

inFocus

Newsletter of the Westchester Photographic Society

October 2020



INSIDE:

Competition

Field Trip

Feature

Signs of the Times



We will thrive!

As we proceed with our 2021 season at WPS, we look at a world filled with strife in various areas of life: political, social, meteorologic. For nearly three quarters of this year we are handling, some would say mishandling, a global pandemic with no end in sight, we've been harshly hit by the first of purportedly many hurricanes to arrive this year that left over 200,000 customers in the Northeast without power for over a week, a political landscape that is rather unstable... and so much more. So what can we do in our own world? We have to survive and we have to use all the tools at our disposal, known and those as yet to be discovered, to do so.

Artists throughout the planet are finding ways to express their feelings, hopes, fears, and yes, joys. At WPS, our tools include all our gear related to photography from the camera (including all our accessories) to processing programs to, and most importantly, to sharing our love for photography with each other.

Now more than ever, I think of Andre Kertesz's comment, "Seeing is not enough, you have to feel what you photograph." Those feelings need to be shared, mirrored and expanded by and to those around us.

Let us share our photos, our thoughts, our critiques, our photographic methods, and especially our support for each other more than we ever have. We are learning that without each other, the rest means very little.

I salute our members and look forward to our helping each other thrive.

Warmly,

Deborah Lea Cohen, *President*

COVER PHOTO

SQUIRREL WITH HICKORY NUT

By *Barbara Pollack*

This squirrel is hoarding a delicious hickory nut for a winter meal. He or she posed for me during my morning neighborhood walk.



inFocus

Ron Carran, Editor
Dick Budnik, Web edition

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

Westchester Photographic Society
meets 10 months a year, on Friday evenings at 8:00 pm (excepting school holidays) in the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Northern Westchester, at 236 S Bedford Rd, Mt Kisco, NY. Guests are welcome.



FRIDAY EVENING PROGRAMS

October

- 2 Out of the Box, "Photos from the PA Treasures Field Trip"
- 9 Competition 1B
- 16 Ted & Nune, "[Fine Art Architectural Photography: From Idea to Print](#)"
- 23 James Maher, "[Street Photography](#)"
- 30 Competition 2A

November

- 6 Stephen Wilkes, "[Night to Day](#)"
- 13 Members' Mix (5 and 20 min presentations)
- 20 Competition 2B
- 27 No Meeting: Thanksgiving

December

- 4 Ashok Sinha, "[Gas and Glamour, Roadside Architecture in Los Angeles](#)"
- 11 Competition 3A
- 18 Holiday Party
- 25 No Meeting: Christmas

January

- 1 No Meeting: New Years Day
- 8 Competition 3B
- 15 Art Vaughn, NECCC Print Winners
- 22 Hazel Meridith, "[Creativity with Textures and Composition](#)," Mentoring
- 29 Competition 4A

February

- 5 TBD
- 12 Outside Speaker
- 19 Members' Mix (5 and 20 min presentations)
- 26 Competition 4B

Please note:

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

COMING UP

**Ted & Nune on October 16****Fine Art Architectural Photography: From Idea to Print**

Ted & Nune are a New York-based duo and couple who create in their works an emotional connection with architectural subjects. They accentuate the unique feel of man-made structures and present them in surrealistic settings to elevate them above immediate consciousness.

Topics include: gear, including ND filters and drone; variety of architectural subjects; choice of locations and challenges of light and weather conditions; long exposure and infrared techniques; processing techniques with before and after examples; use of color and specialized B/W Piezography printing system.

**James Maher on October 23****Doing Street Photography
A Program Designed to Enhance Both Your
Technical Ability and Visual Sense**

James Maher has lived in New York for his entire life. Like many Manhattanites, he is a terrible driver and cook, but he's an excellent navigator. He has been practicing the art of street photography since he first picked up a camera, has worked as a portrait, studio and documentary photographer in New York since 2005, is a certified New York photography tour and workshop guide, and is the author of *The New York Photographer's Travel Guide* and *The Essentials of Street Photography*.

This session will cover a wide range of street photography topics, beginning with an introduction to the genre and progressing through intermediate and advanced topics. We will cover everything from how to setup and use your camera, to tips and tricks to make street photography easier and more comfortable, to street photography in quiet and suburban areas, and to overall conceptual issues in street photography, such as telling a story and creating a portfolio or project.

MARKETPLACE

TAMRON 16-300 mm PZ LENS for NIKON
in excellent working and cosmetic condition: \$399.00. Comes with lens shade and rear lens cap.
Please call Mano at 914-271-5542
OrelDigitalPrinting.com

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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, Deborah Cohen.

AREA MUSEUMS/GALLERIES

NOTE:

Some of these museums are temporarily closed because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Please check their websites for more information.

Metropolitan Museum
www.metmuseum.org
Photography's Last Century
 Through Nov 30

Museum of Modern Art
www.moma.org
Dorothea Lange

International Center for Photography
www.icp.org
Many online exhibits
 Through Dec 31

Brooklyn Museum
www.brooklynmuseum.org
See online exhibits

Fotografiska
www.fotografiska.com/museums/
Many Exhibits
 Check website

New-York Historical Society
www.nyhistory.org
Bill Graham and the Rock & Roll Revolution
Photography Archives
 See online exhibits

WPS FIELD TRIPS

<https://www.wpsphoto.org/members-field-trips>

We're looking for people to suggest and organize field trips!

WPS GROUP EXHIBITS

Northern Westchester Hospital/ Chappaqua Crossing
"Sports/Action or Movement"
 Exhibit: Nov 4 - ongoing

Cancer Treatment and Wellness Center Northern Westchester Hospital
"Our World of Water"
 Exhibit: Jan 13 - ongoing

SEMINARS/WORKSHOPS

(Samplings only. Please log on to websites to see the entire schedules)

B&H Photo
<http://www.bhphotovideo.com/find/EventSpace.jsp>
 check online

Adorama
<http://www.adorama.com/alc/events>
 check online



Check out Hunt's Photo Great Education Offerings!
<https://edu.huntsphoto.com>



In The American horticultural Society, you get special admission privileges and discounts at at more than 320 gardens throughout North America and the Cayman Islands through a reciprocal admissions program. Locally, Lasdon Gardens in Katonah has just joined this group.

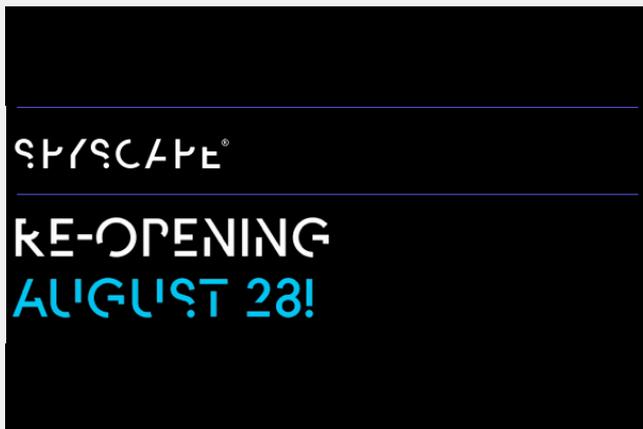
If you would like to be a member of the American Rose Society, you can contact them at www.rose.org, or you can call them at 800-637653. This entitles you to a newsletter, email updates, and a chance to display your rose photos on the Internet. You can contact the main organization and they will contact a member in your area who will come and help you with your rose problems. If they don't come, the main woman checks up on them to see why they didn't visit you. It's a network across the United States and it is free. This sounds like a win-win situation. Best wishes for happy gardening. For questions and to sign up for the Horticultural Society, call area 703-768-5700, extension 119. The email is www.membership@ahsgardening.org.

From Julie Van Benthuyssen.

PHOTO OPPORTUNITIES

SpyScape Museum

928 8th Ave, New York, NY 10019



COLOR B



Barbara Pollack, First
Jack London Square White Cosmos Flowers



Julie Van Benthuisen, First
Dreamy Gardenia



Jim Dwyer, Second
Lake Sunrise

COLOR B



Julie Van Benthuisen, Third
Pinecone Hatching



Carl Zucker, Third
Getting the Shot



Carl Zucker, HM
Peony

COLOR A



Barbara Kapetanakes, First
Should I Trust You?



Arnold Breisblatt, Second
2 Straw Flowers 1 Bug

COLOR A



Voyin Hrnjak, Third
Main Lighthouse



Jackie Ross, Third
Cormorant



Betty Leong, HM
Atlas Mountains in Morocco

COLOR SALON



Lewis Bogaty, First
Spider



Jun Shihoten, Second
Dragon Fly



Dennis Thornton, Second
Egret Siblings



Lewis Bogaty, Third
Butterfly

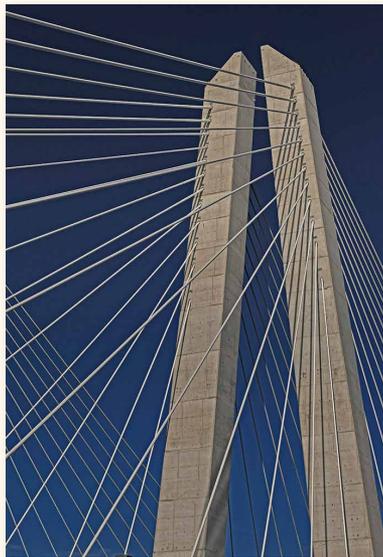
COLOR SALON



Jun Shihoten, Third
Carpenter Bee



Dennis Thornton, Third
Bodie Rear Window View



Richard Micklish, HM
M Cuomo Bridge

DIGITAL OPEN MIND



Jackie Ross, First
Wildlife



Anastasia Tompkins, First
Color Me Pretty



Jim Dwyer, Second
Dark Times

DIGITAL OPEN MIND



Barbara Kapetanakes, Second
Worms Please



Carl Zucker, Second
Gold



Voyin Hrnjak, Third
Paradise

DIGITAL OPEN MIND



Lois Barker, HM
Pink Rose



Barbara Kapetanakes, HM
Wooden Shoes



Anastasia Tompkins, HM
Dancers Trinidad



Julie Van Benthuysen, HM
Grandma's Flower Garden

The New Paltz Area has Much to Offer

by Deborah Lea Cohen

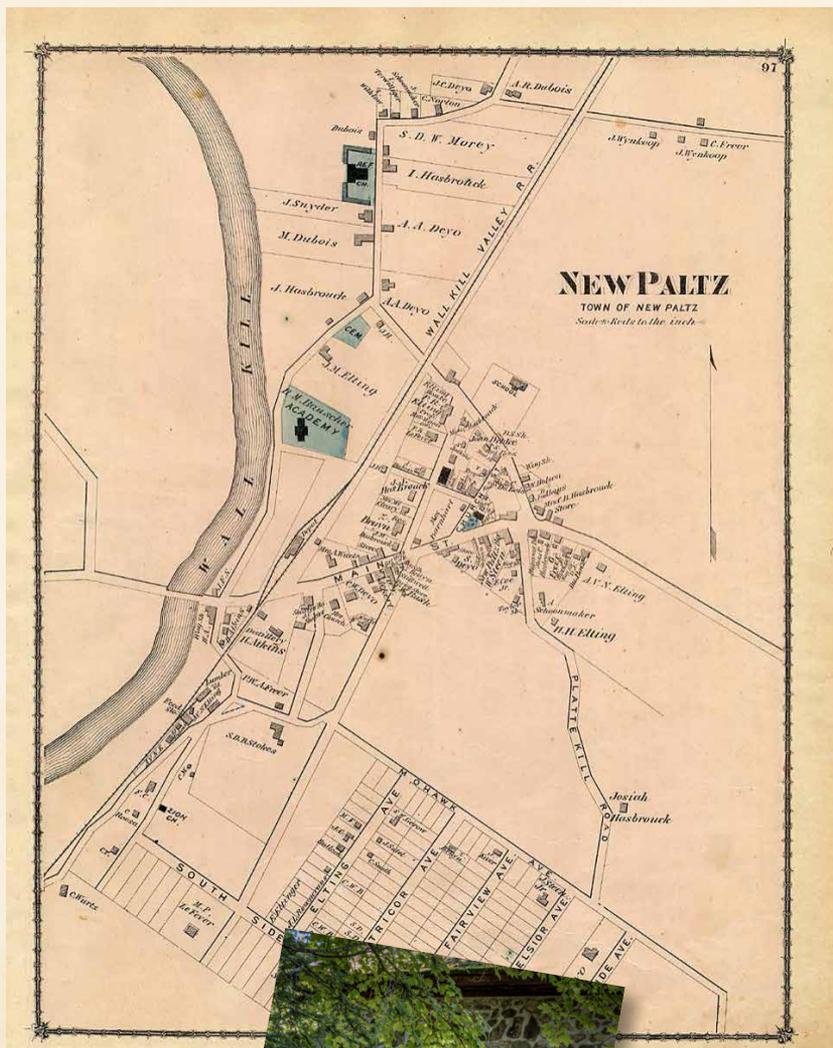
New Paltz has always been a place of interest. In 1678 French Huguenots “purchased” land from the Escopus, a tribe of the Lenape people. They had come to the New World for religious freedom, via Germany, to create their own community. Today a few of their buildings still remain. Before the pandemic, Huguenot Street’s buildings were open and staffed by re-enactors in period dress. Today, for safety, all are closed but the buildings are still of interest.

The vicinity holds much more to be photographed. For example, Lake Minnewaska, Mohonk, SUNY New Paltz and other lovely sites are relatively near by. Serge and I went, at separate times, to explore. Serge made two pleasant trips to Huguenot Street and Lake Minnewaska. Although he enjoyed the lake area, there wasn’t enough water in the waterfalls for his taste.

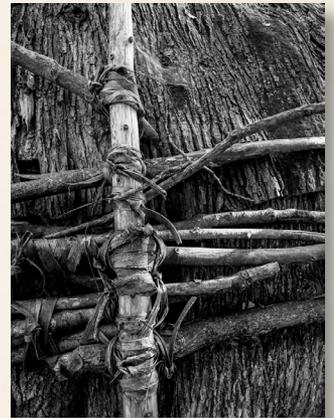
Although some of the buildings were interesting to me, the churchyard is what really caught my attention. It was there, a bit away from the cars and folks roaming around, that I had a sense of what their lives must have been like over three centuries ago.

After a while I decided to go to Mohonk but upon arrival learned that I’d needed a reservation. Covid follows us wherever we go! Without any objection to the rules, I left wishing I had remembered that many facilities require timed reservations. We must all take precautions during these times which includes double checking where reservations are needed.

Please enjoy and be inspired to make your own visit by the photos we captured during our time there.



New Paltz, 1875



Photos by Deborah Cohen and Serge Migdal

The Red Apple Rest

by Al Sarnotsky

When I was a child my father did not have a steady job. However, each summer he would take the grocery concession at a “bungalow colony” in the Catskill “borsht belt”. Every year, in the spring my family would make the five-hour trek from Brooklyn to the mountains. About half way, along Route 17 in Sloatsberg, New York, was the Red Apple Rest; This was THE place to stop for a snack or pit stop. I particularly remember their hot dogs. Unfortunately, when the Thruway, which by-passed Sloatsberg was built, traffic decreased and the Red Apple Rest went into decline and now is a fading, decaying structure.

As a result of the current Coronavirus shutdown which kept us homebound, wife Midge and I had cabin fever, so we decided to go for a car ride. We found ourselves in that area. I took a few pictures which I shared with Dick’s Tuesday photo class, of the current sad shell of the Red Apple’s former glory. Because the images were discussed with a lot of nostalgic interest and because they brought back many childhood memories, I decided to share the photos with the club via “In Focus.”

Deborah indicated that she, herself, is inspired to take photos.

Barbara Pollack wrote: “I remember stopping there each time my family returned from NYC to our home in Accord. I couldn’t remember what we would buy there, and it was their French fries. I shared the pictures from the internet with my brother who reminded me. It was a good bathroom stop as well. So sad what has happened to that booming business with a change in the traffic pattern. Childhood memories.”

The following is abstracted from the Wikipedia article on the Red Apple Rest:

The Red Apple Rest was a cafeteria-style restaurant on New York State Route 17, in the Southfields section of Tuxedo, New York.[1] It was a noted way station for people traveling to the hotels of the Catskill Mountains of upstate New York. Before the New York State Thruway was built, the travel time from New York City to the Catskill Mountains was often four or five hours, especially during weekends. The Red Apple Rest, located almost halfway, became a major roadside stopping place. The restaurant was opened in May 1931 by Reuben Freed.

The Red Apple Rest had a great deal of business during the 1940s and 1950s. It was open 365 days a year, 24 hours a day, and was patronized by so-called “Borscht Belt” comedians and professional athletes as well as families traveling to campgrounds and resorts. Although the Thruway (which was built beginning 1953) bypassed the restaurant, and vacationing in the Catskill Mountains became less popular after the 1960s, the restaurant remained very busy until the 1970s. In 1965 the Red Apple Rest served one million customers.

In his book on Jewish comedians in America, The Haunted Smile, author Lawrence J. Epstein said that comedians would stop at the Red Apple Rest late at night and “would go over the acts, describe the audience, and gather gossip about the other comedians and about routines ripe for buying or ‘borrowing.’”

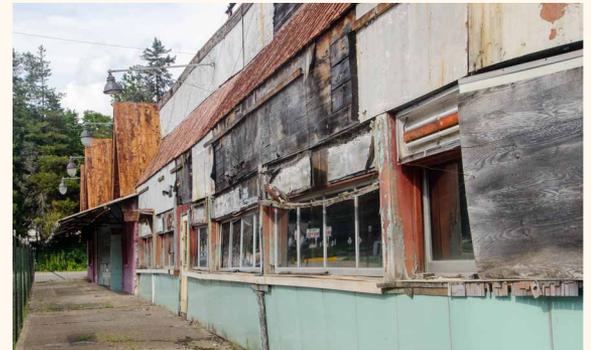
The Red Apple Motel, which is sited on the hill to the west of the restaurant, was used by performers late into the 1970s. Several Rock and Roll musicians stayed



during their bookings in New York City. The location was secluded and the staff was either ‘cool about it’ or uninformed. Many well-known performers roamed through nearby Sterling Forest while waiting to travel to their nighttime venues. One hotel guest that can be named now is George Carlin, who stayed in room 102 during his Saturday Night Live opening week. He required silence during the morning hours to allow for rest, but was very active with the staff during the night. It was common for him to trial material with the night shift desk clerk.

After 53 years under the Freed family management, the Red Apple Rest was sold in 1984 to a Greek businessman who ran it for another 21 years. At that point it was mostly catering to locals due to the fact that the Catskills had dwindled away as a destination. It closed in September 2006—purportedly for various reasons.

The restaurant was featured in several movies such as Woody Allen’s Deconstructing Harry, A Walk on the Moon, Tenderness and Oliver’s Story, and the November 28, 2013 installment of Bill Griffith’s comic strip Zippy.



Dennis Thornton



inFocus

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Westchester Photographic Society

Ron Carran, editor

P.O. Box 14, Brewster, NY 10509

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