

FOCUS

SCHENECTADY PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY NEWS

Volume 74

September - October 2004

Number 1

Landy to speak at the 2004 kick-off meeting

Bob Gough



The society is pleased to welcome as this year's kick-off speaker, noted 60's photographer Elliott Landy, presenting "Elliott Landy, Photographing from the Heart". The kick-off meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 22 at 7:30 pm.

As a young man in New York City, Mr. Landy was walking one day and saw something beautiful. "My instinct was to turn to someone and point it out to them but I was alone and didn't see anyone

nearby whom I felt comfortable talking to. I realized that if I could take a picture of what I saw I would be able to share the pleasure I got from it with someone else. So I bought a camera."

He began his career as a photojournalist, documenting the anti-war and civil rights movements. His stirring photographs, published in underground newspapers, helped bring attention to the protests occurring all over the country. This led naturally into photographing rock and roll events, "because in those days rock was considered part

Please see Landy page 6



Bob Dylan. Photo by Elliott Landy

December print meeting to be a critique night

Ray Henrikson

On December 1, 2004 we will depart from the announced schedule for this regularly scheduled Print Night. The new program, which was approved by the Board on August 11th, will center on a detailed critique of all submitted prints.

The pre-meeting viewing period will be extended to 7:45. The meeting will begin with the usual brief business meeting and will be followed by a detailed criticism by the judge of every print submitted that evening. Prints will not be ranked. We will break at some point for refreshments.

The assigned topic (Low Key Portraits) will be postponed to the January 5th meeting when we will have two assigned topics.

Since Critique Night will not be a competition, prints entered for critique may be reentered in as many as two subsequent competitions. Prints may be modified based on criticism received at the December 5th meeting.

A maximum of two prints may be entered on Critique Night. Submit your best and wear your thickest skin!



That which is desired is always unattainable. Photo by Mark Lunt

Print Group to hear Mark Lunt

Ray Henrikson

On October 6th, the Print Group will hear Mark Lunt speak on "In Search of Nothing." An exhibit of Mark's recent work was seen this past summer in the Knisely-Ayers Gallery of the Arts Center of the Capital Region in Troy. The exhibit was called "at this place, in this space" and portrays several Troy area landmarks that help define the personality of the region.

Mark is a transplant to the USA. He was born in Liverpool and studied photography, film, and philosophy in the UK before entering Bates College in Maine in 1987. After a brief return to Great Britain, he came back to the USA and has lived in Seattle, Connecticut, and Boston, and is now in the Albany area.

He has moved into the digital world and is currently teaching photography classes at the Arts Center and at HVCC. Some of his work was seen in the 26th Annual Photo Regional. A

current project is a photo-archeology documentary on an area in downtown Troy.

Mark Lunt has recorded in a particularly striking manner the tough, gritty nature of an American city and we have the opportunity to hear firsthand from the author of this interesting study.

Call for Regional Photographers:

of winter scenes of the Capital Region for book publication for December, 2004. Works may include buildings, parks, public attractions, rivers and landmarks. If there are human subjects in the photograph, there must be a signed release form included with submission allowing for the publication of the image.

Up to 5, J-peg entries accepted, grayscale, 300 dpi from 4 x 4 inches up to 4 x 6 inches by **October 15** to info@fultonstreetgallery.org Each entry must be sent separately accompanied with the title, media, artist name, mailing address, phone number, e-mail and bio. Fulton Street Gallery retains one-time rights to the images which are selected for book publication to produce limited editions of 100 prints. These images will be matted and framed and sold to fund future publications. Artists will receive 50% of the profits from these sales. This book is the first in a series of books focusing on regional artists and their environment. Deadline for the spring scenes of the Capital Region is January 15, 2005.

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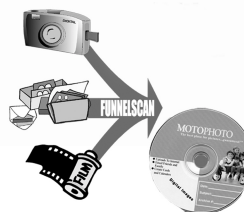
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Photos On CD



Gazette photographer to show tips on the life of a newspaper photographer

Amy Howansky and Jeff Myers

On October 13th, we will have the good fortune to have the Chief Photographer of Schenectady's *Daily Gazette* meet with us and discuss a photographer's life at a newspaper. Dave Kraus has a journalism degree from the University of Kansas where he specialized in photojournalism and, after obtaining his degree, Dave worked at the Tulsa Tribune for eight years as a staff photographer. Before moving to Schenectady to work at the *Gazette*, Dave worked at the Vacaville Reporter in Vacaville, California. Dave has been with the *Gazette* for 12 years.

Dave first became interested in photography in high school. As a junior, Dave was on the yearbook staff. He found that the other photographers were unreliable, so he decided to start taking his own photos. It didn't take long for him to discover that he actually preferred taking the photographs than doing the writing. Dave can pinpoint the moment that he really started to fall in love with photography. Dave recalls taking a picture of a highway interchange at night in downtown Kansas City, Missouri. He remembers thinking how interesting it was that the colors on the film turned the

streetlights greenish when in reality, they were a cleaner brighter tone. He also found it fascinating that if he left the shutter open long enough, the moving cars would disappear!

At the *Gazette*, Dave manages a number of people and coordinates many tasks each day. Dave oversees and organizes assignments for six full-time photographers. Each morning he attends the budget meeting, and in the afternoon, he attends the news meeting and advises editors on photograph usage. Dave also advises the managing editor on front-page photographs. His biggest challenge at the *Gazette* is ensuring quality control on assignments where he makes sure the best picture goes with the proper story.

Dave and his photography staff have just recently gone completely digital and now use digital SLRs exclusively. The *Gazette* just added a sixth full-time photographer, who was an intern at the paper prior to being hired. In addition, relying on Dave's advice, the paper hired a visual design consultant who has been very helpful. Dave likes knowing that he contributes to making his photographers jobs easier and knowing that the photos they bring to the paper were influenced by his ideas.

Dave has been a judge at the Schenectady Photographic Society in the past and more than one member has commented on Dave's useful feedback regarding what makes a photograph become a "winner." In his life outside of the *Gazette*, Dave is an avid cyclist who

volunteers his time as a ride organizer for the Multiple Sclerosis charity bicycle ride each summer. For his talk, Dave will discuss the daily steps taken by *Gazette* staff to pull together photographs for a busy local newspaper. He will also share tips on how to get your own photos published in a newspaper. Please join us and come with questions about life at a newspaper!

October's digital program to reveal Photoshop's Secret Darkroom- Blend Techniques.

Have you ever wondered or really understood those Blend Layers in Photoshop? You might have asked "How and when do I use Multiply, Screen, Hard Light, Soft Light and so on?" We will discuss the tremendous power of using these techniques to improve your photographs' contrast, and areas of under or over exposure. You will learn how to use your computer as a Master, yes I said Master, darkroom expert. Join us October 20, at 7:30 PM. Bring your Laptop and follow along or bring pen and paper to jot down these great techniques.

Jeff Perkins
Assistant Digital Group Chair



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Schenectady Photographic Society Print Competition Rules 2004 - 2005

The purpose of the competition is to provide a venue for showing prints. The competitive element exists to add interest, and these rules are intended to provide order in the competition and simplify the process of handling prints. Judging is inherently subjective and does not yield a definitive evaluation of the merits of individual images.

1. Monthly Competition October – April

Only dues-paid members may enter

Three categories

Monochrome – Images consisting of one color.

Uniformly toned images are acceptable in the monochrome category.

Color- including partially toned and hand-colored images.

Assigned topic – negatives must have been made after announcement of topics on May 1, 2004.

Each maker may enter **three prints each month**. However, **one** of the three must be entered in the monochrome category. And no more than two prints may be entered in any one category.

Presentation

*Prints must be 5"x7" or larger. An exception will be made where the process is not conducive to enlargement (eg, Polaroid, contact prints, etc.)

*Prints must be mounted on matboard or foamcore.

*Overmats are optional.

*Mounts must 8"x10" or larger, but may not exceed 16"x20".

*Colored mounts or mats, and multiple overmats are not allowed. Mounts and mats must be white or black.

*Prints in frames are not allowed.

*Prints requiring special handling are not allowed. The Print Chair may disqualify prints that, in his sole judgment, may present risk of physical harm to other prints.

*Signed prints are not allowed.

*Prints must be submitted to the registrars on the night of competition. Prints will not be accepted after 7:30pm.

*Each submitted print must have a 3x5 card (available on the night of competition) with required information filled in and placed on back of mount.

*The negative or slide from which the print was made must be the work of the maker. Printing and mounting may be done commercially.

*Prints that "place" may not be re-entered in a subsequent monthly competition. Prints may not be entered more than two times.

2. Judging and Scoring

*An impartial judge will evaluate each print for impact, composition, technical execution, and presentation. The

judging of the assigned topic category will include the additional factor of how well the image responds to the assignment.

*Prints will be displayed on racks under normal room lighting for judging. The arrangement of prints on the display racks will be at the discretion of the print stewards. The judge will not be given titles at the time of judging.

*Judges will be asked to comment on prints that "place", and if time allows, on other prints that deserve discussion. This discussion is intended to help members and visitors discern the strengths and weaknesses that the judges see in the prints.

*For the purpose of the Printmaker of the Year awards, prints that place in competition will be awarded points as follows:

First Place	7 points
Second Place	5 points
Third Place	4 points
Fourth Place	3 points
Fifth Place	2 points
Honorable Mention	1 point

If the number of entries is limited, the Print Chair may, at his/her sole discretion, eliminate one or more of the "places" for that month.

3. Year End Competitions

Print of the Year

*Separate Monochrome and Color Print competitions will be held at the May meeting.

*Only prints that have been entered into a monthly competition during the 2004-2005 season of Schenectady Photographic Society may be entered into the Print of the Year Competition(s).

*Entries must bear the **original** entry card on the back of the mount.

*Presentation and entry rules are the same as for the monthly competitions.

*Each maker may submit up to **two entries in each** of the Print of the Year categories.

Printmaker of the Year

*Recognition for Printmaker of the Year, Second Place Printmaker of the Year, and Third Place Printmaker of the Year will be awarded in the three categories of Monochrome, Color and Assigned Topic.

*Award selection will be based on total points accumulated during the October – April monthly competitions of the respective categories. In case of a tie, the person with the most first place scores will be judged the winner. If first place scores are tied, then second place scores will be used, etc. until a clear winner emerges.

During judging, no one will be permitted in the judging area except the group chairperson and/or his or her designated assistant(s)

Schenectady Photographic Society Slide Competition Rules 2004-2005

1. Monthly Competition October -April

- * Current member of SPS (dues paid)
- * Submitting slides for competition
 - Competition limited to 35mm format (color and B&W)
 - Put a dark colored dot at bottom left corner of slide as normally viewed
 - Put your name and title of slide on same side as dot
 - Do not use gummed labels that require moistening as they may come off and jam the projector. Pressure sensitive labels may be used
- * Complete a 3x5 card (available on night of competition) with the required information. Submit both slide and card when registering for competition
- * Number of slides allowed each month - **three**
Maker has the choice of entering two slides in assigned and one in general or one in assigned and two in general
- * Alternative processes
 - Alternative processes or manipulations (including digital) are allowed in creating an image. Every element of such an image must be an original creation by the maker
- * Assigned Topic
 - Must have been taken after May 1, 2004.
 - Must meet the assigned topic
- * Entry Time
 - Slide group night of each month between 7:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. No slides will be accepted after 7:30 p.m.

2. Judging

- * Impact
 - Interesting subject, subjects which fill the frame, strong colors, texture, patterns, action, emotion, creativity
- * Composition
 - Strong center of interest, leading lines, framing, vertical/horizontal format, perspective, graphic elements, rule of thirds
- * Technical Quality
 - Focus, exposure, lighting, tonal range
 - Image surface free of scratches, dust and finger prints

3. Scoring

First place	7 points
Second place	5 points
Third place	4 points
Fourth place	3 points
Fifth place	2 points
Honorable mention	1 point

If the number of entries is limited, the Slide chair may, at his/her sole discretion, eliminate one or more of the "places" for that month.

4. Year End Competition and Awards

- * Slide of the Year
 - The slides must have been entered in competition between October 2004 and April 2005 (regardless of score received)
 - Three slides may be entered for Slide of the Year competition
- * Assigned Slidemaker of the Year
 - Award points will be based on total points accumulated during the October - April monthly competitions.
- * Slidemaker of the Year
 - Award points will be based on total points accumulated during the October - April monthly competitions.
- * Ties
 - In the event of a tie in any of the categories, the person with the most first place scores will be judged the winner. If first place scores are tied, then second place scores will be used, etc. until a clear winner emerges.

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Kick-off speaker

continued from page 1

of the underground or alternative culture and an instrument which would help stop the war and craziness going on in the country.”

He produced some of the finest and most sensitive portraits and performance photos of rock artists who would later become legendary including Jim Morrison, Richie Havens, Eric Clapton, Van Morrison, Jimi Hendrix and Janis Joplin. It was during this period that he produced two bodies of work that would stand out from the others, his photographs of The Band and those of Bob Dylan. Mr Landy's photographs appear on the cover of The Band's eponymous second album and the inner gatefold of their first album *Music From The Big Pink*. His portraits of Bob Dylan appeared on the cover of his album *Nashville Skyline* and on the cover of the *Saturday Evening Post*.

Mr. Landy's success as rock and roll photographer earned him an invitation to become the official photographer of the Woodstock Music and Art Fair, the festival more commonly known simply as "Woodstock." His backstage access led to many excellent photographs of the artists, but he says, "my most important contribution to the Woodstock body of photography was not my images of the musicians but my panoramics of the audience. The images of the musicians were

also meaningful and good, but my panoramics are unique." These photographs capture the character of the festival and the people who attended giving the viewer a sense of what it was like to be one of the 500,000.

When asked if he had a favorite subject his immediate response was his wife. He has always most enjoyed photographing the people who are closest to him. Regarding the musicians from that era he identified two: Bob Dylan, just because he was fun to be around, he was actually a difficult subject, being very camera shy, and in performance he enjoyed photographing Janis Joplin.

In the years that followed, Elliott moved on to other inspirations and art forms, photographing his own children and travels, creating impressionist flower photographs and doing motion and kaleidoscopic photography in both still and film formats. His photographs have been published worldwide for many years in all print mediums including covers of *Rolling Stone*, *Life*, and the *Saturday Evening Post*, and album covers, calendars and photographic book collections.

An exhibition of Elliott Landy's work entitled *The Photographs of Elliott Landy, Spirit of the Woodstock Generation* is on display at the New York State Museum in Albany. The exhibition runs through September 6. His work can also be seen on his web site at [http://](http://www.landyvision.com)

www.landyvision.com. Please join us on September 22 for what promises to be a fascinating presentation by this talented photographer.

Photo Essay Group Looks Forward

Jim Craner

The Photo Essay Group will enter its 29th year in 2005 and all evidence suggests that story telling with pictures is flourishing at the Schenectady Photographic Society. The 2004 competition saw almost a dozen entries in the combined categories of print and slide essays. Last year also saw the first use of computer software to create and present photo essays. Photography has always been driven by advances in technology, and it is certain that the 2005 will feature more essays prepared and presented using computer technology.

At present, the Photo Essay Group is scheduled to meet on October 27, January 26, March 23, and the annual competition will be held on April 27. With only three working sessions scheduled prior to competition, it is very important that those planning a print essay start early with ideas and image selection. The preparation of even a modest photo essay, especially one set to music, requires a substantial commitment of time, and starting early is the key to success. In 2005, both multimedia and print essays are encouraged. Participants in competition can enter more than one essay in either the multimedia or print categories.

Those planning on using computer technology to prepare and present an essay can get assistance in the selection and use of software from Jim Craner. Jim can also arrange the use of a digital projection unit for competition. Connie Frisbee Houde and Howie Johannessen can both provide assistance with both the scheduling and use of the Club's dissolve, audio, and projection units.

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News You Can Use

Slides needed for Spectrum Theatre slide show

The Spectrum Theatre on Delaware Ave in Albany runs slide shows before the featured movies. SPS has been asked to provide slides for one or more of their shows.

Ruby Gold will be collecting slides at the October print and slide nights from all interested SPS members who would like to see their slides on the silver screen.

The slides must be in the horizontal format to fit the dimensions of the movie screen. And since the slides will be shown many times, it is advisable to enter dupes instead of the originals; the hot bulb of the projector could fade the colors on the slides.

Each SPS member may enter up to three slides. Each slide should have the little red dot in the bottom left corner as you view the slide and have the name of the maker printed (not a stick on label) on the slide mount.

For Sale

Canon Elan film camera with a Sigma 70-210 zoom lens. Contact Ken Deitcher at 489-7678 or kendeitch@aol.com

Eleven years and 100 issues

This is the beginning of my twelfth year as editor of the Focus and marks the 100th issue that I have had the privilege of creating. My thanks to everyone who has contributed articles and information. *Ruby Gold*

Members have exhibits

MaxTiller has an exhibit entitled *A Body Of Infrared* at the Massery Residence. The exhibit will run thru September. The Massery is located in front of the Daughter's Of Sarah Nursing Home on Washington Ave. Extension in Albany. The opening reception was on Sunday August 22, 2004.

Sue Gersten will have exhibits during the month of September of *Flowers* at the Niskayun Town Hall and the Colonie Town Hall. In addition, Sue has won second prize of \$200.00 in the Your Best Shot section of *Popular Photography* November 2004 issue.

Winners in Altamont Fair Photography Show

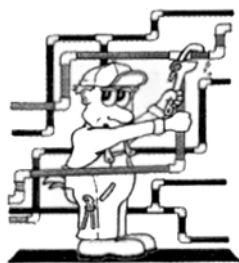
Jack August took a third place ribbon and Jane Riley an honorable mention in the Altamont Fair Photography show. Other members who entered were Sue Gersten and Dale Winsor.

Upstate Photo Competition announces dates

The first annual "2004 Upstate Photo Competition" will take place at the "working" Gallery/Studio, 440 State St., Schenectady, from Sept. 7- Oct. 16. The Opening Reception will take place on Sat. Sept. 11 from 2-5 p.m. The sponsor of this exhibit is the Adirondack Camera Club of Glens Falls. The special gallery hours for the exhibit are as follows:

Monday: Closed
Tuesday: 12-6
Wednesday: 12-7
Thursday: 12-6
Friday: 12-6
Saturday: 10-4
Sunday: 12-4

This juried exhibition will include works of SPS members Ray Henrikson and Jane Riley.



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www.schenectadyphotographicsociety.com

September - October Calendar

Wednesday, Sept 22	Kick-Off: Photographing from the Heart / Elliott Landy
Wednesday, October 6	Print group: In Search of Nothing / Mark Lunt Assigned: Hold on
Wednesday, October 13*	Slide group: The Life of a Newspaper Photographer / Dave Kraus Assigned: Everyday Abstract
Wednesday, October 20	Digital: Photoshop's Secret Darkroom Assigned: Rings or Something Round
Wednesday, October 27	Photo Essay: A working Session

Meetings are at 7:30 p.m.

*Board meetings are at 6:30 p.m.



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 \$30.00 for individuals and families. The *Focus* newsletter is included in the membership dues. SPS meets at the First United Methodist Church, 603 State Street, Schenectady, New York. Parking and entrances are on Chapel Street, a one way street off Nott Terrace. Guests are welcome at all regular meetings.