

Bold red texts
are
interactive links!

FOCUS



IMPORTANT NOTICE OF MEETING CHANGE!

Due to a scheduling conflict, we are unable to have our meeting/print competition on November 7th. Therefore, we have retained our meeting room for this WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24. Program is changed to “Ireland Travelogue” by Phil Olivo (see page 3), plus Print Competition with Assigned Topic: “Faceless Self Portrait.”

What goes on behind the scenes at SPS? Do inquiring minds want to know? Get some insight into the challenges the Board faces during the season, and off season, to be sure our meetings are successful and enjoyable for all. See page 2.

And don't forget to sign up for the Photographing Models Portrait Workshop. Details on pages 4-5.

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MESSAGE FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

Linda Tommasulo

WHAT GOES ON “BEHIND THE SCENES” AT SPS?

Something different this month...a Message from the **Vice President!**

So I thought I'd let you in on some of the goings-on that occur “Behind the Scenes” at SPS...

Your Board of Directors and Coordinators work tirelessly throughout the calendar year to assure that things run as smoothly as possible for the Society season. Sometimes things get a bit “hairy”—and even scary—but with determination and perseverance everything seems to fall into place.

I am sure you all remember last season when not one, but two Print Competitions were snowed out. It was touch-and-go for a while trying to figure out how to schedule the make-up competitions and coordinate everything with FUMC (First United Methodist Church) to secure a meeting room. We were fortunate to be able to secure an extra date in April for our regular competition and the two print make-ups. It was a long night...but a successful one.

This season we already had a monkey wrench thrown at us...we were advised the meeting room was not available for our scheduled meeting on November 7th. Fortunately we were able to secure the room for October 24...but we still had to coordinate the short-program presentation and judge. Thankfully, Phil Olivo agreed to change dates with Rob Near, who will do his presentation on PPA in April. Thanks to a recommendation from M-J Adelman, Ferdie was able to secure a judge to substitute for our original one who could not make the revised date. It's not always easy!

We will hopefully avoid any snow-cancellation problems this season, since we have an “extra” meeting date booked for March 27, 2019. Perhaps we won't need it...but with all the rain we had this summer I am fearful of the amount of snow we might be getting this winter.



There are many other things that are routinely happening “behind the scenes” at SPS...securing speakers and judges (recommendations always welcomed); researching new equipment and making sure what we have is in working order (projector, audio system); booking venues for the traveling exhibit, and coordinating collection & hanging of photos and organizing receptions; organizing field trips; keeping members apprised of happenings through our Facebook pages, email and Mail Chimp accounts. Yes, there's more! Maintaining our Facebook page, member lists, bank account, PayPal account; organizing and scheduling board meetings; recording meeting minutes; making sure there's refreshments available at meetings; organizing our annual banquet and awards; and, of course, this newsletter. (I'm sure I left something out!)

It's a labor of love for all of the Board Members and Coordinators. So it's not just what you see at the meetings...it's what's “behind the scenes”—and all of **you**, our members—that makes SPS the best photo society in the Capital Region...and beyond!

Linda

EXPLORING RURAL IRELAND - October 24

by Phil Olivo

You're not in Dublin anymore! Join me on October 24, 2018, for a photographic tour of Ireland's less populated areas.

We will visit towns such as Ballymoney, Magherafelt, Killybegs, Malin Bay, Rathmullan and Glencolumbkille. During our trip we'll also stop in some larger towns such as Derry, Donegal, Silago and Galway. Cultural, economic and social observations will enhance our discussion.

Féach tú ansin (See You Then)!



Check out Phil's photography on his website:

<https://www.philolivo.com/>

**SPECIAL
EVENT!**

**~ PHOTOGRAPHING MODELS ~
A HANDS-ON PHOTO WORKSHOP
with Doug Mitchell
Saturday, November 3, 2018**

This workshop will offer an introduction and hands-on opportunity to work with studio lighting and models. Beginning with studio strobes and camera settings we'll also touch on triggering and control of lighting, general posing concepts and the basics of working with models.

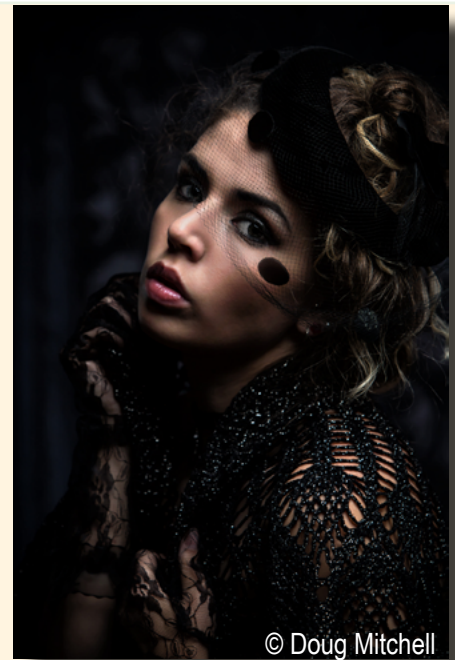
The hands-on portion of the workshop will offer the chance for attendees to work with two experienced models shooting with high and low-key studio setups. Working in groups, attendees will alternate working with each model at each set. For the second half of the session the models will change looks and once again attendees will alternate between the sets shooting new looks.

Following the shooting sessions there will be a Q&A period providing an opportunity for questions, helpful tips and feedback.

As a final wrap-up we will touch on the use of speed lights for off camera flash photography showing how they can be used similar to studio lighting for indoor and outdoor photography. This will offer a foundation and perhaps encouragement to use off camera flash as a creative tool to improve lighting and dimension while working with available light.

Doug Mitchell has been a photographer for over 25 years and has shot a variety of work including print publication, fashion, model, wedding and concert photography. He regularly shoots both studio and outdoor photography.

www.dougmitchellphotos.com
<https://www.facebook.com/dougmitchellphotos>
<https://www.facebook.com/doug.mitchell.9250>



Date: Saturday, November 3
Time: 12:00 to 4:30 pm (doors at 11:30)
SEATS FOR THIS WORKSHOP
ARE LIMITED TO 12!
Place: Regular meeting room,
First United Methodist Church
Schenectady
Donation: \$75/SPS Member
\$95/Non-members

Due to limited space, initial registration was open to SPS members only. **REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN TO NON-SPS MEMBERS.**

**There are still spaces available.
Register TODAY to secure your spot.**

This workshop is open to photographers of all levels though **attendees will need to know how to navigate manual camera settings and menus.** We will be working in manual mode and the ability to set ISO, exposure and aperture will be necessary. Adjustment of white balance and the capability of shooting in RAW is recommended, though not a necessity. A Hot Shoe attachment on your camera is required. (PC Sync connection may suffice.)

PAYPAL REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN.
Visit our website: www.spsphoto.org (Events) or **CLICK HERE TO REGISTER**

Continued...

PHOTOGRAPHING MODELS WORKSHOP

Continued from page 4

Breezy (left) and Perpetua (right) will be our models!



There will be two groups of six (6) photographers, each photographing one model. Photographers will be given a specific amount of time to shoot. Once the group has finished, they will switch and photograph the second model.

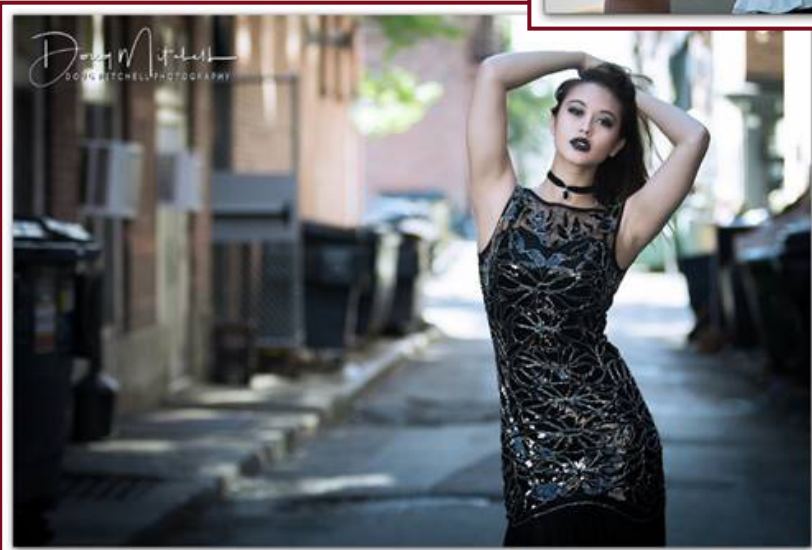
After the first session, models will change clothes and make-up and photographing will be repeated.



Models and photographers must sign a model release. Participants must provide one high-res image of each look (no logo/signature) for each model, as well as smaller signed jpegs as desired.



Light refreshments will be served.
This is your chance to see a professional portrait photographer at work– and capture some exciting images of your own.



Doug will critique members' photos on January 16.

FULL FRAME MIRRORLESS ROUNDTABLE

November 14

Some of us who “downsized” to micro 4/3 mirrorless camera lament the fact that they are no longer shooting full-frame. While Sony was the only one in the full-frame mirrorless marketplace, that is changing. Now there are options from Panasonic, Nikon and Canon.



Sony A7 III (24.2 megapixels)

Why go mirrorless?

There are some major advantages:

- 1 - Lighter weight.
- 2 - Smaller in size.
- 3 - No shutter...no vibration.
- 4 - Generally better suited at video capture.

In a mirrorless camera, light passes through the lens and right onto the image sensor, which captures a preview of the image to display on the rear screen. Some models also offer a second screen inside an electronic viewfinder (EVF) that you can put your eye to.

Will you sacrifice image quality?

Generally, no. Mirrorless camera manufacturers are producing more sensitive chips that better suppress noise.

Details are still being worked out for this presentation. If you are using a full-frame mirrorless camera, let us have your feedback.

Email: focuseditor@icloud.com

The new “kids” in town...



Panasonic Lumix S1 and S1R (24 and 47 megapixels)



Nikon Z7 (45.7 megapixels)



Canon EOS R (30.3 megapixels)

PHOTO ESSAY INSPIRATION - November 28

hosted by Dow Smith

The goal of this evening's presentation is to get members inspired and enthusiastic about entering our annual Photo Essay Contest, which will take place this season on March 20, 2019. That's plenty of time to get on your thinking caps on and create a digital, book or print photo essay on a subject near and dear to your heart. Everyone is a winner here...you create something meaningful for you to preserve your memories for many years to come. And, who knows, you may even win a ribbon!

Photo Essay Competition Rules:

Print essays are a collection of prints displayed in some fashion. Most typically they will be mounted on a board, but any method of presenting a collection of prints that can be physically managed by the entrant is allowable.

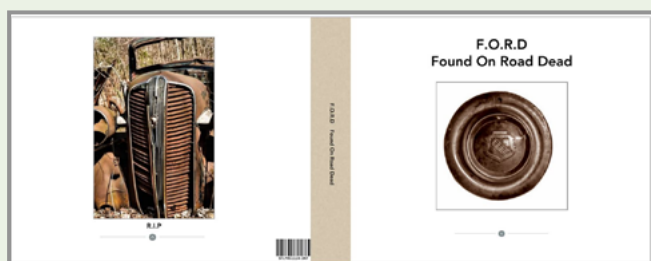
Projected essays are a collection of images that will be projected in some fashion, typically, but not necessarily, accompanied by a soundtrack. The presentation medium may be a digital slide show with or without music or sound, a video, or just a series of digital images. All projected essays must be in a format that is compatible with the projection equipment available on the night of the competition. Important Note: Digital essays must be submitted to Dow Smith by March 13 to assure compatibility with the Club's software.

Book essays are a collection of images assembled into a bound book such as are available from vendors like Shutterfly, Snapfish, Blurb and others.

The rules for entry are as follows:

- One entry per person per category [print, projected, book].
- Maximum length of a projected essay is 8 minutes. Suggested and preferred length is 3 to 5 minutes.
- Participants are encouraged to use only their own images. Other images may be used only if they are vital to the narrative quality of the essay. Any images not made by the participant must be credited. No more than 10% of the total images may be non-participant images.
- It is the participant's responsibility to know the rules. A submission outside of these guidelines will not be accepted.

**For more info, contact our
Photo Essay Chair,
Dow Smith:
photoessay@spsphoto.org.**



Phil Olivo's book entry



Connie Frisbee Houde will speak about her technique for this entry on December 5.



This winning photo essay by Luba Ricket had windows and doors that opened to more photos!

FOCUS ON

Barb Lawton

Like a lot of other folks, I started out in photography in my youth by taking snapshots of family and friends. Yes, with my mother's Brownie box camera. Then, in my 20's, I decided I needed a "real" camera and bought a Honeywell manual SLR. I looked very cool, but my pictures didn't. I had no idea what to do with things called aperture, shutter speed, and ASA settings. Most of the time when, and if, I got a decent picture it was by dumb luck. I didn't give up. In 1985 I bought a Minolta Maxxum 7000, the first fully integrated automatic camera. Life and my pictures got much better. I was truly enjoying taking pictures. I started reading everything I could find about photography. More knowledge, more fun.

I was enjoying it so much, in my early 50's I decided this was going to be my retirement hobby. But I wanted to do it right. I enrolled in a Photography 101 night class at Sage JCA. We started from scratch using simple manual cameras and black and white film. And, of course, we developed our film and photos in the school darkroom...I was hooked! I set up a darkroom in my basement and spent many weekends "in the dark."

One of the best pieces of advice I got from my instructor was to join a local photo club to continue my education and knowledge. I saw a small notice in the *Gazette* about weekly meetings of the Schenectady Photographic Society and that anyone was welcome. I wasn't sure I belonged in the company of such a prestigious group called a "society" but I gave it a try. I felt welcomed right from the start. It took a while before I got the nerve to enter a print into competition. My first entry didn't do well. In fact, the judge declared that it shouldn't even have been entered in competition...something about "no center of interest." Ouch! Well, I still liked that picture anyway. That told me something. I kept entering. Now, some pictures place well and some don't do anything at all. I'm happy with that. I always learn a little more each time from the judges' comments, even though I may not al-



© Barb Lawton

ways agree with them. I am inspired by, and in awe of, all the wonderful, diverse photos that club members enter. I learned early on that this is a group of talented people who are willing and eager to share their knowledge. And, as a bonus, over the years I formed life-long friendships. What could be better!

Fifteen years ago my house burned down. Among the losses were my camera equipment and darkroom. Disaster turned to opportunity when I decided this was the perfect time to enter the digital world. I bought a Nikon D200. I discovered Photoshop. Both were a challenge, but once again I was hooked. Here I was hanging out with a group of creative women. We had always pushed and encouraged each other. Even in the days of film, we embraced every new technique to come down the pike. There were Polaroid transfers, emulsion lifts and manipulations, hand-colored prints, Orton effect slides, Holga cameras, infrared film, and more. Photoshop and its creative options had my name written all over it. I had to try them all. And then came along the plug-ins such as Topaz and NIK. I found myself really attracted to painterly photo renditions. I challenged myself to learn Corel Painter. I operated in the "what if" mind set. There was always one more effect to try. OK, sometimes I over did it and created a mess. I still do.

I now have a hard time producing a "straight" photo. A lot of judges don't go for "enhanced" photos, but that's OK. I always think of a workshop instructor who reminds her students not to make photos just to please the judges but to produce photos that please ourselves. Good advice.

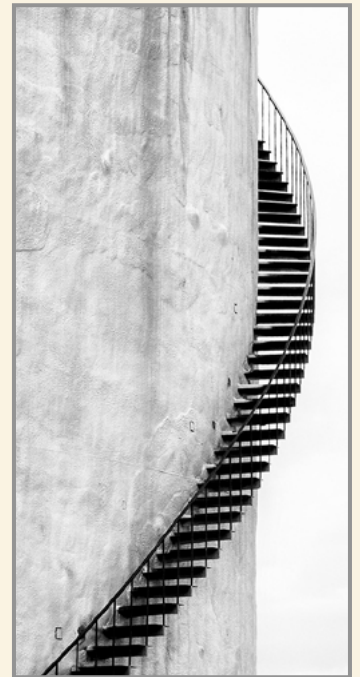
FOCUS ON: Barb Lawton

Continued from page 8

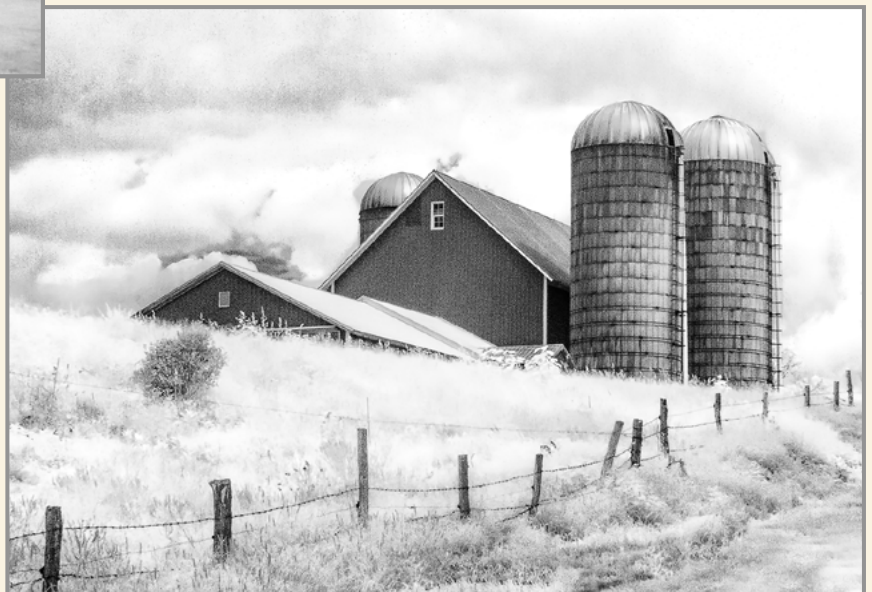
My camera of choice at the moment is a Panasonic Lumix FZ300 bridge camera. It has a built in 24-600mm zoom and a constant F2.8 aperture. It's small and light weight and covers all my needs. Once in a while I get a wild idea that I need a new mirrorless camera or an iPhone, but I get over it when I look at the prices. Maybe some day I'll give in! I'll admit I gave in to another whim this summer. I had my old Lumix FZ200 converted to shoot black and white infrared photos. The IR look blows me away...I'm hooked again! Now I have more IR pictures than I know what to do with, but I'm having fun experimenting.



I'm delighted to say I have been a member of SPS for 26 years. Along with the learning and camaraderie, being a member gives me a reason to always have my camera with me, to keep an eye out for unexpected photo ops, to think outside the visual box and, of course, an excuse to bake cookies!



All photos © Barb Lawton



TRAVELING EXHIBIT

2018-2019 Season Schedule

Here are the confirmed dates (so far) for our Traveling Exhibit for the coming season. All members (Yes...you MUST be a member) are encouraged to participate. Members who have not previously participated will be given preference. Images must be framed and ready for hanging (i.e., wired). In general, there are no size restrictions (but, we ask you to be reasonable when it comes to larger prints). There are also no restrictions

as to subject matter (see exception for August/September 2019 below), frame and mat colors, canvas prints, metal prints, etc. Details on photo collection and specific exhibit dates/times will be forthcoming.

If you'd like more info, contact the Traveling Exhibit Coordinators at:
travelingexhibit@sps.org.

CALENDAR 2018

November 2–29 **Sand Lake Town Library**

8428 Miller Hill Road, Averill Park, NY 12018

Mon–Thurs/11–8; Fri/1–6; Sat/1–4; Sun/1–4.
(518) 674-5050



RECEPTION Hosted by the Library:
Saturday, November 10, 1-3 pm.

December **Uncommon Grounds**

1235 Western Ave., Albany, NY 12203
Sun–Thurs/6–10; Fri & Sat/6–11.
(518) 581-0656

CALENDAR 2019

January **Colonie Town Library**

629 Albany Shaker Rd., Loudonville, NY 12211
Mon–Thurs/9–8; Fri/9–6; Sat/9–5; Sun/1–5
(518) 458-9274

February **Bethlehem Public Library**

451 Delaware Ave., Delmar, NY 12054
Mon–Fri/9–9; Sat/10–5; Sun/12–5
(518) 439-9314

March/April
Niskayuna Branch
Schenectady County Public Library
2400 Nott St. E, Niskayuna, NY 12309
Mon–Wed/10–8; Thurs–Sat/10–5
(518) 386-2249

May
Saratoga Springs Public Library
49 Henry St., Saratoga Springs, NY 2866
Mon–Thurs/9–9; Fri/9–6; Sat/9–5; Sun/12–5
(518) 584-7866

June & July - Open

August/September
Irish American Heritage Museum
370 Broadway, Albany, NY 12207
NOTE: Photos here will be restricted to depictions of Irish-American Heritage.
Wed–Fri/11–4; Sat&Sun/12–4
(518) 427-1916

October/November
Guilderland Public Library
2228 Western Ave., Guilderland, NY 12084
Mon–Thurs/9:30–9;
Fri/9:30–7;
Sat/9:30–5;
Sun/1–5
(518) 456-2400

December Open



BEFORE YOU TOSS...TEST!

Excerpted with permission from Mollie Isaacs' October 2018 newsletter - Awake the Light

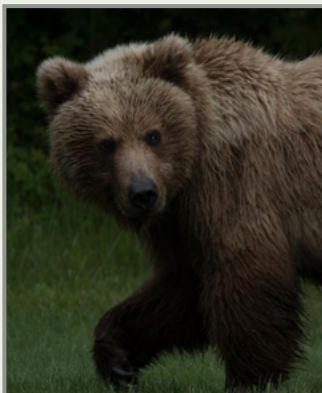
Sometimes you make a mistake. Everyone does from time to time. You are shooting in a hurry and forget to check your histogram, or you have accidentally changed a setting on your camera and do not realize it until you import much later and see your mistake, or a zillion other reasons.

The bear image below is an example of a mistake I made when photographing brown bears in Alaska. This bear came around a corner silently and suddenly, very close, but not at all threatening. I brought my camera to my eye and clicked off a few shots before she was gone as quickly as she came. THEN I looked at the histogram. Yikes, it was way underexposed.

Many people will immediately delete a mistake from the memory card, but that is the WRONG thing to do for two reasons:

1. You should never, ever (did I say NEVER?) delete any images from the memory card when it is in your camera. Memory cards are designed to be a one-way street, and are not happy when you try to throw them into reverse and force them to remove an image in the camera. Just leave the loser images on the card until after you have imported them into your computer. Once you have imported the images, and have made a backup copy of the images as well, you can then put the card back into the camera and reformat the card.

2. You never know (did I say NEVER?) whether what appears to be a loser image is salvageable until you try to save it in Lightroom (or other image optimization software you use).



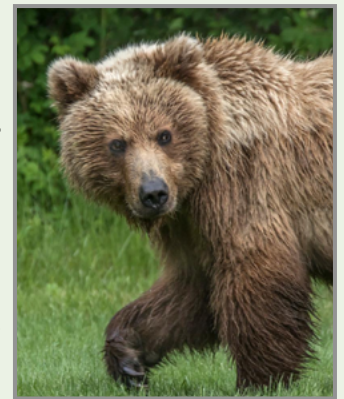
BEFORE

This is the original RAW image.

Somehow (I still don't know how) I managed to underexpose it by about a stop-and-a-half. I did not want to trash the image because it was a special moment AND the bear's expression was compelling.

While I recommend NEVER using the "Exposure" slider in Lightroom, if you have a significantly underexposed or overexposed image there are times when the Exposure slider will save you. FYI, in the last 9 years of using Lightroom I have used the Exposure slider less than 10 times. Why? Because it changes everything globally, and it is much better to tackle image issues one small step at a time. If you have questions about that, please email me.

Thankfully, Lightroom helped to save this image. Here is the same image after doing a little work in Lightroom.



AFTER

After increasing Exposure by about a stop-and-a-half, the only other changes needed were to move the Shadows slider to +100, move the Whites slider to +20, move the Clarity slider to +30, and move the Noise Reduction slider to +30. The finishing touch was to use the Brush tool to lighten the eyes a little.

So don't despair until you have tried to save what at first glance might look like a poor image. Often Lightroom might just surprise you and make your day!

If you would like to subscribe to Mollie's free newsletter, just send an email to: awakethelight@charter.net and put YES in the subject line.

The newsletter is educational and informative, and comes out periodically throughout the year. Your information will never be shared or sold, and you can easily unsubscribe at any time.

Check out Mollie's images, workshops and more on her website: <http://awakethelight.com/>

SARATOGA FANTASTIQUE

Special Reception and Walk-Through with the Photographer, Lawrence White

October 15, 2018

We were privileged to get a special walk-through with Lawrence White, *just for SPS*, on October 15th. "Saratoga Fantastique" was just that... 'fantastique!' His new printing technique, on vinyl with removable adhesive backing has allowed him to print beautiful, large images with great detail. A good time was had by all. Thank you, Lawrence, for an inspirational evening. Your enthusiasm is contagious!



Lawrence White's "Saratoga Fantastique" will be on exhibit at:
The Grove, 233 Lake Avenue
in Saratoga Springs
through the weekend of November 3.
Show hours are 9 am–4:30 pm,
Monday through Friday, or by appointment.
Call the Grove office for entrance:
518-729-8705.



OCTOBER PRINT WINNERS

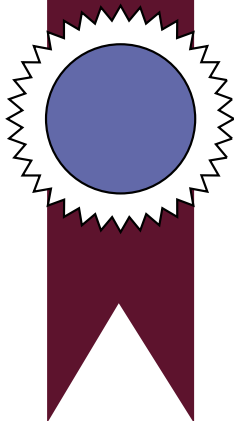
GENERAL



1st Place / "A Slice of Life" / © Robert Coppola

PRINT JUDGE: David Waite

David is an amateur nature and fine arts photographer who was trained in black and white photography in the early 1970's. David worked professionally and then set aside his artistic pursuits until about 2003. He enjoys the creative aspects of photography and sharing his knowledge with others of similar interests.



2nd Place / "K"
© Doug Mitchell



3rd Place / "Basket of Apples" / © Doug Mitchell

OCTOBER PRINT WINNERS

Honorable Mention

GENERAL



“Morning Stroll”
© Linda Tommasulo



“Dorset Quarry Challenge”
© Barb Lawton



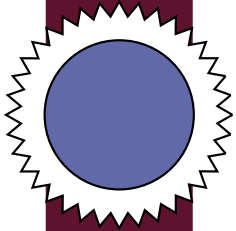
“Harvey Streams”
© Tom Whittemore



“Keeping an Eye on the Competition”
© Phil Olivo

OCTOBER PRINT WINNERS

MONOCHROME



1st Place
"The Hancock"
© Robert Coppola

Honorable
Mention



"No. 14"
© Ellen Christensen



"Toke"
© Rich Schreiberstein



2nd Place
"A Light in the Forest"
© Barb Lawton

OCTOBER PRINT WINNERS

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1st Place / "Bending Left" / © Sean Sullivan

Assigned Topic: "Leading Lines"
(One of the basic elements of photography)



2nd Place / "Hand in Hand"
© Barb Lawton

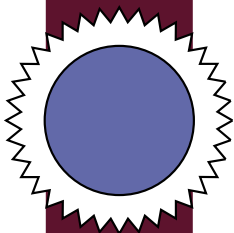


3rd Place / "The Brick Walk"
© Ray Henrikson

OCTOBER PRINT WINNERS

Honorable Mention

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“Peebles Island Bridge”
© Phil Olivo



“Step Lively”
© Rich Schreiberstein

To view all winning images,
current and previous, check
out our website:

www.spsphoto.org.

Links to current winners are
on the Home Page.

To view prior winners, click:
Competitions (then Print,
Projected Image, etc.)



“After the Rain, Rome”
© Lance Monotome

OCTOBER PROJECTED WINNERS



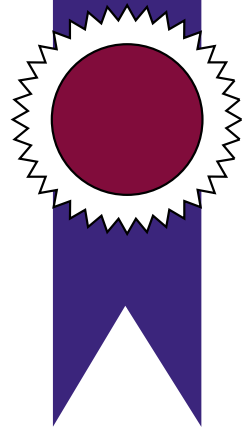
1st Place
"Egrets Necking"
© Tom Miller



PRINT JUDGE: Joan Heffler

Long-time SPS member, Joan is a Saratoga Springs/Schenectady/Albany wedding, corporate, portrait and event photographer with the eye of an artist and the technical expertise of a true professional. She captures unforgettable images of bar and bat mitzvahs, corporate events, portraits, and weddings.

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3rd Place
"Toddler Country"
© Rich Schreiberstein



4th Place
"Alfresco Drinking"
© Rich Schreiberstein

OCTOBER PROJECTED WINNERS



5th Place
"No Longer in Use"
© Barb Lawton

Honorable Mention



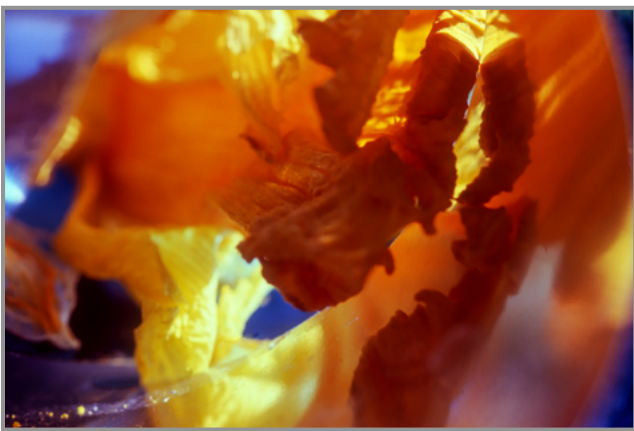
"Engine Company No. 9"
© Tom Whittemore



"Pears"
© Kim Koza



"Passion"
© Phil Olivo

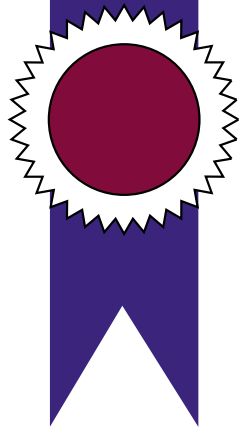


"Rising Flower"
© Jeff Plant



"Burden"
© Connie Frisbee Houde

GENERAL

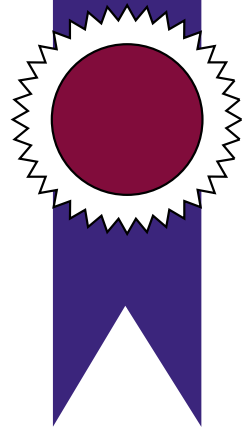


OCTOBER PROJECTED WINNERS



1st Place
"Molten Glass"
© Barb Lawton

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Assigned Topic: "Hobby"
(Someone enjoying a hobby other than photography)



2nd Place
"Morning Fisherman and his Dog"
© Kim Koza



3rd Place
"Anne and her Bees"
© Stacy Bradt

OCTOBER PROJECTED WINNERS

Honorable Mention



"Alex's First Project"
© M-J Adelman



"Young Blacksmith"
© M-J Adelman



"Reenactors"
© Phil Olivo

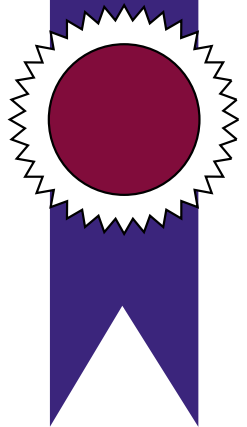
To view all winning images, current and previous, check out our website:

www.spsphoto.org.

Links to current winners are on the Home Page.

To view prior winners, click: Competitions
(then Print, Projected Image, etc.)

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Hunt's Photo and Video offers a wide array of classes, workshops, and photo adventures, located in our classrooms, or several picturesque locations inside and outside of the United States.

Socialize with us for the latest events and specials.

 @ huntsphotovideo

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For Camera Club Specials...
Ask for Alan Samiljan, at (781) 462-2383.
His hours are usually 8:30-5:00pm,
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday.

Leave a message or send an email
(asamiljan@huntsphoto.com),
and he'll get right back to you.



New Camera's Alert!
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HUNT'S PHOTO AND VIDEO ABOUT US...

Three generations of Farber family ownership have established Hunt's as a trendsetter in the imaging equipment industry. Begun as a pharmacy in 1889 and acquired by pharmacist Solomon Farber in 1952, Hunt's began building its camera business during the 1950s under the visionary leadership of Solomon's son, Jack. As interest in photography grew, Hunt's began shifting its emphasis from the pharmacy business to the business of cameras and accessories. By 1993, imaging equipment became Hunt's primary focus.

Led today by Jack's sons, Scott and Gary, Hunt's proudly serves a diverse audience of individual,

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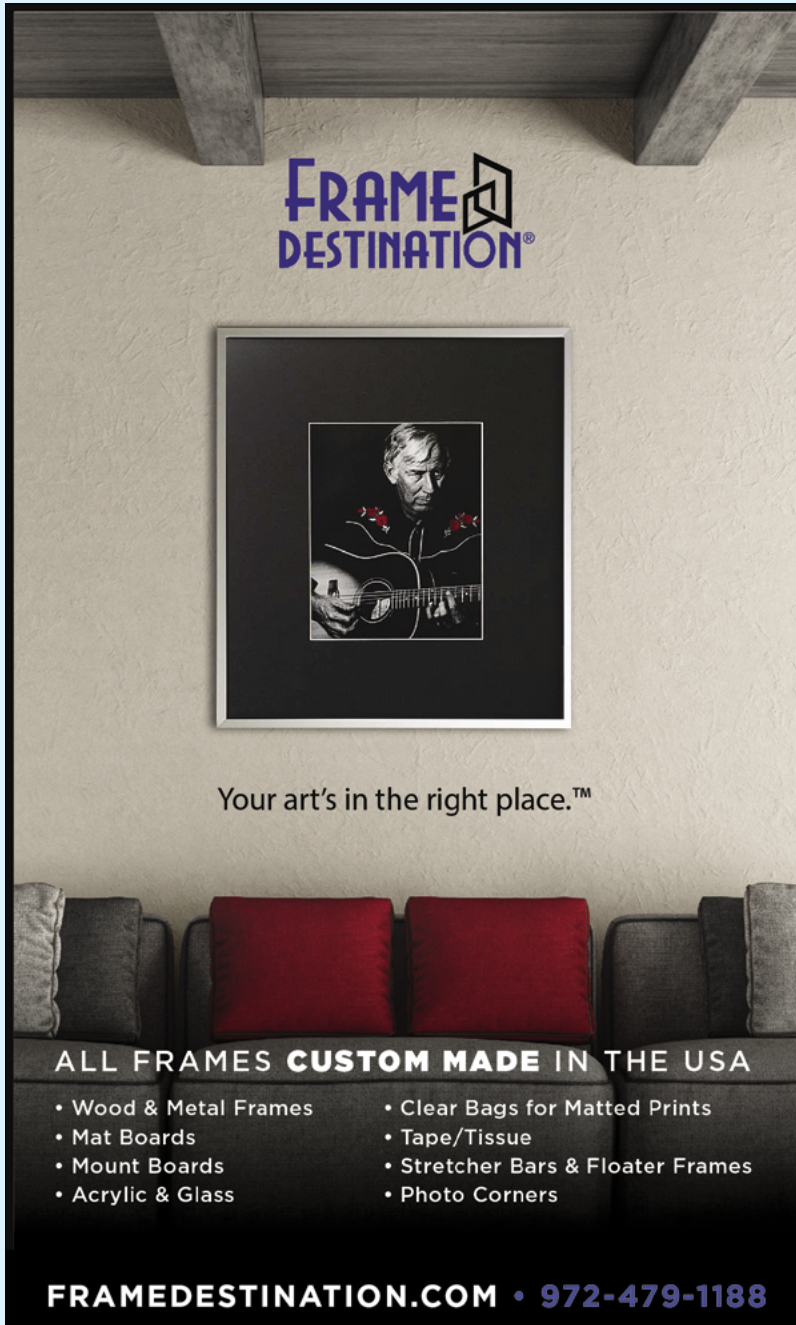
corporate, educational, law enforcement and government clients as one of the country's largest retailers of photo, video and digital imaging products. Visit Hunt's 30,000 square foot flagship store at 100 Main Street, Melrose, or one of its satellite locations in Boston, MA - Cambridge, MA - Hanover, MA - Holyoke, MA - Providence, RI - So. Portland, ME - or Manchester, NH to discover how Hunt's Photo and Video can help you create your own picture-perfect experience.

Unlike "big box" stores or online sellers, Hunt's makes personal service part of every purchase. Our friendly, knowledgeable staff will assist you in selecting the perfect gear for your individual lifestyle and interests. Hunt's maintains a well-stocked inventory of photo, video and digital imaging equipment from every major manufacturer so you'll have plenty of options from which to choose and Hunt's offers an unbeatable combination of competitive pricing, sales know-how, and unparalleled customer service.

In addition to the sale of imaging gear, Hunt's offers an extensive array of educational classes covering a broad range of subjects on photography and videography. Group classes as well as individual instruction are available at most Hunt's retail locations.

And Hunt's is a long-time supporter of SPS. Call Hunt's for all of your photography-related needs!

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For tips on ordering frames, visit "How to Order a Custom Picture Frame" in our video gallery: frame-destination.com/video-gallery.

IT'S GETTING COLD OUT THERE!

Some of us do like snow...but it certainly wreaks havoc on our meetings!

This is just a reminder that, in the event of inclement weather PLEASE check your e-mail and the SPS website before heading out.

In the event of bad weather it is up to the Program Chair to determine if a meeting will be held. Although we hate to cancel or postpone our meetings, your safety is our main concern.

DUES ARE DUE

The Schenectady Photographic Society would not exist without our paying members. And you must be a member to compete and participate in our numerous traveling exhibits.

Dues:

Individual/\$55 - Family/\$65 - Student/\$20

Easiest way to pay is on the SPS website under "Join Us." Click [here](#) to access the registration page. Any questions or problems, contact:

treasurer@spsphoto.org.

ABOUT THE SCHENECTADY PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

by Linda Tommasulo



For more than 85 years, the Schenectady Photographic Society has been the meeting place of photographers of all levels—from beginners to serious amateurs to professionals—with the goal of exploring and sharing their love of photography. Members throughout the Capital Region meet primarily on Wednesday nights to engage in various competitions (print, projected, photo essay and more), enjoy member round-table discussions, guest speaker presentations and hands-on mentoring to further their knowledge, creativity and inspiration. Occasional field trips give us the opportunity to expand our photographic vision; and frequent exhibits in the local area allow us to share that vision.

In addition to our monthly print and projected competitions, we are challenged with an assigned topic—encouraging participants to venture out of their comfort zones. Members participating in competitions receive specific commentary and suggestions to take their images to the next level. Don't wish to compete? That's OK too. Observing competitions is always an inspirational and learning experience.

The Schenectady Photographic Society is an enthusiastic and energetic group. Our camaraderie is infectious. Check out our calendar on the last page (season runs from late September to mid-May) and join us! Visitors are always welcomed...especially those who have a passion for photography.

*It's not about being better
than everyone else...
it's about being better than you were.*

SPS BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2017-2018

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Connect with the Schenectady Photographic Society:

Website: **www.spsphoto.org**

Facebook Group: **https://www.facebook.com/groups/schenectadyphotographicsociety/**

Facebook Page: **https://www.facebook.com/schenectadyphotographicsociety/**

Instagram: @schenectadyphotographic

THE FOCUS NEEDS YOU! For articles, suggestions, and member profiles (bios/photos).

Contact Linda at **newsletter@spsphoto.org**.

SCHENECTADY PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY 2018-2019 SEASON CALENDAR

Meetings start at 7pm and are held at the First United Methodist Church, 603 State Street, Schenectady, NY.

(Parking and entrances are on Chapel Street, a one-way street off Nott Terrace.)

This schedule is a work in progress and is subject to change!

September, 2018

9/26/18.....Opening Night

Print critique & member vote for best image. Hosted by Bob Coppola

October, 2018

10/3/18..... Print Competition

Assigned Topic: Leading Lines (one of the basic elements of photography). Speaker: Miranda Eldridge, Dance Photography.

10/10/17..... Projected Competition

Assigned Topic: Hobby (someone enjoying a hobby - other than photography). Speaker: Fred Moody, "Transylvania"

10/17/18..... Mentoring/Speaker Night

Speaker: Jim Craner, "Shooting Close to Home"

10/24/18..... Print Competition

RESCHEDULED FROM NOVEMBER 7

Assigned Topic: Faceless Self Portrait (Your favorite selfie without showing your face.) Speaker: Phil Olivo, "Exploring Rural Ireland"

November, 2018

11/3/18 (Sat.) .Photographing Models Workshop with Doug Mitchell

11/7/18.....NO MEETING

11/14/18..... Projected Competition

Assigned Topic: Digital Madness (It's taken over our lives—show us how.) Roundtable: "Full Frame Mirrorless Madness"

11/28/18..... Mentoring/Speaker Night

"Photo Essay Inspiration Night" hosted by Dow Smith

December, 2018

12/5/18..... Print Competition

Assigned Topic: Post Card Photos (Everyone maligns post card images...show your best tonight.) Speaker: Connie Frisbee Houde, "Old/New Image Overlays"

12/12/18..... Projected Competition

Assigned Topic: Money (show us money in an imaginative way.) Speaker: John Ogden, "IR Camera Conversion"

12/18/17 and 1/2/19.....NO MEETING

January, 2019

1/9/19..... Print Competition

Assigned Topic: Clichés (Show us your favorite.) Speaker: David Edgecomb, "What Your Camera Can Tell You About You."

1/16/19..... Projected Competition

Assigned Topic: Orange...is the New Black (Images where orange is the dominate color.) Speaker: Doug Mitchell, Portrait Workshop Review/Critique.

1/23/18..... Mentoring/Speaker Night

Creativity Night hosted by Joan Heffler. Inspiration to enter the Luba Ricket Creativity Competition

February, 2019

2/6/19..... Print Competition

Assigned Topic: Flowers Past Their Prime (The beauty of flowers that no one would buy.) Speaker: Tracey Buyce, "Equestrian Photography."

2/13/19..... Projected Competition

Assigned Topic: Photojournalism. Speaker: Claudia Jakubowski, "Instagram."

2/20/19..... Mentoring/Speaker Night

Lawrence White, Program TBA

March, 2019

3/2/19 (Saturday).....Compositing Workshop with Jim Christensen

3/6/19..... Print Competition

Assigned Topic: Textures (rough or smooth - but no overlays). Print Judging in the Main Room.

3/13/19..... Projected Competition

Assigned Topic: "L is for?" (subject must start with L). Speaker: Lance Monotone, "Monochrome Processing"

3/20/19..... Photo Essay Competition

April, 2019

4/3/19..... Print Competition

Assigned Topic: Patterns (another basic element of composition). Speaker: M-J Adelman, "South Dakota"

4/10/19..... Projected Competition

Assigned Topic: Bicycle Parts (not the whole bike). Speaker: Robert Near, "PPA"

4/17/19..... NO MEETING

4/24/19.....Luba Ricket Creativity Competition

Speaker: Linda Tommasulo, "Creating Artistic Back-grounds with Topaz"

May, 2019

5/1/19..... Print of the Year

Members' "Lightning Fast Editing" Demonstration I

5/8/19..... Projected Image of the Year

Members' "Lightning Fast Editing" Demonstration II

June, 5, 2019..... Awards Banquet