



Competition Winners

April 2019

Topic: "Decay, Detritus, Abandoned Things"



Novice Digital:

First: Nancy Axelrod "Abandoned and Forgotten"

Second: Karen Goldman "Abandon Ship"

Third: Karen Goldman "Wagon, Torres Del Paine"

Advanced Digital:

First: Nicolas Raymond "Barber Prison Cell"

Second: Peter Dunner "All Havana Ruins"

Third: Margaret Sprott "Etna Furnace Cabin"

HM: Gosia Klosek "Parking Killed"

HM: Nicolas Raymond "Duffus Castle Sunset"

Novice Color Prints:

First: Dan Smith "Maze of Arches"

Second: Karen Goldman "M*A*S*H Truck, 2016"

Advanced Color Prints:

First: Bill James "Seneca Stone Mill Revisited"

Second: Peter Dunner "Havana Ruins"

Third: Diane Poole "The Piano"

HM: Stan Collyer "Ford"

Advanced Monochrome Prints:

First: John Norvell "Death Valley Car "

Second: Dan Smtih "Discarded Structure"

Third: Stan Collyer "Palouse Grain Elevator"

Digital Novice

First Place: “Abandoned and Forgotten” by Nancy Axelrod

This bicycle was hidden away in a back alley in Jodhpur, India. It looked very sad. Shot with a Sony a6000 camera with a Sony 18-105mm lens at 24mm, f/4.0, 1/160 sec, ISO 3200.



Second Place: “Abandon Ship” by Karen Goldman

I was on a boat tour of the Parana Delta of the Rio de la Plata, a colorful region near Buenos Aires, Argentina, when I took this picture of an old, long-abandoned ship. Nikon D7200, AF-S DX Nikkor 18-55 mm lens at 48 mm, f/9, 1/200s, ISO 1800.



Third Place: “Wagon, Torres Del Paine” by Karen Goldman

An old wagon in front of mountains near Refugio Laguna Amarga, on the east side of Torres del Paine National Park in Chile. Nikon D7200, AF-S DX Nikkor 18-55 mm lens at 45 mm, f/13, 1/125s, ISO 200.





First Place: “Barber Prison Cell” by Nicolas Raymond

Abandoned prison cell with barber chair from the Eastern State Penitentiary in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. A wonderful place for urbex (urban exploration) photography for its sheer size and admission to the public, with tripod allowed for an extra fee. HDR definitely helped for capturing more subtle details in a scene highly contrasted between exterior window light and a darker interior.

Second Place: “All Havana Ruins” by Peter Dunner

This photo was taken while walking around the streets of old Havana. The city is crumbling in places because of lack of money to repair buildings. Shot with my Fujifilm XT-2, XF 18-135 lens, ISO 250.



Third Place: “Etna Furnace Cabin” by Margaret Sprott

Mt. Etna Furnace was in Blair County, PA near Huntindgon and operated from 1809 until 1877. There were many buildings over about 4000 acres and they made pig iron. This is one of 3 cabins that had been used by the workers that are still standing. There are other ruins spread out over the area.

I used my Nikon 5300 and my 18-400mm lens at 40mm. Shot at 1/125 and f/11 with ISO 100 on 2/26/2019. In Lightroom I increased the exposure, contrast, clarity, vibrance, shadows, and dehaze and decreased the highlights, fixed the black and white points and adjusted the temperature until I liked the results.





HM: “Parking Killed” by Gosia Klosek

This is a cropped image of a sign attached to a barrier across a dirt road in the middle of the woods. Judging by the conditions of the bullet holes, over time many angry and armed people arrived there expressing their frustration. The bright yellow of the background and pattern of holes make an interesting image.

Nikon 68 mm ISO 125 1/160 sec f/6.3

HM: “Duffus Castle Sunset” by Nicolas Raymand

Ruins of Duffus Castle near Elgin, Scotland (UK). Digitally manipulated with vibrant sunset clouds from a photo I captured separately in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. With a castle originally captured under dull overcast skies, I didn't have much choice in taking what I could get for the short amount of time spent on site and notoriously volatile weather in Scotland. I did however appreciate the ancient architectural features, and so I spent a few extra hours digitally masking the castle contours so a sunset sky could be swapped in for what I hoped would provide a more surreal atmosphere.



Novice Color Prints

First Place: “Maze of Arches” by Dan Smith

Gold was mined in Potomac MD (intermittently) from just after the Civil War until WW2. Maryland Mine at the corner of MacArthur Blvd. and Falls Rd., had a shaft 210 feet deep. Water was used in ore processing and this concrete structure supported a water tank. It's visible from MacArthur. I had almost no pictures for this competition, but recalled that a trail guide mentioned this and went to investigate. Late afternoon light as it was about to rain. Camera was a Panasonic DMC-ZS100, with f/2.8, ISO 125, and 1/125 sec. exposure.



**Second Place: “M*A*S*H Truck 2016”
by Karen Goldman**

This rusty truck is in Malibu Creek State Park, CA, at the site where the TV series, M*A*S*H, was filmed. Ambulances, trucks, and other memorabilia have been maintained as an exhibit, but fire and floods have taken their toll. Panasonic Lumix DMC-ZS10, 4 mm, f/4, 1/500s, ISO-100.



Advanced Color Prints



**First Place: “Senneca Stone Mill Revisited”
by Bill James**

This abandoned stone mill once shaped blocks of local Seneca Sandstone for such landmarks as the Smithsonian Castle on the National Mall. Young 'graffiti artists' did something wrong and illegal, yet, it is visually a more interesting subject. The site is at the end of tiny Tschiffely Mill Road, off River Road in upper MoCo. Better parking is at adjacent Riley's Lock, from which one can cross Seneca Creek over an aqueduct. Late afternoon light worked best. I would like to acknowledge a very helpful suggestion to darken the tones of the background, from PSA's Jon Fishback.



Second Place: “Havana Ruins” by Peter Dunner

This photo was taken while walking around the streets of old Havana. The city is crumbling in places because of lack of money to repair buildings. Shot with my Fujifilm XT-2, XF 18-135 lens, ISO 250.

Third Place: “The Piano” by Diane Poole

This image was captured at an abandoned mansion outside of Baltimore MD. No idea why this was still standing in the old building but it was a great subject for the topic! Iphone XS processed with Photoshop.



HM: “Ford” by Stan Collyer

These old trucks were found in a junkyard in rural Maryland. I desaturated the image, except for the orange light on the fender. Yes, it's gimmicky, but who cares! Shot with a tripod and a 70-200 mm lens set at 70mm, f/32, 0.3 sec, ISO 200.



Advanced Monochrome Prints



First Place: “Death Valley Car”

by John Norvell

This image is from a recent photo trip to Death Valley. We were on an early morning hike to mud flats and this abandoned car was nearby. I framed the mountain behind the car with a large depth of field. The B&W conversion was with Silver Efex Pro2. Fuji X-T3 and 18-135mm Lens.

Second Place: “Discarded Structure”

by Dan Smith

Gold was mined in Potomac MD (intermittently) from just after the Civil War until WW2. Maryland Mine at the corner of MacArthur Blvd. and Falls Rd., had a shaft 210 feet deep. Water was used in ore processing and this concrete structure supported a water tank. It's visible from MacArthur. I had almost no pictures for this competition, but recalled that a trail guide mentioned this and went to investigate. Late afternoon light as it was about to rain. Camera was a Panasonic DMC-ZS100, with f/2.8, ISO 125, and 1/125 sec. exposure.



Third Place: “Palouse Grain Elevator”

by Stan Collyer

As you may have guessed from the title, this image is from a trip to the Palouse region of eastern Washington State, which is well known for its beautiful rolling hills and farms, as well as for many structures that have fallen into disrepair. The image was shot at midday, in bright sunlight, which is always a challenge.

Fortunately, there were some nice clouds to make it more interesting. Photographed using a 16-35mm lens set at 19mm, f/8.0, 1/200 sec., ISO 100.