



FotoFax

**The Newsletter of the Northern Virginia
Photographic Society**



Flags In by Kieu-hanh

Table of Contents

President’s Message	3
From the Editor	4
Mentoring Program	4
Programs	4
Competitions	7
Member’s Forum	10
NVPS Exhibitions	14
Field Trips	15
New NVPS Members	16
Ask Me A Question & Review My Image	16
Education and Training	17
Portfolio Project	18
2017-2018 Membership Dues:	19
Nature Visions	20
Announcements	20
Workshop Offerings	24
For Sale – Projector Fund	25

Club Calendar

November 6	November 13	November 20	November 20	November 27
Program - An Introduction of Smartphone Photography – Michael Koren	Education/ Training – The Art of Photographic Composition – Mike Whelan Image Review Ask Me A Question	Field Trip - US Botanical Garden	Competition – Open – Judged by Josh Taylor	Member’s Forum – Judy Graham Member’s Gallery – Paula Newmann & Georgette Grossman
December 1	December 4	December 11	December 18	December 25
Field Trip - Alexandria	Program – <i>Rust and Ruin</i> by Don Rosenberger	Education/Training – Macro Photography – Dennis Govani	Themed Competition - Geometry	Christmas

**The Northern Virginia
Photographic Society
promotes the enjoyment,
mastery, and furtherance of
photography through
cooperation, effort and good
fellowship**

President's Message



Fall is upon us and it is a great time to get the cameras clicking. Whether you're a landscape shooter, into macro, want to capture Halloween, or just want to use the colors of the season for a great background; this is a wonderful time to get outside.

Our club is headed down to the Smoky Mountains next week and I am sure we will see some great images from that field trip.

New members, if you are looking for people to photograph with, contact myself, Chuck Campbell or Jim McDermott and we can hopefully get you out and shooting.

This month's Forum and Galleries will be highlighted by the images of club members

Chuck Campbell, Kevin Linde and Kevin Egan. October is one of those months with five Tuesdays and we are extremely lucky to have filled the last Tuesday with a guest speaker, Eliot Cohen. You will not want to miss his talk on Lightroom. (Please see FotoFax and our website for details.)

The juried results from Nature Visions are in and NVPS should be proud of our many members who will have images featured at the Expo. The eight clubs that entered their work to be judged submitted over 1,000 images. In the Photo Arts Category, NVPS had 51 photos accepted with 5 qualifying for the Peoples Choice Award. In the Nature Exhibit, our club submitted 246 images of which just under one half were juried into the show. Of the 34 images that qualified for the Peoples Choice Awards, 9 were from NVPS photographers. Congratulations to all our members who made the effort enter the Expo.

I hope many of you are planning to participate in the Expo weekend festivities; certainly one-way to improve your photography is to look at lots of great images.

Spearheaded by Mike Whalen our new website is moving along rapidly. A small group is helping with the finishing touches (which frankly will be ongoing for sometime!) and we hope to launch the site by the end of the year. Mike and I are still looking for computer savvy folks who can over time help as backup with working on the site. The club cannot rely on single individuals, year in and year out, to run the many pieces that keep our club running smoothly.

See you on Tuesdays.

Stan

From the Editor

Welcome to the November FotoFAX.

My apologies for publishing this FotoFAX edition later than planned. Our goal is to publish FotoFAX the Monday after our monthly competition.

As a reminder, content for FotoFAX needs to be received by the editor the Monday of competition week. Competition results need to be received by the Thursday after competition. The editor appreciates received content in word files.

Please let the Editor know if you have won a photo award, have pictures in an exhibition or want to highlight a photo event or exhibition. Send to editor@nvps.org.

Please send your suggestions and comments to editor@nvps.org. Your feedback is important as we evolve FotoFAX and other NVPS communication vehicles.

I look forward to seeing you at our Tuesday evening meetings and other NVPS events.

Mentoring Program

Welcome to our new and returning members who may be interested in our NVPS Mentor Program. We're off to a great start in just our first few weeks of the NVPS year. Our Mentor volunteers have already provided some mentoring on a variety of topics for some of our newest members in addition to existing members. If you have questions about a specific photographic topic, there's no better way to learn than in a hands-on, small group or one-on-one learning environment.

Please review the list of our current Mentor volunteers and their areas of expertise. If you find one that matches what you are

looking to learn more about, connect with that person at one of our meetings or contact me and I will connect you with that mentor. Also, if you are interested in learning something that is not listed, please let me know. I'm sure we can find someone who can assist you.

If you need a list of mentors and their area of expertise please see me at a meeting or email me.

We look forward to working with you!

Chuck Campbell
NVPS Mentor Program Coordinator
mentor@nvps.org

Programs

November 6, 2018



Michael Koren will be our November speaker presenting *An Introduction of Smartphone Photography*.

Michael is a freelance sports and event photographer in

the Baltimore Washington metro area specializing in youth sports game-time action and team portraits. Prior to this Michael worked professionally shooting model portfolios, corporate portraits, product photography for catalogs, and client advertising campaigns.

Michael's passion for photography is shared through his skill as a photography educator. Michael teaches classes at Montgomery College on a variety of photographic topics from mobile

photography to street photography. He also teaches smartphone, street and action photography at Capital Photography Center. Additionally, he has served as President, Director and Education Chair of the Silver Spring Camera Club in Maryland. He has led numerous seminars and workshops for local camera clubs, Ritz Camera, Calumet and the Washington School of Photography with topics ranging from beginner photography to hands on advanced level workshops and classes.

As well as all the above, Michael still finds time to organize two Meetup groups dedicated to photography. The first is all about mobile photography. He leads the iPhone Photography Meetup Group on outings around the metro area and offers instruction on best techniques and the latest apps for the mobile camera. Secondly, the Photographers of the Washington/Baltimore Metro Area creates a fun, supportive, light-hearted community of people who want to share their passion for photography through photo walks and informal gatherings.

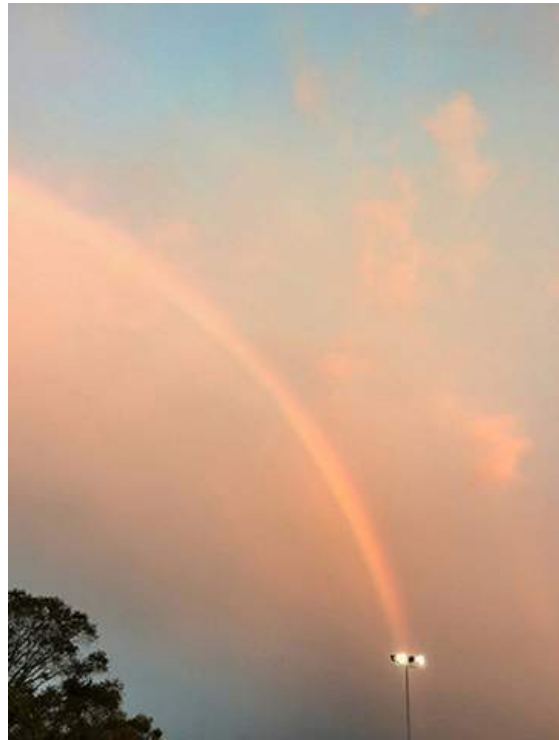
Visit Michael's website to learn more.
<https://www.michaelkorenphotography.com/>

Worldwide almost 5 billion people use smartphones among a population close to 7.5 billion. Conservative estimates guess that about 1.1 trillion photos will be taken in one year with those mobile phones. More than 98% of consumer cameras sold worldwide were built into a mobile phone, the rest of the sales were compacts, mirrorless and DSLR cameras. Because of the camera in a mobile device, photography and picture taking is more popular than ever before in history.

Why all the excitement and move towards mobile? That's the question Michael will attempt to answer. Learn about motivations and rewards of taking pictures with a mobile phone, favorite camera and editing

apps along with ways to get better with your mobile photography.

Here are some samples of Michael's photographs.





December 4, 2018



Don Rosenberger will present *Rust and Ruins* at our December 4th

meeting.

Urban Exploration is a very popular activity, but it can be difficult to do

legally. We will explore the risks and pitfalls of this type of photography as well as discuss how you can safely and legally add this type of photography to your portfolio.

We will also explore why photographers are drawn to decrepitude and how to shoot this type of environment and get the results you desire.

Don first picked up a camera in my teenage years, shooting mostly black and white film and doing his own darkroom work. His interests shifted to color film in his early twenties, then he did the unexpected, he quit photography. There were a variety of reasons for this decision, but when he looks back he thinks he was lacking a certain maturity that was necessary to move forward in regard to the quality of his work. With the advent of Digital Photography he started shooting again with a passion that had been missing in earlier years. Today he is drawn to a variety of work, but he considers landscape photography to be the core of his interests. Being outside and often in remote locations gives him an appreciation for our natural world. It is his hope that his images bring others to that same level of appreciation. Today he considers himself a professional amateur. The amateur aspect allows him to pursue photography with a passion that many with a 9 to 5 job lack and the professional aspect constantly pushes him to improve his craft. Even when shooting familiar subjects, he tries to capture them in new and unique ways. He constantly feels a motivation to strive for that next level, regardless of how elusive that goal may be. He hopes to be able to share that passion and drive with our clients at Road Runner Photography Tours. While he considers camera gear to be important, it is only a tool that you use to achieve an end. In the field he might be shooting next to you with only an iPhone, but that might be the tool he chooses to achieve his creative vision. As David

DuChemin said “gear is good, vision is better.” He might make suggestions for equipment that will help you achieve a specific effect, but he does not believe that expensive cameras are necessary for quality work.

After planning many successful vacations for friends and associates, they asked Don and [Denise](#) why they were not in the photography tour business. Don and Denise looked at each other and said “Why not?” To that end, Road Runner Photography Tours was born.

They look forward to sharing their passion for photography with you and know that their tours will not only take you to great places, but also give you an opportunity to build your network of photography friends while enhancing your photography skills through experience and knowledge sharing in a supportive environment. There is no better place to learn and develop your skills than in the field!

Here Don’s shared some pictures.



Competitions

October 16th Competition Results

Congratulations to the winners from the October 16th open competition. Competition results follow. Winning first place images can be found at the end of the newsletter.

Digital - Class 1

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 1 st Place | David Tripp – <i>Food Truck</i> |
| 2 nd Place | Stephanie Reavley – <i>Extreme Crossing Guard</i> |
| 3 rd Place | John Murray – <i>Guarding the Tomb</i> |

Digital – Class 2

- 1st Place Jeff Hancock – *Blue Angels at Work*
 2nd Place Kacy Turner – *The Pond Digger*
 3rd Place Lee Halverson – *Morning Commute*

Digital – Class 3

- 1st Place Bill Millhouser – *Flute Fixer*
 2nd Place Jim Williams – *The Presentation*
 3rd Place George Karamarkovich – *American Cog Train Engineer and Crew Member*
 HM Gary Perlow – *Exuberant Bassist*

Color Prints – Class 1

- 1st Place Tana Ebbole – *See Our City*

Color Prints – Class 2

- 1st Place Joan Barker – *Orange Bliss*
 2nd Place Len Johnson – *Corn Stalks Drying*

Color Prints – Class 3

- 1st Place Kieu-hanh Vu – *Flags In*
 2nd Place Roger Lancaster – *The Engineeress*
 3rd Place Laurie Kuyk – *Heroes of the Day*
 HM Clark Barker – *Laying Asphalt*

Monochrome Prints – Class 3

- 1st Place Ron Taylor – *It's Hammer Time*
 2nd Place Alan Goldstein – *The Boat Builder*
 3rd Place Laurie Kuyk – *Man in Blue*

November 20, 2018

The November Monthly Competition is an open competition. You may enter photographs taken in the last two years.



Well known to NVPS, Josh Taylor will be our November competition judge. We look forward to seeing who receives the coveted “Josh Wow” award.

Josh has presented photography

workshops at the Smithsonian National Orchid Show, Edith J. Carrier Arboretum at JMU, U.S. Botanic Garden, Brookside Gardens, Sarah P. Duke Gardens, Nature Visions Photo Expo, Adkins Arboretum, and Longwood Gardens. In addition to being a former Canon Camera instructor, Josh speaks at camera and garden clubs, judges photographic competitions, and exhibits his photographs in gallery shows.

He is a member of Garden Writers Association, National Association of Photoshop Professionals, and member and past president of the Northern Virginia Photographic Society. Josh was voted best garden club speaker in 2005 and was a judge for the 2009 Garden Writers Association National Media Awards and the 2010 Nature Visions Photo Expo. Longwood Gardens selected Josh as its Instructor of the Month (October 2010) and was a selected photographer to assist the public in photographing Bruce Munro’s *Light: Installations* (2012) and The Main Fountain Garden (2017 and 2018). Now, he’s enjoying his retirement from photography.

December 18, 2018

The theme for our December competition is **Geometry**. Your challenge is to present images where the predominant elements are geometric shapes – circles, squares, rectangle, triangles, and so

forth. The compositional elements may be specific (subject-based), such as a wall with a door & doorknob and windows, or implies (design-based), where the photographer searched for design, such as rectangles, circles, etc. without concern for the names of the objects. For example, subject-based could consider a scene with land, ocean and sky, whereas, design-based could see the same scene as three rectangles of different tones and sizes.

Greg Holden will be our December competition judge. You may remember his presentation in October on Geometric Abstracts. Greg is an avid hiker and, while most of his photos are from visits to National Parks, some of his best photos are from outings closer to home.

While Greg has enjoyed photographing many beautiful sunrises and grand landscapes, he finds that the little scenes often overlooked by others are the ones that fuel his creativity. Greg is always looking beyond the obvious and photographing the things that others might not even notice...like an acorn sprouting, the patterns made by rust and faded paint on an old automobile, or patterns in the windblown sand of a local beach.

Greg enjoys teaching others and sharing his passion for photography. He speaks and judges at clubs throughout the DMV area. He also teaches classes through

Capital Photography Center (capitalphotographycenter.com).

You can see Greg's work on his website www.imagesunderfoot.com and follow him on Instagram @imagesunderfoot

Member's Forum

October 23, 2018

Member Talk – Judy Graham



Judy Graham's presentation is titled: Spend a Couple of Days in the Page, AZ area.

If you are planning a photography trip to the American Southwest, plan to spend a couple of days photographing the spectacular scenery surrounding the Page, AZ area.

In the spring of 2010, Judy Graham hired Charly Moore, the owner of Overland Canyon Tours, to guide her and a friend to a couple of remote locations near Page, AZ for photography. At the time Judy was unemployed and was trying to decide what to do next with her life. She mentioned this to Charly and on the spot; he offered her a summer job guiding photographers from all over the world for Overland Canyon Tours. That summer Judy packed up her camera gear and hiking clothes and moved temporarily to Page, AZ. She traded in an office for a 4-wheel drive Suburban to haul photographers and their camera equipment off-road. As a guide she led photographers in slot canyons on Navajo land and to

remote jewels of the southwest, such as the infamous Wave and White Pocket. She was also responsible for first aid, water and food management, and snake removal.

Judy has lived in the Washington, D.C. area most of her life. She retired March 1, 2018 after a long career in the field of human resources management for corporate America. Judy joined NVPS in January 2011 with the goal of meeting local photographers, doing more local photography, and learning more about the art of photography. While she remains primarily drawn to stark dramatic landscapes, she's learning to appreciate photographing what's in her own backyard, especially if it's a chance to do so with one of her many NVPS friends. This past summer she participated in the NVPS Mentor Program learning macro flower photography.

Judy currently shoots with a Canon 5D MK IV. Several of her photos of the southwest were featured on the front and back covers and the pages in between of *Gateway to Canyon Country*, a glossy magazine distributed in northern Arizona to tourists who pass through the region. As for future plans, she has trips lined up to photograph Arizona wildflowers in the spring, to OBX to photograph the Milky Way in April, and to Alaska in August 2019 where she will be staying at Camp Denali for a couple of days giving her access to parts of the park restricted to others

Here are some of Judy's pictures.



Digital Gallery – Paul Neumann



Paula's interest in photography has developed over time. Paula was definitely more comfortable with a point and shoot camera until relatively recently. Her first experience with an SLR was as team photographer for her daughter's summer and high school swim teams. From 2000-2010 she took 10's of 1000's of photos at meets. She learned some basic Photoshop skills and posted images on team websites and provided images for end of season slideshows. When her daughter headed off to college in 2010, Paula decided that she needed to develop a serious hobby to fill the void at home. She took three photography classes at the art

league in Alexandria over the next 2 years and has been hooked on photography ever since.

Paula joined the NVPS in 2013 after she retired from her 26-year career as a pathologist at Inova Alexandria Hospital. Her years behind the microscope have trained her to look at things carefully and critically, to notice patterns and details. Her loves of the outdoors and travel have provided her with ample photographic opportunities. She enjoys photographing flowers, landscapes, and architecture. She has become more adept at post processing and primarily does this in Lightroom.

She is currently using a Canon 7D Mark II camera. She uses her images to make travel books, calendars and photo cards and shares them online. NVPS continues to be a valuable resource for education and growth. She enters the monthly competitions with regularity and has received a variety of awards, but mostly she enjoys learning from the critiques of both her own and other members' images. Paula's goals in photography include branching out into portraiture and abstract imaging, learning to be more patient

Her digital presentation is titled "A Week in Normandy" and is a collection of images from a trip to Normandy, France. Normandy is a photographer's delight with its long and varied history, quaint villages and half-timbered buildings, its beautiful countryside with apple orchards, pastures, fields and farms, and its spectacular coastline and beaches.

Here a few of Paula's photographs.



Photographic Prints – Georgette Grossman



Under the Tuscan Sky

Georgette will take us on a tour of Tuscany through her photographs. The scenery is remarkable. Light

and shadows play on the wheat-field landscapes giving them velvety contours. Clouds billow against the blue skies. Colorful laundry hangs out windows to dry. Poppies and olive trees mingle in the fields. Cypress trees line the driveways.

These images were taken in May 2018 while Georgette was on a landscape workshop with John Barclay and Rad Drew.

Georgette's journey in photography began 12 years ago when her granddaughter, Ava, was born. Not capturing the cute smiles she wanted, she switched from a point'n'shoot to a DSLR (Nikon D80). She attended her first Nature Visions show at Meadowlark in 2007 and discovered there were camera clubs in the area! She joined NVPS in January 2008 and was hooked on photography as a hobby. She was the president of the Northern Virginia Photographic Society (NVPS) from 2014 to 2015.

Georgette advanced her photography skills by taking hands-on classes. Some of her instructors included John Gonsalves, Eliot Cohen, Corey Hilz, Nikhil Bahr, Josh Taylor, Mike Moats, Don Rosenberger, and Denise Silva. By attending NVPS lectures, workshops, and field trips she believes her photography has evolved to a higher level. Participation in competition has

helped to give her a critical eye when capturing and post-processing her images. She reads online columns daily to keep "up to date" on new camera equipment and software tips. Recently Georgette switched from a Nikon D7200 camera to a Fuji X-Pro2 and a Fuji X-T3 to lighten her load.

Georgette captures moments she wants to remember. Her subjects include abstracts, people, places, and nature, but her favorite subject is flower close-ups and macros. Lately she is dabbling more with B/W images.

Seeing her images in print completes the photography journey. Georgette has shown her images at

- The Art League in Alexandria, VA,
- The Glen Echo Annual Labor Day Art Show,
- The ArtSpace Herndon Fine Art Photography Exhibit,
- Nature Visions annual exhibit, and
- the Annual Joseph Miller Abstract Photography Exhibit.

From August–October, 2018 she had a solo exhibit at Beanetics Coffee Roasters coffee shop in Annandale, VA. It was entitled Under the Tuscan Sun.

Georgette's images can be seen at <http://pixels.com/profiles/georgette-grossman>

Here are some samples of Georgette's work.



NVPS Exhibitions

Two Upcoming Exhibits to Show off your Favorite Shots

After a lapse of several years we are going to have to photography shows 2019. The first will be in January, with the dates are still to be determined. It will be at the Frame Factory in Vienna. This is a large custom picture framing shop with great wall space and space for a reception (or two if we choose). The shop is at 212 Dominion Road NE in Vienna and their website is framefactory1.com. This show will not be juried; just an opportunity to share our enjoyment of photograph and a glass of wine. There will be a sign-up sheet at the meetings in November or email me at [specialboardmember3 "at"NVPS.org](mailto:specialboardmember3@NVPS.org) if you would like to participate.

The second exhibit will be a approximately a six week period during April and May; dates are still TBD. This one will be a celebration of our mentoring program. The show will not be juried but images must result from participation in the mentoring program. I expect that we will see some very interesting Photoshop techniques and macro shots. You can also show us images that demonstrate what you learned about your camera. My new camera can do focus stacking (when I figure out how!)



And if this sounds daunting, we will mentor you in “presentation skills”, matting and framing. The images for both shows must be matted and framed.

Willa Friedman

Field Trips

November 17, 2018

The previous issue of FOTOFAX indicated that plan for the November field trip included a November 17th visit to the Rawlings Conservatory in Baltimore, Md. Our reconnaissance visit to the Conservatory last week revealed several challenges to a effective group shoot at this facility due to its relative small size and its interior design. Accordingly the field trip location is revised to the **U.S. Botanical Garden** located at the foot of Capital Hill on the Independence Avenue side of the Mall.

Exhibits at the Garden range from roses to orchids, the rainforest of the Mid-Atlantic, endangered plants and the latest in home gardening. The indoor galleries display flora of the jungle, desert and primeval settings. This diversity of form and color will provide some outstanding photographic opportunities.

Unfortunately, a limited number of tripod permits will be provided. Accordingly, participants are encouraged to bring along a monopod or similar camera support that can be used without any limitation. We will devise a system to rotate the limited number of tripod permits to enable all participants to get the shots they need.

We will meet at the Garden entrance at the opening time of 10:00 AM. Street parking is available adjacent to the entrance.

The following are the official guidelines for photography at this location:

USBG encourages visitors to take casual photographs for their own personal use. Photos must be taken with hand-held cameras or cameras on a permitted tripod (see permit information below). The use of external flash equipment or bulky accessory equipment is not permitted. We do not allow visitors to do photo shoots or video shoots at the Garden. Commercial use of all photographs is prohibited. All photography is at the discretion of the USBG.

Photographic or filming activities can in no way affect the public’s enjoyment of, or access to, our exhibits. Other rules for photography activity at the U.S. Botanic Garden include:

- Professional or otherwise paid photography is not allowed.
- Posed photography sessions are not permitted. This includes, but is not limited to, wedding, fashion/beauty, pregnancy, graduation, engagement, prom, and family photography.
- Videos and photographs must be for personal, non-commercial use.
- Visitors taking photos must stay on pathways and not block access or passage of other visitors. Walking in planted areas; sitting on curbs, railings, plants, or floors; or placing anything in planted areas is prohibited.
- Portfolio photography for aspiring models and photographers is not permitted.
- Plants may not be moved, cut, or rearranged
- Original artwork, sculpture, or other creations on exhibit are protected by artists’ copyrights and may not be photographed for the purposes of reproduction or copied in any way.

For advance permission to use tripods, equipment, easels, or art material

containing solvents, please contact [Laura Anthony](mailto:LauraAnthony@aoc.gov) at 202-226-7674 or lanthony@aoc.gov. Pre-approved permits are obtained onsite at the visitor desk in the Conservatory.

The USBC website: <https://www.usbg.gov/>

December 1, 2018

The December club field trip will be on Saturday Dec 1st in Old Town Alexandria. We plan to photograph the Scottish Parade and the Holiday Boat Parade of Lights on the Potomac River. We will also plan a group lunch in-between.

Full details will be made available as we approach December. This is a fun shoot with lots to see so mark your calendars.



New NVPS Members

Please welcome the following new members to NVPS.

Priyanka Kurella	Chris Cook
Doug O’Boyle	Ann Chaloux
Danny Ward	Manuel Fernandez
Dagmar Rosato	Ann Sigafos
Beth Howell	Brian & Jessica Gray

William & Diane Cohen	Mary O’Neill
Tom Sullivan	Linda Fannin
Ron Tollefson	Laurie Barnett
Peter Reavley	Judith Mazza
Jim Sinsheimer	George McLennan
Jim Dacey	Fred Krebs
Ilenia Alvarz	Erin Farley
Hilary Heincer	

Ask Me A Question & Review My Image

The “Ask Me a Question” (AMAQ) Table and the “Review My Image” Table have proven to be extremely popular among NVPS members. Last year, AMAQ happened every second and fourth Tuesday of the month; Image Review happened on the second Tuesday of each month, and we’ll do the same this year. We are seeking at least one volunteer for each Table in the 2018-2019 year. Please contact Eva Lanyi or Bill Millhouser if you would like to volunteer for one of the tables. It’s OK if two people sign up for one date, you’ll have enough traffic. You would need to be at the fire station by no later than 7:00 p.m. for the dates you select.

As a reminder, here’s how each Table works:

AMAQ: Photographers need to be conversant with Nikon, Canon, Sony, Olympus, Fuji, or Smartphone cameras and answer questions about how the cameras work, how best to use their features in various situations etc.

Review My Image: Volunteers will review Club members images on a their laptop or the club member’s laptop or tablet, or prints, to provide feedback on composition, exposure, processing, etc. The reviewer might start by asking the photographer

about his/her intent or “vision” for the photo. This is not an anonymous critique, which we’ll have separately on the second Tuesday of October 2018, during the regular meeting.

The current AMAQ and RMI dates are:

November 13th:

Image Review: Georgette Grossman

AMAQ: TBD

Questions? Comments? If so, please contact Bill Millhouser or Eva Lanyi at eduction@nvps.org. We thank you very much for helping advance the educational goals of NVPS. Plus, it will be fun!

Education and Training

November 13, 2018

The Art of Photographic Composition by Mike Whalen



Good composition is another piece of the puzzle in creating stronger, more pleasing images. Most photos are composed of

multiple elements and sub-elements that are framed together. How we choose to include and visually position these elements will contribute to the success or failure of the final image. This presentation will provide guidelines to improve your compositions.

Aspects of photography can be comparable to other art forms. For example, music can have a distinct melody, harmony, background singers, etc. All these individual parts work together to produce a song that is greater than the sum of its parts. Such is true with photographs. We typically have a

main subject or focal point, foreground, background, supporting elements. A good photographer will include the pieces that work together to enhance the subject and eliminate the distracting or conflicting elements. Sometimes we just get lucky, but generally, a good image needs to be thoughtfully “composed” right before we release the shutter.

This presentation will include discussions and examples of:

- Subject placement
- Color, contrast and texture
- Lines: leading and S-curves
- Backgrounds considerations
- Balancing subject with other sub-elements
- Framing (frame within a frame)
- Creating depth perspective on a 2D image
- Leaving room during framing
- Simplicity versus complexity
- Cropping in post

Some of Mike’s images.





References

Web links:

20 Composition Techniques That Will Improve Your Photos:

<https://petapixel.com/2016/09/14/20-composition-techniques-will-improve-photos/>

Visual Flow: Mastering the Art of Composition, with Ian Plant:

<https://www.bhphotovideo.com/explora/videos/photography/visual-flow-mastering-the-art-of-composition-with-ian-plant>

11 Thoughts: An Introduction to Photographic Composition:

<https://www.bhphotovideo.com/explora/photography/tips-and-solutions/11-thoughts-introduction-photographic-composition>

Books

Master Composition Guide for Digital Photographers Paperback - Ernst Wildi
The Photographer's Eye: Composition and Design for Better Digital Photos - Michael Freeman

Learning to See Creatively - Bryan Peterson
Photography and the Art of Seeing - Freeman Patterson

As a teen, Mike learned a few photo basics from his father, a photographer and artist.

He dabbled with film camera in the 80's and 90's, and after that with a few digital point-and-shoots. However, it wasn't until 2006, when he purchased a basic Canon DSLR, that he began to see the potential of this "new" digital technology.

After a chance meeting with member, Willa Friedman, in 2008, where he learned about NVPS, he joined in 2009. He has served on the board from 2010 to the present and served as president in 2013. In 2018 he was awarded the distinguished service award. From participating in many NVPS competitions, he received numerous annual awards including, "Photographer-of-the-Year", "Color-Print-of-the-Year" and "Image-of-the-Year" at various times. In recent years, he also scored three cover shots on the Spring editions of Washington Gardener Magazine and in 2016, he won Nature Visions "People's Choice" award. Mike also donates his time regularly, as a pet photographer for the Fairfax County Animal Shelter and, volunteers as a photographer for charitable organization's annual DC events such as: The National Ovarian Cancer Coalition and The Epilepsy Foundation of America.

Portfolio Project

The Artist's Statement

An artist's statement should be included with your portfolio. Writing an artist's statement should be one of the first steps in developing your portfolio. Doing so will make image selection and all that follows much easier than waiting until the end. Here is a brief "how-to". The following information is summarized from –

- <https://www.ebsqart.com/Education/Articles/Business-and->

[Marketing/14/How-to-Artist-Statement/75/](#)

What is an Artist's Statement?

An artist's statement is a short document written by the artist that provides a window into the artist's world. It offers insight into a single piece or an entire body of work and by describing the artist's creative process, philosophy, vision, and passion. It enlightens and engages while at the same time giving the audience – potential buyers, exhibition curators, critics, fellow artists, or casual browsers – the freedom to draw their own conclusions. An artist's statement reads easily, is informative, and adds other understanding of the artist.

What isn't an Artist's Statement?

An artist's statement is not a résumé, a biography, a list of accomplishments and awards, a summary of exhibitions, or a catalogue of works. It is not insignificant and should not be hastily written. It is not difficult to understand, pretentious, irritating, or (gasp!) laughter-provoking.

How long should it be?

Remember that people usually don't have the patience to spend a lot of time reading, so it's better to err on the shorter side. Several sources recommend an artist's statement be around 100 words

This year's co-chairs for the project are Ginger Werz-Petricka and Colena Turner, available through portfolioproject@nvps.org and during the meetings to answer your questions. Looking forward to talking with you soon!

Ginger and Colena

2017-2018 Membership Dues:

We now have NVPS business cards for you to hand out. Stop by the membership table and pick some up to keep in your camera bag! They are FREE for you to spread the word about our club.

Remember to participate in the monthly competitions your membership dues must be current.

Membership dues are as follows:

- Individual \$55.00
- Family \$75.00
- Student \$20.00

There are three forms of payment. Checks and cash are preferred by NVPS:

- **Check:** make out your check to NVPS. Complete and print out the Membership Application (<http://nvps.org/home/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/2017-2018-Members-Application.pdf>). Please mail application and check to: Tom Brett, Treasurer; 4216 Wynnwood Drive, Annandale, VA 22003 or bring your membership application and check to a meeting.
- **Cash:** Complete and print out the Membership Application (<http://nvps.org/home/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/2017-2018-Members-Application.pdf>) with your current information and pay our Membership Coordinators (Kacy Turner or Laurie Kuyk) or our Treasurer (Tom Brett) at any meeting.
- **PayPal:** use the link on our website: http://nvps.org/home/?page_id=114. Please note that NVPS must pay a fee for this method of payment!

Questions: Please email membership at membership@nvps.org.

Membership looks forward to seeing you at coming meetings!

Stay Connected with NVPS

EMAIL: If you are not already receiving NVPS emails, there are two ways you can sign up to join the list. Click on the following link and sign up by entering your name and email address. Click on join the list.

http://nvps.org/home/?page_id=31. Or you may stop by the Membership desk at the next meeting and they will be happy to assist you. *It's important to note, you will receive an "opt-in" email from nvps.org. If you do not receive it, check your spam folder. Please respond to this email within 72 hours or the verification link will expire.*

FACEBOOK: If you are on Facebook, please join the NVPS private group. Search on Northern Virginia Photographic Society Social Group and request to join. Members post everything from their photos to interesting articles on photography to requests for recommendations. You will find the group informative and fun!

Nature Visions

Nature Visions will take place November 2-4 at the Hylton Center for Performing Arts in Manassas.

Announcements

Member Exhibits

Yvonne Jarrett

Congratulations Yvonne!

Yvonne Jarrett was notified she won the monthly selection for a photo taken at Antietam National Battlefield in December 2017. The award was through the Share the Experience, Official Recreation Lands Photo Contest, National Park Foundation.



Judy Gunther

Judy Gunther's image "The Smoker" was awarded honorable mention in the recent Beacon Newspaper's "Celebration of the Arts" competition, which was held in conjunction with the Maryland Federation of Art. There will be four expos taking place in town where the winning images and honorable mentions will be on display. Judy will receive her award at the regional display at the Springfield Town Center on Sunday, September 30th when images will be on display from noon to 4 pm. The same images will be hung at the Pepco Edison Place Gallery Exhibit, 702 8th St. NW, Washington, DC, 20068 from November 29th through December 19th.



Mark Chen

Mark Chen's photo of Proxy Falls has been selected as the winner of the Outdoor Adventure category in the Windland Smith Rice International Awards. It will be displayed in this fall's Smithsonian Exhibition and published in the 2018 Fall/Winter Special Collectors' Edition of Nature's Best Photography magazine, going to press next month. The exhibit will be up in late October at the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History in Washington, DC and will run through 2019.



Notice: *The information about workshops and events not sponsored by or affiliated with NVPS is provided as an informational courtesy to Members. Individuals should review the detailed rules and conditions for contests and gallery shows to determine what impact entering an image has on the photographer's rights and ownership of the submitted images. Review the descriptions of workshops to see whether participation in a particular workshop would actually meet your personal learning goals. NVPS attempts to screen events for legitimacy and quality; however, NVPS does not recommend these events and cannot assume responsibility for their ultimate quality. NVPS recommends due diligence and encourages you to share your experience with other club members.*

Exhibition/Contest Opportunities

Announcements of exhibitions or contests are provided for information purposes only. There is no actual or implied endorsement by the Northern Virginia Photographic Society.

The Northern Virginia Review

The Northern Virginia Review presents outstanding original fiction, poetry, essays, fine art and photography from the Mid-Atlantic region and the faculty, staff, and alumni of Northern Virginia Community College. It is published in a handsome print edition each March. The Northern Virginia Review considers previously unpublished short fiction, non-fiction, poetry, photography, and artwork. They welcome all work that comes from the heart and speaks to our common humanity. They recommend viewing previous samples of published prose, poetry, and visual art in their current and past issues. Submissions will be accepted through the end of the day on October 30. Please review the guidelines at the following link before submitting: <https://blogs.nvcc.edu/tnvr/submissions/>

16th Annual Smithsonian.com Photo Contest

The 16th Annual Photo Contest is now open for submissions. The following six contest categories are drawn from subjects of special interest to Smithsonian.com:

1. **Natural World:** Animals, plants and landscapes; geological or climatological features; and scientific processes and endeavors.
2. **Travel:** Locales, peoples or activities in the United States and abroad that convey a sense of place.
3. **People:** Portraits and photos of groups or individuals.
4. **The American Experience:** Events, objects or activities connecting the American people to their history or their cultural heritage; photographs that tell us what it means to be an American and provide a sense of what it is like to live in this country.
5. **Altered Images:** Photographs manipulated for artistic purposes by

applying digital and/or traditional special effects (i.e., colorizing, toning, collage, photo composites, HDR, etc.).

6. **Mobile:** Any photograph taken with a mobile device (phone or tablet).

The Smithsonian is offering a grand prize of \$2,500. The entry deadline is November 30, 2018 and there is no entry fee. To be eligible for any category, the entrant must have shot a photograph since January 1, 2016. Additional information can be found at:

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/photcontest/submission/>

Joseph Miller Abstract Photography Exhibit

The Joseph Miller Center for the Photographic Arts once again takes great pride in announcing its Ninth Annual juried abstract exhibit. All interested photographers are invited to submit entries for this much anticipated spring event. Over the years, because of the influence these exhibits have had in encouraging and promoting abstract photography and due to their reputation, recent JM Abstract Exhibits have been attracting entries from international as well as national photographic artists. Whereas submissions to the First Annual JM Abstract Exhibit had been limited to local NVACC-related clubs, many current participants come from photographic groups outside the Greater Washington/Northern Virginia area or are non-affiliated/independent photographic artists.

The exhibit will run from May 4, 2019 through May 27, 2019. The Joseph Miller Center will begin accepting entries for the upcoming Ninth Annual Exhibit on **Saturday, December 22, 2018**. The deadline for submissions will be **Saturday, February 23, 2019**.

A detailed **PROSPECTUS** containing all relevant information regarding the exhibit can be found on the Northern Virginia Alliance of Camera Clubs website @ www.NVACC.org

Exhibitions

Diane Arbus: A Box of Ten Photographs Now to January 21, 2019

Smithsonian Art Museum – 8th and F Street NW, Washington, DC

In late 1969, Diane Arbus began to work on a portfolio. At the time of her death in 1971, she had completed the printing for eight known sets of *A Box of Ten Photographs*, of a planned edition of fifty, only four of which she sold during her lifetime. Two were purchased by photographer Richard Avedon; another by artist Jasper Johns. A fourth was purchased by Bea Feitler, art director at *Harper's Bazaar*, for whom Arbus added an eleventh photograph.

This exhibition traces the history of *A Box of Ten Photographs* between 1969 and 1973, using the set that Arbus assembled for Feitler, which was acquired by SAAM in 1986. The story is a crucial one because it was the portfolio that established the foundation for Arbus's posthumous career, ushering in photography's acceptance to the realm of "serious" art. After his encounter with Arbus and the portfolio, Philip Leider, then editor in chief of *Artforum* and a photography skeptic, admitted, "With Diane Arbus, one could find oneself interested in photography or not, but one could no longer... deny its status as art. What changed everything was the portfolio itself."

In May 1971, Arbus was the first photographer to be featured in *Artforum*, which also showcased her work on its cover. In June 1972, the portfolio was sent to Venice, where Arbus was the first

photographer included in a Biennale, at that time the premiere international showcase for contemporary artists. SAAM organized the American contribution to the Biennale that year, thereby playing an important early role in Arbus's legacy.

John Jacob, the McEvoy Family Curator for Photography at SAAM, organized the exhibition. The forthcoming catalogue, co-published with the Aperture Foundation, features an in-depth essay by Jacob that presents new and compelling scholarship correcting errors by Arbus's biographers and adding significant detail to the period between her death and the 1972 posthumous retrospective at Museum of Modern Art.

<https://americanart.si.edu/exhibitions>

Lincoln's Contemporaries Now to May 19, 2019

National Portrait Gallery, Eighth and F Streets NW, Washington DC.

Who were Abraham Lincoln's contemporaries? They included many fascinating people beyond the politicians and military leaders of the Civil War. This exhibition features Mathew Brady's portraits of twenty celebrities — from showman P.T. Barnum and inventor Samuel Morse to musician Teresa Carreño and clergyman Henry Ward Beecher—who reflect the diversity of American intellectual and cultural life during Lincoln's presidency.

<http://npg.si.edu/>

Daguerreotypes: Five Decades of Collecting

June 15, 2018 to June 2, 2019

National Portrait Gallery, Eighth and F Streets NW, Washington DC.

The 2018 installation of the Daguerreian Gallery celebrates the National Portrait Gallery's golden anniversary by highlighting fifty years of daguerreotype collecting by the museum. Included will be portraits of such iconic figures as activist and reformer Dorothea Dix, entrepreneur and showman P. T. Barnum with Tom Thumb, Seneca Chief Governor Blacksnake, U.S. Navy Commodore Matthew C. Perry, and artist Alfred Waud. Portrait Gallery Senior Curator of Photographs, Ann Shumard, curates this exhibition.

<http://npg.si.edu/>

Gordon Parks: The New Tide, Early Work 1940-1950

November 4, 2018 to February 18, 2019

National Gallery of Art, 4th and Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, D.C

During the 1940s American photographer Gordon Parks (1912–2006) grew from a self-taught photographer making portraits and documenting everyday life in Saint Paul and Chicago to a visionary professional shooting for *Ebony*, *Vogue*, *Fortune*, and *Life*. For the first time, the formative decade of Parks' 60-year career is the focus of an exhibition, which brings together 120 photographs and ephemera — including magazines, books, letters, and family pictures. The exhibition will illustrate how Parks' early experiences at the Farm Security Administration, Office of War Information, and Standard Oil (New Jersey) as well as his close relationships with Roy Stryker, Langston Hughes, Richard Wright, and Ralph Ellison, helped shape his groundbreaking style. A fully illustrated catalog, with extensive new research and previously unpublished images, will accompany the exhibition.

<https://www.nga.gov/index.html>

Workshop Offerings

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

John Barclay

John Barclay was our May Program speaker and was our speaker in February 2017. John is an award winning freelance photographer based in Bucks County, Pa. John's work has been published in a number of books and magazines and is treasured by a number of private collectors. Recently, John was the recipient of an excellence award from *B&W Magazine* and was chosen by Dewitt Jones to participate in his www.healingimages.org program. You can see his work and view his workshop schedule at www.barclayphoto.com

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 www.WashingtonPhotoSafari.com

Denise Silva

Denise Silva has often judged and been a presenter at NVPS. She and Don Rosenberg operate Road Runner Photography Tours. For information on their latest tours and workshops, please visit their web site

at <http://roadrunnerphotographytours.com/>

Nikhil Bahl

Nikhil Bahl was our End-of-Year judge for 2016-2017 as well as Program Speaker in November 2015 and November 2016. He offers a variety of workshops and coaching events. For more details with his latest workshop updates, visit: www.NikhilBahl.com

Alan DeFelice

Alan DeFelice was the April 2018 judge. He is a professional photographer who has done raptor photo workshops at Nature Visions. For several years Alan has been a partner with Virginia Digital Photo Safaris. Learn more at: <http://www.virginiaphotosafari.com>

Corey Hilz

Corey Hilz was our 2017-2018 End-of-Year judge, our February 2016 judge, and our October 2015 Education and Training speaker. He was this year's End-of-Year Banquet judge. He regularly offers software workshops as well as photo workshops and international tours. Spring/summer photo workshop locations include Longwood Gardens, the National Zoo, Maryland's Eastern Shore, and Meadowlark Botanical Gardens. His international destinations include Cuba, Ireland, Czech Republic and Morocco. Full schedule of events is listed at: <http://www.coreyhilz.com>

Joshua Taylor, Jr.

Joshua Taylor is a past NVPS president and was our January 2018 judge. His goal in photography is to help you create, capture and refine your vision. Josh is offering fall photography workshops and classes, including Canon camera classes. For a

complete listing and registration, visit his website: joshuataylorphotography.com

Roy Sewall

Roy Sewall was our Judge in February 2018 and was our Program speaker in May 2017. Roy offers both private and group instruction to novice and intermediate photographers, and in 2014 became an instructor for the Capital Photography Center. Find out more on Roy's website: <http://www.roysewallphotography.com/iWeb/Home.html>

David Blecman

David Blecman, a member of the Professional Photographers of America, is an internationally recognized photographer and instructor, having taught in over a dozen countries to photographers, models, and makeup artists. He was our judge in October 2015 and April 2017 and a Program speaker in April 2016. David's website: <http://posneg.com/>

For Sale – Projector Fund

A friend of Tom Schum has donated some photography equipment. The monies from the sale of this equipment will go into a *New Projector Fund*.

Below is an updated list of the equipment. Prices have been reduced. Please contact Tom at thomasjschum@yahoo.com if you want to purchase one of the items or have questions. Checks should be made out to NVPS.

If you have equipment you would like to sell with funds going to the Projector Fund please contact Tom or editor@nvps.org

Equipment List

Cameras:

Cameras	
\$185	Panasonic Lumix GX7, 2013, 16mp micro four-thirds, custom leather case with two zoom lenses, three batteries, flash, charger, manual, in working order First lens: Lumix G Vario 1:3.55.6/14-42 ASPH Second lens: Lumix G Vario 1:4-5.8/14-140 ASPH
\$40	Sony DSC-HX30V compact, 2012, 18.2mp, 20x optical zoom, with belt-case, chargers, USB cable, several spare batteries, in working order.
\$50	Canon Power Shot G12 compact, 2010, 10mp, 5x zoom
\$75	Sony DSC-RX100 compact, 2012, 20.2mp, 28-100mm equiv zoom, with leather case, spare battery, charger, USB cable in working order
Tripods	
\$5	Tiny Tripod, brand unknown
Monopods	
\$6	4-sections, Aluminum, Brand unknown
Light Meters	
\$20	Minolta Flash-master IV with case and four accessories
\$40	Gossen Luna-Pro sbc with case and one accessory
Camera Bags	
\$5	Lowepro Adventura 140, never used, Holds DSLR plus speedlight or extra lens
Battery Grips	
\$10	Vello BG-N11 for Nikon D7100/D7200 (has Lithium battery carrier)
\$10	Vello BG-N7 for Nikon D800/D800E (has Lithium battery carrier)

**October Competition – Americans At Work
First Place Winners**



Color Prints Class 1 – Tana Ebbole – *See Our City*



Color Prints Class 3 – Kieu-hanh Vu – *Flags In*



Digital Class 1 – David Tripp – *Food Trip*



Digital Class 2 – Jeff Hancock – *Blue Angles at Work*



Digital Class 3 – Bill Millhouser – *Flute Fixer*



Monochrome Class 3 – Ron Taylor – *It's Hammer Time*