

May 2007

inFocus

Newsletter of the Westchester Photographic Society



Spring has finally arrived. Green has returned to our world as the trees, bushes, ferns and grasses have new crops of leaves, fronds and blades. The birds have nested. New life is breaking out all over, including at WPS.

Your new Board had its first meeting on May 4th and we're off to an exciting start. First, let me thank all of the members who work very hard in the past couple of months to organize and carry out the elections for the new Board. Thanks to Charlie and his election committee, Jun, Ann, Bob and Jonathan for creating, distributing and counting the ballots. Thanks to Janet, Marty, Jane and Jerry for the refreshments. Thanks to Robert Baron for posting all the elections articles in the newsletters. Thanks to all the candidates for agreeing to run for the Board and finally thanks to all the members who came to the Annual Members Meeting and voted for the Board.

At the May Board Meeting we elected the officers and assigned areas of responsi-

bility to each Board director. In addition to the jobs that are done by Board members, we rely on our member volunteers to help with a variety of jobs that contribute to the continued smooth operation of WPS. We have again been fortunate in finding enough volunteers to do these jobs.

The new Board is hard at work preparing the program schedule for the end of summer as well as fall. We are also preparing an exciting Field Trip schedule. So far we have added ten field trips to our schedule for the 2007-08 season. If you have any suggestions for new field trips or would like to lead a trip please email Ron, our trip coordinator, Ron@wpsphoto.org.

Throughout the remainder of spring and summer, the Board will be working on changes for next season's competitions, our awards and our annual dinner.

As always please send your suggestions, comments and complaints to Dick@wpsphoto.org. ♣

Dick

Notice for Mail Recipients of inFocus

Current and past issues
may be retrieved at

www.wpsphoto.org/Newsletters.htm

Individuals with special needs, or those who cannot access the on-line version, are asked to contact the InFocus Editor at P.O. Box 93 Larchmont, NY 10538.

Host for May
Robert Blumenthal

inFocus

Now Accepts
Advertising

On the web, see

[www.wpsphoto.org/
AdvertisingRates.htm](http://www.wpsphoto.org/AdvertisingRates.htm)

Cover photo:
Little Green Heron 2007
by Anastasia Tompkins

Contact Information

Dear readers:

Your comments and suggestions
are always welcome and should be
addressed as follows:

If concerning the WPS Newsletter,
In Focus, address comments to the
editor at infocus@wpsphoto.org.

If concerning our website, address com-
ments to our webmaster, Dick Budnik,
at webmaster@wpsphoto.org.

All other comments should be
addressed to our President, Dick Budnik,
at dick@wpsphoto.org.

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inFocus

Ron Carran, *Editor*
Dick Budnik, *Web edition*

WPS Board of Directors

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*President, Chairman of the Board
Competition Scorekeeper & WebMaster
Digital Projectionist*

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Elinor Stecker-Orel, Harvey Augenbraun

Greeter Program

Ann & Bob Harper

newsletter: infocus@wpsphoto.org

www.wpsphoto.org

Westchester Photographic Society

meets 12 months a year, on Friday evenings
at 8:00 pm (excepting school holidays) in the
Technology Building of Westchester Community
College, Valhalla, NY (across from parking lot #11).

Guests are welcome.



WPS Friday Evening Program Schedule

May 2007

- 04: **Out of the Box 6**
The public is invited
- 11: **Ron Carran, "Photo Restoration"**
The public is invited
- 18: **Competition #9**
The public is invited
- 25: **Memorial Day Weekend**
No meeting

June 2007

- 01: **Roz Rosenblum, "Creativity"**
The public is invited
- 08: **End of Year Competition**
The public is invited
- 15: **Jeff Cadge, "Stock Photography and Commercial Videos"**
The public is invited
- 22: **Summer Party in the Science Building Lounge at 7PM**
- 29: **Virtual Special Competition, "Affections"**

July 2007

- 06 TBA
- 13 **NECCC Conference Weekend**
No Meeting
- 20 TBA
- 27 TBA
- 29 Picnic

August 2007

- 03 TBA
- 05 **Rain Date for the Picnic**
- 10 TBA
- 17 TBA
- 24 TBA

Please note:

Check the WPS website (wpsphoto.org) for recent changes.

Weather Notice

If driving conditions are hazardous, meetings will be cancelled. Look for announcements of Westchester Community College (WCC) closings on the following media outlets:

WFAS 103.9 FM / 1230 AM
WHUD 100.7 FM
WCBS 880 AM
TV News 12
www.wfasfm.com

Members are advised to check their email for emergency weather notices from WPS.

WPS New Members

Cliff Brooks
Shiela Gardner
Stuart Green
Martin Healy
Thomas Strppone

Welcome!

WPS Member Information

Keep your contact information up to date. Send updated email addresses, telephone numbers and mailing addresses to Charlie@wpsphoto.org
WPS will post a link to your personal photographic website. See <http://www.wpsphoto.org/Links.htm> and then contact webmaster@wpsphoto.org

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Contact: Harvey Augenbraun
mrsscience9@aol.com

Upcoming Events

Field Trips

- June
- 03: **Birds of Prey (11 am)**
Green Chimneys
led by Lois Barker
- 12: **Museum Mile (6 pm)**
led by Jerry Hoffman
(details on WPS web site)
- July
- 21: **Morning Stroll on the Brooklyn Bridge**
led by Albert Tang
- 25: **Ward Pound Ridge (5 pm)**
led by Dick Budnik
- Sept
- Top of the Rock, Ice Rink & St. Pat's**
led by Walter Kimmel
- Oct
- Storm King Sculpture Ctr.**
led by Ron Carran
- Nov
- Chinatown**
led by Albert Tang

NOTICE

NECCC's Amherst Weekend is approaching. Scheduled for July 13, 14 & 15, it is a favorite WPS activity. For further information, see <http://www.neccc.org> and consult with Marty Bernstein about our usual group discount. (A WPS group is reserving rooms at the Econo Lodge. Other popular places to stay include the Quality Inn, Howard Johnson's and the Holiday Inn.)

Got Ideas??

Do you have ideas
for inFocus?
Let us know.

WPS Group Exhibits

Cancer Treatment and Wellness Center Northern Westchester Hospital *Scenes of NY City*

Exhibit: May 1, 2007 - Oct. 30, 2007

Take down: Wed., Oct. 31, 10:00 am - 12:00 noon



Cancer Center reception

Empire State Building Lobby

Exhibit: May 23 - August 27, 2007

Greenburgh Nature Center *Nature Up Close and Personal*

Exhibit: July 7 - Aug. 31, 2007

Hang: Sat. July 7, 9:00 - 10:30 am

Take down: Sat. Sept. 1, 9:00 - 10:30 am

Reception: Sat. July 7, 2:00 pm

Hudson Valley Hospital

Exhibit: September - December, 2007

Hang: Sept. 8, 2007, 10:00 am

Take down: Jan. 5, 2008, 9:30 am

Ossining Library

Exhibit: Oct. 7 - Nov. 9, 2007

Hang: Sat. Oct. 6, 10:00 am

Take down: Sat. Nov. 10, 10:00 am

Cancer Treatment and Wellness Center Northern Westchester Hospital

Exhibit: November 1, 2007 - April 29, 2008

Drop off date, October 31, 10:00 am - 12 noon

Hang: Nov. 1, 10:30 am

Take down: April 30, 2008, 10:00 am - 12 noon

Somers Library

Exhibit: November 2007

Hang: November 3, 10:00 am

Take down: December 1, 9:30 am

WPS Member Exhibits

Through the Looking Glass

Lois Barker, Robert A. Baron, Deborah Lea Cohen

Rose Ann Kimmel, Walter Kimmel, Mano Orel,

Elinor Stecker-Orel

Greenburgh Town Court

Exhibit: July 2-August 31, 2007

M-F 9 am - 4:30 pm

188 Tarrytown Road White Plains

Reflective Moments

Terry Von Brandon, Harry V. Archer, Albert Tang,

Elinor Stecker-Orel, Mano Orel, Robert Baron,

Deborah Lea Cohen

Yonkers Downtown/Waterfront BID

Exhibit: June 9 - July 28, 2007

Reception: Saturday, June 23, 2:00 - 4:00 pm

2 Hudson Street, Yonkers

"Graphically Yours"

Anastasia Tompkins

Harrison Library

Exhibit: Monday, June 4 - Friday, June 29, 2007

Reception: Saturday, June 9th, 2:00 - 4:00 pm

Bruce Avenue, Harrison

Reflective Moments

RoseAnn Kimmel, Walter Kimmel, Zane Kuo

Elinor Stecker-Orel, Mano Orel, Robert Baron,

Deborah Lea Cohen

Yonkers Downtown/Waterfront BID

Exhibit: April 21- June 9, 2007

2 Hudson Street, Yonkers

Photography Exhibit

by Dick's Tuesday Morning Photography Class

Greenburgh Town Hall

Exhibit: April 6 - June 30, 2007

177 Hillside Avenue, Greenburgh

(See further: wpsphoto.org/Exhibits.html, and
www.studiolo.org/WPS/PR/index.htm)

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Off the Beaten Path:

A Desert Travel Journal

by Jerry Hoffman

Somehow, I'm drawn over and over to the unique terrain of the southwest, usually centered and in any direction from the "four corners" area where Utah, Colorado, Arizona and New Mexico meet. Something in this "high desert" area is visually so striking, so appealing to me, that I keep coming back wanting to see more and to carry the images home, not only to share with friends, but also to look at again and again for the sheer joy they create in me.

This time, we (Jane and I) decided to head further west to Death Valley and places near by, much less familiar areas, very different geologically, many fewer people, no lakes nor rivers that we could see, but fascinating in their own way and much fun to explore and photograph...in eight days, a little over a thousand miles, and taking a thousand photos!

So, what's out there, in this seemingly desolate area, most of it in the Mohave Desert, and with the only water we saw being a mirage running to the horizon, but which kept retreating as we approached and finally disappeared?

So, here is how it unfolded, day by day: Flying in to Las Vegas, and picking up a car there, we headed south west on I-15, into California, skirting the Mohave Desert Preserve, then turning south at

the town of Baker directly into the Preserve. The desert was all around us, not simply just sand. Small desert scrub in every direction, various cactus (surprisingly few such plants), red, black and brown cinder cones in the distance, black and red lava rock everywhere, and our favorite...Joshua Trees; we photographed them by the dozens!

What drew us here was the Kelso Sand Dunes, a few miles further south. On the way, we passed the town of Kelso, and we drove in to check it out. Altogether, it included about a dozen houses, six up, six down, all backing on to each other, dirt roads, no stores, no services, no gas, water, nor places to eat or drink, no people. Except for a few modern cars, it gave all the appearances of a Ghost town, which I am sure it will be soon.

Continuing further, we turned into the Dunes. They were hundreds of feet high, and, thinking of creating some Ansel Adams look-alikes...we jumped out of the car...just as the winds picked up, gusting to over 40 knots, blowing sand, making it impossible to hold our cameras steady, and we finally gave up after trying to wait it out. Fun to see, but "no cigar." We continued south through the Preserve, to I-40, and then west again to the town of Barstow, where we stayed for two nights.

A true desert town of about 25,000 people, it is a major freight terminal, with long, long four engine freight trains running constantly in each direction (many cars showing Chinese and Korean content!) It boasts a wonderful train station, an original "Harvey Girl" site, and we spent hours wandering in and around it, and exploring a number of old freight cars, engines and cabooses. Much fun!



photos by Jerry Hoffmann

Nearby, was a bridge over the Mohave River. The river was nothing but loose sand, in every direction and looking like it hadn't seen water in many years...another photo op!

We stayed in Barstow for two days and nights, wandering an interesting geological area a few miles out of town called Rainbow Basin; then a ghost town converted into a movie set, called Calico Ghost Town, and finally an archeological dig...Calico Early Man Site, where artifacts dating back twenty to thirty thousand years ago have been found (this place has generated some controversy, because if true, it would be the oldest such site in the Americas!). We were able to wander the site freely, and to get very close to where they were digging. The site was incredibly barren, dry and uninviting, but fun to explore anyhow. We saw a number of fascinating rocks, but were warned that we'd be arrested if we took any.

Pacing ourselves leisurely, these had been our primary targets, and we were now ready to move on, having missed only one other "possible"...a big cat rehab center a little further west in the town of Mohave. We could easily imagine coming back to catch that.

While very windy and the sun strong, the temperatures were moderate in the seventies and eighties, and we were very comfortable in long sleeve shirts, and a hat. Happily, we heeded warnings to carry lots of water. In one two hour stretch away from the car, I went through a liter and a half. We frequently drove for hours with no place to stop for refills and our planning really paid off.

Our next stop was Red Rock Canyon State Park, north and west of Barstow, enroute to the town of Ridgecrest, and an extraordinary place...The China Lake US Navy Weapons Testing Facility, the site of the largest Petroglyph concentration in North America! More on that next time. ♣



Our First Virtual Competition

by Dick Budnik

You may have noticed that we have a Virtual Special Competition scheduled for June 29, 2007. The theme for this digital only competition is Affections. What's this all about?

Here's the deal. You may submit up to three digital entries into each of three separate digital categories: B&W, Color and Open Mind. Email your entries to me at Competitions@wpsphoto.org by June 15th. Use the same file naming format and file size that we have been using for regular competitions this season.

I will collect the images and batch rename them in a random order and email them to our competition judge. The judge will view the images on his/her computer monitor and will score each image and record a brief critique of the image. The scores and comments will be sent back to me by email. On competition night, June 29th, we will project each image at the club and announce the score and read the judge's comments.

Why are we doing this? My idea is to get access to a wider choice of judges from outside our immediate geographic area. We are currently asking our judges to come to the club for very little money on a Friday night through traffic congestion and hazardous weather and then spend two hours judging over 200 entries. Not surprisingly we only have a small pool of good, experienced judges that are willing to show up, and we have to keep reusing the same judges. It's hard for them to give their comments about each entry without worrying about running

out of time. We also burn out the judges with the large number of entries. It makes an exhausting evening for the judges. It's a wonder that they ever agree to come back again.

The Board has gone over and over the competition problems and made every change we can think of to speed up the competitions and to ease the workload on our judges. Other than reducing the number of entries or eliminating the judges' comments, we have very few options left. My hope is that the use of a virtual judge will result in a shortening of the competition times while still giving us the judge's comments and scores. Also, since the judges can take as many breaks as they need, they will be less likely to burn out before the end of the competition. When the judge is physically present we are not allowed to make any comments that might influence the scoring. With our virtual judge, the audience will be free to boo the judge as much as they desire.

We are obviously testing out the virtual competition concept with this special theme competition before we consider using it in some or all of our regular competitions.

I urge you to participate by submitting entries into this special competition. We need to get a reasonable number of entries to properly test the idea. Remember any images submitted for this competition may also be entered in our regular competitions. Please send your comments, ideas, suggestions and complaints on this or any other issue to me at Dick@wpsphoto.org. ♣

Thanks!

WPS would like to thank everyone who served on the nominating and election committee for our new Board of Directors, for the great job that they did. They are:

Charles Koenig (chair)
Martin Bernstein
Ann Harper
Robert Harper
Jonathan Kaplan
Janet King
Jun Shihoten

New Board

Dick Budnik, *President, Chairman*
Charles Koenig, *Exec. V.P., Treasurer,*
Corporate Secretary
Albert Tang, *Recording Secretary*
Martin Kantor, *Program Director*
Lois Barker, *Exhibits Chair*
Ron Carran, *Newsletter Editor*
Walter Kimmel, *Competitions*
Joe Pollock, *College Shooting Program*
Harry Archer, *Equipment Coordinator*

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New York City Museums

Metropolitan Museum

www.metmuseum.org

Hidden in Plain Sight: Contemporary Photographs from the Collection

5/15 - 9/3/07

Impressed by Light: Photographs from Paper Negatives, 1840-1860

9/25 - 12/31/07

Museum of Modern Art

www.moma.org

Barry Frydlander: Place and Time

5/17 - 9/3/07

International Center for Photography

www.icp.org

The Biographical Landscape:

The Photography of Stephen Shore, 1968 - 1993

5/11 - 9/9/07

Let Your Motto Be Resistance:

African American Portraits

5/11 - 9/9/07

Amelia Earhart: Image and Icon

5/11 - 9/9/07

Museum of the City of New York

www.mcny.org

Timescapes: A multimedia Portrait of New York. Ongoing, 25 minute multimedia exhibit of the history of New York with documentary photos

The Whitney Museum

www.whitney.org

Taryn Simon. 3/9 - 6/24/07

Of Interest: Summer of Love: Art of the Psychedelic Era. 5/24 - 9/16/07

Westchester Museums

Neuberger Museum of Art

www.neuberger.org

The Early Works of Richard Prince

to 6/24/07

Hudson River Museum

www.hrm.org

Eliot Porter: Trees 1958 - 1975

Gallery Guides

Photography Galleries, NYC

http://art-support.com/galleries_ny.htm

<http://www.photography-guide.com>

Regular Competition #9 • May 18, 2007
Judge: Chuck Pines

B&W Prints

1. J. Gordon
1. J. Gordon
3. R. Baron
4. A. Tang

Color Prints—Group B

1. A. Tang
2. L. Constantine
2. L. Constantine
4. L. Constantine

Color Prints—Group A

1. J. Gordon
3. R. Baron
3. R. Baron, D. Thornton, W. Kimmel, Z. Kuo, Z. Kuo

Slides

1. R. Micklisch
1. R. Micklisch
3. R. Micklisch
3. H. Rauch

Digital Projector—B&W

1. D. Thornton,
H. Augenbraun,
L. Freedman,
A. Tompkins, A. Tang,
R. Baron, E. Roche,
J. Blumenthal

Digital Projector—Color B

1. C. Finley, R. Kimmel,
J. Blumenthal,
P. Austin

Digital Projector—Color A

1. R. Baron
2. W. Kimmel, L. Freedman
4. C. Fisher

Digital Projector—Salon

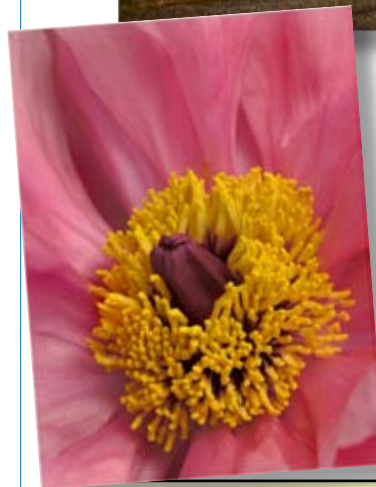
1. H. Augenbraun, J. King
3. E. Stecker-Orel,
G. Rosenstarch,
R. Harper

**Digital Projector—
Open Mind**

1. R. Dublin
2. R. Dublin, E. Rosenstarch
4. A. Tompkins, L. Freedman,
W. Kimmel,
M. Bernstein, D. Budnik,
R. Kimmel,
J. Blumenthal,
J. Blumenthal



"Watching From Above"
 by Rob Dublin



**Two
Winners**

"Red and Yellow Flower"
 by Harvey Augenbraun

Yonkers Downtown/Waterfront BID
 presents
"Reflective Moments"
 a photography exhibit




Harry V. Archer
 Turhan Von Brandon
 Albert Tang
 Mano Orel
 Elinor Stecker-Orel
 Robert A. Baron
 Deborah Lea Cohen

June 9 to July 28, 2007
 reception
 June 23, 2007 from 2-4PM






4 Hudson Street
 (Bet'n Riverdale Ave. & S. B'way)
 Yonkers, NY 10701
 www.yonkersdwbid.com
 914-969-6660

The photographers are members of the Westchester Photographic Society

Yonkers Downtown/Waterfront BID
 presents an exhibit by members of the
 Westchester Photographic Society

Reflective Moments
 RoseAnn Kimmel
 Walter Kimmel
 Zane Kuo

Mano Orel Elinor Stecker-Orel
 Robert Baron Deborah Lea Cohen





Night Field RoseAnn Kimmel
 Chinese Lanterns Zane Kuo

914-969-6660
 Yonkersdwbid@gmail.com
 wpsinfo@optonline.net

April 21- June 9, 2007
 reception:
 April 22 from 2-4PM

2-4 Hudson Street, Yonkers, NY
 (between Riverdale & S. Broadway)



inFocus

The Newsletter of the
Westchester Photographic Society
Ron Carran, editor
c/o Robert Baron
P.O. Box 93
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