



FOCAL POINT

<http://www.assabetvalleycc.com>

March 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: March 7th.

Dynamics of Nature Photography

On Wednesday, March 7, 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.



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.



Competitions:

The next competition will be March 21st.

Digital subjects are 'Macro/Close Up', & Open. The print category is "Nature".

The deadline to submit digital images is Feb 18th @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 .

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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.

The Sudbury Valley Nature Photographers

The Sudbury Valley Nature Photographers will be hosting a presentation by nationally known nature photographer Shawn Carey on Thursday, March 8, at 7PM in the Community Room at Newbury Court Senior Living in Concord. Shawn's presentation is entitled "Tanzania: A Photographer's Journey". Admission is free.

Shawn provides the following description of his presentation:

"For this special presentation, join wildlife photographer Shawn Carey on an adventure into the heart of Tanzania. We'll take a safari vehicle into the country's spectacular national parks and see the "Big Five"—African Elephant, Black Rhino, Cape Buffalo, Lion, and Leopard—in all their glory. Along the way, we'll search for and photograph Cheetahs, Giraffes, Black-backed Jackals, and Hippos. And we'll encounter a panoply of Tanzania's wonderful and amazing birds, including the Greater Flamingo, Lilac-breasted Roller, Little Bee-eater, Giant Kingfisher, and Grey-crowned Crane—the country's national bird. If you've ever dreamed of visiting East Africa and its incredible wildlife, this is a journey you'll never forget. And it may just have you planning your own African adventure."

And here is some background on Shawn, extracted from his website:

"Originally from Pennsylvania, Shawn moved to Boston, Massachusetts in 1986 and has been photographing birds and other wildlife for over 20 years. He's been teaching wildlife photography for [Mass Audubon](#) for the past 18 years. He's on the board of directors for [Eastern Mass HawkWatch](#) where he serves as their Vice President. He's also on the advisory board for the Massachusetts Audubon Society and [Mass Audubon Museum of American Bird Art](#). He is past board member for the Brookline Bird Club and past council member for the Nuttall Ornithological Club. Shawn co-founded Migration Productions in 1996 with Jim Grady and the two have produced all its productions. Shawn also provides almost all digital photography used in their productions. "I LOVE the natural world; if it walks, crawls, flies, swims or slithers...I'll photograph it!"

For directions to Newbury Court, as well as parking information, go to:

http://svnp.homestead.com/files/Directions_to_Newbury_Court.pdf

(Ignore the part about construction on Route 2 – that's completed.)

Photoshop elements classes

Northboro Senior center (508-393-5035) will be holding beginner and intermediate Photoshop elements classes on the first three Mondays and Wednesday of March and hopefully more if enough people participate. They have 12 pc using windows 10 and photoshop elements 14. Myself and several other members of avcc have taken some classes with the instructor Mimi at Marlborough senior center.

Classes are only \$3 and u must sign up ahead of time.

Any questions call Bob Escott 508-251-1335

A red textured background with three paintbrushes (one with a wooden handle, one with a metal handle, and one with a silver handle) lying diagonally across it.

2018 Stow Community Art Exhibit March 16-April 13, 2018 Stow Community Center

Seeking local artists!

Dear Creative Community,

The Stow Cultural Council is organizing the first Stow Community Art Exhibit, March 16-April 13. We are excited about the show, as it will be our first community art show in the community center gallery wing. We are reaching out to the local artist community leaders, to hopefully share the opportunity for artists to submit a piece of their work to be entered into the show. Council members are sharing the event news in local businesses and social media but we wanted to reach out to you!

We kindly ask if you are connected to artists, teachers, students and professionals, we'd love for you to share with them our upcoming show. Applicants can find out all information at our site stowart.org, where they can submit their digital image of their artwork.

Thank you for your time, and we hope to see you there.

Thank you for supporting the arts!

Warmest Regards,
Stow Cultural Council
[SCC on Facebook](#)

Assabet Valley Camera Club

2017 - 2018

Scavenger Hunt

Rules:

1. Images must be taken between 04-1-2017 and 03-21-2018.
2. Images may be adjusted (manipulated).
3. Image Files shall be in the same format as for digital competitions (maximum of 1024 pixels wide by maximum 768 pixels tall and file size less the 1 megabyte).
4. Image Files shall be jpg type files.
5. Image Files shall be named with the "Subject Number"_"Maker's Last Name"_"Maker's First Name".jpg The Subject Number shall be 2 digits long.
Example: John Doe's Subject # 01 Filename would be "01_Doe_John.jpg"
6. Please submit completed images using the club's web page <http://www.assabetvalleycc.com/sh/index.php> on or before March 21, 2018

Scoring:

1. Zero points if the Digital Image does not satisfy subject.
2. Four (4) points if the Digital Image is below average.
3. Five (5) points if the Digital Image is average.
4. Six (6) points if the Digital Image is above average.
5. One can choose to skip one Subject because a person's lowest scored Image will be dropped.
6. Person with the highest total score wins.
7. Ties are broken with # of above average images.

Prizes:

Full Contest		
1.	First Place -	Ribbon & Certificate
2.	Second Place -	Ribbon & Certificate
3.	Third Place -	Ribbon & Certificate

Items to Find:

Image #	Subject	Check when
01	Action Sports	A
02	****Creative (as defined by PSA)	Ap
03	Curve(s)	
04	Imperfection(s)	A
05	Landscape / Seascape	
06	Macro / Close Up	A
07	Night Sky	
08	On the Water	A
09	The Color Red	A
10	Weather	

Note:
 A = AVCC Subjects
 Ap = AVCC Print Subjects

Images will be displayed in the orientation provided.

All Subjects are part of the Multi-Screen Competition and Scavenger Hunt entries will be considered for entry in that competition.

If you have any questions, contact Tony Monteiro by email at monteiroanthony@hotmail.com or call 978-562-6185

****CREATIVE DEFINITION

The PSA definition of Creative is "Altered Reality." The image may be of any subject matter and must obviously display a change in natural color, form, shape or any combination of these three. All images must be original and may not incorporate elements produced by anyone else. Artwork or computer graphics generated by the entrant may be incorporated if the original photographic content predominates. Images may not be constructed entirely within a

High Dynamic Range (HDR) images without further changes are not considered "Altered Reality."

Feb. '18 Print Competition - MONOCHROME

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>SUBMITTED BY</u>	<u>SCORE</u>	<u>AWARD</u>
<u>GOLD</u>			
Zebra Duo	Linda Shelales	26.6	1st
Madame Sherri's Staircase	Todd Mathieson	26.3	2nd
Deer in Black & White	Sue Abrahamsen	25.1	3rd
Nubble Light	John Gill	24.5	
A Gaggle A-Going	Bob Cooke	24.2	
For Whom the Bell Tolls	Linda Gilberti	23.5	
Bridge & Geese in Black & White	Dave Morin	23.1	
<u>Make-Up for Jan. '18 - OPEN</u>			
A Bird in a Bush	Todd Mathieson	24.9	
<u>SILVER</u>			
Zakim @ Night B & W	Leon Ferrante	25.7	1st
Moss Glen Falls BW	Maureen Mathieson	25.3	2nd
Muggy Overcast	Bob Escott	24.3	3rd
<u>BRONZE</u>			
City in the Sky	Larry Alley	27.1	1st
The Panther & It's Crew, Newport, RI	Darlene Holman	26.2	2nd
Capturing the Birds	Cathy Robotis	26	3rd
Venice	Elliot Mednick	25.3	
Over and In	Linda DeStefano Brown	24.8	
Snae Fellsnes Church	Mary Strachan	24.7	
Another Maine Lighthouse	Morgan McSweeney	22.7	
<u>Make-Up for Jan. '18 - OPEN</u>			
Nighwish	Elliot Mednick	25.8	

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

PRINT SUMMARY 2017-2018

	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	
<u>GOLD</u>	Open	Open	Nature	Creative	Open	Monochrome	Nature	Open	Open	TOTAL
Todd Mathieson	25.5	26	28.6	25.5	24.9	26.3	0	0	0	156.8
John Gill	26.1	26.3	26.9	26.4	23.8	24.5	0	0	0	154
Sue Abrahamsen	25	22	28.5	25.5	23.7	25.1	0	0	0	149.8
Linda Shelales	24.7	22.7	26.8	23.9	24.7	26.6	0	0	0	149.4
Bob Cooke	24.2	22.7	27.2	24.8	23	24.2	0	0	0	146.1
Linda Gilberti	22.8	23.5	23.7	25.6	24.7	23.5	0	0	0	143.8
Dave Morin	23.9	24.3	22.8	0	0	23.1	0	0	0	94.1
<u>SILVER</u>	Open	Open	Nature	Creative	Open	Monochrome	Nature	Open	Open	TOTAL
Leon Ferrante	25.6	28.1	26.8	25.2	25.3	25.7	0	0	0	156.7
Bob Escott	24.6	24	24.2	27.5	25.1	24.3	0	0	0	149.7
Maureen Mathieson	26.4	26.2	25.4	0	0	25.3	0	0	0	103.3
Barbara Huntley	21.2	24.5	0	0	24	0	0	0	0	69.7
Ann DeCristofaro	0	0	24.3	24.3	0	0	0	0	0	48.6
Diana Bull	23.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	23.2
<u>BRONZE</u>	Open	Open	Nature	Creative	Open	Monochrome	Nature	Open	Open	TOTAL
Darlene Holman	24.4	25.5	28.4	26.3	25.8	26.2	0	0	0	156.6
Linda DeStefano Brown	23.6	25.3	22.8	27.1	23.2	24.8	0	0	0	146.8
Mary Strachan	23.8	21.6	23	25.2	24.2	24.7	0	0	0	142.5
Cathy Robotis	23.8	0	0	24.2	22.9	26	0	0	0	96.9
Larry Alley	0	24.8	25.3	0	0	27.1	0	0	0	77.2
Bill Weiblen	25	21.7	24.3	0	0	0	0	0	0	71
Elliot Mednick	0	0	0	0	25.8	25.3	0	0	0	51.1
Morgan McSweeney	0	0	0	0	21.5	22.7	0	0	0	44.2
Art Walker	0	0	0	23.4	0	0	0	0	0	23.4
John Sahagian	0	22.9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	22.9
Larry Wellington	22.3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	22.3

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Feb. '18 Digital Competition - OPEN			
<u>TITLE</u>	<u>SUBMITTED BY</u>	<u>SCORE</u>	<u>AWARD</u>
CLASS AA			
Macaw Rainforest Encounter	Tony Monteiro	28.7	1st
Spike Just Hanging Around	John Gill	27.7	2nd
Lotus Beauty 5871	Sue Abrahamsen	27.6	3rd
Northern Flicker Assabet River NWR	Todd Mathieson	26.2	
Happy Halloween	Linda Shelales	26	
Dragonfly From the Side	Cathy Simmons	26	
Frozen in Time 4	Ginny Harris	25.3	
Rainforest Capuchin	Doris Monteiro	24.8	
Seashell Factory Parrot	Drew Simmons	24.3	
Stowaways	John Houldsworth	23.5	
Cemetery in Woonsocket	Dave Morin	22.5	
Make-Up for Jan. '18 - OPEN			
Sail Boat	John Houldsworth	27.8	
CLASS A			
Painted Lady 1	Barbara Huntley	26.2	1st
Last High School Dive	Leon Ferrante	25.9	2nd
Flower	Diana Ledoux	25	3rd
Star of the Day	Dave Reynard	24.8	
Acadia Sunrise	Maureen Mathieson	24.6	
Flowing Water	Bob Escott	24.1	
Sunset in Sevierville	Jill Lockwood	23.1	
Psychedelic Zoom	Dean Giolas	23	
Dahlia in Yellow	Linda Gilberti	22.3	
CLASS B			
Time Out	Jane Parker	28.3	1st
Snowflakes	Natalie Sciavone	27.9	2nd
William Lundy Claims Was Civil War Veteran	John McKinney	27	3rd
Fishin's Good	Larry Alley	25.4	
Lady Liberty	Marie Riley	25.3	
First Light Rockport	Darlene Holman	25	
Almost Home	Elliot Mednick	24.9	
Urban Snacking	Cathy Robotis	24.7	
Cape Cod Baseball	Jim Quinn	24.6	
Christmas Cactus Blossom	Theresa Vachowski	24.6	
Horse Hair	Pam Meoli	24.4	
Skye Sheep	Mary Strachan	24.4	
I'll Sing For You	Bob Cooke	24.1	
Juno Pair	Susan Nichols	23.6	
Winter Island Light	Diana Bull	23.3	
Brownie	Dan Cetrone	21.9	
From Within	Linda DeStefano Brown	21.8	

Make-Up for Jan. '18 - OPEN			
Chloe	Elliot Mednick	27.2	

Feb. '18 Digital Competition - NATURE			
<u>TITLE</u>	<u>SUBMITTED BY</u>	<u>SCORE</u>	<u>AWARD</u>
CLASS AA			
Love Avian Style	Doris Monteiro	28.5	1st
Steller's Jay Washington State	Ginny Harris	28.4	2nd
Reluctant Lunch	Tony Monteiro	28.3	3rd
Eastern Tiger Swallowtail on Cone Flower	John Gill	27.1	
Indigo Trail Spoonbill	Drew Simmons	27	
Painted Lady By Frenchman's Bay	Todd Mathieson	26.9	
Golden Orb Weaver With Bee	Cathy Simmons	26.3	
Heron Take Off With Fish	Sue Abrahamsen	25.8	
Flock of Sparrows	Linda Shelales	25.4	
Duxbury Snowy	Dave Morin	24.2	
Whale Jumping	John Houldsworth	9	
Make-Up for Jan. '18 - The Color RED			
Red Flower	John Houldsworth	25.8	
CLASS A			
Snowy on the Hunt	Leon Ferrante	27.7	1st
Grand Teton Landscape	Dave Reynard	27.5	2nd
Wish I Had Teeth	Diana Ledoux	27.3	3rd
I See You	Bob Escott	26.5	
Ouch	Barbara Huntley	25.7	
Smokey Sunset	Jill Lockwood	25.6	
Texture of Bark	Maureen Mathieson	24.6	
Brazilian Monkey	Linda Gilberti	23.5	
A Walk in Walden Woods	Dean Golas	22.3	
Make-Up for Jan. '18 - The Color RED			
Study in Red	Dave Reynard	27.4	
CLASS B			
Standing Out While Blending In	Cathy Robotis	27.1	1st
Nature's Colorful Life	John McKinney	26.4	2nd
Sea Otter	Mary Strachan	26.2	3rd
Monadnock	Theresa Vachowski	25.6	
Feed Me	Natalie Schiavone	25.5	
Osprey Conflict	Darlene Holman	25.3	
Green Wing Teal Reflections	Larry Alley	25.2	
Mushrooms	Jim Quinn	24.7	
Ficus	Susan Nichols	24.4	
Between Winter and Spring	Elliot Mednick	24.4	
Goslings Feeding	Diana Bull	24.4	
Alaskan Sea Otter	Bob Cooke	24	
Double Beauty	Pam Meoli	23.8	
Sunset at the Lake	Marie Riley	23.7	
Night Falls	Linda DeStefano Brown	23.2	
Chicakee Hide Out	Jane Parker	22.2	
Make-Up for Jan. '18 - The Color RED			
Electronica	Elliot Mednick	26.9	

