

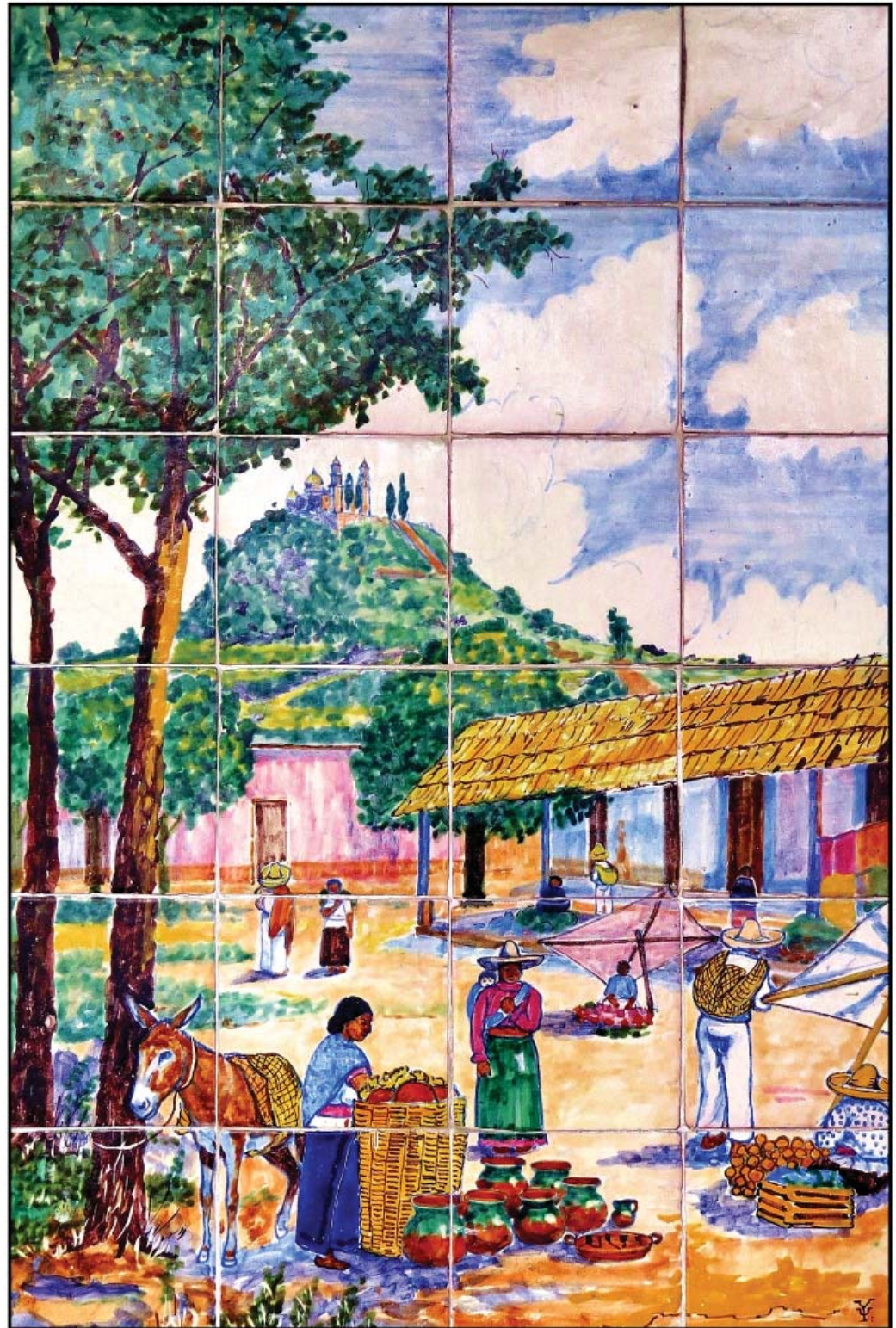
Reflections

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE STONY BROOK CAMERA CLUB

Jason Traiger
shares with us
The
Plaza Tiles
of
Kansas City

Jake Jacobson
takes us to
Scotland

Gina Walsh
has a
Ghost Story
to tell!



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Look At That Light!

By Rob DeRobertis

Look at that light! I was driving to work the other day, and I was admiring the light. In the winter months, the golden hour is so much longer than in the summer; you can enjoy it for hours. Have you ever gone into work and said to someone, "Hey, did you see that light?" Or maybe you've come home and told your loved one about the beautiful light you saw. For most of us, the other person would humor us for a moment and then go on to whatever they were doing.

But on Thursday nights, in a Church that was once a mill, we gather together to marvel about the light. We talk about light we saw, how to modify light and the best ways to capture it. To non-photographers reading this paragraph, they would say: "Yah, Rob is crazy." But to us photographers, I think you know what I mean.

One third of our SBCC season is about to come to an end. What a wonderful time it has been. We have had workshops, field trips, guest speakers and a couple of social events. This club is a wonderful community of people; a broad mix from many different backgrounds: engineers, doctors, nurses, health management, artists, producers, lawyers, scout leaders, truck drivers, managers, teachers, civil servants and even some professional photographers. Each of us brings a different perspective and shares our life experiences through our photography. This is such a cool connection we have.

In the next three months, our program is chock full of great programs. So, as the Great Man says, "*Let There Be Light!!!*"



UP CLOSE WITH THE PRESIDENT

~~~~~  
Wishing you a speedy recovery, Rob!  
~~~~~


Rob, you and your family are in my thoughts and prayers at this time.
We are all in your pocket ((HUGS)) – Lynda Appel

Rob,
My wife Janet and I wish you success and a speedy
recovery! We are sending positive thoughts your way.
Best,
Jim (Borrebach)

Our thoughts are with you and your family. Looking
forward to your return to SBCC real soon.
– Andre and Anita (Bourque)

Thinking of you with prayers and good wishes.
– Billi (Manning)

Dear Rob,
This new member wishes you all the best
with your upcoming surgery...
and praying for your speedy recovery
– Paul McDermott

Wishing you a speedy recovery
– Rob van Zadelhoff

Best Wishes,
– John Fuller

We're thinking of you and your family and
praying for a successful surgery and a quick
recovery.
– Rob and Carol (Dandrade)

Rob: You are so brave; sending prayers and well
wishes for strength, love and peace as you beat the
the big C to oblivion. Also a biiiiiig hug to help you
through! Take care, Maureen Begin

Wishing you a speedy recovery and the best
results possible. I will be sending positive energy
your way.
– Ellen Kawadler

Sending healing prayers your way.
– Diane Lancaster

Your strength and powerful inner beliefs will guide
you towards a full recovery. Sending you healing
prayers that you become stronger every day.
– Hugs always, Anne Crawford

Sending good, healthy vibes your way
for a speedy recovery. – Deb Boucher

Dear Rob,
Our thoughts and prayers are with
you and your family. We hope for a
speedy recovery.
Love,
Lou and Linda Fraga

My thoughts, prayers and
best wishes are with you.
– Art Wessel

Best wishes for a speedy recovery, Rob.
— Bruce Garber

Prayers for your full, whole, complete,
and speedy recovery.
— Carol Wontkowski

Rob, Wishes for a speedy recovery and may this holiday
season bring extra graces for that recovery!
— Kathy Seraphin

Sending prayers to you and your family. Wishing
you positive results and a speedy recovery.
— Viv Teague

Rob,
Thinking of you and wishing you all the best.
Your buddy,
Randy Ranaudo

Hi, Rob —

Please get well soon! When I'm out for my daily walk
near the Franklin common, I'll be looking around for
you to be driving by with a big smile and big wave.
God bless.

— Carol Adiletto

Hi Rob,
Know that we're all thinking of you this week. You and your
family are in my thoughts and prayers. I wish you all the best.
Can't wait to you have back at the club with all of us!

—Chuck

Rob,
You are so special to all of us, your Stony
Brook family. You are in our prayers, and in
the Universal Consciousness. You are a part
of us and we become whole when you are with
us. Envisioning you and your family as healthy
and whole and well past this bump in the road.

Love,
Janet Casey

Rob, Best wishes for a
successful surgery and
a complete and speedy
recovery!!!

— Faith Martin

Rob, we hope for the best possible outcome, and that you will be back on your feet very soon. We continue to think of you as you face yet another difficult challenge. Our best wishes.

- Ken and Eva Coop

Rob, speedy recovery.

- Marie Mullaney

*Hi Rob -
I send my best wishes, thoughts, and prayers to you for a successful surgery and speedy recovery.*

- Steve Hutchinson

Dear Rob, We send to you our most sincere hopes!!! Eric and I have continued to place you in the Robe Of Light prayer group, so please know that you are in the hearts and minds of many friends and strangers alike! And never forget, you are one of my heroes!!!! With respect, affection and our friendship, we wish for you a successful surgery, a speedy recovery and a long and joyful life!!



- Pamela Ruby Russell & Eric Linter

Thinking and praying for you often, Rob, stay strong and positive. "Courage is looking fear right in the eye and saying, 'Get the hell out of my way, I've got things to do.'" - Unknown Author

- Tony (Mistretta)

"Rob, Wishing you a very speedy recovery!" - Mark Landman

*Wishing you a speedy recovery
and best wishes.
Sincerely,
Donna Parker*

Thinking of you Rob, and wishing you all the best! We need you back soon to organize our photography rabble! :)

- Warmest wishes, Sarah (Keates)

*Wishing you a sure and speedy
recovery and looking forward to
seeing you again at the camera
club meetings.*

- Jason Traiger

*Heartfelt wishes for an easy surgery and
speedy recovery.*

- Vicki Schepps

Rob, I admire you for many things, chief among them your ability to face adversity with a positive attitude. Wishing you a successful outcome and a speedy recovery! Ellen Berenson (E2)

Hope that all is well and will keep you in our prayers.
P.S. always take the window seat when I was
hospitalized I would look forward to the sun rises &
sets. Godspeed... Guy (Occhino)

*sending warm thoughts of love,
hope and peace your way.
- sandy Anderson*

*Rob, thinking all that is positive and sending
prayers forth for a speedy recovery.
- Silvana (Della Camera)*

Dear Rob,
Ginny and I wish you the best results with your
coming surgery and that you have a speedy
recovery. — Harry and Ginny Davis

“Rob, I will be keeping you in my prayers
during surgery and recovery. God bless.”
— Mary Ellen Hasenfuss

*Rob, focus on the love, prayers and support of your friends
at Stony Brook; Compose your strength...You are strong..
This Image is positive...We are all on your team...*

— Karen Fitzgerald

**Rob, you will be in my prayers; warm wishes for
full recovery. — Diane (Robertson)**

*Rob, you are stronger than you
know, braver than you think,
and more loved than you can
imagine. I really admire your
ability to handle whatever life
is throwing at you with such
grace and humor. Sending
positive thoughts your way!
- Cynde (Cusack)*

Rob, Sorry to hear that your battle is still ongoing.
After losing my husband, I know how precious time is.
Enjoy every minute and keep fighting!!! Thinking of
you and wishing you the very best. — Henny Smith

**Rob, Our prayers are with you
every night – we wish you the very
best!
— Joan and Dick Shirley**

Rob, you are an inspiration as a photographer but especially as a man whose positive attitude has brought you through many difficult times. I am sure that this attitude will carry you through this current situation. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

— Stan & Marsha Bergeron

Hi Rob,
I'm very much keeping you
in my thoughts and prayers
in these days. Please let me
know if I can do anything
as you recover from surgery
in the weeks ahead, and I
can't wait to see you soon
at wonderful camera club!
Positive thoughts!
— Laura Spaeth

Rob,
Everyone is looking forward to seeing your
beautiful photographs soon. Best of Luck; we
can't wait for you to return.
— Glenn Browning

Hi Rob,
Best wishes for a successful surgery.
You will be in my thoughts.
Regards,
Charlie Burke

Rob I'll Keep you in my
thoughts and prayers.
— Debbie Mattia

Best of luck.
My prayers are with you.
— Joe Cormier

I will be praying for you during your
upcoming surgery. May it be successful
and may you have a speedy recovery.

— Elaine Wood-Chisholm

Rob,
I am sending all good wishes and the hope that
your procedure goes smoothly and your recovery
is faster than anticipated.

— Bob Doyle

Rob,
Fighting on is so courageous
in the face of disappointment
and uncertainty. I have
admired your courage and
continue to do so. Keep going
at it. Best wishes for a good
outcome from the surgery.
— Don Steele

Best wishes for a speedy recovery!
— Lisa Maloney

Rob...Despite life's challenges, you retain your sense of humor. You are a great friend and example to all of us. And, by the way, not a half-bad photographer.

—David Marshak

Hi Rob,
I wish and pray for your successful surgery with a rapid recovery. We all look forward to seeing you back at club soon. Thank you for all you've done for SBCC. — Ray Guillette

Wishing a fast recovery!"

—Joe Norcott

Rob, you are always in our thoughts and prayers. Wishing you the best of luck.
-Pam & Phil (Giordano)

Best Wishes for speedy recovery, Rob.

— Denise (Duhamel)

Rob, in photography, we say that it's all about the light. I say to you, shine your inner light and let people shine theirs on you. Peace and light for a speedy recovery!

— Allan Litchfield

*Rob,
you are in our thoughts and prayers during your surgery and recuperation. We pray for the surgeon and his team and for a perfect healing. Sending love,*

— Jane Curran

Wishing you, Rob, nothing but the best.

— Karl (Zuzarte)

Rob go beat this thing... all the best
— Richard (Van Inwegen)

Best wishes for a full and speedy recovery.

— Karen Regan

Some people just aren't born with enough holes in their heads. Get well soon.

— Jake (Jacobson)



Finding Inspiration

By Ellen Berenson

In photography, we find inspiration through many different methods. As Rob indicated, perhaps it's the light. Everything will look just a little bit more poignant when blessed with the perfect light. For some of us, it's concern for a topic, such as former member Mattie Simas's photographs of human trafficking through her work with Photographers Without Borders (<https://www.photographerswithoutborders.org/ambassadors/2017/10/17/qax2enc3fhfmr3fg4q66gw7lbtz-e9tkr-bd73n>); or past guest speaker Wendell Phillips' photojournalistic exposé on mental institutions in other countries (<https://www.wendellphillips.com>). Many of us are inspired by the beauty of a landscape, often preserved for our enjoyment, such as Joe Kennedy's

series on our national parks; and yet others of us find the elements of street photography compelling—telling a story of life as it happens as an everyday occurrence.

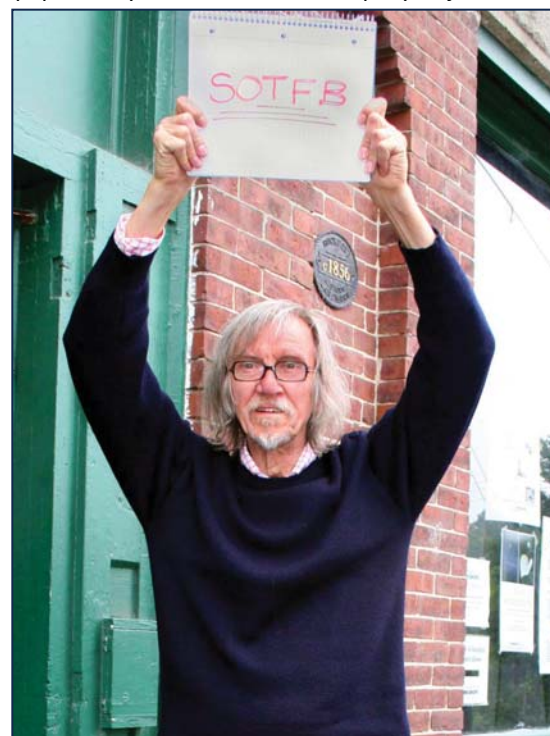
Regardless of our reasons for taking the photos we do, photography is our way of expressing our inspirations. We choose to share with others what we are seeing through our lens. Some of us seek to contrive our compositions, such as with still life or portraiture. Others of us share what we come upon as we go along, just because, perhaps, the light is right.

I am a member of the latter group. I meander along with my camera, awaiting something to capture my eye. Something I can share with others to say, "look at what I saw!" The joy I get from sharing my point of view often leads to several "likes" on Facebook, but it hardly allows me a platform to be a fine art photographer. I struggle with putting together a cohesive portfolio that has a theme and a style. Once, when attending a "Photography for Dreamers" class at Maine Media Workshops, our instructor, the internationally renowned photographer Arno Rafael Minkinen, shared one piece of advice:

"Say you get on a bus in a major city, and the bus is crowded. Take a seat. As the stops go by, people will get on or get off the bus. With each stop along the way, the further you get from the city where you started, the fewer the people who will get on the bus, and more people will get off than get on. Stay on the bus. Eventually, you will be the only one who remains." The correlation, of course, being your photography. You jump into it with everyone else who loves photography. You gather the equipment, you make the field trips, you join groups of people taking the same photographs (perhaps with a bit of a unique eye); however, eventually, when you've stayed with your photography long enough, a style unique to you will develop. Our motto at the end of our workshop with Arno became: *S.O.T.F.B. [Stay on the F(lippin) Bus!]*

How many of us sit through a competition knowing exactly whose photograph just came up? Or scroll through Facebook rapidly until we see a photo that stops us, only to identify it as a Karl Zuzarte, Rich Reynolds, Mike O'Connor, Cindy Vogan, Allan Litchfield, Carol Wontkowski, Ellen Kawadler, Maureen Begin, Joe Vekeman, Lynda Appel, or Denise Duhamel before we see that name of the person who posted it. These are folks who have stayed on the flippin' bus and are near, or at, their destination.

I'm still working on that bus ride, Arno. I find inspiration in too many areas to focus on one style or one subject matter. I'm still experimenting, I guess. So, whatever your inspiration for your photography, continue to remain inspired. Your earnest ability to share your point of view is when beautiful creation happens. ■



Photograph of Arno Minkinen © Ellen Berenson 2008

Gary Borchard



1. WHAT OR WHO BROUGHT YOU TO THE CLUB?

I recently retired from a career in medical devices biotech and pharma. I want to use my new found time to pursue some things I've always had an interest in, photography being one of them. I've always dabbled but never really took the time to delve deeper into learning in depth about what makes a good photograph and how to create them. I've lived in Franklin for over twenty years and knew of the Stony Brook Camera Club, so I thought I would join to see what I could learn and meet others with an interest in photography.

2. WHAT KIND OF PHOTOGRAPHY DO YOU LIKE TO DO?

I just like taking pictures and creating interesting images that catch my eye, but I tend to gravitate to travel, landscape, nature, macro and, of course, my grandkids.

3. WHERE IS YOUR FAVORITE PLACE TO PHOTOGRAPH?

No place in particular. I often just bring my camera along when just going about my life just in case I see something interesting to shoot.

4. WHAT DO YOU WANT TO LEARN FROM THE CLUB AND ITS MEMBERS?

What makes a good photograph, new techniques that I can apply to improve my skills and creativity with the camera and in post processing.

photographs © Gary Borchard

MEET NEW MEMBER



My wife and I went on a tour of Scotland last May, and, believe it or not, the weather was perfect. We started by spending a few days in Edinburgh, enjoying the sights along the Royal Mile and discovering some wonderful restaurants. St Giles' Cathedral is gorgeous and should not be missed, and Edinburgh Castle is also a must see. I included a picture of The Elephant House, because it has become a major tourist attraction since it is where JK Rowling wrote much of *Harry Potter*. It is located next to Greyfriars cemetery, which you can explore to find several names on headstones that show up in the novels. Behind the cemetery is a huge stone private school with four houses.



Edinburgh Castle

From Edinburgh, we headed north across the Firth of Forth to St. Andrews, a university town and home to the oldest golf course in the world—aptly named the Old Course. Why anyone would want to play golf alongside the North Sea with thirty-mile-an-hour winds is beyond me, but people travel from around the world to play here. The beach beside the course is where the opening scene of “Chariots of Fire” was filmed. More interesting to me were the ruins of St. Andrews Cathedral.



The Elephant House



St Giles' Cathedral

We stayed in a hotel in the little village of Kenmore on the shores of Loch Tay. The Crannog Center there recreates a bronze age home (Crannog) built on pilings driven into the Loch. On the way to Inverness we stopped in the town of Dunkeld to see its medieval cathedral and walk to Burnham Wood of Macbeth fame. Next stop was a sheep herding demonstration. The dogs were amazing.

Then we were off to the highlands and a cruise on Loch Ness (sorry, no Nessie pictures) to Urquhart Castle with its commanding views up and down the loch. The next day we visited Culloden Battlefield, where in 1746 Bonnie Prince Charlie's defeat ended decades of Scottish rebellion against the English government. An excellent museum is there with a 360-degree video recreation, which puts you right into the battle.

Castle number three, Cawdor Castle, was our next stop. It is famed for its beautiful gardens. All this touring made us thirsty, so we spent an evening at a pub taking in some local music and a few pints.



Cawdor Castle

From Inverness we headed to the West Coast town of Oban with a stop at Glencoe to ride a ski lift to the top of a mountain to take in all the highland scenery. It just so happens that there is a distillery in Oban, and we felt compelled to take the tour and sample some of their 15-year Scotch.

A ferry ride to the island of Mull was next and from there a very short ferry to the isle of Iona, the birthplace of Christianity in Scotland. We toured the 800-year-old abbey, where monks created the Book of Kells, one of the sparks of creativity that pulled Europe out of the Dark Ages.

On the way back to Edinburgh, we walked along the bonnie, bonnie banks of Loch Lomond and then visited castle number four, Stirling Castle, the home of the Stuart kings. After another night in Edinburgh it was off to the airport for our flight to Heathrow and then home. ■



Culloden



St. Andrews



Inverness



Loch Tay (left)



Crannog Center (right)



Iona



By row L-R:

Row 1: Stirling Castle, Stirling Kitchen, Urquhart Castle

Row 2: Dunkeld, North Sea, View from Stirling

Row 3: Sheep Herding, Kenmore

Row 4: Eilean Musdile Lighthouse, Parade, Fire Starting Demo

Row 5: Oban Sunset, Oban Harbor, Loch Tay Sunset.



Plaza Tiles of Kansas City

By Jason Traiger

Country Club Plaza is a 15-block, 55-acre district about four miles south of downtown Kansas City, MO, consisting of hundreds of high-end retail shops, numerous restaurants, businesses, clubs, open-air galleries, upscale residences, a bowling alley, movie theater, and grocery store. The Plaza, as it is commonly called, is considered the first privately owned suburban shopping district in the country intended to serve customers arriving by automobiles. It was also the first shopping center to collect rents based on a percentage of a tenant's gross receipts. It ranks 60th in the Project for Public Spaces of the "World's Great Places."



Iron gate at the Plaza

The Plaza is an outdoor museum of romantic Spanish Seville style buildings. It includes many European style statues, fountains, and sculptures; ornamental fences and gates; reduced-scale architectural reproductions of the Seville's Giralda Tower and San Francisco's "Path of Gold" streetlights; and extraordinary colorful wall tile murals of many sizes. A visitor can also find works of art with themes ranging from the Greco-Roman classics to America's westward expansion.



Street scene

After many family visits to Kansas City, MO, I eventually became interested in photographing the colorful and unique architectural styles of the Plaza. But, once I started, it didn't take long to notice a scattering of scenic wall tiles adorning the exteriors of storefronts, office buildings, connecting walls, doorways and courtyards. So, I included them in my photo field of interest and, over the years, developed a set of their images.

The tiles are located on the sides of buildings, side streets, garage ramps, doorways, connecting walls, alleyways, and parking lots; a walking field trip of photo opportunities at almost every step and around every corner. There's more than enough to find material that would delight many street photographers who, for example, are interested in architectural styles, colors, textures, shapes, or special compositional effects. Most of the tiles are mounted to the walls in baroque style iron frames, but I found one framed in molded concrete and another within an outer frame of inlaid tile. The sizes and shapes vary from tile to tile; many are portrait shape, a few are square and horizontal. Even the "Broadway" street sign is a multicolored tile mounted over an elaborately decorative doorway adorned with torch urns, face reliefs, and grape vines in a similar style to the iron tile frames.



Street scene

Photographing the Plaza tiles was a straightforward activity, but worthwhile on a number of levels. Foremost, each tile tells a story and each has a center of interest. They show colorful details of Spanish town and country life: the village bandstand, park benches, dwellings, river travel, neighborhood churches, merchants at work, clothing styles, roads, and a pet Dalmatian. On a side street, I found a large horizontal triptych showing scenes from a classic Spanish bullfight featuring the entrance of the

photographs © Jason Traiger

TRAVELOGUE



toreadors and the toreadors in action. There were also tiles of a royal style Coat-of-Arms, a Spanish galleon, and a huge Mexican university complex.

I found the best times to photograph the tiles were late mornings and mid-afternoons on weekdays, thereby avoiding the peak commuter and lunch/dinner hours when the streets became crowded with pedestrians, traffic, and parked cars. The best day to minimize pedestrian and auto traffic was Sunday. The main and side streets of the Country Club Plaza run in a consistently north/south and east/west direction, so I was able to easily adjust for outdoor lighting and shade. I didn't notice any streets running in a diagonal direction to require additional adjustments. I also found that maneuverability and agility are particularly good skills to have for enhancing your survivability on the busy Plaza sidewalks, curbs, or street corners.

Historical Overview

The Country Club Plaza was established in 1922 by Jesse Clyde Nichols, in the Olathe area of Kansas, 1880. His major achievement was to transform Brush

Creek Valley, a swampy, unwanted lot, into a world-class shopping center. Recounting the life of J. C. Nichols would require a full biography, but a few highlights are worth noting. He worked in his father's mercantile store at age 8, opened his own wholesale business at 16, loaded produce on railroad cars during college vacations, sold maps door-to-door in Utah and Wyoming, served as deputy U.S. Marshall in the southwest chasing bad guys, worked his way while touring Britain and the Continent on bicycle, and developed a lifelong real estate career by purchasing land in a bankruptcy sale.

Nichols used the profits from his first purchase to plan and develop an entire urban neighborhood and shopping district that would encourage the use of automobiles. To attract reluctant buyers, his residential plans included plumbing, water, trash pickup, tree-lined avenues, parks, sidewalks, and street-side lawns. His shopping district plans were finalized in 1922, which called for replacing 55 acres of swampy dumping ground, hog farm, decrepit shacks, and a brickyard with new buildings, wide and paved streets,

and a variety of cultural offerings. As his architect, Nichols hired Edward Buehler Delk, a specialist in Spanish Colonial Revival Style architecture. The results were astounding. The plaza opened in 1923; visitors to the area were delighted to see successful merchants, new stores, the latest clothing trends and styles, and the debut of top Hollywood movies. A beauty salon introduced the first permanent-wave hair treatment. The tradition of the Plaza Lights started in 1925 and, during the Depression of the 1930's, the nationally known annual Plaza Art Fair began attracting thousands of art enthusiasts. In 1925, Delk was replaced by Edward Tanner, who served as architect to 1974.

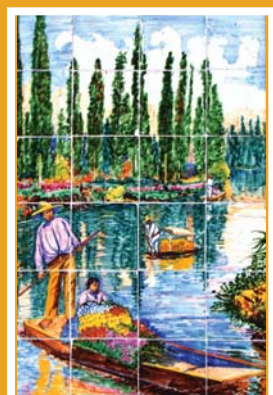
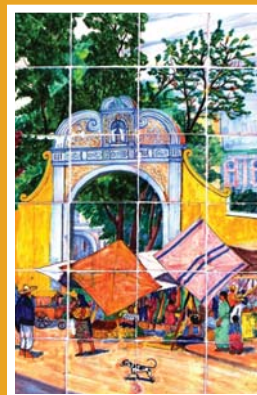
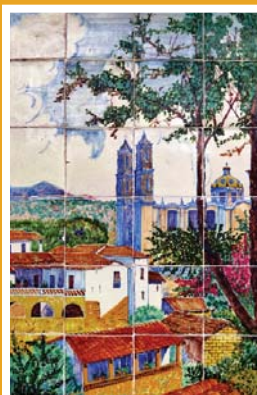
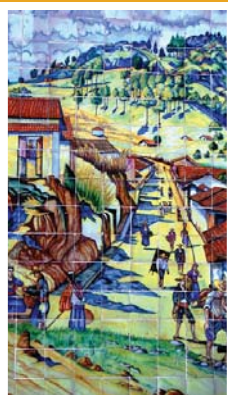
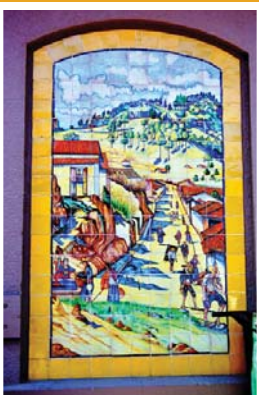
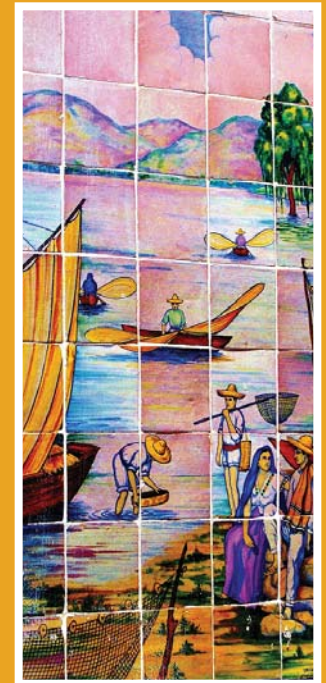
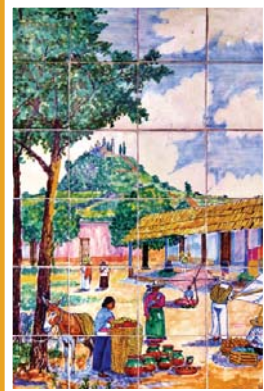
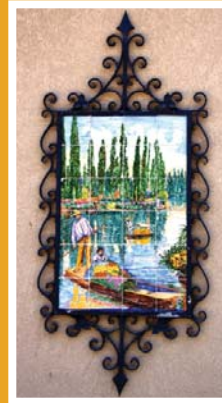
When he died in 1950, J.C. Nichols' vision of 45 years had set high standards of urban design, style, and construction. His son, Miller, added hotels, apartment lodging, larger department stores, and continued his father's legacy of enriching the beauty and culture of the area with new works of art, fashion, and design.

What many first called "Nichols' Folly" became a unique urban cultural



district. It survived, recovered, and flourished after a dreadful flood in 1977. By the 1980's, tile artistry was under the guidance of the well-known local tile expert and artist, Carolyn Payne. The Plaza adapted to new consumer tastes of the 1980's and 90's and greatly expanded its retail and business facilities in 2000's.

According to Andres Duany, founder of the Congress for the New Urbanism and expert in the history of community land development, (in *Community Builder: The Life and Legacy of J.C. Nichols*), the Country Club Plaza has existed longer than any other planned shopping center in the country. ■



Do You See What I See?

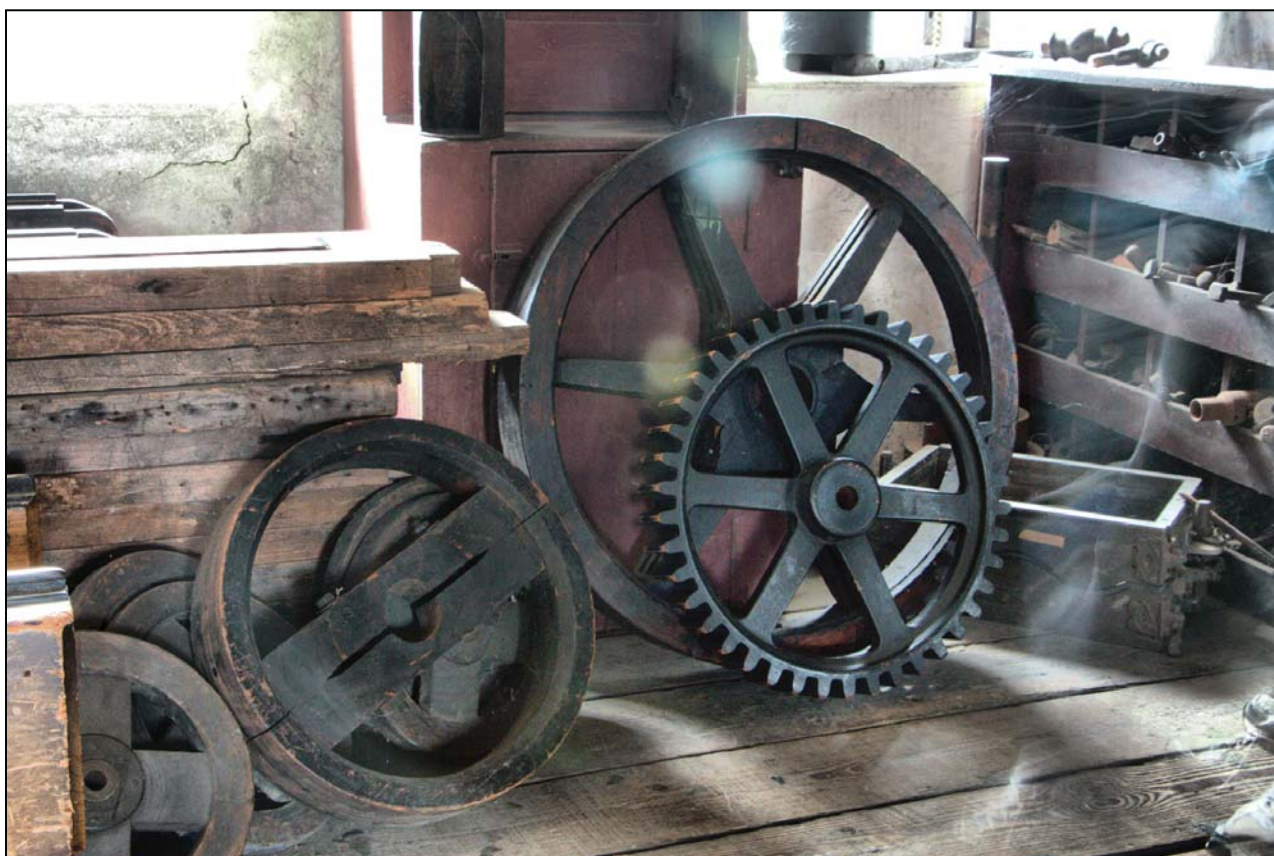
A Ghost Story by Gina Walsh

On September 30, 2017, about seven or eight of us from SBCC visited the Historic Slater Mill in Pawtucket. We were met by a very knowledgeable volunteer who would be giving us our private tour and providing information on the history of the mill. The property had a number of buildings, but we only toured two of them: Slater Mill and Wilkinson Mill. We had the opportunity to walk around, look at all the machinery and tools, and take photographs. As we walked around Slater Mill, our guide pointed out the machinery and how tight getting into areas could be. He said that children were used as workers, often getting into these tight areas. Due to the nature of the moving machinery, often injury and death would occur. Soon after this, he then mentioned that there are ghosts on the property and a lot of paranormal interest in this as a result. As the afternoon continued and the sun started to get lower in the sky, we continued our tour into Wilkinson Mill, which was darker and more rustic. With the lower sun, I was getting more

light interference. At one point, as I was checking my screen, I noticed a number of shots with a white swath running vertical down the side of my photo. I jokingly turned to one of our group members and said, "Hey, I think I caught one of those ghosts!" as I pointed out the white swath down the side of the screen. I continued down the room and stopped to take a number of photographs of three wheels. As I checked my screen, I could see the white swath on the right side of the photo and a number of orbs but didn't think anything of it until I got home and loaded by photos onto my PC. I immediately noticed a pair of white sneakers in the lower right hand corner (these belonged to one of the men in our group), but as I continued to examine the photo, I noticed in the lower right-middle part of the photo another foot but this foot was smaller and appeared to be an old fashioned lace-up shoe. Maybe the shoe of child or young woman? I can almost see another foot in front of the white sneakers. Could these be the shoe or shoes of one of the ghosts? *You tell me.*

photograph © Gina Walsh

CONTRIBUTIONS



Tell Me About It

By Allan Litchfield



Photograph © Allan Litchfield

Nikon D5100, 85mm 1.4 lens, ISO 200, 1/125 sec at f/4.0

I was taking photos at the Norton Halloween Parade recently. The boy I photographed was perched on the edge of a float. After several candid shots, he looked at me, and I gestured for him to point his rifle. He flashed a smile and struck a pose. While reviewing this image in Lightroom, I imagined putting smoke at the end of his rifle. Becoming more and more comfortable with Photoshop, I correctly guessed that I would be able to find free “smoke brushes” online. I was right, and after just a few minutes, I had download “RealSmoke” from www.brusheezy.com.

After downloading the RealSmoke brushes file, I unzipped it and stored its contents on my computer. To achieve this effect, take the following steps:

1. From within Lightroom Classic, open the image in Photoshop.
2. Press the B key to activate the brushes tool.
3. Right-click the image to show the brush options.
4. Click on the small cog wheel in the top right corner of the brush options pop-up window.

5. From the pop-up menu, click Import Brushes and locate the Real Smoke (675 pixels).ABR file.
6. In the brushes pop-up, find the folder called “Real Smoke (675 pixels),” under which is a variety of smoke brushes that came from Brusheezy’s ABR file.
7. Scroll through the smoke brushes and click on the preferred brush.
8. Choose a foreground color (the smoke may be any color; I chose light gray).
9. With the smoke brush ready and the color chosen, click the mouse button just above the end of the rifle.
10. Right-click the image again and select a different smoke brush.
11. Click the image a second time to place a second puff of smoke.

This can be done this using layers, but there is no need.

The angle and size of brushes are controlled from the brush options window.

Until recently, I thought of brushes in Photoshop as being like brushes in the real world. I needed to learn that while brushes can be clicked and dragged to paint, they also can be more like a stamp from an ink pad. I have found many kinds of brushes including blood spatter and musical scores.

I strongly encourage you to search YouTube for Photoshop brushes, and to practice what you see. Photoshop is extremely powerful – just learn one thing at a time and view it as building blocks of knowledge.

<https://www.brusheezy.com/brushes/1830-real-smoke-photoshop-brushes> ■

Harvard University Offering FREE Online 13-Module Digital Photography Course for Beginners

<https://alison.com/course/introduction-to-digital-photography>



Information and photo courtesy of: <https://www.diyphotography.net/harvard-putting-13-module-photography-course-online-free/>
Answer to "What Is It? (p.22) Sun shining through a glass of red wine sitting on a shoe box"

Qajaq Building - The Inuit Way

By Wendell Phillips

Many of us participated when our guest speaker, photojournalist **Wendell Phillips**, visited us during the 2016/17 Program Year. As part of Wendell's presentation of his work, he shared with us some photos of his qajaq (kayak)-building workshop; a skill he perfected while documenting the Inuit of Greenland. Below is an excerpt from an email I recently received from Wendell. It answers the question, "What do you do when you're not traveling the world making photographs?" – Editor Reprinted with permission. ©2017 Wendell Phillips.

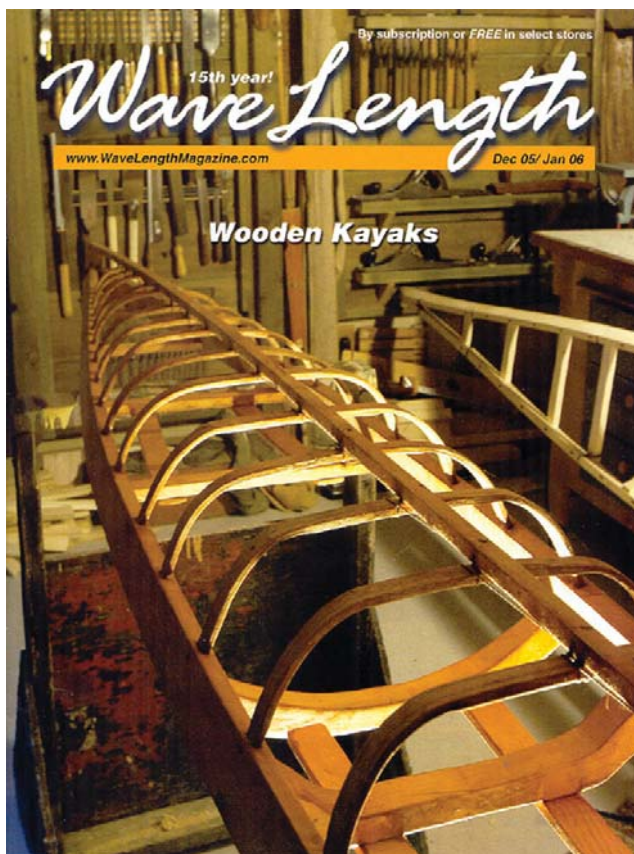
As mentioned, I also build skin on frame qajaqs (kayaks). Building skin on frame kayaks in the sanctuary of my wood shop is a welcome retreat between covering global photographic assignments. It is a solitary escape that engages all my senses from the rhythm of Japanese saws revealing the fragrance of yellow cedar to the texture of hand-planed wood. I've enclosed photos of the boats I build.

The non-fixed hull's response to the pressure of water and its impact resistance is certainly unique among maritime watercraft. Long before imperial and metric measurement systems, Inuit people used their own specific body parts to measure linear distances to ensure a good fit. This anthropometrical process has resulted in kayak widths of 17 inches. The process of building skin boats today attracts disparate points of view among many woodworkers. These divisions of philosophy and technique are analogous to debates in the commercial kayak industry. Analyzing form and function is an essential part of boat building, but ineffectual if the builder doesn't understand how their manipulations make boats behave. The only way to develop intuitive knowledge building wooden boats is paddling them – lots of them – over a lifetime. Perhaps the most significant development

in my boat-building education was spending two months in Greenland working with Inuit hunters that still use skin on frame kayaks in their original context. The feature that seems to interest most non-boat builders is bending wood to be mortised into the gunwales as ribs. Steam bending wood has always fascinated me as well, and I've broken my share

a boil, plasticizing wood fibres making them briefly malleable. I've milled oak for rib stock and boiled them in my homemade, galvanized trough, heated by a two-burner propane stove with good results. In former times, some regions in Greenland boiled ribs in fatty broth, while others were known to bend wood by crushing wood fibres with their teeth. Hunting kayaks were originally covered with three to six sealskins sewn with braided sinew and waterproofed with animal oil along their seams. Today, recreational paddlers apply synthetic nylon and canvas to kayak frames with modern sealants. While working in Greenland, I had the opportunity to paddle a sealskin (Harp) kayak adorned with walrus bone and narwhal. Its smell was rather unpleasant, but once past that, I made my way into fjords populated with transient icebergs to examine its properties.

Kayak lengths varied according to local cultural traditions, hunting issues, outside influence, environmental considerations and in some cases even the availability of seals and their sizes. The shape of the shear boards was even dependent on different regions, as were the cross straps



of ribs coaxing them into shape. Grain orientation, moisture content and species of wood play a role in successful bends, but there are many variables. When wood is steamed, the steam itself isn't absorbed into the wood but brings moisture already inside to

adorned with bone tighteners and deck beads. When trade was firmly established in colonial times, Greenland hunters traded for waste boards to acquire their longitudinal pieces. There are many factors that changed the shapes of local kayaks and they are often distinguished and categorized in the following geographical way: Ikerasaarsuk, Ammassalik and the *Thule. The present kayak types are categorized as the flat type, curved type, Avasisaartoq and the North Greenland type. The difficulty of these classifications is that in just the past one hundred years the Greenland kayak has experienced significant changes.



The Disko Bay area in West Greenland historically had the shortest kayaks at 16 feet, while the Ammassalik in East Greenland had the longest at 19 feet. The latter often had raked ends, three forward-deck stringers (none behind), a depth to sheer much more shallow than the West (up to an inch), and pegged joints to name a few variations. In the Uummannaq fjord, only one deck stringer was found on their kayaks. Some Greenland kayaks in the past had up to 30 cross beams, but, when colonization began, new tools solved technical problems that plagued them—changing the shape of skin boats again.

When production is slowed in my shop due to miscalculations or equipment failure, it's always helpful to remember Inuit cultures that developed kayaks from organic material using Stone Age tools.

*The Canadian style of kayak in Thule were mostly replaced in 1940 by Disko Bay and Upernavik kayaks.

Ajunnginniearnat (so long),
W. ■



What Is It?

By Carol Wontkowski

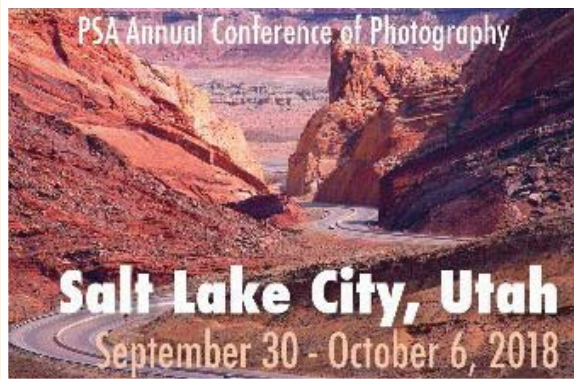
photograph © Carol Wontkowski



Answer will appear elsewhere in this issue

WHAT IS IT?

2018 Conferences



NECCC 2018 Photo Conference



Save the date!
July 13-15 2018
www.NECCC.org

- LOTS to do, shoot, and learn!!
- Attend photography programs
- Interact with photographers
- Trade Show – vendors! demos!
- Camera/lens loaning
- Participate in hands-on workshops
- Photograph models
- Photograph animals, glass, props, photo-ops galore!
- Image reviews & competitions

Curious about the difference between the New Lightroom CC vs. Lightroom Classic?

According to DIGITALTRENDS website:
"Adobe Lightroom is no longer one program — photographers can now choose between the mobile-focused Lightroom CC and Lightroom Classic CC, a split announced on October 18. But what's the difference between Lightroom CC and Lightroom Classic CC? Lightroom CC was redesigned to maintain consistent features across mobile and desktop platforms, and to create a seamless workflow regardless of the device you're using — what Adobe defines as mobile or cloud-based editing. Lightroom Classic CC maintains all of the photo-editing power meant for desktop systems — like the Lightroom that existing users have known. While both share common features, there are a handful of tools that

don't cross over between programs.

To learn what you need to know about Lightroom CC vs. Lightroom Classic, please see the following link:

<https://www.digitaltrends.com/photography/adobe-lightroom-cc-lightroom-classic-max-2017/>

To learn what is new using Lightroom Classic CC, **photofocus.com** has a recent article worth reading*:

<https://photofocus.com/?s=what%27s+new+in+the+old+lightroom%3F>

(Scroll down for specific article)

* Thank you to Phil Giordano for submitting the link recommending this article. ■

A Day at PhotoExpo 2017 By Tony Mistretta

Photo Expo 2017 — **Photo District News (PDN) Photo Expo International Conference** is held at the Javits Convention Center in New York City at the end of October each year, and advertises to be the largest photography and image-making event in North America. The show takes place over a three-day period and features over 100 educational seminars, Photo Walks, Master Classes, special Filmmaking and Drone sessions, and over 200 exhibitors displaying the latest equipment, products, and services for you to touch, try, and compare. Nearly 20,000 professional, amateur, and emerging photographers, enthusiasts, videographers, students and educators attend from all around the world!

This was my first year attending the conference. I have always wanted to go, but it always took place at a time when I was too busy to get away from work. Well now that I'm retired, work is no longer an issue for me! I joined up with conference veterans Phil Giordano, Ed Gooltz, Rob DeRobertis and Jim West. We only attended for the one free day that they offer to bums like us, who just want to get a sampling of what's offered without paying anything for it. For me, half of the excitement was just getting into the big city, which I love, and spending the day with some of my best friends.

We took an early train from Providence and arrived at Penn Station in NYC at about 9:45 am. The Javits Center is only about four blocks down 34th Street from the train station, so it was an easy walk for us. Along the way we had to stop at B&H Photo & Video, which is conveniently located right there in the same area.

Visiting B&H is an experience in itself. The store contains three floors of just about every photo and video product that you can imagine. They also sell computers and televisions. It's a toy store for adults! There are plenty of sales people, who are more than willing to show you products and answer any questions that you might have. I was in the market for a photo printer and was able to see and ask questions about several different models that I was interested in.

By the time we were done at B&H, it was time for lunch. We stopped at the NY Pizza Suprema Restaurant on the corner of 8th Avenue and 34th Street and had some of the best NY-Italian style pizza that you can possibly imagine. I ate way too much of the stuff, but it gave me all the energy I needed for the show that was ahead.

The conference was glitzy, noisy and mind-boggling. We wandered up and down the aisles, amazed at the products and educational sessions that were going on. I stopped

to listen to Lindsay Adler, one of America's most famous portrait and fashion photographers, and Joel Grimes, inspirational image-maker and educator from Arizona. Many of the exhibitors had free stuff to give away, like paper samples, pens and lens cleaning cloths. There was also plenty of product literature to take away. Epson offered to print one of your photos on one of their printers. I got to look at more printers and get a good price on one that I purchased a couple of days later. I also was able to ask questions about products that I already own and learned some things that I was unable to figure out on my own.

Around 3:30pm, some of us decided to go out and do some street photography. It was one of those warm days that we had in October, and so a lot of people were out walking and enjoying the nice weather.

The conference closed at 5:00pm, so we decided to get dinner at a very nice Italian restaurant, Il Punto, on the corner of 9th Avenue and 38th Street. We had a delectable meal and then ran to catch the last train back to Providence. It was a great day, and exhausted as we were, we got to sleep a little on the train on the way home. I got home after midnight, and can't wait to do it again next year! ■

READ ALL ABOUT IT

SBCC 2017/18 PROGRAM YEAR CALENDAR*

| DATE | SUBJECT | DETAILS | LOCATION |
|------------------|--|--|--------------------------|
| 13-DEC-17 | Holiday Banquet @ 6:00pm | All Member Potluck & Slideshow | Bethany Church, Foxboro |
| 17-DEC-17 | Workshop / Life Member Showcase | Mike O'Connor: Photoshop Elements | Norfolk Library |
| 21-DEC-17 | HOLIDAY BREAK | | |
| 22DEC-17 | Digital Competition Images Due | | |
| 28-DEC-17 | HOLIDAY BREAK | | |
| 04-JAN-18 | Competition | Architecture, Travel | Church of the Redeemer |
| 11-JAN-18 | SPEAKER: JOHN BARCLAY | Discovery and Creative Choice | Church of the Redeemer |
| 18-JAN-18 | Image Study | Ray Guillette leads image review & feedback | Church of the Redeemer |
| 19-JAN-18 | Digital Competition Images Due | | |
| 25-JAN-18 | New Member Showcase | New Members share their photos | Church of the Redeemer |
| 01-FEB-18 | Competition | People + Portraits (Digital), Nature (Digital), Prints (B&W and Color). | Church of the Redeemer |
| 08-FEB-18 | SPEAKER: RON WILSON | Composition in Landscape Photography | Church of the Redeemer |
| 10-FEB-18 | Workshop | Video Photography | Norfolk Library |
| 15-FEB-18 | Cabin Fever | Bring your camera for various setups | Church of the Redeemer |
| 16-FEB-18 | Digital Competition Images Due | | |
| 22-FEB-18 | Image Study | Ray Guillette leads image review & feedback | Church of the Redeemer |
| 01-MAR-18 | Competition | Open (Digital), Altered Reality (Digital), B+W (Digital) | Church of the Redeemer |
| 08-MAR-18 | SPEAKER: JOHN WATSON | Drone Photography / WJAR News | Church of the Redeemer |
| 11-MAR-18 | Workshop | Color and Composition | Norfolk Library |
| 15-MAR-18 | Member Presentation | Denise Duhamel: Travel | Church of the Redeemer |
| 22-MAR-18 | Image Makers | 3 or 4 SBCC members show a body of their work, focusing on the why vs. the how | Church of the Redeemer |
| 23-MAR-18 | Digital Competition Images Due | | |
| 29-MAR-18 | Member Presentations | TBD | Norfolk Library |
| 05-APR-18 | Competition | Nature (Digital), Macro (Digital), Prints (B&W and Color), | Church of the Redeemer |
| 12-APR-18 | SPEAKER: THE ERBS | Food/Environmental Photography | Church of the Redeemer |
| 14-APR-18 | Workshop | Daytime Long Exposure | TBA / Outdoor Waterfront |
| 19-APR-18 | Image Study | Ray Guillette leads image review & feedback | Church of the Redeemer |

NOTE: Subject to Update or Change. SBCC Website will have the most current information: www.stonybrookcc.com.
Reflects information noted on SBCC Website as of 12/8/17.

SBCC 2017/18 PROGRAM YEAR CALENDAR*

| DATE | SUBJECT | DETAILS | LOCATION |
|-----------|---------------------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| 20-APR-18 | Digital Competition Images Due | | |
| 26-APR-18 | SPEAKER: CHARLIE WIDDIS | Landscapes | Church of the Redeemer |
| 03-MAY-18 | Competition | General(Digital), People (Digital), B&W (Digital) | Church of the Redeemer |
| 03-MAY-18 | Elections | 2018-19 Officers Elected | Church of the Redeemer |
| 05-MAY-18 | Workshop | Watercolor Washing Your Photos | Norfolk Library |
| 10-MAY-18 | SPEAKER: LISA CUCHARA | Creativity is Contagious – Pass it On | Church of the Redeemer |
| 11-MAY-18 | Digital Competition Images Due | | |
| 17-MAY-18 | SPEAKER: JOE LEFEVRE | Time-lapse Photography | Church of the Redeemer |
| 19-MAY-18 | Workshop | Mindful Photography | Center at Westwoods |
| 24-MAY-18 | Competition | Image of the Year | Church of the Redeemer |
| 31-MAY-18 | Shoot the Masters | Create images that duplicate or represent Master photographs and painting | Church of the Redeemer |
| 06-JUN-18 | End of the Year Banquet | All Member Potluck, Awards & Slideshow | Bethany Church, Foxboro |



Images submitted to Stony Brook Camera Club may be used by the Camera Club for their intended purpose, such as Image Study or Competition. They may also be displayed on our website, as has been the tradition for winning images. Any use of the image outside of that mentioned above shall require owner permission. No image alteration shall be done unless permission is given by the owner. Verbal notice shall be satisfactory. Full credit for such use will be given to the image maker.

All images on this web site are copyrighted by the maker and may not be copied or used in any manner without the express written consent of the maker. Maker retains ownership to their images and assumes all liabilities for their images posted to the site.

NOTE: Subject to Update or Change. SBCC Website will have the most current information: www.stonybrookcc.com.
Reflects information noted on SBCC Website as of 12/8/17.

2017 – 2018 Officers and Committees

| Officers | |
|--|--|
| Rob DeRobertis - President | See www.stonybrookcc.com Email tab to contact |
| Silvana Della Camera – Vice President | |
| Ed Gooltz - Treasurer | |
| Billi Manning - Secretary | |
| Past Presidents | Ellen Kawadler Janet Casey |
| Committees | |
| Activities | Field trips – Ellen Kawadler, Jürgen Lobert Workshops – Donald Steele Presenter Programs / Program Committee Life Member Seminars – Ellen Kawadler |
| Competitions | Chair: Jim West B&W Prints: Bob Doyle Color Prints: Tony Mistretta Digital: Ann Bertulli NECCC Digital Rep: Kirsten Torkelson NECCC Prints Rep: Tony Mistretta Judges: David Marshak Scoring and Statistics: Cynthia Vogan Awards: Ed Gooltz |
| Fundraising | Dan Gyves |
| Image Study | Ray Guillette |
| Membership | Rob Dandrade, Ed Gooltz |
| New Members | Cynde Cusack |
| NECCC Rep | Ray Guillette |
| NECCC Digital Competition | Kirsten Torkelson |
| NECCC Print Competition | Tony Mistretta |
| Nominations | Carol Dandrade, Rob Dandrade, Anthony Mistretta |
| PSA Rep | Rob DeRobertis / Allan Litchfield |
| Program Committee | Silvana Della Camera (Chair) Mark Landman, Karen Fitzgerald, Faith Martin, Allan Litchfield, Rich Reynolds, David Marshak, Jim West, Ed Gooltz, Phil Giordano |
| Publicity | Carol Dandrade |
| Reflections | Ellen Berenson / Janet Casey |
| Scholarship Fund | Billi Manning (Chair) |
| Weekly Snacks | Janet Casey |
| Website | Charlene Gaboriault (Webmaster) Mitch Gaboriault |
| Weekly Setup | Bruce Garber, Joe Norcott, David Sveden |



MEETINGS:

Meetings are held every Thursday of each month; no meetings in July and August. Consult SBCC Calendar of Events. All meetings start at 7:30PM. The regular meeting place is Anglican Church of the Redeemer @ Moseley Mill, 31 Hayward Street, Franklin, MA 02038
Mailing Address: Stony Brook Camera Club, P.O. Box 20, Wrentham, MA 02093-0020

DUES:

Regular member = \$75; Student member = \$50; Senior member = \$50; Family (2 or more regular members) = \$125; Family (2 members, one senior, one regular) = \$100; Family (2 senior members) = \$75.

NEWSLETTER:

Published quarterly solely for the information, guidance and enjoyment of the Stony Brook Camera Club, Wrentham, MA. All issues are available [here](#).

WEBSITE:

Visit our Website at <http://www.stonybrookcc.com> for the latest schedule, updates and breaking news, and photographs from our competitions, members and activities throughout the year.

FACEBOOK:

Our Facebook page is for current Stony Brook Camera Club members. You must register with Facebook before requesting to join our group using this [link](#). Any questions, see David Marshak, or email David from the SBCC website email tab (you must be logged in to view).

OFFICERS:

Elected annually and serve as the executive committee with two past presidents. SBCC is affiliated with the New England Camera Club Council (NECCC) and is a member of the Photographic Society of America (PSA).

MISSION STATEMENT:

Stony Brook Camera Club: To promote enjoyment and proficiency in all aspects of photography through education, fellowship, exchange of knowledge and experience; and a broad appreciation of nature and our environment.

SBCC *Reflections*
Ellen Berenson, Editor
P.O. Box 20
Wrentham, MA 02093-0020
<https://www.stonybrookcc.com>



<https://psa-photo.org/index.php?future-conferences>

