

FOCUS

SCHENECTADY PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY NEWS

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Merging the Professional with the Personal
by **Akemi Hiatt**, Program Associate at the
Center for Photography at Woodstock

As both an arts administrator and a photographer attempting to navigate the professional field, I enjoy engaging with photography on multiple levels and hope to share some of my insights with the Schenectady Photographic Society. My talk will consist of a presentation of my own recent work, which encompasses several ongoing projects. I will also introduce you to the many art opportunities available through the organization that I work at, the Center for Photography at Woodstock.

Since joining CPW in October of 2009, I had the honor and the privilege of assisting in the implementation of the organization's year-round programming, which includes exhibitions, publications, workshops, residencies, lectures, and more. Having moved to the area immediately after graduating from New York University with a BA, my own photography was also deeply influenced by my new surroundings, as well as by the wealth of professional and aesthetic knowledge that was suddenly available to me in the form of my coworkers and fellow artists. Since then, I have been continuing a series that began right after graduation. This series deals with the feeling of transience that accompanies personal journeys for meaning shot across the United States during a cross-country road-trip. I will also show a few portraits from a newer, large-format black & white project about twinship and duality.

These projects would not have been possible were it not for the programs and the community that CPW fosters. The second half of my talk on

[Continued on page 5]

February Calendar		
Date	Competition	Program
Wed. Feb. 2	Print: Apples and Oranges – Images of things that simply don't seem to match	Jim Craner "Reader's Digest Assignment"
Wed. Feb. 9	Projected: Digital Surrealism – Photo manipulation run amok.	Alyson Stryker & Andrew Rechsteiner "Encaustics: Medium of the Past, Present and Future"
Wed. Feb. 16	Board meeting @ 6:30pm	Akemi Hiatt "Merging the Professional with the Personal"
Wed. Feb. 23		Jeff Perkins "Digital Noise, Understanding and Defeating It"



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Magazine Shoot for Reader's Digest Association by Jim Craner

In July 2010 I received an offer from *Country*, a Reader's Digest Association publication, to do location photography for an article featuring the Harbour house Inn - a Berkshire area B&B. I sought out the assignment after hearing from the Inn's owner - a longtime friend and former colleague - that her place was to be featured in the fall 2010 issue.

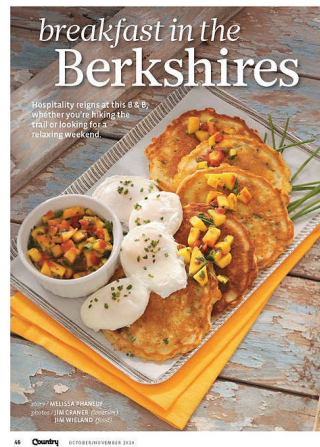
I've had images published in magazines before, but it was generally a case of supplying images that already met an existing need; for example an article on wolf reintroduction or the return of eagles to the waterways of the northeast. This assignment was different. The images did not already exist, and *Country's* art director has a certain signature style he likes to follow when doing articles about inns and hotels.

When doing an assignment like this you are not shooting to achieve your vision of how the layout should look, but rather to be sure the art director can achieve his/her vision for the article. Naturally, you have to deliver all the required shots, and art directors like to have multiple options for each situation. Beyond that, bringing back something different is always appreciated. Above all, delivering high quality work, on time, leaves a good impression, which may lead to additional opportunities.

In this short program, I'll share more details about this assignment including:

- the required shot list,
- contract terms, including image rights,
- a representative sampling of the shots submitted,
- a few of the technical challenges, and
- the final layout of the article.

Hope to see you there **on February 2nd**.



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Alyson Stryker & Andrew Rechsteiner will
present Encaustics on Feb 9th



Alyson Stryker has had a passion for all aspects of art since she was young. She began taking photography classes during high school at Burnt Hills Ballston Lake High School. She continued taking photography and drawing classes at Fulton Montgomery Community College. Stryker furthered her education at the Sage Colleges of Albany and will be graduating in the spring of 2011 with a BFA in Photography and Art History. She has shown work in local galleries including the Photo Center in Troy, NY and the Photo Regionals at the Fulton Street Gallery in Troy, NY.

Andrew Rechsteiner was born in raised in a small town, in the Mohawk Valley called Clinton, NY. He went on to furthering his career at Mohawk Valley Community College with a degree in Photography which he hopes to finish up at Sage College of Albany in the Fall of 2011. His work has been shown at Mohawk Valley Community College, The Sage Colleges, and is part of several private collections. He plans on living and working in the Capital Region for a few more years, then moving westward to California.

Alyson and Andrew will discuss the history and origins of encaustics, and the original use for the process. They will show their own photo encaustics slides and also other photographers' works, and describe how it can be easily done at home or in the studio. Encaustics can be such a beautiful process and there are so many possibilities how anyone can use it on their own photographs. Alyson and Andrew learned how to use this process at R & F in Kinston, NY. Information on workshops and classes offered will also be provided.



Schenectady Photographic Society's meetings are held at the First United Methodist Church at 603 State St. in Schenectady, NY. Parking and entrance are at the rear of the building off Chapel St., a short one-way street off Nott Terrace. Additional information and directions on our website

<http://www.schenectadyphotographicsociety.com/>

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Akemi Hiatt *[Continued from page 1]*

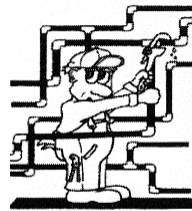
Wed. Feb. 16th will delve into the many ways one can take advantage of these opportunities, as both regional photographers and artists interested in a larger conversation around photography. I would be happy to take questions about CPW in general or about art opportunities in New York state as a whole, whereby grants, fellowships, residencies, call-for-entries, workshops, etc. may be explored!

Akemi Hiatt graduated with a BA in Photography and Media Studies from the Gallatin School of Individualized Study at New York University in May of 2009. Her photographic practice is currently divided between a documentary/ "New Topographics" aesthetic and large-format black and white photowork, with interest in themes of anthropology, satire, and Americana. Her undergraduate studies involved a four-month residency in the West African nation of Ghana, where she co-produced a documentary about the ongoing struggles of former child soldiers of the Liberian Civil War. She has previously worked as a photographer for The Honolulu Advertiser, and interned as a gallery associate at Higher Pictures in New York City. Since October of 2009, Akemi has been the Program Associate at the **Center for Photography at Woodstock**, where she assists with CPW's year-round program offerings, including exhibitions, artists workspace residencies, workshops, lectures, publication, fellowships, and artist opportunities, and more. In March of 2010, she organized the exhibition PQ:100, a retrospective of work from all 100 covers of PQ, CPW's quarterly journal on contemporary photography (where she also serves as co-editor), and recently curated To Be Authentic: Photographs from the Center for Photography at Woodstock's Permanent Print Collection. She has served as a portfolio reviewer for CPW's New York City portfolio reviews and ICP's Career Day, and maintains a photography, music, and poetry blog, Panopticon, at www.akemihatt.tumblr.com/.



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This year the Schenectady Photographic Society's **Annual banquet** will be held at **Riverstone Manor**, just off exit 26 on the Thruway (*Address:* River Stone Manor, 1437 Amsterdam Rd, Scotia, NY 12302). Riverstone Manor is located on the banks of the Mohawk River in Glenville, offering unspoiled views of the river and its surrounding landscape. As a courtesy to SPS, Skip, the owner of Riverstone, will be allowing us access to the estate's original home, built in the 1800s and beautifully restored. For those who are interested in taking photographs, we would be allowed unlimited access to the home prior to the banquet. Details to follow. Cost will remain the same as last year, \$30 per person. Hope everyone can join us at this unique and photographic setting!

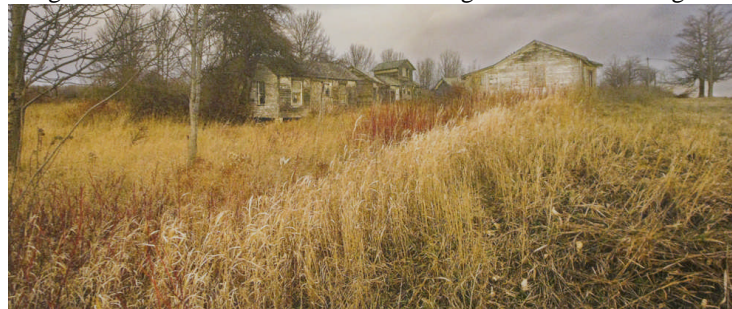
January Print Competition Winners



Max Tiller photographed these **Patterns** (*2nd place Assigned, above*) in the skylight on the 3rd floor of Macy's in Colonie Center at noon in available light with a Minolta G600 point & shoot camera and 38mm lens @ ISO: 100. **Kim Koza** was **Chasing Laundry II** (*2nd place Color, below*) at mid day in Venice, Italy, with a Canon EOS 10D and 17-40 mm. lens on auto exposure. Topaz filter used.



Marianne Rahn-Erickson knows there's **No Such Thing As Too Many Books** (*1st place Assigned, above*). Photographed with permission at Albany Airport Gallery in available light with a Nikon D90 and Nikon 35 mm.f/1.8 lens on a tripod. Aperture: f/10 @ 4 sec. ISO: 650. It is an image of Building Bridges, a mixed media sculpture made by Aaron Stephen, and part of an exhibit called The Imaged Word. Printed on Hahnemuhle Bright White Photo Rag.



Jeff Altman captured this **Cabin Panorama** (*1st place Color, above*), while **Sue Gersten** shot **You're Adorable** (*3rd place Monochrome, below*).



January Print Competition Winners *[Continued from page 6]*

Max Tiller captured the spirit of **Summer Time** (*1st Place Monochrome, above*) with a Sony A 300 camera and Konica Minolta 18-70 mm kit lens @ ISO: 200 on River Street, Troy, one summer Sat. afternoon in available light. Turned into black & white, then sepia toned and printed on 11"x14" glossy paper with an Epson R2400 printer.

Diane Reiner greatly enjoyed the experience of watching people go about their daily activities, in an atrium inside New York City hotel one overcast morning in natural ambient light, not realizing they were being captured



on camera in **Hotel Movement** (*2nd Place Monochrome*). Canon EOS Rebel XT and Canon 28-135 mm lens @ f/8, 1/80 sec. ISO: 200. Converted to B&W. 16"x24" exhibition print mounted on stand-out board.



Luba Ricket photographed this **Fir, Flag & Fella** (*3rd Place Assigned, above*) at Chimney Rock, NC (edge of Blue ridge Mt where "Last of the Mohican" was filmed) in fall afternoon natural light, with a Nikon D80 and Tamron 18 - 250 lens @ F/11, 1/500 sec. ISO: 200. Exposure tweaked to her liking. **Doug Mitchell** shot **Jax** (*3rd Place Color, below*) with a Canon 5D and 70-200 f/2.8 lens @ 150 mm. f/4.5 @ 1/60 sec. hand-held late afternoon, ISO: 500.



Trek-Tech TrekPod II

Jonathan Lawton
Hunts Photo & Video



As a photographer, I have a love-hate relationship with my tripod. Don't get me wrong, I really enjoy tack sharp images and the enhanced depth of field capabilities that the tripod provides, but I despise having to lug it around with me while I'm out in the field. I couldn't tell you how many shots I have missed just because I was too lazy to carry my tripod with me. Luckily, the people at Trek-Tech have released a gadget that will make carrying a camera support in the field a much easier task.

The TrekPod II could be best described as a photographer's multi-tool. It is a mix between a walking stick, monopod, and a tripod. It is designed to support cameras, binoculars, or any other device that has a 1/4 inch threaded mount. The TrekPod is made of two telescoping brushed aluminum columns and weighs only 27 ounces and its height is adjustable from 43 inches to 62 inches. The TrekPod II has three legs that are built into its lower section that can be folded out to transform it into a free-standing tripod. The top of the TrekPod II features a small adjustable mini ball-head that includes a magnetic quick release plate for securing your camera. The magnetic quick release can support up to nine pounds. In my evaluation, the TrekPod securely supported a three pound load that consisted of a Canon 70-300mm IS lens attached to 50D. With such a large load capacity, I can easily see the TrekPod being able to handle the majority of consumer and pro SLRs with up to a medium telephoto lens.

The TrekPod II is a great solution for a photographer who seeks the creative possibilities that a full size tripod provides, but wants to avoid dealing with the weight and bulk often associated with the device. The TrekPod II comes shipped with a padded carrying case, the MagMount mini-ball head and two quick release adapters with a safety clip.

Jon Lawton is a sales associate at Hunt's Photo and Video in Melrose, MA. If you have any questions on the Canon G11 or any other photo related topic, feel free to contact him at jlawton@wbhunt.com or at the store at 1-800-221-1830. Jon is a 2003 graduate from the Rochester Institute of Technology, where he studied photojournalism. He operates a photography business, specializing in wedding and portrait photography. www.jonathanlawton.com

31st George W. Glennie Nature Salon photographic competition

The Merrimack Valley Camera Club is pleased to invite SPS to participate in the 31st George W. Glennie Nature Salon photographic competition. The salon is open to camera clubs and photographic associations worldwide. Last year, 111 clubs from around the world submitted 1,100 images for competition.

This is a premier, international all-nature club competition of digital images known for its diversity of subjects, which range from animals to botany to landscapes. In the animal categories, birds and mammals are usually well represented, but each year about a third of the entries are invertebrates, reptiles, amphibians or marine & freshwater life.

Awards

The Glennie presents awards to both club and individual images. Club awards include:

- Top 5 Clubs Total Score;
- Top 5 Clubs Diversity Award - (best score from club's top six categories, club must have entries in at least 6 of the 8 categories).

Individual image awards include:

- Best of Show;
- Best Wildlife;
- Best of Category (Birds, Invertebrates, Reptiles, Amphibians, Mammals, Marine & Freshwater Life, Botany, and Landscape);
- Subcategory and Honor Awards depending upon number of entries.

How to Enter

Images should be submitted (no more than 2 entries per photographer) through the Interclub submissions page of the SPS website **by Feb.28.**

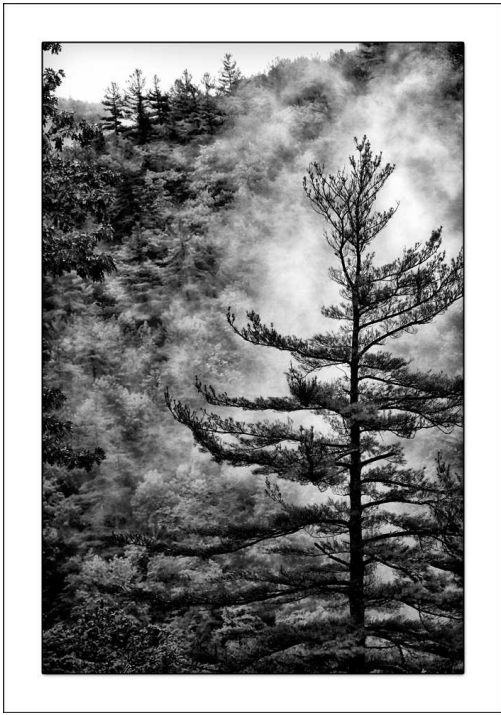
January Projected Competition Winners



Let me out (2nd place Assigned, above) by Barb Lawton. Connie Frisbee Houde photographed the Director of the Women’s Juvenile Prison (2nd place General, below left), while Heidi Ricks captured Mixed Emotions (3rd place General, below right).



Sean Sullivan shot Parking Garage Noir 3 (3rd place General).



Doug Mitchell photographed Early Catskill Fog (1st place General, above) late one morning, with a Canon 40D and 70-200 mm. f/2.8 lens @ 100mm. Aperture: f/8 @ 1/200 sec. ISO: 1250 Barb Lawton is sure that My Mother Made Me Wear This (1st place Assigned, below).



January Competition Results

Print Competition Results			Projected Competition Results		
Assigned Topic: What's Your Perspective? [20 Entries]			Assigned Topic: Emotions [24 Entries]		
1	Marianne Rahn-Erickson	No Such Thing As Too Many Books	1	Barb Lawton	My Mother Made Me Wear This
2	Max Tiller	Patterns	2	Barb Lawton	Let me out
3	Luba Ricket	Fir, Flag & Fella	3	Heidi Ricks	Mixed Emotions
4	Ken Deitcher	Point of View	4	Ken Deitcher	Angry Man
HM	Sean Sullivan	Parking Garage Noir #1	5	Heidi Ricks	Serenity
HM	Harvey Gurien	San Francisco Library Dome	HM	Luba Ricket	Friggin Fog
HM	Luba Ricket	Perspective Paths	HM	Max Tiller	Excited
Color [31 Entries]			General [34 Entries]		
1	Jeff Altman	Cabin Panorama	1	Doug Mitchell	Early Catskill Fog
2	Kim Koza	Chasing Laundry II	2	Connie Frisbee Houde	Director of the Women's Juvenile Prison
3	Doug Mitchell	Jax	3	Sean Sullivan	Parking Garage Noir 3
4	Rob Near	Blue Abyss	4	Sean Sullivan	Christmas at the Littleton House
5	Rob Near	New Year Sunrise	5	Carole Deitcher	Garage 100
HM	Drue Sokol	Batter Up	HM	Luba Ricket	This Way or That Way
HM	Cynthia Placek	The Door	HM	Linda Wroble	Penitentiary Cell Artifacts
HM	Ron Ginsburg	Abandoned	HM	Linda Wroble	Salem Willows
HM	Doug Mitchell	The Pruyn House Entranceway	HM	Max Tiller	Reflection
HM	Ray Henrikson	Over the Artists Shoulder	HM	Connie Frisbee Houde	Elder and his wife
HM	Kim Koza	Pears & Keys	<div>Digital Imaging Services by Jim Craner</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">- Large Format Inkjet Printing- High Resolution Scanning- Photoshop and Lightroom Tutoring- Color Management Consulting- Print Mounting, Matting and Framing</div> <div>65 Bentley Drive, Troy, New York 12182 518.235.2754 or 518.526.2253</div>		
Monochrome [16 Entries]					
1	Max Tiller	Summer Time			
2	Diane Reiner	Hotel Movement			
3	Sue Gersten	You're Adorable			
HM	Max Tiller	It's All In The Eyes			
HM	Rebekah Sokol	Sky Top			
HM	Bob Gough	Black Eyed Susan			

Judge: Mark Bolles

1st, 2nd & 3rd place winners of future monthly competitions: please complete and submit the winner comments form on the competitions page of our website

Judge: Mark Bolles

1st, 2nd & 3rd place winners of future monthly competitions: please complete and submit the winner comments form on the competitions page of our website.

Photo Essay New Category

In the past few years we have had members submit printed books in the print category. This year we have decided to create a new category in the Photo Essay Competition for photo image books. Therefore you could compete in three separate categories for the April 27th competition night: 1) Print Essay, 2) Book Essay, 3) Digital Projected Image Essay. So put your creative thinking caps on and get ready to go!

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The *Focus* is published ten 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 \$40.00 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. **If you change your email or mailing address, let Bob Riccardo know at briccardo@verizon.net**