

inFocus

Newsletter of the Westchester Photographic Society

May 2020



INSIDE:

Virtual Competition

Signs of the Times



Less is More in the Days of Quarantine

“Learning new minimalistic
ways of being
Not merely looking
But really seeing
QUARANTINE+VE”

I came across this quote by Puja Bhakoo applicable to photographers quarantined seemingly forever. At first we felt photographing was next to impossible at this time, but, being creative folks, we soon found every room in our homes has subjects to explore. Those of us with gardens safely enjoy hours of photographic joy. We can test our various lenses, ambient light, lighting gear, explore a subject from several angles, and more than can be mentioned here.

Our club has resumed meeting via Zoom, we are attending Dick's Tuesday's class via Zoom. We share ideas individually.... In other words, as an incredibly creative group of people, we are handling our isolation by finding ways to keep our communication active.

As we continue to shelter in place safely, following all scientific and medical guidelines, we hope for those who have the virus to fully recover and mourn those we have lost and will never forget.

Stay safe, stay healthy, stay strong. Keep shooting.

Warmly,

Deborah Lea Cohen, President

COVER PHOTO

NEW NORMAL By Arnold Breisblatt

The New Normal... Living With COVID-19" This is a composite of 2 photos that is a-propos of how we have to live in today's times.



inFocus

Ron Carran, Editor
Dick Budnik, Web edition

WPS Board of Directors

Dick Budnik, Chairman of the Board, WebMaster
Larry Blau, Treasurer
Deborah Lea Cohen, President, Field Trip Chair, Publicity Chair, Hospitality Chair
Jim Dwyer, Recording Secretary, Special Projects, NECCC Liason, Publicity
Charles Koenig, Executive Vice President, Corporate Secretary
Serge Migdal, Programs
Arnold Breisblatt, Exhibits
Ron Carran, Newsletter Editor
Walter Kimmel, Competitions
Joe Pollock, College Shooting Program, WCC Liason, Annual Dinner, Mentor Program
Julie Van Benthuyzen, Community Outreach

Volunteers

Competitions

Rose Ann Kimmel

WPS Official Photographers ("Sharpshooters")

Arnold Breisblatt, Julie Benthuyzen, Bonnie Katz, Melanie Rush

Guests Greeter

Sylvie Epperly

Judge Coordinators

Gary Derringer, David Fein

Hospitality

Deborah Cohen, Sylvie Epperly, Jane Gordon, Julie Van Benthuyzen

Equipment

Tom Streppone, Joe Ferriera, Fuat Baran, Bonnie Katz, Gregory White

Competition Scores Reporting

Mark Friedman, Ken Salstrom

Equipment, Projectionist

Jonathan Kaplan

Awards

John Maccanello

Committees

Publicity

Deborah Cohen, Jim Dwyer

Hospitality Coordinators

Deborah Cohen, Sylvie Epperly

Competition Evaluation Committee

Dick Budnik, Lois Barker, Elinor Stecker-Orel, Harvey Augenbraun

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

Westchester Photographic Society

meets 12 months a year, on Friday evenings at 8:00 pm (excepting school holidays) in the Technology Building of Westchester Community College (room 107), Valhalla, NY (across from parking lot #11). Guests are welcome.



Member of



FRIDAY EVENING PROGRAMS

May

- 1 Online Annual Members Meeting, Photo Critique
- 8 John Gregor, "Mexico, Southwest USA and Night Sky's Photography" + Hunts Virtual Competition 5B
- 15 Virtual Competition 5B
- 22 No Meeting: Memorial Day
- 29 Online Theme Competition 2, "Shadows"

June

- 5 Joseph Roybal, "The Image from Start to Finish" + Hunts
- 12 Online End of Year Competition
- 19 TBE
- 26 End of Year Party

July & August

No Meetings

September

- 4 No Meeting: Labor Day
- 11 Charles Glatzer, "The Comprehensive Wildlife Photographer"
- 18 No Meeting: Rosh Hashanah
- 25 Competition 1A

October

- 2 Jeff Um
- 9 Competition 1B
- 16 Ted & Nune, "Fine Art Architectural Photography: From Idea to Print"
- 23 Members' Critique
- 30 Competition 2A

November

- 6 Out of the Box, "PA Treasures Field Trip"
- 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

Pleaste note:

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

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



John Gregor online on May 8

John Gregor has a Masters of Education through St. Scholastica College with an emphasis in photographic literacy. He earned his BA from the University of Minnesota with a degree through the University Without Walls program, his degree was entitled

"Documentary Expression of American Culture Through Photography" a combined degree of Social Sciences and Fine Art Photography.

During his career Gregor has worked on some interesting projects and photographed for some great publications, they include: 2 years as the Official Track Photographer at Canterbury Downs Racetrack, a month long photographic project in Africa documenting the first attempted kayak decent of the Blue Nile from Lake Victoria to Lake Albert, an on-going photography project on horse-mounted military musical bands remaining worldwide, and he has compiled the largest private collection of conservation photographs in Minnesota working for The Nature Conservancy and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

Gregor has written several articles about photography, including an article on Filtering for Landscape published by Outdoor Photographer. He is an accomplished educator and has presented his work at numerous conferences, and camera clubs throughout the country.

Gregor currently lives in Two Harbors Minnesota, Temple Maine, and Bluff Utah, where he runs ColdSnap Photography which offers photographic workshops and tours. You can find out more information at www.coldsnap-photography.com or follow him on Facebook at: John.gregor.5

Gregor will present his recent work including: a two-month, 5300-mile road trip through Mexico in the winter of 2020, and his recent work from the Four Corners and Bear's Ears area of Utah. He will discuss how he works and what inspires his vision.

Things to Do While Stuck at Home

Adobe is offering 2 free months off their CC subscription plan.

Check this article for details:

<https://petapixel.com/2020/03/18/adobe-is-giving-everyone-2-months-of-free-creative-cloud-heres-how-to-get-it/>

Deborah Gilbert, formerly of B&H's Event Space, offers a free, weekly e-newsletter about photography.

To subscribe, just send a request to DevelopPhotoNewsletter@gmail.com to be added to the mailing list.

If you saw the movie Ex Machina, you will be amazed by this photographer's work <https://petapixel.com/2020/03/25/photos-of-the-robots-living-among-us/> with Instagram links to behind-the-scene images as well.

By now, you'll notice that I enjoy the petapixel.com website! You can subscribe to their daily email digest.

Copyright Notice

Unless specifically noted herein, all images and articles are copyrighted by their respective authors. Clip-art is used under license from Microsoft Corporation and other sources. This publication is copyrighted property of the Westchester Photographic Society (WPS) and may not be reprinted in whole or in part without its expressed written permission, with the usual exceptions for fair use as defined by §107 of the U.S. Copyright code.

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

Metropolitan Museum
(www.metmuseum.org)
Ongoing

Museum of Modern Art
(www.moma.org)
Dorothea Lange
Words and Pictures
Through May 9

International Center for Photography
(www.icp.org)
#ICPConcerned: A Forum for All to Document the COVID-19 Pandemic
Through May 18 (online)

Brooklyn Museum
(www.brooklynmuseum.org)
JR: Chronicles
Through May 3

Fotografiska
(www.fotografiska.com/museums/)
Ellen von Unwerth:
Many Exhibits
Check website

New-York Historical Society
(www.nyhistory.org)
Photography Archives
Ongoing

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"
Drop Off: Monday, Nov 4, 9:30AM
Exhibit: Nov 4 - ongoing

Cancer Treatment and Wellness Center
Northern Westchester Hospital
"Our World of Water"
Drop Off: Mon, Jan 13, 9:30 - 10AM
Reception: Feb 1, 2-4 PM
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

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

Stay Home




Stay SAFE

USEFUL LINKS

Links From Ed Lee at Park West Camera Club

Last week I recommended a duplicate photo finder and remover, Awesome Duplicate Finder, free software that I have been using for years. Here's a link which includes 10 other finders and their pros and cons: https://blogs.systemweak.com/5-duplicate-photo-finder-tools-to-delete-duplicate-photos/?utm_source=footer&utm_campaign=recommended.

Hand-in-hand with removing duplicate images is photo management software. Here are some recommendations: <https://www.tomsguide.com/us/pictures-story/412-best-free-photo-management-software.html>.

Need something to do while sheltering-in-place? 10 suggestions in this article: https://digital-photography-school.com/10-photography-projects-you-can-work-on-from-home/?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=April-2320.

For info about the \$1200 stimulus check, see this article from AARP: <https://www.aarp.org/politics-society/advocacy/info-2020/coronavirus-stimulus-checks.html>. To see if you've already received the check, go to: <https://www.irs.gov/coronavirus/get-my-payment>.

COLOR B



Carl Zucker, First Chicago View



Melanie Rush, Second Precious Little Fingers



Carl Zucker, Third Fish in a Barrel

COLOR B

COLOR A



Barbara Pollack, HM
My Garden'r Jonquil



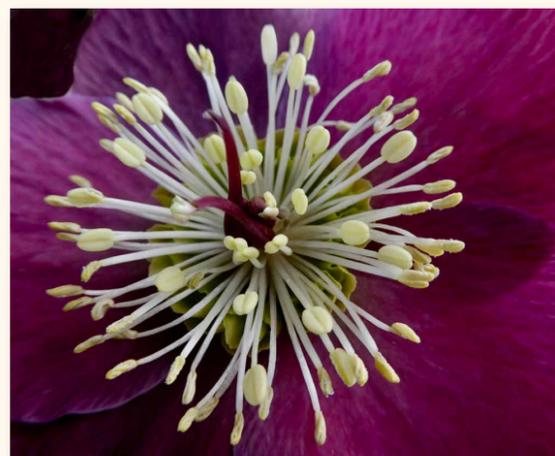
Barbara Pollack, HM
Old Bryce House on Prairie



Voyin Hrnjak, First
Tamarin-Golden-Lion



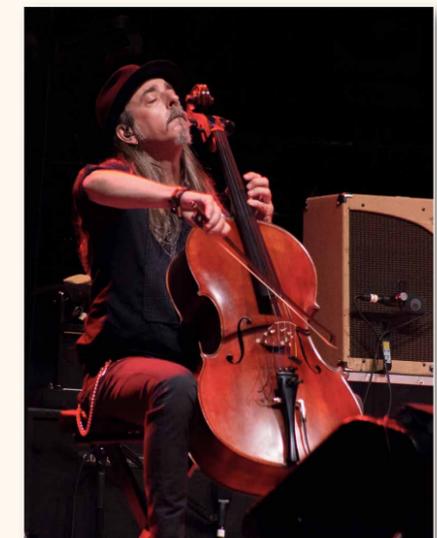
Barbara Kapetanakes, Second
Niagra Falls



Julie Van Benthuisen, HM
Radiance



Jackie Ross, Third
A Happy Trail



Barbara Kapetanakes, HM
Cello

COLOR SALON



Anastasia Tompkins, First
Greedy Goldfinch



Harvey Augenbraun, Second
Bee #3



Lewis Bogaty, Second
Wolf in Water



Jun Shihoten, Second
Butterfly Mating



Harvey Augenbraun, Third
Big Ape #2



Chris Moore, HM
Fountain Pen Nibs—Get the Point?

OPEN MIND



Anastasia Tompkins, First
Santeria Dancer



Anastasia Tompkins, Second
Looking Good



Barbara Kapetanakes, Third
Chincoteague Ponies



Tom O'Connell
Traffic Jam



Barbara Kapetanakes, Third
Believe It or Not



Arnold Breisblatt, Third
Zombie Mountain Climber



Albert Tang, HM
Fall Colors

CORONAPOCALYPSE IN NY

by Barbara Kapetanakes

A COUPLE OF WEEKS AGO I TOOK A DRIVE INTO Manhattan to see the deserted streets. I wanted to experience for myself the kind of quiet that is very rare in New York City, especially midtown Manhattan. Quiet like that is usually only seen at 7AM on a Sunday, if ever. I wanted to take pictures to document this historical event that had driven most of us indoors indefinitely.

With no traffic I got to midtown in about 35 minutes from Sleepy Hollow. Streets were deserted except for a few other cars and some police cars here and there patrolling the area. I learned how to drive in Brooklyn and Manhattan, and the empty streets were eerie and disorienting. It sometimes felt like I shouldn't be where I was, shouldn't be turning that corner, shouldn't be driving on this empty street that perhaps was off limits to cars. I hadn't realized how much one follows the car ahead in a crowded place like New York and how little attention we pay to stoplights and traffic signs. With no one in front of me at intersections, no other cars on the streets as I turned off an avenue, and few pedestrians, I had to keep checking that I was following traffic laws.

Aside from being able to make it across town and back, south and back north, all over the city, in no time, there were also an unusual number of legal parking spaces or at least places to pull over that on any other Saturday would have been occupied by cars waiting for someone, cabs pulling over, or a truck unloading. Multiple times I was able to pull over to the curb, open my car door, jump out, take a few shots, and jump back in. Sometimes I was even able to do this and STILL make the light before it turned red. All the things that make driving in Manhattan a pain were gone.

I spent a few hours moseying around. In that time I

was able to quickly find two free legal parking spots near places I wanted to go to walk around. Once I parked by Central Park, in the East 70s, and walked around the park for an hour. As I headed north to go back home, I considered stopping by Riverside drive to walk around and take some pictures of Grant's tomb. Knowing it was around 122nd Street, I began looking out of the corner of my eye for open space. Lucky me! There were several spaces on 122nd and Broadway. I pulled over, grabbed my camera, and went for a quick walk. My capture of Riverside drive with one car and one jogger is a good example of what the city was like that day. A street that would normally be full of traffic, pedestrians, dog walkers, joggers, etc., looked like a side street in a small town. Central Park could have been a bucolic park in the country for how many people were there, and pedestrians crossing the street were solo rather than part of the usual mobs that move en masse into the crosswalks. Street performers played to tiny audiences, and people had benches and shade trees all to themselves. Many people were wearing masks, a blatant reminder of the virus that had already killed thousands.

Like all of you, I hope that life returns to normal sooner than later. The anxiety that is palpable in the air right now is difficult to deal with, and the isolation and uncertainty is not good for our mental health (in the first week of this crisis, it was all my patients could talk about and I found I came home at night very drained from talking about nothing but illness all day). But even in my wish for normalcy, the next time I'm pushing through city crowds I'll yearn for the day I drove into Manhattan during Coronapocalypse and saw the city as it was in days of yore, with fewer people, few cars, and wide-open space. The day I got pictures without crowds. The day New York became a ghost town.



Photography Under Quarantine

by Arnold Breisblatt

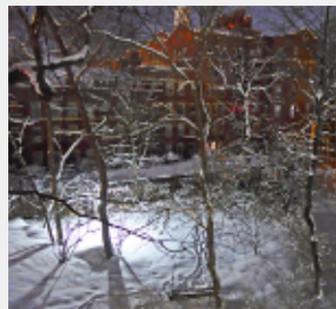
During these difficult times, being confined to our homes or apartments doesn't mean we can't do some decent pictures if we want to and enjoy the process. I'm usually a grab shooter and like to photograph things as they happen or when I notice them. When I see something of interest, out comes my camera (which is always charged with a chip inside) and "click" it's done. Of course not all my photos are winners, but it's a great way of passing the time of day.

Choices to consider— the odd situation

We all have items we surround ourselves with which might include a statue, a lamp, flowers, objects of art, etc. Then there is the odd situation e.g. when the light hits a particular item or when it snows outside.

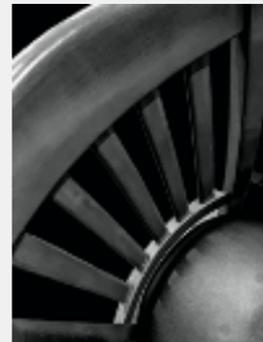
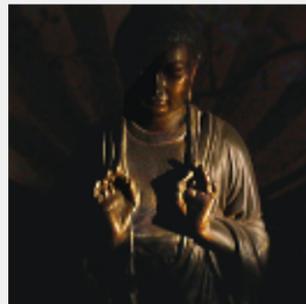


My apartment building. Taken at night with my cellphone camera.

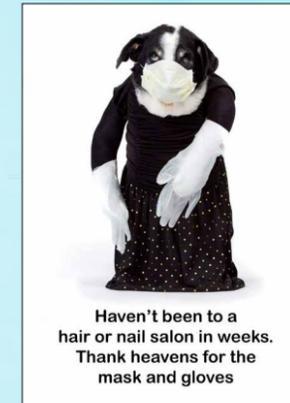
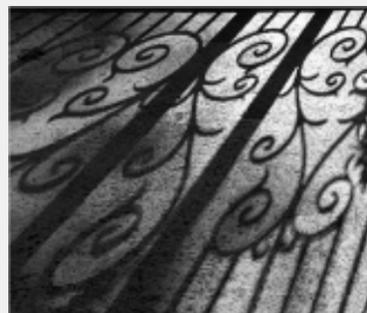


More images of interest.

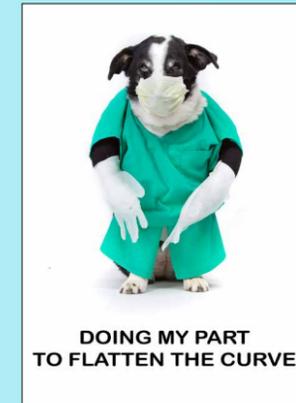
Taking pictures in natural light, the early morning or early evening has its own charm and interest:



Taking pictures outside on your balcony or building front and rear offers another perspective:



Liza Margulies



Liza Margulies



Kenny Salstrom



Kenny Salstrom



Kenny Salstrom



Dennis Thornton



Dennis Thornton



Chris Moore



Chris Moore



Barbara Pollack



Barbara Pollack



Joe Pollock



Joe Pollock



Joe Pollock



Barbara Pollack



Julie Van Benthuisen



Joe Pollock



Jackie Ross



Julie Van Benthuisen



Julie Van Benthuisen

inFocus

The Newsletter of the
Westchester Photographic Society

Ron Carran, editor

P.O. Box 14, Brewster, NY 10509

Sponsors of the Westchester Photographic Society

*Ask for your discount from sponsors marked with asterisks

** Discounts with WPS identification

Color Group 769-8484*

168 Saw Mill Rd. Hawthorne, NY 10532-1505

<http://colorgroup.com>

Hunt's Camera 1-800-924-8682

100 Main St., Melrose, MA 02176-6104

www.huntsphotoandvideo.com

Thompson's Art Supply*

184 Mamaroneck Ave., White Plains, NY 10601