

The Lens and Eye



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Novice, 1st Place

Tea Time

@Debby Berlyne

This was my first-ever attempt at a still life, and I wanted the image to tell a story. I taped a vinyl black background to the wall and took the image on a grey afternoon. I chose the photo that had the most interesting pattern of steam from the hot tea. In return for letting me use his glasses and a prayerbook he got for his bar mitzvah, my husband got to eat the blondie I used in the image.

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March Competition Assignment: Nature

Nature photography may depict observations from all branches of natural history in such a fashion that a well-informed person will be able to identify the subject and agree to its honest presentation. Images including the "hand of man" (such as roads, fences, manicured lawns, etc.) will be disqualified. Any adjustments to the image must appear natural. Color images may be converted to monochrome. Infrared images are not allowed. See NBCC's expanded definition of "nature" [here](#). Photos must be taken on or after March 1, 2021.

If you are competing in the **electronic (EIC)** category, please send your images as email attachments to nbccmdEcomp@gmail.com by no later than 7:30 p.m. on Sunday, February 26.

If you are competing in the **print** category, please send your images as email attachments to nbccmdPcomp@gmail.com by no later than 7:30 p.m. on Sunday, March 5. You are responsible for confirming with the coordinator that your correctly formatted entries have been received. Failure to do so may result in your images not being entered.

Calendar

All events are **(H)YBRID** (held in person at the church with a Zoom option) unless identified as **(V)IRTUAL** (only on Zoom and not in person.) Links will be sent by GordieGram. **Events start at 7:30 pm unless noted otherwise.**

- Feb 26** Deadline, EIC entries
- Mar 1** EIC Competition: (Virtual)
- Mar 5** Deadline, Print entries
- Mar 8** Print Competition
- Mar 15** Board Meeting (Virtual)
- Mar 18 8:30 am** Field Trip, South Philadelphia
- Mar 22** Speaker, Pawel Pilch (Virtual)
- Mar 29** Speaker Jake Cross (Virtual)
- Mar 31** Photo Essays due
- April 2 3:30 pm** Photo Essay Show (Virtual)



Last Call for Submissions to NBCC Exhibition: “Friendship: The Ties That Bind”

Entries for “Friendship: The Ties That Bind,” to be held at the National United Methodist Church at 3401 Nebraska Avenue, NW in DC near American University, will be accepted until midnight on **February 28**. The show will run from May 7 to July 15.

The judge will be [Jill Bochicchio](#), a professional portrait photographer and well-regarded judge for NBCC monthly competitions.

The exhibition focuses on the relationship between friends, defined broadly to include animals as well as human beings. This broad definition encompasses shared kinship or shared nationality as well as relationships of shared coexistence on this planet. A key judging criterion will be the degree to which the photo captures the depth, complexity, sincerity, and genuineness of the emotional ties between and among the subjects in the image.

The subjects must have been present concurrently when the original scene was photographed. In other words, editing new subjects into the image or deleting important subjects out of the image is not allowed. Other forms of editing for image enhancement are permitted.

Images that have been displayed in prior NBCC exhibitions will not be accepted, but this restriction does not apply to NBCC monthly competitions.

There is no time limit on the date of image capture.

Each NBCC member may submit up to three images. We anticipate hanging 35-40 photographs, which must have a minimum framed width of 11” and a maximum of 26”.

Entrants will receive their results on March 25 and must deliver their framed prints on May 3 or 4 (location TBD). The opening reception will be on May 7, and photographers must claim their prints on July 15, when the exhibition closes.

Steps to submit your images are as follows:

1. Fill out one [submission form](#) for each image you submit (up to three images per NBCC member).
2. Name your image files using the following convention: last name-first name-image title.jpg.
3. Email your images (maximum 1920 pixels × 1920 pixels) to nbccmdexhibits@gmail.com. Image files must have the same titles as those listed in the submission forms, and you can send several images in one message. The subject line of the email should be “Friendship exhibit.”

Questions? Contact Sue Guy at nbccmdexhibits@gmail.com.

March 1 Nature EIC Judge: Denise Silva

Denise Silva's interest in photography started when her grandmother shared images from her safaris in Egypt and Africa. The evenings Denise spent watching slideshows planted the seeds. Thirty-five years later, those seeds took root and inspired Denise to embrace photography and, more specifically, travel photography. As a result, Road Runner Photography Tours, which Denise cofounded, was born.



Denise Silva

Road Runner Photography Tours offers guided photography tours and adventures for beginner to advanced level photographers who are passionate about photography, enjoy travel, and enjoy learning new techniques in the field. Denise is passionate about sharing her knowledge of photography, while introducing people to the amazing landscapes, wildlife, and people all over the world.

Denise has published several articles in *Extraordinary Vision* magazine and the Fujifilm X/GFX USA website. She is also a featured artist in *Breakthrough Photography's Guide to Night Sky Photography* and was interviewed by Peggy Farren, of *Understanding Photography*, on how to overcome the challenges of street photography. Her work has also been featured in *Black & White Magazine* and the 2021 edition of *Our Magnificent Planet*.



© *Denise Silva*

She has been recognized as one of the Top 200+ Women Landscape and Nature Photographers Who Inspire. She also received an award in the alternative digital processes category from *Black & White Magazine* in 2022.

March 8 Nature Print Judge: Emily Carter

Emily J. Carter is an award-winning nature and wildlife conservation photographer based in Annapolis, Maryland. Her work has been seen in numerous juried art exhibits and published in books, magazines, and newspapers. Emily's work has also been displayed in several solo art exhibits in the Maryland area, including at the National Wildlife Visitor's Center.

With a corporate background in human resources and extensive years in the travel and hospitality industry, Emily holds a master's degree in global management. Emily has always enjoyed photography as a way of connecting to the world around her.

Emily has shared her passion for photography in a wide variety of photography classes in the metro Washington D.C. area. She has also judged several photography contests and offered presentations through camera clubs and Mid-Atlantic Photo Visions. She recently joined forces with Denise Ippolito and A Creative Adventure to lead nature-based photo tours.



Waterfalls



Flower Close-up

Photos © Emily Carter



Emily Carter

Field Trip: South Philadelphia on Saturday, March 18

We are planning a field trip to South Philly on Saturday, March 18. The group will meet at the Grosvenor Park (Strathmore) Metro stop at 8:30 am and carpool to Philadelphia. We will do street photography in the funky ethnic Italian Market neighborhood and then head over to the Magic Garden (\$15/ \$12 senior admission fee). We will leave Philadelphia at 4:30 pm to return to Rockville.

Please contact [George Kiebusinski](#) to sign up.

March 22 Speaker: Pawel Pilch

Pawel Pilch was born in southern Poland and currently lives in New York City. He studied at Hunter College and trained at the International Center of Photography.

In the last six years, Pawel has traveled across the U.S. to pursue his passion for photography. In 2017, he was awarded first place in the International Photographer of the Year competition in the nature/landscape category for his aerial series "Uplifted." Pawel's work has received over 40 nominations and honorable mentions in international competitions in just the last four years. His photograph "Yellowstone Fantastic" was featured in *National Geographic* magazine. Pawel's latest work can be seen at Blueprint + Co in New York City, Blank Wall Gallery in Athens, Greece, and around Vienna, Austria, as part of the Vienna Photo Festival.



As a landscape, street, and aerial photographer, Pawel has learned that each unique place that he photographs offers different challenges. Knowing one's equipment and environment is important, but remaining true to one's unique visual aesthetic while using all available sources of inspiration is essential. The expression of one's vision happens automatically when the photographer has confidence in all technical aspects of photography and feels comfortable in all environments.



©Pawel Pilch, Slot Canyon

March 29 Program: Intro to Using Your Camera for Video with Jake Cross

Jake Cross is passionate about and experienced in just about every aspect of video production, both at a professional level and at a personal level, when he uses his own Canon camera. He is at home planning a shoot, scouting a location, and building a shot list, and he can often be found running a camera or assisting a director on set. But his favorite place is in the edit suite putting all the pieces together and building a story.

Jake will explore the artistic difference between shooting video and taking photographs and answer, What can I do with 24 frames a second that I can't do with just one powerful image? How do I tell a story with video?

He will then show us how to videotape with our cameras a couple of scenarios: a family birthday party and a travel scene. He plans to share a video he took in Italy as an example.



Belem Tower, Portugal

2023 Photo Essay Showcase on April 2

The spring 2023 Annual Photo Essay Show will be virtual (via Zoom) and on April 2. Draft essays are accepted from now until February 28. Final essays will be due on March 31.

Substantial documentation and tutorials as well as past essays are available on our website in the members only area to help you prepare your photo essays. We are available to assist members with all aspects of essay making—selecting topics, learning essay-creation software, selecting music, and polishing the essays. Please contact us (see last page of this issue for names) for assistance.

If you plan to submit a photo essay, please let [Stu Mathison](#) know as soon as possible to prevent duplication of essay topics and ensure a diverse and engaging set of essays.



Santa Justa Lift, Lisbon, Portugal

Photos © José Cartas

Tributes to Roy Sewall

Many of you have asked when and how tributes in Roy Sewall's honor would occur. Over the weeks since his passing, we have identified several ways to honor him.

Although we announced a celebration of life for Roy in April, not every NBCC member who might wish to attend will be able to do so because of the venue's limited capacity. Roy's family will send out invitations directly as the time gets closer.

Memorial Bench on the C&O Canal

We have contacted the C&O Canal Trust to arrange for a bench in Roy's memory. Roy was instrumental in creating the C&O Canal Trust and was its first board president. In addition to capturing the beauty of this treasured park, Roy helped form the organization that to this day is its principal steward.

The location and date of the bench's installation are still being worked out with the National Park Service via the Trust. However, donations to make this plan a reality are welcome! Donors will be invited to participate in the installation of the bench. Direct your donations, which are tax deductible, to the Trust using this [link](#) or by mailing a check to the C&O Canal Trust, 142 W Potomac Street, Williamsport, MD 21795. In both cases, please indicate in the memo or comments field that the donation is for Roy Sewall's memorial bench.

Roy's Photo Essays

At our annual photo essay showcase, to be held virtually on April 2, several of

Roy's previously submitted photo essays will be shown. In addition, a collection of Roy's images, covering several of his major projects, will be collected and presented at the event.

Annual Canal Photo Walk

In Roy's honor, NBCC will schedule a photography walk every year, open to NBCC members, at one of his favorite locations and times of year. You'll get details on this activity as the time gets closer, but a photography walk this fall is likely to be the first of many fitting tributes.

By Toni Robinson, Membership Chair

Education Committee Update

In January, the Education Committee shortened the educational small-group survey and revised the survey procedure. After each educational small group ends, facilitators will email a link for a shortened survey to all participants within a week. The Education Committee will have access to the survey responses, which will be aggregated and sent anonymously to the facilitator(s).

We hope that all participants will take a few minutes to provide feedback on the education programs they attend and thus show their appreciation for the time and effort that facilitators voluntarily contribute to NBCC's education program.

By Jill Randell, Education Committee Chair

Competition Results: February (Window Light)

Judge: Wayne Wolfersberger (Print) and (EIC)

PRINTS

Intermediate

1st	Peter Dunner	le Patisserie
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Advanced

1st	Tammy Trocki	Novice Nun
2nd	Bill Seelig	Lady In A Window
3rd	Bill Seelig	Round Window

ELECTRONIC

Novice

1st	Debby Berlyne	Tea Time
2nd	Debby Berlyne	Fallen Tulip
3rd	Janice Solomon	Man at Sunset Dobbins Pt

Intermediate

1st	Cherry Wyman	Beautiful Babe
2nd	Michael Blicher	Fabulous Fifties
3rd	Jill Randell	Wedding Prep
HM	Tom Gross	The Ghosts of Ritchie
HM	Christina Papakonstantinou	Resting
HM	Don Tobin	National Cathedral South Aisle
HM	Peter Winik	Zoe

Advanced

1st	Robert Barkin	At the Helm
2nd	Kent Mason	Stairs
3rd	Dick Knapp	Airplane Jet Bridge Supervisor
HM	James Corbett	Fisherman Quarters
HM	James Corbett	Tools of the Sea
HM	David Terao	It's Wine Time
HM	David Terao	Lonely Globe Valve

NBCC Competition Results

Cumulative Scores Through February 2023

PRINTS

Intermediate

65	Peter Dunner
25	Kay Norvell
18	Tom Marchessault
17	Steven Frahm
16	Richard Chitty
14	William James
12	Bennett Fletcher
6	Steven Lapidus
6	Kathryn Mohrman

Advanced

49	Bruce Cyr
43	Tammy Trocki
41	Bill Seelig
37	Dick Pelroy
20	John Norvell
10	David Terao
10	Nikos Zacharakis

24	Tom Gross
24	Don Tobin
24	Peter Winik
20	Al Neyman
19	Maude Svensson
18	Kurt Focke
18	Christina Papakonstantinou
16	Meg Clarke
15	Don Picard
15	Claudia Seelig
12	Craig Carlson
12	Bennett Fletcher
12	Steve Parker
9	Karen Finkelman
9	Audrey Rothstein
6	James Frid
6	Sue Guy
6	Mark Leatherman
6	Bob Mazziotta
6	Kathryn Mohrman
6	Lorraine Vinci

ELECTRONIC

Novice

53	Jennifer Nguyen
47	Debby Berlyne
45	Janice Solomon
29	Pauline Jaffe
12	Isaac Rosenberg
10	Todd Epstein
8	George Kiebusinski
6	Marjorie Bloom
6	Larry Brauer
6	Elisa Gladstone
6	Jean Solari

Intermediate

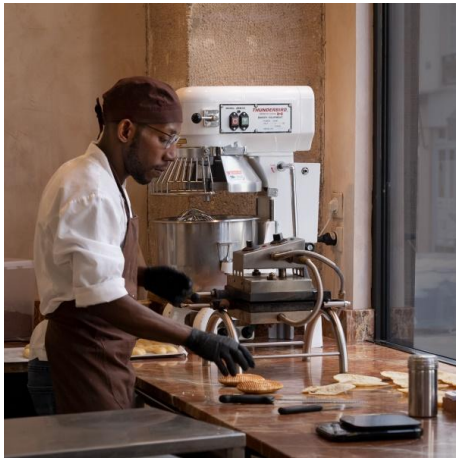
49	Michael Blicher
38	Erico Silva
38	Cherry Wyman
36	Max Kantzer
34	Lorraine Chickering
26	Jill Randell

Advanced

59	Kent Mason
46	Ruiqing Pamboukian
42	David Terao
40	James Corbett
36	Dick Knapp
24	Toni Robinson
24	John Willis
22	Chet Stein
18	Joanne Mars
18	Jack Rosenberg
18	Mark Segal
16	Robert Barkin
12	Ira Adler
12	David Clemmer
12	Stuart Glickman
9	Gail Bingham
6	James Chia
6	Larry Mars
6	Cat Simmons
6	Rebecca Tidman

February Window Light Competition

Intermediate Print Winners



1st Place
Le Patissier
© **Peter Dunner**

This image was taken in the Marais neighborhood in Paris. I passed a terrific bakery and watched the staff making some awesome pastries. The light filtered in through some sheer screening and fell on this man. This soft filtered light highlighted him just enough and captured his face concentrated on his work.

Advanced Print Winners

1st Place
Novice Nun
© **Tammy Trocki**

I took this image in a centuries-old church in Paris. I believe the young woman, veiled in white, is a novice, an initiate becoming a nun. She was praying before an altar to Mary in a chapel lit with sunlight coming through three large stained-glass windows. I was moved by her serene devotion. The light coming through the colored stained glass was yellowish and distracting, so I chose to render the image in black and white.



2nd Place
Lady in a Window
@ **Bill Seelig**



The long window was well matched to the tall woman, and the coating of plastic layered on the window helped diffuse the window light and produce a soft effect.

Advanced Print Winners



3rd Place
Round Window
@ Bill Seelig

For this shot, I selected a silhouette to capture the lovely model and window together. I also placed a reflector on the left to reflect some window light onto the model.

Competition Assignments

2022-2023

April Twilight/Night

May Open

2023-2024

September Red

October Open

November Family

December Out of Focus

January Tack Sharp

February Nature

March High Key

April Cold Winter

May Black & White Open

February Window Light Competition

Novice EIC Winners



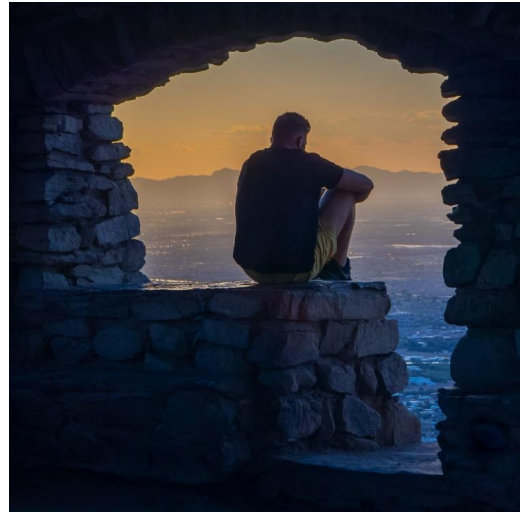
*1st Place
Tea Time
@Debby Berlyne*

See Debby's comment on this issue's cover.



*2nd Place
Fallen Tulip
@Debby Berlyne*

I did some research on how to choose the best settings for focus bracketing and then tried several different combinations in my OM-1 before coming up with the one I used in this image. To create the image, I put a piece of glass from an old photo frame on some shiny paper, laid down a tulip, and sprayed it with water. I learned to use Helicon Focus to combine the bracketed images. In Lightroom, I made sure that the background was completely black and brought up the highlights in the flower and stem.



*3rd Place
Man at Sunset, Dobbins Point
@ Janice Solomon*

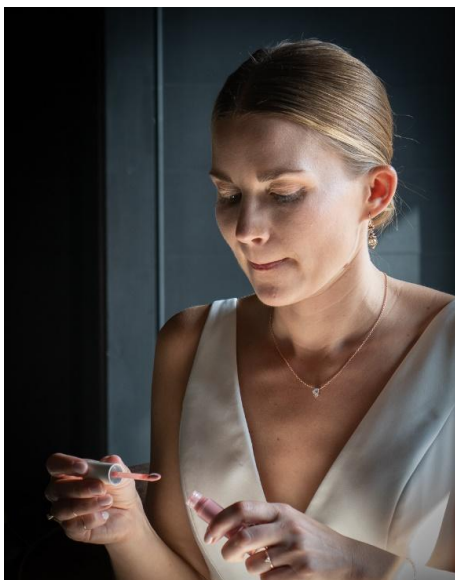
I took this image of a man sitting in the window enjoying the sunset at Dobbins Lookout, South Mountain Park, in Phoenix. This is a beautiful stone structure with just one room and a few "windows" at the top of a mountain. The steep 20-minute drive up is gorgeous, with saguaro cactus all around, and is a popular place to watch the sunset. I darkened some of the surrounding stone and lightened a bit around the frame.

Intermediate EIC Winners



1st Place
Beautiful Babe
@ **Cherry Wyman**

My daughter, Penny, bonded quickly with her nephew, Bode, when she first met him last summer. The window light was more than ample on the top floor of my son's Manhattan Beach, California, home. Black and white was chosen to emphasize the lines and shapes of the image.



2nd Place
Fabulous Fifties
@ **Michael Blicher**



One of my friends arranged a tour of Frank Lloyd Wright's Pope-Leighey House in Alexandria. Although the house was built in 1941 and decorated for the '40s, the Royal typewriter in the small office area reminded me of my mother's typewriter and desk from the '50s. The office window allowed the right amount of light to illuminate the desk, and I was happy to have my OM-1 with a 12-40 lens with me. I ended up cropping the image in Lightroom to focus on the typewriter, shelf, books, and window.

3rd Place
Wedding Prep
@ **Jill Randell**

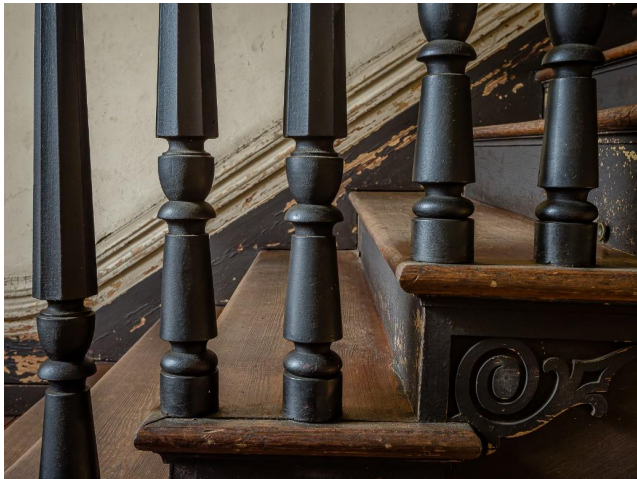
This image was taken right before my niece's wedding ceremony. She was relaxing in a small dark room with light streaming through one window. As she applied lip gloss, I captured the tensions of the day. A 50mm focal length and f3.5 aperture allowed me to get her face in focus. A little dodging and burning helped mitigate some of the harsh shadows and highlights.

Advanced EIC Winners



*1st Place
At the Helm
@ Robert Barkin*

I was coming up from the hold when I stopped to talk to the pilot, one of the few women who helm ships that cruise Resurrection Bay in Alaska. She was friendly but always had her "eyes on the road," so to speak, in the cold, wet weather and choppy waters. I made sure that the shutter speed was high enough to avoid ship movement and that the exposure allowed the capture of the mountains through the windows. Then I just tried to capture her determination and poise.



*2nd Place
Stairs
@ Kent Mason*

This image was taken in an 1840 manor house in Charleston, South Carolina. The same family had owned the home for over 100 years and had not updated it. Most of the house was in its original condition. I was drawn to the unique shape of the spindles on the stair railing. I framed five of them to create a simple but well-balanced and -composed image as I looked directly at the stair treads and spindles from a low angle. Soft window light from the left lit the stairwell.

*3rd Place
Airplane Jet Bridge Supervisor
Dick Knapp*

Just before stepping on a plane leaving Berlin, I grabbed this shot of an airport worker standing at the end of the jet bridge who was backlit by a grid of translucent panels. She combined utilitarian reflective clothing, steel-toe boots, security badges, and entry cards with polished nails, jewelry, and a striking visage.



NBCC Board of Directors, Committees and Appointments 2022-23

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Don Picard

Treasurer

Claudia Seelig

DIRECTORS

Rich Chitty

Kent Mason

Toni Robinson

STANDING COMMITTEES

Competition

Judy Switt*

Lightbox:

Geoff Hornseth

Dick Pelroy

Nikos Zacharakis

Coordinators:

Max Kantzer*

Robert Barkin

Steve Lapidus

Education

Jill Randell*

Gail Bingham

Steve Frahm

Dick Knapp

Toni Robinson

Judges

Cat Simmons*

Pauline Jaffe

Guillermo Olaizola

Ruiqing Pamboukian

Sarah H. Salomon

Membership

Toni Robinson*

Michael Blicher

Pauline Jaffe

Guillermo Olaizola

Programs

Tammy Trocki*

Judy Ackerman

Evelyn Jacob

Kent Mason

Brian Monahan

Toni Robinson

Jack Rosenberg

Field Trips

Beth Altman*

Marge Bloom

Meg Clarke

Peter Dunner

George Kiebusinski

Bob Murphy

Jack Rosenberg

Tara Ryan

Paul Schmitz

Jim Turner

Exhibitions

Kathryn Mohrman*

Craig Carlson

Stan Collyer

Peter Dunner

Sue Guy

Mike Mitchell

Sarah H. Salomon

Maude Svensson

John Willis

MPA

Carol Lee*

MAPV

John Norvell*

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

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Phabulous

Photographers

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Montgomery County

High School

Photography Program

Kent Mason*

Focus on Climate

Craig Carlson*

Equipment

Max Kantzer*

David Davidson

Bennett Fletcher

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Nikos Zacharakis

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GordieGram

Administrator

Toni Robinson*

Christina

Papakonstantinou

Janice Solomon

Photo Essay

Stu Mathison*

Mark Segal

John Willis

Nancy Wolejsza

OTHER APPOINTMENTS

Lens & Eye

Debby Berlyne*

Janice Solomon

Facebook Group

Administrator

Toni Robinson

Database

Administrator

Bruce Cyr

Asbury Liaison

TBD

Share & Care Representative

Pauline Jaffe

Information Systems Coordinator

Rich Chitty

Chat Group Administrator

Bruce Cyr

Dinner Reservations

Kay Norvell

Website

John Allender*

Rich Chitty

Shelley Price

* denotes Committee Chair

Last Update: 1/15/2023