

FOCUS

Volume 81 - No. 7

<http://spsphoto.org>

March 2015

GUEST SPEAKER - LAWRENCE WHITE - MARCH 18TH "Dance Photography"

***Lawrence White's motto is, "I am drawn to the light."
When you view his images, you can understand why.***

Lawrence White's professional photography career spans over four decades. In that period of time Mr. White's photographic work has been seen world wide in publications such as the *NY Times*, *Boston Globe*, *Rolling Stone*, *Vogue*, *People*, *Time*, *Forbes*, *GQ*, *San Francisco Chronicle*, *Der Spiegel* and *Le Monde*. Previous staff photographer for *Rolling Stone* Magazine, he is currently chief photographer for *Saratoga Living Magazine*.

In 2001, Lawrence won the NY Press Association award for his striking images of the terrorist attacks on NYC, 9-11-01.

His film work has been collected by the Smithsonian Museum Archives of American Art. Lawrence also received a short film award from the American Film Institute in 1994. His exhibitions have graced the walls of the National Museum of Dance, Les Fauves Fine Art Gallery and Lincoln Center.

For the past three years Lawrence taught a series of highly successful photo workshops in conjunction with Saratoga Arts, the National Museum of Dance and the Saratoga Performing Arts Center. In addition, he has taught at SUNY Adirondack, the Art Center of the Capital Region (Troy) and the Art Center of Saratoga Springs.

For SPS, Lawrence will elaborate on one of his many photographic loves...dance photography.



To view more of Lawrence White's outstanding work, check out his website:
www.lawrencewhiteimages.com

HELPING ANIMALS THROUGH PHOTOGRAPHY

~ Tracey Buyce ~ March 4th ~



Tracey Buyce is not just a wonderful wedding, portrait and animal photographer...she also likes to use her camera to “give back,” working with the Candi International & Homeward Bound Dog Rescue and Photographers Without Borders.

In her own words...

“Life has given me so much to be grateful for, and I am passionate about paying it forward. My love for photography, people, and animals has taken me around the world to witness intense beauty,

heartfelt emotions, and sometimes heart-wrenching challenges. From photographing animals at risk, to donating photo session proceeds to the organizations that I believe in, giving back gives me an opportunity to express my gratitude and make a difference in the world around me.



“As a dedicated animal advocate I am a proud board member and the official volunteer photographer for CANDi International, a non-profit organization that works tirelessly to offer free spay and neuter clinics in Mexico and the Caribbean. I shoot numerous local photo sessions to benefit this group, and I travel frequently to photograph their clinics and the street dogs they rescue.

Continued...

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HELPING ANIMALS THROUGH PHOTOGRAPHY

~ Continued ~



"I am also an enthusiastic volunteer for Photographers Without Borders. Lending support to their organization I photographed the Senda Verde Animal Refuge in Yungas, Bolivia which houses over 400 rescued animals from Capuchin monkeys to crocodiles and works to stop the illegal poaching and trafficking of animals of all kinds. Working with CANDi International and Photographers Without Borders has changed my life, deeply touched my heart, and taught me about the power of giving, compassion, and taking action for a cause.

"To celebrate the people who inspire me and to help my community, I am an on-call volunteer for the Community Hospice of Saratoga, and I am always documenting the beauty in the world around me through personal photography projects. Currently I am working on a series called "Married 40 Years or More" capturing elderly couples and their secrets to their long, happy marriages, along with another project documenting the hard work and experience of the modern American dairy farmer."

*To see more from these projects,
please view Tracey's "Giving Back" Galleries
on her website:
www.traceybuyce.com.*



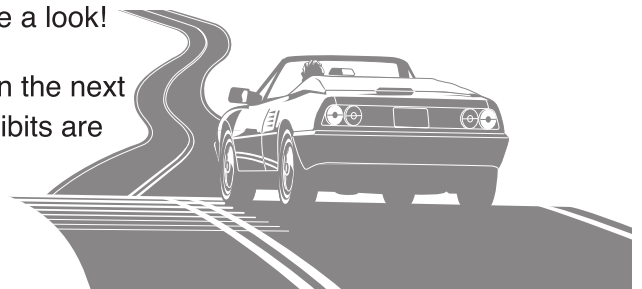
To learn more about these important causes please visit:

*www.candiinternational.org
www.photographerswithoutborders.org
www.sendaverde.com
www.communityhospice.org*

SPS TRAVELING EXHIBIT MOVES TO CLIFTON PARK

On the road again! For March, the SPS Traveling Exhibit will be at the Clifton Park-Halfmoon Public Library, at 475 Moe Road in Clifton Park. Set up is on Tuesday, March 3rd, after 12 noon. Pick-up will be on Monday, March 30th, before 12 noon. If you're in the area, stop by and take a look!

Next stop: Albany's Spectrum Theater. If you wish to participate in the next traveling exhibit, please see Dow Smith, Exhibit Chair. These exhibits are a great way to promote our club while giving members an opportunity to share their work.



COPYRIGHT 101 ~ What Can You Photograph, Publish and Sell?

~ David Avigdor ~ March 11th ~



© David Avigdor

I took this photograph from a public sidewalk, looking through a door that the proprietor left open. The proprietor came out and demanded that I delete the photograph and take no more.

Was I wrong to keep it?



© David Avigdor

The Eiffel Tower says that their lighting of the tower is copyrighted. Could I legally make this image?

Show it to you? Sell it?

On the March 11th Projected Night, our speaker will be David Avigdor, speaking on "Copyright 101 – What Can I Photograph, Publish and Sell?" Many of us have concerns about what we are permitted to photograph, what we are permitted to display publicly, and what images can be sold.

When does a human subject have a right to forbid photography or forbid publication of his or her image?

When does the owner of property have the right to forbid photography of that property, or forbid publication?

Can you legally photograph something that is copyrighted by its owner?

How can you use that photograph?

In his presentation before our projected competition, David, who is a member of our Board and a licensed attorney, will address those topics.



© David Avigdor

The New York City MTA claims a copyright in all of its signs and graphics.

What about this shot?

Enjoy seeing David's images?
See more at: davidavigdor.smugmug.com

Mentoring Night: SMART PHONE PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

~ Jeff Perkins ~ March 25th ~



There is no doubt about it, smart phones are getting better and better every year. The current generation of smart phones made by the major manufacturers can, in most cases, replace sub-\$200 pocket or compact cameras. Sensors and lenses are better, camera controls are now widespread where one can control the ISO, shutter speed, and choose the proper white balance...just like a regular camera

On March 25th, Jeff will review some of the newer features of the latest generation of iPhones and how to use a smart phone of any brand more effectively. He will review some of his favorite apps that enhance the photographic experience, not only in photo taking with an iPhone but also in photographic editing and developing within the iPhone.

The Smart Phone Competition will be judged by Nick Argyros. You may enter up to three images taken with a smart phone or phone tablet of any brand, and edit it exclusively within the device. The only time the image touches the computer is for resizing as per the projected imaging sizing rules. Images that have won prior smart phone competitions may not be re-entered. Good luck!



1st Place
FEBRUARY WINNERS
PRINT

1st Place Assigned
(Topic: Hip to be Square)
"City Hall Clock Tower"
© Barb Lawton



1st Place Monochrome
"At the Boardwalk" - © Sean Sullivan

PRINT JUDGE: David Waite

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.



1st Place General
"The Barber Shop" - © Linda Wroble

ADDITIONAL FEBRUARY WINNERS
Print Assigned



2nd Place Assigned
"Concert for the Squares"
© Cynthia Placek



3rd Place Assigned
"Squaring Off" - © Cynthia Placek

**ADDITIONAL
FEBRUARY WINNERS
*Print Monochrome***



3rd Place Monochrome - "The Sweeper"
© Sean Sullivan



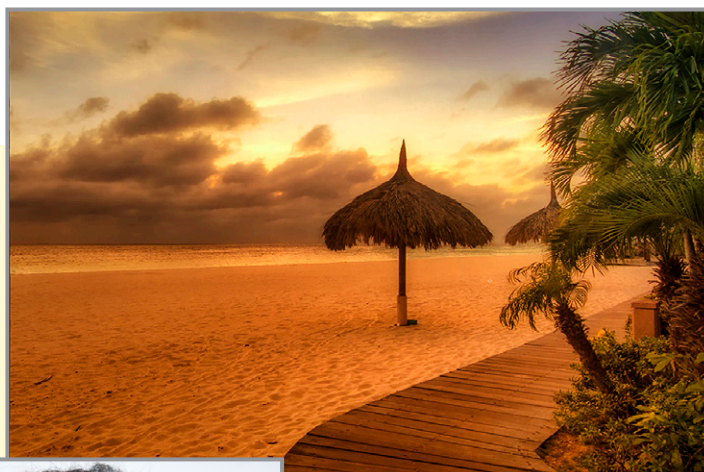
2nd Place Monochrome - "Waiting for Spring"
© Linda Tommasulo

**ADDITIONAL FEBRUARY WINNERS
*Print General***



2nd Place General - "The Dip"
© Sean Sullivan

For this and future editions (as space permits) we will include all "Place" winners (1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc. Sorry...no Honorable Mentions). For Print winners, to include the best image, please e-mail a digital file (1024 x 768 max at 300 ppi) to: focuseditor@icloud.com.



**3rd Place General
"Sundown in Aruba"**
© Barb Lawton



**4th Place General
"Julissa"**
© Doug Mitchell

**1st PLACE
FEBRUARY WINNERS
*PROJECTED***

PROJECTED JUDGE: Photographer **Joan Heffler**, 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.



**1st Place General -
"Jackson Farm"**
© Bill Lanahan



1st Place Assigned (Topic: On the Fence)
"On the Fence"
© Jane Riley

**ADDITIONAL
FEBRUARY WINNERS
*Projected Assigned***



2nd Place Assigned - "The Multi-Purpose Fence"
© Cynthia Placek



4th Place Assigned - "Cody Hill Farm"
© Kim Koza



3rd Place Assigned - "Gotta Get Over This Fence"
© Brian Sherman

*To see all present and past winning images
(including Honorable Mentions), log on to www.spsphoto.org
click: Enter / Competitions / Recent Winners / Past Winners.*



2nd Place General - "Shooting on the Glacier"
© Jane Riley



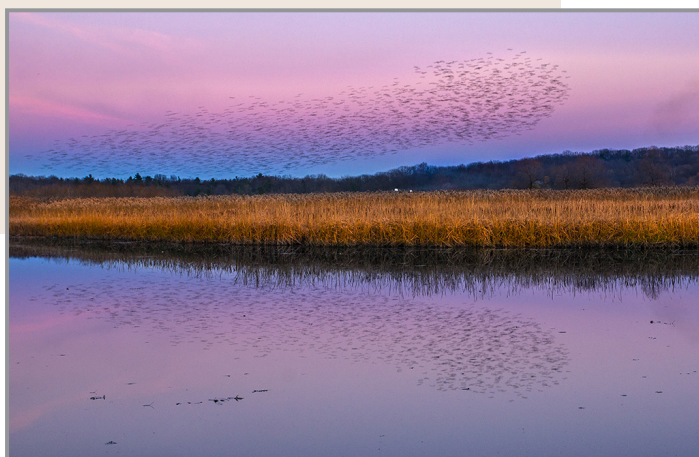
5th Place General - "Three Amigos"
© Robert Coppola

4th Place General - "The Birds"
© Robert Coppola

**ADDITIONAL
FEBRUARY WINNERS
*Projected General***



3rd Place General - "Sign Language"
© John Bollentin



**NATIONAL
GEOGRAPHIC
TRAVELER**

PHOTOGRAPHY

SEMINARS

The Photographic Eye

The most memorable photographs begin with the art of seeing. National Geographic photographers Amy Toensing and Matt Moyer will help you refine your own "eye" for great shots. Learn how to elevate your creative vision by patience, planning, spontaneity, and careful observation. Hear Amy's secrets for connecting with people, Matt's insights on capturing landscapes, and how to hone your instinct for where to look and when to click.

For more info go to: <http://www.nationalgeographic.com/ngtseminars/seminars/the-photographic-eye.html>.

Special SPS Discount!

Where: NY State Museum Albany

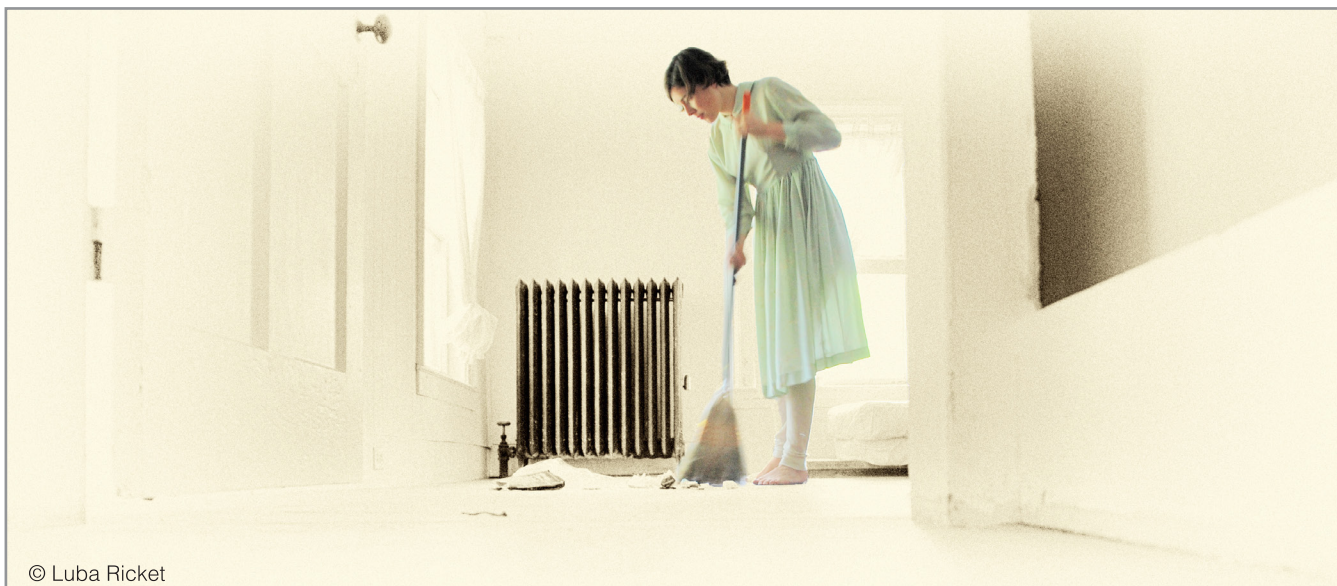
When: April 19, 2015

Time: 9 AM to 4 PM

Fee: \$199 - \$179 for SPS Members
Use Discount Code: "Special 20"

SPS PHOTOGRAPHERS ACCEPTED AT 2015 PHOTO REGIONAL

One of Luba Ricket's accepted images was used for the invitation to the 2015 Photo Regional at Opalka Gallery in Albany.



© Luba Ricket

37th annual photo regional

“Softly Sweeping “

Was taken during a Women's Photo weekend in Averill Park. Tine was attending an architectural workshop at the House on the Hill which we had access to. We saw her sweeping and encouraged her to continue. All the photographers lined up and I chose to shoot low between their legs. After I selected everything but Tine, I used Nik Silver Efex to change to Sepia and “sweep away” the superfluous.

“Roasted Ranges”

I tend to be a recycler and have always added my used coffee grinds and filters to the compost heap...till one day I was captivated by the special design on one of the used filters. It reminded me of hilly landscapes. So...I printed a landscape image from Iceland onto iron-on fabric transfer and ironed it onto the filter.



© Luba Ricket

SPS PHOTOGRAPHERS ACCEPTED AT 2015 PHOTO REGIONAL

Connie Frisbee-Houde had three of her images, taken in Honduras, accepted for the 2015 Photo Regional



“School”

About the Jurors -

Robert and Shana ParkeHarrison:

The ParkeHarrison, a husband and wife duo, are known for surrealistic work that considers the interaction between humans and the environment. The ParkeHarrisons have exhibited and lectured widely and their work is included in numerous museum collections, including the Whitney Museum of American Art, the Museum of Fine Arts (Boston), and the Los Angeles County Museum of Art.

Among other awards, they were recipients of a Guggenheim Fellowship in 1999, an Artist Fellowship from the Massachusetts Cultural Council in 2001 and 1996, and the Nancy Graves Foundation Grant in 2007. The *New York Times* named their book *The Architect's Brother* one of the top ten photography books of the year in 2000. Robert ParkeHarrison is a professor of photography at Skidmore College.



“Morning Newspaper”



“A Walk in the Morning Mist”

SPS PHOTOGRAPHERS ACCEPTED AT 2015 PHOTO REGIONAL

*New member, Branson Quenzer's photo taken at the Chinese New Year Festival
was also accepted at the 2015 Photo Regional.*



37th Annual Photo Regional March 3 - April 19

Opening Reception:
March 6, 6-8 pm

Opalka Gallery
@ Sage College, Albany
149 New Scotland Avenue

"Grant of the Dragon"

*(Printed on rice paper and mounted on silk
in a tradition Chinese vertical scroll format.)*

The title is "Grant of the Dragon" because it was taken a few years back during the year of the dragon—the most auspicious of years in the traditional beliefs of China. The photo was taken in the heart and soul of the old industrial area of a very northern city named Harbin. Before Genghis Kahn of Mongolia the native people of this city ruled all of China. Later it was taken over by the Japanese and is most commonly known in the west as Manchuria. The people who came from there established the final dynasty of China, the Qing.

During the New Year, the Chinese shoot massive amounts of fireworks for days and days to scare off the bad spirit, especially the mythical animal Guo. It is a sight to see, but is becoming less common in the big cities as the tradition is slowly fading due to pollution, noise, safety, etc. However, in second-tier cities, the more wealth one has the more fireworks they explode...to preserve their reputation and protect the mild fortune they have achieved in the growing economy. The snow is falling and mixes with the coal that pollutes the air, trying to keep the -40 degree temperature from creeping in. The red paper confetti is the remnants of millions of fireworks strung up all over China.



PSA NEWS

Enter Our Interclub Competitions!!

Round Three of the PSA PID Photojournalism and Round Three of PSA PID Creative are open. Entries must be submitted by midnight March 5th and 20th respectively.

Photojournalism: Photojournalism images shall consist of pictures or sequences with informative content and emotional impact, including human interest, documentary and spot news. The journalistic value of the photograph shall be considered over pictorial quality. In the interest of credibility, photographs which misrepresent the truth, such as manipulation to alter the subject matter, or situations which are set up for the purpose of photography, are unacceptable in Photojournalism. Human Interest images depict a person or persons in an interactive, emotional, or unusual situation, excluding recreational or sports ACTION.

Creative: The PSA definition of Creative is "Altered Reality." The image must obviously display a change in natural color, form, shape, or any combination of three. High Dynamic Range (HDR) images without further changes are **not** considered "altered reality."

Upload images at spsphoto.org - Enter -
Competitions - PSA Interclub.

Please check the SPS website, or contact our
Interclub Competition Chair, Phil Olivo, for more
information.

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF SCHENECTADY
2015 LENTEN PHOTO SHOW**

*Pick up Applications
at our next meeting*

The First United Methodist Church of Schenectady invites you to participate in its 2015 Lenten Photo Show.

You can participate in any or all of three ways:

- 1. SUBMIT PHOTOS THAT YOU HAVE TAKEN**
- 2. VOTE FOR THE PHOTOS YOU THINK BEST REFLECT THE THEMES OF THE SHOW**
- 3. VISIT THE SHOW ON GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 3 (From 2:00 – 3 PM or 5:00 – 7 PM)
OR EASTER SUNDAY (From 9:00 – 10 AM or 11:00 - 12 NOON)**

1. SUBMIT PHOTOS THAT YOU HAVE TAKEN

For each of five weeks during Lent, First United Methodist Church of Schenectady has chosen a different Lenten theme. During each of these weeks we will be accepting one to three photos that you have taken that reflect the weekly theme. The themes are:

February 22-28: PRAY

March 1-7: GIVE

March 8-14: WASH

March 15-21: TREASURE

March 22-28: HEART

You may submit your photos either electronically or in hard copy.

- To submit your photos electronically, save them as JPG files of between 300bpi and 4MB, attach them to an email, enter 'Photo Show' as the subject of the email, type your name, address, telephone number and the theme your photos represent in the body of the email, and send the email to fumcphotoshow@gmail.com.
- To submit your photos in hard copy, print them out on 8x10 photo paper, enclose them and a completed copy of this form in an envelope, and send the envelope to FUMC Lenten Photo Show, 603 State Street, Schenectady, NY 12305. Copies of this form may be downloaded from the church's website at www.fumcschenectady.org or may be obtained by calling the church office at 518-374-4403.

First United Methodist Church of Schenectady Lenten Photo Show: Entry Form

Name: _____ ☐ Check here if under 18 yrs. old

Mailing Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email Address: _____

Theme that the photo represents (choose one per entry):

☐ Pray

☐ Give

☐ Wash

☐ Treasure

☐ Heart

TITLE OF THE PHOTO: _____

Mail to **FUMC LENTEN PHOTO SHOW, 603 STATE STREET, SCHENECTADY, NY 12305**

By submitting a photo the photographer gives FUMC copyright privileges to display the photo.

Photos will not be returned.

2. VOTE FOR THE PHOTOS YOU THINK BEST REFLECT THE THEMES OF THE SHOW

On a weekly basis, the photos submitted for each of the themes will be posted on First United Methodist Church's website (www.fumcschenectady.org) and Facebook page (www.facebook.com/fumcschenectady). You may go to either of these sites to vote for the photo or photos that you think best reflect the themes. You may also vote if you visit the show in person. Please vote only once for any given photo.

**3. VISIT THE SHOW ON GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 3 (From 2:00 - 3PM OR 5:00 - 7PM) OR ON
EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 5 (From 9:00 – 10 AM or 11:00 - 12 NOON)**

On Good Friday, April 3 and Easter Sunday, April 5 the photos that receive the most votes and as many of the other photos as reasonably possible will be on display in Fellowship Hall at First United Methodist Church of Schenectady. You are invited to view the photos from 2:00 to 3pm or from 5:00 to 7pm on Good Friday and from 9:00 to 10am or 11:00 to noon on Easter. Voting will be open during viewing hours. Light refreshments will be served.

COMING IN APRIL

April 1st
NO MEETING - Easter Week
(No, this is not an April Fool's joke.)

April 8th
"Video Basics"
by Dow Smith
~Plus~

Print Image Competition
(Assigned Topic: Shadows)

April 15th
"My Favorite eGizmo"
by David Avigdor - and YOU!
~Plus~
Projected Image Competition
(Assigned Topic: Out of the Blue)

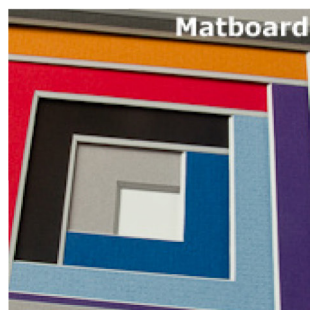
April 22nd - Guest Speaker
"BYOI"
"Bring Your Own Images"
by Phil Olivo

April 29th
Photo Essay Competition
"Print"
"Projected"
"Book"
(See the October, 2014
edition of the Focus for
details.)

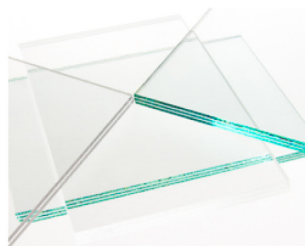
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WEATHER ALERT!

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.

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SPS IS ON FACEBOOK! Just type
"Schenectady Photographic Society" in the search box.

SPECIALS FROM HUNT'S PHOTO FOR SPS MEMBERS

*The Canon Pixma PRO 10 printer is an award-winning, exhibition-quality, pigment based inkjet printer. It sells for \$699.99 on Canon's website. Hunt's has it on special for \$449.99 and there is a SIGNIFICANT mail in rebate. If you've wanted a high quality printer that prints up to 13x19", now's the time! Please call Alan Samiljan at Hunt's for details.

*In order to achieve accurate and consistent results from any printer, you must first calibrate your monitor. The X-rite ColorMunki Display bundled with the Colorchecker Passport is a perfect way to accomplish this. For March the special price is \$258. plus there is an online rebate of \$50. Your final cost is \$208!

*Hunt's is offering, in conjunction with Sigma, INSTANT SAVINGS on select Sigma lenses: 70-200mm f/2.8 DG OS HSM, 150-500mm f/5-6.3 DG OS HSM, 105mm f/2.8 DG OS MACRO HSM. Please call Alan Samiljan for pricing:

These specials run from March 1st to March 31st.

In order to take advantage of any of these specials please call Alan at 781-662-8822, or email him at alansamhunts@gmail.com and ask for the "Camera Group Specials."

PHOTO & VIDEO

Hunt's

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2014-2015 Print Assigned Topics



2014	
October 1	<i>The Backyard</i> Show us what's in your backyard (or your neighbor's).
November 5	<i>Technology Rules</i> Show us how technology is important in our lives.
December 3	<i>Trick or Treat</i> Show us how you celebrate Halloween
2015	
January 7	<i>People Taking Photos</i> Unique images of those "other" photographers.
February 4	<i>Hip to be Square</i> Show us some squares, but don't get boxed in.
March 4	<i>Doors</i> I'll take door #3. What door do you take?
April 8	<i>Shadows</i> Don't be afraid of the noon-time sun.
May 6	<i>Print of the Year</i>



2014-2015 Projected Image* Assigned Topics

* Deadline for the Projected Image competition is Sunday at midnight prior to the competition.

2014	
October 8	<i>Minimal</i> Images with simple or primary forms.
November 12	<i>Coffee, Tea or...</i> Show us your favorite beverage.
December 10	<i>Monochrome -</i> Varying tones of only one color.
2015	
January 14	<i>Take Five</i> Idiom's figurative meaning, or literal interpretation.
February 11	<i>On the Fence</i> Undecided or literal meaning.
March 11	<i>"X" Marks the Spot</i> Need some form of an "X" in the image.
April 15	<i>Out of the Blue</i> Sudden, unexpected occurrence; or something blue.
May 13	<i>Projected Image of the Year</i>

Have Something to Contribute?

Been somewhere special, taken some great images, have photo equipment to buy/sell/trade, or knowledge of an exhibit, trip or event?

Please contact me (Linda Tommasulo) with details, articles, comments or suggestions:

focuseditor@icloud.com

This is YOUR newsletter. Please participate. Thank you!



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