

The Lens and Eye



Volume 55 Number 8 | April 2020 | Editor: Cherry Wyman | Website: www.nbecmd.org

Calendar

All events will be held remotely. Zoom meeting connections will be sent by GordieGram.

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

April Events

- April 1** Competition: Reflections
- April 8** No meeting. First night of Passover
- April 15** Board Meeting
- April 22** Program: Body of Work
- April 25** No Odyssey of Light - will be rescheduled
- April 29** Program: Seeing Creatively

May Preview

- May 6** Competition: Open - EIC
- May 13** Competition: Open - Print
- May 20** Board Meeting
- May 27** Program: Architecture

April

Competition Theme: Reflections

The main feature of the photograph must be a reflection. This is not intended to be a purely abstract photograph, and therefore it must contain a recognizable element. The medium for the reflection may be anything that reflects, such as water, glass, metal, or mirror. (Must be taken on or after April 1, 2018)

Due to our response to COVID-19, submissions for both Print and EIC are due electronically no later than 7:30 pm on Sunday, March 29.

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

For more winning images from the March competition, see pages 11 - 15



Winter Wonderland © James Chia

April 1 Judge: Roz Kleffman

Roz Kleffman has been a photographer for many years. She picked up a Brownie camera at age 12 and started photographing family and friends. By 18 years old she was dubbed "the official family photographer" and photographed all family events. In 1979, she moved to Maryland with her husband Dave and their two children. She did not waste any time getting involved in community activities and the local camera club. Roz joined the Bowie-Crofton Camera Club (B-CCC) in 1980 and has held every office in that club except treasurer. Four years as vice president of competition for B-CCC led to her role as competition vice president for the Greater Washington Council of Camera Clubs (GWCCC). Many members of North Bethesda Camera Club know Roz from her years working for GWCCC competitions and those of the All-Maryland Council of Camera Clubs. She was active in both councils until they disbanded in 2000. (The newly formed Maryland Photography Alliance has replaced both councils here in Maryland.)

After 22 years as B-CCC president, Roz has taken a short break. She remains active with the Maryland Photography Alliance and continues to promote photography through judging, teaching, PSA and exhibits. Her love of travel and scuba diving has given her many great photo opportunities. Roz sees herself as a "jack of all trades" with a slant on capturing that image wherever she may wander. A registered nurse, she volunteers at the Anne Arundel Medical Center in Annapolis in radiation oncology. She worked on the set of "House of Cards" as a nurse in the health room, where she took care of injuries, headaches, and other health issues to keep everyone happy and healthy.

Contents of This Issue

| | | | |
|---|--------------------------|----|---------------------------------------|
| 2 | April Events | 8 | Fall Field Trip to Canaan Valley, WVA |
| 5 | Splinters from the Board | 9 | Competition Scores |
| 6 | PSA News | 11 | Winning Competition Images |

April 22 Program: Body of Work

Our Body of Work (BOW) Critique on April 22 will be conducted by Alan Sislen and Roy Sewall. The critique will address each BOW as a whole rather than evaluating each of the photos. BOWs will be critiqued for theme, appeal to the general thoughtful audience, photographic excellence, cohesion, appropriate length, diversity, consistent photography style, flow, and related attributes. Alan and Roy will consider the level (novice, intermediate, advanced) of each photographer in their assessments.

The first 8 BOWs submitted will be accepted.

Submissions may be entered any time **after** March 22.

The deadline for submitting BOWs is **midnight, April 8.**

Requirements

Each BOW should be 8 - 15 electronic images.

Please include an artist's statement as a Word file.

BOWs should target general viewers, not photographers (eg., a BOW describing a photographic technique is not appropriate.)

Images should be 1920 x 1200 jpegs (width and length), the same as required for NBCC EIC competitions.

The following naming convention needs to be followed:

Your name-Level-Theme-Sequence Number

(eg., Sally Smith-Intermediate-Empty Spaces-01)

Submit the BOW and artist statement in a single email to programs@nbccmd.org

If you have any questions, please contact Stephanie Banks at banks.stephanie49@gmail.com or Roy Sewall at roy@sewallinc.com.

April 29 Program: Seeing Creatively with Sandi Croan



Sandi Croan is an independent photographer from Centreville who has been living in Northern Virginia since 1978. She specializes in landscape, nature, and travel photography with an eye for capturing the unique and creating fine art for homes and offices.

Sandi has won numerous competitions and awards for her fine art photographs including: Photographer of the Year and Print of the Year numerous times as well as Versatile Photographer of the Year at Northern Virginia Photographic Society (NVPS); Best Landscape and People's Choice awards at Nature Visions Photography Expo; and Best in Show and 2nd Place at the juried Meadowlark Photo Expo in Vienna, VA, as well as awards at the Art Space Herndon Fine Art Photography Exhibit, Reston Artists

PhotoArt, and many more. Her images have been selected to be put on permanent display at the Fair Oaks Hospital Cancer Center, Inova Schar Cancer Institute, Meadowlark Botanical Gardens and the Joseph Miller Center for the Photographic Arts. She has been juried into numerous art shows including the prestigious VisArts of Rockville Exhibitions, Fairfax County Council of the Arts Show (Unlocked), and The Fraser Gallery International Photography Exhibition, as well as many others. Sandi was a featured artist in Elan Magazine, and her photograph, "Blue Lagoon," was on the cover. She has also had photographs published in other local and national magazines.

Sandi has sold many of her photographs to private, corporate and government clients, and does shows for businesses and other local events. In addition, Sandi has recently or currently is displaying her art at Broadway Gallery, The Blue Iguana restaurant in Fairfax, Meadowlark Gardens, Cub Run Recreation Center, Trummers on Main Street Restaurant, and the Fairfax County Government Center.

Sandi has been an active member of the Northern Virginia Photographic Society (NVPS) since 2004 and has served in a variety of board positions since 2005. She served as president of NVPS for two terms from 2009-2011. She also is a speaker and serves as a judge for area photographic clubs, competitions and exhibitions, as well as mentoring high school photography enthusiasts.

You can see a sample of Sandi's work at www.sandicroanphotography.com.

Splinters from the Board

There is no doubt that we are all addressing the challenges presented by the coronavirus COVID-19 in similar, yet very personal ways. My hopes are that all of you, your loved ones and dear friends, are safe and healthy. The impact to our well-being – mentally, emotionally, physically and financially – cannot be minimized. Who we are as a club, as a group of people, is indeed being reflected in our response to this situation. In times where there is such a feeling of loss of control, all we can do is control that which is controllable. And we are!

By now you have all seen GordieGrams letting you know our programs and competitions will go forward as planned – just not face to face! Special thanks to Gail Bingham, Willem Bier, Steve Lapidus, David Terao and John Willis for their hours of working to get our processes refined and holding dry runs of our remote meetings. Special thanks to Bruce Cyr and Don Picard for helping to get our judges up to speed and in some cases replaced so we can proceed. Special thanks to Stephanie Banks for doing likewise for our upcoming programs, and to Judy Switt for helping to define adaptive procedures for print competitions. Now it is just up to you all to show up!

While we are adapting to this new way of living, however, we are still living into the future and a resumed sense of normalcy. In that area I am glad to report:

- We have made a great deal of progress on our website design. The plan is to have it operational for the next program year.
- We WILL have online membership renewal and payment for the upcoming program year; we will continue to support hard copy applications and checks as well.
- The nominating committee is hard at work identifying a slate of officers for next year; we will, per our constitution, hold a vote at our (most likely remotely held) May meeting. Stay tuned for an announcement of the slate.
- We are working on logistics for our end-of-year event ... celebrating together is ideal, but celebrating at all is critical! Stay tuned for details.

As always, but even more so now, if you know of someone who is not well or in need, please let me know. And, if you have any suggestions or concerns, don't hesitate to pass them along!

All the best –

- Toni Robinson, NBCC President



PSA News

The Photo Travel Division of PSA has been working on a long-time issue regarding travel images accepted in exhibitions. Many judges do not fully understand the PSA definition and many times the awarded and accepted images have been posed, over-processed or otherwise don't meet the definition. Some Exhibitions members assume that if someone has traveled, they can judge travel images. That is not the case. Just because people have walked in nature does not mean they know what they are seeing. Some board members in the Division have written a brochure that will be given to Exhibitions to share with judges. It gives examples of what is acceptable and what is not. We are hoping that this will result in improvement. This [hyperlink](#) will take you to the brochure.

Entrants are encouraged to contact Exhibitions about questionable images. We are hoping this will have an impact on the judging. All Exhibitions entrants must apply annually and if they do not follow PSA standards, they may not be permitted to hold an exhibition.

PSA has already addressed the coronavirus regarding the Photo Festival in the fall. Registration fees will be refunded if it has to be cancelled. We all hope this will be over by then.

- Judy Burr, PSA Representative



Continued on next page

Festival Evening Speakers

(One-time only)

Art Wolfe - Art Wolfe Presents Recent Works

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

Scott Wilson - A Personal Journey Towards Photo Advocacy

Festival Fees and Registration

<https://psa-photo.org/photo-festival-2020/registration.html>

We care a great deal about the health and safety of every member, especially when we come together in a group setting in Colorado Springs later this year.

We want to assure you that we currently plan to hold the Photo Festival in Colorado Springs. Many national procedures are underway to curtail and treat this local virus and many activities have been canceled, but many others are still in place. This is especially the case for those events and activities occurring in the last 3- months of the year.

The PSA Photo Festival is not until late September, so we want you to register as usual beginning April 1, 2020. You will be able to register without making a payment at time of registration.

Know, too, that if the coronavirus pandemic is unchecked or very much unknown nearer the Festival time, you will receive a FULL REFUND for the registration and tour fees you have paid.

Twila Bourlon
PSA Photo Festival Chair

Fall Field Trip to Canaan Valley, W VA , October 2-4, 2020

REMINDER: If you are thinking about joining our field trip to Canaan Valley, West Virginia in October, reserve your room now at the Canaan Valley Resort. The dates are: arrival on Friday, October 2 and departure on Sunday, October 4. there are only 7 rooms left in the block we have reserved for NBCC!

To make a reservation, go to this link: <https://www.canaanresort.com/groups-meetings/>. On the line that says, "BOOK ONLINE," input the check-in and check-out dates, 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 option available for NBCC.

Once you have made your reservation, please email Cynthia Keith, who is coordinating the field trip, at clkeith@comcast.net.

Rest assured that if we are still dealing with the coronavirus this summer, we have until the beginning of September to cancel before we incur cancellation penalties.



Competition Results: March (Rim Light or Starburst)

Judge: Mark Van Bergh

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

Intermediate (5 entries)

| | | |
|-----|---------------|-------------------------------|
| 1st | Mike Mitchell | Evening at Great Falls Tavern |
| 2nd | Mike Mitchell | Lights, Camera, Mansion |

Novice (entries)

| | | |
|-----|-------------|--------------------------------|
| 1st | Don Tobin | Key Bridge and Rosslyn |
| 2nd | Don Picard | Pohutu Geyser Eruption |
| 3rd | Jean Solari | Spy Museum |
| HM | Riko Saidel | Walking Toward the Morning Sun |

Advanced (9 entries)

| | | |
|-----|--------------|----------------------|
| 1st | Tammy Trocki | Entry to the Circus |
| 2nd | Bill Seelig | X-Ray Vision |
| 3rd | John Norvell | Salt Flats at Sunset |

Intermediate (11 entries)

| | | |
|-----|-----------------|------------------|
| 1st | Jill Randell | Ghosts of Oaxaca |
| 2nd | Mark Leatherman | Jubilation |
| 3rd | Mark Leatherman | Dark Star |
| HM | John Allender | Sparkling Heron |

Advanced (23 entries)

| | | |
|-----|--------------------|------------------------------|
| 1st | James Chia | Ice Formation on Frozen Lake |
| 2nd | James Chia | Winter Wonderland |
| 3rd | Guillermo Olaizola | Great Blue Heron |
| HM | Robert Barkin | Sun Shower |
| HM | James Corbett | Radio Rapport |
| HM | Dick Knapp | Firefighter |
| HM | Cheryl Naulty | Sunset on the Cape |
| HM | Steven Silverman | Snowy Egret |

NBCC Competition Results

Cumulative Scores Through March 2020

PRINTS

Intermediate

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

Advanced

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

ELECTRONIC IMAGES

Novice

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

Intermediate

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

Advanced

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

Intermediate Print Winners

March (Rim Light or Starburst) Competition

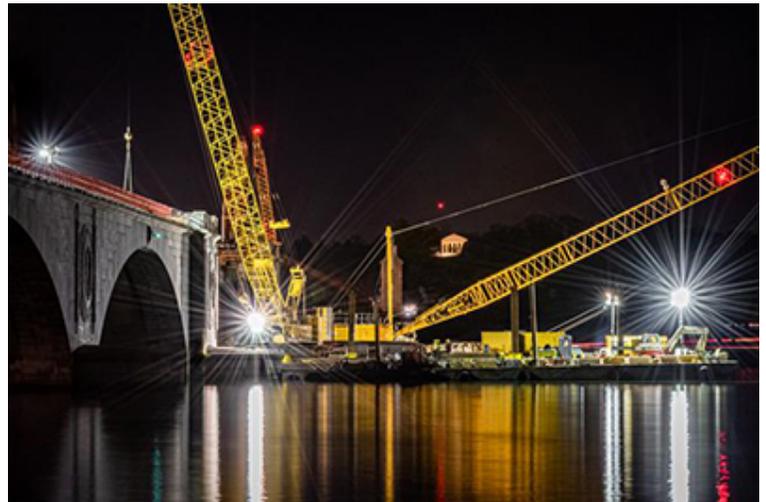


1st Place
Evening at Great Falls Tavern
© **Mike Mitchell**

This image was taken from the up-canal side of Great Falls Tavern in the C&O Canal National Historical Park near the Great Falls of the Potomac. It was taken at 7:22 pm in early February of this year with an f22 setting to ensure maximum impact of the starbursts. I took the photograph after the sun had set, but with enough light remaining in the sky to provide a contrast with the darkness surrounding the white tavern. I did not use a filter to enhance the starbursts and there were no dramatic post-processing changes made to create the image.

2nd Place
Lights, Camera, Mansion
© **Mike Mitchell**

This image was taken from the bank of the Potomac River across from the Watergate steps looking across the river toward the Custis Lee Mansion in Arlington National Cemetery. The klieg light-like lighting for the construction underway on Arlington Memorial Bridge provided an excellent opportunity to create starbursts for this assignment. This image was taken at 8:22 pm in mid-February of this year using an f22 setting to ensure maximum starburst impact. I did not use a filter to enhance the starbursts and there were no dramatic post-processing changes made to create the image.



Advanced Print Winners

March (Rim Light or Starburst) Competition



1st Place
Entry to the Circus
© **Tammy Trocki**

This shot was taken at the Big Apple Circus almost two years ago. I have a gazillion photos of the circus performers, but only one like this, as I saw this for only a moment. This performer, a clown, was proceeding down an aisle through the audience toward the stage with its bright spot lighting. I was sitting on the aisle and was able to catch him and his horn outlined in rim light.



2nd Place
X-ray Vision
© **Bill Seelig**

To make this image, I set up an intense light source behind a mannequin and placed a screen door in front of the subject. This back-lighting setup was designed to produce dramatic lighting including: 1) rim light, 2) rim shadow, and 3) a cross-type starburst.



3rd Place
Salt Flats at Sunset
© **John Norvell**

This image was captured at the large salt flats at Monument Valley. We had to walk a few miles out on the salt flats to find an area without footprints and then return in the dark. Processing was not simple, with the large contrast of the sky, salt flats and mountains.

Novice EIC Winners

March (Rim Light or Starburst) Competition



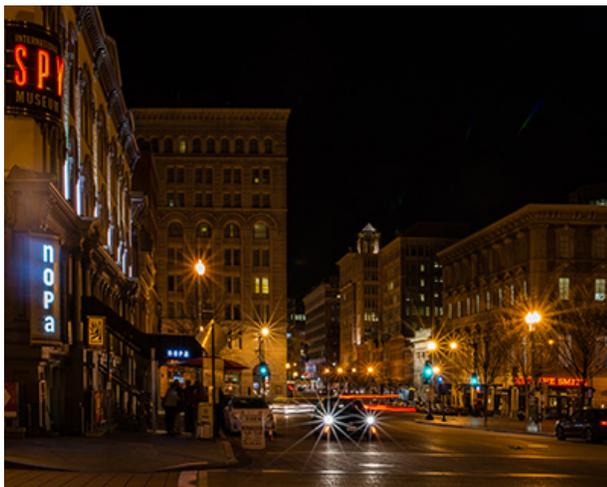
1st Place
Key Bridge and Rosslyn
© **Don Tobin**

I took this photograph of the Key Bridge and the Rosslyn skyline an hour after sunset in mid-February, 2020. I was able to place my tripod on the remnants of the Alexandria Aqueduct - just upstream of Key Bridge on the Georgetown side of the river. The Alexandria Aqueduct connected the C&O Canal to Rosslyn in the 1800s. This gave me an excellent angle to capture the river, Key Bridge and Rosslyn. In order to get the desired starburst effect, I used a small aperture (f18), a shutter speed of 25 seconds and an ISO of 200.



2nd Place
Pohutu Geyser Eruption
© **Don Picard**

This geyser is in a geothermal park in Rotorua, on the North Island of New Zealand. It is the largest active geyser in the Southern Hemisphere with eruptions reaching 100 feet. In Māori, "Pohutu" means "constant splashing". (Māori are the indigenous Polynesian people of New Zealand who arrived in the early to mid-1300s.) This picture was taken mid-morning in January of this year. It was a bright, sunny day and we were fortunate to be there when the sun was still low enough in the sky and behind Pohutu so I could capture this image. I took the picture at 1/1000 sec at f/11 and ISO 200.



3rd Place
Spy Museum
© **Jean Solari**

On a cold, dark DC night, I was part of a Smithsonian photo class. When we got to the Spy Museum, I couldn't stop myself from thinking about the lonely and dangerous work that happens under cover. A sudden flash of headlights - and your cover can be broken with disastrous results. I used f/16 for the starbursts.

Intermediate EIC Winners March (Rim Light or Starburst) Competition



1st Place
Ghosts of Oaxaca
© **Jill Randell**

This image was taken in January 2019 in Oaxaca City, Mexico. It is a pre-sunrise picture taken from the narrow balcony of my hotel room. There was barely enough room to extend the legs of the tripod. This pedestrian street is usually full of people walking and street vendors. In Photoshop I added the figure in the middle of the street to provide more balance and to move your eye down the street. The person was one of the other shots I took the same morning. f/22 produced the star effect.



3rd Place
Dark Star
© **Mark Leatherman**



2nd Place
Jubilation
© **Mark Leatherman**

Shot at Joshua Tree National Park 2/22/20. Nikon Z7, f/13. Bracketed set (7 images) processed via Photomatix and Photoshop. Arriving in the darkness, I chose a relatively open and safe area of this amazing landscape of cholla cacti, which are notorious for their tenacious spines. I wanted a down-slope, eastward view that would include the tops of hundreds of the plants. Chollas are fantastic for rim light and their up-reaching "arms" made it seem that they were celebrating the sun's rays.

Shot at Death Valley 2/19/20. Nikon Z7, f/22. Bracketed set (7 images) processed via Photomatix and Photoshop. I found the mud cracks on top of other mud cracks an enticing foreground. As the light diminished approaching sunset, I was responding to the starkness of the surroundings and the somber, mysterious feeling of the actual moment of the starburst.

Advanced EIC Winners

March (Rim Light or Starburst) Competition



1st Place
Ice Formation on Frozen Lake
© **James Chia**

I was shooting away at the ice formation and moving clouds with my 10-stop ND filter and tripod this past January on a cold morning around -22c on the frozen Lake Minnewanka in Banff, Alberta, Canada. The interesting ice formation forms a nice, curved leading line into the scene. The sun light behind and below the mountain range gave a nice glow to the moving clouds with a 20/30 sec.- long exposure. Then the sun came up for the sunstar shot at f/22. I was able to blend the moving clouds from the early image into the later one with the starburst and all the rest in post production as I got some creative juices flowing.

2nd Place
Winter Wonderland
© **James Chia**

In the Canadian Rockies, somewhere near Jasper, Alberta this past January, with temps hovering in and around -40c, the extreme cold produced spectacularly vibrant ice bow effects in the lower atmosphere. Not far from the roadside, with moderate hiking, I was able to shoot this rare spectacle hand-held with my wide angle, f/14 or 16, either one or two stops down the shutter speed to underexpose a bit to control the highlights. The long frigid shadows of the trees in the foreground gave me perfect leading lines into the scene. The texture of the foreground snow was brought out in post production.



3rd Place
Great Blue Heron
© **Guillermo Olaizola**



I captured this image in the Blackwater Wildlife Refuge one year ago. It was a very cold morning with zero winds so the waters at the refuge looked like mirrors reflecting the early morning blue sky nicely. I was there before sunrise with my friend, Steve Silverman, and we got to this spot where this great blue heron was looking for breakfast. I was using my Olympus M 4/3 camera with a 100-400 zoom lens, which is equivalent in reach to 200-800 in full-frame terms. Because of that I was able to frame the bird very closely and I shot a bunch of pictures of the subject. At some point, it moved between me and the rising sun, so I was able to get it backlit with a nice warm rim light delineating its body.