

FOCUS

SCHENECTADY PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY NEWS

Volume 83

Summer

Number 1

Dan Burkholder: Honoring the Past- Vaulting into the Future Kick Off 2013

By **Connie Frisbee Houde**

September 20th 2013 we are pleased to announce that we will be hosting Dan Burkholder for our Kick off Speaker. Some of you may have been present this last year when Dan presented to the club concerning iPhone photography. Again this year the kick off will be followed by a one day work shop with Dan.

Kick off *Honoring the Past – Vaulting into the Future* will be held at the Van Curler Room at Schenectady County Community College. As one of the first photographers to embrace digital

technology in the early 1990's Dan has a great deal of information and experience to share. He will illustrate his presentation with his decades of photography. Brining us into the future he will also address where we might be headed. Dan brings a great sense of humor as he speaks of his experiences. Check out the flyer for the kick off elsewhere in this newsletter.

Please bring your friends to the kick off. This is a great place to introduce potential new members to our organization and all of the

programs that we present in a year.

The Workshop *Digital Artistry* will be held on Saturday September 21 from 9am to 4pm at the Burnt Hills Methodist Church. There are only 30 seats available so please sign up early by contacting Connie Frisbee Houde (518-944-1291 or globalphotographer@me.com) for details. Members can attend for a reduced rate and will be taken first. As Dan describes this workshop *learn powerful but non geeky meat-and-potatoes imaging techniques to craft color contrast and impact to your photos.* If you



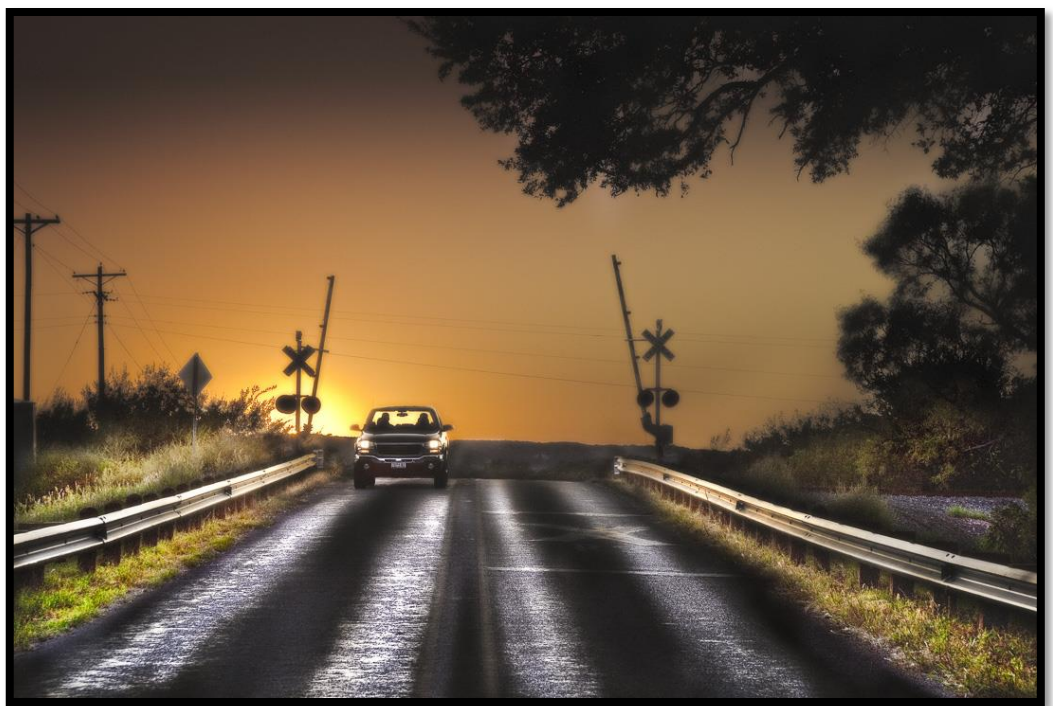
Overlapping Mountains Panorama

©Dan Burkholder

have often looked at a photograph and thought, “How did he/she do that?” then this is the workshop for you. Please see the details on the flyer also in the newsletter. This should be a great way to start out the SPS season and put to work Dan’s tips for your photographs throughout the year.

www.danburkholder.com

We look forward to a great new year of working together creating our best images yet.



Truck on RR Tracks Buffalo Gap

©Dan Burkholder

“It’s hard to imagine that digital negatives have been a big part of my life for over 20 years now. Yes, it was in 1992 that I started making digital negatives, bridging the separate worlds of darkroom photography with the new technologies and launching a flood of “never-seen-before” creative combinations. Word spread and the questions started pouring in. In fact, the two things that spurred me on to write the first edition of Making Digital Negatives were the phone calls and emails asking, “how do you do that?”Dan Burkholder



Egyptian on Pier

©Dan Burkholder

Art and Science of Color

By N. Sukumar

This spring I taught a 1½-credit course entitled “*Art and Science of Color*” at Shiv Nadar University, India (snu.edu.in). The students were mostly engineering majors, and a few math majors, freshmen or sophomores. This inter-disciplinary course introduced students to the basic principles of optics, color theory, color vision and the chemical principles behind the colors of gemstones and pigments. In the lab, they

performed experiments on absorption, scattering and emission of light, and the colors of nanoparticles. In the lecture periods we discussed these scientific concepts, but also how artists through the ages have used and exploited color. In field and studio sessions, students were encouraged to discover for themselves the fundamentals of digital photography and art. Field trips around campus and off-campus provided opportunities to sketch, paint, photograph, create individual works of art, and to study the works of other artists at art galleries.

This was my first occasion teaching a course that included photography as a major component; I enjoyed the experience immensely. While I provided some technical instruction, my primary objective was to get these engineering and math students to unlock the right sides of their brains, to use the scientific principles they study to explore their

own unique vision and create individual works of art. In this, I was pleasantly surprised. For their assignments, most of them chose to work with photography, but a few did explore sketching and painting. While a couple of students had DSLRs, most worked with smart phones or point & shoots. And very few of them had any serious experience with photography. Yet I was amazed at the very different styles they had. The university campus presented a variety of photographic opportunities. At one end there are seasonal wetlands, which are frequented by migratory birds in winter; I



©RANJIT RAJ R



©NIPUN THAKURELE



©ABIRAMI R

often photograph them right from my office window. This being a new university, there is construction almost everywhere. Many students worked with these, to produce either photo-journalistic or

architectural images. Several students photographed each other, in portrait, fashion or editorial style. Some went macro, some went abstract. I did not try to direct this. The assignment topics I gave them were: "Summer", "Construction", "Blue", "Green", "Big and Small" and "Self Portrait." Here is a small sample of what they came up with.

One of my students has since had an image published by National Geographic. You can see it here:
<http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2013/07/130718-rainbow-cloud-weather-photography/>

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Where does the violet tint end and the orange tint begin? Distinctly we see the difference of the colors, but where exactly does the one first blending enter into the other. So with sanity and insanity.

Herman Melville (1819 - 1891)



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Annual Banquet 2012-2013



Bob Gough and Sean Sullivan "Where did I mess Up?"



Incoming Vice President Connie Frisbee Houde



Luba Ricket



Phil Olivio

June 5 2013 *River Stone* *Manor*



Julie Palyswiat



Linda Wroble 2nd Place Print
Essay winner



Barb Lawton 1st Place projected image of the
year.

All Banquet photos © Judy Breslau



Members of SPS congregate at the NECCC Conference

©Luba Ricket

NECCC Conference...It's More Than Meets the Eye

By Luba Ricket

This year, NECCC had close to 1,000 attendees, including 13 SPS members. Luba Ricket, Jane Riley, Kim Koza, Barbara Lawton, Jack Hurley, Judy Breslau, John Ogden, Ron Ginsberg, Ray Henrickson, Colleen Magai, Connie Frisbee-Houde, Linda Buckman and even Sukumar attended from India!

As always, this is a very special weekend of endless instructions, gorgeous images to take your breath away, opportunities to take your own unique images (children's portraits, models & Hi-Jinx studios set-up) and rubbing elbows, shaking hands and conversing with renown photographers.

The feature presentation this year was the multiple award-winning travel and fine-art photographer Nevada Wier of Santa Fe, NM. If you never heard of her, I encourage you to check out her stunning breathtaking images.

Some of the other award winning speakers I got to hear were:

Dave Cross (FL) Lead instructor for National Association of Photoshop Professionals and member of Photoshop Hall of Fame

Roman Kurywczak (NJ) from Roamin' With Roman

Mark Bowie (MA) Night over New England

Vincent Laforet (CA) Pulitzer Prize winner

Deb Sandidge (FL) author of Digital Infrared Photography, published by Wiley

Mollie Isaac and Mary Lindhjem (VA) M & M's Mighty Macro



So That's where all the men are!!

©Kim Koza

Shiv Verna (MA) sponsored by Wacom

Janice Wendt (CA) industry's most respected retouch and image enhancement artists, one who "trains the trainers" on numerous techniques related to digital imaging

Joe LeFevre (NY) staff instructor at the Adirondack Photography Institute and good friend of Mark Bowie

This is just a partial list of the wide range of talent we had to choose to view in 13 available sessions.

I haven't been taking any cameras with me ... just my iPhone. If I want to snap an image, a memory or a funky creation, the iPhone is within reach. Accompanied images were taken with my favorite image taker at this time.

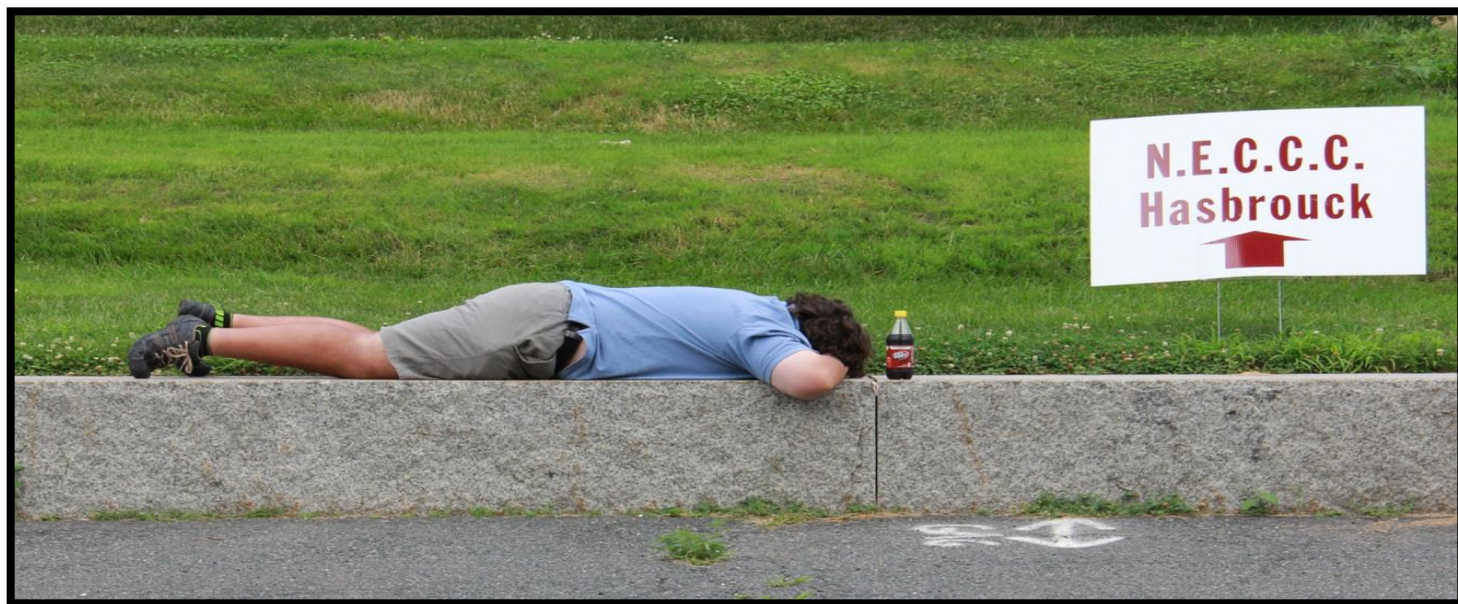
Another great part of the week-end is the food! The choices, the assortment, the freshness is tops ... They offer special entrees for each meal, besides a pasta bar, a pizza station, sandwich bar, salad bar & of course fresh fruit & desserts. I make a point of tasting almost everything ... I even had shrimp for one of the meals ... then when I get home (for most of the week) I only eat fresh corn on the cob we purchase from a vegetable stand on the way home.

The Hole in the Wall Gang

Photo courtesy of Luba Ricket

We lucked out with the weather this year. The humidity didn't come back till the day we went home. Speaking of luck, the conference also gives away prizes. This year it was a Door Prize Extravaganza! Linda Buckman won a free registration for next year's conference and I won a Tamron 18-270 lens!!! This prize covered my week-end cost and more.

My luck started 20 years ago ... OMG ... it's been 20 years since I first joined SPS. It was through SPS I heard about the NECCC Conference. After the last session that first year, I walked out and with sincere emotion I pronounced : " I can't wait till next year" and have been attending ever since.



Too exhausted to Pose!

©Kim Koza

Zoomless In Seattle**

By Phil Olivio

I recently spent a week visiting Seattle Washington. I've taken a liking to this vibrant, diverse city with great photography opportunities. This trip found me staying in the Belltown area, withing walking distance to such icons such as Pike Place Market, the Olympic Sculpture Gardens, the Waterfront and the Puget Sound, great locations for early morning walkabouts after a stop at one of the areas' outstanding coffee shops.



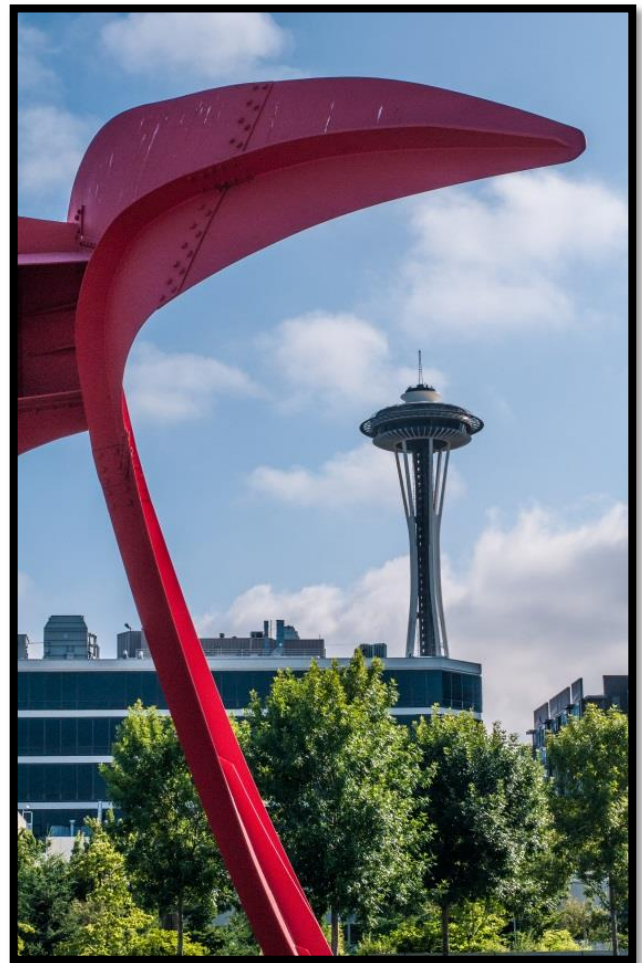
Uptown Espresso

©Phil Olivio

decided to travel very light and bring limited photo gear with me, taking only a DSLR, 50mm lens and a 17-270 mm zoom lens. I confess to a love-hate relationship with my 50mm f 1.4 lens. Sure it's light, fast and razor sharp, but it expects me to compose by actually **walking** to and from the subject. Photography is image creation, not a fitness program!

To challenge my creativity and composition skills, I left the zoom lens in the hotel room and only took the 50mm lens for an early morning visit to the Olympic Sculpture Gardens.

Major learning points – First, stop trying to turn the lens, turning the lens only takes your subject out of focus and messes with the focus



Seattle Space Needle

©Phil Olivio

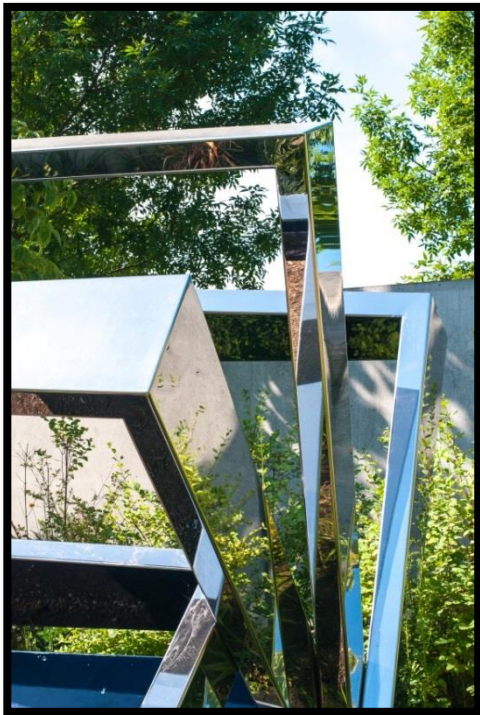
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Olympic Sculpture Gardens

©Phil Olivio

motor. Hate that grinding noise! Next, change your mindset. I used to look for interesting angles and let the zoom do my initial cropping, now deliberate pre-visualizing of the image is needed. Accept some limitations of not having a wide angle lens available. Sometimes you just can't get the whole image in the frame, what part will make a compelling image?



Olympic Sculpture Gardens

©Phil Olivio

So, what was the most important learning for me? It was get “back to basics”, something I should have been doing all along. I’m keeping my 50mm – It’s become my walking around lens!

****With apologies to Meg Ryan, Tom Hanks and all “Sleepless in Seattle” fans!**

SPS NEEDS YOU!

Last Year Robert Coppola did a fantastic job as our Judging Coordinator. However, this year he will need to step down from this position. We are currently recruiting to fill this empty seat on the board. Robert is willing to assist a new Judging Coordinator into the position. If you are interested in helping please contact any board member. Thank You!






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PSA Results Corner

Congratulations to *Ken Deitcher* for his Honorable Mention in
Round 4 of the Projected Image-Creative Division! Ken's winning image was:

"Cubes in Space"



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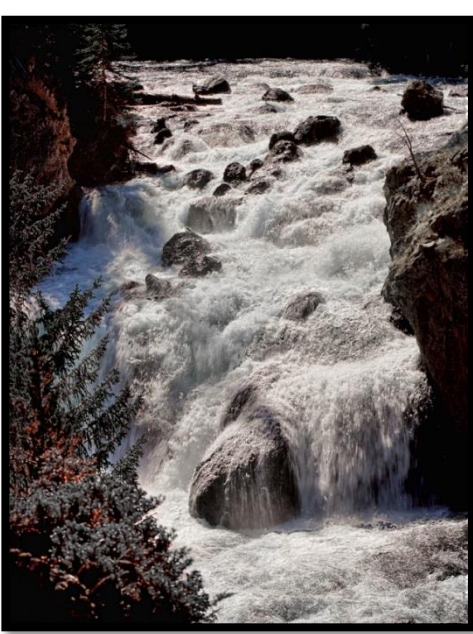
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Photographing Waterfalls

By Harvey Gurien

I believe that if an image is intended to convey to the viewer what the eye sees, then the maker should attempt to depict reality. I take issue with Tony Sweet's rendition of moving water (I think he's a very good photographer). He employs a very slow shutter speed (30seconds or longer) to achieve moving water that looks like cotton. While this may be widely accepted, I disagree with this rendition. Do we see water that looks like cotton in motion pictures? I don't recall seeing moving water in the paintings of the artists of the Hudson River School depicted as looking like cotton. Did you ever see photos of Niagara Falls that looked like cotton? (It would be absurd). I get a dry mouth feeling when I look at those water images that are not water, but rather a feeling of cool refreshment when I see ones that resemble the real thing.

I like to photograph moving water at 1/25-1/15 sec, and I offer the following examples:



Firehole Falls ©Harvey Gurien



Niagara Lower Falls Yellowstone ©Harvey Gurien



Niagara Falls HDR I Topazed
©Harvey Gurien



Rensselaerville Falls Upper
©Harvey Gurien

Dan Bukholder Photographic Artist

Presented by the **Schenectady Photographic Society**

Friday, September 20, 2013, 7:00 pm Van Curler Room at Schenectady County Community College

Free and Open to the Public



“Honoring the Past — Vaulting into the Future”

In this fun and information filled presentation, Dan Burkholder will chart his personal journey through four decades of photography while vividly illustrating the medium's intrinsic links between technology, hardware, software and creativity. Always known for his irreverence and humor (yet never taking himself too seriously), you'll leave this event with a new awareness of how photography began, where it is now, and where it might be when digital imaging itself is as outdated as flash powder. From Dektol to Digital, Dan will take you on a journey that unites technique and esthetics. Don't miss this opportunity to laugh and learn with photographic pioneer Dan Burkholder.

Digital Artistry Workshop Saturday, September 21, 2013

Learn Dan's powerful (but non-geeky) meat-and-potatoes imaging techniques that you can use over and over to craft the color, contrast and impact of your photos. Full details at <http://schenectadyphotographicsociety.com/news.jsp>.
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Dan Burkholder's Digital Artistry Workshop

Only 30 Seats Available!

When: Saturday, September 21, 2013

Time: 9 AM to 4 PM

Where: Burnt Hills Methodist Church
816 Route 50
Burnt Hills NY 12027

Cost: \$125 SPS Members & \$145 Non Members

For More Information, To Reserve Your Seat, and Send Payment. Contact:

Connie Frisbee Houde
22 Elm Street
Albany, NY 12202
518-944-1291

What: Learn Dan Burkholder's powerful (but non-geeky) meat-and-potatoes imaging techniques that you can use over and over to craft the color, contrast and impact of your photos. From Smart Objects to a smarter workflow, you'll leave this day-long intensive with a digital bandoleer of new techniques to help you make your images match your imagination. The class includes a DVD with training videos and tutorials to make your learning continue way past the workshop's end.

Dan Burkholder has a long history of looking beyond the photographic horizon to invent, explore, teach and exhibit the next great thing in imaging. Dan's web site is www.DanBurkholder.com.



Preparing for the Workshop

Though you can simply watch and take notes if you'd like, the best learning experience will come as you work along on your own laptop (images provided in class), practicing the steps and asking questions as Dan demonstrates his easy-yet-powerful techniques.

Though you'll work with Photoshop (CS4 or newer) during this class — fear not — most of the new skills and techniques we'll cover will transfer to Photoshop Elements and other image editing software.*

In other words, no matter how you edit your images, you will leave this class with lots of new ways to bring beauty and intrigue to your images.

Don't forget your power adaptors and cords.

*30 day free trials of Photoshop can be downloaded at www.Adobe.com

A very special exhibit at the PhotoCenter

By Nick Argyros

Friday, July 26, the PhotoCenter will host a reception for “Somewhere in Time” Photographs by Lady Ostapeck featuring portraits of children and the “Doll Series.”



Lady Ostapeck exhibit with doll

The PhotoCenter announces the recently published exhibition catalog; a new exquisite 126 page book that also includes the series of portraits of Sandra Balint titled “Women of the World.” This first printing of very limited copies is priced at \$32.50. During the exhibit, this price includes NYS sales tax.



Lady Ostapeck exhibit at the PhotoCenter



A Portrait of Lady Ostapeck

©Nick Argyros

Lady was given an antique doll in childhood (the 1920s) which remained remarkably intact. Named Suoma Ellen Elizabeth, Lady created settings and appropriate garb to make portraits of Ellen Elizabeth as she traversed from infancy, through childhood, to maturity and as a grandmother.

This series of doll portraits, made with considerable attention to accurate detail, has never before been exhibited intact in the United States.

The children’s portraits are made in Lady’s incomparable Victorian-era style of portraiture, except that no artist of that period was Lady’s equal in lavishing detail.

Sandra Balint returned to Lady’s studio annually during the 1990s for a series of stunning portraits, each made to represent a persona, usually of a famous woman in a bygone era.

Friday 5 to 9 p.m. is also Troy Night Out, free and open to the public.

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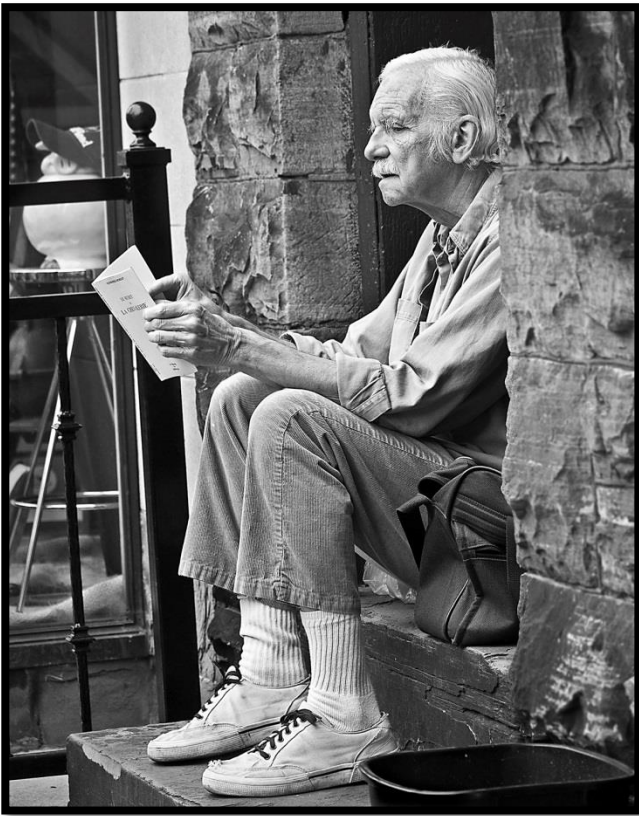
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The Best of 2012-2013



Monochrome Print of the Year

The Dean of Lark Street ©Robert Coppola



General Print of the Year

Marianne

©Max Tiller



Projected image of the Year

Folded Corner

©Barb Lawton



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Seated from left to right: Ron Ginsburg, Cynthia Placek, Dale Winsor, Phil Olivio, Sour Bennett, Bob Gough, Kim Koza, Sean Sullivan, Connie Frisbee Houde, Pat McCormick,



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