

# FOCUS

## SCHENECTADY PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY NEWS

**D**ecember  
Print Night  
Speaker :  
Vincent Bilotta,  
Multi-shot  
Acquisition  
by Bob Near

I first met Vincent 5 years ago at the Twilight Park Art show. I was drawn to Vincent's photo of Kaaterskill Falls and as I drew closer I was blown away with the detail. I was thinking 8x10 view camera image, but Vincent let me in on the fact it was actually 90 plus digital captures stitched together.

Shortly after this meeting I was in a weekend photography show with Vincent and a few other mountain-top photographers. On the last day of the show it was raining and there was no traffic in the gallery. What do photographers do when stuck in gallery with no viewers? They talk shop. We sat there reflecting on the photographs and how we should be out



shooting the great waterfalls of the Catskills just as the storm breaks. Vincent was gracious and shared the ins and outs of how he goes about capturing his incredible multi-shot images. At this point in time I had started to play with

con't pg 2

**D**ecember  
Projected  
Image Group  
speaker: Ron  
Rosenstock  
by Jeff Plant

We are honored to have as our December speaker, nationally known photographer, writer and author, Ron Rosenstock.

Mr. Rosenstock, of Holden, MA, travels extensively and has led international photo tours since 1967. He specializes in Ireland and Italy, but has led tours as far afield as Morocco, New Zealand, and Peru.

Mr. Rosenstock's photography books include Journeys, Hymn to the Earth, Chioistro, Photographs of Italy, and The Light of Ireland.

His 2009 tour itinerary includes trips to such areas of outstanding beauty as Bhutan, Vinal Haven, Maine and Ireland. This year, Mr. Rosenstock led a tour of the

dramatic landscape of Iceland, working with Strabo Tours.

He shoots both in color and black & white. Some of his spectacular images from around the world can be viewed on his website, RonRosenstock.com. Mr. Rosenstock has informed me that one topic he plans to discuss with us is his conversion from film to digital photography. His black & white are particularly dramatic, with vivid contrasts of light and dark. Some of his most dramatic images are available as posters.

Mr. Rosenstock studied with master photographers and teachers Minor White and Paul Caponigro.

con't pg 3



## Vincent Bollata, con't

time I had started to play with stitched panoramic images but was getting lost in some of the theories behind this process. However, with Vincent showing his system and work flow the light bulb clicked on. This is what started me down the road of doing multiple image stitch panoramas that I felt were worthy for public viewing. Vincent takes the multi-shot images to the level of a Fredrick Church painting; large images that beg the viewer to take a magnifying glass to them revealing the amazing detail within the image.

Vincent will present some of his great multi-shot images and discuss his approach to multi-shot acquisition image capture, including hardware and setup, software, workflow and aesthetic considerations to capture these great images. Vincent will bring his actual shooting rig so he will be able to demo and avoid all the confusing theory. Please join us on December 3, 2008 for what should be a very informative presentation into the world of multi-shot acquisition photography.

## Vincent's Bio

A disinterested student with a curious, active imagination, Vincent nevertheless graduated from an MDTA program in woodworking in 1972. From 1972 through 1986 he worked as a designer/craftsman/furniture builder including working for a DOD contractor creating prototypes for military helmets and other gear. Later Vincent worked doing restoration cabinetry at Sotheby's in Manhattan. In 1986 Vincent sold his woodworking tools, bought an Amiga computer intending to build rooms in 3D to aid client communication in the design process. Instead he opened a computer graphics store on 6th Street between 1st Avenue and Avenue A. Successful sales of computers and software to television and film production facilities in the 1990s prompted Vincent's creative involvement in visual effects and collaboration with many professional photographers and filmmakers as digital imaging emerged.

Vincent's first internet connection in 1990

combined with his innate curiosity and exuberance inspired several carriers and large technology companies to endow him with hardware, software and bandwidth to explore. After freeing himself of all of his film related equipment in 2002, Vincent purchased a DSLR in 2005.

## Recent shows & installations:

- Portia Munson residence
- Oriole9, Woodstock
- Thomas Cole National Historic Site
- Twilight Park
- Kleinert/James Gallery, Woodstock
- John Davis Gallery, Hudson 1999 & 2000
- New York State Museum, Albany

Featured artist of the roadside gallery in the Molly Smith Parking Lot, Kaaterskill Falls

## Corporate patrons and clients:

- AT&T
- Wiltel
- Sprint
- Apple Computer
- Silicon Graphics
- Sun Microsystems
- Adobe Systems
- Alias/Wavefront,
- Honda
- Mercedes Benz
- Mitsubishi
- NBC
- ABC
- Bloomberg
- Viacom
- Time Warner
- Paramount Pictures
- Miramax
- Sony Pictures
- A&E Biography The Vatican

**Ron Rosenstock, con't**

He has had numerous solo exhibitions, both in the U.S. and abroad. His work is in the permanent collections of major corporations and such museums as Harvard's Fogg Museum, New York's International Center for Photography, and the Worcester Art Museum. He has also taught photography at Clark University.

This promises to be a great show of dramatic images from some of the world's prime photo locations. We are sure that all SPS members will want to attend this program by an internationally acclaimed artist.

**In addition**, our long time supporters from Hunt's Photographic plan to have a table of photographic goods, with some special deals for SPS members. Come prepared to do some shopping and buying from a first-class supplier, just in time for the holiday season.

If you'd like to have Gary bring something in particular to the meeting, you can contact him directly by email or phone to discuss it with him at DigitalGuyGary@wbhunt.com, or 800-221-1830 x 2332

**Time for a Good Read!**  
by Jeff Plant



Book review of The Call of Trains, W.W. Norton & Co. (The Photography of Jim Shaughnessy)

The acceptance of the railroad photography of O. Winston Link as fine art demonstrates that the railroad scene is an important photographic genre.

Troy, NY, is the life-time home of railroad photographer Jim Shaughnessy, who, I believe, is every bit as great a photographer of the rail scene as Mr. Link. His lifetime of work is celebrated in this beautifully conceived and printed book of black & white photography, produced and written by the talented Schoharie County photographer Jeff Brouws.


The Call of Trains has many photos of the power and beauty of steam locomotives, as well as some evocative photos of railway personnel and the early diesel era. Many of the photographs are dramatic night images, some photographed by Mr. Shaughnessy and assistants using elaborate batteries of flash units.

Many of the photographs were taken in the Capital District, including some shots of the long-demolished Troy railway terminal area.

The photographic reproduction in this large-format book is dazzling. I believe that this book will be of great interest to both railroad fans and lovers of fine black & white art photography. I have seen it for sale at Barnes and Noble, signed by Mr. Shaughnessy.

RESTORATIONS

**MOTOPHOTO**  
The best place for pictures...guaranteed!!™




Trust your prescription to a drugstore, trust your memories to MotoPhoto

**Motophoto / Latham**  
Corner of Rt. 9 & Rt. 155  
671 New Loudon Rd.  
Latham NY 12110

*The Best Place For Pictures...  
Guaranteed!!*

- ➔ Free Index Print With every Roll
- ➔ Slide Processing
- ➔ Black & White Processing
- ➔ Enlargements
- ➔ Digital Film Processing

**Photos on CD**



# November Competition Results

## PRINTS



Assigned 1st place: "Simple Tulip"  
by Rob Near



Color: 1st place: "360 Degree Mess"  
by Rob Near



Monochrome 1st Place: "A Touch of the Past"  
by Max Tiller

## • PRINTS

### Assigned (7)

* Rob Near	Simple Tulip	1
Saul Aronson	Trumpeting the Dawn of a New Era	2
Drue Sokol	Hydrant	3
Luba Ricket	Foliage	4
Kevin Sarsfield	Resting My Eyes	5
Luba Ricket	Branch	HM
Phil Hammond	hummer's Delight	HM

### Color (10)

** Rob Near	360 Degree Mess	1
Harvey Burien	Rose Spiral	2
Jack Hurley	Cemetery Gate	3
Phil Hammond	Swallowtail #10	4
Jane Riley	At the Shoe Repair Shop	5
Ray Henrikson	Lilies #2	HM
David Jeffery	Waterfall Stowe	HM
Barb Lawton	Empty Pockets	HM
Jane Riley	It's Raining on Reid St.	HM
Saul Aronson	Empire City	HM

### Monochrome (8)

*** Max Tiller	A Touch of the Past	1
Jeff Perkins	Tenor Sax	2
Ray Henrikson	The Bell Tower	3
Sue Gersten	Natalie	4
Karl Becker	Joy	5
Linda Buckman	The Museum Grounds	HM
David Jeffery	Lily's Glow	HM

## • JUDGE: Tom Lindsay

## • PROGRAM: Luanne Ferris/Photojournalism

## • WINNER'S NOTES:

\* **"Simple Tulip"**—Bob used a Nikon D200 with a Sigma 105mm macro lens, Exposure = f/5.0 at 1/125 sec. ISO = 100, Tripod = yes, filters = no

\*\* **"360 Degree Mess"**—Camera = Nikon D200, Lens = Sigma 12 to 24mm at 18mm, HDR Exposure = f/11.0, 9 brackets one stop apart from 1/8 sec. to 30 secs., ISO = 100, Tripod = yes, with pano head, filters = no, Notes: Stitched 360 degree pano 2 rows of 12 HDR frames stitched with AutoPano Pro. Total number of images was 216. Work flow was to first do HDR tone mapping on all the bracketed frames then stitch the tone mapped final frames together. Actual final image is 48" by 20".

# November Competition Results

## print winner's notes con't

\*\*\* **"A Touch of the Past"** was photographed at the Pruyn House in Newtonville, NY. Max used a Kodak Brownie Twin-lens reflex vintage 1940s. The image was recorded digitally and printed on an Epson 2400 printer. The print material was a sheet of 12x12 Scrapbooking paper which was then mounted on a 16x20 mounting board.

\*\*\*\*\*

## • SLIDES

### Assigned (18)

* Bob Gough	Eight	1
Larry Relyea	Chives	2
Ken Deitcher	Stamps From the Past	3
Kevin Sarsfield	Eye of the Needle	4
Kim Koza	Feather	HM

### General (29)

** Ruby Gold	Gazebo in Infrared	1
Luba Ricket	Ukranian Dancer	2
Sean Sullivan	Misty Valley Morning	3
Larry Relyea	Oak Leaf 1	4
Cynthia Placek	View From the Ridge	5
Rebekah Sokol	Buryal Ground	HM
Max Tiller	Pryne House	HM

## • JUDGE: Deitrick Gehring

## • PROGRAM: Bob Riccardo/Panorama Photography

## • WINNER'S NOTES:

\*Bob's photo **"Eight"** was taken with a Nikon D70s w/ Nikon 18mm-70mm lens in ambient office fluorescent lighting. Converted to B&W and cropped in Photoshop

\*\* Ruby said her image, **"Gazebo in Infrared"**, was taken this past summer behind Newtonville Town Hall with the F20 camera on a tripod and an R72 filter on the lens.

## SLIDES



Assigned 1st place: "Eight"  
by Bob Gough



General 1st place: "Gazebo in Infrared"  
by Ruby Gold

## Digital Night: An Evening with Ken Deitcher By Jim Craner

At the December Digital Group meeting, Ken Deitcher will give us another behind the scenes look at the creation of one of his stylish images. After refreshments Ken will do an additional program on the use of the Vanishing Point filter introduced with the Photoshop CS series. The club has never had a presentation on the use of this relatively new Photoshop technique and I think you'll be quite amazed at the possibilities the Vanishing Point filter opens up.

Ken has been a photographer for over 65 years, and has been involved in digital photography for over 10 of those years. To have been involved in digital photography for that long makes Ken a real pioneer. His commitment to digital photography has been absolute right from the beginning. Ken puts it like this:

*"When I got my first digital camera about 10 years ago the flood of the things I could create, were amazing. Once I got the hang of Photoshop, there were no limits to what I could do. I sold my wet darkroom and took off into the stratosphere."*

Ken's journey through the stratosphere continues and is accelerating. His dreamy, ethereal photomontages have won acclaim in competitions all over the world. His gracious contributions as both mentor and cheerleader to other digital photographers have made all of us better - thank you Ken.



In a world awash with imagery, the ability to create images that arrest the attention of the

viewer is a real gift. Ken Deitcher has that gift in abundance. Join The SPS's Digital Group on December 17, 2008 for an entire evening with Ken Deitcher. You will be amazed, entertained and informed.

+++++

## A dvertisers Needed

The **FOCUS** is seeking advertisers. If you know of any business, or individual who would like to help support Schenectady Photographic Society by advertising, please feel free to sell them an ad.

The cost is amazingly reasonable. The business does not have to be photography related.

### Advertising fees are as follows:

1 column by 3"=	\$50/year
2 column by 3"=	\$100/year
3 column by 3"=	\$200/year

Please have the advertiser provide a copy of the ad. It can be emailed as an attachment to Linda Buckman, [lindasinhawaii@yahoo.com](mailto:lindasinhawaii@yahoo.com). Payment should be made to SPS and given to Linda Heim.

+++++

## G ot Blog? by Linda Buckman

About two years ago, when I accompanied my daughter to Hawaii for her to begin graduate school, I became intrigued with the concept of blogging. She already had one, and after talking with her a little about it, I had her show me how to begin one. Last winter when I stayed in Hawaii for three months, I was fairly faithful about posting to the blog, and I became more and more enamored of the concept. It's a great way to enable others to keep up with your comings-and-goings, it gives you the chance to post some images, and it definitely helps to improve your writing skills.

There are many blog sites, but the one I use is [blogspot.com](http://blogspot.com). If you don't have a blog yet, think about it. Some friends and I are currently in a "challenge" to take a photo each day and post it for the next year. It's been a great growing experience photographically. My address is [www.imagesisee.blogspot.com](http://www.imagesisee.blogspot.com)



## Zooming In On Items of Interest

### **A**ltamont Fair Placements

Linda Wroble did exceptionally well at the Altamont Fair this past summer. She placed First and Second in the B&W film competition with her photos of Vale Cemetery and Central Park respectively. Linda also took Third place in the color film competition with her photos of Monarch butterflies.

+++++

### **R**abbi to Help Educate Party Providers, DJs" (excerpted from "The Jewish World")

Rabbinic certification for local DJs, photographers, videographers and party providers is available from Rabbi Robert Kasman of Niskayuna.

To obtain certification, providers must demonstrate proficiency in Orthodox, Conservative and Reform ceremony traditions as well as blended family ceremonies.

Kasman can also assist those planning ceremonies with music selection in contemporary, klezmer and folk styles.

"Sometimes a party planner or provider will be afraid to use something he has learned about the Jewish community because he is afraid of making a mistake. A DJ may avoid saying the word 'simcha' because he isn't sure how to pronounce it or a photographer might miss the ketubah signing because he doesn't realize the marrying starts before the chuppah," the rabbi said in explaining the need for such a certification.

Kasman, a Conservative rabbi and creator of the Mini World section of **The Jewish World**, is a member of the Rabbinical Assembly and a full member of the Jewish Educator's Assembly.

Contact Kasman at

rabbikasman@aol.com

### **P**lease Note:

The article in last month's FOCUS entitled, "Digital Image Resizing", was written by Bob Gough. Apologies to him for that omission.

+++++

### **D**oubleExposure Challenge: Photographing Fall

**1st Place: "Two Trees" © Ken Deitcher of Albany, NY**, who has won Eye Candy 5 from Alien Skin. He states, "The winning image was photographed several years ago. While exploring the filters and effects in Photoshop, I serendipitously came upon a combination of filters that gave me an image that expressed my feelings of fall and autumn colors in an abstract way. The vertical lines and soft edges accentuate the feeling of changes of the seasons.

Ken was also a Bronze medal winner in the Salon International Quilmes - France.

+++++

#### **Blog con't**

Here are three blog addresses you might enjoy

[www.naturocity.com](http://www.naturocity.com)

[www.photographyontherun.com](http://www.photographyontherun.com)

[www.hintheman.blogspot.com](http://www.hintheman.blogspot.com)

## Fragomeni Insurance

### 584-4200

### Home ~ Auto ~ Life ~ Business



## 2008-2009 Board of Directors

### President

Ray Henrickson rhenriks@nycap.rr.com

### V. President

Connie Houde lilyconnie@verizon.net  
Linda Wroble 372-0091

### Treasurer

Linda Heim lindahflowers@yahoo.com

### Recording Secretary

Dale Winsor dale8hope@yahoo.com

### Corresponding Secretary

Bob Riccardo briccardo@verizon.net

### Directors at Large

Kevin Sarsfield ksarsfie@nycap.rr.com  
Bob Gough rcgough@earthlink.net

### Newsletter Editor

Linda Buckman lindasinhawaii@yahoo.com

Assistant: D. VanDeusen cre8ive@localnet.net

### Print Group Chair

Robert Near rjnear@rjnphoto.com  
Assistants: Tom Mack 377-5935  
Bob Warner 377-3831

### Projected Imaging Group Chair

Connie Houde lilyconnie@verizon.net  
Jim Craner renarc@aol.com  
Assistant: Tom Mack 377-5935

### Slide Group Chair

Jeff Plant 452-1933

### Photo Essay Co-Chairs

Connie Houde lilyconnie@verizon.net  
Jim Craner renarc@aol.com

### Mentoring Co-chairs

Jeff Perkins perkster46@yahoo.com

### Digital Group Chair

Jim Craner renarc@aol.com  
Assistant: L. Buckman lindasinhawaii@yahoo.com

### Fine Arts Chair

N. Sukumar sukumar@sukumarfineartphoto.com

### Field Trip Coordinator

Jeff Perkins perkster46@yahoo.com

### Grab Bag Coordinator

H. Johannessen chj@capital.net

### Membership Co-chairs

Luba Ricket lubashot@aol.com  
Cynthia Placek 785-1247

### Annual Report Editor

Ruby Gold rubygold@verizon.net

### Web Master

N. Sukumar sukumar@sukumarfineartphoto.com

### Refreshment Coordinators

Judy Breslau jbreslau@courts.state.ny.us  
John Ogden jogden@capital.net

### Church Coordinator

Don Krauter 399-1869

Schenectady Photographic Society

Bob Riccardo

108 Maple Ave.

Selkirk, NY 12158

Web Page address:

[www.schnectadyphotographicsociety.com](http://www.schnectadyphotographicsociety.com)

© Schenectady Photographic Society and its Contributors. The contents of the newsletter are copyrighted. No material herein may be reproduced in any manner without the written permission of the Editor or the material's specific contributor.

## December Calendar

Wed, Dec. 3	Print Night: Vincent Bilotta: Multi-shot Acquisition
Wed, Dec. 10	Projected Image Night: Ron Rosenstock
Wed, *Dec. 17	Digital Night: An Evening w/Ken Deitcher
Wed, Dec. 24	No Meeting
Wed, Dec 31	No Meeting



**See you all on January 7, 2009**

The **FOCUS** is published nine times a year by the Schenectady Photographic Society. The organization meets each Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. from October through May to promote and present informative programs, activities and competitions in the photographic arts for photographers throughout the Capital District. Members range from novice to

expert. Annual dues are \$40. for individuals/families. The FOCUS newsletter is included in the membership dues. SPS meets at the 1st United Methodist Church, 603 State St., Schenectady, NY. Parking and entrances are on Chapel Street, a one way street off Nott Terrace. Guests are welcome at all regular meetings.