



FOCAL POINT

<http://www.assabetvalleycc.com>

December 2019

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 4th

Southeast Florida Wildlife - Snowbirds Travel

Assabet Valley Camera Club Program

On **Wednesday, December 4**, the Assabet Valley Camera Club (AVCC) is pleased to host Jay Richard, a member of the Merrimack Valley Camera Club. His presentation "**Southeast Florida Wildlife - Snowbirds Travel**" provides an opportunity to expand or refresh one's skills on the how, when and where to find Florida wildlife in their natural habitat. The presentation is for all levels of photographers and people who enjoy viewing what Southeast Florida wildlife has to offer along with tips needed on how to find and photograph them.



As a youth in Kansas City, Missouri Jay spent much of his time hiking in the woods, fishing, and hunting with his grandfather and uncle. They instilled in him the need to respect all living things, while understanding the world around him will always be changing. This background led him to a lifelong appreciation of nature, scenery, architecture and people. Jay started with film cameras and dark rooms, eventually moving to digital cameras and computerized post processing. Visit his website at www.jayhawkphotography.com.

Competitions:

The next competition will be December 18th.

Digital subjects are "Nature" & "Open". The print category is "Shadow(s)".

The deadline to submit digital images is December 15th @11:59 PM.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Southeast Florida Wildlife - Snowbirds Travel

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Anyone interested in photography and expanding their pictorial skills is welcome to attend the next meeting of the Assabet Valley Camera Club (AVCC) to be held in the Great Room at the Hudson Senior Center, 29 Church Street, Hudson. The "**Southeast Florida Wildlife – Snowbirds Travel**" program will follow a short business meeting which begins at 7:30 PM.

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. 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 John Gill, club president, at 978-293-5192.



LENS CLEANING

Shawn Plouffe will be coming the night of the banquet, Dec 4th to perform sensor cleaning. He is still only charging \$35. It's a great deal.

For those that are bring a camera in for sensor cleaning, Please make sure that your battery is fully charged.

Shawn will be at the club by **6pm**.

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. 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.

Here is the link.

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

Competitions

NATURE MANIPULATION ADJUSTMENTS

ALLOWED IN NATURE COMPETITIONS

- EXPOSURE ADJUSTMENT (SELECTIVE AND GLOBAL)
- ADJUST HIGHLIGHT AND SHADOW DETAIL
- ADJUST CONTRAST
- WHITE BALANCE / COLOR CORRECTION
(HDR ALLOWED FOR ANY AND ALL OF THE ABOVE)
- BLACK & WHITE CONVERSION (GRAYSCALE ONLY)
- ADJUST SATURATION
- DUST SPOT REMOVAL
- NOISE REMOVAL
- FLARE REMOVAL
- STRAIGHTENING
- CROPPING
- REVERSING (A.K.A. FLIPPING HORIZONTAL - USE CAUTION ON SCENICS)
- RESIZING
- SHARPENING (INCLUDING FOCUS LAYERING)

ALL ALLOWED ADJUSTMENTS MUST LOOK NATURAL

ADJUSTMENTS NOT ALLOWED IN NATURE COMPETITIONS

- ADDING OR REMOVING IMAGE ELEMENTS
- BLURRING BACKGROUNDS

NOTE: Reminder that the new image size is 1400 x 1050 pixels.

NOTE 2: Prints cannot exceed 36 inches in total Height & Width (**including mats**). Examples: (16 x 20) (12 X 24), etc.

To submit your digital competition images, go to the club web-site and, on the navigation bar at the top of the home page, click on the "Competitions" pull-down, then the "Monthly Club Competitions" and the "Submit Digital Images" pull-downs. For information about rules and file setup procedures for submitting competition images, follow the "Rules" and "Digital Files Setup", also in the "Monthly Club Competitions" pull-down.

You may request a critique for only one digital image. If you select for both, only the "Open" image will be critiqued on competition night. In addition, you may request a critique for your print entry.

If you have any questions related to digital competition submission, contact Paul Weisbach by email JWeisbach@aol.com .

Please remember, print submissions need to be on the print table **by 7:15pm** on the night of the competition. When filling out the print entry form, check the provided box if your print image was taken after 04/01/2019. The new policy states that photos must not be framed or mounted on glass or metal. They can be matted, but not with glass or metal. Prints cannot exceed 36 inches in total Height & Width. Examples: (16 x 20) (12 X 24), etc.

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.

Nov. '19 Print Competition - NATURE

TITLE	SUBMITTED BY	SCORE	AWARD
GOLD			
Egret Triplets	Paul Weisbach	29.6	1st
Deer Scuffle	Sue Abrahamsen	29.2	2nd
Saw Whet Owl in Tree Cavity	Todd Mathieson	28.2	3rd
Eye, Flamingo	Dave Morin	27.6	
Bee Collects Pollen on Lotus Flower	Darlene Holman	26.9	
Common Moohen	Bob Escott	26.9	
Mallard at Bruce's Pond	Elliot Mednick	25.5	
You're Late	Bob Cooke	25.1	
Make-Up for Oct. '19 - MONOCHROME			
Sisters	Dave Morin	28.7	
Mama Otter and Kid	Bob Cooke	25.7	
SILVER			
A Beauty and a Beast	Jane Parker	27.1	1st
Keeping a Watchful Eye	Cathy Robotis	26.9	2nd
What's Up?	Liz Krouse	26.8	3rd
Zebra - Moremi Game Reserve, Botswana	Glenn Fund	25.9	
Slow & Steady Wins the Race	Ann DeCristofaro	23.4	
Autumn Colors	Bill Weiblen	23.2	
Make-Up for Oct. '19 - MONOCHROME			
Engaged	Ann DeCristofaro	28.9	

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

PRINT SUMMARY 2019-2020

	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	
<u>GOLD</u>	Open	Monochrome	Nature	Shadow(s)	Open	Still Life	Nature	Open	Open	TOTAL
Paul Weisbach	27.8	22.8	29.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	80.2
Elliot Mednick	26.2	28	25.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	79.7
Todd Mathieson	25.8	24.7	28.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	78.7
Dave Morin	22.4	28.7	27.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	78.7
Darlene Holman	25.7	25.7	26.9	0	0	0	0	0	0	78.3
Bob Cooke	25.6	25.7	25.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	76.4
Bob Escott	23.4	25.9	26.9	0	0	0	0	0	0	76.2
Sue Abrahamsen	23.8	21.6	29.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	74.6
Ginny Harris	24.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	24.2
<u>SILVER</u>	Open	Monochrome	Nature	Shadow(s)	Open	Still Life	Nature	Open	Open	TOTAL
Ann DeCristofaro	23.9	28.9	23.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	76.2
Liz Krouse	26.9	21.7	26.8	0	0	0	0	0	0	75.4
Glenn Fund	24.7	23.2	25.9	0	0	0	0	0	0	73.8
Jane Parker	24.1	22.3	27.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	73.5
Cathy Robotis	24.6	21.5	26.9	0	0	0	0	0	0	73
Bill Weiblen	22	0	23.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	45.2
Heather Ruthoff	24	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	24
Larry Alley	0	22.7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	22.7
Maureen Mathieson	0	22.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	22.4

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

Nov. '19 Digital Competition - OPEN			
<u>TITLE</u>	<u>SUBMITTED BY</u>	<u>SCORE</u>	<u>AWARD</u>
CLASS AA			
Painted Lady on Zinnia	John Gill	29.4	1st
Portrait of West African Crowned Crane	Doris Monteiro	29	2nd
Purple Elegance	Robyn Saur	29	2nd
Mandrill	Todd Mathieson	28.1	3rd
White Ibis Portrait	Drew Simmons	27.9	
Bee on Dahlia	Ginny Harris	27.6	
Mandrill Monkey Couple	Darlene Holman	27.6	
Posing Painted Bunting	Sue Abrahamsen	27.5	
Dragonfly on Lotus	Cathy Simmons	27.1	
Tree Swallows Coming and Going	Tony Monteiro	26.8	
Flying Squirrel is Ready to Launch	Maureen Mathieson	25.5	
Southwick Zoo	Dave Morin	25.5	
Monarch Beauty	Linda Shelales	25.2	
Make-Up for Oct. '19 - OPEN			
Who Me?	Dave Morin	28.3	
CLASS A			
Early Morning Bathing and Flapping	Jane Parker	27.8	1st
Little Blue Heron Snacking	Bob Escott	27.6	2nd
Thunder Hole 1	Dick Tranfaglia	27.5	3rd
Amalfi Duomo	Natalie Schiavone	26.6	
Mandrill at Southwick's Zoo	Dave Reynard	26.5	
Parrot Profile	Barbara Huntley	26.1	
Bang	Diana Ledoux	25.7	
Over the Moon	Elliot Mednick	25.4	
Bologna Collonades	Linda Gilberti	24.2	
CLASS B			
Turret Arch	Peter Stultz	28	1st
Waterfall	Susan Nichols	27.9	2nd
Late Summer Butterfly	Mary Strachan	26.9	3rd
Vermont Village Foliage	John Mauro	26.4	
Spiral Sun	Pam Meoli	26.3	
All Ready to Spray the Crops	Ann DeCristofaro	26	
Taking the Plunge	Cathy Robotis	26	
Autumn at Wilson Farm	Glenn Fund	25.9	
Witch on Halloween	John McKinney	25.8	
Monadnock View	Theresa Vachowski	25.2	
Apocalyptic Taxi	Liz Krouse	24.6	
I'm the Boss Here	Bob Cooke	24.1	
Glass Chapel Providence RI	Lee Arnold	23.3	
Make-Up for Oct. '19 - OPEN			
Hawkeye	Susan Nichols	23.6	

Nov. '19 Digital Competition - REFLECTION(S)			
<u>TITLE</u>	<u>SUBMITTED BY</u>	<u>SCORE</u>	<u>AWARD</u>
<u>CLASS AA</u>			
Reptile Reflexion	Cathy Simmons	29.9	1st
Yosemite Bridal Falls	John Gill	29.8	2nd
Limpkin Reflection	Doris Monteiro	29.7	3rd
Memories of Water Sculpture	Maureen Mathieson	29.3	
Suncook River Kiss	Tony Monteiro	28.8	
Night Falls on Lunenburg Nova Scotia	Todd Mathieson	28.5	
Dabbling Duck Mallard	Darlene Holman	28.2	
Snowy Egret	Ginny Harris	28.1	
Mocking Bird Reflection	Sue Abrahamsen	28	
St. Michaels on Bruce's Pond	Drew Simmons	27.2	
Circle of Fire Reflection	Linda Shelales	26.2	
Does My Reflection Make Me Look Fat	Robyn Saur	25.8	
Kayak Reflection	Dave Morin	24.6	
<u>Make-Up for Oct. '19 - NATURE</u>			
Chickadee	Dave Morin	26.5	
<u>CLASS A</u>			
Mount Moran Reflection	Dave Reynard	28.7	1st
Venetian Splendor	Linda Gilberti	28	2nd
Bolton Fair in the Eye of Laria Llama	Barbara Huntley	27.8	3rd
A Faithful Reflection on Bruce's Pond	Jane Parker	27.8	3rd
Return of the Refected Watch	Elliot Mednick	27.6	
Swan Family	Natalie Schiavone	27.4	
Watery Wheel	Diana Ledoux	26.9	
Colorful Reflections	Bob Escott	23.6	
<u>CLASS B</u>			
Fife Coast Fishing Village	Mary Strachan	28.7	1st
Willey House Pond	Peter Stultz	28.6	2nd
Assabet Reflections	John Mauro	28.1	3rd
Inside Passage Alaska Fishing Outpost	Glenn Fund	28	
Winter Morning on Fort Point Channel	Cathy Robotis	26	
Assabet River Reflection	Theresa Vachowski	25.9	
Swan Family Reflections	Liz Krouse	25.6	
Reflections For Rent	Lee Arnold	25.4	
Reflecting Photographer	John McKinney	24.6	
New England Reflections	Pam Meoli	24.3	
Reflection in the Studio	Ann DeCristofaro	24.3	
Head in the Sand	Susan Nichols	23.7	
Autumn Reflection 2019	Bill Weiblen	22.9	
<u>Make-Up for Oct. '19 - NATURE</u>			
Sandpiper	Susan Nichols	24.5	

DIGITAL SUMMARY 2019-2020

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	
Doris Monteiro	26.5	26.3	26.6	27.6	29	29.7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	165.7
John Gill	24.4	26.1	26.1	28.1	29.4	29.8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	163.9
Tony Monteiro	27	26.7	26.1	28.4	26.8	28.8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	163.8
Sue Abrahamsen	27.2	24.3	25.5	25.9	27.5	28	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	158.4
Cathy Simmons	24.5	23	25.9	26.5	27.1	29.9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	156.9
Darlene Holman	23.8	25.6	25.5	25.8	27.6	28.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	156.5
Robyn Saur	25.8	23.2	25.3	26.7	29	25.8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	155.8
Dave Morin	24.4	24.9	28.3	26.5	25.5	24.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	154.2
Ginny Harris	24.3	24.5	24.8	24.3	27.6	28.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	153.6
Todd Mathieson	23.3	24.1	24.9	24.6	28.1	28.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	153.5
Maureen Mathieson	22.7	23.4	24.6	25.4	25.5	29.3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	150.9
Drew Simmons	22.8	23.5	23.7	25.4	27.9	27.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	150.5
Linda Shelales	23	23.6	25	22.6	25.2	26.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	145.6
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
Jane Parker	25.7	24.3	24.5	25.5	27.8	27.8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	155.6
Elliot Mednick	23.8	24.2	24.4	26.7	25.4	27.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	152.1
Natalie Schiavone	23.1	24.5	25	24.2	26.6	27.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	150.8
Barbara Huntley	23.3	25.1	22.2	26.2	26.1	27.8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	150.7
Bob Escott	23	25.1	25.8	23.4	27.6	23.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	148.5
Linda Gilberti	23.1	24.1	24.4	24.5	24.2	28	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	148.3
Dave Reynard	23.2	23.8	22.9	22.7	26.5	28.7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	147.8
Diana Ledoux	24.8	23	23.4	22.7	25.7	26.9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	146.5
Dick Tranfaglia	0	0	0	0	27.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	27.5
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
Glenn Fund	23.2	22	27.4	25.5	25.9	28	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	152
Mary Strachan	24.8	23.5	22.5	24.9	26.9	28.7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	151.3
Peter Stultz	23.4	23.7	22	25.4	28	28.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	151.1
John Mauro	22.8	23.9	24.6	24.4	26.4	28.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	150.2
Cathy Robotis	23.7	23.6	23.7	27	26	26	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	150
John McKinney	24.6	22.8	24.9	26.5	25.8	24.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	149.2
Liz Krouse	22.4	23.4	24.3	25.7	24.6	25.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	146
Theresa Vachowski	23.5	22.3	23.2	25	25.2	25.9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	145.1
Pam Meoli	23.7	22.5	23.3	24.7	26.3	24.3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	144.8
Susan Nichols	22.1	22.1	23.6	24.5	27.9	23.7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	143.9
Lee Arnold	22.7	23.5	22.6	21.3	23.3	25.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	138.8
Ann DeCristofaro	23.3	25.7	23.8	0	26	24.3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	123.1
Dora Kleiner	26.3	22.1	23.2	23.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	95
Jim Quinn	22.6	22.2	22	22.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	89.2
Larry Alley	0	0	24.5	23.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	48.1
Marie Riley	0	0	23.2	24.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	47.6
Heather Ruthroff	0	0	22.9	24.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	47.1
Bob Cooke	0	0	0	0	24.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	24.1