm max zoom range.



Photography Slang

These are words or terms often used to describe an action or some detail in a photo.

Blown Out

Overexposed areas in your image that have received abundant light are "blown out," as all detail is missing. White out might be a more apt description.

Chimping

Chimping is constantly looking at your images on the LCD screen while missing perfect photographic opportunities.

Flag or Gobo

A flag or gobo is a material that stops unwanted light from hitting part or all of your scene. This is especially common with fashion and product photography.

Glass

"Glass" is a common alternate name for a lens. Fast glass is a lens that can stop down to a "fast" aperture, namely f/1.4 to f/2.8.

Nifty-Fifty

A nifty-fifty is a 50mm standard lens with a maximum aperture of f/1.8 or larger. Usually small and light weight in size.

Opening Up

Opening up, translates to decreasing the number of f-stops. The lower the number, the larger the aperture. By opening up, more light will enter the lens.

Selfie

When you photograph yourself!



Shutter Lag

Shutter lag is the time difference between setting the shutter off and capturing the image.

SOOC

SOOC is an abbreviation for "straight out of camera." This means an image without editing or post-production.

Stopping Down

Stopping down translates to increasing the number of f-stops. The higher the number, the smaller the aperture. This reduces the amount of light entering the lens. This way, you can avoid many kinds of light diffraction.

Wide Open

Shooting wide open uses the aperture at its widest and fastest f-stop, usually f/1.4 to f/2.8

So that is it for this month.

The final episode next month.

Makes one think, there is whole new language when you get involved in photography.

WINNER:
CHRISTELLE
(PISCHES OF ME)





ICED OVER







BLACK INK

WRAPPED UP

FINALLY

RUNNER-UP: BOSHOFF (THE HUNT)



TITLE IMAGES OF THE REMAINING ENTRIES







TONY GERRIT

PINE







FRANSIE JOHAN GEORGE







MARY-ANN JOHN LINDA





GIUSEPPE

THELMA

PPS Birthday list:

January.	Falaman		
January	February		
Marianne Ver Loren van Themaat 1	Vanessa Price 6		
Mary-Anne Costello 4	Gurling Bothma 18		
Gerrit van Rooyen 19			
March	April		
Christelle Swart 6	Casper van Eck 11		
Rudi Pothas 13	Carina Munday 24		
Fransie Stevens 21			
Linda Martin 22			
May	June		
Boshoff Steenekamp 16	Jing Chen 13		
Detlef Basel 23	Joan Fouché 16		
Frans Fouché 30	Lloyd Munday 18		
	Marius Coetzee 30		
July	August		
Diana van de Wiel 4	Tony Roberts 6		
Kagiso Langa 8	Cat Schramm 9		
Robin Miles 9	Sonja de Klerk 10		
Annelize Brynard 17	Bill Zurich 16		
Johan Ver Loren van Themaat 21	George Stevens 16		
	Ann Roberts 23		
	Brigitte Hansen 25		
	Bibi Andrews 27		
	Petra Haselmaier		
September	October		
	John Tapuch 1		
	Ken van Wyk 5		
	Thelma van der Schyff 8		
	Huan Zhongjie 12		
	Chantelle J v Rensburg 24		
November	December		
Santie van Eck 6	Giuseppe Carbonatto 1		
Johan Hosten 9	Pine Pienaar 26		
Karin du Toit 11	Ann Williams 29		
Giel du Toit 15	Marlene Birkholtz 31		
Frans Mohr 21			
Bruno Engel 21			
- 0-			

Please send your date of birth to Joan Fouché if your name is not on the list.