**MARCH 2023** 

VOL. 58, NO. 7

**58 YEARS** 

# FOTOFXX

NEWSLETTER
OF THE
NORTHERN
VIRGINIA
PHOTOGRAPHIC
SOCIETY

"Tucson Strike"

by Debra Mastronardi



# FOTOFAX

**FOTO**Fax is the newsletter of the

NORTHERN VIRGINIA
PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY
NVPS

FotoFax is published monthly September through June.

FotoFax issues, past and present, can be found at: FotoFax.

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NVPS members wishing to author articles, provide content, announce awards they have received, or communicate shows in which they have images should write to the email for "Editors" on Board Contacts.

Judy Guenther

ASSISTANT EDITOR

John Nash

NEW FORMAT DESIGN Robin Weisz

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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Kirk Johnson

# "I really believe there are things nobody would see if I didn't photograph them."

## **Diane Arbus**

American Photographer

March should be a great month for NVPS and I encourage you all to attend the meetings each week.

On March 7, we welcome professional photographer and workshop leader David Shaw. He will present "The Value of Knowledge in Outdoor Photography," and will explain how the knowledge of a photographic subject can play a vital role in creating successful images.

Our monthly field trip on March 11 is a popular visit to Huntley Meadows Park. To learn more about these programs and events visit the <u>NVPS Events Calendar</u> on our website.

We'll have the second of our two interim portfolio project reviews on March 14. This should be a great evening and I want to thank our Portfolio co-chairs, Ginger Werz-Petricka and Brenda Wilson, joined by Deb Rose, for their hard work and dedication to this valuable program.

On March 21, we welcome Rosalie O'Donnell who will be judging our themed competition—
"Creative Altered Reality." Take a moment to read the <u>definition of this theme</u> on the NVPS website.
Should you have questions or need further guidance, please see the <u>NVPS Rules of Competition</u>.

For Member's Gallery on March 28 Alan Goldstein will present "A Five Month Journey Around the United States in Ten Minutes" and Tana Ebbole will share "Staying Local." The evening will conclude with a Member's Forum presentation by Mike Whalen titled "Pacific Northwest."

The Board of Directors held its annual winter meeting on February 6. Planning for the second half of this club year is complete and we are now starting the process for 2023-2024 (nominating new board members, reviewing possible updates to competition rules, in-person vs. virtual meetings, etc.), and we will keep you updated.

Finally, there are two important dates to put on your calendar. The first is on Friday, June 9, for the NVPS End-of-Year Awards, which will be held virtually (like last year). Also, on Saturday, June 10, we'll have our End-of-Year Picnic at Burke Lake Park (same location as last year). More information will follow.

See you on Tuesday night and keep those shutters clicking!

Kirk Johnson President 2022–2023

## MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR



Judy Guenther

I don't usually make new year's resolutions but there is one habit I am trying to change in 2023—getting out of my photographic "comfort zone."

I always photograph when we travel but I have never enjoyed just going out in my neighborhood or nearby suburbs to shoot. Why? For one reason, I'm usually busy reviewing and post-processing images from my past travels. Secondly, I don't like to be in crowds and I have never enjoyed going into downtown DC because I found it to be a hassle to

get there. I thought there really wasn't anything that I would be interested in photographing. I also haven't participated much in NVPS field trips to DC because I didn't think I wanted to photograph at the visited sites.

But in 2023, I have turned over a new leaf. Wayne and I have been jumping on the fabulous opportunities afforded by participating in the NVPS field trips as often as we can, first to pry ourselves out of our house where we seem to have been spending most of our time, and secondly to socialize with like-minded photographers of this great club of ours.

I've also discovered an app called <u>SPOT HERO</u> which allows me to reserve parking close to places in DC where NVPS field trips have been occurring. This takes the hassle out of riding the metro and risking exposure to germs, and also the worry of finding a parking place on the spur of the moment.



"Flowing Red"

Not only have I really enjoyed seeing fellow NVPS members again, I have discovered that it is loads of fun to look for new compositions and to be surprised to always find something that gets my creative juices flowing. Recent field trips to the National Gallery of Art, the Old Post Office, and the Air and Space Museum have led me to experiment with intentional camera movement, multiple exposures, street photography, and abstracts. I really DO like to photograph more than just architecture.

Our amazing field trip coordinators, Steven Glintz and Rena Schild, have found so many wonderful and interesting locations. Setting up these field trips takes a lot of time, research, effort, planning, and organizing on their parts, and we are so fortunate that will continue their field trip roles for the third year in a row in the 2023-2024 club year.

I would encourage everyone to get involved with NVPS field trips and stretch your own comfort zones. Be surprised! Be creative! Be sociable!

Judy Guenther FotoFax Editor 2022–2023

# CLUB CALENDAR

NVPS conducts meetings every Tuesday evening September–May. Meetings are virtual, and zoom links are sent out the day of the meeting. Information regarding in-person meetings will be shared as well. The NVPS meetings and events for the next three months are listed below. Please check the NVPS calendar on the website for up-to-date information at <u>CALENDAR</u>.

MARCH		
Tuesday	7	PROGRAM: David Shaw—The Value of Knowledge in Outdoor Photography
Tuesday	14	EDUCATION & TRAINING: Interim Portfolio Project Review—Group 2
Saturday	11	FIELD TRIP: Huntley Meadows Park (rain date March 12)
Tuesday	21	COMPETITION: Rosalie O'Donnell—Theme: Creative Altered Reality
Tuesday	28	MEMBER'S GALLERY: Print: Alan Goldstein— A Five–Month Journey Around the US in Ten Minutes
		MEMBER'S GALLERY: Virtual: Tana Ebbole—Staying Local
		MEMBER'S FORUM: Mike Whalen—Pacific Northwest
APRIL		
Tuesday	4	PROGRAM: Jennifer Pottheiser—Photo Biz 101
Tuesday	11	EDUCATION & TRAINING: Nicol Hockett—Final Portfolio Project Review—Group 1
Saturday	15	FIELD TRIP: Hillwood Estate, Museum and Garden (rain date April 16)
Tuesday	18	COMPETITION: Samantha Stephens—Theme: None, Open
Tuesday	25	MEMBER'S GALLERY: Print: Fred Krebs—Africa
		MEMBER'S GALLERY: Virtual: Suzy McIntire & Phyllis Kimmel—Street Photography
		MEMBER'S FORUM: Rena Schild—Sports Photography
MAY		
Tuesday	2	PROGRAM: Blake Rudis—TBA
Tuesday	16	EDUCATION & TRAINING: Brian Zwit—Final Portfolio Project Review—Group 2
Saturday	6	FIELD TRIP: Revolutionary War Weekend at Mount Vernon (rain date May 7)
Tuesday	9	COMPETITION: Forest Gustaveson—Theme: None, Open—No Time Limit
Tuesday	23	MEMBER'S GALLERY: Print: David Kravitz—TBA
		MEMBER'S GALLERY: Virtual: Willa Friedman—TBA
		MEMBER'S FORUM: Jim Norman—Practical Tips for Your Photography Travels
		MEETING CANCELLED

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## MARCH 7

## **David Shaw**

# The Value of Knowledge in Outdoor Photography

avid W. Shaw is a full-time professional outdoor photographer, writer, and workshop leader. His images and articles have been published in hundreds of magazines and books around the world. Dave leads a series of popular photography workshops and tours in Alaska, Africa, South America, and the lower 48. He is fortunate to split his time between Alaska and Colorado, two states with abundant photo opportunities. You can find out more about David on his Facebook page.

In this presentation Dave will discuss how knowledge of your subject can play a vital role in creating a successful image. Drawing on his years as a wildlife biologist, Dave will discuss how understanding your subject will allow you to create more compelling images of landscape and wildlife.



David Shaw



by David Shaw



by David Shaw



by David Shaw



by David Shaw

David is passionate about the world's remaining wild places and creatures.

## MARCH 21

## Rosalie O'Donnell

# Theme—Creative Altered Reality

osalie O'Donnell graduated from American River College in Sacramento, CA, and the University of California at Berkeley with a BA in the Practice of Art. She went on to do graduate work at the University of California at Davis where she earned her teaching credentials in art and music.

A painter and printmaker, Rosalie has shown her monotypes and etchings in California and the Washington, DC, region including the Art League in Alexandria, Mattawoman Art Center, the Ellipse Gallery, Gallery West, the World Bank, the National Institutes of Health, Washington Printmakers, and Touchstone Gallery.

O'Donnell moved to Sedona, AZ, in the fall of 2018 and continues to paint and create in a variety of media. Most recently her work appeared in an exhibit at the Ruby Project in Washington, DC, titled, "Special Delivery" and in the "Magic and Dreams" exhibit at the Sedona Art Center.

O'Donnell previously worked at the Art League in Alexandria located in the historic Torpedo Factory Art Center where she was the gallery director and development associate. Prior to that she served at Sierra College in Rocklin, CA, as the Director of the Ridley Gallery, instructor for the Gallery Operations class, and in the Marketing and Public Relations department. She also was co—owner of a cooperative gallery in Folsom, CA, and worked at several private galleries in and around Sacramento. O'Donnell has worked as a volunteer in many visual arts organizations, serving as a docent and board member in California, Montana, British Columbia, New Zealand, and Washington, DC, in the Smithsonian Traveling Exhibits Program. Her web site is Rosalie O'Donnell.



Rosalie O'Donnell

# **COMPETITION RESULTS**

February 21, 2022

THEME: None

Many thanks to our February Judge, Jennifer King, for her expertise in judging this month's "open" competition. Congratulations to the award winners. You can view all of the winning images on the NVPS website at 2023 Competition Winning Images.

## **NOVICE COLOR**

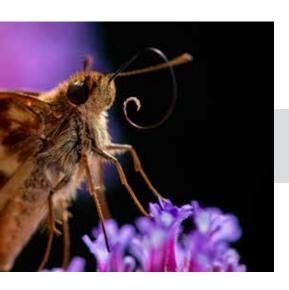


1ST PLACE Michael Mannix, "Uh Huh"

2ND PLACE

Todd Key, "Tango"





3RD PLACE
Kayla Wilf, "Twilight Nectar"

**HONORABLE MENTIONS:** 

Terri Lannigan, "Sunbathing Beauty"

## **NOVICE** MONOCHROME



1ST PLACE
Kayla Wilf, "Evening Grub"

2ND PLACE

Elizabeth Mulcahy, "Stages of Life"



3RD PLACE Nancy Galib, "Sands of Time"

## HONORABLE MENTIONS:

Noreen Allard, "Stormy Beach"

## **INTERMEDIATE** COLOR



1ST PLACE
Barbara Travis, "Clouded Yellow"

2ND PLACE

Jack Ledgerwood, "Foggy Curve"





3RD PLACE
Thu Huynh, "Evening Prayers"

## HONORABLE MENTIONS:

John Nash, "Paint Box"

John Olsen, "Eye Of The Tiger"

## **INTERMEDIATE** MONOCHROME



1ST PLACE
Thu Huynh, "Net Casting"

2ND PLACE **Deborah Mastronardi, "Just Missed"** 



3RD PLACE
Suzanne McIntire, "Remembering His
Comrades At The Vietnam War
Memorial"

## HONORABLE MENTIONS:

Barbara Travis, "Little Blue" Ilenia Alvarez, "Born In The Mud"

## **ADVANCED** COLOR



1ST PLACE

Catherine Wang, "After The Rain"

2ND PLACE
Kevin Egan, "Old Red"





3RD PLACE

Jerri McDermott, "Carnation"

## **HONORABLE MENTIONS:**

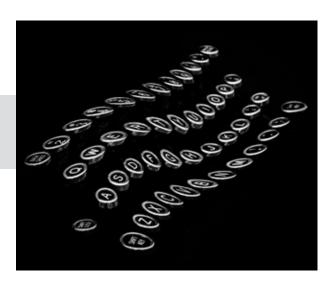
Clark Barker, "Kaleidoscope"
Ed Short, "Eye On You"
Judy Graham, "Ablaze In Color"
Mike Whalen, "River Reflections"
Thien Nguyen, "Ermine Enjoys Deer Meat"
Tom Brett, "Door Handle"

## **ADVANCED MONOCHROME**



1ST PLACE Robin Weisz, "Gehry Curves"

2ND PLACE
Ron Taylor, "Wavy Typewriter"





3RD PLACE **Don Little, "Leopard Stare"** 

## **HONORABLE MENTIONS:**

Catherine Wang, "Morning In Sandy Point"

Judy Guenther, "Oh So Tired"

Philip Winters, "Trees In Water"

Thien Nguyen, "Osprey With Fish"

Tim Brown, "Icy Morning"

## MARCH 14

# Ginger Werz-Petricka, Brenda Wilson, and Deb Rose

# Preliminary Portfolio Review—Group 2

he second half of this year's participants will have their first preliminary review on March 14.

The first preliminary review for the portfolio project was a huge success. Half the participants for this season were reviewed by Ginger Werz-Petricka, Brenda Wilson, and Deb Rose.

As always it was a pleasure to see the variety of subjects that intrigue our members. Personal projects like the portfolio project afford every photographer, no matter their experience level, a terrific opportunity to explore a concept in depth. Participants decide on a subject they want to explore, write an artist statement, and gather images to support their premise. Without the pressure of competition, the photographer can let his/her imagination roam freely.

Based on the comments provided by the reviewers, this group will make any adjustments to their portfolios that they feel are needed and will have a final review on April 11 with Nicol Hockett.

For further information and more detail regarding the Portfolio Project, please contact **Portfolio Projects** under **Club Activities** at <u>Board Contacts</u>. To view the galleries from prior year portfolios, see <u>Portfolio Project Galleries</u>.



## MARCH 24 PRINT

## Alan Goldstein

# A Five–Month Journey Around the US in Ten Minutes

member of NVPS since 2012, Alan has been involved with photography for the past sixty years. It began with a science teacher instructing him on the art of film developing. At that time he was using a Kodak Brownie. Veering off during his teen-age years to using an 8mm movie camera, he returned to still photography during his college years and while working as a reporter for his hometown newspaper.

Alan was supposed to call in a newspaper photographer for photos, but she lived nearly 30 miles away, so he opted to take photos himself. At first he used a Polaroid Type 103 for photos since it made instant, crisp pictures. But encouraged by a classmate and photographer, Alan got a 35mm camera and access to the college's darkroom, processing Tri–X each time he had a news event or other photo request.

After graduating from college, Alan enlisted in the Navy, becoming a Navy Journalist and later a Public Affairs Officer.

His high school girlfriend had a Nikon SLR, and that became Alan's Holy Grail. As a low—ranking Navy man, Alan scraped up the money to buy his first true SLR—a Minolta SRT—101. As he progressed up the Navy ranks, he upgraded to a Minolta X700.



Alan Goldstein



Alan Goldstein—"The Vista House—Columbia River Gorge"



Alan Goldstein—"The Old Courthouse and Gateway Arch—Saint Louis"

Fast forward to 2003. Alan's brother—in—law was getting married and Alan was the photographer. An acquaintance who was a Nikon rep loaned Alan a D100. It was love at first click! Since then Alan has had a D100, D200, D300, D810, and since November 2017, a D850.

Retired from the Navy in 1994 and retired from Civil Service in 2011, Alan is now happy to spend his time making images. He loves photographing just about everything but really likes night scenes and landscapes. His photos have been used for greeting cards by non–profits, used for proposals by environmental entities, used by sports web sites, have appeared in newspapers, and even hang in a gas station.

Alan says he loves being a member of NVPS. He has gained some great friends, enjoys the camaraderie, and has learned something new nearly every meeting.

After months of planning and making reservations, Alan and his wife Marty set off on April 25, 2022, for a 156-day journey around the US in their 27-foot motorhome. The trip took in 25 states and many national parks as well as other interesting places. They returned on September 27. Obviously, Alan made photos—over 21,000 of them! This presentation attempts to distill those 21,000 images into a 10-minute Member's Gallery.

Alan loves photographing just about everything but likes night scenes and landscapes.



Alan Goldstein-"Badlands National Park"



Alan Goldstein—"Upper Falls-Yellowstone River"

## MARCH 24—DIGITAL

## Tana Ebbole

# Staying Local

ana Ebbole, an Arlington based photographer, seeks interesting flowers, landscapes, and scenes to photograph, finding that the solitude and peace of being outside in nature or working in her ad hoc studio help her to achieve total focus and a place of calm and peacefulness. She has been selected in several juried competitions, and is a member of NVPS and the Art League's Gallery 75.

Tana has thoroughly enjoyed having the opportunity to explore and photograph what she calls "local" places. She feels there are many amazing national and state parks, formal gardens,



Tana Ebbole



Tana Ebbole-"Vermonter"

museums, architecture, and interesting neighborhoods and towns nearby. One really does not need to travel far to experience places to photograph. Since neither she nor her husband are great travelers, they feel fortunate to live in an area of the country that one does not have to go far to see new and interesting sites. Tana feels that NVPS members will recognize the locations in her slide show and hopes that what she has captured represents these sites through interesting and appealing photographs.



Tana Ebbole-"Scott's Run"



Tana Ebbole–"Cathedral Light"



Tana Ebbole-"Gentle Reveal"

Tana loves photographing outside in nature where she finds a place of calm and peacefulness. Ichildren.

## MARCH 24

## Mike Whalen

## Pacific Northwest

ike Mike became interested in digital photography in 2006.
His first camera was an entry level Canon DSLR.
He joined NVPS in 2009 and held board positions from 2010 to the present, including president in 2013.

He also volunteers weekly as a pet photographer for the Fairfax County Animal Shelter, and occasionally, as an event photographer for charitable organizations such as the National Ovarian Cancer Coalition and The Epilepsy Foundation of America.

Joining NVPS was a significant learning opportunity due to the many club activities and inspiration from talented members.



Mike Whalen

His photographic interests include nature, landscapes, macro, people, travel, and abstract photography. He currently uses Sony equipment and Lightroom, Photoshop, and Topaz for post-processing.



by Mike Whalen



by Mike Whalen



by Mike Whalen



by Mike Whalen

In this presentation Mike revisits his 13–day trip to Washington State in May 2022. Primary locations include Seattle, Mount Rainier National Park, and the Olympic Peninsula. The Pacific Northwest offers unique opportunities for photographers.

Mike's presentation will include an informational segment and also a slideshow of his artistic and favorite images.

Mike's photographic interests include nature, landscapes, macro, people, travel, and abstract photography.

# **Judy Guenther**

# The AI Tech Craze—Pandora's Box or a New Tool?

dmittedly, until just a few months ago I was unaware of the huge advancements in the area of Artificial Intelligence (AI) as it pertains to the creation of images from text prompts. I had, of course, read recent articles about <a href="ChatGPT">ChatGPT</a>, an OpenAI system which can construct entire scholarly papers based on text prompts that can be hard to distinguish from papers written by humans.

There is a difference between "machine learning" (defined by the Oxford dictionary as "the use and development of computer systems that are able to learn and adapt without following explicit instructions) and AI that generates images from text prompts. The Oxford dictionary defines AI as "the theory and development of computer systems able to perform tasks that normally require human intelligence, such as visual perception, speech recognition, decision-making, and translation between languages."



Judy Guenther

What does it mean to generate an image from a text prompt? You can type a few words into a computer program like Stable Diffusion (for instance "sunlit quiet forest with colorful birds") and it will create an



image based on your text prompt. I created this image with that exact text prompt on the free <u>Stable Diffusion Playground</u> site in less than a minute. Admittedly, it is more of an illustration and not something that looks like an out-of-camera image. But the tools are improving at a very rapid pace, and depending on what type of subscription plan one has with a service provider, the images created with text prompts can be hard to distinguish from images created with a camera.

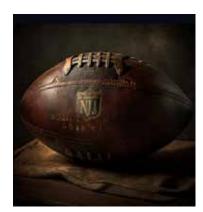
I'll include a few examples that I found on Midjourney's Community Showcase as further illustration. Midjourney (according to Wikipedia) "is an independent research lab that produces an artificial

intelligence program under the same name that creates images from textual descriptions, similar to OpenAl's DALL—E and Stable Diffusion. It is speculated that the underlying technology is based on Stable Diffusion."









Community Showcase AI images created through text prompts on Midjourney



Al image created by Blake Rudis

Here is a very realistic and beautiful seascape example created by <u>Blake Rudis of F64 Academy</u> using Midjourney software and some rather sophisticated and extensive text prompts.

Certainly as photographers who use a variety of post-processing software programs, we are aware of the great strides that these companies have made in the past year through the use of AI, and perhaps we really haven't considered what that means or how they have been able to do it. Photoshop's version of AI is called "Sensei," and it is pretty amazing how much it has improved performance of

tools like "content aware fill" and masking. <u>Adobe</u> says that "Sensei uses AI and machine learning to make it easier" in using all of their products. For "Creatives" Adobe says, "Use Sensei as your assistant to make essential edits quickly and accurately."

Topaz Labs has just released <u>Topaz Photo Al</u> for which their advertising says, "Magically improve your photo and video quality with cutting-edge image enhancement technology." They have basically combined their Topaz Denoise, Sharpen, and Gigapixel applications, and my quick testing shows that it is powerful.

I use Topaz and also <u>ON1 Effects</u> in my workflow. All has enabled these software companies to fine tune software to make editing easier, faster, and better. I know there are many more products like <u>DXO's Nik Collection</u> that others may use.

Post–processing has been going on since the days of film cameras and darkrooms. The digital age has brought not only digital cameras but digital darkrooms. While at one time altering images out of camera might have been frowned upon, I think it is now a commonly accepted practice to post–process images to recreate what the artist saw when making the image rather than what the camera was able to capture when the shutter was pressed. Documentary images may be the exception to this practice, and there will always be some people who believe no changes should be made to images.

With the advent of AI that can create whole images without a photographer or painter (i.e., "human"), we've entered a new world. Have we opened Pandora's box or is AI yet another tool for an artist's tool kit like Adobe Photoshop?

I've read about this issue and watched blogs posted by people like <u>Blake Rudis at F64 Academy</u> as well as <u>Colin Smith at Photoshop Café</u> discussing whether artists will be replaced by Al art, and they indicate that like other recently developed tools, Al art will become yet another tool that we should embrace.

How can we embrace Al art as a tool? We could use it to generate an image that we can use for practicing techniques with Lightroom/Camera Raw and Photoshop. We can use it to get our creative juices flowing and give us ideas of how to better compose images with our cameras when we are on scene. They can be used as a basis for teaching a new approach to post–processing. They might give ideas for color grading an image.

What are some of the issues of AI art?

- ► The difficulty of identifying if an image was created by AI (just as ChatGPT–generated articles cannot always be identified). Will people identify what art has been created by AI?
- Certainly, in our NVPS monthly competitions the use of Al-generated images, or portions of images, would not be allowed since <u>NVPS Rules of Competition</u> state all entries must have been photographed by the entrant and defines a photograph as an image obtained with a light–capturing process.

Who owns the copyright for Al-generated images?

▶ This is complicated topic for another time. Currently there are multiple ongoing lawsuits regarding Intellectual Property (IP) Rights. According to <u>AEON Law</u>, Getty Images recently commenced legal proceedings in London against Stability AI which Getty claims infringed on their IP rights. This is based on the standard practice of using images (and other content) to "train" AI engines to generate "new" content. They have also filed suits in California.

I think developments in Al–generated art and the IP legal proceedings will play out more in the coming months.

In conclusion, Al is here to stay. It is permeating many facets of our life from web searches to spreading information/disinformation. Microsoft has recently discussed investing \$10 billion in OpenAl, the creator of ChatGPT, so it's definitely big business. There are even entrepreneurs who are selling "text prompts" to people who want to create images. I'd suggest that we should all learn more about the topic and tools of Al–generated images.



Community Showcase Al image

## March 11, 2023

# **Huntley Meadows Park**

7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. (rain date March 12)

et out your zoom lenses and get ready for some wildlife photography at a club favorite, Huntley Meadows Park in Alexandria. With woodland trails, boardwalks through wetlands, and an observation deck, this local gem allows you to view various forms of wildlife including abundant waterfowl. At this time of year there should be a lot of ducks and geese and hopefully some ducklings, goslings, and mammals such as otter, beaver, and raccoon. There are also some landscape photography opportunities.

#### Where:

Huntley Meadows Park 3701 Lockheed Boulevard Alexandria, Virginia 22306 (Note that there are two entrances to the park. We will go in at the Lockheed Blvd. entrance.)



by Rena Schild

#### When:

- ► Saturday, March 11, from 7:00 a.m.—10:00 a.m.
- (Rain date: Sunday, March 12, from 7:00 a.m.—10:00 a.m.)

## **Equipment:**

For wildlife, a telephoto lens—the more reach the better

- If you want to make early morning landscape images, bring a standard or wide—angle lens.
- Tripods or monopods are helpful and permitted but not necessary.
- Hiking boots or walking shoes are advised—the boardwalk can be slippery.

### Notes:

- We will meet in the parking lot at 7:00 a.m. and walk into the park together.
- Sunrise on March 11 will be at 6:25 a.m. If you want to go in earlier to catch the beautiful morning light, we will meet you inside the park on the boardwalk.
- If you arrive late and don't see Steven Glintz or Rena Schild in the parking lot, proceed to the boardwalk.
- ► The visitor center does not open until noon. There is a portable toilet in the parking lot.

We hope you can join us!

Rena Schild and Steven Glintz
Field Trip Coordinators 2022–2023

Images from the last Field Trip to Huntley Meadows Park may be viewed at 2022 Field Trips and 2021 Field Trips.

Images from the most recent Field Trip may be viewed at Old Post Office.



by Rena Schild



by Rena Schild

# **Member Recognition**

NVPS members have been busy creating photographic images, submitting them to shows, and getting accepted. Congratulations!

Four NVPS members received awards in the <u>Washington Gardener</u> "Garden Photo Contest 2023" which will be on display this summer at the Meadowlark visitor's center lobby. Georgette Grossman received an Honorable Mention, Mike Whalen and Ilenia Alvarez both received an Honorable Mention and 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, and Phyllis Kimmel received a 2<sup>nd</sup> Place among the four different categories.



Georgette Grossman—
"Neighborhood Daffodils"
HM (Vignettes)



Mike Whalen—"Made in the Shade" 2<sup>nd</sup> Place (Vignettes)



Phyllis Kimmel—"Allium Spikes" 2<sup>nd</sup> Place (Small Wonders)



Ilenia Alvarez—"Stroll in the Park" HM (Garden Views)



Ilenia Alvarez—"Flower Kingdom" 2<sup>nd</sup> Place (Garden Creatures)



Mike Whalen—
"The Climber"
HM (Garden Creatures)



Phyllis Kimmel—
"Dumbarton Stairway"

1st Place (Garden Views)



Judy Guenther—"Around the Bend"

**Judy Guenther** received **Honorable Mention** for her image "Around the Bend" in the <u>Maryland Federation of Art's</u> "Digital Directions" show.

## **Member Announcements**

Ginger Werz-Petricka's solo show exhibit titled "Cado Swamp" is on display at the Beanetics Coffee Roasters (7028 Columbia Pike, Annandale, VA) from February 28 through April 11.

# **Outside Competitions**

Joseph Miller Abstract Show—The Joseph Miller Center for the Photographic Arts announces its thirteenth annual juried abstract exhibit for May 2023. Entries for the show closed in February and notifications of acceptance will be completed by April 22. The show will open online at noon on Monday, May 1, at the Northern Virginia Alliance of Camera Clubs website.

<u>Arts Herndon</u> is planning the 2023 Arts Herndon Fine Arts Photography Competition. Their last annual photo show was held in February 2020 before the Covid shutdown. More information about entry rules will be posted soon on their webpage. Entries will be due no later than 5 p.m. April 7 for the May show.

**Smarter Entry**—The website <u>Smarter Entry</u> is a valuable source of information for upcoming juried competitions with physical and virtual galleries all over the country. You can subscribe to their monthly newsletter which lists current openings.

**CaFÉ**—This website has an ongoing call for entries at <u>Call for Entry</u>. You can sort your search for open opportunities many different ways.

EntryThingy—This is another management portal for entering competitions. The website is Calls for Entry.

If you have won any prizes for your photographs displayed in any gallery show, please send us a notification to the address shown for "Editors" at <u>Board Contacts</u> so that we can include your honor in our next issue and on the web page. Size the photos for competition (1400 px max width, 1050 px max height, @ 127 px dpi) and include any information regarding the show/award/website, etc.

# **Workshop Offerings**

NVPS offers speakers and competition judges the opportunity to have notices about up-coming tours and workshops in FotoFax for two years after the date of their NVPS program.

## Max Waugh

Max Waugh is an award-winning wildlife, travel, and sports photographer who leads workshops and tours both domestically and abroad. Upcoming tours include Brazil, Yellowstone, Costa Rica, Patagonia, Alaska, Zambia, and more. His web site is Max Waugh Photography.

#### Lori Lankford

Lori Lankford offers in-person, online garden photography, and creative digital art workshops. For information on her latest workshops and class offerings, please visit her website <u>Lori Lankford Photography</u>.

### Nikhil Bahl

Nikhil Bahl has been our End-of-Year judge as well as a frequent program speaker. He offers a variety of workshops and coaching events. For more details with his latest workshop updates, visit Nikhil Bahl Photography.

#### Mollie Issacs

Mollie offers a variety of workshops and webinars for all levels of photographers. To learn more about her programs, please visit her website at <u>Awake the Light Photo Workshops</u>. Make certain to also sign up for her newsletter, which is full of insightful tips.

### Colleen Miniuk

Take your photography skills, passion for the outdoors, and love for adventure to the next level! Combining Colleen's enthusiasm for learning and helping others - and life itself! - her educational and inspirational photography workshops give photographers of all levels a supportive environment to explore their craft and their own creative talents in awe-inspiring surroundings. Colleen will help you develop your internal artist by fine-tuning your skills, techniques, and approaches, both technically and creatively, to enable you to become a more competent, confident, and expressive photographer. For more information and to register, visit Colleen Miniuk Photography & Writing.

## Mary Louise Revese

Mary Louise offers online and in person workshops. Information on her workshops can be found at <u>Bella Vista Photography</u>. Use Promo Code NVPS for a discount on workshops. Discounts vary by workshop and discounts are in addition to early-bird pricing.

## Michael Koren

Michael Koren offers personal instruction and teaches several classes at Capital Photography Center, including Smartphone, Street, and Composition. Visit Michael's website to learn more at Michael Koren Photography.

## E. David Luria

A member of the Society of Photographic Education, E. David Luria is founder and director of the Washington Photo Safari, through which he and his team of eleven professional photographers have trained over 32,000 clients on 4,700 photo safaris since 1999 in the techniques of travel and architectural photography. Washington Photo Safari is offering more than 25 technical skills initiatives this year. For more information on their various offerings, check their web site at Washington Photo Safari.