



FOCAL POINT

<http://www.assabetvalleycc.com>

December 2018

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 7:30 PM

Next meeting: December 5th
The program is:

Dynamics of Nature Photography

On Wednesday, December 5, the Assabet Valley Camera Club (AVCC) is pleased to host John Slonina, a Massachusetts-based professional nature photographer, whose presentation will explore what makes a compelling and emotionally engaging photograph while entertaining the audience and illustrating his points with humor and stories from the field. The program will have practical tips that can be immediately deployed to increase ones chances of capturing that "shot of a lifetime". Whether you are a beginner or a professional photographer, you will leave this presentation excited to try new strategies and tips that will create more dramatic images.

The presentation is free and open to the general public. AVCC welcomes anyone interested in learning more about photography as a visual art and its practical application as a science. Meetings are held at 7:30 PM on the first and third Wednesday of each month from now through early June in the Great Room at the Hudson Senior Center, 29 Church Street. For more information check out the AVCC website at assabetvalleycc.com or contact John Gill, club President, at 978-293-5192.

Competitions:

The next competition will be December 19th.
Digital subjects are "Nature" & "Open". The print category is "Skyline".
The deadline to submit digital images is December 16th @11:59 PM.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dynamics of Nature Photography

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Slonina has been photographing nature for over 30 years. His initial passion for wildlife, wild places and teaching led him down the path to photography. John's favorite photo subjects include landscape, wildlife, macro, and night photography. His work has been published in calendars, books, and magazines and has also been displayed in several galleries. Slonina's teaching style and humor make him a popular speaker. He has presented for numerous camera clubs, nature groups, and photo conferences throughout the USA.



Through his photo tour company Slonina Photography John leads instructional tours and photo workshops across North America to national parks and areas such as Yellowstone, Katmai, Mt Rainier, Great Smoky Mountains, Kenai Fjords, Everglades, Big Cypress Preserve, Alaska, and Acadia. John's goal is to make everything a fun learning experience.. More information about his tours and workshops can be found on his website at www.sphotography.com .

John Slonina's "Dynamics of Nature Photography" is supported in part by a grant from the Hudson Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.



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Macro Workshop

Here are some shots from our recent Macro workshop. Let's do it again soon.





Sensor Cleaning

Just a reminder that Shawn Plouffe will be coming the night of the banquet, Dec 5th, to do sensor cleaning. He is still only charging \$35. It's a great deal.

Shawn will be at the club by 6pm.

If you are bringing your camera in, please make sure that you have a fully charged battery.

NOTE:

For those of us who are unfamiliar with "sensor dust", I have copied a link that explains it, and how to test for it. That will help you decide if your sensor does need cleaning.

<https://photographylife.com/how-to-spot-dust-on-your-dslr-sensor>

If you have a DSLR, and change lens, shoot in less than clean conditions, you probably have some dust.

If you notice "small spots" on you image, in the same place, all the time, you have dust.

It is more noticeable when you stop down your F stops..f10-f22 for example.

At f2.8- f8, etc. it probably won't be noticeable on the image.

Note, if you do have spots, it is easily corrected in Photoshop using content aware, etc., but if you have a lot of spots, it is a pain to fix them each time.

Help Setting Up

We really need some help setting up the meeting room.

We typically start around 2:15 to 2:30.

It takes an hour or less, depending on how fast we move, or how chatty we get. For all of these past years, there has just been a few of us who do it each time. We need more members so we can spread out the work load.

If you haven't done it before, come this Wednesday and learn about what we have been doing to make the room ready. We start by taking down all the round tables that senior center uses during the day. We arrange all the chairs as you see them, set up projector etc. If we have enough people, we maybe can then schedule "teams".

It's not difficult, so please consider coming and learning what needs to be done.

Competition Images:

Just a reminder about the new resolution we will be using for competition.

Just resize your images to 1400 (H) x 1050 (V) instead of (1024 x 768).

Note: If you submit an image with the old resolution, it will display fine, but it will display smaller.

Nov. '18 Print Competition - NATURE

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>SUBMITTED BY</u>	<u>SCORE</u>	<u>AWARD</u>
<u>GOLD</u>			
Mother Loon Feeding Baby	Leon Ferante	29.5	1st
Giant Swallowtail Sipping Nectar	Sue Abrahamsen	28.8	2nd
Merganser	Dave Morin	27.3	3rd
House Finch	Linda Shelales	27	
Acadia	Bob Escott	26.7	
Black Tailed Deer Olympic NP	Todd Mathieson	26.1	
Loon With Fish	Ginny Harris	25.6	
Mating Ospreys	Paul Weisbach	25	
Machias Seal Island Puffins	Darlene Holman	25	
Wild Ginger	Linda Gilberti	24.5	
Go Get 'em Mom	Bob Cooke	24.3	
<u>Make-Up for Oct. '18 - MONOCHROME</u>			
Torres del Paine NP	Sue Abrahamsen	27	
Spring Sweet	Bob Escott	24	
<u>SILVER</u>			
Here's Looking at You, Kid	Elliot Mednick	27.6	1st
Dancing Egrets	Larry Alley	27.5	2nd
Westray Atlantic Puffin	Mary Strachan	22.3	3rd
Fall on Lake Wintergreen	Larry Wellington	22	
<u>Make-Up for Oct. '18 - MONOCHROME</u>			
Doubling Point Light	Larry Wellington	23.5	

Images Highlighted in Yellow are Eligible for the Quad-Club Competition

PRINT SUMMARY 2018-2019

	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	
GOLD	Open	Monochrome	Nature	Skyline	Open	Monochrome	Nature	Open	Open	TOTAL
Sue Abrahamsen	24.7	27	28.8	0	0	0	0	0	0	80.5
Leon Ferante	23.7	26.3	29.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	79.5
Linda Shelales	25.5	25.8	27	0	0	0	0	0	0	78.3
Paul Weisbach	27.1	25.9	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	78
Darlene Holman	27	25.3	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	77.3
Dave Morin	25.3	22.8	27.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	75.3
Bob Escott	23.7	24	26.7	0	0	0	0	0	0	74.4
Linda Gilberti	24.5	25.3	24.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	74.3
Todd Mathieson	22.3	25.8	26.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	74.2
Bob Cooke	25	24.7	24.3	0	0	0	0	0	0	74
Ginny Harris	0	26.3	25.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	51.9
Linda DeStefano Brown	23.5	25.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	49
SILVER	Open	Monochrome	Nature	Skyline	Open	Monochrome	Nature	Open	Open	TOTAL
Elliot Mednick	24.2	25.9	27.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	77.7
Larry Alley	25.3	23.4	27.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	76.2
Mary Strachan	23.4	25	22.3	0	0	0	0	0	0	70.7
Maureen Mathieson	25.3	25.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	50.9
Cathy Robotis	23.2	25.8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	49
Larry Wellington	0	23.5	22	0	0	0	0	0	0	45.5
Heather Ruthroff	0	27.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	27.4
John Sahagian	0	25.3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	25.3
Bill Weiblen	23.8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	23.8

Images Highlighted in Yellow are Eligible for the Quad-Club Competition

Nov. '18 Digital Competition - OPEN			
<u>TITLE</u>	<u>SUBMITTED BY</u>	<u>SCORE</u>	<u>AWARD</u>
CLASS AA			
Mirrored Mallard	Tony Monterio	28.7	1st
Ready to Pounce	Doris Monterio	28.5	2nd
Macaque Monkeys	Todd Mathieson	27.7	3rd
Painted Lady on White Cone Flower	John Gill	27.5	
Lunchtime	Drew Simmons	26.8	
Praying Mantis Portrait	Cathy Simmons	26.8	
Bunny Stare	Sue Abrahamsen	25.3	
Row of Boathouses	Robyn Saur	25.3	
Baby Bird Looks for Mama	Linda Shelales	25.2	
Shake a Leg	Ginny Harris	25	
Backlit Leaf Tower Hill	Maureen Mathieson	24.3	
Budapest at Night	John Houldsworth	24.2	
Four Amigos in B & W	Dave Morin	23	
CLASS A			
Out Sitting in His Field	Jane Parker	26.9	1st
North Eastern Blue Jay	Darlene Holman	25.8	2nd
Practicing Rescue Operations	Dean Giolas	24.8	3rd
Light Tunnel	Jill Lockwood	24.8	3rd
Monterey California Coastline	Dave Reynard	24.2	
Mother Tern Feeding Baby Tern	Leon Ferrante	24.2	
Floating Blossoms	Linda Giberti	24	
Angel Wings	Barbara Huntley	23	
Hey Wait for the Pie	Diana Ledoux	22.8	
Cascade Falls	Bob Escott	22.7	
Make-Up for Oct. '18 - OPEN			
Colors of Mexico	Linda Gilberti	24.7	
CLASS B			
Pretty Bird	Natalie Schiavone	26.4	1st
Sunrise	Linda Destefano Brown	26.2	2nd
Burano Bicycle	Peter Stultz	25.7	3rd
Snow Capped Mountains in Beagle Channel	Larry Alley	25.6	
Cape Cod in a Crystal Ball	Pam Meoli	25.5	
Sittin Pretty	Susan Nichols	25.4	
Performing on the Laser Harp	Elliot Mednick	25.1	
Boston at Night	Jim Quinn	24.7	
Baboon Family Portrait	John McKinney	24.5	
Spread Your Wings and Fly	Catherine Robotis	23.5	
A Quiet Scene at Becky's Cove	Theresa Vachowski	23	
Fall Garden	Mary Strachan	22.9	
Arctic Gull Prospecting	Bob Cooke	21.5	

Nov. '18 Digital Competition - PATHS AND TRAILS			
<u>TITLE</u>	<u>SUBMITTED BY</u>	<u>SCORE</u>	<u>AWARD</u>
CLASS AA			
The Hemlock Road	Todd Mathieson	28.5	1st
Path to the Past	John Gill	27.8	2nd
Strolling on Cape Cod	Sue Abrahamsen	27	3rd
Old Garden Path	Tony Monteiro	26.2	
Walking the Knob in Falmouth	Ginny Harris	26.2	
Wander Thru the Birches	Maureen Mathieson	26	
Rocky Path	Doris Monteiro	25.8	
Wayside Buggy Ride	Drew Simmons	25.4	
Rope Trail	John Houldsworth	25	
Plum Island Boardwalk	Cathy Simmons	24.3	
Canal Path in B & W	Dave Morin	24	
Overgrown Path at the Farm	Linda Shelales	23.8	
Zooming Down the Colorful Road	Robyn Saur	23.3	
CLASS A			
Ray of Light in Antelope Canyon	Leon Ferrante	28.8	1st
Trail Along the 17 Mile Drive	Dave Reynard	26.2	2nd
Red White and Blue	Bob Escott	25.8	3rd
Path Up Mt. Inari	Dean Giolas	25.2	
Pathway to Quinn Middle School	Jane Parker	25.2	
Walkin' the Dogs	Diana Ledoux	25.1	
In the Jungle	Linda Gilberti	24.5	
Pemigewasset River Footbridge	Darlene Holman	24	
Shady Path	Barbara Huntley	23.7	
Ecotarium Trails	Jill Lockwood	23.1	
Make-Up for Oct. '18 - NATURE			
Backyard Visitor	Linda Gilberti	24.1	
CLASS B			
Hiking Trail Thru Bryce Canyon	Larry Alley	26.6	1st
Path Less Traveled	Susan Nichols	26.4	2nd
Path in Capri	Jim Quinn	26.2	3rd
Happy Trails	Mary Strachan	25.7	
Spring in the Acton Arboretum	Larry Wellington	25.5	
PEI Boardwalk	Peter Stultz	25	
Golden Light of Autumn	Linda DeStefano Brown	24.3	
Dusk at the Wayside Inn	John McKinney	24	
Into the Light	Catherine Robotis	23.6	
Path to Serenity	Pam Meoli	23.4	
Late Fall in Hudson	Elliot Mednick	23.4	
Edgartown Lighthouse	Natalie Schiavone	23.4	
A Long Long Trail Awinding	Bob Cooke	22.5	
On Down the Road	Theresa Vachowski	22.5	

DIGITAL SUMMARY 2018-2019

MEMBERS	SEPT		OCT		NOV		DEC		JAN		FEB		MAR		APR		MAY		TOTAL
CLASS AA	Open	Assn'd	Open	Nature	Open	Assn'd	Open	Nature	Open	Assn'd	Open	Nature	Open	Assn'd	Open	Nature	Open	Assn'd	
John Gill	26.8	24.2	28.7	26.8	27.5	27.8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	161.8
Tony Monteiro	24.5	26	28.1	28.3	28.7	26.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	161.8
Doris Monteiro	26.2	23.6	27.6	25.1	28.5	25.8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	156.8
Sue Abrahamson	25.4	22.7	27	28.6	25.3	27	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	156
Todd Mathieson	25.5	23.6	24.4	25.7	27.7	28.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	155.4
Cathy Simmons	25.4	23	26.7	26.2	26.8	24.3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	152.4
Ginny Harris	26.5	22.5	23.7	28.5	25	26.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	152.4
Robyn Saur	26.5	23.8	24.7	25.4	25.3	23.3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	149
Drew Simmons	24.4	22.4	24.7	25.1	26.8	25.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	148.8
Linda Shelales	24.2	24.2	26.7	24.5	25.2	23.8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	148.6
John Houldsworth	24	21.7	25.9	24.5	24.2	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	145.3
Dave Morin	25.7	25.3	22.6	24.3	23	24	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	144.9
Maureen Mathieson	23.5	22.2	22.9	23.3	24.3	26	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	142.2
CLASS A	Open	Assn'd	Open	Nature	Open	Assn'd	Open	Nature	Open	Assn'd	Open	Nature	Open	Assn'd	Open	Nature	Open	Assn'd	TOTAL
Leon Ferrante	26	23.6	28.2	28.1	24.2	28.8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	158.9
Darlene Holman	23.5	23.1	28	26.6	25.8	24	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	151
Dave Reynard	25	23.6	24.8	26.7	24.2	26.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	150.5
Jane Parker	23.9	23.1	25	25.2	26.9	25.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	149.3
Bob Escott	22.5	25.2	25.7	27	22.7	25.8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	148.9
Barbara Huntley	23	22.9	26.4	25.7	23	23.7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	144.7
Dean Golas	23.2	22	25.4	23.9	24.8	25.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	144.5
Linda Gilberti	22.3	21.8	24.7	24.1	24	24.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	141.4
Diana Ledoux	25.2	22.3	22.6	23.3	22.8	25.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	141.3
Jill Lockwood	24.2	21.3	24.9	22.8	24.8	23.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	141.1
CLASS B	Open	Assn'd	Open	Nature	Open	Assn'd	Open	Nature	Open	Assn'd	Open	Nature	Open	Assn'd	Open	Nature	Open	Assn'd	TOTAL
Elliot Mednick	25.7	24.2	25.6	27.9	25.1	23.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	151.9
Natalie Schiavone	24	22.8	24.6	28.7	26.4	23.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	149.9
Susan Nichols	23.9	25.7	22.9	24.8	25.4	26.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	149.1
Larry Alley	20.6	25.5	24.9	24.3	25.6	26.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	147.5
Mary Strachan	23.3	24.4	24.8	24.1	22.9	25.7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	145.2
Jim Quinn	23.8	22.8	23.1	24.5	24.7	26.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	145.1
Linda DeStefano Brown	24	22.7	22.4	24.7	26.2	24.3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	144.3
John McKinney	22.8	24.2	22.6	24.3	24.5	24	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	142.4
Pam Meoli	22.1	23.8	22.5	25	25.5	23.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	142.3
Bob Cooke	22.4	23.4	21.7	26.7	21.5	22.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	138.2
Theresa Vachowski	22.9	21.7	24.4	23.7	23	22.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	138.2
Cathy Robotis	24.3	24.7	26.5	9	23.5	23.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	131.6
Marie Riley	23.5	22.5	23.4	22.9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	92.3
Larry Wellington	0	0	22.9	25.2	0	25.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	73.6
Peter Stultz	0	0	0	0	25.7	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	50.7
Heather Ruthroff	0	21.9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	21.9