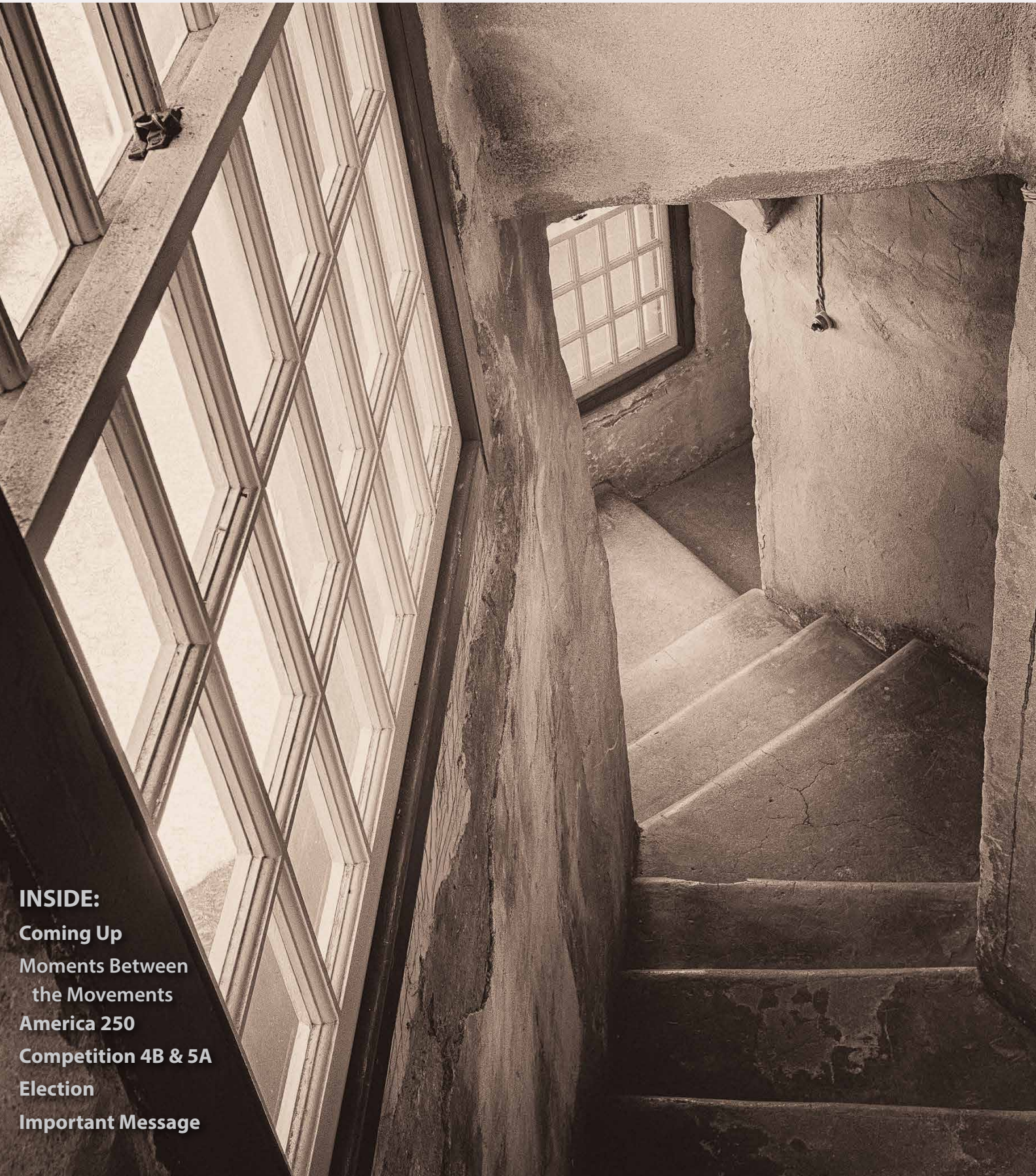
inFocus

Newsletter of the Westchester Photographic Society

April 2026



INSIDE:

Coming Up
Moments Between the Movements
America 250
Competition 4B & 5A
Election
Important Message

Bylaws

When the WPS board, in consultation with the membership, made the decision to move our meetings from Friday nights to Tuesday nights, we determined that in order to make this decision take effect we would also need to amend our bylaws. As Leon has mentioned in a message from the board to the membership (see page 24 in this issue) our bylaws were adopted almost fifty years ago, and at that time various club operational practices were overly specified in the bylaws and don't necessarily meet our current needs and practices. For example, regular meetings were assumed to be in person on Fridays with various deadlines for notifications, annual meeting dates, etc, specified as being on specific Friday offsets (last Friday of April, first Friday in March, etc.). The bylaws also state that meetings occur at the Westchester Community College in Valhalla. The board therefore decided to amend the bylaws to make them more generic and allow greater flexibility in scheduling, holding online meetings, etc., without needing to amend the bylaws each time. Amendments also correct minor errors and make simplifications to better align with our practices. We will capture procedures, policies, and guidelines in a separate document that the board will manage as part of their regular responsibilities, as empowered by the bylaws.

The amendments were drafted by a committee chaired by Leon Zelazny, with contributions from Paul Moulton and myself. At our March 19 meeting, the full WPS board unanimously voted to bring these changes to the Annual Membership Meeting on April 24th for ratification by the membership. I would like to thank Leon and Paul for their many hours of work in preparing these bylaws and amendments.

Please plan on attending this meeting, as we need a quorum to conduct business and your vote to ratify the bylaws. As usual we will also hold our board elections (see the list of nominees on pages 22 and 23) and board members will present reports of their activities.

In March, we had a wonderful exhibition at the Ossining Public Library, curated by Paul Moulton. I created a slideshow video of the photos there and uploaded it to our brand new Westchester Photographic Society YouTube channel. Please "like" and comment on the video, and subscribe to our channel as this helps the YouTube algorithm decide who to suggest our video to. We hope to post exhibition videos and other public content in the future to increase online awareness of our club.

And speaking of YouTube, I learned something new about ISO in this short YouTube video:

Till next time, may you always see beauty in your viewfinder.

Fuat Baran, *President*

COVER PHOTO

THE BACK STAIRS

By Thomas Musante

I took this photo at Fonthill in Bucks County, PA. My wife is from Doylestown and for years we had been driving past the unique building. I jumped at the chance to shoot the space as part of a workshop, and this is my favorite image of the many "keepers" I have from that day.

inFocus

Ron Carran, Editor
Dick Budnik, Web Edition

WPS Board of Directors

Dick Budnik, *Chairman of the Board, WebMaster*
Fuat Baran, *President, Social Media, Publicity*
Ron Carran, *Corporate Secretary, Executive VP, Treasurer, Newsletter*
Paul Moulton, Arnold Breisblatt, *Exhibits*
Serge Migdal, *Programs*
Julie Van Benthuysen, *Community Outreach*
Dennis Thornton, *Competition Chair*
Leon Zelazny, *Membership Committee, Community & ArtsWestchester Liaison*

Volunteers

Competitions
Mark Friedman
Competition Catalog
Jim Christensen
WPS Official Photographers ("Sharpshooters"—on hold)
Arnold Breisblatt, Julie Van Benthuysen, Melanie Rush
Guests Greeter (—on hold)
Silvie Epperly
Judge Coordinator
Dennis Thornton
Hospitality
Jane Gordon, Julie Van Benthuysen, Silvie Epperly
Equipment (—on hold)
Fuat Baran, Gregory White
Competition Scores Reporting
Mark Friedman
Award Certificates
Ron Carran
Field Trips
Jackie Ross
Newsletter Proofers
Lois Barker, Arnold Breisblatt, Dick Budnik, Joe Williams

Committees

Publicity
Fuat Baran
Social Media
Fuat Baran
Hospitality Coordinators
Silvie Epperly
Competition Evaluation
Dick Budnik, Lois Barker

newsletter: infocus@wpsphoto.org
website: www.wpsphoto.org

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Meets 12 months a year, on Friday evenings at 7:30 pm
Meetings are virtual now until further notice.
All volunteers marked On Hold are not active while we are exclusively on Zoom.

Member of PSA Photographic Society of America

FRIDAY EVENING PROGRAMS

April 2026
3 No Meeting: Easter
10 Competition 5B—Theme: Capture the Sound
17 Members Showcases
24 Annual Members Dinner Meeting

May 2026
1 Competition 6A
8 TBA
15 **Janice Koskey**, *"Contemplating our Photographs: Looking Behind the Image"*
22 No Meeting: Memorial Day
29 Competition 6B—Theme: Bokeh

June 2026
5 **Arik Gorban**, Drone Photography
12 Members Showcases
19 End of Year Competitions
26 TBA

July 2026
3 No Meeting: July 4
7 **Members Critique (Tuesday meetings begin)**
14 Members Process Same Image in B&W and Color
21 Show Us Your Crazies: funny, unusual, zany, laughable, etc.
28 Members Process Stock Images

August 2026
4 Members Process the same photo as color and B&W
11 TBA
18 Members Critique
25 Members Phonography

Check the WPS website (wpsphoto.org) for recent changes.

Contact Information

Your comments and suggestions are always welcome and should be addressed as follows: If concerning the WPS Newsletter, In Focus, address comments to the editor at infocus@wpsphoto.org. If concerning our website, address comments to our webmaster, Dick Budnik, at webmaster@wpsphoto.org. All other comments should be addressed to our President.

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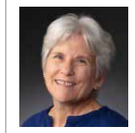
COMING UP



Janice Koskey on May 15

Contemplating Our Photography: Looking Behind the Image

Topic

Janice Koskey takes us through a kaleidoscopic array of all aspects of art, from visual elements through meaning and aesthetics to the poetry or universal truth of our work.

Groundbreaking image makers and photo philosophers from Alfred Stieglitz, Ansel Adams and Minor White, to more contemporary photo commentators, Paul and John Paul Caponigro and Cig Harvey, speak of the ways in which our photographs are a reflection of our inner selves and our unique view of the world. Contemplating the intention, emotion, and figurative language of our work can give us the insight to understand more deeply what we are attempting to convey to our viewers and essentially who we are as photographers.

Sift out your favorite photographs, those you consider as your finest art, bring them in your mind or on paper to this webinar, and we will go through the thinking process it may take to gain a deeper understanding of your own creations.

Bio

Janice Koskey relaxes into her life as a photographer after a long career with the Lynn, MA, Public Schools, teaching students and teachers the joys of writing and literature. Early in her career she used analog photography as a teaching tool, developing candid portraits and photographing projects to raise students' self-esteem, essential to learning. Feeling at home with a camera, embracing digital photography in retirement, was a natural progression for Janice. She grew in skill under the guidance of the fine folks at the Greater Lynn Photographic Association and soon was taking groups to art museums and photography exhibits and convening what she called an "Artistic Vision" class where members contemplated and discussed their work together. All manner of photography has fascinated Janice: nature, landscape, street, composite, and abstract. She travels extensively and takes her camera with her.

Recently Janice has combined her skills of writing and literary analysis with a smattering of psychology, art history, and aesthetics to develop lectures and workshops on contemplative photography. Ms. Koskey helps artists look behind and beyond their images to the metaphor and meaning they bring to the viewer and the photographer as well. Janice has published articles on this contemplative approach in the PSA journal and written tips for photographers in the PSA travel division online. In 2024 her photographs were part of an exhibit at the Griffin Museum of Photography and included in a review in the Boston Globe. Janice regularly exhibits her work and has won multiple awards at local and international shows. Her heartfelt photographs have found their way into comfortable homes near and far.

AREA MUSEUMS/GALLERIES

Metropolitan Museum
(www.metmuseum.org)
Many Exhibits
Ongoing

Museum of Modern Art
(www.moma.org)
Many photo exhibits
Face Value: Celebrity Press Photography
Through June 21, 2026

International Center for Photography
(www.icp.org)
Many Exhibits
Ongoing—New Exhibits Open Now

New York Photography Diary
(https://www.instagram.com/nyphotodiary/?hl=en)
Many Exhibits

Photoville
https://photoville.com

NYC Exhibits
https://andrewprokos.com/photography-articles/top-new-york-photography-museums/

CLUB EXHIBITS

Northern Westchester Hospital
Cancer Center
If You Could See It Through My Eyes

For more information
click HERE

WPS FIELD TRIPS

See the WPS website for more field trip information.
Click HERE

SEMINARS/WORKSHOPS

Please log on to websites to see the entire schedules. Many events are available online. Also see last page.

Hunts
https://edu.huntsphoto.com

B&H
http://www.bhphotovideo.com/find/EventSpace.jsp

Adorama
http://www.adorama.com/alc/events

NEW WEBSITE FEATURE

Westchester Photographic Society

Click on **What We Do** and then on **WPS Events** to see what's been happening at WPS.

The first event in this section are pictures of our September 16th **Awards Luncheon.**

MEMBER EXHIBIT

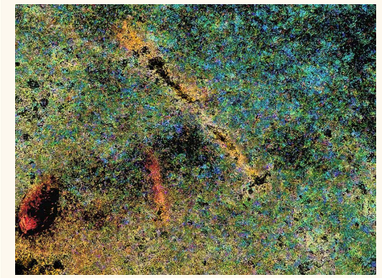
FOR SALE

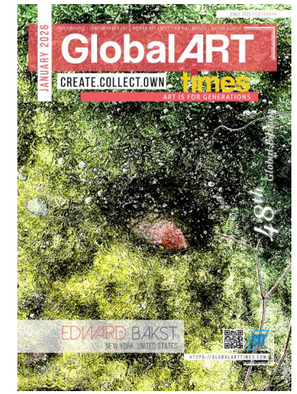
Steel Flat Files
$450
Dimensions: Overall 40.5" W x 29" D x 42" H
There are 2 sets with 5 drawers each plus a 9" base.
Each set of drawers is 16.5" high.
They can be separated.

Each drawer has a flap to secure the work.
szfeingold123@icloud.com
Click HERE to see pictures

FOR SALE

Edward Bakst at Hudson Valley MOCA
1701 Main Street, Peekskill, NY 914.788.0100
SHOW DATES: February 7-April 30

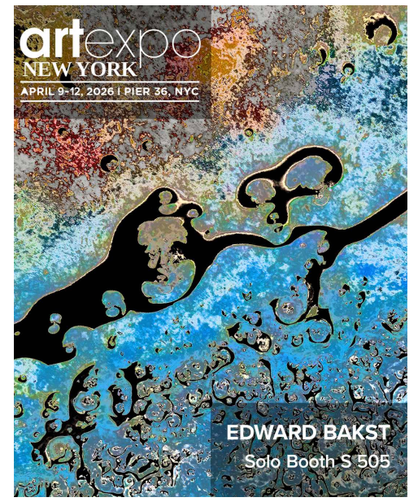


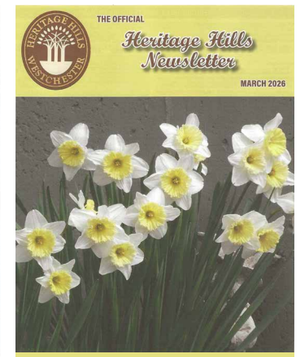


GIVEAWAY

I have a Canon Off-Camera Shoe Cord 2 and a Canon 420EX Speedlite to give away. Would any one at WPS be interested?
Barbara Pollack
bg.pollack@comcast.net

Paul Moulton has a 27" 1920X1080 Full HD HP Monitor he is offereing to anyone who wants it. For more information, contact Paul at
paulgmoulton@gmail.com





Barbara Pollack's latest Heritage Hills cover

NOTICE

Annual Membership Meeting: Vote for Board Members
April 24, 2026

The WPS Board of Directors invites you to participate in an important Annual Membership Meeting to ratify our amended Bylaws on Friday April 24, 2026, at 7:30 PM.

Your presence and engagement are crucial to achieving the required quorum and voting to accept our governing documents. For more details, please click on **Intro to Membership—Bylaws**.

The National Multiple Sclerosis Society is looking for several volunteer photographers for their Walk MS: Westchester event on May 3rd, 2026, at Glen Island Park to shoot all aspects of this event.

To volunteer email Maya ZiaShakeri at maya.ziashakeri@nmss.org

Walk MS: Westchester:
https://events.nationalmssociety.org/2515

Frame and Art Warehouse

General Inquiries (914) 779-4462
1700 Central Park Ave, Yonkers, NY 07503
www.frameandartwarehouse.com

Business Hours
Tuesday - Friday: 10am - 5pm
Saturday: 10am - 4pm
Monday & Sunday: Closed

We offer personalized custom framing to showcase and protect your art, photos, and cherished items. Our process begins with a consultation to understand your vision, followed by design selection from a wide range of frame styles, matting, and protective glass options. We then precisely build and assemble your frame to ensure a perfect fit and lasting preservation. Your completed frame is carefully inspected and ready for pickup, giving you a beautifully finished piece that enhances and protects what matters most.

Offering WPS members a 15% discount on framing services.

Moments Between the Movements

Dancers training and on stage in Bali, Bangkok, and Siem Reap

By Marisa Viveros

My introduction to dance performances in Southeast Asia did not begin in a theater, but in a rehearsal studio. In Siem Reap, Cambodia, dancers practiced precise hand gestures and eye movements, repeating sequences with quiet focus. Similar moments unfolded in performance spaces in Bangkok, Thailand and Bali, Indonesia, where centuries-old traditions continue to shape contemporary cultural life.

The tradition of Khmer Classical Dance in Cambodia traces its origins to the royal courts of the Khmer Empire and the sacred imagery carved into the temples of Angkor Wat near Siem Reap. The dance is characterized by slow, fluid gestures and highly stylized hand movements that symbolize elements of nature, mythology, and spiritual narratives. Khon, one of Thailand's most celebrated classical dance traditions, combines stylized dance, elaborate costumes, and ornate masks representing mythological characters; each movement and gesture follows a carefully codified vocabulary that conveys narrative and emotion. Traditional Balinese Dance is known for its expressive gestures, intricate hand movements, and striking eye expressions; rooted in Hindu ritual and temple ceremonies, many Balinese dances tell stories from ancient epics.

As a photographer, I was drawn to the moments during the practices and the performances—the preparation, the stillness, and the discipline behind each movement. Dancers moved through traditions shaped over generations, each gesture carrying meaning beyond the moment. What stayed with me most were the quiet intervals—the concentration, the adjustment of sophisticated costumes, the pause before stepping onto the stage. These images are small glimpses of those moments, where discipline, artistry, and cultural memory come together through movement.

Training Session

Dancer Practicing

Photo Op

Dancer in Full Costume

Khmer Classical Dance

Traditional Dance, Thailand

Balinese Dancers

"Towards a More Perfect Union"
WPS Special Showcase

By Dennis Thornton

Our standard Showcases generally have a few members displaying many images. This special Showcase is an opportunity for many members to share a few images each and talk about their captures, thoughts and experiences associated with these photographs.

"America 250 – Towards a More Perfect Union" is the title of this special Showcase.

As you are aware, our country will be celebrating a BIG birthday this year. The Semiquincentennial will marks the two-and-a-half centuries since the signing of the Declaration of Independence. We can anticipate a ramping up of excitement as the celebration day, July 4th, 2026, approaches. "

While the nation's 250th birthday is the impetus for this Showcase and celebrations on and around July 4th may be the central theme of many images, we are inviting members to submit images that he/she feels are representative of Americana. Images could have been taken at any time, not just in the 2026 year. This is an opportunity for the club to come together and share their own take on the American experience.

On the national level there will be a host of commemorative memorializing activities. As expected, the BIG parade and celebratory programs will take place in Washington, DC. But parades and other forms of celebrations are being planned from big cities to small towns.

I would anticipate that many local municipalities will celebrate this date with their own patriotic events. Maybe, we can create a forum where people can share information about events. We can work to orchestrate some fieldtrips to some of the more interesting and/or accessible events.

While birthdays are generally considered a time for celebration, our Sestercentennial occurs at a time when politics complicates the landscape. Therefore, intertwined with the festive celebrations may be forms of protest or other displays encouraging citizens to reflect not just on the benefit and pride of being an American but also what it means to be an American.

So, get out there. Attend events of your choice and be on the lookout for displays of patriotism or protest. Take pictures of others or a selfie showing your participation and/or personal position. Be observant for bold and splashy displays or more intimate expressions made by your fellow Americans.

To clarify, we are looking for any image(s) that tells something about the experience of being an American or living in America. The general format will be like a standard Showcase with images being submitted through Photo Contest Pro. The scheduling of this Showcase will be determined by the Program Director.

Individuals will be invited to share their images and discuss circumstances of when and where they took the photograph and what the experience of the moment might have been. This will be storytelling at its best. We can have a lot of fun sharing experiences of memorable moments.

The caveat to this America 250 Showcase will be that all members will be requested and required to strive towards keeping the sharing experience politically neutral. While the country may be divided, let WPS be united in the congenial sharing of our images and experiences.

We will all look forward to your submissions and narrative descriptions of your Americana captures.

All images by Arnold Breisblatt

DIGITAL BLACK & WHITE

Dennis Thornton, First
Frozen Bubble

Anastasia Tompkins, First
Lighthouse Stairs

Competition 4B (Judge: Phil Echo)

DIGITAL BLACK & WHITE

Arnold Breisblatt, Second
Caramoor Rose

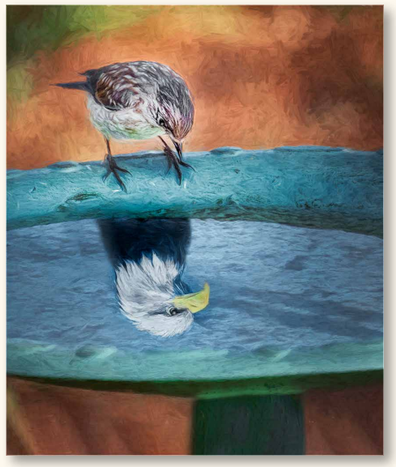
Ron Carran, Third
Orchids

Paul Moulton, HM
Liberty

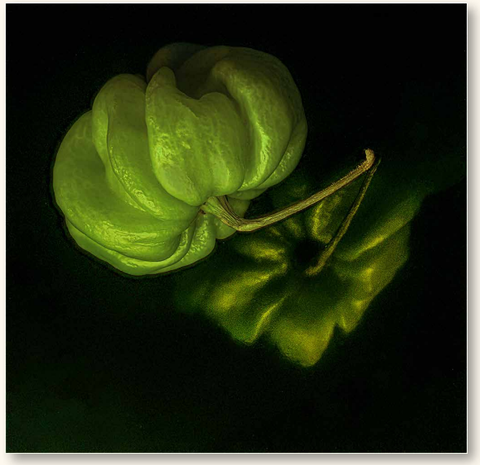
DIGITAL THEME: REFLECTIONS

Arnold Breisblatt, First
Reflection of Railroad Street

Carlotta Grenier, First,
Out of the Darkness



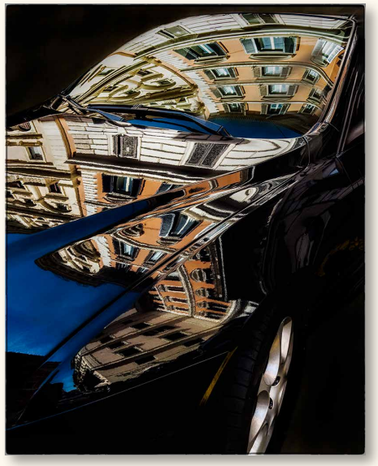
Anastasia Tompkins, First
Looking Good



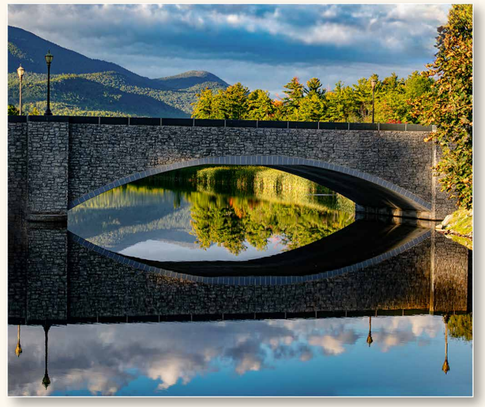
Linda Austrian, Second
Reflecting Pepper

Competition 4B (Judge: Phil Echo)

DIGITAL THEME: REFLECTIONS



Anastasia Tompkins, Second
Windows on Windows, Paris



Barbara Kapetanakes, Third
Bridge

Dennis Thornton, Third
Lens Balls

DIGITAL THEME: REFLECTIONS

Mitchell Druck, HM
Building

Robert Dublin, HM
Rothko Reflection

Carlotta Grenier, HM
Packman Reflected

DIGITAL COLOR B

Mary Jean Picciano, First
Hello There

Alice Benash, Second
Hudson River View from Cedar Hill

Paul Moulton, Third
Ventura Golf Course Visitor

Adam Lukeman, HM
Sunset on the Bay

DIGITAL COLOR A

Jennifer Dooley, First
Golden Inside

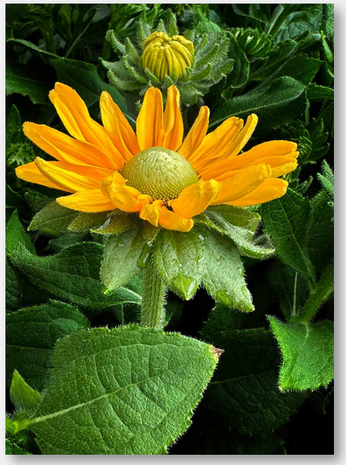
Jennifer Dooley, Second
Blue Poppy Profile

Arnold Breisblatt, Third
Let's Eat

DIGITAL COLOR A

Betty Leung, HM
Portrait of Bali Village Girl in Indonesia

Betty Leung, HM
Romantic Dinner at Sunset in Bali, Indonesia

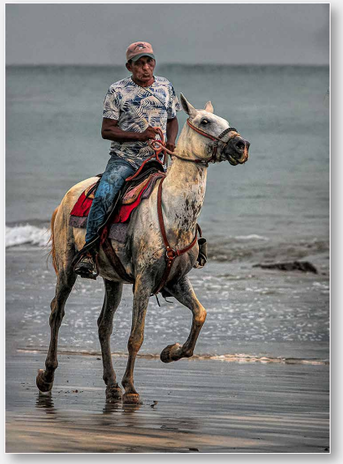


Barbara Pollack, HM
Coneflowers Orange

DIGITAL COLOR SALON

Dennis Thornton, First
Tomato Hornworm

Carlotta Grenier, Second
Caddo Lake in the Morning



Barbara Kapetanakes, Third
Costa Rica Beach

Competition 5A (Judge: Arik Gorban)

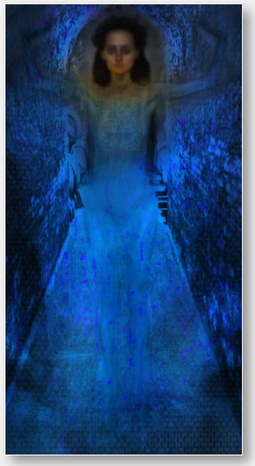
DIGITAL COLOR SALON

Jackie Ross, Third
Merlin

Anastasia Tompkins, Third
Blueberry Delivery

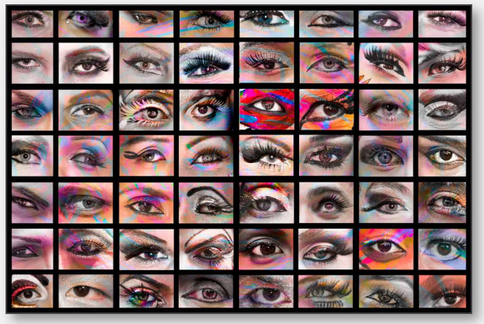
Barbara Kapetanakes, HM
Puffin Profile

DIGITAL COLOR OPEN MIND



Barbara Kapetanakes, First
Haunting

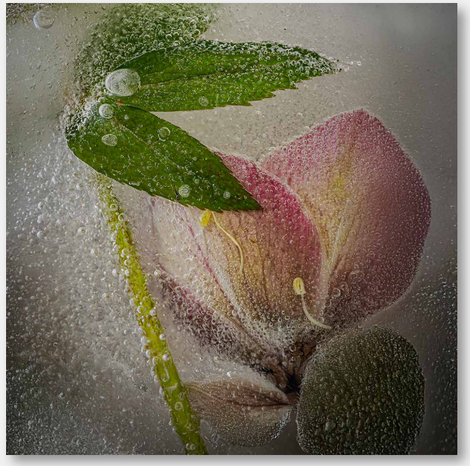
Arnold Breisblatt, Second
Zombie Mannequins



Robert Dublin, Second
Wild Eyes

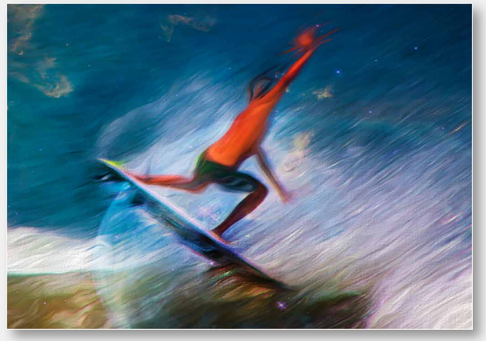
Competition 5A (Judge: Arik Gorban)

DIGITAL COLOR OPEN MIND



Carlotta Grenier, Second
Sleep Forever

Arnold Breisblatt, Third
Totem Idols



Barbara Kapetanakes, HM
Surfing in Space

WPS ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

April 24, 2026

Brief biographies of the candidates for the Board of Directors are following

Fuat Baran

I have been a member of WPS since 2014. I have a generalist interest in photography and dabble in many areas from nature to macro photography, digital and film, and have several long-term "projects," such as my "One Photo a Day" project. I joined the WPS board in 2021 and have served as President, handling a variety of "operational" tasks for WPS, like maintaining our social media presence.

Alice Benash

When I joined WPS last year I truly appreciated the welcoming atmosphere created by the WPS club members and the helpful and encouraging support given by those in Dick's weekly photography class. Since I was a child, I enjoyed taking pictures of my family and friends with an Instamatic camera. Then, in college I purchased my first SLR camera and took two photography classes. However, until last year when I joined WPS, I only photographed family and friends on special occasions and landscapes while on vacations.

In just this first year of being a WPS member and attending the weekly club meetings and Dick's weekly photography classes, I've learned so much about photography. I now make it a point to go out at least once a week and practice both photographing in different locations and post-processing my work.

For many years, I've enjoyed being actively involved in a local hiking club and have held various positions on its executive board. Since joining WPS, I have volunteered by helping to set up the photography exhibits and come up with ideas for field trips, and it has been a pleasure to help out and get involved in WPS.

Arnold Breisblatt

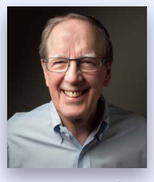
Since the fall of 2011, I have been a proud member of the WPS and have served on the Board of Directors for the last eight years. My primary responsibilities include assisting with the WPS member group exhibitions and, when appropriate, photo documenting our live meetings, events, and parties.

In addition, I have participated as a presenter at our live Zoom meetings on photographic techniques, including smartphone photography. I have also volunteered as a mentor to club members, teaching them how to take better pictures and using Photoshop Elements during post-processing.

As a graduate of Pratt Institute, I have worked as an Art Director and in marketing communications during my professional career. Finally, I love to take part in the club's competitions, exhibits, field trips, and get-togethers.

Richard Budnik

Nature photographer, Digital Photography Instructor at WCC, 1998-2002, Greenburgh Seniors Center, 2002-26, Photography/Photoshop/Lightroom tutor, digital imaging services, computer consultant, retired chemist, WPS member since 1983, Board Member,1983-98, 2000-26; Competition Scorekeeper, 1990-2010, Acting Competition Chair 2019-20, Created WPS, Color Camera Club, Rockland Camera Club, DRPP web sites; Webmaster, 2000-26; Online Newsletter Editor, 2000-26; Chairman of the Board, 2006-26; President, 2006-10; Executive VP, 2003-06; Asst. Treasurer, 2000-04; WPS Lecturer, 1986-2026; Corporate Secretary, 1993-98; VP for Communication Coordination, 1990-98; Recording Secretary, 1992-98; High School Competition Judge; Newsletter Committee, 1990-98; Exhibits Chairman,1990-91; Exhibits Committee,1987-2002; Photoday Lecturer; Mini-Photoday Lecturer; Photoday Committees; WCC Exhibit Committees; competition judge and lecturer at CCC, BZCC, NJFCC, field trip leader, critique panelist; question and answer panelist, mini-Photoshop instructor, showcase presenter, digital imaging lecturer, Olympus M43 Expert/Fanboy (and probably the only one to have actually read the manuals).



Ron Carran

I've been a member of WPS since 2004, after rekindling a love of photography that had been dormant since I was young. In between, I pursued a career in music, first teaching in public schools, then owning a recording studio for many years. My interests then turned to computers, where I have been a software developer and graphic designer for almost 40 years. In the past 25 years or so, with the growing popularity of digital, I became totally immersed in photography again. I love shooting landscapes and am particularly attracted to the shapes and textures I find as I travel in the western US. I designed WPS's new brochure, logo and new website, have been the *InFocus* newsletter editor for the last eighteen years, and would love to serve for another term on the WPS board.

Paul Moulton

I joined the Westchester Photographic Society in May of 2024 and joined the Board to be the coordinator for club exhibits in early 2025. In addition to serving on the WPS board I have over many years served on seven other Boards of Directors. I served as Chair of the Board on four of them.

I have enjoyed my time on the Board of WPS and feel that my background and skills in planning and in managing organizations which present arts activities has helped me to contribute to my current role.

I have enjoyed photography as a hobby for many years and appreciate the development of my skills provided by WPS. I would be honored to continue to contribute to WPS if I am confirmed as a Board member at the Annual General Meeting.

Serge Migdal

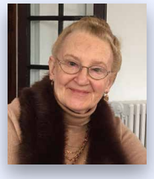
I am a retired engineer from Kraft Foods who started my journey in photography while in college using a trusty Instamatic. To achieve a telephoto, I would shoot through a pair of binoculars. I got seriously into photography when I started photographing my two daughters playing soccer, becoming their unofficial team photographer. We also have many great photographs and memories from our travels throughout the Midwest and East coast to watch the US Women's soccer team play.

Presently I enjoy photographing landscapes, waterfalls, wildlife and trips to the zoo. I travel back and forth between North Carolina and Georgia to visit my daughters and grandchildren from our new home in Arden, North Carolina (aka South Asheville). Although 750 miles from Westchester, I plan to continue to be an active WPS member.

Currently I am the program director for the club. I welcome any recommendations for speakers or other club activities. That also goes for talks you might like to give either for a Showcase or an entire evening.

Dennis Thornton

I have been a member of WPS for a score of years. During that time I have enjoyed the company of good friends and accomplished fellow photographers. Participating in the various activities that have been organized by the club has helped me grow as a photographer and enjoy interacting with others who share a passion for photography. During this tenure, I have found that competing in competitions has been most instrumental in helping me to learn technical photographic techniques and to cultivate a more insightful and mature aesthetic eye. Because I have found this particular club activity so strongly contributing to my development, I have been motivated to assume the role of competition chair. My intent is to strive to make competitions fun, interesting and engaging. Hopefully, by stimulating interest in this endeavor, it will encourage fellow members to participate and benefit from constructive assessments and suggestions.



Julie Van Benthuysen

In the relatively short time that I have been with the WPS, the work of fellow members has never ceased to amaze and inspire me. I am a member of the board, working for the outreach and community contact area. Since my dad gave me a Brownie box camera, I have never looked back. My photography has been ongoing. My main areas of interest are nature, especially flowers, and grab shots of anything that catches my eye. That being said, there is always a real camera with me. I am the official photographer for the Scarsdale Women's Club. I delight in showing my work because there is such beauty in all the earth for us to marvel at and enjoy

Leon Zelazny

Six years ago, I became part of the WPS family, and since then, my journey in photography has been truly transformative. Immersing myself in the club's diverse programs and connecting with many talented member colleagues, have not only refined my skills but also inspired me to push creative boundaries and explore new photographic interests. In my professional career as a Transportation Planner and Engineer, I used the camera to help visualize complex engineering concepts to help make it easier to understand before they were built. This experience inspired me to look beyond the "built environment" and venture into other artistic perspectives like street, landscape, and nature photography.

In 2023, I joined the WPS board as head of the Membership Committee and Community Liaison chair. These roles have given me the rewarding opportunity to promote our club to the wider photographic community and to recruit new members to join our vibrant WPS family. My goal is to continue building on our achievements and to the ongoing growth and success of the club.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE

Dear WPS Member.

In accordance with WPS governing rules, the Board of Directors invites you to participate in an important Annual Membership vote to ratify our amended Bylaws approved by the Board on March 19, 2026. Your presence and engagement are crucial to achieving the required quorum and voting to accept our governing documents, ensuring that we continue to serve the best interests of the club and our valued members.

The current WPS Bylaws, originally adopted almost fifty years ago, have undergone only few revisions to date. However, over that same period, the club has continued to evolve in response to changing times and the needs of its members, which impacted on the way the club operates today. As a result, certain provisions in the existing Bylaws are outdated or no longer reflect current practices.

To address this, WPS has prepared and approved a revised set of Bylaws that more accurately reflects the club's current structure, its operations and ongoing mission.

To help members review the Bylaws, we prepared a document titled **"WPS BYLAWS-Track changes – Final"** showing the current Bylaws with all the deletions and additions that were implemented and an updated document that incorporates all the changes made titled **"WPS BYLAWS – Final"**

The proposed amendments can be summarized as follows

1. **Greater flexibility:** Making provisions more general to allow the Board to make procedural adjustments more efficiently. This includes removing references to meetings being held on a specific day of the week or at a specific location or at fix location (such as on Fridays or Westchester Community College).
2. **Consistency in timeframes:** Aligning and standardizing various time-related requirements such as membership duration for candidates to be eligible for Board service, and the advance notice period requirement for calling a Special Membership Meetings to be the same as for the Annual Membership Meeting.
3. **Structural updates:** Removing outdated membership classifications and Board positions and clarifying that all officers must be members of the Board.
4. **Clarity and accuracy:** Eliminating redundant or inconsistent provisions and correcting typographical and drafting errors.

Please mark your calendar and plan to attend the Annual Membership meeting. Your active commitment is vital to ensure that our club remains responsive and effective for all club members.

Thank you

WPS Board of Directors.

inFocus

The Newsletter of the
Westchester Photographic Society

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P.O. Box 405, Ossining, NY 10562

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