



FOCAL POINT

<http://www.assabetvalleycc.com>

February 2022

The club meets at the Hudson Senior Center, 29 Church Street, Hudson MA on the first and third Wednesdays of each month except July and Aug. Meetings begin at 7:00 PM

Next meeting: February 2nd

Photographing Birds – From Portraits to Flight **Assabet Valley Camera Club Program**



On Wednesday, February 2, the Assabet Valley Camera Club (AVCC) is pleased to host Roman Kurywczak whose presentation will cover everything from gear, to settings, and techniques, while also providing insight on some of the most common mistakes one may make in the exciting field of bird photography. Kurywczak, a professional nature photographer for over 18 years, conducts lectures and workshops across the globe. Roman is equally comfortable shooting landscapes, macro subjects and wildlife, whether he is at an exotic location or close to home.

This program is supported in part by a grant from the Hudson Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.



Because of the potential risk to the the health and safety of our membership from the Coronavirus, all camera club meetings will be run via Zoom for the foreseeable future.

Competitions:

The next competition will be **February 16th**.

Digital subjects are "Nature" & "Open".

The deadline to submit digital images is **February 9th** @11:59 PM.

The print competition has been suspended for now.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Kurywczak's down-to-earth and easy-to-follow teaching style makes him a highly-sought after lecturer. The author of several instructional e-books on nature photography, Roman strives to share his passion for photography as others have shared with him.



You can find his galleries, blog, tour schedule, e-books and more on his website www.roaminwithroman.com or follow him on the Facebook group at [Roamin' with Roman Photo Tours](https://www.facebook.com/RoaminWithRomanPhotoTours) or on Instagram [roaminwithromanphoto](https://www.instagram.com/roaminwithromanphoto)



Due to Covid 19 all AVCC meetings are currently being held online. If you are interested in attending this program, contact AVCC at info@assabetvalleycc.com a few days prior to the meeting to request a link to the event. The club's Zoom room opens at 7:00 PM with a brief business meeting at 7:15. Bernie's presentation **Lighting 101** will begin at 7:30.

Normally, AVCC meetings are held in the Great Room at the Hudson Senior Center, 29 Church Street, Hudson. The first meeting of the month generally features a program designed to instruct and/or to entertain camera enthusiasts. During the second monthly meeting, a competition of members' digital images are judged and critiqued by qualified individuals. Assabet Valley Camera Club, affiliated with both the New England Camera Club Council (NECCC) and the Photographic Society of America (PSA), participates in interclub competitions on regional, national and international levels.

AVCC welcomes anyone interested in learning more about photography as a visual art and its practical application as a science. Members benefit from the hands-on experiences, from the knowledge presented in programs, and from having their work critiqued. For more information check out the AVCC website at assabetvalleycc.com or contact Elliot Mednick, club president, at 978-293-5192.



AVCC Lifetime Membership Honors to Doris and Tony

At the E-Board meeting on January 25, 2022, the officers and E-Board voted unanimously to honor Doris and Tony Monteiro with a lifetime membership to Assabet Valley Camera Club for their contributions and service to the club.

Doris and Tony have been members of the club for a combined 61 years. Their contributions to the club are innumerable. Tony is the architect of the way we manage and score competitions, which is the heartbeat of the club. He managed them for over 10 years before stepping back this year. He has also managed the operations of the club as either president or treasurer for the past decade. Doris has and continues to be the face of the club to the general public. She guides us through the grant process and also advises us in many other matters.

But this only scratches the surface. I can't fully enumerate all the ways Doris and Tony have shaped the club over the years. They continue to advise me and the officers and explain not only what the rules are, but why they are there based on their experiences over the years.

Although I have attended E-board meetings since I joined the club four years ago and watched Tony and Doris in action, it wasn't until I became president that I became aware of the full extent to which they make sure the club is run well from behind the scenes. And for them to have been doing this for the past 20-30 years is remarkable and shows their sustained dedication to the club. And I'm sure I don't even know the half of it.

With that, please join me in congratulating Doris and Tony on this well-deserved honor. I hope they continue to attend regular meetings and E-Board meetings and basically keep us -- and future -- officers in line.

--Elliot, John, John, Pam and the whole E-Board

Scavenger Hunt!

Don't forget the Scavenger Hunt! Images are due on March 16. The images must have been taken between **January 1, 2021 and March 16, 2022**. You are allowed to submit 10 images, one in each category. You do not have to submit all 10 if you don't want to, but we do award prizes for the best images in each category and for overall. We then will take the best of these images and submit them to the Multiscreen competition, in which we compete against other clubs. *We do not use judges* for the Scavenger Hunt. You, the membership, will vote on the best images. So, those images that you think the judges got wrong, feel free to resubmit.

The Scavenger Hunt images are the same as the **Multi-Screen 2022 Subjects** listed on page 6.

Steve McGrath Workshops:

Steve McGrath who was the guest speaker a couple months ago for the “Landscape” session would like to set up two springtime workshops with AVCC members at a discounted rate. No definite dates are set yet – but in the spring. For a 3 session workshop and a field trip, the cost is very reasonable. Steve teaches a fun class. I’ve taken the Soutwick Zoo one with him before. The zoo keeper session is fun. Below is a description of the workshops.

Please take a look and let me know if you are interested. First step is to get a list going to see if there is enough interest.

Email me at: pammeoli@aol.com

Steve McGrath Spring Workshops

(4 person min and 15 max)

***10 Lighthouse Cruise Workshop** – A 3 Session Workshop:

1st Class Online - Go over Compositions, Panoramic Images and Camera Settings.

2nd Class - Meet at the Cruise Ship (about one hour ride to boat - \$35)

3rdClass - Online Critique Session

Here is a link for the website for the

Cruise:https://www.rhodeislandbaycruises.com/Rhode_Island_Lighthouses.htm

Cost: \$60 per person (normal price is \$80 for non AVCC people) – plus Pay and make Reservation for the Cruise. The Cruise is \$35 and 90 min.

*** Wildlife Photography Workshop at the Southwick's Zoo** - A 3 Session Workshop:

1st Class Online -During the first class, we will discuss tips and techniques for getting great zoo photographs that look like they were taken in the wild.

2nd Class -Next, we will meet at the Southwick's Zoo in Mendon. You will have opportunities to photograph at feeding times and special zoo keeper sessions close up.

3rdClass -For the final class you will view and critique your classmates images in a show-and-tell format with an opportunity to showcase your best work

Cost: \$80 (\$89 for non AVCC people)-plus \$30 zoo admission.

Programs

The big news is that the Program Committee has just about finalized the program schedule for the year. They did a fantastic job and almost overbooked. They just need to close the loop on the May program presenter. The program committee consists of John Mauro, Robyn Saur, Pam Meoli, Jane Parker, and John Gill. This year's program is interesting, fun, and exciting:

February 2, 2022	Photographing Birds	Roman Kurywczak,
March 2, 2022	Lightpainting	Harold Ross
April 6, 2022	Scavenger Hunt	
May 4, 2022	TBA	

Galleries:

- a. Bob Cooke has a gallery at the Maynard Library (This MAY be a photo of some of the photos: <https://www.maynardpubliclibrary.org/library-history?lightbox=datapitem-ktepz77n6>).

Zoom Meetings

We are looking forward to a new AVCC club year. Based on Senior Center availability, the AVCC will be starting the club year on ZOOM. If you haven't logged onto Zoom for any of our past meetings, because you do not know how or are having issues with it, please let me know before the next meeting so we can resolve any problems that you have.

Note: If you are reluctant to use Zoom because you are bashful to be seen on video, you can join the Zoom meeting without turning on your video.

You should be able to log easily on Zoom using a laptop that typically has a mic and speakers. You can do the same with a smartphone or iPad.

If you have a desktop that has speakers and mic you are all set.

If you only have a desktop without a mic or speakers you can:

1. Use the desktop to access the video, and use your phone to call one of the dial in #'s listed in the link info for the audio portion. You will see and hear the meeting, but others will not see you.
2. Add speakers, or use a headphone, and a webcam.

Note: It seems like most of the webcams are out of stock because of demand and supply, However I did purchase one at B&H video that seems to work fine. Below is the link to the one I purchased.

https://www.bhphotovideo.com/c/product/1560456-REG/aoni_a20_hd_webcam_108030_auto.html

Again, if anyone needs assistance, please let me know, preferably well before our first meeting. Thanks and hope to see everyone back this year.

Classifieds:

- Ginny Harris is setting a brand-new mat cutter. In her words:

I have a never-used Logan Mat Cutter that I would like to sell. The cost on Amazon is \$127 but I'm willing to sell it for \$50 to anyone in the club who would like to have it.

I can be reached on my cell at 978 621 2586

Jim DeLuco has a Nikon D780 for sale. If you are interested, you can contact Jim

@ jim@delucophoto.com

Here is a link to B&H for the camera:

https://www.bhphotovideo.com/c/product/1538572-REG/nikon_d780_dslr_camera.html

And you can see Jim's post to Craig's list in the e-mail below.

<https://boston.craigslist.org/bmw/pho/d/hudson-nikon-d780-like-new/7406635628.html>

Assabet Valley Camera Club

Multi-Screen 2022 Subjects

- **Black & White (Monochrome)**
 - **Chrome**
 - **Eyes**
 - **Hot or Heat**
 - **Light Painting**
 - **Living History**
 - **Macro**
- **Military / Law Enforcement**
 - **Stripes**
 - **Water (Liquid)**

Competition Scores:

The competition scores will no longer be included in the newsletter. The easiest way to see them will be on the redesigned website, hopefully available later this month.