

# inFocus

Newsletter of the Westchester Photographic Society

October 2024



## INSIDE:

Coming Up

Competition 1A

Competition Corner

Member in Focus

Wave Hill Pictures





Seeing Each Other

Even though we don’t see each other in person at our weekly Friday meetings anymore, we create other events to meet in person. One such occasion is our exhibition receptions. These have been well attended recently (though we wish many more of you would come). I missed the recent one at the Armonk Library as I was out of town that day, but I heard it was a wonderful reception that everyone enjoyed. Special thanks to Jane Gordon who organized some surprises there.

We have a few more receptions to look forward to in October and November: Saturday, October 26, from 2-4 p.m. at the Greenburgh Public Library and Saturday, November 9, from 2-4 p.m. at the Ossining Public Library. Mark your calendars. And if you haven’t signed up to exhibit for the two exhibitions there, you still have time to do so!

Mother Nature didn't cooperate for our Muscoot Farm picnic in late September. I hope the weather will hold out this time and I'll be able to see you all there on October 10.

I was recently at Wave Hill at a field trip organized by Jackie Ross. A small group, but we had fun. I enjoyed chatting about Lensbabies and taking closeups of cacti in the conservatory. In this issue you will find some photographs that we took there. We may be going back this fall, so you have another chance to join us there. Other places under consideration include the Bronx Zoo, the Planting Fields Arboretum, Untermyer Gardens and Blue Hill at Stone Barns. If you have suggestions for where else to go, make sure you let Jackie Ross, our field trip coordinator, know.

I’ve been featuring some of our newest members with my Member in Focus interviews, but it isn’t just about introducing new members to the club. I want to feature some of our older members as well. This is another way for new and old members to get to know each other and find common interests. In this issue we have Kenny Salstrom, a longtime member, in our Member in Focus column.

Our new competition season has begun and Competition 1A is now in the books. Congratulations to all the participants and winners. And congratulations to Barbara Pollack, who moved up to Group A this season, and Jackie Ross, who is now in the Salon group.

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

Fuat Baran, *President*

COVER PHOTO

AUTUMN IN KYOTO

By Stephanie Feingold

Autumn in Kyoto is a lovely time of year to go. After visiting at Kinkaku-ji, the famous Temple of the Golden Pavilion, I walked the surrounding area where ordinary people were brushing away fallen leaves and twigs. I like photographing (and collecting) rocks in situ. There are many areas where the Japanese preference for irregularity and asymmetry is apparent. The irregularity of the stone path encourages one to look down, pause, and look around. Their aesthetic philosophy can be understood from the writings of Kenko, whose short Essays in Idleness of four characteristics that seem of special importance. One is irregularity. Kenko writes, in 1330, “In everything, no matter what it may be, uniformity is undesirable. Leaving something incomplete makes it interesting and gives one the feeling that there is room for growth.” One can’t help but slow down and take in the landscape.



inFocus

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newsletter: [infocus@wpsphoto.org](mailto:infocus@wpsphoto.org)  
[www.wpsphoto.org](http://www.wpsphoto.org)

Westchester Photographic Society  
Meets 12 months a year, on Friday evenings at 7:30 pm  
(excepting school holidays). Meetings are virtual now  
until further notice. Start time is 7:30 pm.



Member of



FRIDAY EVENING PROGRAMS

October

4 Competition 1B (Theme: Leading Lines)  
11 Fuat Baran, "A Photo Per Day"  
18 Ken Hubbard, "Let's Go to the Zoo: A Guide to Wildlife Photography"  
25 Members, "Straight Out of Your Phone Images"

November

1 Competition 2A  
8 Member Critique  
15 TBD  
22 Competition 2B (Theme: Perspective Looking Down)  
29 No Meeting: Thanksgiving

December

6 TBA  
13 Comp 3A  
20 No Meeting: Christmas  
27 No Meeting: New Years

January 2025

3 Comp 3B (Theme: Hard to Touch)  
10 Deborah Loeb Bohren, "iPhone Artistry: The Magic of ICM"  
17 Showcases  
24 Process Stock Photos  
31 Competition 4A

February

7 TBA  
14 Member Speaker  
21 Competition 4B (Theme: Give Us Our Daily Bread)  
28 My Personal Project

March

7 TBA  
14 Competition 5A  
21 Straight Out of the Phone  
28 TBA

Check the WPS website ([wpsphoto.org](http://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](mailto:infocus@wpsphoto.org). If concerning our website, address comments to our webmaster, Dick Budnik, at [webmaster@wpsphoto.org](mailto:webmaster@wpsphoto.org). All other comments should be addressed to our President.

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COMING UP



Fuat Baran on October 11

A Photo a Day

I first heard about the “Project 365” concept of taking and posting one photo per day in 2013. I decided to give it a shot, and now I am in my 12th consecutive year of adding a photo every single day to this project. In a sense it is a visual diary of my days. This project has helped me develop my eye for spotting photo opportunities, given me a sense of consistency (obsession?), and allowed me to explore various techniques, tools, genres and cameras. Within my photo a day project, numerous subprojects and themes have emerged over time. In this talk I'll give you a little background on who I am and how I go about my Project 365, and I'll share many of the photos I've taken.



Bio

Fuat is the current president of the Westchester Photographic Society and a member of the Riverdale Art Association. For the past twelve years Fuat has been taking one photo each day and posting them online as part of a community of “Project 365” photographers on Flickr. He also participates in weekly Macro Mondays challenges on Flickr and recently has combined his interests in abstract photography, macro photography, and acrylic painting into a project to make extreme close-up images of paint and textures on canvas. He can be found on Flickr at <http://www.flickr.com/thebiblioholic> and on Instagram at <https://www.instagram.com/thebiblioholic>.



Ken Hubbard on October 18

Let’s Go to the Zoo: A Guide to Wildlife Photography

In this online webinar, join Tamron photographer Ken Hubbard as he demonstrates how to capture the best wildlife images while in a controlled environment. Ken will take you through the entire creative process, from doing your research before you go to looking for the best light while you’re there. He will also cover some useful techniques to keep in mind while shooting so you can capture the best images possible. If you love wildlife photography and are looking to improve your images, be sure to attend and get ready to schedule your next trip to the zoo!



Bio

Ken is a professional photographer who travels the world capturing images of landscapes, wildlife, small towns, cities and people, basically anything that is framed inside his viewfinder. He has worked for Tamron USA the past 23 years and the last 16 years has been as their Field Services Manager leading a team of photographers and technical experts. Ken and his team teach classes on all aspects of photography and lead workshops across the United States on subjects from the small world of macro photography to the grandest landscapes of our National Parks.



AREA MUSEUMS/GALLERIES

**Metropolitan Museum**  
([www.metmuseum.org](http://www.metmuseum.org))  
Met Collection

**Museum of Modern Art**  
([www.moma.org](http://www.moma.org))  
MOMA Collection

**International Center for Photography**  
([www.icp.org](http://www.icp.org))  
Many Exhibits  
Ongoing

**New York Photography Diary**  
(<https://ny-photography-diary.com/exhibitions/current-exhibitions/>)  
Many Exhibits

**Lens Culture**  
**Recommendations:**  
Photo Festivals & Photo Fairs 2024  
([https://www.lensculture.com/articles/lensculture-editors-lensculture-recommendations-photo-festivals-photo-fairs-2024?utm\\_term=NL-03-07-2024&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=sandy&utm\\_content=NL-03-07-2024&utm\\_campaign=NL-03-07-2024&authtoken=](https://www.lensculture.com/articles/lensculture-editors-lensculture-recommendations-photo-festivals-photo-fairs-2024?utm_term=NL-03-07-2024&utm_medium=email&utm_source=sandy&utm_content=NL-03-07-2024&utm_campaign=NL-03-07-2024&authtoken=)

CLUB EXHIBITS

Northern Westchester Hospital  
Cancer Center

**I Saw it, I Liked It, I Took the Picture**

Greenburgh Library  
**Photo Visions—A Photographer's Perspective**

Ossining Library  
**POV: Point of View**

For more information  
click [HERE](#)

WPS FIELD TRIPS

**Ellis Island**  
**October 7**

**Bear Mountain**  
**TBD**

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

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>

SPECIAL INCENTIVES

**MEREDITH IMAGES**

Hazel Meredith, our recent judge for  
competition 1A, is offering a wide  
variety of classes and seminars.  
Click [HERE](#) to see more.

OTHER EVENTS

**We met at the Eldorado Diner  
for a **NO MEETING EATING**  
for our Labor Day "Meeting."**



Photos by Arnold Breisblatt

*WPS Picnic  
Muscoot Farms  
October 10th*



Greenburgh Public Library Presents:

The Westchester Photographic Society Exhibition



“Photo Visions”— A Photographer’s Perspective

October 11 – November 27, 2024

Reception: Saturday, October 26th  
2 - 4 PM

The Westchester Photographic Society (WPS) is one of the largest, oldest, and friendliest camera clubs in Westchester County, New York. WPS was established by enthusiasts with a passion for photography. We are currently presenting many wonderful pictures in the Gallery Room that show the beauty of a photographer’s perspective. Please enjoy viewing our work.

For more information about the WPS’s weekly meetings, field trips, exhibitions, and events, please go to [www.wpsphoto.org](http://www.wpsphoto.org).

Greenburgh Public Library, 300 Tarrytown Road, Elmsford, NY 10523  
Phone: 914-721-8200.

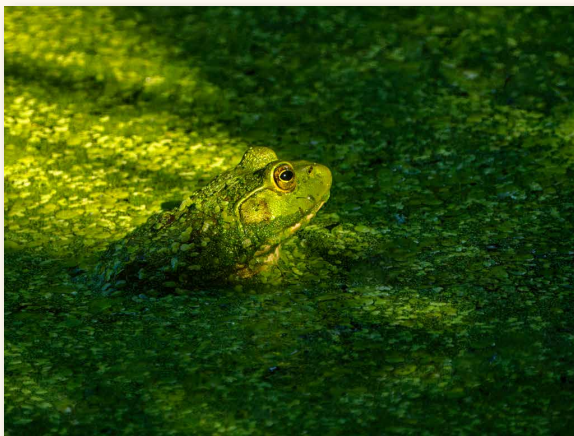
Note: Photos are available unframed at a reduced price. Some photos are available in other sizes. To arrange a purchase of any picture in the exhibit, contact Arnold Breisblatt at [abreis@aol.com](mailto:abreis@aol.com)



DIGITAL COLOR B



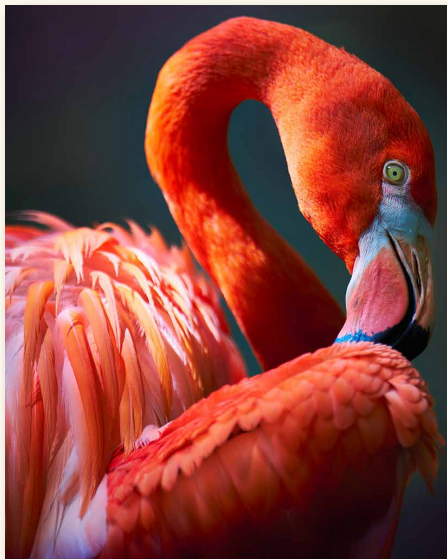
Christopher Grant, First  
*Lions*



Mitchell Druck, Second  
*Mossy Frog*



Mitchell Druck, Third  
*Trio*



Patricia Davis, HM  
*Flamboyance*

DIGITAL COLOR A



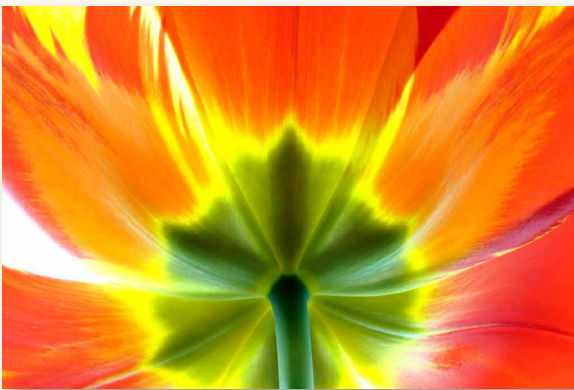
Barbara Pollack, First  
*Dini's Lilies*



Roger Chenault, Second  
*Dancer*



Roger Chenault, Third  
*White Throated Jacobin*



Jennifer Dooley, HM  
*Almost Symmetric*



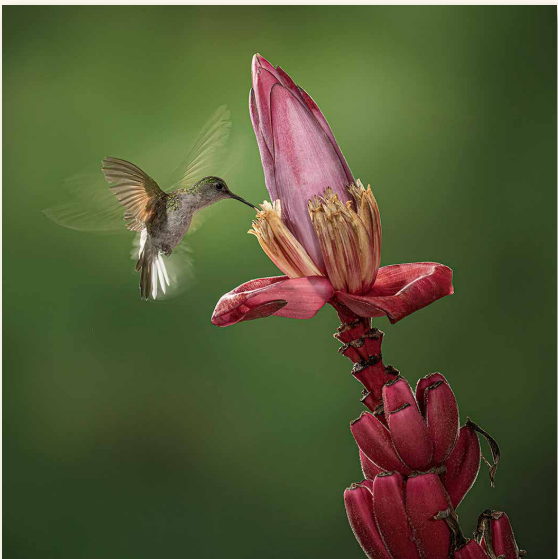
DIGITAL COLOR SALON



**Carlotta Grenier, First**  
*Baby Zebra from the Serengeti*



**Jackie Ross, First**  
*Black Skimmer Early Morning*



**Carlotta Grenier, First**  
*Hovering*

DIGITAL COLOR SALON



**Anastasia Tompkins, Second**  
*Siblings*



**Barbara Kapetanakes, Third**  
*Shipwreck 1*

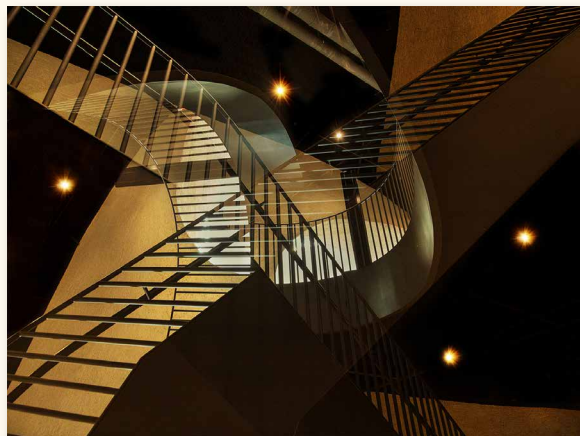


**Dennis Thornton, HM**  
*Fiji Girl with Wild Hair*

DIGITAL COLOR OPEN MIND



Anastasia Tompkins, First  
*Ballerina Scissors*



Carlotta Grenier, First  
*Coming and Going*



Jackie Ross, Second  
*A Twirl of Color*

DIGITAL OPEN MIND



Anastasia Tompkins, Second  
*Vote Blue to Save America*



Howard Robinson, Third  
*Cat's Cradle*



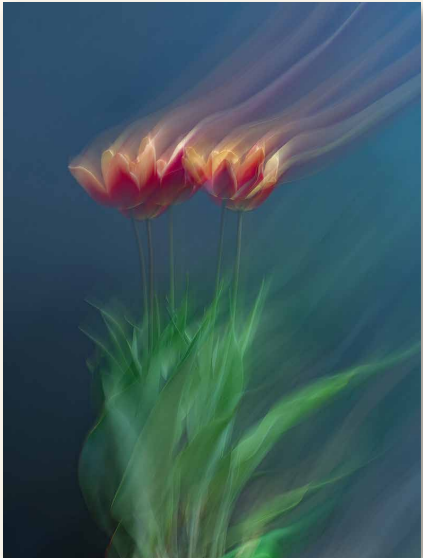
Mitchell Druck, Third  
*Sunflower*



DIGITAL OPEN MIND



Jennifer Dooley, HM  
*Curvature*



Carlotta Grenier, HM  
*Springtime*



Mitchell Druck, HM  
*Winged Horse and Moon*

# The Competition Corner

By Dennis Thornton



## What Is “Art” and When Is It Not Art?

Art is among the more interesting words in the English language. It is described in myriad ways in sometimes seemingly contradictory thoughts.

What people seem to agree upon is that “Art” is a human endeavor, that it is an original product of creative thought and/or imagination. Visual fine arts, like painting, drawing, sculpture, and photography, are viewed as an aesthetic with no functional purpose. Rather, art is intentionally created to express particular thoughts and/or emotions and to evoke similar processes in the viewer.

Art is in the mind of the beholder. Evidentially, there is some hard-to-understand collective-based transformation that takes places where works, by a given artist, are considered “Trash” one day and then are relabeled as “works of art” the next. Andy Warhol’s work is a 20th-century exemplar.

The main intent of the WPS restriction on taking a record shot of other people’s artwork leans mostly on identified works of art. If pondering options for photographing something that looks like art, let common sense prevail. If an object is in a museum, gallery, exhibition, sculpture garden or anywhere works of are displayed, assume it’s a piece of art. If a work that is ascribed to an artist, has a title, or some type of commemorative plaque, assume it’s a piece of artwork.

To make this discussion more confusing, consider that not everything that looks artistic is to be considered a real work of art. There are numerous architectural ornaments that are beautiful but will not be identified as an official work of art. There are many talented artisans who create works that are very professional, attractive and interesting, and that motivate people to purchase the piece. They are artistic and skill-based works, but not considered true “works of art.”

Artistic works tend to be attractive by nature and thus invite us to take pictures of them. But we are instructed to be creative with our captures and not just render a record shot. If you feel that confused about what constitutes a “work of art” and/or what one has to do in order to “transform” it into your own unique creation, then find something else to shoot.

There is abundant subject matter to photograph without going anywhere near pieces of art.

Don’t get carried away misinterpreting everything that has some artistic presentation as constituting a true work of art. If you are critically appraising a submitted image and wondering if it’s a work of art, and if so did the maker make a sufficient effort to meld it into their own, then consider the comments made above. Ask yourself, What was the context? Would the object portrayed be referred to as a true “work of art” or is it the product of a skilled artisan or other person with talent, but not someone who would collectively or by some authority, be recognized as an artist? Trying to definitively define what is art can be like attempting to stand erect on shifting sand. And, a critical element in the evaluation process is, did the maker display sufficient intent/effort in trying to transform the capture, to make it their own creation? Intentionality supersedes execution.

### What Is a “Record Shot”?

A record shot, sometimes derogatorily referred to as a “snapshot,” is the intent is to capture a straightforward photographic record of the place or object, without a noticeable effort to infuse the content with your own artistic interpretation.

For travel photography a record shot fundamentally conveys: *This is where I went. This is what I saw. This is what happened or what I experienced.* For a person or object, it’s: *This is who/what I saw. This is what the person/object looked like. This is what the person was doing. This was the object in some state. This was the general context the picture was captured in.*

If you find yourself somewhere surrounded by others holding up their cameras, or more likely smart phones, all taking a shot of the same thing, from the same angle, etc., then you might concede that all of you are taking a record shot.

Despite any disparaging comments people might make, taking record shots is no capital crime. This is the mechanism that all photographers use to learn the fundamental building blocks of their craft. Take photographs of what you like. Just exercise a bit of reflection when considering a capture of a work of art.



# Member in Focus: Kenny Salstrom

Longtime WPS member Kenny Salstrom kindly participated in this interview.

[inFocus] When and how did you first get involved in photography?

[Kenny Salstrom] When I was about 15, I found my father's old Kodak 35mm rangefinder camera that he used in WWII. I asked him about it and he said to read a few books as he knew that I was capable of learning on my own. I still have that camera along with his Voigtlander 2¼ twin lens reflex that he also used in WWII.

[iF] What is your profession?

[KS] I retired in 2024. Before that I was in Healthcare IT.

[iF] How long have you been a member of WPS?

[KS] I joined probably around 1990. When I joined, I met Elinor Stecker (she wasn't married to Mano yet).

[iF] What type of photography do you enjoy?

[KS] Natural things as well as patterns and textures. I'm a scuba diver and shoot underwater. I don't take a lot of photos of people.

[iF] Do you do photo projects, and if so, please describe a recent or favorite one.

[KS] I don't really do projects but my last trip to the Philippines was for four months. They have an impressive variety of trikes made to carry people, cargo, or selling street food and I took photos of as many different types that I could find.

[iF] What do you hope to get out of your membership in WPS?

[KS] Meet fellow photographers and learn.

[iF] What gear and tools do you use? (cameras/lenses, Photoshop, etc.)

[KS] When I joined, I was shooting film using a Nikon 8008s. Currently I have two Olympus EM5 Mark ii's, a 60mm macro, 9-18, 14-42, and 14-150. About a year ago I bought a Godox flash. A few weeks ago, I bought an AK Diffuser and am still figuring out how to use it. Underwater I use an Olympus housing, a Seas & Sea YS-01 strobe, and a Backscatter Macro Wide 4300 video light.

[iF] Tell me something about you unrelated to photography.

[KS] I'm a Scuba Diver and a Master Gardener Volunteer with the Cornell Cooperative Extension.

[iF] What's one piece of advice you would give our readers (photographic or otherwise)?

[KS] Get closer.

[iF] Are your photos available online on a web site, social media, etc.? If so, can you share a link?

[KS] <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UChDVK3vz-KeaWFI0Znss8rxA> or you can go to YouTube and search for Kenneth Salstrom (<https://www.youtube.com/@kennethsalstrom5996>).



I was with friends staying in Castillejos in the Philippines and the neighbors had a few pigs. This one came up to say "Hello."



This was taken at a museum in Reykjavik. I liked the contrast of the stairs against the background and decided that it looks best in B&W.



This little seahorse was in the Sea of Cortez in Mexico in 2022.



This turtle was in the Philippines. It was probably in Dauin on the island of Negros or Apo Island.



This was taken off Little Cayman in the Cayman Islands. I was using a Sony point and shoot at the time.



This is my friend Mamala. We were going somewhere in a trike. In the Philippines 'Lola' is grandmother and 'Lolo' is grandfather. She didn't want to be called Lola so she is Mamala instead. Of course, her husband is called Papalo.

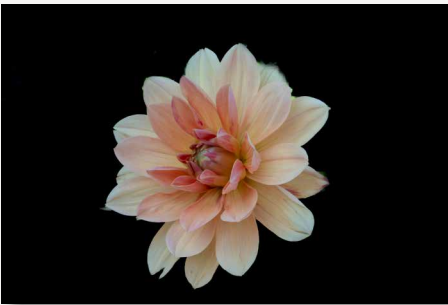


This was taken in the Philippines, possibly in Barrio Barretto in the province of Zambales. I like the expression on Sefira's face. She was both nervous and excited to be up that high.



# Wave Hill Field Trip

Photos by Fuat Baran, Jennifer Dooley,  
Carlotta Grenier and Jackie Ross



# Wave Hill Field Trip

Photos by Fuat Baran, Jennifer Dooley,  
Carlotta Grenier and Jackie Ross





## inFocus

The Newsletter of the  
Westchester Photographic Society

*Ron Carran, editor*

P.O. Box 405, Ossining, NY 10562

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