

# FOCUS

SCHENECTADY PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY  
1931-2006

## SCHENECTADY PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY NEWS

Volume 76

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Number 7

### Three SPS members share their vision on print night

The wonderful program that was scheduled for the Wednesday of the Valentine's Day snowstorm has been rescheduled for print night, April 4th. Three of our members will offer short programs explaining their particular vision and some snippets of their work. This should be a very informative and interesting evening. Each of them has written a little bit about how they have reached this point in their photographic journey.

#### Robert Near:

I have approximately 100 images showing my work over the past 5 years or so. I started in photography back in the 1970's and have been in, back and forth, from that point on. In the past five years I have jumped into the digital era to the point I am no longer shooting film today. The 100 images shows my

*Please see three speakers page 3*

Photo © Robert Near



### Slide group presents a people photographer

*Howie Johannessen*

Cathy's Camera Fine Art Photography will be the subject of the slide group meeting on Wednesday, April 11th.

Catherine Mota is a professional photographer specializing in Wedding Photography, Family and Children Portraiture, and Maternity and Baby Portraits. Inspired by the love of photography and her own three small children and husband, she runs a home-based portrait studio called "Cathy's Camera" in Guilderland.

With over twenty years experience in every aspect of photography, the customer and Cathy will discuss what the client's

photography desires are and plan the portrait session. Cathy's ongoing goal is to work closely with her clients to capture the small, big and sometimes spontaneous moments that make life joyful and endearing.

From images of bathing babies, cats up a tree, to beautiful brides and others, please join us on slide night to see the wonderful work Cathy has created as she shares her methods and her creative images.



# Color Management – An Overview

Jim Craner

On April 18, the last Digital Group night of the 2006-2007 year, we will look into the issue of color management, at least in broad strokes. This is a bit of a departure from the announced topic, but is arguably more important. Simply put, color management is the process of keeping the colors (or grayscale tones) in your image the same, as the image travels from one device to another – say from camera to scanner to computer to printer. The tools of color management include image profile tagging, monitor calibration, printer profiling, and soft proofing.

Monitor calibration is an essential prerequisite to a good color-managed workflow. Good monitor calibration requires a software/hardware solution. The hardware piece is essentially a photometer or colorimeter that is placed over the computer screen and reads a series of color and grayscale patches generated by the software. The software is essentially a ‘wizard’ that guides you through the process. Software-only calibration is possible using products like Adobe Gamma, but is much less accurate and not recommended for critical imaging work. Take a look at the products offered at [www.colorvision.com](http://www.colorvision.com), or the Eye One™ solutions from the Gretag Macbeth folks at [www.gretagmacbeth.com](http://www.gretagmacbeth.com). Color Vision has some more affordable solutions and is a good place to start. Calibrating your monitor will keep the colors it is displaying consistent over its useful life, and also within established parameters.

A couple of tools in Photoshop are intended to take some of the guesswork out of printing. ‘Gamut Warning’ has been around for awhile and is meant to provide a visual preview of colors in the image that are outside the color space (usually sRGB or Adobe RGB) with which the image has been tagged and that currently defines the gamut of colors in the image. An additional tool – relatively new – is ‘Soft Proofing’. Soft Proofing is intended to provide an on-screen preview of how the image will

look when it is output under certain conditions. For example, if I am printing on my Epson 7600 printer with Ultrachrome inks onto Epson’s Enhanced Matte paper using one of the excellent profiles created by Bill Atkinson ([www.billatkinson.com](http://www.billatkinson.com)), then I turn on Soft Proofing, and select the matching profile, Photoshop attempts to mimic on-screen the way the image will be rendered using that profile. Since, as a general rule, printers are more restricted in terms of the gamut of colors they can produce, Soft Proofing is a way to preview that difference. Gamut Warning and Soft Proofing are found on the ‘View’ menu. When using Soft Proofing, you must set it up first and then toggle it on/off. The setup is also on the ‘View’ menu. At the meeting on April 18th, I will demonstrate the use of these tools and offer some tips to help you use them more effectively.

When printing from Photoshop there are a couple of very important considerations. We want Photoshop and the printer profile to combine forces to control the color. The right way to insure that this happens is to use a high quality printer profile specific to the printer, paper, and ink set being used. While the dialogue within Photoshop is slightly different for each printer, there is some common ground. The first is to use the ‘Print With Preview’ option in Photoshop CS and CS2. Turn on the ‘More Options’ dialogue and you will have the option to specify the specific printer profile you wish to use and the ‘rendering intent’. The two most useful rendering intents for general work are ‘Perceptual’ and ‘Relative Colorimetric’. Perceptual is good default choice, while Relative Colorimetric may produce a better result if an image shows evidence of colors that are out of gamut when ‘Gamut Warning’ is turned on. You will be offered the option to select ‘No Color Adjustment’ somewhere along the way, and this is the choice you want. Remember, we want Photoshop and the printer profile to control this – not the ‘one size fits all’ printer driver. The other options in the print dialogue have mostly to do with paper size and page layout. A very useful option that I strongly recommend is the ‘Print Preview’ option. A facsimile of the print will appear on the screen and you will be asked for confirmation. This is a last chance to be sure that you

selected the correct orientation (portrait or landscape) and the right paper size. Don’t be put off by the colors you see in the preview, they will probably look awful.


Establishing and maintaining an accurate and consistent color-managed workflow can be daunting, but it is worth the time and effort to get it right. Doing so will make printing your images less intimidating and more rewarding.

Here is a brief list of web resources you may want to visit for more information on the broad range of topics in the arena of color management.

*Please see color management page 6*

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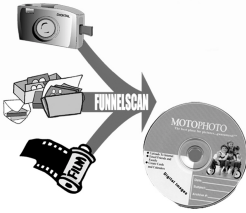


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## Three speakers

*continued from page 1*

progression into the digital zone from film. This collection of images includes images that have been published in local magazines and one that was used as book cover.

### Frank Bumbardatore:

I believe that my life has been the model for how I see. My parents instilled in me the belief that my future was preordained. I simply did not have a future that I could mold into a vision of my own life. For that reason I tend to see life as a list of chances that have slipped through our fingers and we just keep repeating

the same mistakes. My vision of the future is the "here and now." This instant is all that really exists. A look back will pose the question to me as what have you done for me lately. Not bitter, just very insecure about how to proceed until I felt I had nothing left to lose. My wife, children and grandchildren have me grounded but my past seems to

else. It became about capturing wonderful, humorous and poignant moments in time. Since that first trip across the country, photography has never again been about documenting times and places but rather about the moment and the beauty of that moment.

Having five children gave me wonderful opportunities for photography, but it also eliminated opportunities. I had to find ways to satisfy my passion for photography at home. I took on "The Flower."

My flower images are about form, texture, and light. They are simple, uncluttered and to the point. They are all with natural light. Like taking a portrait of a person, taking an image of a flower is about capturing the essence, the personality of that flower. For me, each flower dictates what the quality of light will be, the composition and the intimacy of camera to subject in order to best represent the beauty of that flower.

I'm not sure where my passion for photography will take me next, but it will always be about capturing the beauty of a moment or a subject.

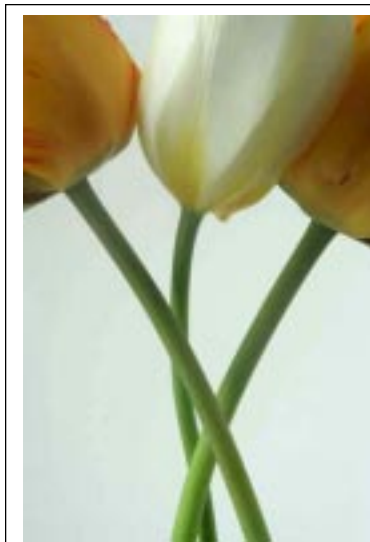


Photo © Linda Heim

Photo © Frank Bumbardatore



always be just off to the left. Thus my photos show the futility of man to leave his mark as the Gods of existence just laugh and return all his efforts to dust.

### Linda Heim:

I would like to talk about the style of photography that has evolved for me over the years. My first experience with a camera was on a trip across the country. I set out to document my experiences and the beautiful country that I was about to explore. Photography at that point became much more than a chronicle of my travels. For many of those first images, it didn't seem to matter any more where they were taken or when, but took on a beauty on their own.

I got married, had five children and again my photography evolved into something



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## *March competition winners*



*Top left: Runoff on a Street, 1st place assigned slide, © Jeff Plant*

*Middle left: Riding the Rail, 1st place monochrome print, © Kevin Sarsfield*

*Bottom left: Row Boat Waiting, 1st place color print, © Linda Buckman*

*Top right: Maine Coast, 1st place general slide, © Howie Johannessen*

*Middle right: My Good Side, 1st place assigned print © Robert Near*

*Bottom right: Girl and Child, 1st place digital, © Connie Frisbee Houde*

*Center: The Song Man, 1st place assigned slide, ©Kevin Sarsfield*



# March Competition Results

## Prints

### Color 30 Entries

* Linda Buckman	Row Boat Waiting	1
Max Tiller	Sunbathing	2
Max Tiller	Color Palette	3
Bernie Herman	Bait	4
Diane Reiner	Maiko	5
Barb Lawton	Buttermilk Lane, Gallway	HM
Jane Riley	Rodeo Fun	HM
Lance Nevard	Peeking in Chungking	HM
Karl Becker	Still	HM
Sue Gersten	Footsies	HM

### Monochrome 14 Entries

** Kevin Sarsfield	Riding the Rail	1
Jay Freud	Number Nine	2
Faustin Baron	Street Bond	3
Louie Powell	Cascade Lake #1	HM

### Assigned People Close Up 24 Entries

*** Robert Near	My Good Side	1
Diane Deyoe	Peek-A-Boo Shanon	2
Jeff Perkins	I'm Mae West	3
Luba Ricket	Sabrina and Friend	4
Diane Reiner	Serious	5
Karl Becker	"Teeeeeeth"	HM

**Judge** Steven Ross

**Program** Colleen Skiff / Photo Regional

### Winner's Notes:

\*This winner, taken in western Ireland in the mid-afternoon was taken with a Canon D60 and a Tamron 18-200 lens with the camera on a tripod.

\*\*Kevin took this photo on an SPS group trip to Eastfield Village. He used his Nikon D70 and a Vivitar 90mm series 1 Macro. The camera was on a tripod and set at 1/400 @ f5.6. It was originally exposed in the color mode, converted to monochrome with levels and contrast enhancement added.

\*\*\*Robert used a Nikon 18-200mm VR zoom lens @70mm to take this winner on the village green of Woodstock, NY. Exposure was f4.0 @ 1/320 second. It was taken as a digital color photo and then converted to B&W using Photoshop CS3 B&W conversion layer.

### February Digital winners

*Connie Frisbee Houde	Girl and child	1
N. Sukumar	The Lynching of Habeus Corpus	2
Max Tiller	Color Palette	3
Juha-Matti Levasalmi	The Chase	4
Drue Sokol	Metal Clarinet	5
Ken Deitcher	The Face	HM
Max Tiller	Sun Bathing	HM
Robert Near	Iron Horse	HM
Robert Near	Devils Kitchen Cascade	HM
Kevin Sarsfield	Alone with a Friend	HM

**Digital Judge** Joe Schuyler

**Program** Peter J. Crowley / The Importance of Negative Space

## Slides

### General 20 entries

* H. Johannessen	Maine Coast	1
Budha	Umbria-the green near top, Italy	2
Robert Near	Lotus	3
Connie F. Houde	A Poppy Grows	4
Bob Scribner	Mather and Baby	HM

### Assigned Street Scapes 14 Entries

** Jeff Plant	Runoff on a Street	1
Budha	The Commuters on the Ganges	2
H. Johannessen	Chinatown	3

### Assigned Portraits 10 Entries

*** Kevin Sarsfield	The Song Man	1
Connie F. Houde	A Stitch in Time	2
Connie F. Houde	Photographer	3

**Judge** Mike Noonan

**Program** Tom Clingan / Buried Treasure - City of Albany photos from the 1930's and 1940's

### Winner's Notes:

\*Camera was a tripod mounted Nikon N90s with a 28-70mm, f3.5-4.5 lens. I used Provia 100F film. Camera settings were f22 with a shutter speed of about 1/8 second. The lens was set to a focal length of approximately 35mm. No filters were used. Exposure setting was determined by spot metering on the clear blue sky. The location was the Pemaquid Light House Park in Maine. This image was taken toward the end of the day just before the reds and oranges of the setting sun colored the rocks.

\*\*Jeff took this photo with his Nikon F100, a Nikon 300mm lens and Velvia film with his camera on a tripod. It was a cloudy sun on streams of water running on the street. The shaded sunlight gave the water the look of molten metal.

\*\*\*My wife and I took a little road trip down south last week and spent a great day in Savannah. While strolling by the river, I heard the sax before I saw the player. I had a 90mm Summicron attached to my Leica M6 TTL and had loaded a roll of Fuji Provia 100 in anticipation. I was able to approach him from the side and made one exposure (1/250th at f2) before he put down the sax and lit up a cigarette. Dropping a dollar in his large mayonaise jar, I engaged him in conversation, hoping he would eventually pick up the sax again and I could get a close-up portrait. We talked for maybe 10 minutes - and I learned much about him and his music. He was ready to begin again when I got the "evil-eye" - not from him, but from my wife, who was anxious to eat dinner. I bid him adieu - figuring I'd get another shot later in the afternoon - but by the time I returned, he was gone - and so was the music.

### Winner's Notes:

This was taken in Skaza, Afghanistan in August 2005. This is a remote village north east of Kabul which took three days of travel over "roads" of varying degrees of existence to get there and another three to return. This is one of the family members who allowed us to spend the night with them. I am not sure if this is her own child or not. They marry at 13 or so so it is possible. It was taken in the early morning with a Cannon EOS with my 80 to 300 lens.

## SPS plans group photo trip to Boston on May 19th

Jeff Perkins

Our SPS trips have really been a lot of fun. Great for getting to know one another. Talk camera without boring others! Brown Tours has a one day trip to Boston. We're not going to shop, but to photograph the sites, people and moods unique to Boston. The bus arrives at Quincy market at 11AM and from there you (or we) can explore the area, the North End, the waterfront.....it is endless. As Brown provides no meals, just the trip, it would be nice if we could all have lunch about 1:30PM. I always recommend bringing water and snacks with you. Light rain gear should be in your pack, just in case. Return time at Quincy market is 6PM.

Make your reservation directly with Brown. Let me know if you are going. My email is: [perkster46@yahoo.com](mailto:perkster46@yahoo.com)

	Pick up	Home
Fonda Garage	5:45am	11:15pm
Johnstown's McDonalds	6:00am	11:00pm
Amsterdam Trailways Shelter, Church Street	6:30am	10:30pm
Schenectady Home Depot, Rt. 7/Watt St.	7:00am	10:00pm
Albany Crossgate Mall, Upper Parking Lot of Macy's (this used to be Filene's)	7:30am	9:30pm

Let's get a great group together. We will have a blast!

From Brown's website:

Date: 5/19 Would you like to spend the day shopping at Quincy Market where you can find every kind of food product imaginable, or you may prefer to visit the newly renovated, remodeled and amazing Boston Aquarium with its aquatic exhibits, dolphin and sea lion shows, and the giant ocean tanks. In Quincy Market there's a treasure trove of specialty shops and an international food market. Celebrate the holidays early in the Christmas Shop, check out what's new at the Disney Store, there's even a shop that only sells pig merchandise!

Price: \$49.00 Includes transportation only.

## Color management

*continued from page 2*

On [www.luminous-landscape.com](http://www.luminous-landscape.com) check out the following links.

<http://luminous-landscape.com/tutorials/understanding-series/und-print-mgmt.shtml>  
<http://luminous-landscape.com/tutorials/soft-proofing.shtml>  
<http://luminous-landscape.com/tutorials/whats-the-problem.shtml>

On [www.timgrey.com](http://www.timgrey.com) check out the 'Articles' section. Note, following some of the links may be a bit of a nuisance as they point, not to specific web pages, or documents, but to other sites.

For a look into the world of having a custom profile made for your printer, visit the following two sites. You can get a custom profile made for a particular printer/paper/ink combination for \$40-\$100. Give me a call and let me tell you how these services generally work before you get out your credit card!

<http://digitaldog.net>  
<http://cathysprofiles.com>

Best of luck on the path to perfect color!

## Photo Essay competition is April 25

Connie Frisbee Houde

Can you believe it? We are already talking about the Year End competitions. In this case it is even more than talk. April 25 is the year end competition for print and slide/digital essays. Last year we had a great turn out by many who had not shown in this method previously. It is still not too late to get those ideas out of the brain and into the computer or onto paper. Guidelines are on the photo club web site. Please let Jim Craner or Connie Houde know of your plans. Hope to see you with your inspirations.

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# News You Can Use

## Women's retreat planned for June 8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup>

Colleen Magai

The SPS Women's retreat this year will be held at the YMCA Camp Chingachgook on Lake George. Please go to their web site to find out more information. There will be a woman's week-end going on there that same week-end. That will just add to the awesome weekend.

The cost will be \$175.00 per person. It is pretty rustic if we choose the cabins by the lake (Lake George of course). These cabins sleep 8 or 9. There are bath houses with showers & toilets near by. The cabins have bunk beds. All meals from Fri dinner to Sunday lunch are included. We need to bring sheets/towels. Check in is Fri 4 pm, but it is OK to be on the grounds before that time on Fri. Check out is 1 pm Sun. The deposit is \$40.00, which is due as soon as you know that you are going. The balance is due upon arrival. We should all put SPS on the bottom of the form / contract and which specific cabin (when it is decided on), we will be requesting.

Please call me if you are going or thinking of going so I can get a head count. Thanks. Colleen 518-922-8000.

## Photo Regional set for April 23 - June 2

The Photo Regional will be sponsored by the Photo Center of the Capital District and the Fulton Street Gallery this year. Submission deadline is April 14th. All slides, CD and JPG entries selected must be printed, framed and delivered to the Photo

Center by April 26th.

The salon reception will be 6 to 9pm Friday, April 27 at both galleries, coinciding with Troy Night Out. The Juror's talk will be 5pm, Saturday, April 28. The location to be determined later. For further information, go to [www.photocentertroy.org](http://www.photocentertroy.org)

## Welcome new members:

David Hampson  
Michael VanAlstyne

## Sue Gersten has infrared exhibit

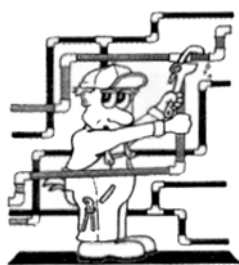
Sue Gersten will have an exhibit at the Niskayuna Town Hall of her infrared work during the months of March and April. It is upstairs in the Town Hall.

## Bill Delanney has exhibit in Woodstock

SPS member Bill Delanney will have an exhibit at the Galerie bmg in Woodstock, NY from April 20 to May 14, 2007. The artist's reception will be April 21st from 5 to 7 pm. The gallery is on Tannery Brook Road.

## Photomicrographic exhibit at Schenectady Museum

*The Story of Three Water Drops* is a photomicrographic exhibition by Roger Cheng, who was a scientist at the Atmospheric Sciences Research Center of the University of Albany from 1966-2000. It will be at the Schenectady Museum through April 15th.



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## April Calendar

Wednesday, April 4 Print group: Three SPS members / their vision  
Assigned: Hudson River

Wednesday, April 11 Slide group: People photography / Cathy Mota  
Assigned: Interiors  
Assigned: Tracks

Wednesday, April 18\* Digital: Color Management / Jim Craner

Wednesday, April 25 Photo Essay: Year End Competition



Meetings are at 7:30 p.m.

\*Board meetings are at 6:30 p.m.

The *Focus* is published nine times a year by the Schenectady Photographic Society. The organization meets each Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. from October through May to promote and present informative programs, activities and competitions in the photographic arts for photographers throughout the Capital District. Members range from novice to expert.

Annual dues are \$30.00 for individuals and families. The *Focus* newsletter is included in the membership dues. SPS meets at the First United Methodist Church, 603 State Street, Schenectady, New York. Parking and entrances are on Chapel Street, a one way street off Nott Terrace. Guests are welcome at all regular meetings.