

The Lens and Eye

North Bethesda Camera Club



Volume 55 Number 7 | March 2020 | Editor: Cherry Wyman | Website: www.nbccmd.org

Calendar

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

March Events

- March 4** Competition: Rim Light or Starburst
- March 8** 8:00 am Field Trip: Mini-CAMP
- March 11** Program: Reflections
- March 15** 3:00 pm Photo Essay
- March 18** Board Meeting
- March 25** Program: Photo Panel Critique

April Preview

- April 1** Competition: Reflections
- April 8** No meeting. Passover begins.
- April 15** Board Meeting
- April 22** Program: Body of Work
- April 25** 9:00 am Odyssey of Light
- April 29** Program: Seeing Creatively

March

Competition Theme: Rim Light or Starburst

A major element of the photograph contains either (1) rim light, a thin line of light that outlines the shape of a subject or object, or (2) a starburst, the light diffraction occurring when the light slightly bends around an obstacle, creating a "star shape" radiating around the light source. (Must be taken on or after March 1, 2018)

See more details on page 3 of this newsletter.

Electronic images are due no later than 7:30 pm on Sunday, March 1.

As always, each member may submit no more than two entries per month.

For more winning images from the February competition, see pages 16 - 20.



Nice Conversation © Mike Fleming

March 4 Judge: Mark Van Bergh

Mark Van Bergh is a Washington, D.C. area attorney and photographer. His photographic interests are varied, ranging from a passion for nature and wildlife photography to travel, people, weddings, Bar/Bat Mitzvahs and other events. Beyond the Washington beltway, Mark's photographic pursuits have taken him throughout the United States - including many of our national parks and wildlife refuges - to Canada, Costa Rica, Europe (east and west), many sub-Sahara African nations (Botswana, Kenya, Namibia, Rwanda, South Africa, Tanzania and Zambia), Japan, China, Iceland and Antarctica. Mark has had photographs displayed at the Foundry Gallery in Washington, the Washington School of Photography, and photographic retailers. He has a number of photographs in the coffee-table book *Focus on Africa: Wildlife, Conservation and Man*. Mark has received several awards for his photography, including a first place in the Albuquerque International Balloon Festival Photography Competition and third place in a juried show of mid-Atlantic regional photographers. Mark is currently co-coordinator of the National Zoo's photo club, does presentations on nature and wildlife photography to Washington-area camera clubs, judges local camera club competitions, and has written for an on-line nature photography magazine.

A resident of Arlington, Virginia, Mark's websites can be found at: www.markvanbergh.com and www.markvanbergh.zenfolio.com. He can be reached at: mvanbergh@comcast.net or by telephone at (703) 298-4870.



starburst



rim light

Images © Mark Van Bergh

Contents of This Issue

2	March Events	9	Two Upcoming Field Trips
6	Member News and Education Committee post	11	OLED TV for Photography
7	PSA News	14	Competition Scores
		16	Winning Competition Images

Last Chance to See NBCC “Faces” Exhibit

Come see the impressive work of our NBCC members at the “Faces” exhibit at The Gaithersburg Arts Barn. Mary Weiss-Waldhorn, the gallery’s art curator, called the show “fabulous.” The group show, judged by Jill Bochicchio, closes Monday, March 23. The address is 311 Kent Square Road, Gaithersburg, MD 20878.

NBCC’s “Faces” exhibit showcases the broad range of emotions that can be conveyed by facial expressions. Thirty images from 20 photographers (plus 5 alternates) were selected by our judge from 86 entries by 33 photographers.



Scenes from the exhibit reception
© Cherry Wyman

Detailed description of RIM LIGHT and STARBURST to help in your choice of entries for March (See judge’s examples on page 2)

RIM LIGHT: In basic terms, "rim light" is a lighting technique where the image subject is back lit. The technique gets its name from the fact that lighting a subject in this way produces a thin line or "rim" of light which appears to cling to the subject’s outline.

STARBURST: The "starburst effect" results from pointing your lens at a bright source point of light (such as the sun peeking through tree limbs or street lights at night). The effect renders a source point of light not as a bright dot, but rather as "star-shaped" with tines radiating around the light source. The f-stop must be smaller than f/11 to achieve a good result.

- Judy Switt, Competition Chair

March 11 Program: Reflections



© Connie Imboden

Connie Imboden has graciously agreed to be our guest speaker on March 11. Connie will show slides of her 35-year adventure in photographing the human form in reflections - in either scratched mirrors in a studio or underwater in a swimming pool. Showing the images while she talks about the process of making them will, she hopes, inspire and encourage other photographers. She will go into specific detail in terms of the technical, physical, psychological and spiritual challenges she has faced. Comments and questions will be encouraged.

She has spent more than 35 years using photography to examine, distort, and redefine the human body. Using the reflective and sometimes altering qualities of water and mirrors, her images create new forms that are at once mythological, archetypal, and expressive. They are beautiful yet simultaneously disturbing, elegant though often haunting. By deeply investigating a subject we are so familiar with - the figure - her work reveals deeper meaning and insight into the human psyche.

Connie's photographs, seen through the camera and free from darkroom or computer enhancement, display the strangeness of reality in an age of digital manipulation. Through a lecture and slide presentation, she will discuss the technical issues in relying on her vision to transform the subject matter, and how an intuitive creative process has kept her fascinated with the same body of work throughout the years.

Her work is in the collections of many major museums including the Museum of Modern Art in New York, the Museum of Modern Art in San Francisco, the Bibliotheque Nationales in Paris, and the Ludwig Museum in Cologne, Germany.

Connie's photographs have been exhibited in an extensive range of group and solo shows at galleries and museums throughout Europe, the United States, South America and - most recently - China.

Her first book of images, *Out of Darkness*, won the Silver Medal in Switzerland's "Schonste Bucher Aus Aller Welt (Most Beautiful Book in the World)" award in 1993. Her most recent book, *Reflections*, was released in 2009.

Reminder: NBCC 2020 Photo Essay Show on March 15

3:00 - 5:00 pm, Sunday, March 15 at Rosborough Center Auditorium, Asbury Methodist Village, Gaithersburg

Reception/refreshments after the show

All members, wait listers and guests welcome

- Stu Mathison, Photo Essay Chair

March 25 Program: Photo Panel Critique

NBCC members are invited to submit photos to the 2020 Photo Panel Critique session to be held on Wednesday, March 25th. The photo critique will employ a panel of three experienced NBCC photographers to review and comment on your images.

The critique is an excellent opportunity for you to get quality feedback on your photographs. There are no awards - just actionable advice from some of our top experts. Names will not be displayed, and participants may choose to remain anonymous. But, to maximize everyone's usable takeaway, we encourage you to speak up if the panel has questions or if you need clarification on its recommendations.

The photo critique will proceed like this:

- NBCC members may submit up to 4 electronic images each.
- Submitted images will be numbered 1 through 4 in order of priority. The panel will critique all #1s first, then proceed with #2s, then #3s, etc., until it either finishes them all or runs out of time.
- The panel will view each projected image and offer an assessment of its strengths and weaknesses in the context of an external competition or juried exhibit.
- A timekeeper will assist the panel in staying on pace, so it completes a thoughtful analysis and commentary on as many images as possible.

Participants should submit images in a process similar to the electronic image competition, ie., JPG files with maximum dimensions of 1920 x 1200 pixels (width x height). The filename convention for the 2020 photo critiques will be: Priority Number-Your Name.jpg. (For example: 1-John Smith.jpg, 2-John Smith.jpg, etc.)

There is no time restriction on when the image was taken, and there is no theme. There is also no distinction between novice, intermediate and advanced images; each image will be critiqued on the basis of its own merits.

Submit up to 4 of your photographs as attachments to a single email, and send them to: programs@nbccmd.org. Submissions will be accepted beginning Wednesday, March 9, and the deadline will be 7:30 pm, Sunday, March 22. Images may only be submitted once (no substitutions or late additions, please). Receipt of your images will be confirmed by personal email. Make sure to follow up if you do not receive a confirmation email. If you have questions please contact Ray Whitman (raywhitman@iCloud.com).

- Ray Whitman, Programs Committee

Member News

Sarah Hood Salomon's one-person show at **Glen Echo's Stone Tower Gallery** is up until March 15. The gallery is open Saturdays and Sundays from 12 - 6 pm. Glen Echo Park is at 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo, Maryland.

Kathryn Mohrman's one-person exhibit, "Six Continents One Humanity," is at **River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation**, 6301 River Road, Bethesda, Maryland and runs until March 23. All are welcome to the artist's reception on **Saturday, February 29 from 5:00 - 7:00 pm** at the church.



© Kathryn Mohrman

From the Education Committee

All participants and facilitators have or will receive a short survey from the Education Committee at the completion of the 2019-2020 classes. We would appreciate it if you complete the survey. This helps us plan groups for future years. It will also acknowledge the facilitator's volunteer efforts and/or provides feedback that might enhance their offerings.

- Jill Randell, Education Committee Chair



PSA News

PSA and the Coastal Camera Club are presenting two programs by Nikhil Bahl on March 28 in Lewes, DE. The programs are part of a "Day of Photography" which also includes "The Best of Delaware," a print competition established in memory of Dr. Erik Kissa in 2018. Nikhil and Dick Sprott will be two of the three judges. All are invited to attend and a contribution of \$10 is suggested. It will be held at the Lewes Presbyterian Church, 133 Kings Highway in Lewes. Lewes is an historic town and well worth a visit. Another Delaware event is the showing of the Wilmington International Exhibition on March 15 and 22. The first date conflicts with the NBCC Essay program, but it is worth seeing a PSA exhibition and this is one of the oldest and closest.

Two more featured speakers have been added for the PSA Festival which will be held in Colorado Springs from September 30-October 3. They are Scott Wilson and Bob Krist, and both have interesting programs planned. Many of the programs like the showing of the PSA International will be running on loops, a change from the usual presentations. There will be a variety of workshops and tours in the area.

Interesting articles in the January and February issues of the PSA Journal include a collection of images by the board of directors and a variety of articles on light painting still-life, iPhone Apps—Oldies but Goodies and one on Mandu, a ruined city in India which is beautifully illustrated. Other articles include one titled, "Where the Birds Are" and "America's Most Colorful Caverns."

The Mid-Atlantic Chapter is progressing in its re-organization. A new webmaster is working on the website and a graphic artist has designed a new logo which more accurately shows our geographic area. Field trips have been planned and programs scheduled. There will be a chapter competition in April. The chapter newsletter has been sent to all PSA members in the area. It includes lots of photos of recent chapter and PSA events. The chapter showcase is now on line and can be seen at <https://psa-photo.org/index.php?chapters-showcase-2019-showcase>. The Mid-Atlantic Chapter will host this year's showcase.

- Judy Burr, PSA Representative

Member PSA News

Larry Mars has been busy entering several circuit exhibitions. He received 10 acceptances including 2 HMs in the Traveling and Living Circuit in Serbia, 10 acceptances in the Hope Super Circuit - also in Serbia - and 17 acceptances, including 2 HMs in DIGA, one of 2 Georgia Circuits held each year. Judy Burr received 5 acceptances in the Olympic Circuit in Greece and 9 in the Queensland Circuit in Australia. She entered all the categories in DIGA and had 43 acceptances including 3 HMs. Judy took a break from exhibitions and worked on star applications and received her 5th Star in Photojournalism, Galaxy 1 in Photo Travel, Galaxy 1 in Projected Image Monochrome and Galaxy 3 in Projected Image Color. With over 1500 images accepted in PSA Exhibitions, she applied for the ROPA Distinction MPSA and that was approved. The Galaxy level is a challenge since only 3 acceptances for an image can be used and 25 titles are required. Sometimes getting the 3rd acceptance can be a challenge.

- Judy Burr, PSA Representative



Photo Festival Evening Speakers:

Scott Wilson - "A Personal Journey Towards Photo Advocacy"

Bob Krist - "Travel Photography: How to Keep it Real in the Age of Instagram"

Art Wolfe - "Recent Works"

Field Trip to New York City, May 7-8

We are planning a field trip to New York City on May 7-8. We have arranged for Steve Rosenbach (<http://www.cityscape-photo.com/>), a popular photo tour guide with an excellent knowledge of the city, to lead a series of three 3-hour shooting tours for us:

- an afternoon architectural tour to shoot some of Manhattan's iconic buildings: St. Patrick's Cathedral, Grand Central Terminal, The Seagram Building, etc. (May 7);
- a sunset tour beginning with an opportunity to shoot in the area around Manhattan's Civic Center in dramatic late afternoon light and ending in Jersey City to take sunset and twilight photos of the lower Manhattan skyline (May 7); and
- a morning street photography tour stopping in Times Square, Union Square and Washington Square (May 8).

Each tour will cost approximately \$100; attendees can choose to take part in one, two, or all three shooting tours. The number of participants in the tours will be limited to 8-10 people and will initially be offered to NBCC members only. Further details will follow in a future newsletter and/or Gordiegram.

- Jim Turner, Field Trips Committee

Wild, Wonderful, West Virginia!—Fall Field Trip October 2-4, 2020

Cynthia Keith and Kent Mason are planning a much-anticipated weekend NBCC photo trip during the fall foliage season in Canaan Valley, West Virginia. Because lodging must be reserved in advance for this very popular time of year, 12 rooms at the Canaan Valley Resort are now on hold for the club for the weekend of Friday, October 2 and Saturday, October 3, checking out Sunday, October 4. Double queen and king hotel rooms are being set aside for members at \$129/night plus tax. Interested parties can register online:

Go to <https://www.canaanresort.com/groups-meetings/>

On the line that says, "BOOK ONLINE" enter the check-in and check-out dates (October 2 and 4), number of guests, and the following GROUP CODE: 17936.

Once this information is entered, click on the "BOOK NOW" button. This will take you to the room options available for our group.

Anyone who wishes to book outside the reserved dates should contact the reservations department at 1-304-866-4121 ext 8-7701.

This block of 12 rooms will be held for NBCC until August 1. If you are interested, you should make your reservations as soon as convenient and notify CYNTHIA KEITH clkeith@comcast.net of your plans. Note that the rooms could accommodate two people. It will be up to individuals to make such arrangements, if desired.

The current plan is for participants to arrive Friday afternoon and have dinner together. Saturday morning, Kent will lead a group to Dolly Sods, while Cynthia will lead those not comfortable on rocky terrain to the waterfalls in Canaan Valley. Saturday afternoon, Cynthia will lead a second excursion to the waterfalls for those who went to Dolly Sods in the morning. Kent and Cynthia will provide additional suggested shooting venues for times outside the organized excursions. Sunday will be free for participants to shoot on their own and depart when they like. More details will be available closer to the event. Contact CYNTHIA KEITH clkeith@comcast.net with questions.

Only two competitions left!

April - Reflections

May - Open

OLED TV for Photography

Much has changed since I last spoke at NBCC about using HDTVs for displaying and editing photographs. I said, “The time is coming.” Now I believe it is here: a modern TV of the right type can be a good display for photography. And yes, it also can be used for watching television or movies when you aren’t working on the computer.

I’m writing this article on a 55-inch OLED UHD TV. Translated, that means the display technology is Organic Light-Emitting Diode rather than the ubiquitous Liquid Crystal Display (LCD). The resolution is Ultra-High Definition (UHD = 3,840 by 2,160 pixels), which offers four times the detail of a “full HD” display. UHD is often called 4K, but they aren’t exactly the same.

QLED is not OLED. A few years ago, Sony came out with “quantum dot” or QLED televisions. Don’t be misled by the marketing trick: only the backlight is LED, and these are really LCD panels with “nanoparticles” that produce better color than ordinary LCDs. I had high hopes that QLED would make a good monitor for photography. Once prices came down, I tried 65-inch and 55-inch models.

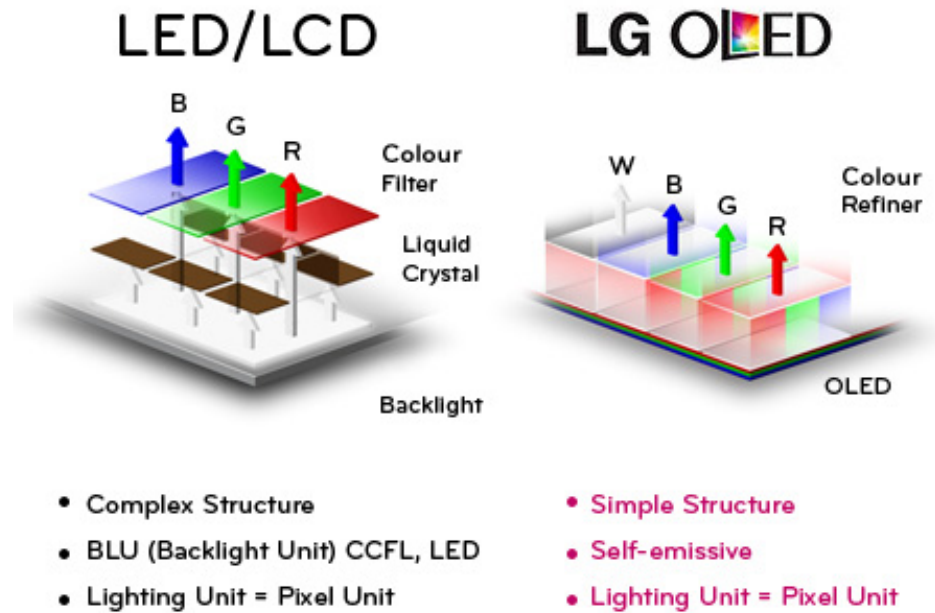
My experience using a giant monitor for my consulting work was excellent. A spreadsheet looks vast, showing columns “A” through “BG” at once – all clear and sharp. There is room to read eight full-page documents on screen. I find this detail far more useable on a 55-inch than it was on my 32-inch monitors or – worse – my 15-inch UHD laptop (where normal text is barely readable). Even so, I sit quite close to the 55-inch TV in order to see the finest details and read small print.

The center portion of a large high-resolution TV looks fine from up close. But looking toward the corners results in a high viewing angle. Ah, there’s the problem with LCD: contrast looks wacky from an angle... some worse than others. That might not matter for spreadsheets, but for photographs the LCD corners showed me the wrong contrast and some color shifts. Also, modern LCD TVs have multi-zone backlight to improve perceived contrast in movies; I found this automatic adjustment difficult to shut off for proper photo calibration.



OLED is a completely different technology from LCD. It isn't new: you might have an OLED on your smartphone or Apple Super Retina display. Unlike LCD (which transmits a big white backlight through color filters), OLED has individual light sources for each pixel (red, green, blue, white LEDs). This has two main advantages:

1. OLED can show true black: the light is fully off, emitting no photons. This gives superior dynamic range and lots of detail in the shadows. LCD can never completely mask the backlight, so "black" is displayed as an uneven dark gray.
2. OLED pixels look the same at almost any viewing angle. That solves the problem of wacky contrast in LCD corners when sitting close to a huge display.



BURN IN is the main downside to OLED. This is permanent image retention caused by uneven aging of the organic LED compounds when a bright graphic or logo stays in the same place for long periods. For example, you might eventually see Photoshop palettes faintly overlaying your movies or football game. But such image retention might not show up for years, and by then the monitor might be due for replacement anyway. Just in case, I have turned off my desktop icons so they won't burn in.

MAXIMUM BRIGHTNESS of OLED displays tends to be lower than LCD. This is often cited as a downside to OLED, but it might not apply to photography workstations. Modern TVs are designed to look brilliant in a brightly-lit showroom, but we photographers use our monitors under more subdued lighting. We don't want anywhere near that display intensity, and you'll certainly need to turn down the default luminance setting whether it's an OLED or an LCD TV. Reduced brightness has the side benefit of minimizing OLED image retention and lowering the power consumption.

COST has been another downside to OLED, but prices are trending lower. Today's OLED TVs are priced in the same range as high-end LCD models. Each year, there is clearance pricing when the new models are announced. Costco had a December sale, so I ordered a 55-inch UHD OLED (C9 model from LG). It has been my main monitor for a couple of months, and I'm quite happy with it. The photo shows this on my desktop beside a 32-

inch 4K monitor.

Compared to my older QLED TV, the OLED appears to have rich, accurate, uniform color, and much easier setup. Compared to my IPS professional graphics monitors (10-bit wide-gamut), I see surprisingly little difference in the OLED.

ADJUSTMENTS. The initial brightness, saturation, sharpness, and contrast settings all had to be lowered for accurate photography editing. “Vivid” mode might sell more TVs in stores, but look for natural color modes and reduce the saturation to give a reliable presentation of photographs. Also turn off dynamic contrast, dynamic color, auto-luminance – anything that changes the display settings automatically to compensate for video content or room brightness. We need our monitor settings to remain fixed so our calibration profile remains valid no matter what we display.

SIZE. I love the 55-inch monitor, and would even consider a 65-inch when the price comes down. One problem with a glossy-finish monitor is reflections. A small monitor can be aimed to avoid reflecting certain bright lights, but big glass acts like a mirror close up: it reflects the entire room behind you – windows, lamps, etc. You’ll need controlled lighting in your editing room, but that is recommended anyway.

DIGITAL PHOTO FRAMES are a fun way to display your favorite photographs at home. But did you know that most HDTVs have a built-in slideshow player? “Do try this at home, boys and girls!” Plug a USB drive with JPEG files into your own HDTV and enjoy! If you shoot mostly verticals, you even could mount your TV sideways and rotate your images to match. If you have Apple TV or another media player, the slideshow capability might be better than the TV built-in player. Perhaps a TV doesn’t have the character of a traditional framed print, but I might try “framing” my TV: a nice weathered barn wood, perhaps?

I was pleased to find that my OLED TV will play USB video files smoother than my best computer. Photo essays look superb, so try those on your USB too. And photo frames aren’t just for home. Alan Sisen’s Multiple Exposures Gallery (Torpedo Factory) has long used large HDTVs to showcase the member artists’ work and draw patrons into the gallery. My own collection of Washington, DC photos has been on display in business lobbies (in four cities) for 14 years. The rendering looks great, customers love it, and the overall cost was comparable to purchasing and properly illuminating large, framed prints. Such commercial use does tend to wear out TVs faster than home use.

WHAT’S NEXT? When it comes to displaying photographs, I believe bigger and higher resolution is better: it is more immersive and more realistic. The days of constantly zooming on small low-resolution monitors will come to an end. Paper-thin flexible displays are coming to the market: imagine a roll-up smartphone or video wallpaper. Samsung recently showcased a 583-inch 8K version of its giant screen known as “The Wall.” This isn’t sci-fi: long ago (1995, when Windows95 and Internet Explorer first appeared) Bill Gates fitted his mansion with wall-size video displays to immerse viewers in a landscape scene or change art at the touch of a button. Okay, that’s not yet for everyman, but photographers already can showcase all their favorites on beautiful OLED displays larger than most of us typically print. If you’re not ready, take heart: next year OLED will be cheaper and even better.

- Tom Field, Emeritus

Competition Results: February (Human Relationships)

Judge: Jerry Taylor

PRINTS			ELECTRONIC IMAGES		
--------	--	--	-------------------	--	--

Intermediate (8 entries)

1st	Mike Fleming	Nice Conversation
2nd	Lisa Maco	Bwanya & Adam, Day 2
3rd	Mike Mitchell	The Gift of a Baseball

Novice (6 entries)

1st	Don Picard	Taking a Break
2nd	Don Picard	First Golf Lesson

Advanced (12 entries)

1st	Nikos Zacharakis	Fatherly Love
2nd	Eric Schweitzer	Outside Shoeshine
3rd	Tammy Trocki	Daddy's Home
HM	Bill Seelig	The Kid

Intermediate (25 entries)

1st	Peter Dunner	Palestinian Israeli Coexistence
2nd	Al Neyman	In-laws' Debate
3rd	Kathryn Mohrman	Ballet Students
HM	Lorraine Chickering	You are so funny, Mommy
HM	Peter Dunner	Malecón Couple
HM	Kathryn Mohrman	Young Lovers
HM	Steve Parker	1st Light
HM	Claudia Seelig	Easter Sunday

Advanced (17 entries)

1st	Chet Stein	Baby Brother
2nd	Steven Silverman	Stripping Groom
3rd	James Corbett	Father Rolls
HM	Robert Barkin	Say What
HM	Guillermo Olaizola	Subtle Touch
HM	Eric Schweitzer	Playing at the Fountain

"All photo competitions are a gamble. You never know how your images will do. It is best to accept the wins with humility, and the losses with grace."

Mollie Isaacs

NBCC Competition Results

Cumulative Scores Through February 2020

PRINTS

Intermediate

- 41 Kay Norvell
- 31 Debbie Menditch
- 28 Steve Lapidus
- 18 Mike Mitchell
- 10 Mike Fleming
- 9 Peter Dunner, Lisa Maco, Kathryn
Mohrman, David Sternbach

Advanced

- 66 Nikos Zacharakis
- 34 Tammy Trocki
- 28 Joanne Mars
- 27 Bruce Cyr
- 26 Dick Pelroy, Bill Seelig
- 15 Lester LaForce
- 9 Jack Rosenberg, Eric Schweitzer
- 6 Larry Mars, John Norvell

ELECTRONIC IMAGES

Novice

- 52 Don Picard
- 32 Christina Papakonstantinou
- 27 Don Tobin
- 19 Steven Frahm
- 14 Rose Yee
- 12 Lisa Maco
- 9 Judy Ackerman, Tom Gross
- 8 Louise Roy
- 6 Riko Saidel, Jean Solari

Intermediate

- 51 Kathryn Mohrman
- 29 Steve Parker
- 28 Peter Dunner
- 27 Dillard Boland, Karen Finkelman
- 22 Tom Marchessault, Bob Mazziotta, Mike
Mitchell, Claudia Seelig
- 20 Michael Blicher
- 18 John Allender, Lorraine Chickering
- 17 Shelley Price
- 16 Peter Winik
- 12 Beth Altman, Steven Frahm, Max
Kantzer, Mark Leatherman, Audrey
Rothstein
- 9 Al Neyman
- 6 Isaac Afrangui, Rich Chitty, Geoff
Hornseth, Jill Randell, Bob White, Cherry
Wyman

Advanced

- 55 Guillermo Olaizola
- 53 Steven Silverman
- 41 James Corbett
- 36 Robert Barkin
- 29 Melissa Clark
- 26 David Terao
- 21 Gail Bingham, James Chia
- 20 Jose Cartas, Chet Stein
- 18 Bruce Davis, Eric Schweitzer, Mark Segal
- 14 John Willis
- 6 Willem Bier, Dick Knapp, Cheryl Naulty,
Pat Joseph, Toni Robinson, Nancy
Wolejsza

Intermediate Print Winners

February (Human Relationships) Competition



1st Place
Nice Conversation
© **Mike Fleming**

Growing up in Baltimore I mostly only saw the good neighborhoods of Baltimore. But on this photo adventure, I saw painted on neighborhood sidewalks, "No shoot zone," and always a police patrol car just a few blocks away. The image was taken on West Baltimore Street on Oct. 18, 2019 on a nice day. I used my Sony VI and I shot the image through the window of my car, handheld. Due to safety concerns I almost always stay in my car and carry with me a fake ID badge, complete with ID photo; the comment on the badge reads, "I work for Community Enhancement in the city of Baltimore."



2nd Place
Bwanya & Adam, Day 2
© **Lisa Maco**

I photographed these twin boys in the hospital when they were two days old. The back story of the photo is that Bwanya, on the left, had been cooperative during the session but had become unsettled because he had a dirty diaper and was not going to let it be. The parents are from an African country that is a former French colony (not sure which country). I imagine a future conversation when Adam ask his mom why she didn't give him a cool name like Bwanya.



3rd Place
The Gift of a Baseball
© **Mike Mitchell**

"The Gift of a Baseball" was taken at the baseball field in the town of Vinales, which is in the tobacco-growing region of Cuba located southwest of Havana. The photo was taken mid-morning in mid-January 2019 and captures the reaction of the three little leaguers after I had given them a bag of baseballs for their team. The image is cropped to a square dimension; I used the Lightroom cloning tool to remove distracting elements and the brush tool to dodge and burn the image in order to highlight the three ballplayers.

Advanced Print Winners

February (Human Relationships) Competition



1st Place
Fatherly Love
© **Nikos Zacharakis**

These are my friends whom I met in Argentina where they currently live. We were watching a video from a big projector, where the reflected light from the screen was the only light source in the dark room. The comfort of the daughter in her loving father's arms created a pretty family moment that I wanted to capture. Compositionally I was very intrigued by the spiral golden ratio formed by the light on the father's body - from top to bottom - and ending in their holding hands, a manifestation of their connection and love.



2nd Place
Outside Shoeshine
© **Eric Schweitzer**

This image was taken in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico. The shoeshine stand is portable, and the shoe shiner came to the same shaded spot every day. The scene reminded me of similar craftsmen selling their services with portable stands in war-destroyed Germany when I visited there as a kid. This motivated me to go back several times during our visit and shoot different images and angles. The bright sun and dark shadows were a challenge but also an advantage since reflections from the building to the left help illuminate the customer's face.



3rd Place
Daddy's Home
© **Tammy Trocki**

I took this image of a father whispering in his son's ear during an intermission at a rodeo in Idaho last August. The father was a soldier home from overseas, a surprise for his children. His older children discovered him in a "magic box" on the field with the help of the rodeo clowns. This youngest boy was waiting on the sidelines with Mom. I liked the contrast between the rough-hewn soldier and his soft-skinned child.

Novice EIC Winners February (Human Relationships) Competition



1st Place
Taking a Break
© **Don Picard**

This fall I was in DC taking pictures and when I got to the Supreme Court saw this couple sitting at the base of one of the columns. Initially they were leaning against each other with their eyes closed and it appeared that they were taking a break from a long day of sightseeing. Shortly after that, they began to talk and interact, and that is when I took this picture.



2nd Place
First Golf Lesson
© **Don Picard**

This is a picture of my oldest grandson, Brandon, taking his first golf lesson during the summer of 2018 when he was just 5. I didn't want to disturb the lesson, so I stayed as far away as I could and cropped the picture down to what you see here. Like his dad and I, Brandon enjoys golf and his dad has started taking him to the County par-3 courses. I have a hunch that it won't take long before he will be better than both of us!

Intermediate EIC Winners

February (Human Relationships)

Competition



1st Place
Palestinian Israeli Coexistence
© **Peter Dunner**

The image of the Israeli girl and Palestinian woman was taken on a road trip from Israel to Jordan with family. It was around mid-afternoon and we spotted a stand where a Palestinian woman was baking bread on a griddle. Our cousin's daughter was so interested that the woman showed her how to do it and the two bonded. I darkened the upper left corner, which was light and distracting, converted to LAB color to enhance the color a bit and then cut back on the opacity, did some mild sharpening and some dodging to highlight the woman's hand and the girl's hair. Then I cropped.



2nd Place
In-Laws' Debate
© **Al Neyman**

The picture "In Laws Debate" is a candid memento for our family, though the debates continue in many ways, and have for many years. All three sisters in-law are present; the one not seen is represented by the décor of children's pics on the wall (which in one interpretation, Karen is pointing at). Well distributed light is provided by a window wall to the right, not seen.



3rd Place
Ballet Students
© **Kathryn Mohrman**

In Havana, I visited a dance academy where some of the advanced ballet students were practicing the pas de deux from Swan Lake. The instructor stopped the music frequently to correct the dancers' foot positions or head tilts as well as their ability to convey expression. Nothing spontaneous about it!

Advanced EIC Winners

February (Human Relationships)



1st Place
Baby Brother
© **Chet Stein**

The image was taken at Holy Cross Hospital. My 4-year-old granddaughter was seated and got to hold her baby brother for the first time. She had wanted a baby sister but was reconciled that she now was a big sister and had a little brother instead.

2nd Place
Stripping Groom
© **Steven Silverman**

During the part of the wedding where the bride sits and the groom removes her garter, my son thought it would be funny to give his bride a lap dance instead, much to the surprise of the bride and guests. The expression of the bride and flower girl were priceless. This image was taken using a Nikon strobe and TTL metering.



3rd Place
Father Rolls
© **James Corbett**



I have managed registration for this Germantown bike event for the past decade. I always try to slip away to capture a few images during the busy weekend. At the start of the kids' ride, my eyes were drawn to this father rolling out with his kid in a seat mounted behind the handlebars. There is such a shared concentration in the direction the bike is headed. The competition image is a composite of two images – one with the subjects and another with a less crowded background. Significant work with layer masks and other tools was necessary to remove and replace about 25 background riders, a line of parked cars along the horizon, and 16 high voltage power lines overhead.