# FECUS

Volume 82 - No. 1 http://spsphoto.org Summer 2015

## SPS KICKS-OFF WITH DAVID H. WELLS: "Every Picture Tells a Story: The Personal Project From Soup to Nuts"

Join us on FRIDAY, September 18th at the First United Methodist Church Sanctuary for our exciting kick-off presentation!

David H. Wells is a publication photographer/video-maker. He is affiliated with Aurora Photos and specializes in intercultural communication and visual narratives that excel in their creative mastery of light, shadow and sound, stills and video. Awards for his video/time-lapse work include Best of ASMP (American Society of Media Photographers) and an Eddie award from the Folio competition.

Wells focuses on multimedia productions and photoessays for publication and exhibition. Past assignments

have been for *Life Magazine*, *National Geographic*, the *New York Times Magazine* and the *Philadel-phia Inquirer Sunday Magazine*, to name a few. He has worked for corporations including Consolidated Natural Gas and DuPont as well as non-profit organizations including Brown University, the Ford Foundation and the New Israel Fund, among others.

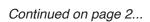
His work has been featured in one-person exhibits at Brown University, U.C. Berkeley and Harvard University. His work has been part of group exhibitions at the Houston FotoFest and the Visa pour l'Image Festival in Perpignan, France. He has been an Artist in residence at the Visual Studies Workshop and the Light Works Photography Center.

David has taught classes at the University of Pennsylvania and workshops at the Maine Media Workshops, and is on the faculty of the International Center for Photography in New York City. He was

© David H. Wells

featured in Photo District News as a "Best Workshop Instructor."







David H. Wells to Present At 2015-2016 Kick-Off

Continued from page 1

His photo-essays have been funded by fellowships from Nikon/NPPA, the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, the MacArthur Foundation's Program of Research and Writing on International Peace and Cooperation, the Alicia Patterson Foundation and the Fulbright Foundation. His project on the pesticide poisoning of California farm workers was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize by the *Philadelphia Inquirer*.



For more info, check out his website at: www.davidhwells.com.



#### Message from the (New!) President

Hello fellow photographers!

Hope you're having a great summer. The board has been working hard this summer to bring you a great 2015-2016 season. The tri-fold will be done soon, so you don't have to wait to sign up for the new year. Membership costs have gone up, but we are trying to keep them as low as possible.

Please feel free to contact me or any board member with your ideas that can benefit the Club.

We hope to see you in September for the David H. Wells kickoff. It should be a great night of learning how to develop our skills as photographers. And sign up for Saturday's workshop before it's too late!

Keep on taking pictures and we'll see you soon.



© David H. Wells

Photo by Dave Bennett

Patrick McCormick Pres/Treas.

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## DAVID H. WELLS KICK-OF PRESENTATION: "THE PERSONAL PROJECT FROM SOUP TO NUTS"

While every picture tells a story and each one is worth a thousand words, certain photographs tell stories more directly, with more impact and emotion. David H. Wells has spent the last four decades telling stories with his photographs for publications, exhibition and organizations.

In this presentation, David takes you through his career path, from aspiring photographer to internationally-published master photographer. Then David will take you through his photo essays, where he tells in-depth stories through a series of images.

Photo essays (also known as "Personal Projects") can be compelling, dynamic, vivid mission statements of a photographer's work. David believes every photographer should have a working knowledge of this art form - and his presentation will help you hone your skills to develop "personal projects" of your own. In this in-depth presentation, David will explore:

- Defining a personal project or photo essay, as in "to try out an idea from a personal point of view."
- The best ones communicate an idea that others can understand without your presence or explanation.
- Two kinds of photo-essays: Linear are unified by the evolution/character development of the people/group shown; or portfolio, which is unified by the commonality of location, topic and/or stylistic approach to the photography.
- Narrowing a personal project to strengthen it.
- The importance of aligning your project with larger political and cultural themes to ensure wide dissemination of and interest in the work.
- How presentation format such as color vs. black & white or pairings, panoramas, diptychs & triptychs, can strengthen the message.
- The importance of looking at projects that are similar to yours to see what others have done, to understand how did they define, execute, disseminate and position their project.
- Principles of proposal writing for photo-essays/personal projects.
- Keeping on track and motivated in doing your personal project by creating a calendar to set mileposts along the way to keep you motivated, moving forward and judge the success of the project.
- Importance of your network in executing personal projects. EVERYONE should know what you are doing, especially your family, friends, peers, their network.

In conclusion, David will share resources for photographers interested in pursuing their own photo-essays.

#### **SPECIAL NOTE RE: PARKING:**

If the church parking lot is full, there is additional parking at the top of the hill on Chapel Street Exit the church parking lot and proceed left on Chapel St. (one way), around the block back to Nott Terrace.

Make a left at Chapel Street. Parking lot is directly on the right.

WANT DAVID'S INPUT ON YOUR OWN "PERSONAL PROJECT"?

SIGN UP FOR HIS FULL-DAY WORKSHOP:

"Taking your Travel Photography to the Next Level."

See details on page 4!



# David H. Wells, Photographer Full-Day Workshop:



#### How to Take Your Travel Photography to the Next Level

When: Saturday, September 19, 2015

Time: 10 am to 4 pm

Where: Burnt Hills United Methodist Church

816 Route 50, Burnt Hills, NY

Cost: \$60 SPS members; \$75 non-members

(Includes lunch - pizza/salad)

For More Information or to Reserve Your Seat,

Contact/Send Payment to: Connie Frisbee Houde

22 Elm Street, Albany, NY 12202

(518) 465-0582 / globalphotographer@me.com



Every travel photographer defines their mission in their own way, but by David's definition, a successful travel photo is one that creates a desire in the viewer to experience the place, culture, food or thing/person shown in the image. There are many choices to be made: exposure settings, which lens to use, from which position, and when to capture the image. All of these apply to many kinds of photography. In most good travel photography situations, 95% of the work is done before the camera reaches your eye.

For many people, travel photography combines two of their favorite passions: travel and photography. Making exceptional travel photographs requires you to be good

at many different types of photography, varying from street photography, to still life work to portraits. In a typical day of travel you can photograph busy festivals, quiet buildings, people, open landscapes or close-up imagery of nature. The best travel photographers are versatile in their skills and fluid in their process, using minimal gear to achieve maximum results.

This is a lecture class with extensive visuals, for beginner and intermediate photographers. We start with introductions then David shares his work, looks at student's work and teaches techniques. This class can be the first step in what may be a life-long journey for people to combine two of their favorite passions...travel and photography.

#### In this class, David H. Wells shares his strategies on the following topics:

The traveling photographer's camera and bag / Being in the right place at the right time

Varying the time of the day / Understanding the light / Portraying people

Composition / Stopping action vs showing motion

Framing and scaling / Thoughts on tripods

Using the appropriate lens / Basics of flash

#### **BONUS:**

Bring up to 50 4" x 6" <u>prints</u> which David Wells will personally edit, to get you started on your own photo essay!

# MEET and GREET New Members and Share Your Work Wednesday, September 30th

Traditionally our second meeting (after kick-off) has been an Introduction for New Members. Once again, this year we are taking it a step further...

Yes, we would like to welcome new members to the Club and review some of the intricacies of competition, etc. As in the past, there will be presentations regarding both Print and Projected Image competitions, as well as a review of the Rules of Competition. But there's more!

We are asking our current/older members to *bring in a print or two* that they wish to share and discuss. Perhaps it is an image that won you an award...or perhaps not. It could be a new technique with which you are experimenting. Maybe you're trying your hand at black & white for the first time, or digital manipulation. Whatever it is, we would like to see it!

Let's use this pre-competition meeting to encourage new members (and perhaps those who have been a bit shy regarding competition). Let's share our work and foster some interesting discussions on photography, techniques and what it is that motivates *you* to click that shutter!



#### Speaking of competitions...

SPS is a member of the
Photographic Society of America, and
we regularly compete in inter-club
competitions. It's a great opportunity to see
how your work fares against photographers
from other clubs and locales.

Check out the details and deadlines on our website under:

Competitions / PSA Inter-club.
Images can be uploaded directly on the website.

Sean Sullivan is the Inter-club Coordinator. Seek him out if you have any questions.

#### 2015 PSA Annual Conference



#### Yellowstone National Park

The 77th PSA Conference has an exciting lineup of photo tours, workshops, programs, featured speakers, and social activities.

#### **DATES:**

Sunday, September 27 through Saturday, October 3, 2015

#### **SPEAKERS:**

Rick Gerrity
Rick Clorim FPSA, MPSA
Mike Moats
Art Wolfe
Roman Kurywczak
Bryan F. Peterson
Tim Grey

PLUS a host of presenters from the PSA Projected Image, Nature, Pictorial Print, Photo Travel, Photojournalism and 3D Divisions... and More!

#### **CONFERENCE HOTEL:**

Holiday Inn West Yellowstone 315 Yellowstone Avenue W. West Yellowstone, MT 59758

**On-Line** registration closed August 26th.

**On-Site** registration starts September 26th in West Yellowstone and includes an additional \$40.00 late fee.

For further details and information: https://www.psa-photo.org/index.php?2015psa-conference



# MAX TILLER'S PHOTO, "MARIANNE" WINS "BEST IN SHOW"

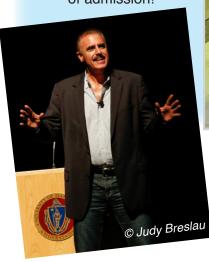




#### SPS AT NECCC...

Once again SPS had a large group attending the New England Camera Club Council's Annual Conference at UMass/Amherst.
Many - but not all - are shown here.

Ron Magill's (below) keynote address alone was worth the price of admission!



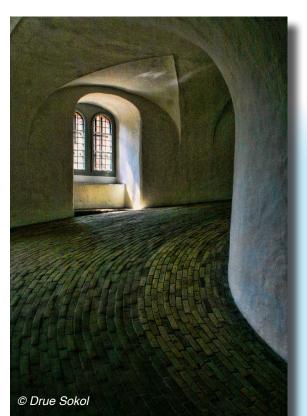


Front (L-R): Anna Rubarsky, Linda Tommasulo, Luba Ricket, Rebekah Sokol, Drue Sokol Middle (L-R): Linda Buckman, Jack Hurley, Connie Frisbee Houde, Dale Winsor, Cynthia Placek, Jane Riley

Back Standing (L-R): Judy Breslau, Doug Mitchell, MJ Adelman, Harold Sokol, Sukumar, John Ogden, Barbara Lawton, Alice Sage-Pulver

"Missing in Action": Ron Ginsburg and Dow Smith

#### SPS MEMBERS RECOGNIZED AT NECCC 2015



#### 2015 Judge's Choice Print Competition Winner

Drue Sokol, who has been working in Washington for the past year, is an active member in the SPS print and projected competitions.

Her winning print "The Round Tower" was taken in 2014 on a trip to Copenhagen, Denmark.

Drue's print will travel the country for all to see and enjoy.

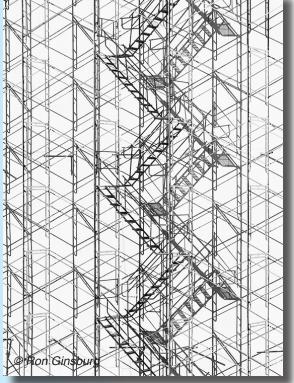
Congratulations, Drue!







Two SPS images scored "Semifinalist" in the Sigma Showcase Photo Contest: "Scaffold Stairs" by Ron Ginsburg and "Tulip Festival" by Linda Tommasulo





Linda Tommasulo's digital entry
"Balloon Silhouettes"
was awarded an "Honorable Mention" at
this year's NECCC Conference Digital
Competition.



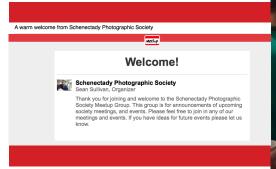
## LET'S MEET UP AT THE NEW SPS MEETUP!

#### IT'S OFFICIAL!

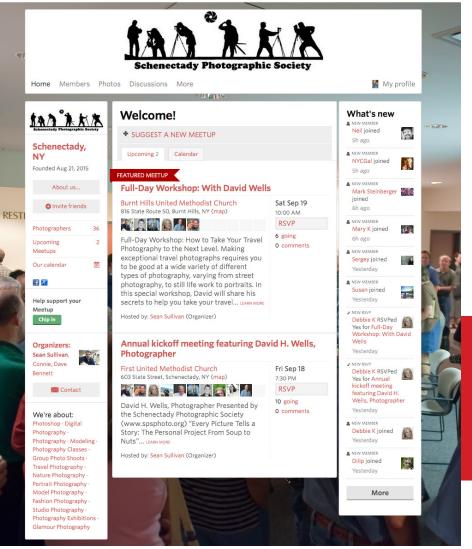
SPS has a new Meetup group.

Please join - and encourage your photo-friends to do so too. It will be a forum where we can post events, meetings, and hopefully gettogethers to go out and shoot. After all...that's what it's all about!

It's easy to access and it's free: http://www.meetup.com/ Schenectady-Photographic-Society/



Thanks to Sean Sullivan for setting this up. Let's use it!



#### JAJJA'S KIDS PHOTO EXHIBIT AND ART SALE

Connie Frisbee Houde, MJ Adelman and Diane Reiner invite you to a unique exhibit focusing on:

- Ugandan culture and environment
  - The evolution of Jajja's kids
- The Children's art and African artifacts

**WHERE:** The Fulton Street Gallery

406 Fulton Street, Troy

DATE: August 28th - October 2nd

TIME: Wed./12-7; Thurs. & Fri./12-5; Sat./12-4

View it at Troy Night Out on September 25, Cafe Night on September 10.

# - Jajja's Kids Addressing the Needs of Ugandan Street Children

Learn more about Jajja's kids (or make a donation) at www.JajjasKids.org

#### ANNUAL BANQUET 2015!

The stars came out (our award winners, that is) and their friends to enjoy the SPS End-of-Season Banquet and Awards Dinner at Treviso in Albany.



#### COMING IN OCTOBER...

October 3

"Scott Kelby PhotoWalk" http://kelbyone.com/photowalk/walk/ schenectady-ny-united-states-somewhere-in-schenectady-county/

October 7

"Creativity Panel" Print Group Competition (Assigned Topic: Frame in Frame)

October 14

SPS Panel:
"Wisdom of the Winners"
Projected Image Competition
(Assigned Topic: I Heard That!)

October 21
Guest Speaker: T.B.A.

October 28
Mentoring Night: Bring Your Camera

#### \$\$\$\$\$\$\$ DUES ARE DUE! \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

To keep up with our operating costs, it has become necessary to raise dues for the 2015-2016 season. (Note: You must pay to compete.)

Individual Membership: \$45
Family Membership: \$50

Dues may be paid at our meetings or send check to: Pat McCormick 930 Delamont Ave., Schenectady, NY 12307 Please support our advertisers and sponsors...





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- Tape/Tissue
- Stretcher Bars & Floater Frames
- Photo Corners



#### Photo Stories Wanted!

Have you been to a special place, seen a wonderful exhibit, or hanging your images on display?

Are you experimenting with some new software or plug-ins, taken some fantastic images or have some interesting shooting or post-processing techniques to share with your fellow members?

This is *your* newsletter and *your* forum to do so!

Feel free to contact me (Linda Tommasulo) with any suggestions or questions.

Send your photos, sized as you would for digital competition (1024 x 768 at 300 ppi), and accompanying text to: **focuseditor@icloud.com** 

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

#### Hunt's September Specials for Club Members:

Now through September 26, 2015 or until supplies run out we are offering the Canon Pixma PRO 10 Printer at \$379.99 before rebate (Canon sells it on their website for \$699.99). If you purchase the printer plus a package of 13x19x50 sheets of Canon Semi-Gloss or Luster paper for \$50, Canon will send you a \$250 mail in rebate! Your final cost is \$129.99 plus the paper! Or if you prefer, you can buy the Canon Pixma PRO 100 printer at \$349.99 (\$499.99 on Canon's website), buy the paper, \$50, and receive a \$250 mail in rebate. Your final cost is \$99.99 plus the paper.

We also have several Induro Tripod products on promotion due to a special purchase we made:

CT313 Tripod Legs: \$299.99 (reg. \$543) / CT113 Tripod Legs: \$199.99 (reg. \$326) / CT414 Tripod Legs: \$349.99 (reg. \$665) CM24 Monopod: \$79.99 (reg. \$123) / BHM2 Ballhead: \$119.99 (reg. \$205). These specials are limited quantity-no rainchecks!

All Think Tank bags are 20% off! Bowens Mosaic Solo On-Camera LED Light, \$89.99! (reg. \$149). Promaster "Selfie Stick" Compact Camera Boom, \$24.99 (reg. \$29.95). All Moab Paper is 10% off!

And don't forget to pre-order Nikon's exciting new lenses: AF-S NIKKOR 24-70mm f/2.8E ED VR \$2,399.95 - AF-S NIK-KOR 200-500mm f/5.6E ED VR \$1,399.95.

Want to buy or need more info? Call Alan Samiljan, at 781-662-8822 or email, alansamhunts@gmail.com, Please mention Camera Club Specials. UPS Ground shipping is free to NY, and there is no sales tax except for orders shipped to MA, RI or ME.

#### 2015-2016 Print Assigned Topics

2015

October 7 Frame in Frame

Show us a frame within a frame...within a frame.. within a frame...well, you get the idea.

November 4 Nature - PSA Rules

No sign of man-made objects or presence.

December 2 Time

There is never enough. How do you visualize time?

2016

January 6 Bokeh

Use creative soft focus to highlight your subject.

February 3 Architecture

It's all around us, so show us some creative views.

March 2 Green with Envy

Show us the green!

April 6 Get Low

Get down and show the world from a low perspective.

May Print of the Year



### 2015-2016 Projected Image Assigned Topics

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

October 14 I Heard That!

Let us hear the sound in your image.

November 11 Yogi said, "It Ain't Over Till It's Over."

Show us what he meant.

December 9 The Roof

Make a roof or roofs significant in the image.

2016

2015

January 13 Crusty

Literally or figuratively.

February 10 The Night

Outdoors, indoors, lit or dark. Show us the night.

March 9 Barriers

Show us why we can't get there from here (or how we can).

April 13 Weather

Shoot it now; it will change!

May Projected Image of the Year

There are LOTS of ways to connect with the Schenectady Photographic Society:

Website: www.spsphoto.org

Facebook: "Schenectady Photographic Society"

Meetup:

http://www.meetup.com/Schenectady-Photographic-Society/



#### FOUNDED 1931

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2015-2016**

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and......Connie Frisbee Houde globalphotographer@me.com

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Projected Image Co-Chairs ...... Dan Steen dmsteen@gmail.com

and......Jeff Plant (no e-mail address)

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dowsmith323@gmail.com

Judge Coordinator Chairs.....Ron Ginsburg

lginsbu1@nycap.rr.com

and.....Robert Coppola

b\_coppola64@yahoo.com

Smart Phone Competition Chair... Jeff Perkins Perkster46@yahoo.com

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