

FOCUS

SCHENECTADY PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY NEWS

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Number 4

Paths in Life

by Gary Larsen

This subject is drawn both from the title of my current, solo shows of infrared photography and my own experiences in life and photography. In my presentation on Dec.14th, I will briefly describe my evolution as a photographer as I moved through and beyond my first career. I will then use the digital projector to highlight the range of photographic subjects I have explored.

[Continued on page 7]



Path to Fateful © Gary Larsen

December Calendar		
Date	Competition	Program
Wed. Dec. 7	Print: <i>It's a Wonderful Life</i> : Images depicting life's little joys.	Max Tiller: The Stories Behind the Images
Wed. Dec. 14	Projected: <i>Alphabet A-Z</i> Find letters in signs or natural objects that take the shape of a letter.	Gary Larsen: Paths in Life
Wed. Dec. 21	Happy Holidays - no meeting	
Wed. Dec. 28	Happy Holidays - no meeting	

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/>

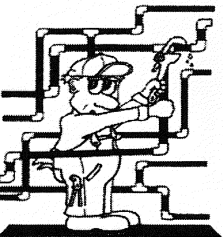
On Dec.7th Max Tiller will be talking about the stores behind his winning images from last year.



RAIN © Max Tiller received First Place in the Projected Image competition in April 2011.


SPS @ 80

Images by Nick Argyros & Bob Gough

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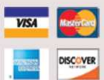
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SPS's First Ever Smart Phone Competition will take place on Grab Bag night, March 28th, 2012. The rules:

- It has to be a phone with a camera;
- All editing must be done in the phone;
- There is no limit to what Apps you use;
- Use a computer only to resize images as per Projected guidelines and upload to the SPS site;
- Three images per entrant in any category;
- Uploading begins Feb.29; ends midnight March 25.

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 by Jim Craner

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SPS @ 80

Images from SPS's 80th Anniversary celebrations on Nov. 16th 2011 © Nick Argyros & Bob Gough



RMSP weekend of photography instruction in Albany on March 31-April 1, 2012

Rocky Mountain School of Photography (RMSP) is bringing a weekend of photography instruction to Albany, NY on March 31-April 1, 2012. As a member of SPS, you may register with the code below to save on your registration fee. RMSP Photo Weekends offer a diverse selection of ten classes to choose from taught by knowledgeable and inspiring instructors, a group critique and great door prizes. RMSP is offering a savings discount of \$20.00 for two day session and \$10.00 for the one day session using the CC1112 discount code when you register. Link to info. online: <http://www.rmisp.com/weekends/>

Rob Near, SPS Mentoring Chair



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by
Gayle Bennett

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Contour HD Video Camera

*Jonathan Lawton
Hunts Photo & Video*



At its initial release in the spring of 2009, the Contour HD camera was the world's first wearable high definition video camera. With its diminutive size and weight, combined with its HD video recording, the Contour HD quickly became a favorite among outdoor enthusiasts and adventurers. Its successor, the Contour HD 1080 camera, looks and operates the same, but features a higher resolution sensor that is capable of capturing full 1920x1080p video.

From the outside, little has changed. The Contour HD 1080 shares the same physical dimensions as its predecessor and the outer shell is still constructed from lightweight (4oz) anodized aluminum. Although it is compact and lightweight, the Contour HD 1080 is anything but delicate. The rugged body is fully shock and water resistant as it is designed to be operated in less than ideal conditions. Operating the camera is simple as there are only two buttons to control all camera functions- the power button at the rear of the camera and a cleverly designed record button on the top. The record button is a large sliding switch that allows you to easily start recording by sliding forward and to stop recording by sliding the switch to the rear of the camera. The front of the camera also has a built-in omni-directional microphone to capture audio. Because the camera lacks an LCD screen, the front of the lens is outfitted with two laser sights that allow you to aim the camera to appropriately frame your video. Both sides of the camera feature a rail system that permits a number of ways to mount the camera to different objects (handle bar, helmet, and suction-cup).

Contour HD 1080 [Continued]

The updated 5 megapixel sensor, in combination with the 135° wide angle lens, produces impressive results, particularly for a camera so compact and in this price range. The camera is set to capture video at 30 frames per second in 1920x1080 mode, but also features a 60 FPS mode when shooting at 1280x720. This setting is especially useful when capturing fast moving subjects. The Contour HD 1080 stores its video files to a supplied two gigabyte MicroSD card, but can accept up to a 16 gigabyte card. When shooting at the highest resolution, you can store up to 15 minutes of footage per gigabyte. The camera runs off of a rechargeable Lithium Ion battery. In a recent evaluation, I was able to record about 1.5 hours on a full charge. The video can easily be transferred to a computer via the included USB cable. The camera also comes supplied with software to edit and share your video clips. The 264 HD files can be played and edited by most commercially available video editing software (i.e. Movie or Windows Movie Maker).

The Contour HD 1080's go-anywhere feel and rugged construction is very appealing. With its multiple mounting options it is a great choice for capturing high quality video footage for nearly any situation. The Contour HD 1080 ships with the following items, 2GB MicroSD card, USB transfer and charging cable, rechargeable battery, helmet mount, goggle mount, and the Contour Easy Edit Software.

Jon Lawton is a sales associate at Hunt's Photo and Video in Melrose, MA. If you have any questions on the Contour HD 1080 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

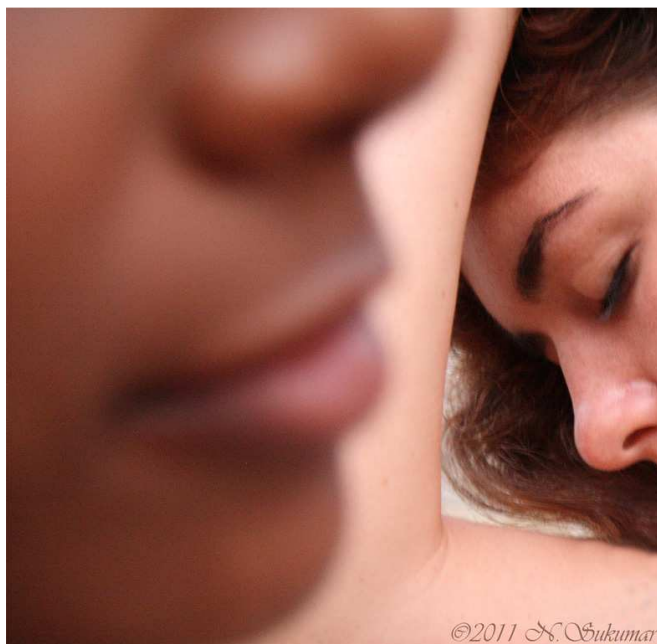
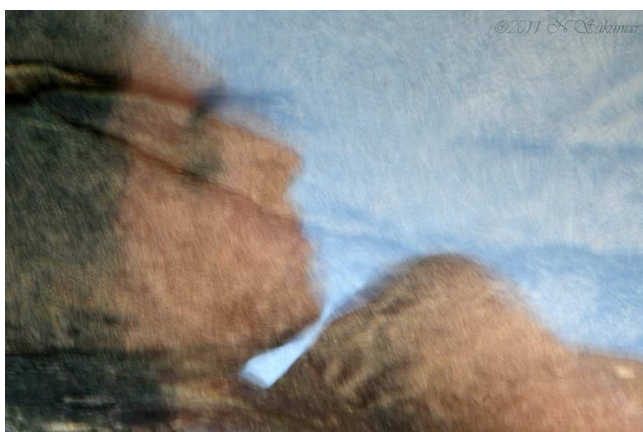
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Portraits, Weird & Not So Weird

by N. Sukumar

Yes, once in a while I do take portraits, but more often than not, these portraits cannot be used on your passport application. Here are a few recent ones from Todos Santos, Baja California:



[Adapted & excerpted from Sukumar's blog at <http://figuremodels.org/festx/>]

Paths in Life

[Continued from page 1]



Path to Humble © Gary Larsen

With that brief background, I will focus on my current, creative passion for infrared photography. Using a series of images, I will describe infrared digital photography in the field (the “before”) and the post-processing techniques (the “after”) necessary to produce the images that I have recently been presenting in shows and publication. The presentation will conclude with a few of the “Paths in Life” images and an opportunity for any questions from the audience. I will have a few of my books and prints from my “Paths in Life” series available for display/purchase.

Bio: *I was born in Connecticut and, after completing a civil engineering degree at the University of Connecticut, I travelled extensively throughout the United States and lived in 12 different states. As my career advanced, I became increasingly committed to photography. Now living in the Adirondack Mountains of upstate New York, where I photograph often, I visit states in the southeast, southwest and west frequently and many other states and Canada. I have now been deeply interested in photography for over 30 years. I photograph in 35mm digital format, but I started with color slides. I have taken classes and workshops with well-known photographers George Lepp, John Shaw, Weldon Lee and B. Moose Peterson.*

My subjects are frequently drawn from nature and focus on landscapes and flowers. I also find close-up photography to be exciting. But I am often intrigued by the deteriorated condition of structures and vehicles as well. For several years, I have been especially drawn to infrared digital photography. I find that its unusual color spectrum challenges human perceptions, and it has opened fresh creative channels for my work.

Gary Larsen [Continued]

I have had several photographs selected for the “Adirondack Life Photography Contest,” winning 1st Place Color Photograph in 2008, 2nd Place Alternative Process in 2009 (along with another Honorable Mention) and an Honorable Mention in 2010. One of my photographs was selected as “The Best of Nikonians” in their on-line photo contest for May 2010. This also led to my writing an article about infrared photography for their on-line magazine. I had two photographs selected for the “75th Anniversary 2011 Exhibition by Artists of the Mohawk-Hudson Region” at the Albany Institute of History & Art, and I had one recently in the “Cooperstown Art Association’s 76th Annual National Juried Exhibition.” In 2009, my photograph “Path to Carefree” won the 2nd Place award at the “Adirondack Theme Biennial Photography Exhibition” at the (then) Arts Center in Old Forge, NY with Mark Bowie as juror.

My photographs have been presented in solo shows at the Arkell Museum in Canajoharie, NY; the Clifton Park/Halfmoon Public Library in Clifton Park, NY; the (former) Feast Gallery in Saratoga Springs, NY; the bjsartworks Gallery in Glens Falls, NY; the Adirondack Lakes Center for the Arts in Blue Mountain Lake, NY and in the Northville Public Library in Northville, NY.

I recently published a book based on my “Paths in Life” series of infrared photographs. It contains all 18 of the images along with the definitions and narratives included with the showing of these photographs. Each “Path” image reflects a human value. The series of images was gathered as I traveled throughout the U.S.

In July 2010, I was the featured, on-line interview by David Warner for his podcast at www.LensFlare35.com. I also maintain a website at www.LightEffectPhoto.com and a Facebook business page at <https://www.Facebook.com/LightEffectPhoto>.

November Print Competition Winners



Doug Mitchell won 2nd place in both *Monochrome (Farmer's Son, above)* and *General (Window Light Muse, below)*, both photographed with a Canon 40D camera and EF24-70mm L USM lens. **Farmer's Son** was shot at Congress Park in Saratoga Springs @ f/8, 1/100 sec, ISO: 100; **Window Light Muse** @ f/5.6, 1/80 sec, ISO: 500.



Luba Ricket photographed **Airborn** (2nd place Assigned) around noon on her way to Fort Lauderdale airport, Florida (her son turned the car around so she could capture this graffiti), with a Nikon D80. Luba combined 4 images into a panoramic in Photoshop. One copy was turned into a B&W and color was brushed back to a small select section in the center. In a second B&W copy, more color was brushed back. She combined these two with the third copy, which was colored entirely into a triptych. Printed on watercolor finish textured photo paper, hoping the texture of the paper would translate into a gritty scene.



Urbanless (3rd place Assigned) is by **Maureen Goldman**.



Rob Near shows us **Eastern State Pen One More Time** (1st place General), a 9 shot HDR bracketed 1 stop apart. Processed with NIK HDR Efex Pro and NIK Color Efex Pro. Shot with a Nikon D700 and Nikon 14-24 mm. lens on a tripod, in natural light thru ceiling openings. f/8 @ 1/25-10 sec. ISO: 200 Printed on Canon iPF6100.



November Projected Competition Winners

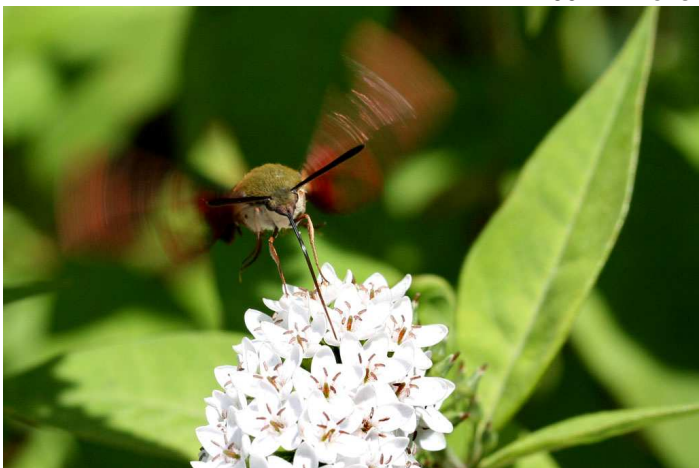


Dave Bennett photographed **My Queen** (*1st place Assigned*) indoors with a single back light strobe, using a Canon 7D and Canon 24-70 2.8L @ 48 mm. lens F/8 @ 1/250 sec. @ ISO: 100.



Black & White (*2nd place Assigned, left*) by **Kim Koza** is a scanner image.

Rebekah Sokol captured this **Hawkmoth** (*3rd place General, below*) at the Five Rivers Environmental Education Center one afternoon in natural light, with a Canon Rebel XTi and Canon Macro 100 mm. lens.



Mardi Gras Babe (*3rd place Assigned, above*) is by **Sean Sullivan**. **Linda Buckman** bagged *2nd place, General* for **Layers of Architecture** (*below*), photographed late afternoon at N. Pearl & Clinton, Albany, with a Canon 50D and 18-270 mm. lens on a tripod. F/5.6 @ 1/45 sec. ISO: 100.



November Print Competition Results

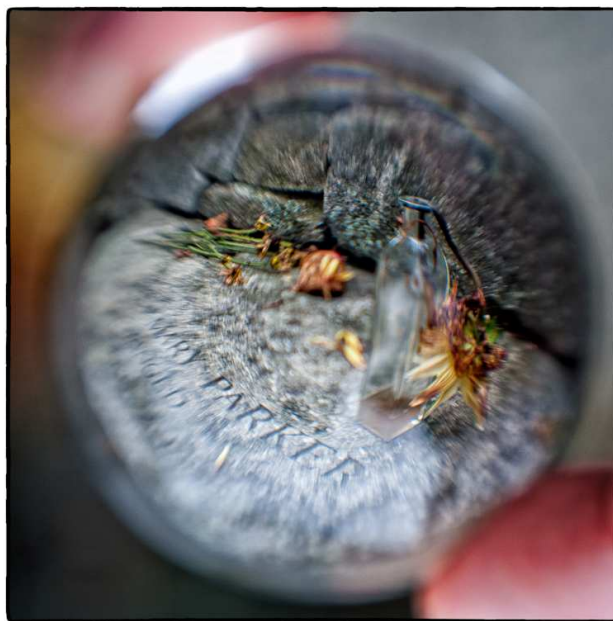
Assigned Topic: American Graffiti (18 Entries)		
1	Max Tiller	Graffiti With Camera
2	Luba Rickett	Airborn
3	Maureen Goldman	Urbanless
HM	Robert Coppola	Living Walls
HM	Bernie Mattis	Looking Back In Time
HM	Maureen Goldman	Toothpaste
General (36 Entries)		
1	Rob Near	Eastern State Pen One More Time
2	Doug Mitchell	Window Light Muse
3	Max Tiller	Dinner at the Mount
4	Barb Lawton	Same Scene Different Bird
5	Judith A Peck	Sunset on the Mohawk
HM	Kim Koza	Tokatizian
HM	Rob Near	Capone's Cell
HM	Luba Rickett	Flipped Gold Heels
HM	Julie Palyswia	Reflections
HM	Dale Winsor	Magnolia
Monochrome (21 Entries)		
1	Max Tiller	A Bed Warmer
2	Doug Mitchell	Farmer's Boy
3	Harvey Gurien	Mowlton's Barn
HM	Marianne Rahn-Erickson	We Knew Mother Was Ill
HM	Robert Coppola	Hope
HM	Jeff Altman	Guardarim In Monteriggione

November Projected Competition Results

Assigned Topic: Feathers		
1	Dave Bennett	My Queen
2	Kim Koza	Black White
3	Sean Sullivan	Mardi Gras Babe
4	Dale Winsor	Who came First
HM	Luba Rickett	Against The Sky
HM	Maureen Goldman	Dixie
HM	Barb Lawton	Barn Owl
HM	Julie Palyswiat	Untitled
General		
1	Rob Near	Mary Parker's Crystal Ball
2	Linda Buckman	Layers of Architecture
3	Rebekah Sokol	Hawkmoth
4	Jeffrey Altman	Beggar Woman
5	Jeffrey Altman	Jackie
HM	Sean Sullivan	Rainy Day
HM	Connie Frisbee Houde	Cooking
HM	Bill Lanahan	Bandon Seashore
HM	Drue Sokol	Old Cassette
HM	Luba Rickett	Flipped Balloon



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Rob Near photographed **Mary Parker's Crystal Ball** (1st place Projected General, above) on an overcast afternoon in Salem, MA, with a Nikon D700, Lensbaby and a +4 closeup filter. F/4 @ 1/160 sec. ISO: 200. Edited in Adobe Lightroom and NIK Color Efex Pro 4.

Ray Henrikson wins a 1st at the Bethlehem Art Association



© Ray Henrikson

In the annual fall exhibit of the Bethlehem Art Association, Ray Henrikson was awarded first place in the Photography Division. The winning photograph was created during a dance photography workshop directed by Lawrence White at the Dance Museum in Saratoga. The image is a multiple exposure of a group of dancers. Seven exposures were made on one frame of Tri-X film. The exhibit was displayed at the Bethlehem Library during November.

Interclub News

Kim Koza's image **Adirondacks** received an HM in the first round of the PSA Nature Interclub competition.



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