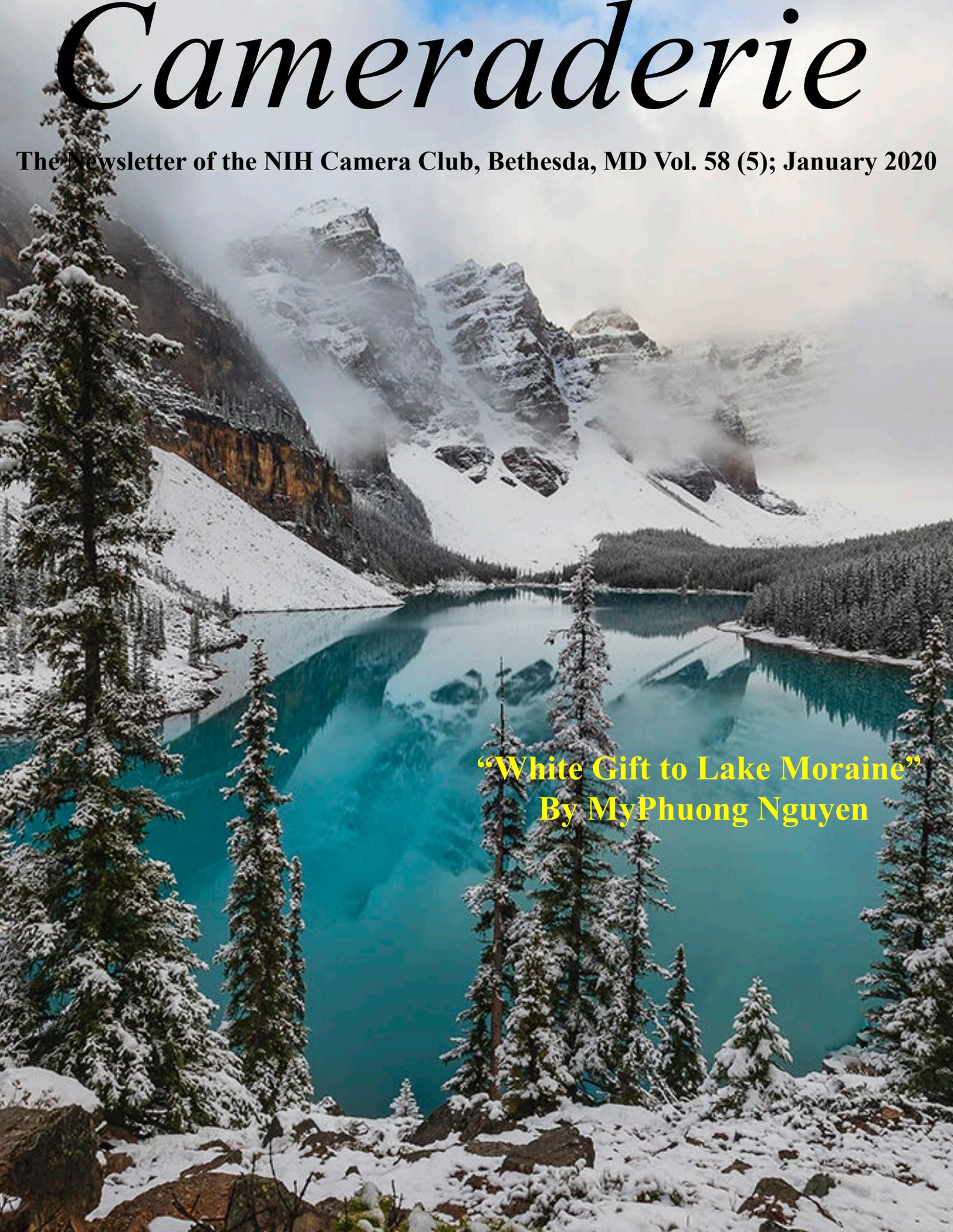


Camraderie

The Newsletter of the NIH Camera Club, Bethesda, MD Vol. 58 (5); January 2020



**“White Gift to Lake Moraine”
By MyPhuong Nguyen**

**The NIH
CAMERA
CLUB** **January
2020
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2020 JANUARY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11 Education Workshop See pg 36
12	13	14 Competiton Night See pg 23-24	15	16	17	18
19	20	21 Travelogue See pg 25	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

2020 FEBRUARY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4 Street Photogrpahy Presentation see pg 33	5	6	7	8 Education Workshop See pg 36
9	10	11 Competiton Night See pg 23	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

President's Message

January 2020

By Margaret Sprott



I hope others enjoyed the holiday party in December as much as I did. **Kay Norvell, Suzanne Dater** and **Leonor Guillen** were very efficient and helpful with setting up the tables and cleaning up afterwards. As usual we did not lack for a lot of delicious food and drinks. Unfortunately, there was a problem with the screen at the FAES house but **Quentin Fisher** was still able to show some of our favorite pictures by projecting them on the wall. **Dick Sprott** presented **Diane Poole** with her award for winning first place in the small club division of the PSA Newsletter Contest and **Saul Pleeter** with a certificate for winning first place for his How-to Article, “How to Shoot Panoramas” in the Newsletter Contest.

There will be another NIHCC board meeting on January 9 at 7 PM at the Sprott home. Any member is welcome and may contribute in discussions about our plans for the coming year but non-officers may not vote. If you want to join us, please let me know.

I hope you've all had a good holiday season and are ready to enter your images in our competitions. I am looking forward to **Peter Dunner's** repeat performance about North Korea on the 3rd Tuesday in January at 8 PM. There were major equipment problems when he started his talk in November and he was unable to show videos he had taken on his visit to North Korea in 2013. He assures me that the equipment will be tested and we will be able to see all his images and videos in January. He had really interesting tales about the country and I can't wait to hear and see more.

Cathrine Sasek has agreed to become the Travelogue Manager and will be sending notices about upcoming travelogues as soon as she confirms speakers and topics. Susan Bick, with the 5-Star Residence, is planning to encourage more residents to attend these travelogues and Cathrine will be looking for speakers who will have topics that are interesting to the residents as well as to our members.

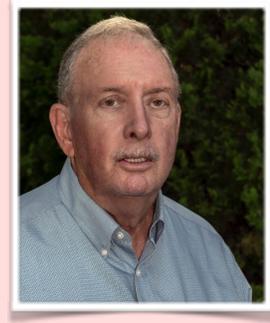
George Lea will continue his series about Your Photographic Image on Saturday, January 11th from 10 – 11:30 AM. He will review the functions of the light sensing element in digital cameras and how it responds to the image projected by the lens system.

Joe Chiara had been a volunteer at Lucky Dog in Alexandria and has been suggesting that the NIHCC could collaborate with them in some way. Be sure to read his article in this newsletter and let me know of any ideas you have about how we can collaborate.

As we welcome the start of a new decade I hope you will continue to take many interesting images and that you will share them with the rest of us in the club. Have a wonderful new year.



PSA Rep Rap January 2020 By Dick Sprott



Last month I noted that I will be leading a PSA Photo Adventure to the North Carolina Outer Banks next April. The details are now complete and I have provided some of my article for the PSA Journal below so that NIHCC members have a Fair opportunity to join the trip if they want to:

The PSA Adventure Tour Committee has approved a new Photo Adventure for 2020 to the Outer Banks of North Carolina, organized by **Dick Sprott**, and **Ron Gaskins** of Mountaineer Photo Excursions (MPEX).

Ron Gaskins and **Amanda Haddox** of Mountaineer Photo Excursions, at www.MountaineerPhotoExcursions.com, have been leading photography workshops in the eastern United States for almost ten years and have taught three events at the Outer Banks in North Carolina. Both are experienced photographers, travelers and instructors, and members of the Photographic Society of America. **Dick Sprott**, and **Henry Ng**, both members of the Adventure Tour Committee, will represent PSA and be available to provide assistance and advice throughout the trip.

On April 6, 7, 8 and 9 Mountaineer Photo Excursions (MPEX) will provide transportation and guidance as we begin our days with sunrises like no others; and continue with seascapes along the beach with the power and mystery of the Atlantic Ocean at your feet. Wildlife such as osprey, black bears, and turtles make the area their home.

In addition to the world of nature, we will explore the history of the area, including the Wright Brothers National Memorial; visit historic lighthouses that continue as aids to navigation, as well as being iconic sights along the waters; and visit other photogenic opportunities, such as a fishing village, harbors and boats.

Tentatively, we plan to visit the following locations:

- Pine Island Audubon Wildlife Sanctuary
- Currituck Lighthouse
- Duck Town Boardwalk
- Currituck Banks Estuarine Reserve
- Kitty Hawk Woods Coastal Reserve/Sandy Run Park
- Wright Bothers National Memorial
- Jockey Ridge State Park
- Alligator Ridge National Wildlife Refuge
- Wanchese Harbor
- The Island Farm
- Roanoke Marshes Lighthouse
- Elizabethan Gardens
- North Carolina Aquarium
- Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge



At the end of our organized event, you will have April 10 and 11 to explore and photograph on your own, while continuing to enjoy all the comforts of our extra-large beach getaway! The check-in date is Sunday, April 5; check-out is Sunday, April 12. Local travel during the organized workshop is also included and **must** be utilized. PSA policy prohibits caravanning.

The total package cost for the workshop is \$1176, which covers local transportation, housing and the farewell dinner. Transportation to the Beach House in Corolla and all other meals are on your own.

Attendance is limited to ten **PSA members** in addition to the organizers. **Registration for the trip will open at 12:00 PM Eastern Standard Time, January 20, 2020. These trips usually fill quite quickly so if you want to attend be sure to go to the PSA website (www.psa-photo.org) at that time.** Log in as a PSA member, navigate to the Events and Trips tab and follow the registration instructions for the Outer Banks Adventure that will be posted there.

Nature Visions Update

January 2020

By Ann McDermott



Three days of interesting lectures, workshops, photo exhibits, discussions with fellow photographers, and great information and deals from vendors at Nature Visions Photo Expo were had during the first week of November.

Thanks to everyone from NIHCC who volunteered to help with the expo before, during, and after.

We hope everyone who went came away with some new techniques, ideas and inspiration for future photos, and some new gear! And, we encourage you to start shooting for next year and plan to join us next November.

Photo Competitions

From the many photos submitted into the Nature and Photo Art competitions by NIHCC members, Nature Visions' judges selected the beautiful images listed below to be displayed at the expo. It was an amazing experience to walk through the exhibits see so many spectacular photos.

Birds

Osprey, Honeymoon Island -Karen Goldman
Gannets - Linda McKnight
Lock Talon -MyPhuong Nguyen
Four Egrets - David Terao
It is mine- Michael Tran
Great Blue Heron Fishing - Guillermo Olaizola
Osprey - Guillermo Olaizola
Snowy Egret Combing Its Feathers - Guillermo Olaizola
Evil Eye - Guillermo Olaizola

Flora

Aspen Leaves —Stan Collyer
Death Among the Ferns -Stan Collyer
Sunflower Field - MyPhuong Nguyen
Lotus Full Bloom - Michael Tran
Leafscape No. 21 -Douglas Wolters
Saguaro in Monsoon -William James

Landscape

Snake River Vista -Stan Collyer
Spring Trees at Widewater -Rebecca Doran
From 5th Ave to Windows - Gosia Klosek
Hickman Bridge - Gosia Klosek
White Gift to Lake Moraine - MyPhuong Nguyen **People's Choice**
Sand Waves - Elizabeth Kay Norvell
Dry River - Elizabeth Kay Norvell
Little Painted Desert- Cathrine Sasek
Afternoon at Mather Point - Douglas Wolters
The Canyon Awakes -Douglas Wolters
Eroding Hoodoos -William James
Death Valley Sunset - John C. Norvell
Monument Valley Sunrise - John C. Norvell

Macro

Fresh Lotus -Rebecca Doran
Dahlia - Dale Lewis
Divider -MyPhuong Nguyen **People's Choice**
Glass Winged Butterfly -Cathrine Sasek
Black Swallowtail Caterpillar -David Terao **People's Choice**
Blue Dasher - David Terao
Dragonfly with Bugs -David Terao
Hover Fly - Jim Turner **People's Choice** *~*Winner - Best in Macro!!*~*
Holcocephala fusca and Prey -Jim Turner **People's Choice**
Little Gray Fly - Jim Turner **People's Choice**
Black Robber Fly and Prey -Jim Turner **People's Choice**
Odd Little Fly - Jim Turner
Damsselfly Eyes - Jim Turner

Water

Sunrise Wave -MyPhuong Nguyen **People's Choice**

Wildlife

Double Trouble - Stan Collyer
It's Been a Long Day -Stan Collyer
California Moray Eels & Blue-Banded Gobies -Karen Goldman
Iguana -Dale Lewis
Curious Look- MyPhuong Nguyen
Milk Time -Michael Tran **People's Choice**
Mohawk - John C. Norvell

Photo Art

Icy Fountain - Stan Collyer
Monuments and Moon - Stan Collyer
Composed B&O- Rebecca Doran
In Perfect Harmony -Karen Goldman
Titanic Museum - Belfast I -George Lea
Abandon Car-MyPhuong Nguyen
Doge's Palace - Elizabeth Kay Norvell
Venice Canal - Elizabeth Kay Norvell
Why Lie - Diane Poole
Sweet Emotion -Diane Poole
Ballet Symmetry - David Terao **People's Choice** *~* Runner-
Up - Best in Photo Art!! *~*
Rose, Lips and Nails -David Terao **People's Choice**
FacePaint-DC – Michael Tran
Red and Blue.PA-06-Michael Tran
Garlic Buddies-Jim Turner
Paper Cuts-Jim Turner
Cathedral High-DouglasWolters
Architecture of Air-Douglas Wolters
Ancient Beech Circumference Two-William James
Seneca Stone Mill-William James
Gondolas at High Tide-John C. Norvell
Smithsonian Elephant -John C. Norvell
Blackwater Migration-2-Guillermo Olaizola

2019 NATURE VISIONS PHOTO EXPO



A message from the President of Nature Visions :-

On behalf of the NVPE board of directors, thank you for your support of Nature Visions, and thank you for your feedback on the 2019 Expo. I'm writing to let you know three important things about NVPE 2020.

First and foremost, NVPE has regained control of its ticketing from Hylton Center. We heard you loud and clear: The online ticketing process in 2019 was too difficult. That experience will not be repeated in 2020. Thank you for your patience.

Second, in 2020 we will be asking those of you in photography-oriented Meetups and Facebook groups to help place posts about NVPE 2020 in those places. Why? The more people that attend NVPE each year, the better the show we can put on for you. Photography-oriented Meetups and Facebook groups can help get the word about NVPE to friends and fellow photographers that share your interests in great speakers, outstanding photo exhibits, hands-on workshops and a wide array of vendors selling photography goods and services.

Lastly, the board is contemplating changes to improve and expand our competitions in 2020. We will work hard to make decisions and get out the word to you early. Please stay tuned.

We expect also to make some other long-awaited improvements next year, thanks to the completion of the Hylton Center's expansion. The board and managers will be touring that area and making decisions in the new year. Again, please stay tuned. I am certain that you will like what you hear.

Happy holidays!

Please Enjoy the 72 Images that were displayed at Nature Visions 2019 (in the order listed on bottom)

Birds



Birds
Osprey, Honeymoon Island -Karen Goldman
Gannets - Linda McKnight
Lock Talon -MyPhuong Nguyen
Four Egrets - David Terao
It is mine- Michael Tran
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Osprey - Guillermo Olaizola
Snowy Egret Combing Its Feathers - Guillermo Olaizola
Evil Eye - Guillermo Olaizola

NIH Camera Club

January 2020

2019
NATURE VISIONS
PHOTO EXPO



Flora



Flora

Aspen Leaves --Stan Collyer

Death Among the Ferns -Stan Collyer

Sunflower Field - MyPhuong Nguyen

Lotus Full Bloom - Michael Tran

Leafscape No. 21 -Douglas Wolters

Saguaros in Monsoon -William James

2019
NATURE VISIONS
PHOTO EXPO



Landscapes



2019
NATURE VISIONS
PHOTO EXPO





Landscape

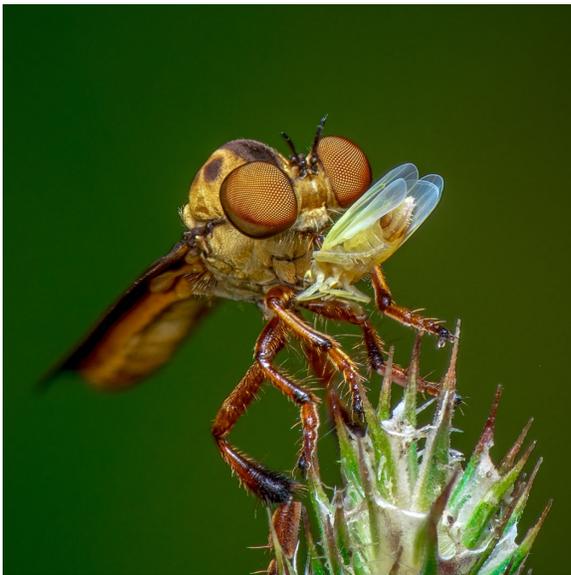
- Snake River Vista -Stan Collyer
- Spring Trees at Widewater -Rebecca Doran
- From 5th Ave to Windows - Gosia Klosek
- Hickman Bridge - Gosia Klosek
- White Gift to Lake Moraine - MyPhuong Nguyen ****People's Choice****
- Sand Waves - Elizabeth Kay Norvell
- Dry River - Elizabeth Kay Norvell
- Little Painted Desert- Cathrine Sasek
- Afternoon at Mather Point - Douglas Wolters
- The Canyon Awakes -Douglas Wolters
- Eroding Hoodoos -William James
- Death Valley Sunset - John C. Norvell
- Monument Valley Sunrise - John C. Norvell

2019
 NATURE VISIONS
 PHOTO EXPO



Macros







Macro

- Fresh Lotus -Rebecca Doran
- Dahlia - Dale Lewis
- Divider -MyPhuong Nguyen ****People's Choice****
- Glass Winged Butterfly -Cathrine Sasek
- Black Swallowtail Caterpillar -David Terao ****People's Choice****
- Blue Dasher - David Terao
- Dragonfly with Bugs -David Terao
- Hover Fly - Jim Turner ****People's Choice**** *~*Winner - Best in Macro!!*~*
- Holcocephala fusca and Prey -Jim Turner ****People's Choice****
- Little Gray Fly - Jim Turner ****People's Choice****
- Black Robber Fly and Prey -Jim Turner ****People's Choice****
- Odd Little Fly - Jim Turner
- Damselfly Eyes - Jim Turner

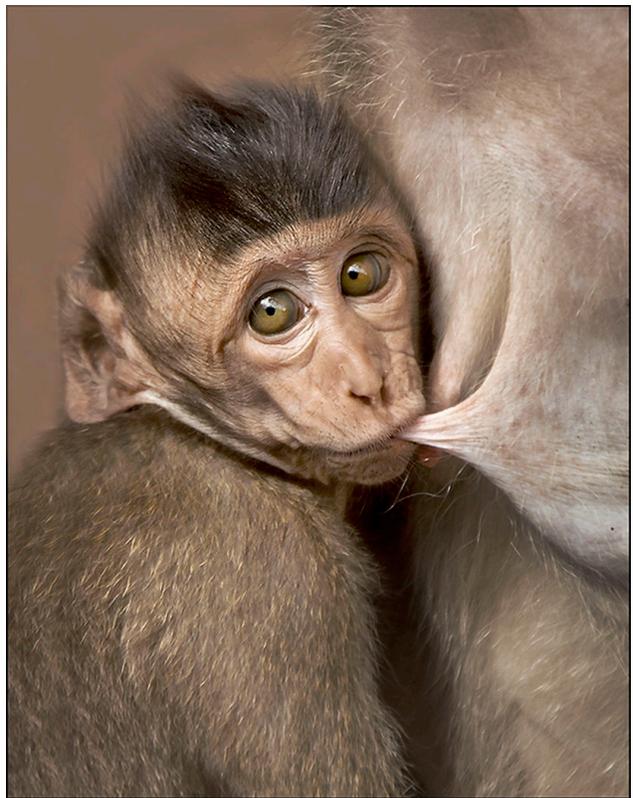


Water

- Sunrise Wave -MyPhuong Nguyen ****People's Choice****

Wildlife





Wildlife

Double Trouble - Stan Collyer

It's Been a Long Day -Stan Collyer

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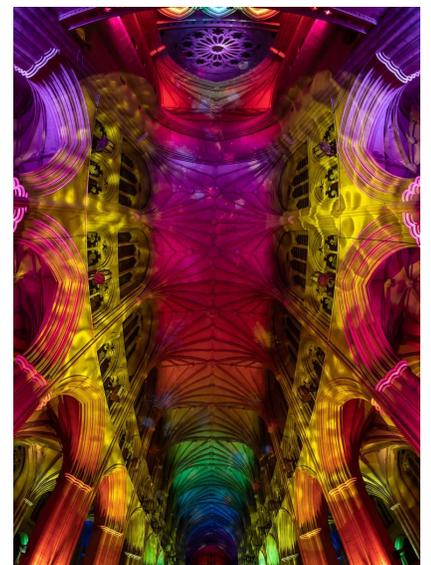
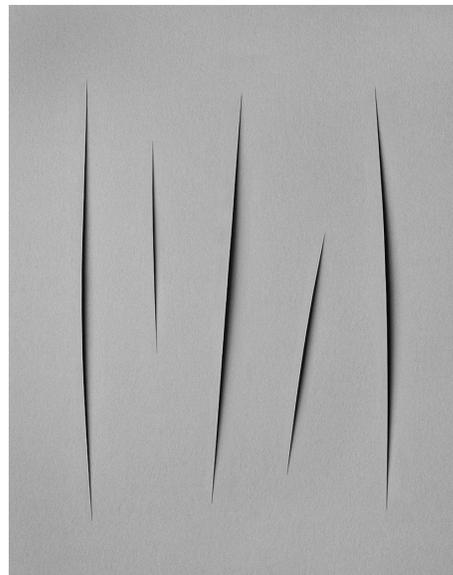
Milk Time -Michael Tran ****People's Choice****

Mohawk - John C. Norvell

Photo Art



2019
NATURE VISIONS
PHOTO EXPO



2019
 NATURE VISIONS
 PHOTO EXPO





Photo Art

- Icy Fountain - Stan Collyer
- Monuments and Moon - Stan Collyer
- Composed B&O- Rebecca Doran
- In Perfect Harmony -Karen Goldman
- Titanic Museum - Belfast I -George Lea
- Abandon Car-MyPhuong Nguyen
- Doge's Palace - Elizabeth Kay Norvell
- Venice Canal - Elizabeth Kay Norvell
- Why Lie - Diane Poole
- Sweet Emotion -Diane Poole
- Ballet Symmetry - David Terao ****People's Choice**** *~*
- Runner-Up - Best in Photo Art!! *~*
- Rose, Lips and Nails -David Terao ****People's Choice****
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- Smithsonian Elephant -John C. Norvell
- Blackwater Migration-2-Guillermo Olaizola

2019
 NATURE VISIONS
 PHOTO EXPO



Awards

2019
NATURE VISIONS
PHOTO EXPO 

Landscape:

White Gift to Lake Moraine - MyPhuong Nguyen ****People's Choice****

Macro:

Divider -MyPhuong Nguyen ****People's Choice****

Black Swallowtail Caterpillar -David Terao ****People's Choice****

Hover Fly - Jim Turner ****People's Choice**** *~*Winner - Best in Macro!!
~

Holcocephala fusca and Prey -Jim Turner ****People's Choice****

Little Gray Fly - Jim Turner ****People's Choice****

Black Robber Fly and Prey -Jim Turner ****People's Choice****

Water

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Photo Art

Ballet Symmetry - David Terao ****People's Choice**** *~* Runner-Up -
Best in Photo Art!! *~*

Rose, Lips and Nails -David Terao ****People's Choice**



**“White Gift to Lake Moraine”
MyPhuong Nguyen**



“Divider” By MyPhuong Nguyen



“Black Swallowtail Caterpillar” By David Terao

I found this interesting looking caterpillar in a pot of parsley from a garden store. It was so busy eating the leaves of the parsley plant that it didn't mind me photographing it at all. I shot it with a Canon EOS R with a 180mm f/3.5 macro lens on a tripod using tungsten lighting.



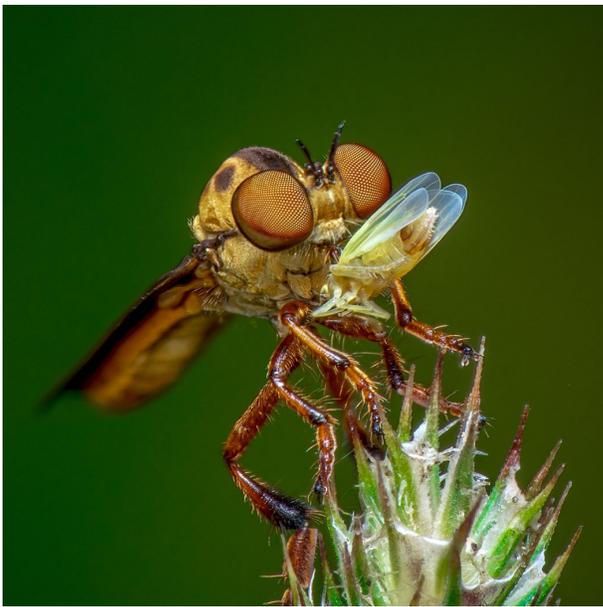
“Hover Fly” By Jim Turner

I shot this little guy in our garden. This type of hover fly is very common in our area, you will find lots of them your backyard. Shot with a Nikon 105mm f/2.8 Macro lens and Raynox DCR-150 close-up filter, at f/16, 1/250 s, 200 ISO and using an off camera flash.

“Little Gray Fly” By Jim Turner

- This fly was shot in our garden. There are a number of flies like this in our area, that look like house flies, but have various colorings. Shot with a Nikon 105mm f/2.8 Macro lens and Raynox DCR-150 close-up filter, at f/16, 1/250 s, 200 ISO and using an off camera flash.





“Holcocephala fusca and Prey” By Jim Turner

Holcocephala fusca is a type of Robber Fly, a family of predatory flies that feed on other insects. This species is common in the Washington DC area but this fly was shot in a roadside meadow near Harmon West Virginia. Shot with a Nikon 105mm f/2.8 Macro lens and Raynox DCR-150 close-up filter, at f/16, 1/250 s, 200 ISO and using an off camera flash.

“Black Robber Fly” and Prey By Jim Turner

This Robber Fly was shot in our garden. In many hours of shooting in our area I have only seen this species twice so I'm guessing it may not be so common. Shot with a Nikon 105mm f/2.8 Macro lens and Raynox DCR-150 close-up filter, at f/16, 1/250 s, 200 ISO and using an off camera flash.



“Sunrise Wave” MyPhuong Nguyen

2019
NATURE VISIONS
PHOTO EXPO





“Milk Time” By Michael Tran

Milk Time image was captured at Monkey Island in Vietnam. This mother and child were bonded in love and under extreme care of mother.

2019
NATURE VISIONS
PHOTO EXPO



“Ballet Symmetry” By David Terao

I photographed these two ballerinas at a Ballet Photography Workshop. They were shot using two studio strobes pointed at the white background to give the image a dramatic, silhouette look. I used a Canon EOS R with a 24-105 f/4 lens.



“Rose, Lips and Nails” By David Terao

I posed this model with a red rose to match her red lipstick and nail polish. I lined up her nails to give a slight "S" curve leading up to the rose and her lips. The original image had her entire head showing. But, I decided to crop the image just below her nose to accentuate the rose, lips and nails. I de-saturated the image except for the red color using Photoshop. Shot with a Canon 5D Mk III and an 85mm f/1.4 lens using two studio strobes.



2020 Calendar
COMPETITION TOPICS AND DESCRIPTIONS
For the NIH Camera Club

January 14, 2020 - Shadows / Silhouettes – Acceptable images are those in which shadows are the most important element(s) or where the subject is seen as a black silhouette without detail against a brighter background. An image may show the shadow of an object without showing the object itself.

February 11, 2020 - Abstract – Qualified entries are non-representational. They may cover any subject matter; any technique or techniques may be used in their creation. The main emphasis is on pattern, texture, tone, form, color, etc. However, abstracts may contain identifiable subject matter as a minor element. An abstract image may be “found”, like a certain paving pattern, or “created,” like smoke wisps or light painting.

March 10, 2020 - Close Up, Macro - Images that result from the use of close-up lenses, macro lenses, or telephoto lenses where the magnification of the subject exceeds that obtained with a standard lens at its closest focusing distance.

April 14, 2020 - Long Exposure - Photographs that clearly show the use of long or extended exposure times. There is no fixed definition of what constitutes “long”; however, the intent is to create a photo that shows the effect of the passage of time, such as with smoothed water, moving people or objects, or light trails. A 30-minute photo of a static object and surroundings cannot be distinguished from a short exposure; hence, the inclusion of motion is an important factor to indicate that a long exposure was used to create the image.

May 12, 2020 - Critique Session – Open within 6 months – Any subject may be entered, provided the image was captured within six months of the critique date.

June 9, 2020 – End of Year Party

Please click on this link for specific competition rules:

<https://www.nihcameraclub.com/hidden/competitions/competition-rules/>

January 14, 2020 Judge: Roz Kleffman

Topic: Shadows / Silhouettes

Roz Kleffman has been a photographer for many years. She picked up a Brownie camera at age 12 and started photographing family and friends. By 18 years old she was dubbed "the official family photographer" and photographed all family events.

In 1979, she moved to Maryland with her husband Dave and their two children. She did not waste any time getting involved in community activities and the local camera club. Roz joined the Bowie-Crofton Camera Club (B-CCC) in 1980 and has held every office in that club except treasurer. Four years as vice president of competition for B-CCC led to her role as competition vp for the Greater Washington Council of Camera Clubs (GWCCC). Many members of North Bethesda Camera Club know Roz from her years working for GWCCC competitions and those of the All-Maryland Council of Camera Clubs. She was active in both councils until they disbanded in 2000. (The newly formed Maryland Photography Alliance has replaced both councils here in Maryland.)

Roz remained very active at B-CCC over the past 35 years. After 22 years as club president, Roz has taken a short break. She remains active with the newly formed Maryland Photography Alliance and continues to promote photography through judging, teaching, PSA and exhibits. Her love of travel and scuba diving has given her many great photo opportunities. She recently returned from a three-week adventure in Patagonia with four other photographers. Roz sees herself as a "jack of all trades" with a slant on capturing that image where ever she may wander.

A registered nurse, Roz volunteers at the Anne Arundel Medical Center in Annapolis in radiation oncology. She worked on the set of "House of Cards" as a nurse in the health room, where she took care of injuries, headaches, and other health issues to keep everyone happy and healthy.



Patagonia Mountains



Remembering Jim Norton

November Travelogue: Tuesday January 21, 8-9pm Community Room of the Five Star Premier Residences “ELEVEN DAYS IN THE DPRK (NORTH KOREA)” Presented by: Peter Dunner

In 2013 while it was still possible, I spent 11 days touring the DPRK and photographing. There are as would be expected limits on what you can photograph, where you can go, what you can visit, In spite of the restrictions and limits on access, it is still possible to put together an image of the country and what is going on behind what they want you to see and what impressions they want you to form. I hope to be able to present to you both the predictable and the unexpected aspects of my trip to this fascinating country which has a great deal of natural beauty.



Winter Solstice Safari at the Washington National Cathedral

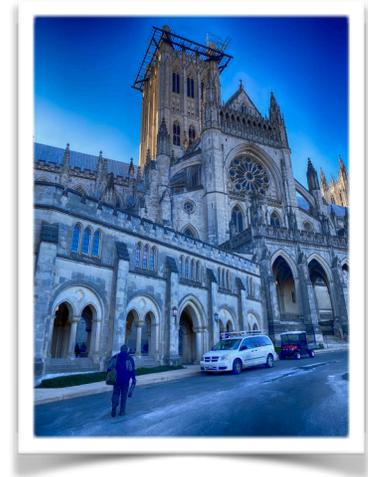
On Thursday December 19, at 10am 6 members of the NIH Camera Club toured the National Cathedral with our judge from November Elody Crimi. The tour was offered through the Washington Photo Safari. More information about future tours can be found here <https://www.davantiworkshops.com/workshops-by-category>.

Our group was so fortunate as it had rained for 2 days prior to the tour, the sun was beautiful and bright which meant we were lucky to see the magnificent cathedral in all its glory!

We were shown behind the scenes views and angles that most people do not get the privilege of seeing. It was a fun adventure with a good group.

Members of our group were:

- Nancy Axelrod
- Stan Collyer
- Phil Collyer (Stan's Brother)
- Kevin Hanlon
- Diane Poole
- David Terao
- Jim Turner



Please enjoy of a few of our images from the Photo Safari

David Terao Can't wait to take pictures!

By Diane Poole



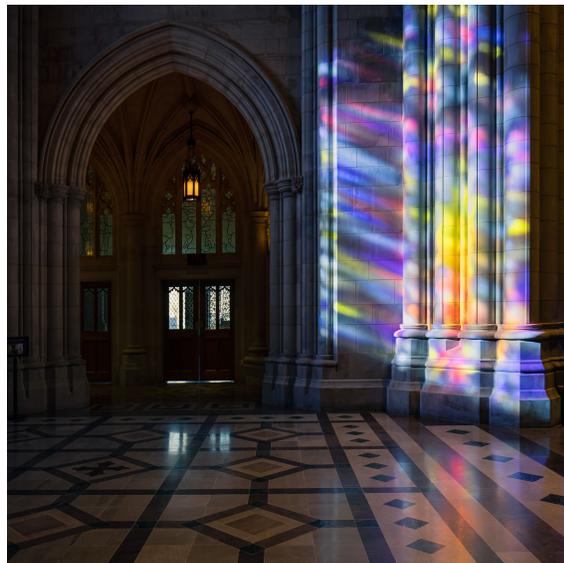
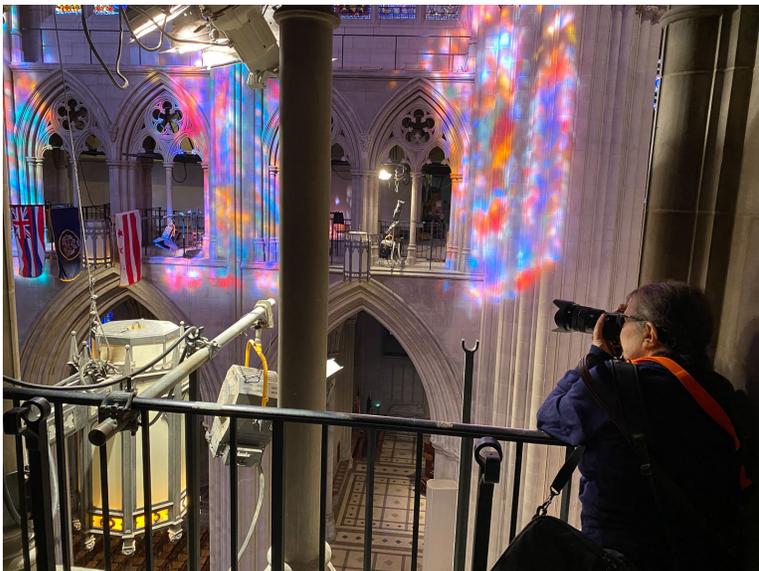
By Nancy Axelrod



By Stan Collyer



By Phil Collyer

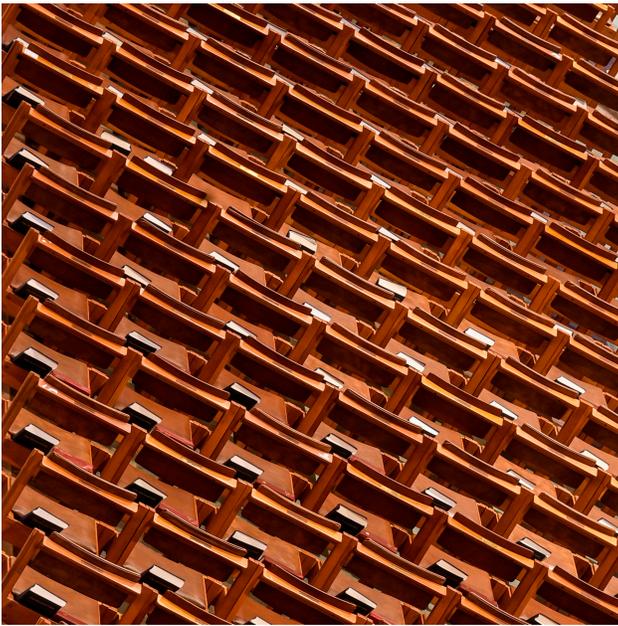


By David Terao

Nancy Axelrod Focusing on the lights



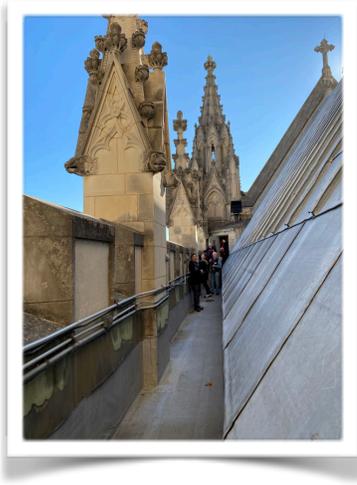
By Diane Poole



By Jim Turner



By Jim Turner



Behind the scenes!
By Diane Poole

Better Query Saul Fine Tuning Autofocus

By Saul Pleeter



Why do we need to fine tune?

The autofocus feature is an invaluable feature of cameras. Practically each new manufacturing has improved the autofocus feature. However, no matter how seemingly accurate, it is almost never perfect. That is because both the lens and camera are manufactured with production tolerances. The mounting of the sensor, or autofocus chip and or the lens mount could vary by fractions of a millimeter. While the tolerances are typically so small as to be unnoticeable, it is possible that the variation of the sensor placement in combination with the tolerance of the lens can lead to a focus problem. In addition, as the resolution of cameras increases, focusing issues will become increasingly noticeable.

Even in the rare case when tolerances reinforce each other, most photographers will not notice that there is a problem. This is because the slight difference between actual and predicted focus will likely be observed where depth-of-field is very shallow, so this is likely more of a concern to macro and portrait photographers .

AF problems are termed back focusing - where the camera focuses behind the predicted spot, or front focusing, where the camera focuses in front of the predicted spot. It is not difficult to adjust the autofocus to correct focusing problems — and some of the newest cameras have incorporated an automatic fine tuning adjustment.

How to tell if you have a focusing problem.

Perhaps the easiest way to determine if you have a focusing problem is to line up 5 double A batteries in a row at a 45 degree angle, with the writing on the batteries facing you. As in the photo below.



Mount your camera on a tripod, vibration reduction off, lens wide open and ISO set at 200, with the distance between the camera and the center battery at about 50 times the focal length of the lens you are testing. If you are using a zoom, it would be 50 times whatever focal length you choose. I used a 24-70mm lens at 50mm set at f2.8. The camera was about 8 feet away. Use the spot meter option with the smallest spot and place the spot in the middle of the middle battery. Photograph the batteries at about a 45 degree angle using either the self-timer or a remote release.

When you enlarge the photo, the writing on the middle battery should be the sharpest. If one of the two batteries closest to the camera is the sharpest, the your camera is front-focusing. If one of the last two are sharpest, your camera is back focusing. Note - unfortunately you can only test one focal length at a time. If you have say a 24-70mm zoom, you should select the focal length you use most often to test for accuracy. It is conceivable that a lens could be perfectly focused at 50mm and front-or back-focused at 24mm.

Of course you can always send your camera and/or lens to the manufacturer for recalibration. If you experience, for example, back focusing on 3 different lenses, it is likely that the camera needs to be recalibrated. This course of action is likely to be expensive unless the camera is under warranty. If it is a problem with only one lens, then it is the lens that is in need of recalibration and that can be handled with the autofocus adjustment.

There are a couple of devices that you can purchase that will test whether your autofocus is working properly and provide a guide as to the adjustment needed. LensAlign and Focus Pyramid, are two devices that will work. LensAlign sells for \$85 and Focus Pyramid \$25. Both are somewhat tedious to use, but are accurate.

A do-it-yourself approach is also possible. To start:

1. Download one of the many autofocus charts available from the internet. For example: www.nikonguides.com/FocusChart.pdf.
2. Print the chart as large as you can.
3. Position the chart completely flat on a wall.
4. Adjust the tripod so that the camera is completely level (perpendicular) to the chart.
5. Photograph the chart using single-shot AF in aperture mode with the lens as wide as possible.
6. Make a fine-tuning adjustment - this is the hard part because menus differ between camera manufacturers and even models of the same manufacturer. A Canon 5DS and a Canon 70D, for example, do not have the same menu. For Nikon, AF fine-tune is in the setup menu, for Sony, AF Micro Adjustment is in the Shooting menu, and Canon has the AF Microadjustment in the setup menu. In all cases, turn AF fine-tune on and set a valley increasing or decreasing the set value option.
7. Repeat this procedure using different set values. For example, +3, -3, +6, -6, +9, -9, +12, -12.
8. Evaluate the images. Which of the photographs gives the sharpest image?
9. Repeat the procedure narrowing in on your adjustment.

Most autofocus adjustments in DSLRs arise because the autofocus chip, and the sensor are not perfectly aligned. Mirrorless cameras do not have this problem because the sensor has embedded on it phase detection and contrast detection sensors -so there cannot be any misalignment of the two.

Famous Photographers By Stephen Levitas

#46 Jan. 2020 Cameraderie Thomas Joshua Cooper (1946-)



I read about Thomas Joshua Cooper a few months ago in an article in The New Yorker, and sent out a review of that article to all club members, as I intend to do in the future for all New Yorker photographer articles. The New Yorker article is available to view here: <https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2019/10/07/a-photographer-at-the-ends-of-the-earth>.

The New Yorker article is heavy on personality, but what a personality! Cooper is the most unusual photographer I have ever researched and written about in this series. He travels to the world's remotest and wildest locations, and takes a single photograph with his 121-year old view camera, which he calls his "baby." This man is driven to risk his life for his project, and often does.

You can read a brief biography of him in the Wikipedia article, here: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thomas_Joshua_Cooper. If you separately google "Thomas Joshua Cooper" and then select "Images," you will see dozens of his photographs. Please have a look.

Cooper was trained and advised by both Ansel Adams (#12, Cameraderie, March 2014) and Imogen Cunningham (#16, Cameraderie, Dec. 2014), and you can see the influence of those early 20th century photographers in the purity of his compositions.

Here are a few of his photographs. I drew them from the Internet by searching for "Images" under "Thomas Joshua Cooper." As you look at these and others on the Internet, please think about Cooper out there in rugged weather, perhaps in isolated and dangerous locations, setting up his huge old view camera, and ask yourselves: Why is he doing this? What is he feeling? What should we be feeling?



Shoshone Falls, Idaho, “The Niagara of the West.”

Cooper focuses here more on the rock faces that on the water falls.



This shows Cooper’s passion about getting to remote locations, as a sort of explorer. Cooper gives very interesting notes in his titles.

Very near The Arctic Circle, The North Atlantic Ocean, PistilWarargrunn. Looking towards the Old Lands, Hraunhafnartangi, Melrukkaslétta, Nardur-Pingeyjarsysla, Nordurland Eystra, Iceland, 2007-2008. The North-most point of Iceland, 66° 33.087’ N.



Along the Hudson River—Rockwell Falls—The Sacandaga River Near the Hudson River—Sacandaga County May 5, 2017

The title of this image is Cooper’s own notes on where it was taken.

Street Photography Talk

Presented by: Essdras Suarez
Tuesday February 4, 7-9pm
Community Room of the Five Star Premier Residences



On Feb. 4, 2020, from 7-9 pm, Essdras Suarez will give a presentation to the club on street photography. Essdras worked as a photographer for the Boston Globe for many years and won two Pulitzer Prizes during his tenure there. He now does freelance photojournalism and leads workshops and tours on street photography, editorial photography, and travel photography in many venues around the world. He is an inspiring speaker and tour leader, and provides insights about the use of shadows, reflections and unusual angles, and how to capture the decisive moment.

He is a master of light. Everybody is urged to attend the talk.

Click on the link for more information about Essdras Suarez

<https://essdrasmsuarez.photoshelter.com/portfolio/G0000EgZrHbVtYBw>



Images by Essdras Suarez
(Copyright Protected)

By Joe Chiara, Volunteer at Lucky Dog

Since 2009 Lucky Dog Animal Rescue has rescued and placed in caring homes over 15,000 dogs and cats. In recent years rescues followed by adoptions are approaching 2,000 per year, a number that is expected to be surpassed in 2020. Nearly all Lucky Dogs and Cats arriving in the DC Metro area are adopted within three weeks. Collaborations help save dogs and cats sitting in high-kill shelters across the rural south, help rescue dogs and cats living on the streets in Puerto Rico, and help Lucky Dog step up when national and international emergencies demand our attention. We stretch every dollar as far as it can go. We work with vets and trainers who give us discounts. This is all possible through the generosity of our donors and volunteers. Lucky Dog has no facility of its own. We rely on partnerships with shelter facilities and our team of over 1,500 volunteers and foster parents to provide temporary shelter to our animals as we find them their forever homes. We work with great care and transparency - 100% of the funds received through donation go directly to saving the lives of future Lucky Dogs and Cats. Lucky Dog has been recognized by several charity rating organizations as one of the most transparent, trustworthy, and very best. Please visit the LuckyDog web site for more information, photos and short bios of current dogs and cats looking for a home of their own, adoption events, and for additional opportunities to help. We look forward to saving lives with you. <https://www.luckydoganimalrescue.org/home>

Although Lucky Dog is a dog and cat rescue organization, it is hard to miss the additional meaning of rescue and adoption from bumper stickers that read “Who Rescued Who?” and like sentiments. The relationship between people and dogs (and cats) goes back millennia. They are relationships rooted in survival, work, comfort, service, and affection. It is very hard to top the welcome home one receives from a dog. Since NIHCC members are engaged in and curious about the world, and talented photographers to boot, you may be interested in a few short articles based on scientific studies of these relationships. If so, here are some places as a start.

<https://phys.org/news/2016-03-explores-prehistoric-relationship-humans-dogs.html>

<https://www.theguardian.com/science/2016/sep/29/secret-of-connection-between-dogs-and-humans-could-be-genetic>

<https://healthypets.mercola.com/sites/healthypets/archive/2019/02/07/bond-between-dog-and-human.aspx>

<https://www.npr.org/2011/11/08/142100653/how-dogs-evolved-into-our-best-friends>

It is likely you know that research into the physiological and psychological benefits of having a pet companion has revealed interesting and consequential results, and remain areas of active research. These benefits tend to fit the situation from childhood to seniors. They have been reported in CDC articles <https://www.cdc.gov/healthypets/health-benefits/index.html>, Harvard Medical School articles <https://www.health.harvard.edu/staying-healthy/the-health-benefits-and-risks-of-pet-ownership>, general articles <https://bestlifeonline.com/pet-health-benefits/>, and a number of articles from NIH News in Health <https://newsinhealth.nih.gov/2018/02/power-pets>

In the preponderance of cases then, the answer to the bumper sticker question “Who Rescued Who?” appears to be “It’s Mutual.”



NIH Camera Club



January 2020



A couple of months ago Stephany Smith, Director of Development for Lucky Dog, reached out to our President, Margaret Sprott, to begin a discussion of collaboration between NIHCC and Lucky Dog. The overall objectives of this collaboration would be to raise funds and increase exposure for the work of Lucky Dog and to offer one or more creative challenges to NIHCC photographers. A good number of members have already expressed an interest in photographing dogs and cats. The time frame for this collaboration is as soon as some ideas and direction are in place, hopefully by early 2020 and if a photographic exhibit is thought to be a good and viable idea, that would take place in the Fall of 2020. Other possible products may be holiday cards, a 2021 calendar, one or more books (coffee table, kids, etc.). Since NIHCC has no money and Lucky Dog directs funds to its mission, cleverness will be needed to produce any products free or very cheaply - perhaps a grant will do the trick. Lucky Dog holds several fund raising events during the year, and one aspect of these is a silent auction. NIHCC members may consider donating some photos, not limited to dogs and cats, for sale via the silent auction.

This article is to increase awareness that this collaboration is being discussed and to engage your interest and imagination in what would be possible and what you would find creatively pleasing and challenging. As a step forward, Stephany Smith is willing to come to the February meeting to give a short presentation about Lucky Dog, answer questions, and hear and discuss some of your ideas. Thank you for your interest.



Educational Offering

Margaret Sprott

George Lea, a member of the NIH Camera Club has volunteered to present a series of educational programs to the club. George is an excellent photographer with a very deep knowledge of photography.

There will be four sessions presented in the Art Room of the Five Star Residence from 10AM to 11:30AM on Saturday mornings from October, 2019 to February 2020. They are scheduled on the Saturday before the regular camera club meetings so that George will be able to obtain feedback from the attendees at the club meetings.

One goal of the photographer is to share, exhibit, and showcase a collection of images. The viewed images reflect the perception of the photographer and convey a message to the viewer. The camera and lens combination is a first step toward our goal, a means to the end, a set of imperfect tools with compromises. The choice of camera and lens should match our final viewing preference: print, including size (11"x14"), phone, tablet, etc. The question is not what is the best; rather, what is good enough - a personal choice.

In order to help with your choice, some background on "why" rather than "how" needs to be clarified. The "how" changes with every software update and camera model but the "why" remains invariant. Here the focus will be on the "why" and leave you to consult the manual for "how".

Here is a description of the series of classes

October 5, 2019: Description of how we look at a picture as a basis for the design of a camera; the limits of human eye acuity and information conveyed by an image.

November 9, 2019: Details describing the formation of an image by a system of lenses on the focal plane of a camera.

January 11, 2020: Review of the functions of the light-sensing element, that which defines a digital camera, and how it responds to the image projected by the lens system.

February 8, 2020: Review of the digital photographic process so as to obtain maximum image quality from a digital camera.

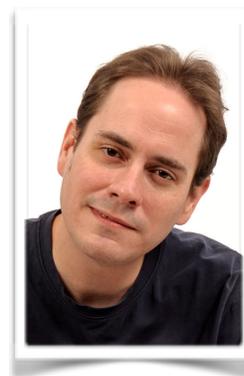
I hope many of you will be able to attend this series and learn more about photography. I am very grateful to George for volunteering to present this interesting series of programs.

If you have any questions about the programs, feel free to talk to me or George.





PSA-PID First Round Results By Nicolas Raymond



Hi Folks,

For lack of sugarcoating we did not score very well in the first round of the PSA / PID Interclub this year. As you might see from the attached documents, we currently rank 17th out of 23 camera clubs under our bracket (Group D).

Not relishing in being the bearer of bad news, and I am perplexed in light of what I thought to be some wonderful images our club members voted to advance. In the absence of published winning photos on the PSA website at this time, I can only speculate that the judges chosen to evaluate us had specific preferences in regards to subject matter.

A reminder perhaps that photography as an art form is subjective. From titles of other winning & high scoring photos, it appears subjects of preference with these judges included portraits, wildlife, and still life. Next time we might face a panel of judges with completely different preferences, and I want to say despite our results in Round 1 that the judges' decisions should ultimately be respected as I believe they evaluated our images in good faith.

In future rounds, I do however want to improve our chances in scoring better. No exact formula I can think of to make that happen, perfectly content at least until recently with club member votes to elect the "best of our best". Then again I noticed some of our wildlife photos voted out this round which might have scored better in the Interclub stage with this particular set of judges.

No way of gauging how other judges will evaluate us, but going forward I think we should submit an even mix of animate versus inanimate images to the PID Interclub. By animate I don't mean video, but anything considered as animal / human for judges looking to connect with breathing life.

If that sounds reasonable, it means future club scores will be adjusted to choose a healthier mix of subject matter. 3 for top scoring "animate" photos, and 3 for top scoring "inanimate" photos (for a total of 6 we are allowed to submit in each Interclub round).

On the flip side, I am happy to announce that 2 of our photos won distinctions in this round, and deservedly so for their exquisite beauty (also attached in this email):

Divider by My Phuong Nguyen (Award of Merit)

Still Life of Past Times by Coriolana Simon (Honorable Mention)

Anyways I hope you enjoy this Holiday season and all my best wishes for the New Year!

Cheers,

Nick

Divider by My Phuong Nguyen (Award of Merit)



Still Life of Past Times by Coriolana Simon (Honorable Mention)



PSA-PID First Round Results

GROUP D	LOCATION	Round 1
Lehigh Valley Photography Club	PA	69
Full Frame Photo Club	INDIA	59
An Tain Photographic Group	IRLEAND	58
Shutter Bugs Creative Forum	UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	57
Lake County Camera Club	IL	56
Belmont 16s Photography Club	AUSTRALIA	56
Nashoba Valley Photo Club	MA	55
ABC Photo Society	PA	53
North County Photographic Society	CA	51
Norths Photographic Society	AUSTRALIA	51
Alameda Photographic Society	CA	50
Clemson Photography Club	SC	50
Housatonic Camera Club	CT	50
Houston Camera Club	TX	50
Photographic Society of Chattanooga	TN	50
Unlimited Vision Photo Club	WI	50
NIHCC	MD	49
Sun City Texas Photography Club	TX	49
Sun Lakes Camera Club	AZ	49
West Chester Photo Club	OH	48
Delaware County Camera Club	PA	46
Unlimited Vision Photo Club	WI	44
Monmouth Camera Club	NJ	33 (4 IMAGES)

NIH Member Individual Results

11	Award of Merit	D103	#093610	Divider	My_Phuong	Nguyen
10	HM	D105	#093610	Still Life of Family Pastimes	Coriolana	Simon
6		D101	#093610	Cathedral High	Douglas	Wolters
6		D102	#093610	Conception Sunset	Nicolas	Raymond
9		D104	#093610	Milky Way Panorama	David	Terao
7		D106	#093610	Sweet Emotion	Diane	Poole

ON THE WALL

Coriolana Simon, of TimePoints Photography, is having a busy season, with her still life work in three exhibits simultaneously. As Series 15 guest artist for 2019-2020, her solo exhibit at Penn Place Gallery in Garrett Park opened on December 23 and runs through January 18 (see details below). Coco also had two still lifes juried in to Strathmore's large, multi-media, annual group exhibit, which opens on January 11 and extends through February 22.

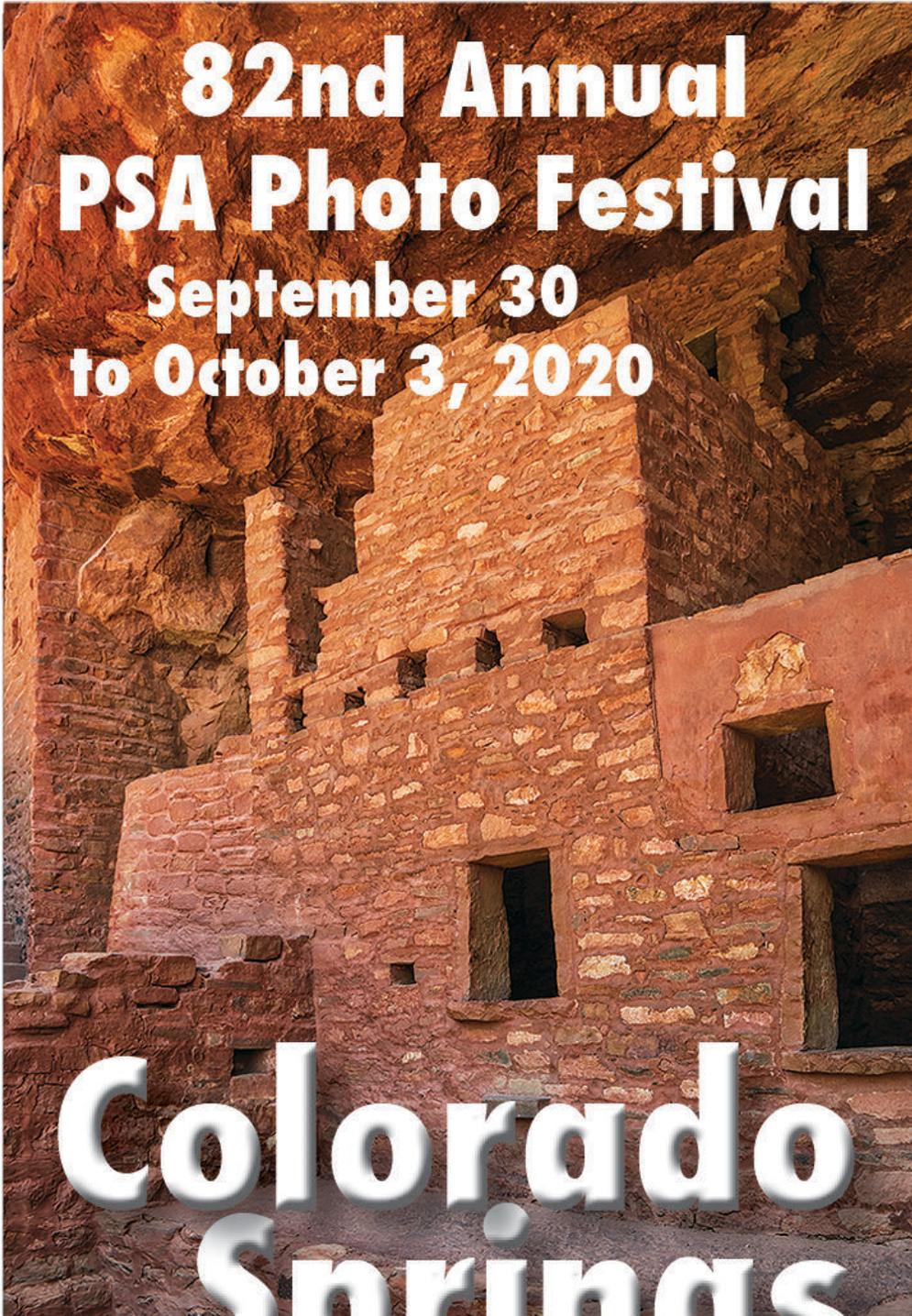
Coco and her TimePoints partner, **Doug Wolters**, each have three pieces in a photography exhibit at the Friendship Gallery in Chevy Chase, MD, which opens on January 6 and goes through February 2. Doug will be exhibiting his abstract "transformations," while Coco will show still lifes in the style of 17th century Dutch painters.

Still Life Solo Exhibit
Penn Place Gallery
4600 Waverly Avenue
Garrett Park, MD 20896
December 23 – January 18
Gallery open 24 / 7

"Home"
Annual Juried Group Exhibition
The Mansion at Strathmore
10701 Rockville Pike
North Bethesda, MD 20852
Reception: January 16, 7:00-9:00PM
Call for hours: 301.581.5109

All Photography Show
Friendship Gallery
4433 South Park Avenue
Chevy Chase, MD 20815
Reception: January 12, 11:30AM-1:00PM
January 6 – February 2





**82nd Annual
PSA Photo Festival
September 30
to October 3, 2020**

**Colorado
Springs**

**Photo Tours
Sept. 29th thru Oct. 3rd**

CALL FOR ENTRIES

Special 10th Anniversary Edition

2020 ANNUAL JOSEPH MILLER ABSTRACT PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBIT

MAY 2 – MAY 25, 2020



The Joseph Miller Center for the Photographic Arts proudly announces its annual juried abstract photography exhibit for May 2020, and invites the participation of ALL interested photographers to help celebrate this TENTH ANNIVERSARY milestone event.

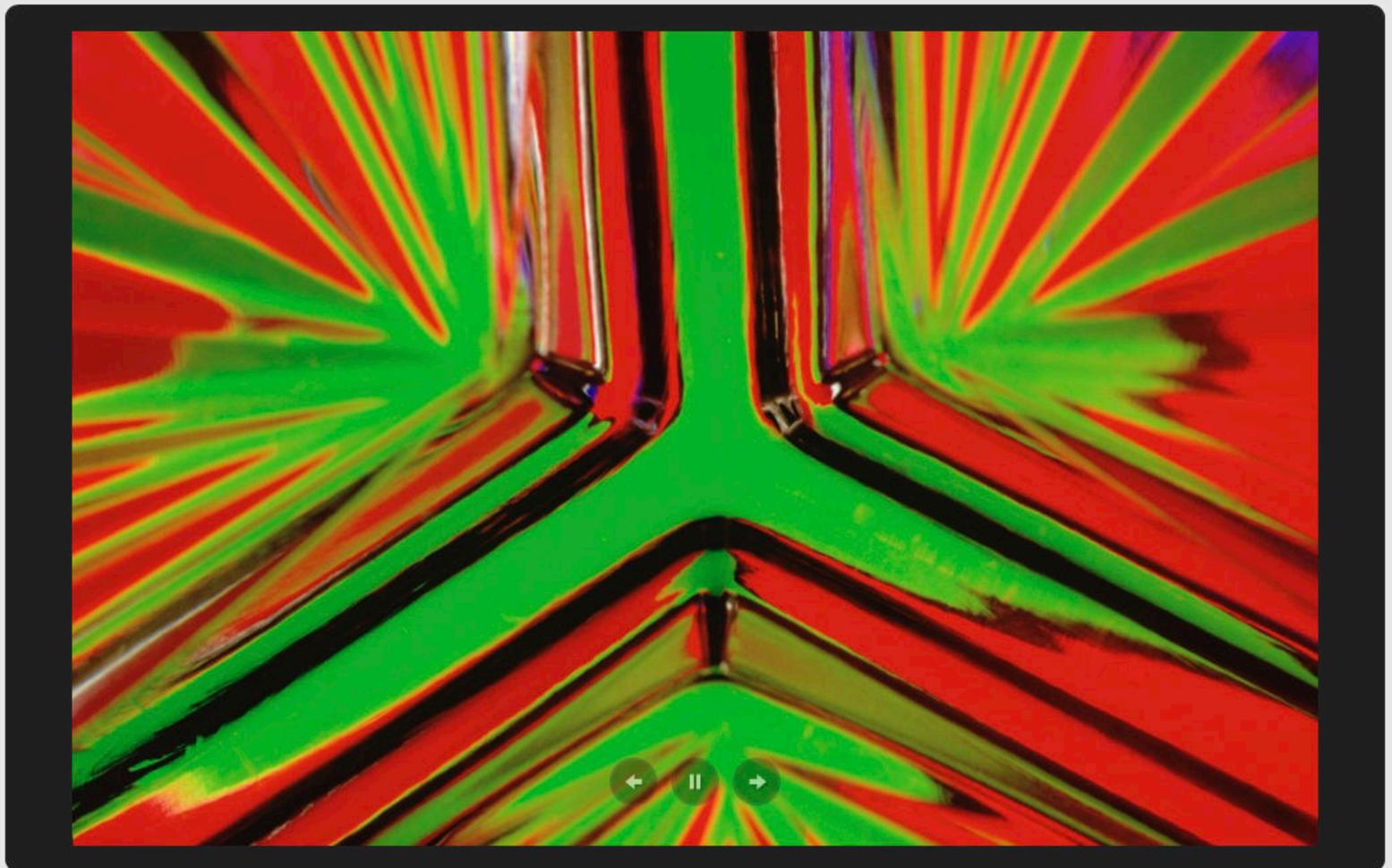
Over the course of the past decade, these much anticipated spring exhibits have encouraged and promoted abstract photography and helped raise it to the level of fine art. Consequently, the reputation of the JM Abstract Exhibits has been attracting entries from international as well as national photographic artists. In earlier years, submissions had been limited to local NVACC-related clubs, but now, current participants come from photographic groups outside the Greater Washington / Northern Virginia area or are non-affiliated / independent photographic artists.

The Joseph Miller Center will begin accepting entries for the upcoming TENTH ANNIVERSARY ABSTRACT EXHIBIT on Saturday, December 28, 2019.

The deadline for submissions will be Saturday, February 22, 2020.

A detailed PROSPECTUS containing all relevant rules of entry & related information regarding the 10th Anniversary Exhibit will be coming soon.

Sign up now for our mailing list to be kept up-to-date with future exhibits.





The NIH CAMERA CLUB

Register on the NIHCC Website

Our Webmaster Jim Turner is working very hard to make our website awesome. If you haven't registered yet, please do! If you have any questions about the way things work, please feel free to e-mail Jim and he will be able to help you with the easy process.

<http://www.nihcameraclub.com>



Silver Spring Camera Club

You might be interested to see what our sister club, the Silver Spring Camera Club, is up to! Here is a link to their site. They also publish a newsletter, Cable Release, and it is available here.

<http://www.sscphotography.org/>



A Proud Member of the

**Maryland
Photography Alliance**

<https://www.mdphotoalliance.org/>

Club Officers and Committees

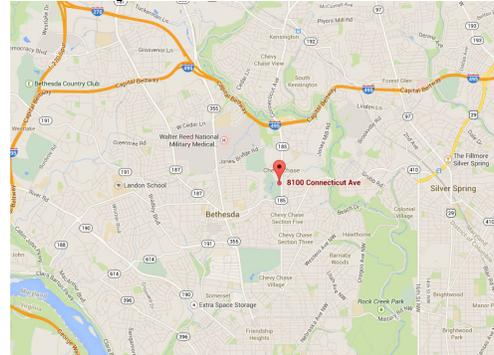
President: Margaret Sprott
Vice President: Cathrine Sasek
Secretary: Gosia Klosek
Treasurer: Stan Collyer
Past President: Linda Eisenstadt
Program Chair: Peter Dunner, Diana Nguyen
Education, Workshop: Peter Dunner
Field Trip Chair: Bill James
Digital Czar(s): Quentin A. Fisher, Dale Lewis
Social Chair: Suzanne Dater
Membership Coordinator: Leonor Guillen
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Webmaster: Jim Turner
Web Address: <http://www.nihcameraclub.com>

**This newsletter is published monthly by the
National Institutes of Health Camera Club,
Bethesda, MD.**

Meeting Location

***Five Star Premier Residences
of Chevy Chase***

***8100 Connecticut Avenue
Chevy Chase, MD 20815***



***Competition Night: Second Tuesday
of the month***

About Our Club

The purpose of the NIH Camera Club is to encourage its members to increase their knowledge, skills, and enjoyment of photography by holding meetings, classes, lectures, and demonstrations of the various phases of photography, and conducting workshops, photographic competitions, and other photography related activities. **Membership is open to all, not just NIH employees.**

Meetings are normally held on the second Tuesday of each month from September through June at 7:00 P.M. at the Five Star Premier Residences on Connecticut Avenue in Chevy Chase, MD. Special events will be held at The FAES Social and Academic Center 9101 Old Georgetown Road, Bethesda, MD 20814

Complete membership form (find on the web site and attached to each newsletter or pick up at a meeting). Please note that you must be a member to compete in the monthly competitions.

Mail membership form and check to the Treasurer:
Stan Collyer 8817 Belmont Road Potomac, MD 20854 or submit at a regular meeting.
You do not have to work at NIH to join the club.

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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION and RENEWAL FORM

National Institutes of Health Camera Club (NIHCC)

Membership in the NIH Camera Club historically consisted of current and former NIH employees and their families. The club is now open to anyone who has an interest in photography. The Treasurer collects Camera Club dues by September.

DATE: _____

NAME: _____

HOME or WORK ADDRESS: _____

PHONE #: HOME _____ CELL _____ WORK _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

FEES (please check the appropriate line(s):

\$__ Single membership: \$40

\$__ Family membership (Family members must live in same household):

2 family members: \$64 3 family members: \$88

TOTAL AMOUNT PAID \$_____ Cash___ Check #_____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: NIH Camera Club

SEND TO: Stan Collyer, Treasurer
8817 Belmart Road
Potomac, MD 20854
H-301-299-6955
Email: sccollier@aol.com

Please indicate how you would like to be involved in NIH Camera Club activities:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| ----Program Committee | ----Membership Committee |
| ----Social Committee | ----Publicity Committee |
| ----Field Trip Committee | ----Newsletter Committee |
| ----Workshop and Education Committee | ----Website Committee |

WAIVER

I hold the NIH Camera Club (NIHCC) and each member of NIHCC, individually and collectively, blameless for any injury that may occur to me or my guests, or my property while participating in any NIHCC activity or event.

Print Name

Signature

Date

June 2019