

FOCUS

SCHENECTADY PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY NEWS

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April 2011

Number 8

Breaking Surface Recent Work by Linda Morrell

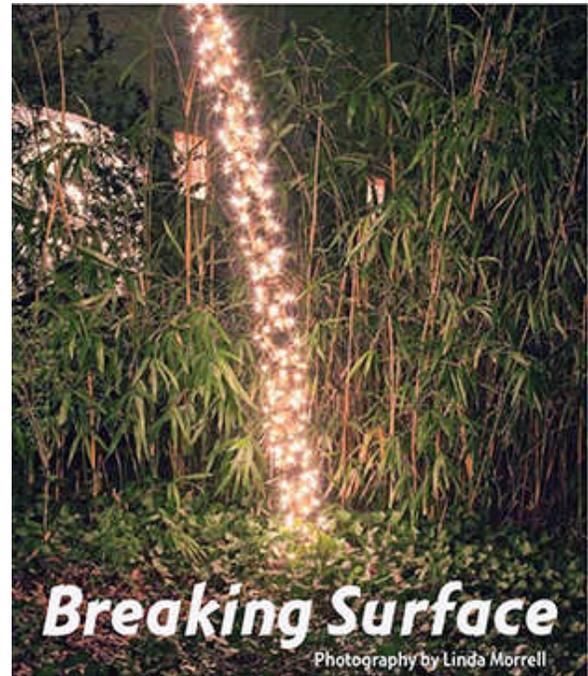
Professor of Photography, Sage College of Albany

Breaking Surface presents a continuing group of imagery in which my focus has shifted beyond representational subject matter to observation of the inherent qualities of surface and the contradiction between the reality of the flat visual plane and perceived depth. The dichotomy between surfaces in certain found subjects presents itself readily allowing me to create a subtle shift in spatial illusion. Within other images however, I have introduced opposing textures and forms that are evident, breaking the surface to create new space within the picture plane. This indeterminate space becomes the main subject of the photograph.

Within this group of work I investigate the subject of the photograph as content through an exploration of surface quality and its subsequent interruption and reorganization. Building upon texture, form, and progressive rhythm, I consider spatial illusion of the visual plane. These photographs will be on exhibit in a Solo show at the University of Redlands in Redland California from March 15-April 17, 2011.

Bio: Artist, Linda Morrell, a native of Albany, New York, has worked in photography for the past twenty-eight years. She received her Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the Rhode Island School of Design, studying with noted photographer Harry Callahan. Her Master of Fine Arts degree is from George Washington University. Living in the Washington D.C. area from 1978 to 1984, she taught at George Washington University, American University, Trinity College and the Smithsonian Institution.

From 1985 to the present she has been on the faculty of the Sage College of Albany. Currently she is a Professor and since 1985 has been the program coordinator for photography. From 1987 until 1989 she also served as Chairperson of the Visual Arts Department. In the Spring of 2007, she was a Visiting Professor of Photography for the University of Georgia Studies Abroad Program in Cortona, Italy. Linda Morrell's work has been acquired by permanent collections, among them The Museum of Contemporary Photography in Chicago and the Munson-Williams-Proctor Institute in Utica, NY. She has had more than 40 exhibitions of her work both nationally and internationally. She has published articles on her subject in regional and national publications.



April Calendar

Date	Competition	Program
Wed. April 6	Print: Round and Round We Go – Images where circles are the main subject matter...Try not to get dizzy.	Max Tiller – Flash Advantages
Wed. April 13	Projected: Weather – Photos that illustrate rain, snow, wind, etc.	Jack Hurley and Barbara Lawton – Community Service Going to the Dogs
Wed. April 20	This meeting is at the Opalka Gallery, 140 New Scotland Ave. Albany Board meeting @ 6:30pm	Linda Morrell: Breaking Surface
Wed. April 27	Annual Photo Essay Competition	

Max Tiller presents "Flash Advantages"
on Print Night April 6th

Max Tiller will talk about the use of flash in image making. Many photographers shy away from using flash because they do not use it properly and are not familiar with the way flash is used on camera. They are not aware of the various attachments and how they are used to produce an effective image.

When there is not adequate or available light, the right kind of flash illumination can make a very effective photograph.



Max will show images made with various attachments and also images made with the use of more than one flash.

The photo above of the dog named Pip was taken with a Sony DSLR A200 mounted on a Strobframe with a Minolta D Flash Mounted on top of the Strobframe. The photo below at a Mardi Gras celebration was taken with a Fuji F20 point and shoot camera using the small built in flash. The camera was held up high to give top front lighting.



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Schenectady Photographic Society's meetings are held at the First United Methodist Church at 603 State St. in Schenectady, NY. Parking and entrance are at the rear of the building off Chapel St., a short one-way street off Nott Terrace. Additional information and directions on our website <http://www.schenectadyphotographicsociety.com/>

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Competition April 27th

The SPS Photo Essay competition will be held the evening of April 27th. This is always an enjoyable and relaxing competition and the number of participants has grown dramatically over the years, as the mechanics of preparing an essay have become simpler.

The big news this year is the formal recognition of a new format – the photo book.

As in previous years, the club will provide a digital projector and a Windows notebook computer. Participants are responsible to bring their projected essay on 'thumb drive' or CD (DVD should not be used). If using ProShow™ it is best to output the essay as an 'executable file' for playback on a Windows system. Essays prepared on a Macintosh™ are best prepared as a QuickTime movie. Participants are welcome to present using their own computers.

To insure a smooth presentation – especially if you are entering for the first time – participants are encouraged to bring the finished essay the week before for a trial run. Jim Craner will bring his notebook computer to all the April meetings and will be happy to help you test your show.

For assistance in preparing an essay, Windows users can consult with Jim Craner or Rob Near; Apple Macintosh users can get some help from Connie Frisbee Houde.

For Sale: Epson Perfection 3170 Flatbed Photo Scanner

Included: CD Rom, Power cord and AC adapter, 35mm slide holder, 35mm film and negative holder, medium format (120/220) transparency holder. \$50.00

Contact Ruby Gold rubygold@verizon.net



Going to the Dogs... [see next column]

Community Service Going to the Dogs

Presented by Barb Lawton and Jack Hurley on April 13



Barb and Jack have been active members of SPS for a number of years, Barb for 19 years and Jack 6 years. They both credit SPS as their inspiration for continuing their quest to improve their photography and to seek challenges that will keep their visual creations fresh and interesting.

Their photographic interests are not limited and include anything from landscapes to photojournalism, travel and family gatherings. They keep their eyes peeled for subjects that might just happen to appear out of nowhere, always carrying a point-and-shoot camera in their pocket just in case.

An ongoing volunteer project for Jack and Barb is documenting the activities of an organization called NEADS, which stands for "National Education For Assistance Dog Services." This organization is located in Princeton, MA and has been in service since 1976. Its mission is to train and provide assistance dogs to people who are deaf, physically, or emotionally disabled. Lately many clients are combat veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan with severe disabilities and trauma. These dogs become an extension of their owners by bringing them security, freedom, independence, and relief from social isolation.

Barb and Jack travel to Princeton at least once a month to spend a few days with the trainers, service dogs and their new owners, and take pictures while they participate in an intensive two-week training session. The photographs they take are used by NEADS in promotional materials, slide show presentations, and other visual aides. Jack and Barb provide each client with a CD of all the pictures they take of the training process as a reminder of their time getting to know their new canine partners.

Jack and Barb will show some images of their experiences at NEADS and will explain why they volunteer their time and services to this important organization. In doing so they hope to inspire other members of SPS to volunteer their time as photographers to other community organizations who might benefit from having photos of their activities. Jack and Barb feel it is a very rewarding and appreciated experience.

Annual Banquet

This year the Schenectady Photographic Society's Annual banquet will be held at Riverstone Manor, just off exit 26 on the Thruway (Address: River Stone Manor, 1437 Amsterdam Rd, Scotia, NY 12302). Riverstone Manor is located on the banks of the Mohawk River in Glenville, offering unspoiled views of the river and its surrounding landscape. As a courtesy to SPS, Skip, the owner of Riverstone, will be allowing us access to the estate's original home, built in the 1800s and beautifully restored. For those who are interested in taking photographs, we would be allowed unlimited access to the home prior to the banquet. Details to follow. Cost will remain the same as last year, \$30 per person; tickets are available now with Kim Koza. Hope everyone can join us at this unique and photographic setting!

Critique and assistance in helping SPS members compete in competitions

by Ken Deitcher FPSA

I have been a member of SPS for over 40 years, and due to severe arthritis, I am limited in my ability to actively go on field trips and photograph events. I am offering my services to **all** SPS members. This is a free contribution by me. I can assist with choosing the correct image, composition, use of Photoshop, etc and in resizing for internet competitions. I will be able to do this on the internet or by phone. Call me at 489-7678 or write kendeitch@aol.com.

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Jim Craner to speak at PSA's 73rd Annual International Conference of Photography



The Photography Society of America's 73rd Annual International Conference of Photography will be held this year at Colorado Springs, CO, from September 18th to 24th 2011. There are several pre-conference workshops and digital imaging classes (on Photoshop, Elements, Lightroom, ProShow Gold, Nik software, HDR), and half- and full-day tours planned for Sunday, Monday and Tuesday to:

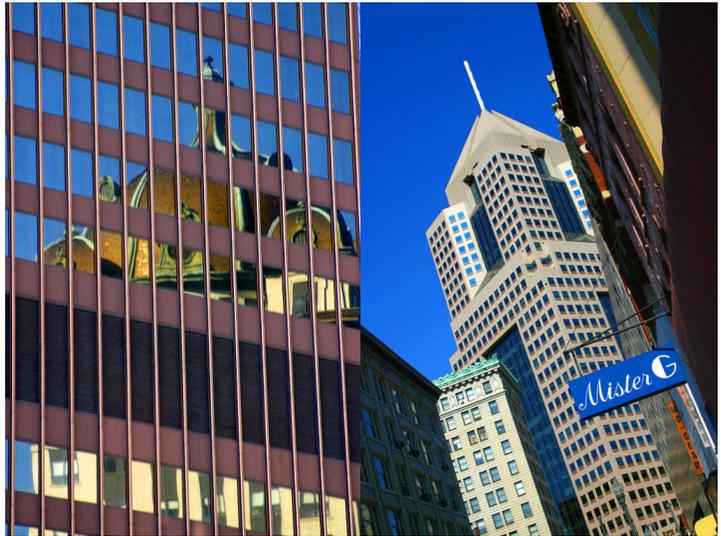
- Pike's Peak on the Cog railway;
- Royal Gorge Lunch train;
- Cliff Dwellings and Glen Eyrie Castle;
- Cheyenne Mountain Zoo;
- Sunrise/sunset tours to the Garden of the Gods;
- Manitou Springs; Flying W Ranch, Paint Mines Park, Air Force Chapel, Helen Hunt Falls, Seven Falls, Will Rogers Shrine...



Antique Car Reflection © N.Sukumar



Canon Beach Sunset © N.Sukumar



Pittsburgh © Ken Deitcher

Keynote speakers during the main conference include Joe LeFevre, Canon Explorers of Light George Lepp and Tyler Stableford, Photoshop and Lightroom guru Julienne Kost. One of the speakers in the Color Projected Imaging Division is our own Jim Craner. The conference culminates with an honors banquet on Saturday evening. In addition to being a tremendous learning experience, PSA conferences are great fun, with many shooting opportunities, as you can see from the images on this page, all taken at past PSA conferences and pre-conference tours. Accommodations are at the Doubletree Hotel in Colorado Springs. More details and registration information are available at <http://www.psa-photo.org/conferences.asp?menuID=8&DivID=8>



Reflected Boardwalkers © N.Sukumar

March Print Competition Winners



Jack Hurley photographed **Morning Mist** (2nd place Color) at Narrows Creek, Westminster, MA, on an overcast morning, with a Canon 40D @ F/18, 1/15 sec. Three shot HDR processed in Photomatix.



Artistic Scaling (1st place Color) by **Luba Ricket**



Max Tiller photographed this **Quiet Cove** (1st Place Monochrome) at Schoharie Crossing around 2 PM on a sunny day, with a Minolta Dimage 7 and 28-200 mm lens on a tripod, electronic cable release and Hoya 49mm infrared filter; F/5.6 @ 1/4 Sec. ISO: 100. Printed on Epson Matte paper with an Epson 2400 inkjet printer using Picture Publisher software.

Luba Ricket raises **A Hand for "Hairspray"** (2nd place Assigned, above). **Jeff Perkins** found these **2 Gentlemen from Seville** (3rd place Assigned, below).



March Projected Competition Winners



Lady Ostapeck (1st place General)
by **Jeffrey Altman**



Come On In (1st place Assigned, above) says **Sean Sullivan**.



February 2011 (2nd place General, above) by **Jeffrey Altman**.



Deans Mills Under the Street Lamp (2nd place Assigned, at left)
by **Rob Near**.



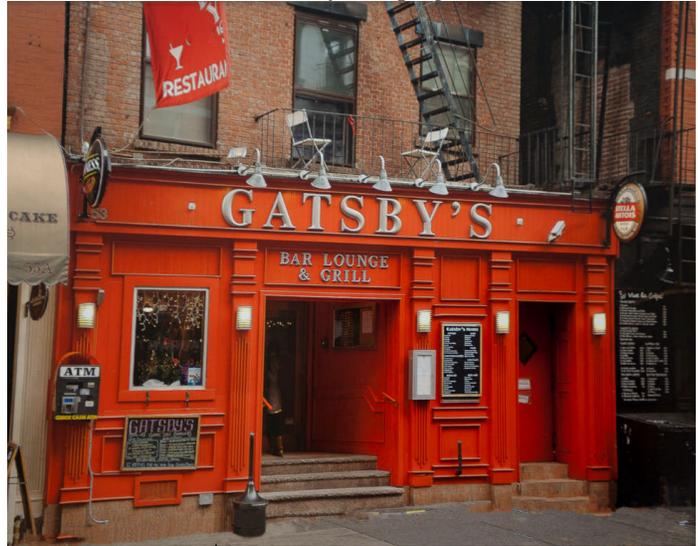
Hudson View (3rd place Assigned, above) by **Luba Ricket**.

Islandic Waterfall (3rd place General, at left) by **Ken Deitcher**.

March Print Competition Winners [Continued from page 6]



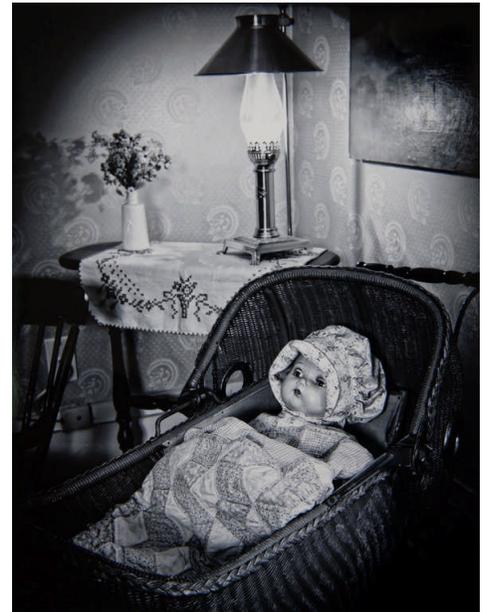
Gus & His Pony (1st Place Assigned)
by **Connie Bush**



Gatsby's Bar (3rd Place Color) by **Harvey Gurien**.

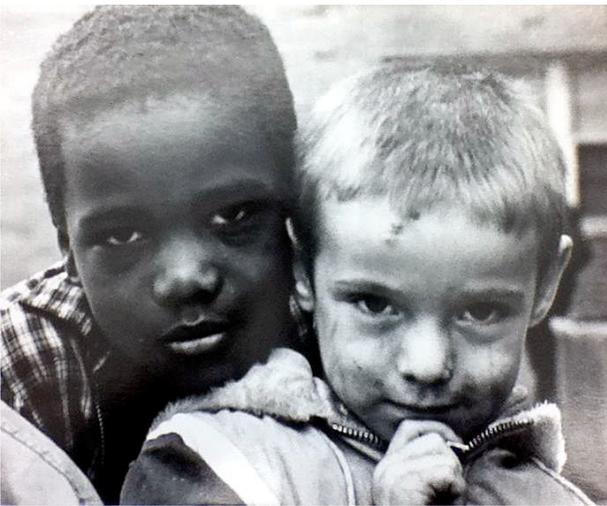


Second Takes 2 (2nd Place Monochrome)
by **Julie Palyswiat**

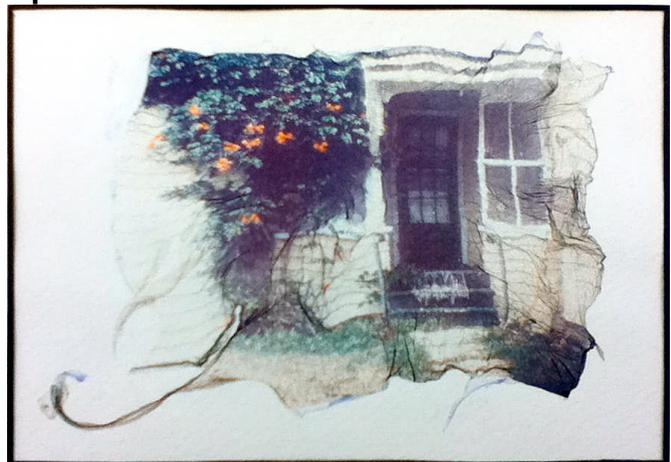


Rosemary's Other Baby (3rd place
Monochrome) by **Sean Sullivan**

Fine Art Print Competition Winners



Friends (1st Place Silver) by **Ray Henrikson**.



Northville (1st Place Alternative Pricess) by **Kim Koza**.



Willow and Fog iPhone 4

by Jeff Perkins

The iPhone again! This time with iPhone 4 and its 5 MP sensor. Driving around in the fog a few weeks ago, on the way to the office, I spotted this weeping willow in a frozen, brackish pond, backlit by fog. Having a camera always with me (the iPhone), I composed and took a shot of the willow. That evening, I leisurely "developed" it to my artistic liking in Photoforge. A frame was added in PS Express Mobile. An 11x14 print from Smugmug just arrived and it looks great.



[Adapted & excerpted from Jeff's blog at morninglightimages.blogspot.com] (This column covers interesting posts from blogs by our members and friends).

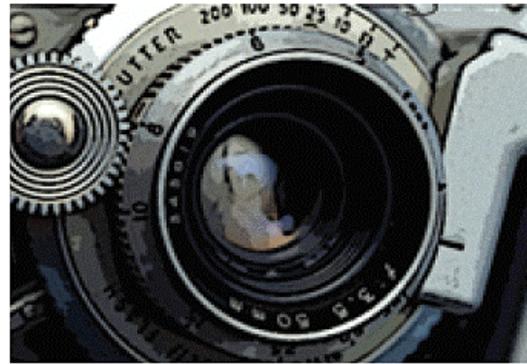
Member Shows during April

Bob Riccardo & Carol Donato will have a new show "Dirt Track Racing at Fonda Speedway, Fonda, NY" for the month of April at the Rotterdam Library, 1100 N. Westcott Road, Schenectady, NY.



Connie Frisbee Houde's photographs are on display at the Artcentric Gallery, 274 River St. (across from the arts center) in downtown Troy.

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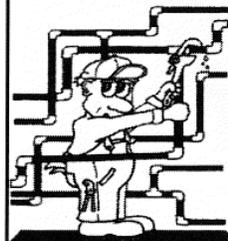


**SUBMISSION DEADLINE:
WEDNESDAY
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March Competition Results**Print Competition Results**

Assigned Topic: You Just Had To Be There [26 Entries]		
1	Connie Bush	Gus & His Pony
2	Luba Ricket	A Hand for "Hairspray"
3	Jeff Perkins	2 Gentlemen from Seville
4	Barb Lawton	Amish Girls at Play
5	Barb Lawton	A Stolen Kiss
HM	Connie Frisbee Houde	The Notions Store, Herat, Afganistan
HM	Jim Miller	The Collector
Color [27 Entries]		
1	Luba Ricket	Artistic Scaling
2	Jack Hurley	Morning Mist
3	Harvey Gurien	Gatsby's Bar
4	Harvey Gurien	Snow Scene #4
5	Ken Deitcher	The Visitor
HM	Jim Miller	Blue Door Ivy
HM	Karl Becker	Grand Old Flag
HM	Dale Windser	Clothes Line
HM	Kim Koza	Shanty
Monochrome [18 Entries]		
1	Max Tiller	Quiet Love
2	Julie Palyswiat	Second Takes 2
3	Sean Sullivan	Rosemary's Other Baby
4	Doug Mitchell	The Iron Furnance
5	Jim Miller	The Fort
HM	Harvey Gurien	Snow Scene #2
HM	Kim Koza	Soltary Sweeper

Judge: Jan-Marie Spanard

<http://www.JanMarieSpanard.com>

<http://www.AlbanyMural.com>

1st, 2nd & 3rd place winners of future monthly competitions: please complete and submit the winner comments form on the competitions page of our website.

Projected Competition Results

Assigned Topic: Lights at Night		
1	Sean Sullivan	Come On In
2	Rob Near	Deans Mills Under the Street Lamp
3	Luba Ricket	Hudson View
HM	Connie Frisbee Houde	Silhouette
HM	Cynthia Placek	Bridgets Fort
HM	Connie Frisbee Houde	Eiffle Tower
General		
1	Jeffrey Altman	Lady Ostapeck
2	Jeffrey Altman	February 2011
3	Ken Deitcher	Icelandic Waterfall
4	Barb Lawton	Graduation Tent
5	Doug Mitchell	A Quiet Moment
HM	Max Tiller	Botanical Gardens
HM	Doug Mitchell	The Start Line
HM	Jack Hurley	Winter Morning
HM	Drue Sokol	Spiral Staircase
HM	Cynthia Placek	Waiting for a Friend

Grab Bag Competition Results

Topic: A Day in the Life of... Someone

Winner: Linda Wroble - A day in the life of my mother

Honorable Mentions: Pat McCormick & Sean Sullivan

Judge: Max Tiller

Fine Arts Print Competition Results

Silver Print		
1	Ray Henrikson	Friends
2	Ron Ginsburg	Nubble Light
3	Dale Winsor	Untitled
Alternative Process		
1	Kim Koza	Northville
2	Dale Winsor	Untitled (Polaroid Manipulation)
3	Ron Ginsburg	The Grist Mill (Palladium Print)

Judge: Ken Deitcher

Inter-Club competition News

Congratulations to **Connie Houde** for bagging an HM in the February round of the Photo Travel Inter-club competition with **Market Kabul Afghanistan!**

The SPS Traveling Exhibit

The Traveling Exhibit is currently hanging, through the month of April, at the Sand Lake Town Library (8428 Miller Hill Road, Averill Park). We will take down the exhibit on Saturday April 30th at 12 noon. Please contact Ray Henrikson, the exhibit coordinator, with suggestions for possible venues. The exhibit is scheduled to appear next in September at the Shenendehowa Adult Community Center in Clifton Park.

The Puffin Pad

Jonathan Lawton
Hunts Photo & Video



The Puffin Pad is a window mounted camera support designed to slip over an open car window to allow you to stabilize your camera while shooting. The majority of the Puffin Pad is comprised of closed-cell automotive foam, making it very light weight. The bottom of the pad is cut out in a semi-circle to allow you to mount it over most cylindrical surfaces. The top portion of the pad is covered with a layer of soft memory foam. The memory foam is a great feature, as it easily contours to the shape of your camera or lens to keep it in place.

The Puffin Pad may have a funny name, but it is serious about supporting your camera in a number of situations. You can get creative and use the Puffin Pad to steady your camera over a fence post, car hood or even on the ground. Because the unit is made of foam, the Puffin Pad is ultra light weight, weighing in at less than 4 ounces. Its dimensions of 7" x 5" x 5" makes the Puffin Pad a convenient tripod replacement for the spur-of-the-moment photo shoot.

It can be used to steady all types of camera and lens combinations, from small digital SLR's to heavy super telephoto lenses. The Puffin Pad is an inexpensive and versatile tool to help you stabilize your camera and capture tack-sharp images. The Puffin Pad sells for \$29.99.

Jon Lawton is a sales associate at Hunt's Photo and Video in Melrose, MA. If you have any questions on the Vortex Storm Jacket or any other photo related topic, feel free to contact him at jlawton@wbhunt.com or at the store at 1-800-221-1830. Jon is a 2003 graduate from the Rochester Institute of Technology, where he studied photojournalism. He operates a photography business, specializing in wedding and portrait photography. www.jonathanlawton.com

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