

The Lens and Eye



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Electronic Image of the Year: Coco
© Saul Pleeter



Print of the Year: Misty Morning Flight
© Ruiqing Pamboukian



1st Place, Novice Electronic Images, May Competition: Rowing Boat in Lake Siljan
© Maude Svensson



1st Place, Intermediate Print, May Competition: Zabriskie Layers
© Steven Frahm

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September Competition Theme: Looking Up

Turn your camera upwards and capture the world from a different perspective. It can be a ceiling, flowers from the ground level, buildings, trees or anything that requires your camera to look upwards. (Must be taken on or after September 1, 2018, extended due to Covid)

If you are competing in the **electronic** category or submitting to Members Showcase, please send your images as email attachments to nbccmdEcomp@gmail.com **no later than 7:30 p.m. on Sunday, August 29.**

If you are competing in the **print** category, please send your images as email attachments to nbccmdPcomp@gmail.com **no later than 7:30 p.m. on Sunday, August 29.**

Calendar

Events start at 7:30 p.m. unless noted.

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| July 21 | Board Meeting |
| Aug. 25 | New Member Orientation |
| Sept. 1 | Competition: Looking Up |
| Sept. 8 | Board Meeting |
| Sept. 15 | No meeting - Yom Kippur |
| Sept. 22 | Program: TBD |
| Sept. 29 | Program: Panel Photo Critique |

Officers Elected for 2021-2022 Program Year

Congratulations to the officers elected for the
2021-2022 program year!

President
Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer

Rich Chitty
Cherry Wyman
Kathryn Mohrman
Claudia Seelig

Welcome New Members!!

Please join me in welcoming our
newest members, joining us in the
2021-2022 program year:

Larry Brauer
Todd Epstein
Kevin Gebo
Mark Glasbey
Gerald Goldstein
Sue Guy
Mark McDonough
Jennifer Nguyen
Cathrine Sasek
Paul Schmitz
Erico Silva
Lisa Solomon
Jeffrey Taksey
Lorraine Vinci

- Five support volunteer organizations with their photography

- Five indicate Canon is the most represented primary camera body, four indicate Sony (although there is a broad range of brands!)

We will hold a New Member Orientation on **August 25th at 7:30** for these newest members to help make their involvement in NBCC as enriching as possible. Mark your calendars now and keep an eye out for a GordieGram with details!

- *Toni Robinson, Membership Chair*
nbccmdmem@gmail.com

Notable factoids about this
group of fourteen:

- Nine volunteered to be on a committee
- Six belong to seven other camera clubs

Education Groups

2021-2022

We are excited to announce that for program year 2021-2022, we are offering 13 small groups. They are listed on the education page of our website under "Small Group Class Summary," and are available for enrollment now. Almost all groups are still open, but you will need to enroll soon, as a many of them start in September and once a group begins, enrollment for new attendees is closed.

- Jill Randell, Education Chair
nbccmdedu@gmail.com

Upcoming Internal Programs - Opportunities to Share

In addition to our external speaker programs, as part of NBCC's mission to promote education and community, we offer several internal programs every year that are opportunities for members of any skill level or longevity in the club to share their work and be known. Two of those are being offered in the the first half of this program year specifically to promote our sense of community as we emerge from Covid restrictions. Hopefully a good number of you will seize the opportunity and pull together images to present!

•Panel Photo Critique, September 29, 2021. The first program is ideal for ANYONE ... especially those not actively competing, new to the club, or just wanting to get feedback on something. We have a panel of three of our advanced photographers who typically judge outside the club, and who possess different perspectives,

provide feedback on the members' images. Each member can submit up to four images, prioritized by the member for order of critiquing, not necessarily having anything in common with each other. The images are shown and the panel members take turns as primary critics; if any of the panel has a notably different comment, s/he will speak to that image. We typically have around 20 people submit. Since our primary goal is to provide qualitative critique, not quantitative viewing, we often do not get through all the images submitted (typically we complete 3 rounds).

•Member Expo, November 10, 2021. The second program requires a bit more preparation and therefore has more lead time. In this program members are asked to share 6 – 12 images of a related theme. The theme has no restriction other than it cannot be "just a travelogue." Each member will be introduced, say a few words about why they chose the theme and/or what they hope to communicate via their images, and then the images will be displayed by the program coordinator. There will be an opportunity for questions from the audience We typically accept submissions from 15 – 18 members.

Details for these two programs will be provided in future GordieGrams.

- Toni Robinson, Programs Committee
nbccmdprog@gmail.com

Splinters from the Board

This club, with its excellent board, effective committees, and members who serve, have made it possible over the last year for our programs to inspire us, for our education courses to enrich our creativity and understanding, and to conduct the competitions that brings our best work forward. Even though we have not been able to meet in person, it's fair to say that NBCC has had a successful year.

What could be even better would be meeting in person. The goal for this fall is to resume in-person meetings in a safe manner regarding Covid-19. The key is to create an environment that promotes the safety of our participants during our meetings and allows for remote participation if necessary. To that purpose, over the summer, members of the board have been considering how to establish a policy that addresses a number of safety aspects. This work should be completed within this month, with a board decision to be announced on how we will proceed.

As part of this effort, there is an investigation underway into providing Zoom capability during our in-person meetings. This would allow for remote participation for those who choose not to or who cannot meet in person. It is hoped that these investigations, which are part of the overall decision about meeting in person, will also be completed soon.

In parallel, there is much activity in organizing our programs and competition judges. With all these activities moving in a positive direction, I hope you will join me in enjoying an outstanding year of photography.

Best regards,
Rich Chitty, President

Member News

Mike Mitchell's virtual photography exhibit, "Four Seasons in the C&O Canal National Historical Park," is online through August 31. Presented by the River Road Unitarian Universalist Church, it can be viewed [here](#). More of Mike's photography can be seen on his [website](#).

Upcoming Competitions

September	<i>Looking Up</i>	January	<i>6-Month Open</i>
October	<i>Open</i>	February	<i>Quality of Light</i>
November	<i>Street Photography</i>	March	<i>Nature</i>
December	<i>Minimalist Photography</i>	April	<i>Long Exposure</i>
	May		<i>Black & White Open</i>

Competition Results: May (Open)

EIC Judge: Sue Bloom

Print Judge: Jill Bochicchio

PRINTS

Intermediate (18 entries)

1st	Steven Frahm	Zabriskie Layers
2nd	Kay Norvell	d'Orsay Cafe
3rd	Stacey Lewis	Metro Shadows
HM	Peter Dunner	Madrid Staircase
HM	Steven Frahm	Bhutanese Pixie
HM	Stacey Lewis	Dissent Count Vote

Intermediate (18 entries)

1st	Nikos Zacharakis	Old Friends
2nd	John Norvell	Lanterns on the Seine
3rd	Nikos Zacharakis	Still Waiting
HM	Stan Collyer	Pretty Lady
HM	Bill Seelig	Double Light
HM	Tammy Trocki	Rockport Waterline

ELECTRONIC IMAGES

Novice (8 entries)

1st	Maude Svensson	Rowing Boat in Lake Siljan
2nd	Pauline Jaffe	Rock Daffodil
3rd	George Kiebusinski	Blue Reflections

Intermediate (32 entries)

1st	Ruiqing Pamboukian	The Story of Spring
2nd	Bob Murphy	Pensive
3rd	Don Tobin	Poolesville Sunset
HM	Lorraine Chickering	Ellis Elegy
HM	Max Kantzer	Old Pier at Folly Island
HM	Mark Leatherman	Rocks
HM	Gary McDavid	Heroes for All Time
HM	Jill Randell	I Love a Street Festival
HM	Jill Randell	People Watching
HM	Claudia Seelig	Fawns Licking
HM	Don Tobin	Commuter 2020

Advanced (30 entries)

1st	David Terao	The Peacock Queen
2nd	John Allender	Snow on Redbud
3rd	Joanne Mars	Arctic Gull
HM	José Cartas	Beach Baskets
HM	James Chia	Daybreak
HM	Bruce Davis	La Abuela
HM	Dick Knapp	In Own World, Not Christina's
HM	Chet Stein	The Wedding
HM	David Terao	A Bowl of Bubbles
HM	John Willis	Love Padlocks in Ronda

NBCC Competition Results

Cumulative Scores Through May 2021

PRINTS

Intermediate

61	Steven Frahm
37	Peter Dunner
36	Steven Lapidus, Kay Norvell
34	Cherry Wyman
30	Kathryn Mohrman
26	Lisa Maco
19	Richard Chitty
10	Julia Malone
9	William James
8	Mark Leatherman, Tom Marchessault
6	Marjorie Bloom, Ruiqing Pamboukian

Advanced

80	Bill Seelig
67	Nikos Zacharakis
65	Stan Collyer
44	Dick Pelroy
37	John Norvell
34	Tammy Trocki
30	Saul Pleeter
24	James Corbett
22	Lester LaForce
14	Jim Turner
12	Eric Schweitzer
9	James Chia, Bruce Cyr

ELECTRONIC IMAGES

Novice

54	Maude Svensson
46	Pauline Jaffe
44	Rikko Saidel
29	Tom Gross
27	Janice Solomon
20	George Kiebuszinski
8	Craig Carlson

Intermediate

77	Ruiqing Pamboukian
71	Peter Winik
55	Max Kantzer
51	Gary McDavid
46	Jill Randell, Claudia Seelig
44	Don Tobin
34	Mark Leatherman
32	Lorraine Chickering
28	Christina Papakonstantinou
27	Cat Simmons
26	Steve Parker
24	Michael Blicher
16	Shelley Price
15	Geoff Hornseth
12	Kurt Focke, Stacey Lewis, Cherry Wyman, Rose Yee
9	Bob Murphy
6	Beth Altman, Dillard Boland, James Frid, Tom Gross, Steven Hannes, Al Neyman, Audrey Rothstein, Dawn Sikkema, Ray Whitman

Advanced

134	David Terao
62	Joanne Mars
42	José Cartas
38	Chet Stein
36	Robert Barkin, Bruce Davis, Kent Mason
35	James Chia, Mark Segal
30	Larry Mars
29	Toni Robinson
24	John Willis
18	Steven Silverman
16	Melissa Clark
14	Jean Yuan
12	Dick Knapp
9	John Allender, Stuart Glickman
6	Ira Adler, Gail Bingham, David Clemmer, Carol Lee, G. Olaizola, Nancy Wolejsza

Please note that print winners Bruce Cyr, Kurt Focke, Stacey Lewis, Debbie Menditch, Nolan Rappaport, Cat Simmons, and Sarah Salomon actually won more points during the year than those listed above. Points were subtracted because the mounted prints were not turned in for the year-end competition, as required. During our Covid-19 virtual competitions, print competitors were allowed to submit jpegs with the understanding that at the end of the year, "No Prints" would earn "No Points."

Intermediate Print Winners May (Open) Competition



1st Place
Zabriskie Layers
© **Steven Frahm**

This photograph was taken early in the morning at Zabriskie Point, an iconic location for photographs in Death Valley National Park. However, it was taken 90 degrees from the classic view. After taking some traditional photographs at sunrise, I began looking for less obvious compositions. The overlapping layers of rock and complimentary tan, brown and blue hues to my left were very attractive, and the lone hiker added both scale and a point of interest. In post processing, after adding some "texture" in LR, which gently increased contrast, the hiker became a nearly black, lifeless silhouette. Local brushing of the exposure restored just enough detail.



2nd Place
d'Orsay Cafe
© **Kay Norvell**

On a visit to the d'Orsay museum in Paris, we walked through the cafe before it opened for lunch. I liked the copper conical light fixtures and the view of the Sacre Coeur as seen through the big clock window.



3rd Place
Metro Shadows
© **Stacey Lewis**

Comments not submitted

Advanced Print Winners May (Open) Competition



1st Place
Old Friends
© **Nikos Zacharakis**

I woke up to a foggy morning, grabbed my camera and ran out of the door. The C&O Canal towpath, where this photo was taken, was magical in the fog. For this photo, I saw the scene first, the path and the trees fading into the fog. I was waiting patiently for someone to walk in. These old friends, as I imagine they are, appeared and I couldn't miss the opportunity to capture the image.

3rd Place
Still Waiting
© **Nikos Zacharakis**

I was walking around New Orleans on Christmas Day with my camera in hand. From a distance, I spotted this lady in a sliver of light. It was a high contrast scene. The lamp and the slightly lit tree branches made the frame. I took a couple of quick shots with my 200mm lens and continued walking. She probably kept waiting!



2nd Place
Lanterns on the Seine
© **John Norvell**

On an evening dinner cruise on the Seine River, the beautiful Parisian sunset highlighted the buildings, bridges, and river, as well as the lanterns hanging on the side of the boat. I tried to capture this scene and had to lean out and use a high ISO to get an adequate shutter speed to freeze the ship movement. Processing this image required considerable noise reduction efforts.



Novice EIC Winners May (Open) Competition



1st Place
Rowing Boat in Lake Siljan
© **Maude Svensson**

I was immersed in this peaceful scene some three years ago while visiting Lake Siljan, Dalecarlia County, a very traditional area in the heart of Sweden. It was a nice summer day in August, and I was filled with excitement and mystification to be at this extraordinary lake, formed about 400 million years ago by a major meteorite crashing on Earth - Europe's largest meteorite crater. Imagine the immense destruction if that happened today! My thoughts of that giant meteorite impact and the violent history thrilled my imagination. The contrast with the very peaceful and scenic site of today was almost unimaginable. That is why I shot this picture.



2nd Place
Rock Daffodil
© **Pauline Jaffe**

I loved this colorful daffodil that almost seemed to be growing out of a rock and this captivated my attention. I saw it when I was in Onley, Virginia near Chincoteague on the Eastern Shore.



3rd Place
Blue Reflections
© **George Kiebusinski**

The photograph was taken in December 2020 on 5th Avenue in New York City. It shows reflections of street traffic at Christmas time in a prismatic window display at Bergdorf Goodman's. I thought the blue color and the fragmentation reflected the mood of the pandemic. I did not do any special post processing other than selective cropping.

Intermediate EIC Winners May (Open) Competition



1st Place
The Story of Spring
© **Ruiqing Pamboukian**

This photo was taken not that far from my home in a residential area. It was composited with two images - one with the bird family and another with the sky photo I took on another day. This is the first time I tried using the sky replacement function in Photoshop. It was so easy to use but at the same time I asked myself, Are we allowed to composite photos like this? I want to explore it as well. I think the image turned out nicely. I hope it tells the Story of Spring to you. Happy shooting and *enjoy spring, everyone!*

2nd Place
Pensive
© **Bob Murphy**

I photograph landscapes and the night sky. I don't do people. But life is about people and over the past few years I have set about the task of capturing the light and life about me. What better topic than the light of my life, my wife Nancy? This was taken late one afternoon in January of 2020 (BC) in the living room of our new home in Timonium. The image resides on the back cover of my book of people photographs; the front cover is a picture of Nancy taken along the C&O Canal when we were in college.



3rd Place
Poolesville Sunset
© **Don Tobin**

In November 2020, I was looking for places to photograph in the Poolesville area along the Potomac. In the late afternoon I took some photographs at the Partnership Road steeplechase course. When I loaded them into Lightroom, I was intrigued by a small red building at the crest of a hill in the center of the course. I went back late in the afternoon the next day. To get close enough (even with a 70-200 Nikon lens), I had to walk through the course. I climbed onto a formidable horse jump with my camera and monopod. The angle was good, and nature cooperated with a very subtle but interesting sunset. And I safely got down from the jump!



Advanced EIC Winners May (Open) Competition

1st Place
The Peacock Queen
© **David Terao**

I had a ton of fun photographing this cosplay model in order to create a surreal portraiture. I tried not to go overboard with the surrealism and keep the portrait somewhat realistic with a hint of fantasy. Using Photoshop, I slimmed her face, enlarged her eyes and changed her eye color to match the peacock-feather eyes. Her red hair color was not altered. She didn't mind having her natural features altered because it added to the fantasy element of the character she was playing.



2nd Place
Snow on Redbud
© **John Allender**

Branches zig and zag
Harboring pillows of
snow
From the swirling wind

I think Toni mentioned in a Zoom session that she and some other members were creating haikus for their images. The next day I resumed reading Nancy Rotenberg's *Photography and The Creative Life* and in the next chapter she said that she was creating haikus for her images. It was meant to be. I've been doing it ever since.

3rd Place
Arctic Gull
© **Joanne Mars**

My image was taken in Svolveer, a coastal town in the Lofoten Islands of Norway. From a deck outside our hotel room, someone was tossing out breadcrumbs to the gulls, which gave me great opportunities to practice in-flight bird photography. I love the bright yellow eyes with the red ring around them and the drips of water falling from the gull as it sweeps up from the choppy sea below.



NBCC “Virtual” Year End Event

The Year of Covid 19

Star Awards 2020-2021

Star certificates are awarded to advanced photographers in recognition of their photographic excellence and competitive spirit. This is demonstrated by their cumulative advanced points in NBCC monthly competitions throughout the years of their membership. Points for each member are combined from all **Advanced** categories.

The following members have reached newly achieved levels of advanced points and thus a new Star on their cap.

1 Star with 104 total points	Steven Silverman
1 Star with 105 total points	David Clemmer
1 Star with 163 total points	Nikos Zacharakis
4 Stars with 422 total points	Chet Stein
4 Stars with 422 total points	David Terao
7 Stars with 727 total points	Bill Seelig
8 Stars with 814 total points	Mark Segal

External Organization Competition Winners

Maryland Photography Alliance

Nikos Zacharakis	HM	Cityscape	London from Above
Roy Sewall	HM	Cityscape	Liegé Train Station's Plaza
David Terao	HM	Nighttime	Milky Way Panorama
Melissa Clark	HM	Nighttime	Lanterns on the River
Stan Collyer	HM	Nighttime	Popcorn for Sale

Mid-Atlantic Photo Visions

James Chia	Best in Abstracts, 2020	Ice Feathers
James Chia	People's Choice Award, 2020	For Existence
Jill Randell	Best Documentary/Street, 2020	I Love a Street Festival

Photographic Society of America

Larry Mars	New Distinction, 2019	EPSA (700 acceptances)
Judy Burr	New Distinction, 2020	MPSA (1500 acceptances)

Year-End Accumulated Points Awards 2020-2021

Every month many of our members compete in assignments and open categories. These are the 1st-, 2nd-, and 3rd-place winners after 9 months of rigorous competition. A minimum of 30 points is required for each award.

Accumulated points award winners from previous years can be found in the summer issues of the Lens and Eye.

Prints (Accumulated Points)

Intermediate Prints

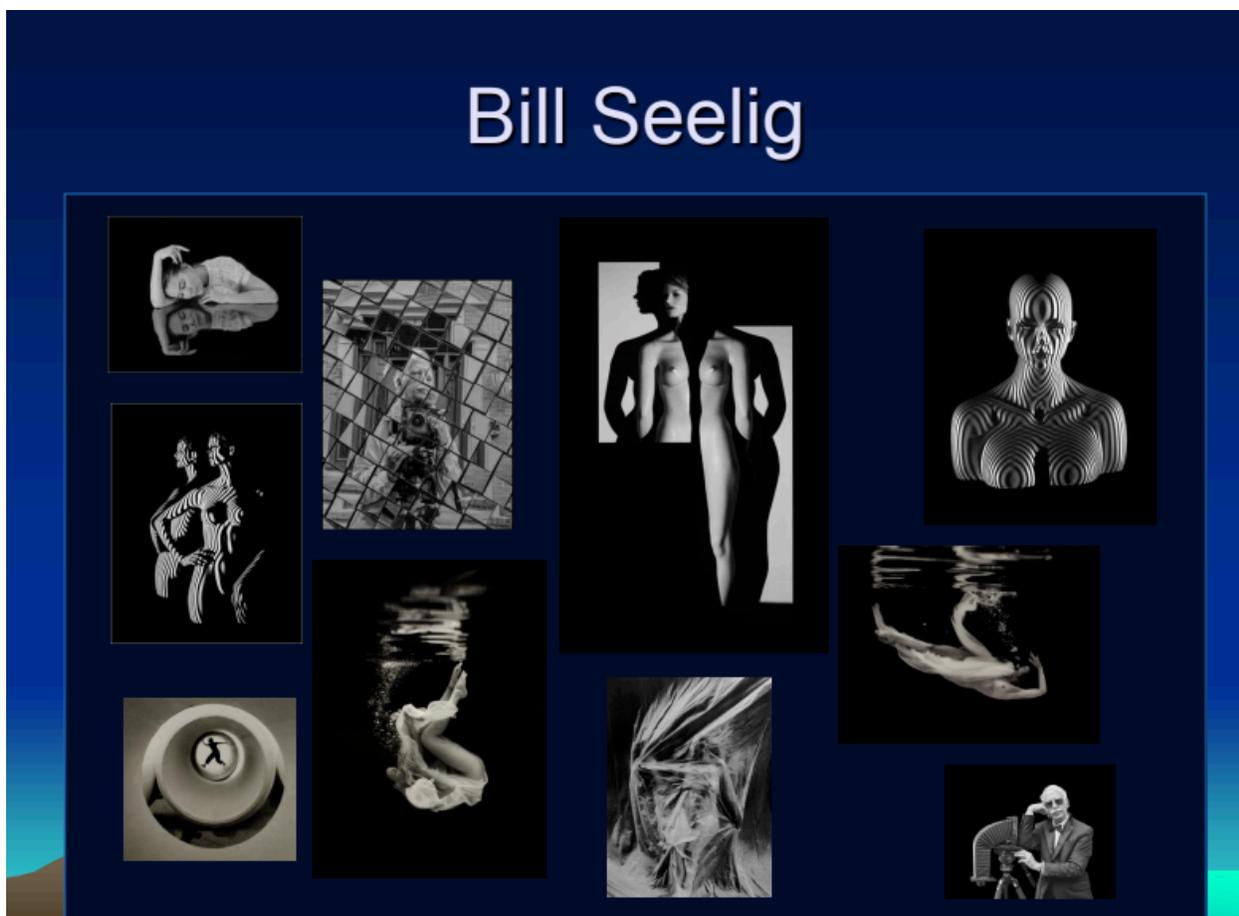
3 rd Place tie	36 points	Steven Lapidus
3 rd Place tie	36 points	Kay Norvell
2 nd Place	37 points	Peter Dunner
1 st Place	61 points	Steven Frahm

Advanced Prints

3 rd Place	65 points	Stan Collyer
2 nd Place	67 points	Nikos Zacharakis

Print Photographer of the Year

1 st Place	80 points	Bill Seelig
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Electronic Images (Accumulated Points)

Novice Electronic

3 rd Place	44 points	Riko Saidel
2 nd Place	46 points	Pauline Jaffe
1 st Place	54 points	Maude Svensson

Intermediate Electronic

3 rd Place	55 points	Max Kantzer
2 nd Place	71 points	Peter Winik
1 st Place	77 points	Ruiqing Pamboukian

Advanced Electronic

3 rd Place	42 points	José Cartas
2 nd Place	62 points	Joanne Mars

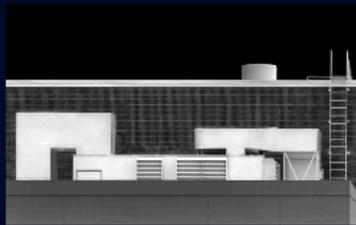
Electronic Photographer of the Year

1 st Place	134 points	David Terao
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David Terao (1 of 2)



David Terao (2 of 2)



Top Ten Prints of the Year 2020-2021

Judged by Chris Henessian, Cynthia Keith, and Alan Sislen

The "in-house" print judging includes all 1st, 2nd, 3rd and Honorable Mention winners from the last 9 months. Since prints should be judged on their actual print quality, as well as all the other basics, our panel of Chris Henessian, Cynthia Keith, and Alan Sislen donned their masks, sat a little closer this year on Cynthia's outdoor screened porch, and studied all the quarantined images to come up with the Top Ten Prints. There were 109 print winners this year, of which 99 were turned in for the year-end judging.

In no particular order:

Bill Seelig	Tilt & Shift
Nikos Zacharakis	Tango Mood
Jim Turner	Self Portrait
Kathryn Mohrman	On Penobscot Bay
Jim Turner	Muscid Fly
James Corbett	Eyes of Gold
Nikos Zacharakis	Gem in the Ocean
James Corbett	Steel Town Quarterback
Ruiqing Pamboukian	Preening Egrets

The Print of the Year

1st Place Saul Pleeter Coco



The Top 10 Electronic Images of the Year 2020-2021

Again, this year, thanks to Bruce Cyr, we were able to send out all the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and Honorable Mention electronic winners from our monthly competitions. There were 225 winning images this year. All NBCC members were able to vote for their top 20 Images. From those 20, the Top Ten winners were compiled. With a lot of nudging, 77 members voted for this year's Members Choice.

Our Top 10 became 11, due to ties. Therefore, in ascending order:

tie	15 votes	Max Kantzer	Tree at Greenhill Vineyard
tie	15 votes	Joanne Mars	Crowned Redhead
tie	15 votes	Claudia Seelig	Fawns Licking
tie	15 votes	David Terao	Radish in a Cup
	17 votes	David Terao	Dancing in a Cloud
	18 votes	Gary McDavid	Heroes for All Time
	19 votes	Bruce Davis	Three Bison
tie	21 votes	Melissa Clark	Sapa Fields
tie	21 votes	Ruiqing Pamboukian	Foggy Morning
tie	21 votes	Ruiqing Pamboukian	The Story of Spring

The Electronic Image of the Year

1st Place 29 votes Ruiqing Pamboukian Misty Morning Flight



Joe Razza Special Service Award

In memory of Joe Razza and in recognition of his dedicated and outstanding service to the North Bethesda Camera Club, a special service award was established in 2005. This perpetual honor will be presented at the discretion of the NBCC President (not necessarily every year) to a member who has performed outstanding service to and through the club that is clearly "above and beyond the call of duty" and in a manner that honors Joe's memory. The award may be given for performance over one year or over a period of several years and may be given several times to the same person if their service so merits.

President Rich Chitty awarded Toni Robinson this special service award remotely with these words:

Our awardee has been involved in almost every aspect of the club, both in formal positions and in many almost countless informal positions, whenever the need arose. Service to the club was done with care and compassion and consideration for the photographer or member in the club of what was needed. Based on all these qualities over many years of service, in almost every area of the club, it is my great pleasure to present this year's Joe Razza Special Service Award to Toni Robinson.

You really can't count all the ways that Toni has supported this club. It's been as membership chair, it's been as past president, it's been competition committees, every committee known to man, and then some. And Gordiegrams. Don't forget the Gordiegrams. It's been amazing. We have so much to thank you for, Toni. Your service has been undeniable and it is just so appreciated. This is a small token that perhaps puts it in words that we thank you for your efforts.

Isn't NBCC Great? (and I Can Prove It!)

This February 2021 (because of the pandemic) my wonderful wife, Claudia, bought me my first digital camera and my first home computer with Lightroom and Photoshop. (I was yelling and screaming the whole time, but not too loud.)

Sure enough, it was NBCC to the rescue.

Alan Sislen kindly brought me up-to-speed on Lightroom (that is the kind of guy he is), while Carol Walsh put me in her "Creative Compositing" NBCC Small Group, which is basically Advanced Photoshop. (I have heard of Photoshop, but never used it even once in my 53+ years of film photography.)

Claudia, an NBCC member, even helps

me with Photoshop from time to time, but then it is usually she who is yelling and screaming a little bit.

Wow! I then had 4 images selected in the Strathmore multi-media juried art show, "Touch," from September 7th to October 30th, with a reception September 9th from 7-9 pm at the Strathmore Mansion.

Isn't NBCC great! This proves it for sure.

- Bill Seelig

P.S. I think I will be "ambidextrous" from now on with a combination of film and digital photography, because I just can't give up my Tri-X, Dektol, fixer, etc.



The Visitor © Bill Seelig