

**Bold red texts
are
interactive links!**

FOCUS

Volume 86 - No. 6

www.spsphoto.org

March 2020

**EVENT
NIGHT!**

PHOTO ESSAY COMPETITION (Print and Digital) MARCH 18

Hosted by Dow Smith

This year's photo essay contest is fast approaching. Time to get that book or slide show together. It's creative, challenging and fun to build a photo essay but it does take a little more time than taking a quick shot for the assigned topic and printing it for that night's competition. Not that members of the SPS would do something like that.

So, what is a photo essay? Finding a subject is all about finding your photo passion. What do you love taking photos of? Do you love a subject like flowers, dogs or horses? What about a location like Lark Street, last year's winning entry, Ireland or the Mohawk River? Photos from a trip to Yellowstone Park, Argentina or Nantucket? Pull together your best shots around a topic and then create a slide show, video, poster or book.



Last season's print submissions.

In a program last December several members exhibited work that is well on the way to being a photo essay.

Building a slide show or book isn't difficult. There are a number of programs for creating slide shows. It doesn't matter if

Continued...

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Photo Essay Competition

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you are on a Mac or Windows based computer, Lightroom Classic includes a module for editing photos into a slide show complete with music and video. Of course, the most popular program for creating slide shows on a PC has been ProShow Gold. Unfortunately, the company behind this software has announced it is shutting down. It does seem to be available from other sites. A Goggle search shows a number of reasonably priced alternatives.

If you are a Mac user, then FotoMagico is a popular slideshow builder and easy to use.

In any event you should save your final project as either a .mov file (Mac QuickTime file) or the standard PC based .mp4 file. Both will play on our Mac computer. Most of the programs offer a variety of file formats for saving your essay. Once you have finished your project you can send it to me on a program like “dropbox” or any of the cloud-based services that handle large files. Video files are big. The alternative would be to give me a USB drive with your show on it. **I would like to get your entries by midnight on March 14th so I can make sure your program will play properly. The earlier the better.**

Look for software that allows you to control the pace of the slideshow and match the transitions to a music bed. It should also allow for movement, called the Ken Burns effect, in and around your images to add impact. Slide shows without music would be pretty dull. Look for music that fits the mood of your photos and the pace of images should also fit that mood. Try to avoid cheesy music and remember that you should use “rights free” music if you want to post it to YouTube or the Internet. You can find “rights free” music on both paid sites like Pond 5 or Three Scoops and there is also free music available on line.

We all have it, it is called “attention deficit.” If the slides show is more than 3 to five minutes long, it can get pretty boring. In the rules the limit is 8 minutes which is too long! The answer is tough, it is appropriately called “killing your

babies.” Every image needs to earn its place in your slideshow, so sometimes you have to remove an image you love.

Creating a photo essay book is pretty simple with a number of the printing services like Shutterfly, Snapfish and Blurb (tied to Lightroom) all easy to use. Of course, the drug chains and other printing services like McGreevy’s offer books as well. The most important thing is to leave enough time to get it printed and returned before March 18th.

An alternative to a book, for the print category, could be a poster, storyboard or anything printed.

Take a look at the rules posted on the SPSPhoto.org website

if you have any questions:

<https://spsphoto.org/programs/photo-essay/photo-essay-competition-rules/>



Dow Smith hosting last season's Photo Essay Competition.

I'm here to help.

If you have any technical or content questions give me a call at:

518-221-9004

or email me at:

dowsmith323@gmail.com

In the past I've even driven to a member's home to help solve technical problems.



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Rich Schreiberstein

Slightly Out of Focus

I'm primarily a street shooter, not much into landscapes, star trails, flowers, butterflies, or wildlife. Except dogs, which don't really qualify as wildlife, except for the occasional Dingo, which have become rare in my neighborhood. Not that I don't like a good landscape, star trail, flower, or butterfly shot. I even enjoy the occasional jellyfish.

My niche is street shooting. I prefer "niche" to "passion." Passion is an uncontrollable emotion. If I was passionate about street photography, my photographs would be out of focus, sort of like my teenage years.

Which makes it even more curious that I've been experimenting with throwing my photos deliberately out of focus. Not all the photo, just some of its parts. I picked up a couple of Lensbaby lenses recently, three exactly. A Velvet 56, Sweet 35, and an Edge 50. I periodically need a creative spark, and Lensbabys have done that for me. If you're not familiar with them, they're made in Portland, Oregon, not particularly expensive, and a whole lot of fun if you're into quirky, which I've frequently been accused of. You can also pick them up on the used market as many photographers give up on them, probably because Lensbabys are all manual, every one of them. Your camera will get no data from these lenses.

I've just started with them; only got my Edge 50 last week and am somewhere between stupid and ignorant on the learning curve. To throw another wrench into the mix, many of these are tilt lenses. Two of mine are, the Sweet 35 and the Edge 50. The way they work is by throwing nearly everything out of focus. With the Sweet 35, the center of wherever you point your lens—vertically, horizontally, or diagonally—will be in focus; how much is in focus will depend on your aperture which varies from $f/2.5$ to $f/22$.

If that isn't enough to discourage you, let me explain how the Edge 50 focuses. Same tilting but the focus is just a slice and that slice isn't just a band of equal width across the photo, it flares. You can get a slice in any direction and the width of the slice is again determined by your aperture. The Edge 50's apertures are $f/3.2$ to $f/22$. Quick quiz: Take a look at the photo and find the slice.



© Rich Schreiberstein

What you'll need to get started with many of these lenses is a base called Composer Pro II. That's the part that tilts. You only need one of them as this is an optical swap system. You then just remove and replace the optic when you want a different effect. Other Lensbabys, such as my Velvet 56, are standalone lenses, which are a skosh less difficult to master.

If your photography isn't providing you a decent level of frustration, which I always take as a challenge, then a Lensbaby should satisfy that need. Take a look at their website; forewarned is forearmed.

Rich

Ready for some challenge
and frustration?

www.lensbaby.com

USING THE TOOLS MARCH 4 by Lawrence White

Physics teaches us that the convex lens in our eye means that we actually see everything upside down. Our brain makes the correction. Perception and reality are two different things. Are we only perceiving a small percent of what is around us and does photography help us dig deeper?

We will discuss the rules of photography and how to break them...with respect. We will also discuss sharing and marketing creative photography.



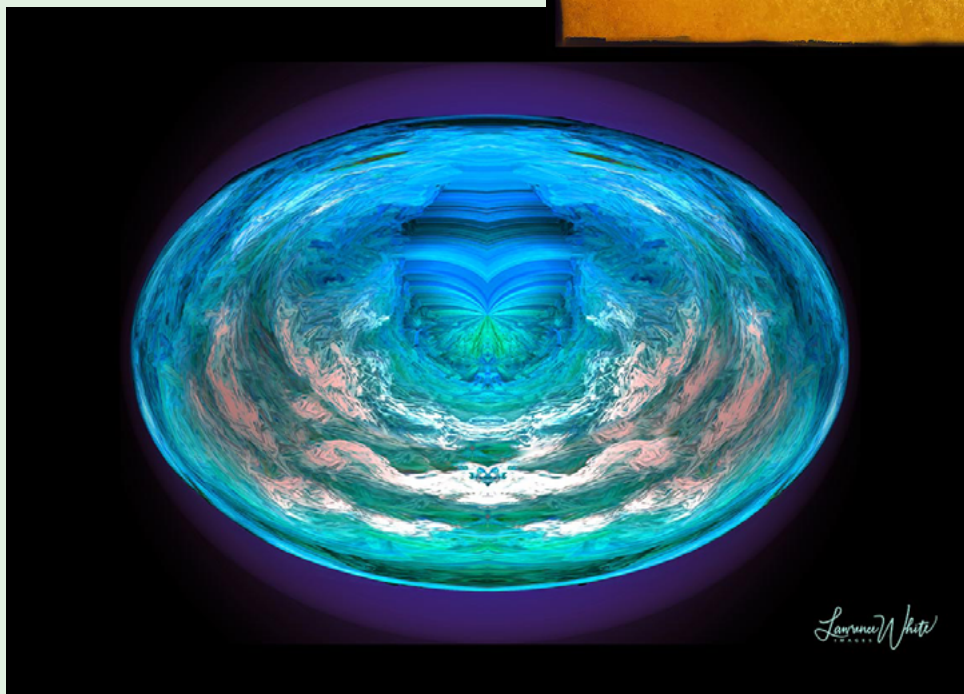
Continued...

Using the Tools

(Continued from page 4)

Prior to his presentation,
check out Lawrence's latest article
in the March issue of
518 Profiles Magazine:

[https://issuu.com/ininkny/
docs/2020_march_518_profiles_
magazine/14?fbclid=
IwAR3HzvmbkTltMgU8updP-
PLmMzOb6Af-sE_CEhwVjrn-
EW8GHQ2HmuPC_AQ](https://issuu.com/ininkny/docs/2020_march_518_profiles_magazine/14?fbclid=IwAR3HzvmbkTltMgU8updP-PLmMzOb6Af-sE_CEhwVjrn-EW8GHQ2HmuPC_AQ)



Find more of Lawrence's
work on his website:

[http://www.lawrence
whiteimages.com/](http://www.lawrencewhiteimages.com/)



GERMANY

MARCH 11

by Sonya Ward

Sonya was born and raised in Germany. She spent her teenage years in the German state of Rhineland-Palatinate, which is located in the Southwest of Germany and borders France, Belgium and Luxembourg.

Join her as she introduces the many scenic areas of the state with majestic views of the Rhine valley, where wine making is a millennial old tradition. The Romans brought the cultivated vine and wine-growing techniques to the area around 1 A.D. Rhineland-Palatinate is Germany's leading producer of wine in terms of grape cultivation and wine export. You will journey along the river, past the famous Lorelei and to Boppard's Vierseenblick.

You will be introduced to her family, attractions such as Boppard and Castle Eltz, the towns of Sprendlingen, Bad Kreuznach and Mainz.

The State's capital, Mainz, is known for its old town, with half-timbered houses and medieval market squares. In the center, the Marktbrunnen is a Renaissance fountain with red columns. Nearby, a distinctive octagonal tower tops the Romanesque Mainz Cathedral, built of deep red sandstone. The Gutenberg Museum honors the inventor of the printing press with exhibits, including two of his original bibles.



Photos © Sonya Ward

FOCUS ON

Jeana Caywood

As an Arizona kid, I grew up wanting to learn photography and actually took a “shot” at photography during the film years, but then marriage and kids came along. I was in my forties when I realized that all these dreams are not going to come true unless you make them happen. That was when I accomplished a different childhood dream, my first hike through the Grand Canyon. Well, when one is IN the Grand Canyon, one must take pictures, right? I came back from that trip with some amazing shots from a little, itty, bitty, pocket-sized camera. My husband oooooed and aaaahed over them and then we moved on. As the years went by, more hikes and more cameras and more images passed through my hands. I realized how much I loved both hobbies and decided to start the journey of photography.

A Google search netted my mentor, Jim Harmer. He was the owner of the website, Improvephotography. I read his books, listened to the podcasts, and went to his workshops. Because of him, I have come in contact with some incredible photographers from across the country. It started in Oregon, but since then I have worked with IP folks in Yellowstone, Glacier National Park, Vermont, Iceland, Arizona, and Utah. I hope to make it to the Smoky Mountains soon.

Why did I leave Arizona to move to the Northeast you ask? My husband obtained a job here and didn't plan to take no for an answer. One of his plugs was that, “It would be an adventure.” Being that I love adventure, here I am.



I have now been able to add all the states of the northeast portion of the country to the, “Places I've Been,” category. I love it here, but am anxious to go back to my beloved family and beautiful Arizona. (You all are invited to come visit.)



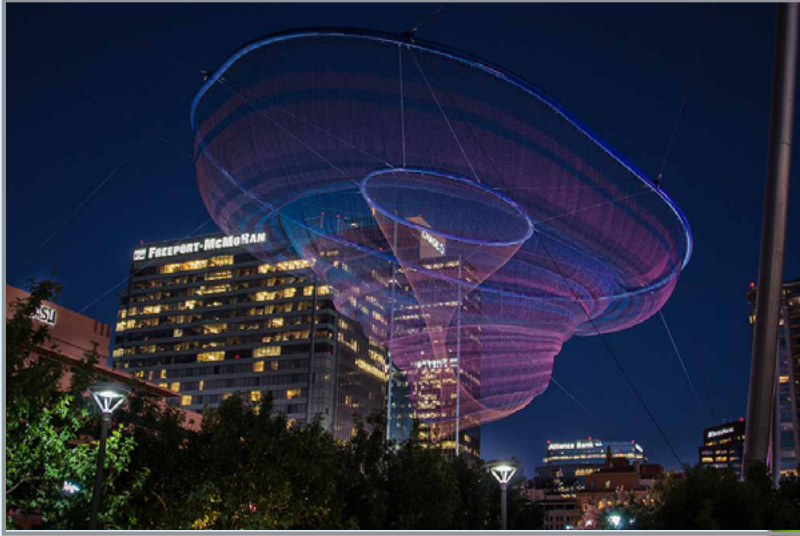
I am self-taught, so therefore, the journey has been laborious. I have made some pretty frustrating mistakes on multiple occasions. Being a part of the Schenectady Photographic Society has given me the opportunity to put my art in the eyes of helpful critics so that I can learn from others. I'm also grateful for the fact that I am meeting other like-minded folks in the NE Region of the country and look forward to getting to know more of you as my journey continues.

All photos © Jeana Caywood

Continued...

FOCUS ON: Jeana Caywood

(Continued from page 7)



All photos © Jeana Caywood



Finger Lakes Professional Photographers Society of New York
continuing education:



COMING APRIL 19, 2020: FULL DAY

**LINDSAY
ADLER**

\$99

**Location:
Quality Inn,
Waterloo NY**

Join us for Lindsay's Upstate NY presentation "In Search of Creativity: Creativity in-camera & Photoshop" for a full day of mind blowing learning from one of photography's top photographers and instructors.

Lunch and accommodations available at extra cost.

PPA Merit for PPA Members with PPA number.

For more info on the presentation see our Facebook page:
www.facebook.com/groups/FingerLakesPPSNYS



Sponsored by:

PHOTO & VIDEO
Hunt's

For more information or to register contact

Al Knataitis at 315-945-4867 or email: aknataitis@gmail.com.

**LIVE
AND
LEARN**

**Lindsay
Adler
Workshop
and
Connie
Frisbee
Houde
Photo Editing
Crash
Course**

03/14/20 | Photo Editing Crash Course

**At The Arts Center of the Capital Region • 265 River St., Troy, NY
(518) 273-0552**

Course Description

Have you ever struggled with what to do with all the photographs you have taken? You have downloaded hundreds and sometime thousands of images on your computer, but, now what? Perhaps you are feeling overwhelmed by the "job" ahead of you to sort through all the photos? Organize your photos, and focus on the task at hand, breaking the editing process into smaller more manageable pieces. General discussion and hands-on editing images will occur.

Start Date:

End Date:

Number of

Time: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

03/14/2020

03/14/2020

Sessions: 1

Instructor: Connie Frisbee Houde

<http://www.conniefrisbeehoude.com>

Click here to Register:

**[https://www.artscenteronline.org/
class/03-14-20-photo-editing-crash-
course/](https://www.artscenteronline.org/class/03-14-20-photo-editing-crash-course/)**

Member Price: \$94

Non-Member Price: \$104

Studio Fee: \$7

Hudson Valley Photography Network

Presents
"IN PURSUIT OF PHOTOGRAPHIC EXCELLENCE"
with
BRYAN PETERSON
Professional Photographer



SATURDAY, MAY 2, 2020
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Sign in begins at 8:15 AM

MOUNT ST. MARY COLLEGE
HUDSON HALL AUDITORIUM
330 Powell Avenue
Newburgh, NY 12550

THE CONFERENCE PRICE
INCLUDING LUNCH
AND BEVERAGE BREAKS
is \$39.00

Register by mail: - Send check for \$39 payable to the Hudson Valley Photography Network to: Thomas Vallancourt, P.O. Box 242, Goshen, NY 10924

Register via PayPal at <https://hvphotonet.com/conferences>.

Learn more about Bryan Peterson at:
<https://bryanfpetersonphotoworksops.com/about/>

CALL FOR PHOTOGRAPHY 42ND ANNUAL PHOTO REGIONAL

The 42nd Annual Photography Regional Salon Show is back again with its traditional salon-style show, at ACG, from **Tuesday, May 26, 2020, to Friday, June 19, 2020**. The opening reception will be on **Friday, June 5, 2020**, from **5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.** where awardees will be announced.

The exhibition will be juried by Karen Davis, curator/co-founder of [Davis Orton Gallery](#) in Hudson NY, now in its eleventh year. Upon selection, the gallery will take down and re-install the selected works for the *42nd Annual Photography Regional Juror Select Show*, which will open **Thursday, July 2, 2020**, until **Friday, July 17, 2020**, with an artist talk on opening night, **Thursday, July 2, 2020, from 5:00 p.m to 7:00 p.m.** (more details to follow).

Over \$1,000 in prizes will be awarded at the opening reception. So make sure to register your photography! Click the button below for information regarding registration.

Pre-register online by May 1 or register in-gallery with your piece(s) on May 2, 5, 6 at the times listed.



Click
here
for more information
or to register.

COMPOSITIONS WITH FACES

by Joe Brady

Reprinted with permission from Joe's FotoFriday blog - January 24, 2020

Which way should a person or animal face?

I'm in Titusville Florida right now for the Space Coast Birding & Wildlife Festival and had a couple of edits that worked best with the birds looking in opposite directions. What causes this? Sometimes it's about the light, sometimes it's about the surrounding environment and sometimes it's about the mood and placement of the animal in the frame. These same considerations apply to portraits of people just the same - my philosophy about this is that "if it has eyes, it's a portrait."



Let's take a look at two different photographs featuring birds and see what works best and why. In the first image above, we have a Great Egret with standing on its nest with some youngsters below. There's not a cloud in the sky (which I decided to fix!) and the scene is well lit. Since there is currently nothing in the background the direction of the bird becomes part of the story.

In general, we consider when someone (or something) is looking off to the right, that signifies looking to what's ahead - what is in the future - what is about to happen. Looking to the left sometimes means considering the past, wondering what just happened, and looking back to something that just happened.

Now these of course are generalizations and there are plenty of exceptions depending on the

environment, lighting, background and composition. This particular shot however, does however seem to apply to the guidelines.

On a horizontal image, we generally read it like a book - from the left to the right. As our eyes track across the image, we come to the bird looking left and stop to consider what's going on. The problem is that since we track left to right in this image, after we look at the bird, we continue right to see what else we may have to look at, but there is nothing there. This makes it easy to leave the image and continue to something else. If we wish the viewer to linger and consider all the elements in the image, we need to make it easier to stop and look closer into the photograph.

I decided to first add some clouds to break up the vast solid blue of the sky. This helps to keep the sky from overpowering the bird and the nest.

I adjusted the shadows to open up the features on the bird and increased the saturation a bit as well.



After looking at the near-final image, I decided to flip it horizontally and it became obvious that this was the better choice, but why?

Continued...

Compositions with Faces

(Continued from page 11)



With the bird a bit on the left side and looking right, you are more prone to read the image from right to left rather than the other way around. This makes your eyes travel to the animal looking ahead (to the future, to flying out, to lunch?) and tells more of a story about what might come next. Since you are traveling right to left, when you come to the bird, your eyes stop. The animal presents a visible barrier from leaving the photo to the right and since our eyes want to travel left to right anyway, you stop at the bird and linger.

Why this happens, I have no idea, but perhaps it's somewhat cultural since we are taught to read from left to right. Do other cultures that read in other directions view photographs differently? I'll need to ask around!

In this second image of a Wood Stork, the direction we need to face the bird is different, but for a different reason. When we present a photograph, we want the viewer to go to the intended subject and linger. They should feel the desire to look around and further explore the image. What keeps the viewer in this image is not the animal, but the background.

The open blue sky on the left creates a physical and open color path right to the nesting bird. As we track left to right, we take the path of least resistance to the subject and the open sky makes this both obvious and simple. The dark, unfocused foliage on the right side of the bird creates a visual block to keep the viewer from leaving the image. You are bounced back to the bird and then linger and explore.



Continued...

Compositions with Faces

(Continued from page 12)

If we flip this image however, the opposite happens. Now the open blue sky creates an escape path right out of the image. You read left to right, then follow the opening in the sky right out of the image. This isn't what we're after with our photography - we want our viewers to stay and look into the photograph, not simply look at it and then leave.

This is one of the key elements that helps to make a successful image, so make sure that when your viewer is lead into the image, don't provide a path that guides them out!



Joe Brady is a photographer, educator, author, photo workshop leader and studio owner who has been teaching photography and photo editing for over twenty years. One of his greatest joys is to see photographers in his classes and workshop have that “Ah-Hah!” moment where they capture a beautiful image they have been after for some time.

Joe is an author on lynda.com, an X-Rite Coloratti, a Fotopro Ambassador and is a contributing author for the Kelby Media Lightroom Magazine. His Newsletter “Fotofriday” goes out to over 11,000 photographers every Friday. As a producer and presenter, Joe creates and delivers online educational webinars and videos for photo-industry companies including Hensel, Phottix, Elinchrom, X-Rite, Sekonic, PocketWizard, Phottix, Induro, Benro, Ilford, Nissin, Fotopro, Tascam, Zoom, Novoflex and Sony with over 3 million views.

A recipient of the Fuji Masterpiece Award for his landscape photography, Joe is a sought after speaker and teaches photography workshops around the world, specializing in scenic and panoramic landscapes and environmental portrait photography.

Check out Joe Brady's images at:
<https://www.joebradyphotography.com/>

Or subscribe to his FotoFriday blog here:
<https://www.fotofriday.blog/>

FEBRUARY AT SPS



Sean Sullivan gave us an overview of Topaz AI



Jim Craner judged our Print Competition



Ed Fritz showed us everything we always wanted to know about tripods...
and more!

All photos © Rich Schreibstein



Phil Olivo took us on a tour of the Douro River

LEAP DAY

SPSers CHASING BUTTERFLIES AT MAGIC WINGS



Thank you, Joe Cotroneo,
for stepping up to be our
Field Trip Coordinator,
and for organizing a fun day at
Magic Wings in South Deerfield, MA.



Missed the trip?
It's not too far to drive.
Check out their website:
<http://www.magicwings.com/>

LEAP DAY
(Continued from page 15)



TRAVELING EXHIBIT

2019-2020 Season Schedule

Here are the confirmed dates (so far) for our Traveling Exhibit for the coming season. All members (Yes...you MUST be a member) are encouraged to participate. Members who have not previously participated will be given preference. Images must be framed and ready for hanging (i.e., wired). In general, there are no size restrictions (but, we ask you to be reasonable when it comes to larger prints). There are also no restrictions

as to subject matter (see exception for August/September 2019 below), frame and mat colors, canvas prints, metal prints, etc. Details on photo collection and specific exhibit dates/times will be forthcoming.

If you'd like more info, contact the Traveling Exhibit Coordinators at:
travelingexhibit@spsphoto.org

CALENDAR 2020

March

Voorheesville Public Library

51 School Rd., Voorheesville, NY 12186
 Mon–Thurs/9:30–9; Fri/9:30–6; Sat/10–5;
 Sun/1–5
 (518) 765-2791

April

Uncommon Grounds

402 Broadway, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866
 Mon–Thurs/6–10; Fri/6–11; Sat/6:30–11;
 Sun/6:30–10
 (518) 581-0656

May

The Schenectady Trading Company

609 Union St, Schenectady, NY 12305
 Tues–Fri /10–6; Sat/10–2
 (518) 280-3036

May & June

Spectrum 8 Theatres

290 Delaware Ave., Albany, NY 12209
 (518) 449-8995

July & August

The National Bottle Museum

76 Milton Ave., Ballston Spa, NY 12020
 Fri–Tues/10–4
 (518) 885-7589

September - November

Mabee Farm Historic Site

110 Main St., Rotterdam Junction, NY 12150
 Tues–Sat/11–4
 (518) 887-5073

December

Saratoga Springs Visitor's Center

297 Broadway, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866
 Mon–Fri/9–5; Sat/9–6; Sun/10–3
 (518) 587-3241



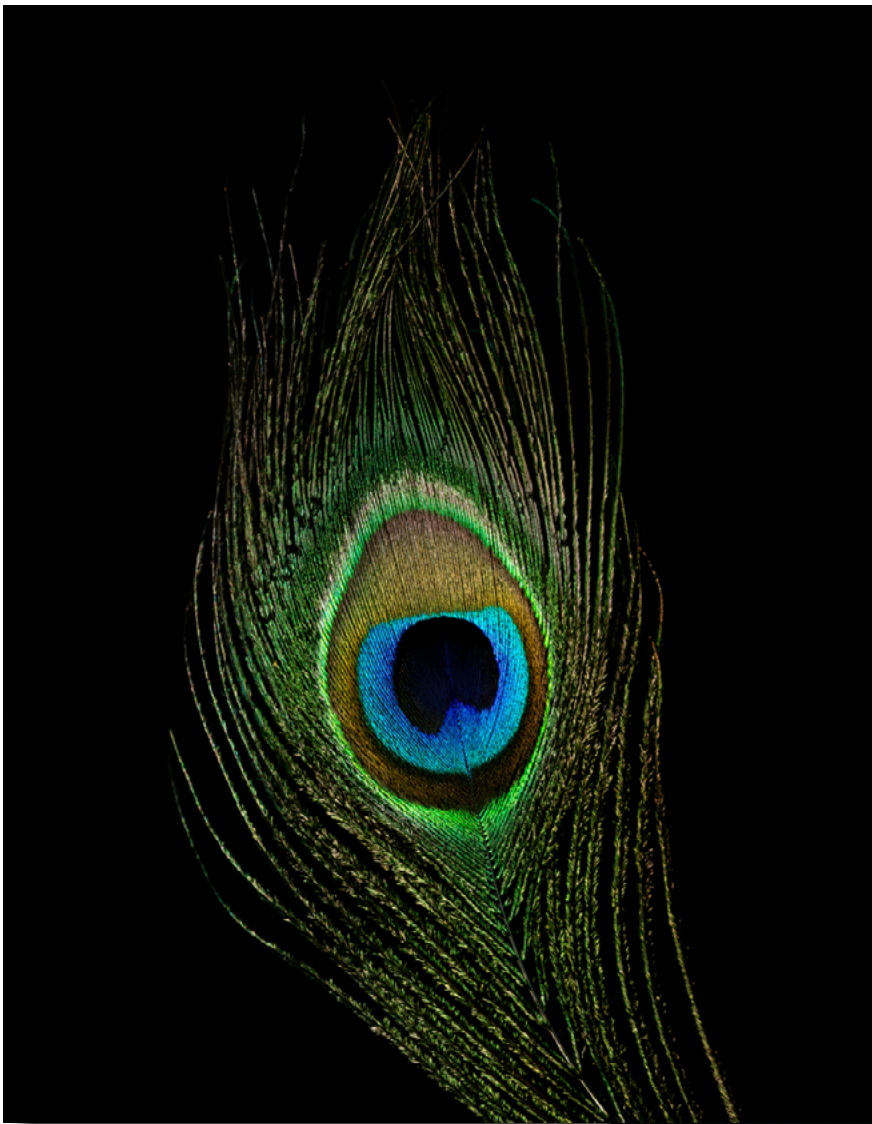
© Linda Tommasulo

Hanging at
 Voorheesville
 Public Library



© Linda Tommasulo

GENERAL



1st Place
"Peacock Feather"
© Joe Cotroneo

PRINT JUDGE: Jim Craner

"I've been a photographer for over fifty years, and so have seen a lot of milestones in the imaging industry. My personal photography is now devoted almost entirely to nature photography – with a particular emphasis on wildlife. What matters most to me is presenting a subject on both the informational and emotional levels. The decisive moment in wildlife photography is elusive, but when captured presents a beautiful creature in a dignified and enduring way."



2nd Place - "Horse Waterer"
© Alan Wiggins



3rd Place - "Happy"
© Carol Bell

FEBRUARY PRINT WINNERS

To view these, and other competition photos, check out our website:

www.spsphoto.org

Click: Competitions then
"Print" or "Digital Image"

Honorable Mention



"Back Alley in Galway"
© Barb Lawton



"Birdman of Costa Maya"
© Ferdie Bowman



"Let's Chill"
© Jeana Caywood

FEBRUARY PRINT WINNERS

MONOCHROME



1st Place
"The Babies"
© Jeana Caywood



2nd Place - "The Atrium"
© Ferdie Bowman



3rd Place - "Winter Fog"
© Joe Cotroneo

FEBRUARY PRINT WINNERS

Honorable Mention



"A Shot in the Dark" / © Dan Steen



Untitled / Pat McCormick



"A Shot in the Dark"
© Linda Tommasulo

Assigned Topic:
Portrait
(single person)



1st Place
"First Assistant Engineer"
© Sean Sullivan

FEBRUARY PRINT WINNERS

2nd Place - "Up to Something"
Elena Keesee
(Photo Not Available)



3rd Place - "Look into My Eyes"
© Barb Lawton

4th Place
"My Beautiful Cheerleader"
© Linda Tommasulo



Honorable
Mention

"After Marching in NYC
All Day"
© Sonya Ward



"The Winemaster"
© Rich Schreibstein



"Self Portrait"
© Joe Cotroneo

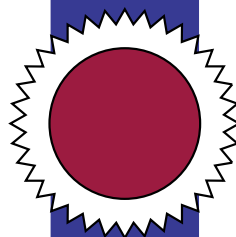


"If I Were King"
© Carolyn O'Donnell

FEBRUARY DIGITAL WINNERS



1st Place
"Happy Monarch"
© Linda Tommasulo



2nd Place
"Sacandaga Lake Trailer at Sunset"
© Kim Koza



3rd Place
"Pepto Bismol Boat"
© Carolyn O'Donnell

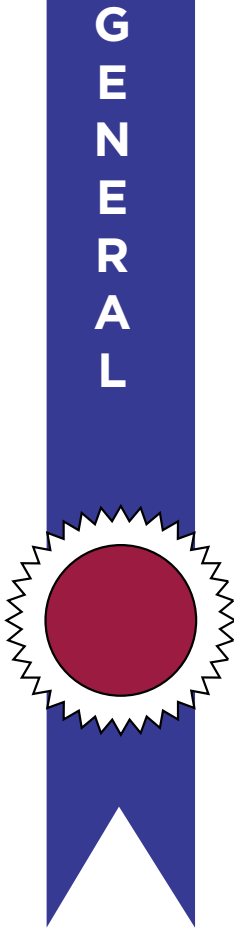
FEBRUARY DIGITAL WINNERS



4th Place
"Whiteout Ahead"
© Barb Lawton



5th Place
"Share the Road"
© Rich Schreiberstein



Honorable Mention



"Lone Farm"
© Bill Lanahan



"Morning Mist"
© Connie Frisbee Houde

FEBRUARY DIGITAL WINNERS

Honorable
Mention



"Miss Fitz" / © Dan Steen



"Tree Trunks"
© John Berninger



"Yet Another Jellyfish"
© Sean Sullivan

Assigned
Topic:
"Irony"

1st Place:
"Ghost Bus"
© Carol Bell



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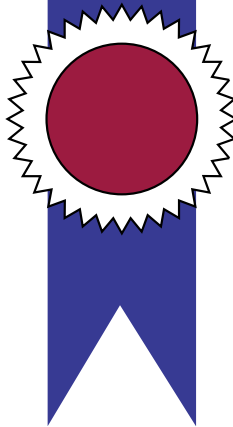
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FEBRUARY DIGITAL WINNERS

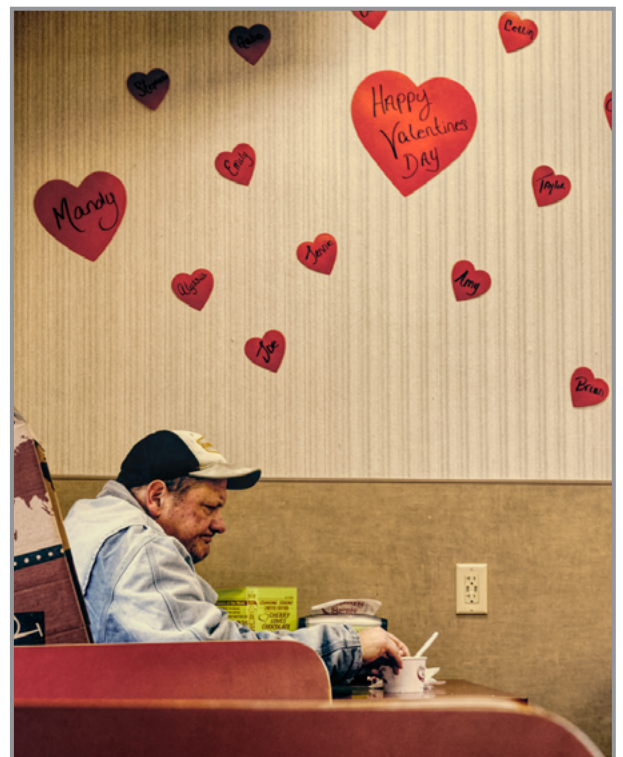


2nd Place: "We're Not Home Right Now, Please Leave a Message"
© Jeana Caywood

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3rd Place: "Iron-Y"
© Elena Keesee



4th Place: "Happy Valentine's Day"
© Rich Schreiberstein

FEBRUARY DIGITAL WINNERS

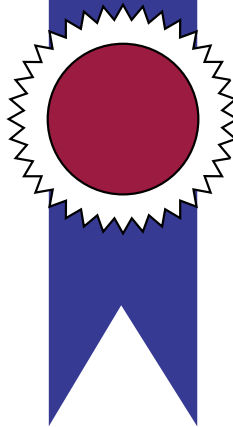


5th Place
"Tom's Work Space"
© Marguerite Hill

Digital Judge: Matthew Grandy

Matthew Grandy is a photographer and visual artist. He received his Bachelors of Fine Arts degree in photography at SUNY New Paltz and is pursuing a passion for both photography and three-dimensional artwork. His diverse body of work ranges from portraiture, abstraction, surrealism, and colorfield. Matthew believes there is a little bit of an artist in all of us and likes to work between the lines of the commercial and the conceptual.

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"Clueless"
© Carol Bell

Honorable Mention



"Orange is the New Black"
© Connie Frisbee Houde



"Beach is Closed"
© Dow Smith

FEBRUARY DIGITAL WINNERS



"Expert Advice"
© Elena Keesee

Honorable Mention

To view these, and other competition
photos, check out our website:

www.spsphoto.org

Click: Competitions then
"Print" or "Digital Image"

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"BAM - Boston Art Museum"
© Fred Moody

WINTER ISN'T OVER YET!

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.

NOTE: We now have a system whereby we will text message
you of meeting cancellations.

If you haven't already, please send Sean Sullivan your cell
phone number: webmaster@spsphoto.org.



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For Camera Club Specials...

Ask for Alan Samiljan, at (781) 462-2383.

**His hours are usually 8:30-5:00pm,
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday.**

**Leave a message or send an email
(asamiljan@huntsphoto.com),
and he'll get right back to you.**



New Camera's Alert!

**Canon 90D, Sony A7R4, and just
announced to be released, Nikon D6!**

MARCH HUNT'S SPECIALS

Boston is on track to have the warmest winter on record. I miss the snow!

Olympus has a "Trade In, Trade Up" program through April 5. The "Trade In, Trade Up" program gives you a bonus discount on the camera in addition to the value of your trade in. If you don't have a camera to trade ask me, I can help with that! The program even includes the new **E-M1 III**! Among many other improvements, the E-M1 III has better Image Stabilization, a next generation image processor and, most exciting, Starry Sky AF, which Olympus says will revolutionize astro-photography!

Olympus OM-D E-M1 III body \$1,799.99, \$1,599.99 after Trade Bonus; Olympus OM-D E-MX body \$2,599.99, \$2,399.99 after Trade Bonus; Olympus OM-D E-M1 II body \$1,399.99, \$1,199.99 after Trade Bonus

Olympus OM-D E-M1 II w/ 12-200mm \$1,799.99, \$1,699.99 after Trade; Olympus OM-D E-M5 II body \$699.99, \$599.99 after Trade Bonus.

Nikon is now delivering their new full frame DSLR, the **D780**, click [here](#). Through March 29 they will be offering a \$300 Trade-In Bonus! Trade in any working changeable lens digital camera and receive the value of your trade PLUS an additional \$300 off. Nothing to trade? Ask me, I can help with that!

Nikon D780 body \$2,299.95 before trade bonus
Nikon D780 w/ 24-120mm f/4G VR lens \$2,799.95 before trade bonus.

Nikon will be continuing their **INSTANT SAVINGS** on over 27 lenses through March 29. Call me at 781-462-2383 for a quote!

It's that time again! **Sony** is offering their "Trade In, Trade Up" promotion through March 29. Trade in any working changeable lens digital camera or lens and receive the following bonus discount on top of your trade. Nothing to trade? Ask me, I can help with that! Call me at 781-462-2383 for a quote.

If you are interested in any of the following rumored or announced items, call me at 781-462-2383 to be added to my database or pre-order if possible, and receive official information when available.

Fuji X-T4 \$1,699 body is available to pre-order now
Canon R5 next generation full frame mirrorless (announced as "under development")
Nikon D6 \$6,499.95 is available to pre-order now
M.Zuiko Digital ED 150-400mm f/4.5 TC1.25x IS PRO lens (announced as "under development")
Canon EOS-1D X Mark III DSLR Camera with CFexpress Card and Reader Bundle is available to pre-order now, \$6,499.

And another great special:

Now through March 31, 2020 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, \$50, Canon will send you a \$250 mail in rebate! This is a pigment based printer and is always reviewed very well. Your final cost is \$129.99 plus the \$50 paper package after mail in rebate! And if you purchase the printer with a qualifying Canon camera, the rebate increases to \$350!

In order to take advantage of these specials (or anything else you need) please call me, Alan Samiljan, at 781-462-2383 to place your order and reference this newsletter. As always, UPS Ground shipping for orders over \$50 is FREE in the Lower 48. My regular hours are 8:30-5:00pm eastern, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday.

Photographically yours, Alan

Don't Forget to Check out Hunt's Photo Walks, Workshops and Adventures:

<https://edu.huntsphoto.com/>

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SPS members can get 10% off all their orders with Frame Destination!

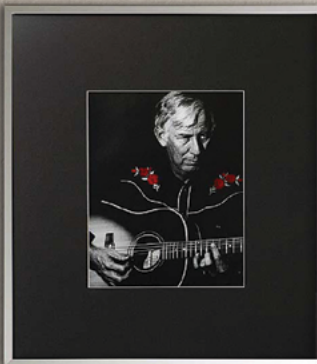
You must be a registered user of the Frame Destination website as a SPS member. (Note: The discount is not valid with other discounts, and will not work for non-members.)

To become a registered SPS member on our website follow these steps:

1. Click "Login" in the upper right of section of our site - <https://www.framedestination.com>
2. Click "Create an Account" in the middle of the page.
3. Chat or send an email to info@framedestination.com saying you are a registered user and need your account set for SPS membership.

To see how easy it is to order custom frames on our website you can check out the video "How to Order a Custom Picture Frame..." in our video gallery: [framedestination.com/video-gallery](https://www.framedestination.com/video-gallery). To learn more about us you can check out our About Us Video here: <https://www.framedestination.com/about-us>

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ABOUT THE SCHENECTADY PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY



For more than 85 years, the Schenectady Photographic Society has been the meeting place of photographers of all levels—from beginners to serious amateurs to professionals—with the goal of exploring and sharing their love of photography. Members throughout the Capital Region meet primarily on Wednesday nights to engage in various competitions (print, projected, photo essay and more), enjoy member round-table discussions, guest speaker presentations and hands-on mentoring to further their knowledge, creativity and inspiration. Occasional field trips give us the opportunity to expand our photographic vision; and frequent exhibits in the local area allow us to share that vision.

In addition to our monthly print and projected competitions, we are challenged with an assigned topic—encouraging participants to venture out of their comfort zones. Members participating in competitions receive specific commentary and suggestions to take their images to the next level. Don't wish to compete? That's OK too. Observing competitions is always an inspirational and learning experience.

The Schenectady Photographic Society is an enthusiastic and energetic group. Our camaraderie is infectious. Check out our calendar on the last page (season runs from late September to mid-May) and join us! Visitors are always welcomed...especially those who have a passion for photography.

*It's not about being better
than everyone else...
it's about being better than you were.*

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membership@spsphoto.org

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printchair@spsphoto.org

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photoessay@spsphoto.org

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travelingexhibit@spsphoto.org

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Connect with the Schenectady Photographic Society:

Website: **www.spsphoto.org**

Facebook Group: **<https://www.facebook.com/groups/schenectadyphotographicsociety/>**

Facebook Page: **<https://www.facebook.com/schenectadyphotographicsociety/>**

Instagram: @schenectadyphotographic

THE FOCUS NEEDS YOU! For articles, suggestions, and member profiles (bios/photos).

Contact Linda at **newsletter@spsphoto.org**.

SCHENECTADY PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

2019-2020 SEASON CALENDAR

Meetings start at 7pm and are held at the First United Methodist Church, 603 State Street, Schenectady, NY.
(Parking and entrances are on Chapel Street, a one-way street off Nott Terrace.)

This schedule is a work in progress and is subject to change!

September, 2019

9/25/19.....Opening Night

Print critique & member vote for best image to win
\$25 Amazon Gift Card. Hosted by Rich Schreiberstein.

October, 2019

10/2/19.....Print Competition

Assigned Topic: Long Exposure (30 seconds +)
Speaker: Connie Frisbee Houde, "Developing a
Personal Photography Project"

10/9/19.....NO MEETING

10/16/19.....Digital Competition

Assigned Topic: Shadow Art (where there is light
there must be shadow...and vice versa).
Speaker: Jim Craner, "Moonstruck"

10/23/19.....Event Night

"Bring Your Bag/Camera Mentoring"

November, 2019

**11/2/19 (Saturday)..... "Making Something out of
Nothing" Workshop with Mark Sweeney.**

11/6/19.....Print Competition

Assigned Topic: A Tradition (meaningful to you)
Speaker: Dow Smith & Linda Tommasulo
"Preparing for the Photo Essay Competition"

11/13/19.....Digital Competition

Assigned Topic: Coffee (delicious and rejuvenating,
and it is a work of art).
Speaker: M-J Adelman "Iceland & Greenland"

**11/19/19 (Rain Date 11/21) "Night Photography"
Workshop with Mark Bowie**

11/20/19.....Event Night

Speaker: Mark Bowie, "Compelling Landscapes"

December, 2019

12/4/19.....Print Competition

Assigned Topic: Still Life (any group of objects).
Speakers/YOU!: "Outside the Box" - Member Short
Presentations (any subject)

12/11/19.....Digital Competition

Assigned Topic: Top Down (Looking down is not
always a bad thing).
Speaker: Dr. Jeff Perkins, "Street Photography"

12/18/19, 12/25/19 and 1/1/20.....NO MEETING

January, 2020

1/8/20.....Print Competition

Assigned Topic: Macro Photography (no flowers!).
Speaker: David Edgecomb, "Photography and the 'ions'"

1/15/20.....Digital Competition

Assigned Topic: Symmetry (Bring balance and
harmony to your image). Speaker: Linda Tommasulo,
"Photographing Flowers"

1/22/20.....Event Night

M-J Adelman, "M-J's Western Adventure"

February, 2020

2/5/20.....Print Competition

Assigned Topic: Portrait (Single person, any style).
Speaker: Sean Sullivan, "Topaz and Artificial
Intelligence"

2/12/20.....Digital Competition

Assigned Topic: Irony (humorous or thought-
provoking). Speaker: Ed Fritz, "Tripods"

2/19/20.....Event Night

Speaker: Phil Olivo, "Adventures Along the Douro
River"

March, 2020

3/4/20.....Print Competition

Assigned Topic: Winter Scene (your best winter image)
Speaker: Lawrence White, "Using the Tools"

3/11/20.....Digital Competition

Assigned Topic: Faces in Things (Look in nature, food,
furniture, etc.). Speaker: Sonya Ward, "Germany"

3/18/20.....Photo Essay Competition

April, 2020

4/1/20.....Print Competition

Assigned Topic: Fairs & Festivals (or a similar event).
Speaker: Jeana Caywood, "Photo Stacking"

4/8/20.....NO MEETING

4/15/20.....Digital Competition

Assigned Topic: (Don't go the straight and narrow...)
Show us Your Curves.
Speaker: Joe Cotroneo, "Macro Photography"

4/22/20.....Luba Ricket Creativity Competition

Speaker: Fred Festine, "Wildlife Photography"

May, 2020

5/6/20.....Print of the Year

Speaker: Matt Pollock, "Night Photography"

5/13/20.....Digital Image of the Year

Speaker: Rob Near, "Black & White Workflow"

June, 10, 2020.....Awards Banquet

**6/19/20 (Rain Date 6/20)..... "Photographing
the Milky Way" Workshop with Matt Pollock**