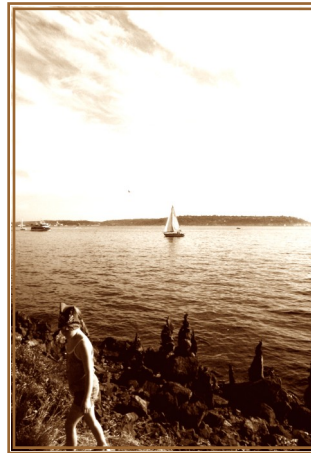


The Keen Observer

Volume 3 7/7/2008

Busy, Busy Summer

As we enter into the first full month of summer, some of us wonder what we will do with all the time on our hands, while others fret about fitting all the activities and responsibilities into these hot, sunny days. Soon it will be August and we will be worrying about school and the holidays. Before the winds begin to turn, let's remember to step away from our computers and visit some of the interesting festivals that take place during these months of little rain.



Elliot Bay during
HempFest 2000

Art on the Ave—July 13th from 11am-9pm

Puget Sound Bead Festival—July 10th through the 13th

UP Fest—August 1st through the 2nd

Proctor Arts Festival—August 2nd from 10am-6pm

Urban Art Festival Report

On June 29th, the 4th Annual Urban Art Festival was held at Fireman's Park in Downtown Tacoma. It ran from noon to dusk showcasing the many mediums of the city's local artists from spray paint to music to photography. I set up shop in the park and listened to Drum and Bass all day while watching spray paint artists create detailed paintings across the way. The crowds were light, but there was quite a bit of interest in my photographs and one customer..

Snippets

- Art on the Ave is July 13th. Hopefully I will see you there.
- My art goes up at Border's Books and Music on 38th street in Tacoma on August 1st.
- Visit [CafePress](#) for Ardent photographs on Mugs, Bumper Stickers, etc.
- Small Business Networking event July 22nd at the Firorest Bertalinos.

“The rarest thing in the world is a woman who is pleased with photographs of herself.”

~Elizabeth Metcalf

A New Self Portrait



Best picture out of the bunch.

I have never been able to take a good picture of myself. I don't like to smile because it always looks fake and, though I am very comfortable behind the camera, I lack that sense of peace when on the other side. I never feel that I look good in other people's pictures either. As a photographer, I have had to calm the fears of many people who say, "I never take good pictures." For most people, this has nothing to do with an innate unattractiveness but rather insecurities and the tendency to frown or contort the face when put in front of a camera. A friend told me once that I looked like I was going to kill the camera man.

I decided I needed a better picture for my [biography page](#) on the website and who better to do that than myself. So I began imagining I was at a networking event and trying to make a good impression. Through this experiment I believe I will be better able to find the true face of the people who, like me, are uncomfortable in front of the lens.



New picture now located on the biography page.



Actual photo of the apple pie I made for our family Independence Day celebration.!

All-American Apple Pie with a Twist

Ingredients:

- 1 batch of pastry dough for a 9-inch double crust pie (homemade or store-bought refrigerator)
- 3/4 cup brown sugar
- 2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 1/8 teaspoon salt
- 1 tablespoon ground cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon ground allspice
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cloves
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cardamom
- 1/2 teaspoon ground nutmeg
- 6 Granny Smith Apples, peeled, cored, and sliced tossed with 1/4 cup of lemon juice then drained
- 2 tablespoons butter cut into small pieces
- 2 tablespoons whiskey
- 1 egg
- 2 tablespoons milk

Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 450 degrees F. Fit bottom crust into a 9inch pie plate.
2. In a small bowl, mix together sugar through nutmeg. Sprinkle apples with sugar mixture and toss until apples are thoroughly coated then pour on whiskey. Spoon apples into pan.
3. Place butter pieces evenly over the top of the apples and cover with top crust.
4. Bake in preheated oven for 10 minuetts then lower temperature to 350 and bake an additional 40 minutes. Serve warm.

JULY 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	2	4 Independence Day	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 Art on the Ave	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	August 1 Border's	2 Proctor Arts Fest

The Art of July

- ♦ July is the perfect month for family portraits. School is over, the sun is shining, and everybody has a great summer glow. You also get a free 8x10 when you book by the end of the month.
- ♦ Make sure to check out the festivals coming up in July and August such as Art on the Ave and the Proctor Arts Festival.



Don't let the sunny weather get away from you. Make an appointment for your Family portraits and get a free 8x10 print until July 31st.



Promotional Code:
SummerFamily

Family Portrait Appointment Request

Name _____
 Date _____
 Location _____
 Qty. (by 1/2 hour) _____
 Phone _____
 Notes _____

Please Mail Request Form to
 Sarah McTernan
 c/o Ardent Photography
 6620 48th Street Ct W
 University Place, WA 98467

Call 253-566-6175
 Or 253-376-6141

E-mail requests to
sarah@ardentphotography.com

- Check
 Bill Me

Name _____
 Address _____

 Phone _____

Photography Where You Want It, How You Want It

6620 48th Street Court West
 University Place, WA 98467

Office: 253-566-6175
 Cellular: 253-376-6141
 E-Mail: Sarah@ardentphotography.com

Ardent
 PHOTOGRAPHY



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WWW.ARDENTPHOTOGRAPHY.COM

Making the everyday unique.

Ardent Photography Facts

Accept no Substitutions.

While surfing the internet in search of Ardent ventures, beware of imposters and people who didn't do their homework.

When I created Ardent Photography back in 2005, there was not another company that I could find with the name. The closest was an Ardent Imaging in Alabama that doesn't seem to be around any longer. I did my homework because I didn't want the confusion.

Unfortunately, there are now five different Ardent Photography businesses around the country the biggest one in Neenah Wisconsin who has the URL ardentphoto.com (not so fond of the early morning phone calls from Wisconsin wondering about wedding photography). I just wanted to let you know that not all those Ardent Photography links out there are me.

Digital vs. Film

Film has always been top dog and digital the flea on its back, but as technology advances and the gap in quality closes, the argument boils down to the inability to change and the stubborn/exclusive nature of the art community.

The BBC did a documentary called "The Genius of Photography." It is a six part series following the progress of photography from inception to now, and I figured something out while watching this program. It isn't about the camera or what the picture is caught on, it is about the vision to see it and the ability to share that vision. It isn't about the reality but rather what reality you can present to the people.

I see the little things in life as wonderful and interesting: a dragonfly dead in a pan of oil, the wet footsteps of my children on the cement as they come in from the pool. These images are striking to me. I create art out of a need to show the world how things look in my head. Whether this is produced by 35mm film or by digital capture, I am not sure it matters, as long as the beauty is translated.

Here is a link to information about the series .

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/photography/genius/>.



*A stock picture of my
Olympus Evolt 300*