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FOTOFAX

NEWSLETTER
OF THE
NORTHERN
VIRGINIA
PHOTOGRAPHIC
SOCIETY

"Ablaze in Color"

by
Judy Graham



FOTOFax is the newsletter
of the

**NORTHERN VIRGINIA
PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY**
NVPS

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shows in which they have
images should write to
the email for “**Editors**” on
[Board Contacts](#).

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Photographic Society



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MESSAGE FROM THE **PRESIDENT**



Deb Rose

“Creating a portfolio is a natural process for most of us who wish to document our lives and tell stories through our images.”

William Neill

Hello everyone! Our club year is off to an inspiring start! We have had our “firsts” of the club year: programs to learn about cyanotype, E&T to explore landscape photography, open-themed competition, and galleries and forums filled with images and ideas to explore.

My question for you as we move into October is: What is it you feel inspired or called to explore in your personal photography journey?

This month I am reading William Neill’s book: [*The Photographers Portfolio Development Workshop*](#). What inspired me to read this book was the change of the seasons. I was feeling a need to find some focus, creativity, and direction in my photography.

William Neill talks about finding your focus; he writes about how a more concentrated approach to our photography can be of real benefit, and the process of developing a portfolio can support us to refine our focus. The practice of portfolio development can help you uncover your vision as a photographer and may reveal an area of photography you didn’t realize you were drawn to!

NVPS offers a rich learning environment with opportunities to support your photography. I am always called back to our club’s purpose of enhancing creativity and skills in a community of enthusiastic photographers. Consider all the activities available to you and reach out to learn more about: [Portfolio Project](#), mentoring, [field trips](#), and check the calendar for upcoming [programs](#), [Education & Training](#), [Member’s Gallery](#) and [Member’s Forum](#), and [competitions](#). We also have [Mid-Atlantic Photo Visions](#) in person coming up at the beginning of November.

Thank you to each of you for being a member of NVPS and contributing to the enthusiasm and fun in our club! Whether you are only able to participate online or can attend in-person activities, you are an integral and important part of NVPS.

As always, please feel free to reach out to me or any Board member with questions, ideas, or thoughts. Now let’s look forward to our October activities!

Deb Rose

President

2025–2026

MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR



Anita Feidler

“Autumn... the year’s last, loveliest smile.”

William Cullen Bryant

Autumn is here! I love the crispness in the air, the aroma of fallen leaves, and the vibrant colors of the trees as they put on one last display before winter. As someone who tends to hibernate in the summer, I truly enjoy getting out to embrace the beauty of the season. We are fortunate to live so close to Shenandoah National Park, but there are many places closer to home to enjoy fall colors, such as Huntley Meadows, Fountainhead Regional Park, Burke Lake Park, and Great Falls, the destination for our October field trip (see page 23). Don’t overlook photo opportunities at fall

festivals, pumpkin patches, haunted houses, and ghost tours in the area. These guides provide some ideas of places where you can capture fall’s splendor in our area:

[Fall Events & Activities in Northern Virginia 2025](#)

[Fall Fun in Northern Virginia](#)

[The Ultimate Guide to Fall Fun Around Northern Virginia](#)

There are so many inspiring programs on the NVPS calendar for October. What better season is there to embrace the beauty of the imperfect than autumn? Lisa Cuchara will share her approach to wabi-sabi, the Japanese philosophy that finds beauty in imperfect, damaged, or weathered subjects. Later in the month, we will hear two approaches to photo editing, as Jeff Hancock shares his workflow process to edit photos more efficiently, while Ed Marion delves into creating imaginative abstracts and composites. And Joan Barker will share her love of garden and flower photography, while Gary Rubin will bring us into the action as he displays his sports photography prints.

September’s competition results begin on page 11. I am always impressed—and humbled—by the images submitted. They were stunning! Congratulations to those of you who received accolades.

Don’t forget to register for Mid-Atlantic Photo Visions (MAPV), which will be held in Arlington on November 1–2. This year’s event will feature presentations from notable speakers on topics like bird photography, abstract images, travel storytelling, landscape impact, and street photography. Many of the workshops, photo shoots, and 1-on-1 instruction sessions will sell out, so make sure you sign up soon. A link to the schedule and details about the event can be found on page 26.

Finally, I invite you to contribute to FotoFax. Perhaps you would like to write a guest article about a technical topic or your favorite photography locales or how you approach a certain type of photography. I welcome your ideas on future guest articles. Also, if you have a favorite image that you would like to showcase, I’m always looking for cover images. Please reach out to me at the [Board Contacts](#) address for FotoFax Editor.

Happy October!

Anita Feidler
Editor

CLUB CALENDAR

NVPS conducts meetings every Tuesday evening September—May. Program meetings and digital-only Competitions are virtual and Zoom links are sent out the day of the meeting. Information regarding in-person Education & Training, Member's Gallery and Forum, and digital and print Competition meetings will be shared as well. The NVPS meetings and events for the next two months are listed below. Please check the [NVPS Calendar](#) for up-to-date information.

OCTOBER

Tuesday	7	PROGRAM: Lisa Cuchara—Wabi-sabi (Zoom)
Tuesday	14	EDUCATION & TRAINING: Jeff Hancock—Five Minutes to Better Photos (In Person)
Tuesday	21	COMPETITION: Anja Hitzenberger—Theme: None (Digital) (Zoom)
Sunday	26	FIELD TRIP: Great Falls Park (Virginia) at Sunrise (In Person)
Tuesday	28	MEMBER'S GALLERY: Print: Gary Rubin—Sports Action Photography (In Person) MEMBER'S GALLERY: Virtual: Joan Barker—Flowers and Gardens (In Person) MEMBER'S FORUM: Ed Marion—Creative Ways to Enhance Ordinary Photos (In Person)

NOVEMBER

Sat–Sun	1–2	MID-ATLANTIC PHOTO VISIONS: Annual Meeting (In Person)
Tuesday	4	PROGRAM: Annalise Taylor—TBD (Zoom)
Tuesday	11	EDUCATION & TRAINING: George Hogeman—Astrophotography for Photographers (In Person)
Saturday	TBA	FIELD TRIP: National Harbor (Tentative) (In Person)
Tuesday	18	COMPETITION: Brian Zwit—Theme: None (Digital and Print) (In Person)
Tuesday	25	MEMBER'S GALLERY: Print: Alan Goldstein—65 Years of Making Images (In Person) MEMBER'S GALLERY: Virtual: Seton Droppers—What I Saw (In Person) MEMBER'S FORUM: Lidia Slominski—The World of Bubbles—Fun Projects for Slow Days (in Person)

DECEMBER

Tuesday	2	PROGRAM: Angie McMonigal—TBD (Zoom)
Tuesday	9	EDUCATION & TRAINING: Anonymous Critique with Stan Bysshe, Judy Graham, and Bill Millhauser (In Person)
Saturday	TBA	FIELD TRIP: Sparkly/Blinky Holiday Lights (In Person)
Tuesday	16	COMPETITION: Tom Cuchara—Theme: Close-Up, Not Macro (Digital and Print) (Zoom)
Tuesday	30	NO MEETING: Holidays

OCTOBER 7 (ZOOM)

Lisa Cuchara

Wabi-sabi

This program will explore the beauty of imperfect and/or unconventional subjects. As nature photographers we often seek out the flowers, leaves, and such that are perfect, with no blemishes or defects. This program highlights subjects that are not perfect, such as flowers that have character, double-headed flowers, decaying fall leaves, the deformed coneflower that stands out as flawed and hence different and beautiful, rust as it creates abstract patterns amidst the decay, etc. We will also explore the concept of slowing down and appreciating the beauty of everyday life, things that might be overlooked. As purveyors of rust and decay we appreciate the perseverance and beauty of “life after humans” as cars and equipment fall apart and succumb to oxidation and decay.



Lisa Cuchara

Wabi-sabi teaches us to find beauty in everyday life. It is a kind of anti-aesthetic, an alternative to the dominating discriminatory ideas we hold about beauty. “Wabi means a beauty of elegant imperfection. Sabi means aloneness. Together, they suggest the beauty of ‘the withered, weathered, tarnished, scarred, intimate, coarse, earthly, evanescent, tentative, ephemeral’” (Crispin Sartwell, *Six Names of Beauty*). It is a way of honoring that everything is impermanent, and we are always in a state of both becoming and falling away. It is used to describe a particular philosophy that beauty can be found in the old, the everyday, the imperfect.



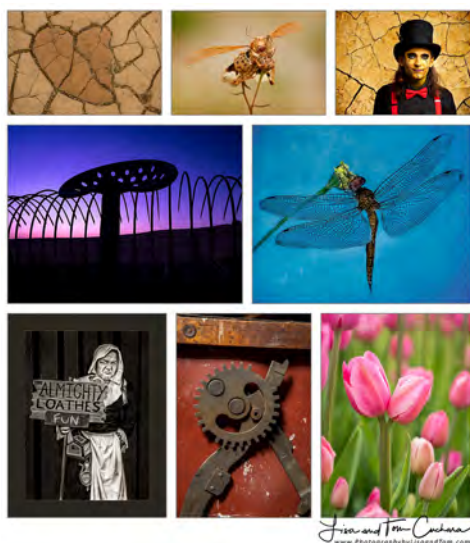
(Programs continued)

Wabi-sabi applies to more than nature and the seasons of change and decay, but it also to the “Life after Humans” arena or UrbEx (urban exploration). As a side note, the term wabi-sabi can also be part of the social movement of embracing imperfection of your physical traits as a human being, especially with respect to self-perception, and celebrating imperfection in a society that encourages people to be perfect and pressures people to be flawless.

In a world that rushes by in blinks and heartbeats, Lisa Cuchara slows time with her lens. A Master Craftsman, a Master of Artistry, and a Master of Photography (PPA), she weaves wonder from pixels and light, balancing science and soul as only a true alchemist of imagery can. With a heart tuned to nature’s quiet chorus, Lisa sees beyond the obvious—catching the iridescent flutter of a hummingbird's wing, the secret stillness of dew-kissed flowers, the noble decay of forgotten places. Birds and blossoms, rusty relics, frogs with stories in their eyes—all become muses for her storytelling soul. Whether in the hush of a forest or the echo of an abandoned space, she doesn’t just capture photographs of what things look like—she captures what they feel like. A fieldwork sage and a digital darkroom poet, Lisa transforms ordinary moments into storytelling landscapes. Photography, for her, is mindfulness in motion—a way to inhale the world slowly and exhale its beauty through art. Her eyes catch what others miss; her camera remembers what time forgets.

Subscribe to Lisa and Tom Cuchara's [YouTube channel](#), sign up for photo tips and photo event announcements, and explore more offerings at [LisaTom.Photos](#). So whether you’re looking to capture the shimmer of a dragonfly’s wing, the fleeting movement of a bird catching a fish, or master the mysteries of light and shadow, Lisa welcomes you to a journey where creativity blooms and pixels dance. Because when you learn to see the unseen—like Lisa—every day becomes a work of art.

Lisa will explore the concept of slowing down and finding beauty in imperfect and unconventional subjects.



OCTOBER 14 (IN PERSON)

Jeff Hancock

Five Minutes to Better Photos

Do you spend too much time editing your images? Would you like to get great (ok, acceptable) results in five minutes or less per photo? Come to NVPS on Tuesday, October 14, to see how Jeff Hancock makes the magic happen. Send in some RAW, unprocessed images. Jeff will import them into Lightroom, explaining his workflow process while he does it. He will edit them with Lightroom and Topaz Photo AI, where necessary. Jeff has to process hundreds of event photos and he usually finishes editing them the next day. He's not crafting each one into art, but they are usually much better than they were straight out of the camera. Time is money when you're getting paid a flat fee, so the less time you spend processing photos, the higher your hourly rate. Even if you don't need to edit hundreds of photos, saving time processing will give you time to shoot more photos.



Jeff Hancock

If you have an image that you would like Jeff to edit, please send a RAW out-of-the camera file no later than October 4. Please submit one image to the NVPS Dropbox (instructions for accessing the NVPS Dropbox upload page are included in the Notices section of upcoming eBlasts). Please change your RAW image's filename to Oct 14 plus your camera's RAW file extension, for example, Oct 14.arw, Oct 14.cr3, Oct 14.nef, etc. (Dropbox will automatically append a number to the filename to ensure filename uniqueness). Note that Jeff might not be able to get to all the submitted images.



Before and after images by Jeff Hancock

(Education & Training continued)

Jeff has been a detachable lens photographer since 1987. His first professional gig was for a surfer in Hawaii who paid him \$20 for a roll of film, and he's been underpaid ever since. He's now the official photographer for the Office of Historic Alexandria, *The Mike O'Meara Show*, Die Laughing Productions, and Dangerboy, a rock and roll cover band.

None of this pays enough for him to quit his day job in data visualization. He photographs everything in front of him that looks interesting and sometimes seeks out interesting things to stand in front of to make photographs. He has been a member of NVPS since 2007.

You can see his work, paid and otherwise, at [Hancock Photo](https://www.hancockphoto.com).



Before and after images by Jeff Hancock

OCTOBER 21 (ZOOM–DIGITAL)

Anja Hitzenberger

Theme: None

Anja Hitzenberger is a photographer, filmmaker, consultant, and educator. She is the founder of [StrudelmediaLive](#), an educational platform that offers live online photography classes and more to people around the world. Anja studied in the Creative Practice full-time program at the International Center of Photography (ICP) in New York City and has been on the faculty there since 2009. She is dedicated to working with people from different cultures across the globe.

Her work has been exhibited in solo and group shows, film festivals, and on theater stages throughout Europe, the United States, South America, and Asia. Her photography has been published internationally, and is a part of both private and institutional collections, including the International Center of Photography. She has received numerous artistic grants, and has been awarded residencies in Rome, Paris, Warsaw, Beijing, and Tainan (Taiwan). A focus of her activities has been working with live performance, including producing a multimedia piece that toured in New York City, Austria, and Korea.

Anja has been teaching live online photography classes since 2015, as well as in-person workshops at organizations in New York, Europe, China, and Taiwan, including C/O Berlin, Three Shadows (Beijing), Westlicht Museum (Vienna), and FJUM (Forum for Journalism and Media–Vienna). Originally from Salzburg, Austria, she divides her time between New York and Vienna.

You can see examples of Anja's work at [Anja Hitzenberger Photography](#).



Anja Hitzenberger

COMPETITION RESULTS

September 16, 2025

THEME: **None**

Many thanks to our September judge, Lisa Cuchara, for her expertise in judging this month's digital competition. Congratulations to the award winners. You can view all of the winning images on the NVPS website at [2025–2026 Competition Winning Images](#).

NOVICE COLOR DIGITAL



1ST PLACE
Jay Liang, "Staring"

2ND PLACE
Bill Kang, "Alaska Aurora"



HONORABLE MENTIONS:

None



1ST PLACE

Mark Seklecki, “Shenandoah Morning”

2ND PLACE

Bill Kang, “Starry Trifecta”



HONORABLE MENTIONS:

None



1ST PLACE

Lidia Slominski, "Shadow and Shine Symphony"

2ND PLACE

Jagmeet S Gill, "River of Light"



3RD PLACE

Richard Distlerath, "Reddish Egret Canopy Hunting"

HONORABLE MENTIONS:

Anita Feidler, "Whatcha Looking At"



1ST PLACE

Richard Distlerath, "Under the Bridge"

2ND PLACE

Nancy Galib, "Enjoying Nature"



3RD PLACE

Jennifer Kang, "Look Deep"

HONORABLE MENTIONS:

Susan Blalock, "Dewey Web"



1ST PLACE
Eva Lanyi, "Playtime"

2ND PLACE
Kimxuan Nguyen, "Arctic Terns"



3RD PLACE
Deb Rose, "My Snack"

HONORABLE MENTIONS:

Bill Millhouser, "Puffin on the Wing"
Catherine Wang, "Caddo Lake"
Judy Graham, "Dune Grasses Glow"
Thu Huynh "Breakfast Time"
Wayne Guenther, "Little Red House"
Clark Barker, "Pileated Woodpecker"



1ST PLACE

Eva Lanyi, "Making a Splash"

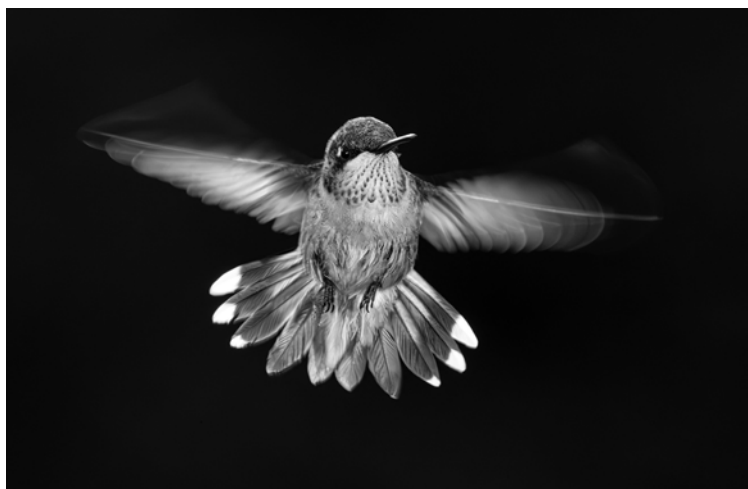
2ND PLACE

Thien Nguyen, "Great Grey Owl"



3RD PLACE

Bill Corbett, "Looking at Me"



HONORABLE MENTIONS:

Bill Millhouser, "Hunting"

Deb Rose, "La Bailarina"

Debra Mastronardi, "Eye of the Stairwell"

Judy Guenther, "Shine a Light"

Kimxuan Nguyen, "Got Two"

Thu Huynh, "A Journey Begins"

OCTOBER 28—PRINT (IN PERSON)

Gary Rubin

Sports Action Photography

Gary Rubin's photography journey began in middle school with his dad's Minolta SRT-101. He shot primarily black-and-white film through high school and into college, where he was a photographer and photo editor for his college yearbook. He set photography aside for a few years after college and made the move to digital photography about 20 years ago to document and share his kids' activities and adventures with family members. About 10 years ago, Gary began to return to photography as a hobby, shooting wherever family activities and vacations took him. He started getting more serious about sports photography, thanks to his kids' involvement in a variety of sports. He found, in particular, that watching his son's wrestling matches through a DSLR eyepiece provided emotional distance and made the matches much less stressful. While he continues to shoot a variety of subjects and genres, most of his shutter clicks are spent capturing sports.

Gary is currently a freelance and volunteer sports action photographer. He can often be found at Falls Church High School (FCHS), where he volunteers on behalf of the Athletic Boosters, and also provides sports action photos for sale as team fundraisers. A highlight of his sports photography experience was being classified as a staff member during the post-COVID return to sports when spectators were still unable to attend games. During those shortened



by Gary Rubin



Gary Rubin

seasons, he photographed every sport at FCHS and allowed the Boosters to provide parents and family members with images of their athletes competing. Gary's preferred style is to shoot and crop tight to give viewers a feeling of being in the midst of the action and to provide a perspective that can't be seen from the bleachers. He primarily shoots on a Nikon Z6iii and D5. His current favorite lens is a Sigma 120–300mm f/2.8.

(Member's Gallery continued)

He is a second-year member of NVPS.

The photos selected for this Member's Gallery span a variety of sports and are representative of Gary's style, bringing the audience into the action while balancing peak-of-action with storytelling and emotion. More of Gary's sports photography can be seen at [Gary Rubin Photography](http://GaryRubinPhotography.com).

Gary's photos will give you a feeling of being in the midst of the action, providing a perspective that can't be seen from the bleachers.



Photos by Gary Rubin

OCTOBER 28—VIRTUAL (IN PERSON)

Joan Barker

Flowers and Gardens

Joan joined NVPS in 2015. Although Joan has always enjoyed photographing family and places she visited, she was not sure that she would enjoy being a part of a photography club. Joan was using a point-and-shoot camera at the time and knew nothing about f-stops, shutter speed, or ISO. Needless to say, Joan has learned a lot in the past 10 years and now shoots with the mirrorless Fuji X-T3.

She enjoys shooting landscapes, flowers, and abstracts. She loves doing post processing on the computer as it encourages her creative juices. Four years ago, she joined St. Stephen's United Methodist Church's photography ministry, enabling her to branch out in photography as well as assisting in documenting happenings at the church.

Joan was an educator and taught elementary school before her children were born. After kids, she chose part-time teaching and eventually administration in Early Childhood.

Yes, Joan is happy she joined NVPS, as the group has inspired her to try new techniques and enabled her to enjoy the works of so many excellent photographers.



Joan Barker



by Joan Barker

(Member's Gallery continued)



Joan will share a kaleidoscope of her time capturing the beauty of flowers in the last three years.



Photos by Joan Barker

OCTOBER 28 (IN PERSON)

Ed Marion

Creative Ways to Enhance Ordinary Photos

During his 45-year medical career, Ed Marion consistently used photography to document patient records and prepare visual materials for teaching purposes. Prior to the advent of YouTube and digital cameras, he developed expertise in efficiently setting up 35mm slide cameras and adapting to challenging lighting conditions presented by microscopes, endoscopes, and otoscopes, utilizing a range of film cameras.

After retiring in 2012, an entirely new skill set became necessary. This period marked a journey into exploring and discovering imaginative approaches to building composites and abstracts.

The pursuit of creative techniques led to the development of innovative ways to transform ordinary photos. Emphasis was placed on finding fresh perspectives and methods to enhance images beyond their original form.

Ed hopes you will enjoy a presentation on “Creative Ways to Enhance Ordinary Photos,” sharing these discoveries and inviting others to see the extraordinary potential in everyday photography.



Ed Marion

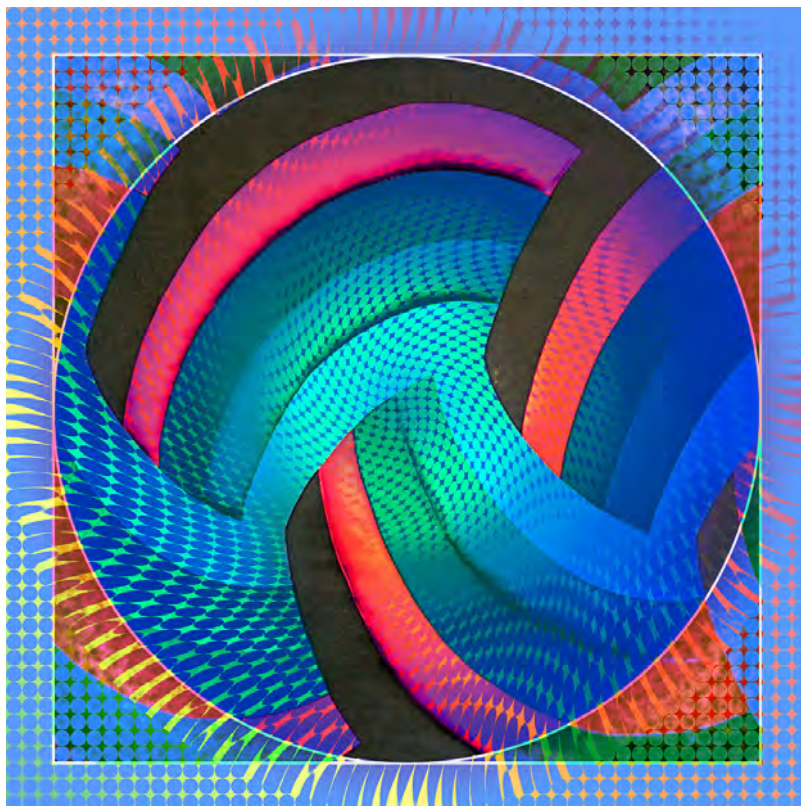


Photos by Ed Marion

(Member's Forum continued)



Ed will share his journey into exploring imaginative approaches to building composites and abstracts.



Photos by Ed Marion

OCTOBER 26 (IN PERSON)

Great Falls Park (Virginia) at Sunrise

7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. (rain date October 25)

Great Falls marks the end of the “piedmont,” where the Potomac River starts the final descent to the tidal Potomac that runs through Washington, DC. After dropping over the falls, it runs through Mather Gorge. The 800-acre park offers many opportunities to photograph landscape, nature, and history. This field trip takes advantage of the weekend before the time change when we can arrive in the park 30 minutes before sunrise.

Overlooks 1 and 3 provide the best view of the falls themselves. Overlook 2 has a partially obstructed view of the falls but does provide a good view downriver towards Mather Gorge and the rising sun. There is a steep and rocky trail to a fishing and kayak put-in just before Overlook 3. This trail is not always open and can be treacherous when dark or wet. Further south of the overlooks, as the River Trail enters the forested area, there are a few trails that allow access to the riverbed itself. Again, these trails are very steep and rocky and can be treacherous.

The River Trail, part of the Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail, runs next to the river from the Potomac River Dam on the north (where it meets the River Bend Trail) to the Ridge Trail to the south. The River Trail is listed as moderate to hard but provides many spectacular views of Mather Gorge. Other trails provide quiet, forested walking where you may encounter wildlife or historical remains such as the Patowmack Canal.

As the morning progresses, there may be both kayakers and rock climbers. Kayakers are often visible from the overlooks; the rock climbers are further downstream on the River Trail. The rock climbers are often not visible from the River Trail itself, but some of the climbing routes are visible from side trails. *Reminder: All side trails from the River Trail are rugged and can be treacherous.*



by Seton Droppers

The Great Falls Park [website](#) has trail maps and a great deal of additional information. Great Falls Park is also included in the [NPS App](#).

Great Falls Park has very poor cell service. Be sure to print any maps from the website or use the “Download for Offline Use” on the NPS App BEFORE you leave your house.

When:

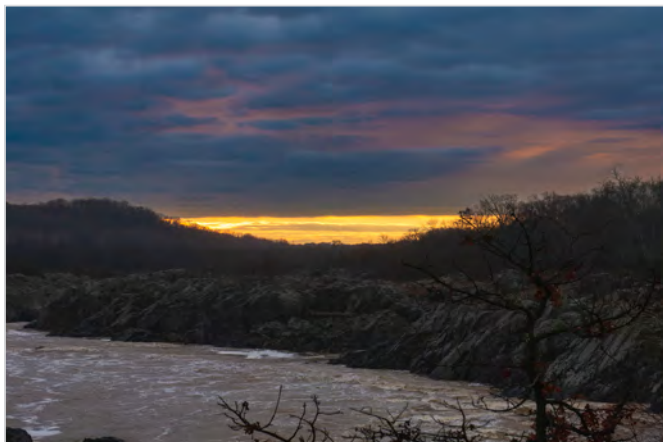
- ▶ Sunday, October 26, 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. (rain date is Saturday, October 25)
- ▶ Sunrise is at 7:30 a.m. Park gates open approximately 7:00 a.m. Sometimes the gates are open a few minutes before 7:00 a.m.

Where:

- ▶ Great Falls Park
9200 Old Dominion Drive, McLean, VA 22102
- ▶ We will meet just north of the Visitor Center on the trail that leads from the main parking lot to the Visitor Center and the three overlooks. This is where the path from the parking lot divides into both an “up” and “down” ramp, as well as a short stairway.
- ▶ There is a \$20.00 admission fee to Great Falls Park. If you have an America the Beautiful Pass, admission is free.

Equipment:

- ▶ Your camera and your standard “walk-about” lens
- ▶ A wide-angle lens may be useful
- ▶ A long telephoto if you plan on wildlife photography
- ▶ Neutral density filter
- ▶ A headlamp or flashlight for pre-dawn setup
- ▶ Sturdy tripod and remote release for long exposures that smooth the falling water
- ▶ Sturdy shoes and hiking staff or sticks if you are shooting at Overlook 1 or any of the side trails



Photos by Seton Droppers

Other Inspiration:

- ▶ [NVPS Field Trip to Great Falls Maryland](#)
- ▶ Great Falls Park [Photo Gallery](#)

Images from the Field Trips may be viewed at [NVPS Field Trips Gallery](#)

Post Field Trip Snacks:

- ▶ Roots Café, 8100 Old Dominion Drive, McLean, VA 22102

Seton Droppers and Christopher Fedorchak

Field Trip Coordinators 2025–2026



by Seton Droppers

Mid–Atlantic Photo Visions



MAPV will held November 1–2, 2025, at GMU Mason Square

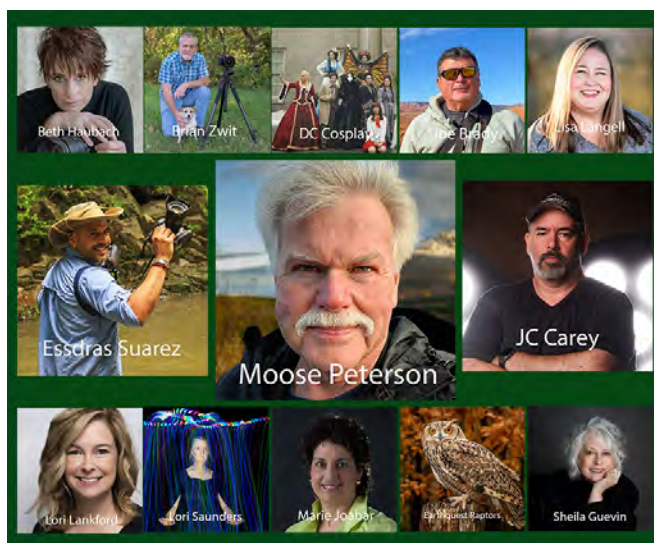
The [Mid–Atlantic Photo Visions](#) (MAPV) website is open to register for its live and in–person event to be held at [George Mason University, Mason Square](#), Arlington, VA, on Saturday–Sunday, November 1–2, 2025.

Here's what's happening:

- ▶ There is an amazing lineup of renowned [speakers](#) to inspire us with their exciting presentations on a wide variety of topics from landscape to portraiture to architecture and everything in between. The 10 presentations are headlined by legendary Nikon USA Ambassador, Moose Peterson, who will give the Saturday and Sunday Keynote presentations.
- ▶ All 10 presentations will be recorded for viewing after the event for those that have purchased the "All Presentations Pass."
- ▶ If that weren't enough, bring your camera and enjoy any of the 32 [hands–on workshops and photo shoots](#), plus the opportunity for 1–on–1 sessions with MAPV speakers and instructors. These sessions are limited in size for ease of shooting and close instruction. Bring your camera and register soon—many sessions will sell out.
- ▶ We'll have camera manufacturer reps, photography vendors, and District Camera will be offering special discounts and deals during the show.
- ▶ To top it all off, view the 400 juried photos on exhibit from members of the seven MAPV clubs and students from area schools.

There is an easy–to–read PDF of the [MAPV 2025 schedule](#) that you can download and print as you consider all of your options.

Entry is free to the vendor lobby and for the three juried exhibits of photography by adult and student photographers.



Here's what is included with each of the various types of [presentation passes](#).*

- ▶ **All Presentations Pass (\$195):** Attend any of 10 live presentations, all of which will be recorded for later viewing online. Hands-on workshops, photo shoots, and 1-on-1 sessions are not included.
- ▶ **Choice Five Presentation Pass (\$145):** Attend any of five live presentations on Saturday or Sunday. Recordings, hands-on workshops, photo shoots, and 1-on-1 sessions are not included.
- ▶ **Choice Two Presentation Pass (\$75):** Attend any of two live presentations on Saturday or Sunday. Recordings, hands-on workshops, photo shoots, and 1-on-1 sessions are not included.
- ▶ **Single Presentation Pass (\$45):** Attend any one presentation on Saturday or Sunday. Recordings, hands-on workshops, photo shoots, and 1-on-1 sessions are not included.
- ▶ **Hands-on Workshop, Photo Shoots, & 1-on-1 Instruction Passes (prices vary from \$70 to \$99):** Bring your camera! Choose from 32 workshops and photo shoots or schedule a 1-on-1 instructional session with a MAPV speaker or instructor. Each session is limited in size; passes are sold first-come, first-served.

* PLEASE NOTE: Club member discounts of 10% are available on the purchase of any of the Presentation Passes for 2025–2026 NVPS members. Enter your email address in the “Discount Code” field to receive the discount.

This discount does not apply to the hands-on workshops, photo shoots, and 1-on-1 sessions, which must be purchased individually from any of the presentations pass.

I look forward to seeing you all at this incredible event!

Bill Corbett

NVPS MAPV ALTERNATE Representative



Member Recognition

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

Tana Ebbale was awarded **First Place** in the Garden Vignettes category of Washington Gardener Magazine's [2025 Garden Photo Contest](#).



Tana Ebbale, "The Dumbarton Oaks Orangerie"

David Kravitz's image, "**Grey Guggenheim**," received an **Honorable Mention** in the Washington Post's [2025 Travel Photo Contest](#).



David Kravitz, "Grey Guggenheim"

Member Announcements

Willa Friedman's show titled "Shadows" is on display at the [Beanetics Coffee Roasters](#) (7028 Columbia Pike, Annandale, VA) through October 21. The next show titled "Bugs" will be by **Art Rose**, starting on October 21.

Outside Competitions

Smarter Entry—The website [Smarter Entry](#) 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 [Call for Entry](#). You can sort your search for open opportunities many different ways.

EntryThingy—This is another management portal for entering competitions. The website is [EntryThingy](#).

ArtCall—A newer arts management organization for entering competitions is [ArtCall](#).

Workshop Offerings

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

David Akoubian

David Akoubian has been a professional nature photographer since 1992, and has been leading workshops around the United States and Iceland for many years. His [workshops](#) are more than just about photography. Together with his teaching partner, he tries to give the experience of the area they are in. From staying on a barrier island off of the coast of Georgia, to rustic cabins in Wyoming's Grand Teton NP and in Alaska, the participants get a feel for life in the area. Workshops include ground transportation, lodging, and most meals. Join David and experience a new area!

Alain Lázaro Gutiérrez Almeida

Alain Lazaro Gutierrez Almeda is a professional photographer who was born and raised in Havana, Cuba. Alain has created his own company "Thru Alain's Eyes" that designs, coordinates, and guides individualized tours that meet the legal requirements for Americans visiting Cuba. Visit [Alain Gutiérrez Photography](#) for more information and to view his galleries.

Deborah Loeb Bohren

Deb's small-group online workshops and 1-to-1 mentoring programs are perfect ways to begin, build, or advance your photography skills and expand your creative vision. Classes range from ways to take your travel images beyond the postcard to photographic expressionism (think intentional camera movement and multiple exposure), and from layers and blend modes in PS to creating abstract images with your mobile phone. Classes are limited to a maximum of 3–5 participants. For more information and to register, visit [Traveling Lens Photo Tours](#).

Tim Coburn

A DC native, Tim Coburn is an accomplished photographer known for capturing the essence of his subjects. With over two decades of experience, Tim brings his well-honed sense of style, design, color, and light to every shoot. The resulting images are a testament to his skill and artistry. Visit [Tim Coburn Photography](#).

Lisa and Tom Cuchara

Lisa and Tom Cuchara are passionate educators who transform fleeting moments into lasting art. Alongside her husband Tom, she leads inspiring photo tours, hands-on workshops, and personalized 1:1 mentoring sessions in person and on Zoom that blend creativity with technique. From light painting and macro to post-processing magic, Lisa helps photographers see the unseen and capture what moments feel like. Their award-winning work and books celebrate texture, beauty, and storytelling. Whether in the field or online, Lisa's mission is clear: spark joy, share knowledge, and pass on the contagious power of creativity. Learn more at www.LisaTom.Photos.

Anja Hitzenberger

Join Anja's photography platform "StrudelmediaLive," a space for learning, creating, and connecting through photography. Most classes are online, some are in-person, and all are live, interactive, and for small groups only, with students and teachers participating from around the world. Anja also hosts live online talks on photography-related topics and photobook presentations (recordings of all talks can be viewed on the StrudelmediaLive YouTube channel). For information about classes and additional programs, please visit [StrudelmediaLive](#).

Mollie Isaacs

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

Angie McMonigal

Angie's mission is to help creative-minded photographers explore the world of architectural photography. Through blog posts, eBooks, newsletters, photowalks, and workshops, she aims to provide hands-on, practical, and creative training. You'll be able to improve your entire creative process from shooting to post-processing. Visit [Angie McMonigal Photography](#) for more information.

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](#).

James Prochnik

James Prochnik teaches photography online and in person. For information, please contact him at his [website](#), or follow him on [Instagram](#) for the latest news and announcements about upcoming courses.

Mary Louise Ravese

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

Cat Simmons

Cat Simmons is a studio portrait and conceptual artist who loves to nurture artists towards their own growth and personal goals. She tutors, mentors, and teaches on a variety of topics, both in-person and on-line. For current learning opportunities, visit her website [Cat Mac Studios](#).

Michele Sons

The Art of Place is Michele's holistic education resource for landscape and nature photographers, encompassing the entirety of the art and craft of photography. Through her eBooks, private online mentoring, and private field workshops, Michele shares her unique approach to expressive image-making. Learn how to connect with the natural world, and express yourself confidently and creatively. Elevate your artistry with Michele and The Art of Place. For more information, visit [Michele's website](#).

Frank Van Riper

Frank has been on the faculty of [Glen Echo Photoworks](#) for more than 20 years. As an instructor there, he teaches everything from studio lighting, to floral 'portraiture,' to street photography, to nighttime shooting among Glen Echo Park's art deco buildings and neon. His website is [Goodman-Van Riper Photography](#).

NVPS Elected Board Members 2025–2026



Deb Rose
President



George Hogeman
VP Programs



Frank Napoli
VP Operations



Janis Kane
CO-VP Competition



Art Rose
CO-VP Competition



Tom Brett
Treasurer



Pat Corey
Secretary/Historian

For a synopsis of the most recent Board Meeting minutes, please email the Secretary at [Board Contacts](#).



Photographic Society of America

NVPS is a member of the Photographic Society of America (PSA), a worldwide organization whose mission is:

- ▶ To promote the art and science of photography as a means of communication, image appreciation, and cultural exchange
- ▶ To provide education, information, inspiration, and opportunity to all persons interested in photography
- ▶ To foster personal growth and expression, creativity, excellence, and ethical conduct in all aspects of photographic endeavor

More information about membership and activities of PSA may be found at the [Photographic Society of America website](#).

NVPS FOTOFAX PSA award–winning newsletter 2024