

inFocus

Newsletter of the Westchester Photographic Society

December 2024



INSIDE:
Coming Up
5 Field Trips
Competitions 2A & 2B
Member in Focus



Phone Photography Is Fun!

I've attended several field trips recently, taking advantage of the nice fall weather. We went to Rockefeller State Park Preserve at the end of October, we were at Tibbetts Brook Park a few weeks ago, and last Monday we took a trip down to Manhattan to walk along the High Line, have lunch at Chelsea Market and visit Little Island. The weather was gorgeous, and it was so wonderful to have a friendly walk, get to know each other better, and talk tech. Several of us have been experimenting with various slow shutter/multiple exposure apps on our phones (SlowShutter, ReeHeld, AvgCamPro, etc.), and have been encouraging each other to try different things.



Slow Shutter Cam
Long Exposure Photography
Cogitap Software
#70 in Photo & Video
4.5 - 5.0 Ratings
\$7.99



Average Camera Pro
Dominik Seibold
Designed for iPad
#73 in Photo & Video
4.5 - 5.0 Ratings
\$1.99
View in Mac App Store



ReeHeld - Long Exposure Camera
AI Slow Shutter without Tripod
Reeflex GmbH
4.5 - 5.0 Ratings
Free - Offers In-App Purchases

Here are a few of my phone photographs from recent field trips.



(continued on page 4)

COVER PHOTO

PBR @ MSG

By Warren Rosenberg

This was taken at Madison Square Garden during the January 2024 "Monster Energy Buck-Off at the Garden," one of the events in the Professional Bull Riders annual series. Pictured here is the 1,800 pound bull, named "Moonlight Party" launching himself in the air being ridden by the 135-pound professional bull rider Austin Richardson.



inFocus

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Dick Budnik, Web Edition

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Competition Evaluation

Dick Budnik, Lois Barker

newsletter: infocus@wpsphoto.org
www.wpsphoto.org

Westchester Photographic Society

Meets 12 months a year, on Friday evenings at 7:30 pm (excepting school holidays). Meetings are virtual now until further notice. Start time is 7:30 pm.



Member of



FRIDAY EVENING PROGRAMS

December

- 6 Arik Gorban, "Photography and Visualization"
- 13 Comp 3A
- 20 No Meeting: Christmas
- 27 No Meeting: New Years

January 2025

- 3 Comp 3B (Theme: Hard to Touch)
- 10 Deborah Loeb Bohren, "iPhone Artistry: The Magic of ICM"
- 17 Showcases
- 24 Clark Thompson, "Sports Photography"
- 31 Competition 4A

February

- 7 Richard Camp, "The Power of Chance"
- 14 TBA
- 21 Competition 4B (Theme: Give Us Our Daily Bread)
- 28 My Personal Project

March

- 7 TBA
- 14 Competition 5A
- 21 Straight Out of the Phone
- 28 Ally Frantz, "Lensbaby"

April

- 4 Competition 5B (Theme: Pair)
- 11 Joe McNally
- 18 No Meeting: Easter
- 25 Annual Members Meeting

May

- 2 Competition 6A
- 9 Member Critique
- 16 Greg Miller, "Venice: Doors of a Vanishing City"
- 23 Competition 6B (Theme: White)
- 30 No Meeting: Memorial Day

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

Contact Information

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

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COMING UP



Arik Gorban on December 6 Photography and Visualization

In this program, Arik shares ideas and images that will encourage you to explore unique and creative photo opportunities. This program focuses on creative seeing and image making.

A good photograph should not simply record what we saw but convey our unique perspective and impression. The discussion covers the stages of maturity in our ability to pre-visualize and key considerations for creative photography.

The program will be educational and entertaining. It's structured for anyone who takes pictures, whether with a phone camera, a point and shoot, or a full-featured camera.

Bio

Arik is a photographer and photography instructor who focuses on the creative aspects of the photographic art form. His experience covers the complete photographic process, including analog photography, darkroom work, and extensive digital imaging. He frequently judges photo contests and juried exhibitions, presents photography programs in the USA and internationally, conducts workshops, exhibits his fine art photography, publishes articles, and photographs events.

Website: www.agphotoworks.com, Online Portfolio: <https://agorban.myportfolio.com/>



Deborah Loeb Bohren on January 10

iPhone Artistry: The Magic of Intentional Camera Movement and Multiple Exposure

Intentional Camera Movement (ICM) and multiple exposure (ME) are two of the hottest trends in photography today. And you don't need a DSLR or mirrorless camera to create these unique and dynamic abstract and impressionistic images — all you need is an iPhone and a couple of very cool and robust apps. In this presentation you will learn how to leverage the power of your iPhone to work in this fun and creative space. Using the Slow Shutter and Average Camera Pro apps to unleash your inner photo expressionist, see differently, push the boundaries of traditional photography and increase your personal creativity quotient—all using your iPhone.

Bio

Based in Stamford, Connecticut, Deborah Loeb Bohren is a travel-inspired fine art and editorial photographer, focusing on the creation of intimate and grand portraits of natural and man-made environments around the globe. She uses her camera as an artist would use a paintbrush. Think of her work as visual alchemy: a transformation not of matter into gold but rather of light, color, line and gesture into images. Techniques such as intentional camera movement (ICM), in-camera multiple exposure, minimalism and abstraction are the primary tools of her alchemy. These techniques work to allow her to challenge reality and capture a feeling, emotion or impression rather than simply recording what lies in front of the lens. Her images are part of individual, private and corporate collections around the country and have been in gallery and museum exhibitions. She serves as a judge and guest presenter at camera clubs around the country and teaches a range of photography courses and travel Photography workshops. She is also a regular contributor to Everett Potter's Travel Report, sharing her global travels through words and images.

AREA MUSEUMS/GALLERIES

Metropolitan Museum
www.metmuseum.org
 Met Collection

Museum of Modern Art
www.moma.org
 MOMA Collection

International Center for Photography
www.icp.org
 Many Exhibits
 Ongoing

New York Photography Diary
<https://ny-photography-diary.com/exhibitions/current-exhibitions/>
 Many Exhibits

Lens Culture Recommendations:
Photo Festivals & Photo Fairs 2024
https://www.lensculture.com/articles/lensculture-editors-lensculture-recommendations-photo-festivals-photo-fairs-2024?utm_term=NL-03-07-2024&utm_medium=email&utm_source=sendy&utm_content=NL-03-07-2024&utm_campaign=NL-03-07-2024&authtoken=

CLUB EXHIBITS

Northern Westchester Hospital
 Cancer Center

I Saw it, I Liked It, I Took the Picture
 Greenburgh Library
Photo Visions—A Photographer's Perspective

Ossining Library
POV: Point of View

For more information
 click [HERE](#)

WPS FIELD TRIPS

Bear Mountain
 TBD

<https://www.wpsphoto.org/members-field-trips>

SEMINARS/WORKSHOPS

Please log on to websites
 to see the entire schedules.
 Many events are available online.
 Also see last page.

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

B&H
<http://www.bhphotovideo.com/find/EventSpace.jsp>

Adorama
<http://www.adorama.com/alc/events>

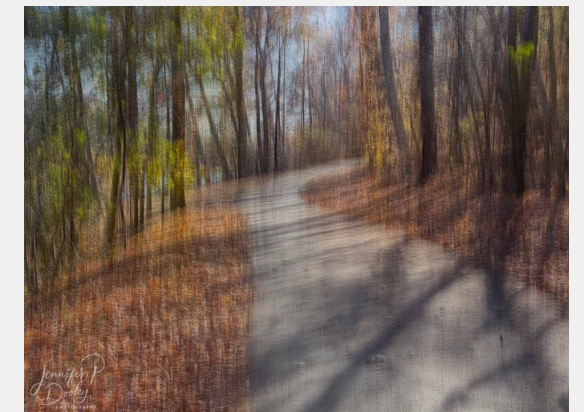
SPECIAL INCENTIVES

MEREDITH IMAGES

Hazel Meredith, our recent judge for competition 1A, is offering a wide variety of classes and seminars. Click [HERE](#) to see more.

Tibbetts Brook Park Field Trip

Photographers include Fuat Baran, Jennifer Dooley, Julie Serenson & Leon Zelazny



OTHER EVENTS

(President's Message continued from page 2)



In January Deborah Loeb Bohren will be our guest speaker and she will be focusing on iPhone photography, specifically intentional camera movement and multiple exposures. She recommends that you download and try your hand at using SlowShutter

and AvgCamPro before that meeting. (If you're an Android user, there's something called "Slow Shutter and Motion Camera" from Softonic that might be similar, but ask someone who has an Android phone for a recommendation as I don't have one.)



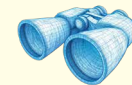
Try your hand, and share your results with us.

December is a short month for us as we won't be meeting during the last two weeks. Happy Holidays to everyone and best wishes for the New Year.

Till next time, may you always see beauty in your viewfinder.

Fuat Baran, *President*

Looking for images:



We are trying to organize a members presentation on the subject of the former Scranton Lace Factory. This was a wonderful location for photography and I'm sure that some members of WPS have been there. If you have images that you might be willing to share for this project please contact Nancy Faulds.

nfauldsfoto@gmail.com

(845) 542 2210

No Spooking Around

It Was a Picture Perfect Day

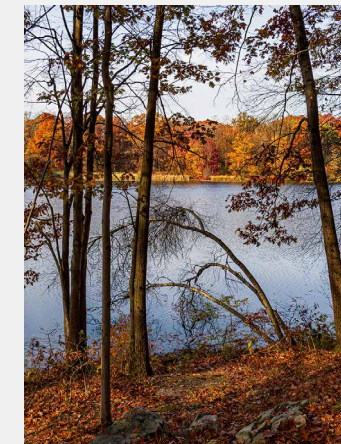
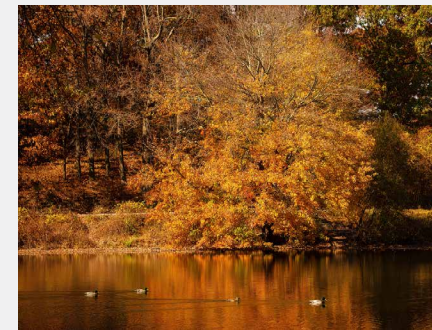
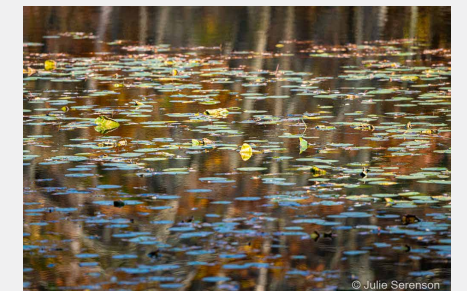
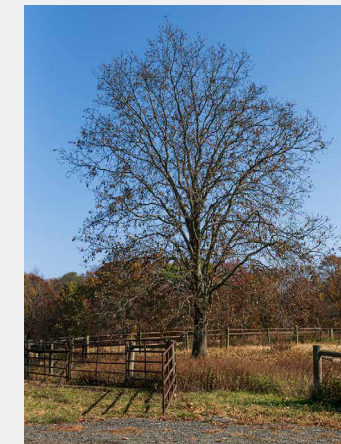
By Dennis Thornton

It was the day before Halloween and all through the park not a paranormal creature was stirring, not even a ghost, zombie, vampire, werewolf, or ork. But, into this beautiful fall day strode nine WPS members looking for interesting photos to capture. For this field trip we went to Rockefeller State Park Preserve. Generously donated by the Rockefeller family in 1983, this 1400 acre gem of a park is in Pleasantville, with the main entrance off Route 117. "Rocky's" has some 45 miles of carriage trails that meander through fields, woods and around the 22-acre Swan Lake.

As we walked along, people spread out, pausing to either talk or take pictures. In this pastoral setting there were plenty of things to photograph. Although the foliage was a little past peak there were still ample patches of colors and the congenial company more than compensated for any diminished crimson splash. Our band of WPS photographers walked over hill, over dale on the dusty trail towards Stone Barns, where we sought to have a sumptuous lunch. However, as we did not have the required reservations we had to forego the expensive high-class lunch and settle for coffee and muffins, which were particularly tasty.

Several hours were spent enjoying the bucolic scenery on this autumnal day. Lots of photos were taken with both cameras and cell phones. Everyone had a good time exchanging stories, socializing and of course pressing the shutter button. Just another rewarding field trip arranged by Jackie. Our WPS outings are interesting, fun, an appreciated opportunity to socialize. Keep an eye out for future field trips and make a point of joining the next outing. All in all, the weather was perfect, the company great, and there was plenty of opportunities for photographs; it was a ghoulishly good field trip.

Photographers include Fuat Baran, Roger Chenault, Jennifer Dooley, Carlotta Grenier, Jackie Ross, Julie Serenson, Dennis Thornton & Joe Williams

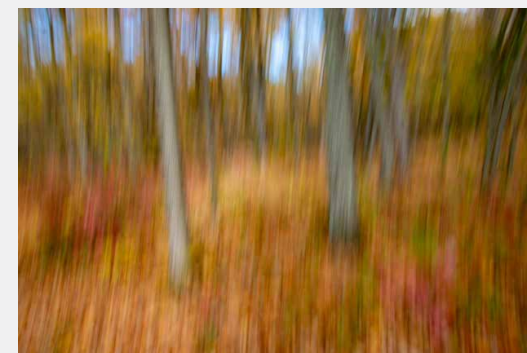


Weir Farm National Historical Park

By Dennis Thornton

Weir Farm National Historical Park is one of those special places that is worth a visit. This historical park is located in Wilton, CT. It was the home of the American impressionist painter J. Alden Weir and also displays paintings from other artists who stayed as guests. The property consists of 60 acres of painterly woods, fields, a pond, and numerous trails through the woods and multiple buildings. We were fortunate to go on a day when the park service was providing tours of the main residence and Weir's studio. Nineteenth-century red clapper siding building with stonewalls, plantings and colorful trees all around. This is a special place where many artists have come to engage in plein air painting. The official park map shows many of the paintings and identifies the locations where the paintings were done. You can apply for a month-long artist in residence. We spoke with a woman, from Chicago, who was spending her time creating unique woodcuts.

Photographers include Paul Moulton, Jackie Ross & Dennis Thornton

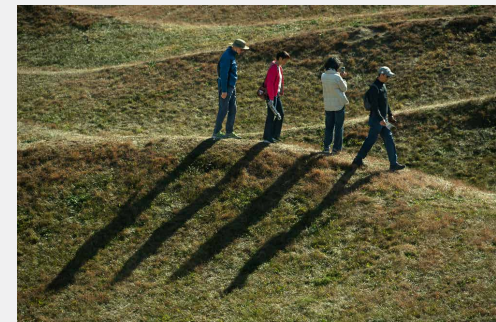
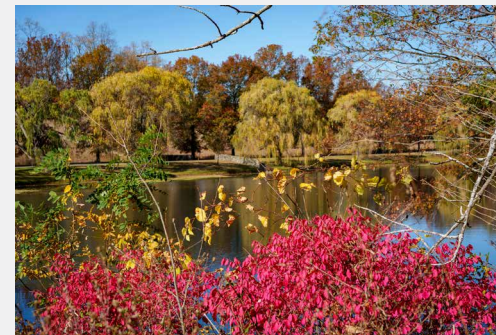


Storm King Art Center

By Dennis Thornton

If you like outdoors sculpture then visiting Storm King Art Center is a must. This 500-acre museum is nestled in the undulating hills of the Hudson Valley, near Cornwall, NY. Established in 1960 this visionary park is truly unique. There are sculptures made of metal, stone, wood, plastic and combinations of all of the above. Some works are relatively small and others are massive in size and scope. Sculptures are spread throughout the park, so you spend a good portion of your time walking around appreciating the natural beauty of the setting. The fall is the most popular time to visit, as crimson foliage both in the park and on full display in the hills surrounding the official space is a feast for the eyes. The display of the various works changes with how the light strikes the piece as the day progresses. So, you can walk around and around and come back for many return visits.

Photographers include Paul Moulton & Dennis Thornton

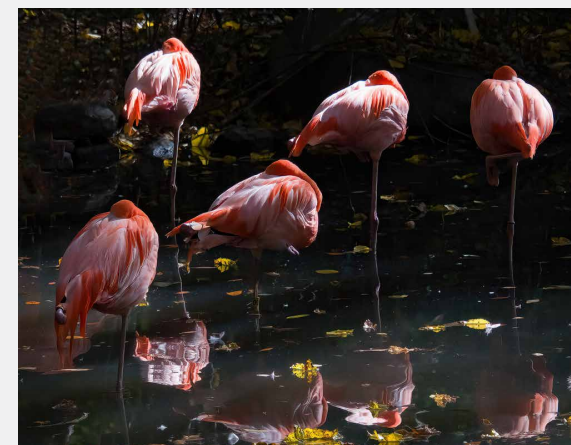
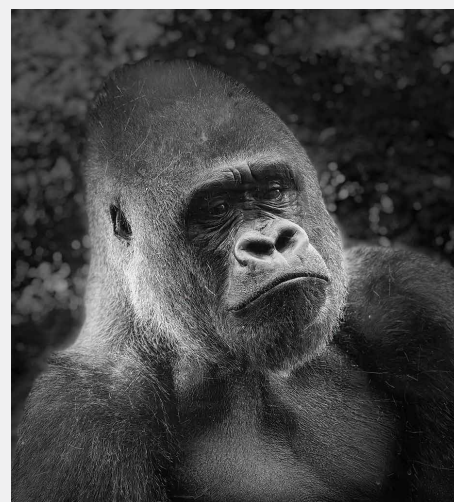
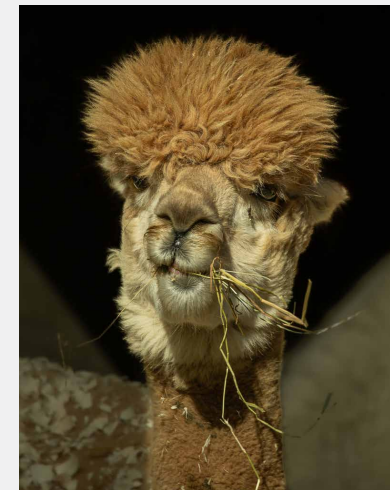
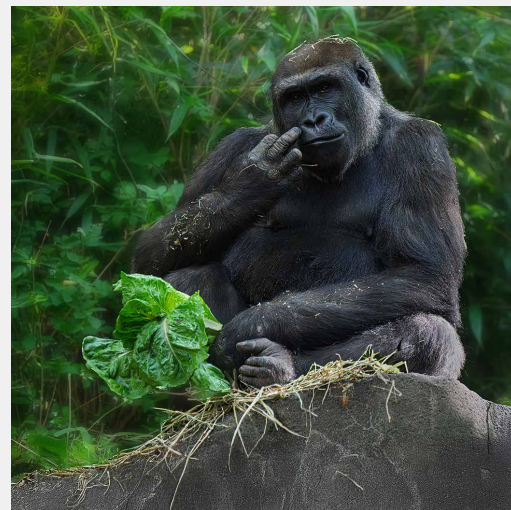


Bronx Zoo

By Dennis Thornton

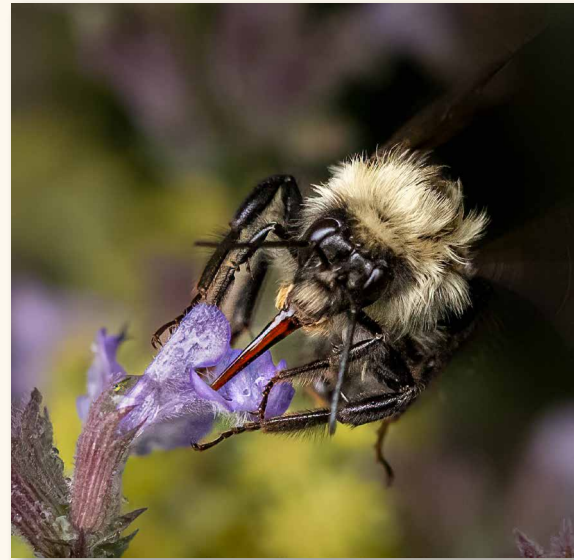
“It’s all happening at the zoo,” sang Simon and Garfunkel. A gaggle of WPS members were motivated to find out what was happening for themselves. On October 18th, Hunt’s/Tamron sponsored photographer Ken Hubbard presented a talk on how to take photographs at the zoo. Many members listened with intent, took notes and strove to apply his suggestions when they headed to the Bronx Zoo, a few days later. Everyone wanted to try their hand at capturing images of the animals. As per Ken’s recommendations, the first stop was the Congo exhibit to photograph the gorillas. People had mixed reactions to observing our primate cousins, which often display behaviors that are impressively human. After the gorillas, we meandered around looking for other interesting animals to photograph. It was a lot of fun to go out as a big group. The zoo is close by and worthwhile going back frequently. It’s a good idea to buy a membership, which makes your return trips more economical.

Photographers include Roger Chenault, Jennifer Dooley, Carlotta Grenier, Paul Moulton, Jackie Ross & Dennis Thornton

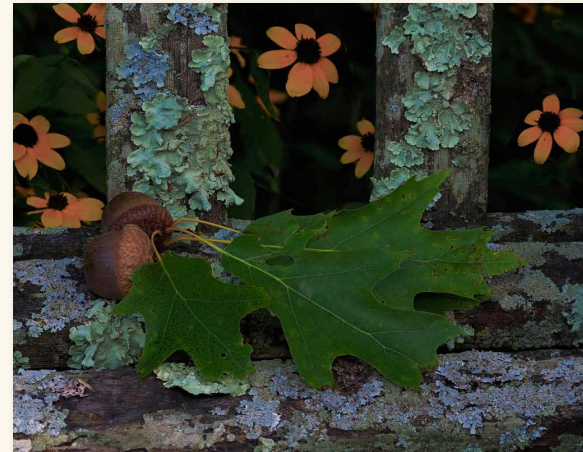


DIGITAL COLOR B

DIGITAL COLOR B



John Ward, First
Where the Bee Sucks



Mitchell Druck, Second
Bench with Lichen and Flowers



Mitchell Druck, HM
Coming Out



John Ward, Third
The London Eye



Melanie Rush, HM
Grist Mill

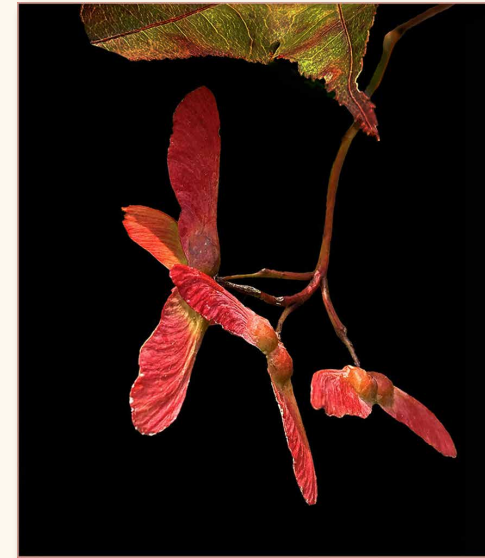
DIGITAL COLOR A



Jennifer Dooley, First
The Four of Us



Roger Chenault, Second
Peony with Bee



Barbara Pollack, Third
Maple Pod Birds



Richard Camp, HM
Red Eyed Tree Frog



Arnold Breisblatt, Second
Waiting for the Ferry



Barbara Pollack, Third
Amaryllis Red & White



Roger Chenault, HM
Still Life

DIGITAL COLOR SALON

DIGITAL COLOR SALON



Jackie Ross, First
Mr. Who



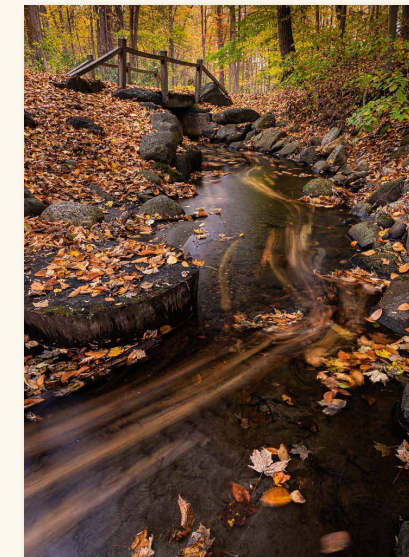
Jackie Ross, Second
Osprey Lunch



Dennis Thornton, HM
Beach Grasses



Carlotta Grenier, Third
The Princess



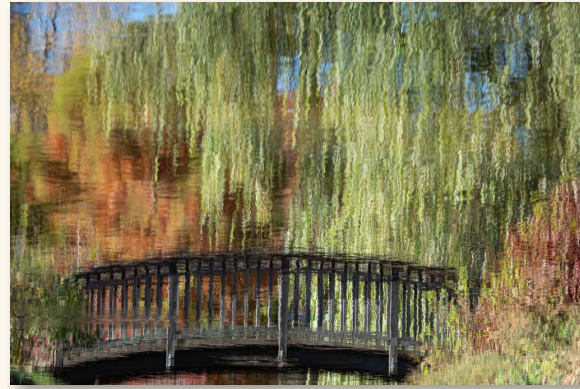
Dennis Thornton, HM
Rocky Fall Stream

DIGITAL OPEN MIND

DIGITAL OPEN MIND



Anastasia Tompkins, First
Stare Behind the Stair



Jennifer Dooley, Second
Bridge à la Monet



Barbara Pollack, Third
White Amaryllis Peeks Out



Jennifer Dooley, Third
Vintage Racing



Arnold Breisblatt, HM
Warriors of the Damned

DIGITAL BLACK & WHITE

DIGITAL BLACK & WHITE



Carlotta Grenier, First
Columbine Glory



Ron Carran, First
Starry Evening



Ron Carran, Third
Maintenance Department



Linda Austrian, HM
Happy Bee



Lois Barker, Second
Mono Lake Tufa



Dennis Thornton, HM
Triangle

THEME: PERSPECTIVE—LOOKING DOWN



Jennifer Dooley, First
Take a Seat



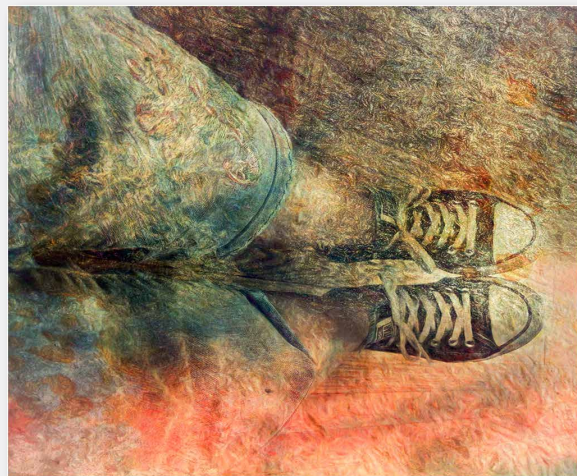
Jackie Ross, Second
Mopping Floor



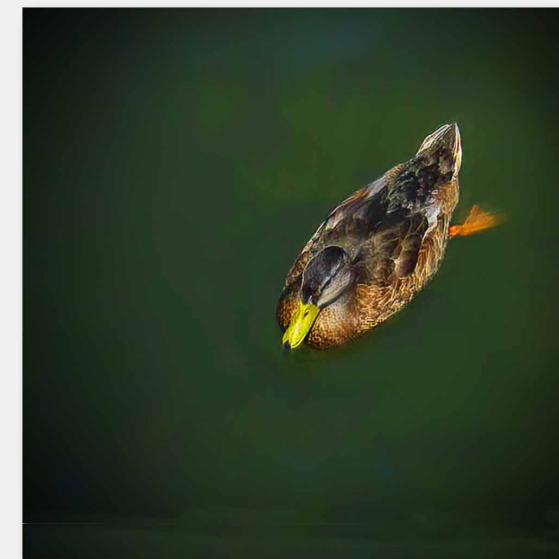
Anastasia Tompkins, Third
Cao Dei-Temple, Vietnam



Arnold Breisblatt, HM
Flower in a Bowl



Barbara Kapetanakes, Second
Sneakers



Arnold Breisblatt, HM
Mallard Duck, Swimming

Member in Focus: Arik Gorban



[iD] When and how did you first get involved in photography?

[AG] I started with photography over 50 years ago. A neighbor had a darkroom and got me hooked. When I was still in elementary school, my parents got me a camera, a few lenses, a darkroom, and a few books on photography.

[iD] What is your profession?

[AG] My background is in computer sciences. For the last 25 years of my career, I was an IT-compliance consultant to pharmaceutical, biotech, and medical device companies and their vendors. I'm retired from the consulting job now. I've also done some commercial (buildings and products), event, portrait, maternity, and newborn photography, and various photography workshops.

[iD] How long have you been a member of WPS?

[AG] I joined in September 2024.

[iD] What type of photography do you enjoy?

[AG] Street and people photography are my favorites, but I enjoy other types of photography as well. Since I became an FAA-certified drone pilot I've been very busy with aerial photography. Sometimes, I go beyond the straight photograph and create images from my mind's eye, as you can see in a couple of my pictures in the exhibit, but all the work is done in Photoshop.

[iD] Do you do photo projects, and if so please describe a recent or favorite one.

[AG] My photography is often driven by personal projects. A project might be a single outing, an ongoing project that lasts weeks or months, or a photography trip. I usually have a specific objective in mind; for example, my long road trips to experience and document life in various regions of the country, a day-trip to photograph people in a nearby town or New York, or creating floral abstracts with flowers that I purchased. Some of my projects are creating artwork in Photoshop using various pictures and textures that I photographed in the past. A project that took a month to plan, three months to photograph, and another month to compile into a book was "Empty Street at Night." I went to 20 towns between 11 PM and 3 AM and photographed the empty streets. It was about mood, light and shadows, and storytelling.

[iD] What inspires you?

[AG] Listening to and looking at artwork of creative artists, not just photographers.

[iD] What do you hope to get out of your membership in WPS?

[AG] Photography is my passion. I do something related to photography every day. I get inspired by watching other photographers present or talk about this form of art.

[iD] Do you have any favorite photographers?

[AG] Well, the list is long, but as Brooks Jensen, the publisher of LensWork Magazine, a teacher, and an artist, says, there are two types of people that enrich your creative work: Heroes and Fellow Travelers. The heroes are the ones that inspire you, but not necessarily teach you, mainly because they do different things. My heroes include Ansel Adams, Edward Weston, Galen Rowell, Garry Winogrand, and William Eggleston. Fellow Travelers are the ones that you learn from. Their work and teaching help you improve your artwork. Brooks Jensen, Joe McNally, Lindsey Adler, Ruddy Roye, and Brooke Shaden are a few of the photographers that directly affect my work.

[iD] What gear and tools do you use? (Cameras/lenses, photoshop, etc.)

[AG] My main gear is a Nikon system that includes a few DSLRs and mirrorless cameras. Two cameras are converted to infrared. I also use a small Sony point and shoot, my Samsung phone, and a drone. I'm an advanced Adobe Photoshop / ACR / Bridge user. My main plugins are Topaz AI tools, NIK suite, PortraitPro, and PortraitPro Body.

[iD] Tell me something about you unrelated to photography.

[AG] My companion for most of my trips and photography outings is my rescue dog. She's almost always next to me. Our road trips already took her to 27 states. My wife also joins sometimes.

[iD] What's one piece of advice you would give our readers (photographic or otherwise)?

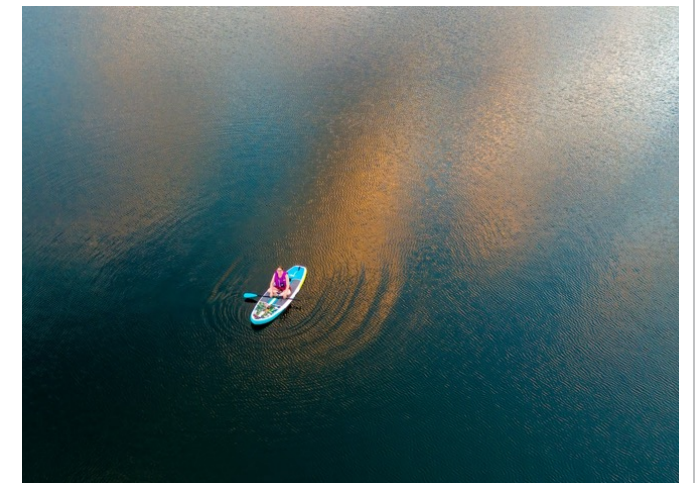
[AG] Expose yourself to a wider range of the photography than what you see in the camera club. Visit museums and galleries (even online) and study work that is different from the pictures that score high in club competitions. In my presentations, I try to break some of the rigid and narrowly-defined set of aesthetic rules that many club members and competition judges adhere to and expose the members to various types of fine-art photography. Most camera club photographers are trained to focus on the technical aspects of their images and the rules of composition. They rarely focus on artwork that expresses their feelings and creates an emotional impact.

[iD] Are your photos available online on a web site, social media, etc.? If so, can you share a link?

[AG] Website: www.agphotoworks.com. Online Portfolio: <https://agorban.myportfolio.com/>



Gladstone Train Station at Night – from the Empty Street at Night project



On The Lake at Sunset – the cloud reflections and ripples made it for me



Mail Pouch Tobacco – a drone picture with texture added in post



Storm at Sea – rough water and stormy sky added in post to a photo taken with a drone

inFocus

The Newsletter of the
Westchester Photographic Society

Ron Carran, editor

P.O. Box 405, Ossining, NY 10562

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