



# FOCAL POINT

[Assabet Valley Camera Club](#) - The club meets on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month except July and August. Meetings are hybrid - in person at the Hudson Senior Center, 29 Church St., Hudson and on Zoom. Doors open at 6:30 PM with a 45 minute social time and at 7:15 a brief business meeting. Programs start at 7:30 PM. Are you interested in attending a meeting and/or seeing what the Assabet Valley Camera Club is all about? You are welcome to join as a guest member for 30 days. Just send us an [Email](#) with your name and preferred e-mail address and you will be added to the attendee list for the next 30 days.



*Dahlia in B&W - John Gill*

*"September! I never tire of turning it over in my mind. It has warmth, depth, and color. It glows like old amber." ~ Patience Strong*

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## Note from Our President

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Hello All,

I hope everybody had a great summer! The first program, on September 3rd is, "What I did this Summer" and is a member driven program. We are looking forward to seeing the images of everybody's fun adventures and good times. We will also serve cake at 7:00 at the Senior Center and see a slideshow at 7:30 prepared by Todd Mathieson to commemorate the club's 40th anniversary.

We have had several new members join recently. We would like to wish everyone a warm welcome.

The program committee has worked hard to put together a list of programs for the upcoming season. They can be found in the events tab on the club website and on page 4 of this newsletter.

We are excited to begin our 41st year as a club!

Pudge



*Deerfoot Chapel - John Mauro*

*"There is a time in late September when the leaves are still green, and the days are still warm, but somehow you know that it is all about to end as if summer was holding its breath, and when it let it out again, it would be autumn." ~ Sharyn McCrumb*

## Note from the Editors

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### Note from the Editors September 2025

*"September is the month of wonderful weather, with cool breezes and bright sun. It's a fresh start" —  
Unknown*

This quote is a fine start to our AVCC year. We have indeed just had the most perfect "September" weather. No matter how old we are, September seems to call forth memories of returning to school, with fresh white pages in our notebooks, new teachers, and perhaps even a new school. AVCC also starts a-fresh, with some formatting changes to the newsletter, a slate of new programs for the coming year, and the celebration of AVCC's 40 years of history and accomplishments at our September 3rd meeting. You can find more info on the meeting in John Mauro's email from Aug 31.

Speaking of celebrating, AVCC has had 16 new members over the last two years. You will find some "Getting to Know You" info on three of these new members: Mark Mazzella, Louis Snitkoff, and Brian Dean. Others are: Eric Frere, Sheri Craig, Neil Swinton, Paul Loiselle, Blair Boudreau, Mimi Boudreau, Angelo Maiuri, Jennifer Stover, Vishnu Thalanki, David Liu, Valerie Higgins, Tracey Gustafson, Lynette Veo, and Ronni Silver. Welcome, all!

On a sad note, the club said "goodbye" to 90-year-old Bob Cooke, a long-time member. The memorial service was held in July. For a biography of Bob, see the January 2024 issue of Focal Point. You can find it on the website under newsletter archives.

September's issue features member submissions of favorite summer photos, Cathy's Tips & Tricks for monochrome photography (September's competition category), and Pam's list of fun opportunities for photography at fall festivals, plus ideas for classes, programs, and contests.

Looking forward to what growth, learning and fun lies ahead this year. See you at the meeting!

*"It was September, and there was a crackly feeling to the air." - Carolyn Parkhurst*

## September 2025 Program

AVCC is pleased to present “Our 40th Anniversary” slideshow by Todd Mathieson and AVCC Member Slideshows - “What I did this Summer” on Wednesday, September 3, 2025 at 7:30 PM. The meeting is a hybrid format; in person at the the Hudson Senior Center, 29 Church St., Hudson, or remote on Zoom (please arrive no later than 7:15).

The Senior Center will open at 6:30 with a 30 minute social time. A 40th anniversary cake will be served at 7:00 followed by AVCC business at 7:15. The Zoom meeting room opens at 7:00 PM. The program begins at 7:30 PM. Nonmembers interested in attending as guests should email [avcc.digital@hotmail.com](mailto:avcc.digital@hotmail.com).

| Date    | Program  | Presentor      |
|---------|--|----------------|
| 9/3/25  | “What I did this Summer” Member Slideshows     | AVCC Members   |
| 10/1/25 | Portraiture                                    | Jim DeLuco     |
| 11/5/25 | Macro Photo Stacking                           | George Fellner |
| 12/3/25 | Creative Expression Through Coastal Imaging    | Steve Koppel   |
| 1/7/26  | “Lost in Fog”                                  | Ed McGuirck    |
| 2/4/26  | Penguin Adventure - Falkland Islands           | Shawn Carey    |
| 3/4/26  | Intro to Basic Astrophotography                | Temu Nana      |
| 4/1/26  | Refresh your Basic Editing Skills in Photoshop | Hazel Meredith |
| 5/6/26  | Infrared Photography                           | Frank Jansen   |
| 6/3/26  | Image of the Year Awards                       | Charlie Burke  |

Link to the club website calendar for all deadline, program, and competition dates: [AVCC Calendar](#)

Or find it on the AVCC website by clicking on “Organization” at the top of the page, then “Club Calendar” in the dropdown list.



## Competitions 2025-2026

### Monthly Competitions:

The club holds monthly image competitions including two categories: digital theme and open. AVCC Print competitions have been suspended. The digital images are judged by a panel of three judges using a scale of 3.0-10. The final score for an image is the total of the three scores. See the [AVCC webpage](#) for more information about the rules and procedures for monthly competitions as well as the PSA and NECCC competitions. Pay particular attention to the PSA definitions for [“Nature”](#), [Monochrome](#), and [Travel](#) submissions.

### Schedule of Monthly Competition Category Topics & Submission Dates

| Month     | Digital Theme | Open | Digital Theme and Open Submission Date |
|-----------|---------------|------|--|
| September | Monochrome    | Open | 9/10/2025                              |
| October   | Nature        | Open | 10/8/2025                              |
| November  | Mailbox(es)   | Open | 11/12/2025                             |
| December  | Nature        | Open | 12/10/2025                             |
| January   | Leaf/Leaves   | Open | 1/14/2026                              |
| February  | Nature        | Open | 2/11/2026                              |
| March     | Landscapes    | Open | 3/11/2026                              |
| April     | Nature        | Open | 4/8/2026                               |
| May       | Portrait(s)   | Open | 5/13/2026                              |

#### PSA and NECCC Digital Interclub Competitions

Image selections to the PSA & NECCC Interclub Competitions are made by the representatives to each organization. Individual entries can also be made to PSA competitions if you are a member. Our PSA representative is Todd Mathieson; our NECCC representative is Robyn Saur.

FYI: PSA Guidelines for Borders: Not recommended for Nature but if any border is added to a Nature, Travel or Photo Journalism image it must be a small border of a neutral color (gray tones). There are no border restrictions in the PID Color or Monochrome Division.

#### 2025-2026 NECCC Individual Print Competition

The NECCC Individual Print Competition will be held on October 18, 2025 and March 28, 2026 hosted at the Greater Lynn Photographic Association (GLPA). For information about the print competitions go to the NECCC website and go to competitions in the pull down menu. [NECCC](#)

## Member Snapshot

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AVCC is growing in membership and your editors recognized that it is difficult to get to know people outside of the in-person meetings and occasional meet-up gatherings the club hosts. We decided to ask new members if they'd be willing to share a bit about themselves in the newsletter to help us get acquainted.

Here are comments from three recent members:

### **Lou Snitkoff**

Tell us about what subjects you like to shoot, or the type of photography you're drawn to.

My interest in photography began during my third year of college, in 1972. Over the years, my images have fallen into the following categories: landscape/seascape, architectural details, botanicals, and abstracts. I photograph predominantly in color and dabble in monochrome and infrared.

I did B/W darkroom work in those "early" days, then shot almost exclusively transparencies (35mm and medium format), and then switched to digital about 20 years ago.

Have you been in a camera club before? How did you hear about AVCC?

I was a member of the Schenectady (NY) Photographic Society until we moved about 15 miles away and my work schedule made it difficult for me to continue. We recently moved to Hudson and, in anticipation of moving, looked for camera clubs in the area.

What would you like to learn, or get from being a club member?

Although I've been photographing for more than 50 years, there is always more to learn, especially about creative expression. I've always believed that looking at other people's images has been a great way to expand my visual horizons, and I'm hopeful that being a club member will help me meet like-minded folks in my new community.



*Winter Chill in Rockport - Blair Boudreau*

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## **Brian Dean**

### **Owner, Hudson Art and Framing**

Tell us about what subjects you like to shoot, or the type of photography you're drawn to.

I have mostly been a large format film photographer who focuses on the landscape and specifically, humans impact on the landscape. I also work on more focused projects from time to time dealing with specific walking trails such as the Camino de Santiago in Spain, the Kumano Kodo in Japan and the Appalachian Trail.

Have you been in a camera club before? How did you hear about AVCC?

This is my first time joining a camera club and I heard about the club through Jim Williams. I'm excited to be a part of a group of people who enjoy looking at photographs again.

What would you like to learn, or get from being a club member?

I would like to be a part of a community of folks who enjoy making and looking at pictures and who push each other to improve, learn and think about what photography can do and what it can mean.

## **Mark Mazzella**

Tell us about what subjects you like to shoot, or the type of photography you're drawn to.

Landscapes, Birds, Nature, Abstract forms, and Travel.

Have you been in a camera club before? How did you hear about AVCC?

No, thru Internet

What would you like to learn, or get from being a club member?

Basic photo techniques, better photos.

Thank you Lou, Brian, and Mark for sharing a bit about yourselves! We look forward to hearing from more new members and will share responses in the upcoming issues of the newsletter.

*"Life starts all over again when it gets crisp in the fall" ~ F. Scott Fitzgerald*

## Members' Lens



**Zooming Out - Members and AVCC in the greater photographic community - member exhibits, competitions, meetups, field trip opportunities, workshops, etc.**

**Zooming In - A Reflection, Musing, or Experience (travel, how I got that great shot, my favorite photo or place to shoot for example) shared by a member**

**Tips and Tricks - Members' shared suggestions for the Monthly Theme**

**The Bigger Picture - Happenings in the World of Photography**

## Zooming Out

### On the Wall at Cafe 641

The September exhibit at Cafe 641 features the work of Linda Gilberti. A meet and greet will be held on Saturday September 6 from 12:00 - 1:30. Come spend some time with Linda and AVCC friends and see wonderful images of Linda's trip to Burma!

Dave Morin exhibited work in July.

Photos by Mary Coombs were featured in August.

To date October and the months beyond are available for exhibitors. If interested in displaying your work contact Jim Williams through the AVCC website.

*"I found I could say things with colour and shapes that I couldn't say any other way – things I had no words for."  
– Georgia O'Keeffe*



Linda at Cafe 641  
- Mary Coombs

Continued on next page

Zooming Out - continued from page 8

At Cafe 641



*Sheri, Linda G, Dave, Todd, and Lynn enjoying the food, company, and images at Dave's Meet and Greet on July 12 - Mary Coombs*



*Ronni at Mary's Meet and Greet at Cafe 641 on August 17 - Mary Coombs*



*Mary in front of some of her images at Cafe 641 in August -Dave Morin*



*Darlene at Mary's Meet and Greet. - Mary Coombs*

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Zooming Out - continued from page 9

From our Members:

From Terry Vachowski:

"Get free admission for yourself and up to five guests to the New England Botanic Garden at Tower Hill on Sept. 6, 9, or 30. Register at [aarp.org/garden](http://aarp.org/garden)." I attended this event a couple of years ago and ended up joining Tower Hill as a member as a result. Just thought if anyone might be interested. Thank you.

From Mary Coombs:

I will have an exhibit of 8 of my favorite images (mostly still life) on display at the Sudbury Senior Center, 40 Fairbank Rd, Sudbury, from September 8 through October 31. The Center is open Monday - Friday from 8 AM to 4 Pm.

From Lynn Kerner:

The Online Lightroom Virtual Summit is taking place from September 15 - September 19. 18 world-class instructors will teach 46 classes over 5 days. Get a Free Pass or VIP Pass for \$99. Every single training session is designed to take your Lightroom knowledge and skill to the next level - regardless of whether you're just starting out, or have years of experience. To learn more: [Lightroom](#)

## Night Hawks

Though the heavens may not have cooperated for Night Hawk excursions this summer there was the carnival! Jim, Paul, Sheri, and Blair went to the Fiesta Shows Carnival at Solomon Pond Mall on Saturday, July 19 to get the some night shots of the carnival in action.



*Jim taking a shot of the  
Ferris Wheel - Paul Loiselle*



*Jim's Shot! - Jim Williams*

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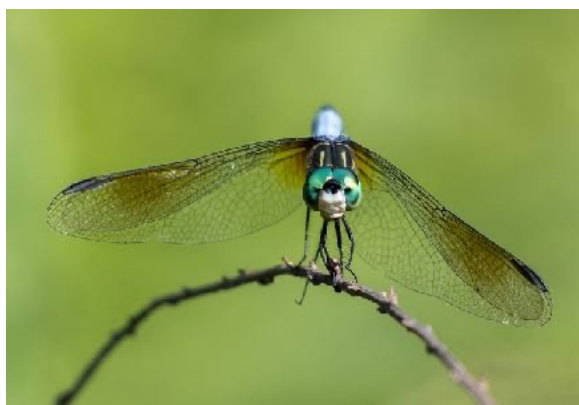


Zooming Out - continued from page 10

## Bugs and Blooms Group

As reported by Jim Williams:

John's Bug group had fun capturing images of bugs on Friday morning, July 18. We went to Assabet River National Wildlife Refuge and the Sudbury Valley Trustees property at Wolbach Farm. Had a great time, see attached.



*ARNWR Dragon - Jim Williams*

The Bugs and Blooms group also met at Tower Hill on Thursday, August 28. John, Sue, Maureen, Jim, Nick, and Mary enjoyed a beautiful summer morning in the midst of flowers, hummingbirds, frogs in the pool, a monarch butterfly, a bee fly (yes, it is a fly that looks like a bee), wind sculptures and more.



*Wind Sculpture at Tower Hill  
- Mary Coombs*



*Maureen at Tower Hill  
- Mary Coombs*



*John and Sue at Tower Hill  
- Mary Coombs*

*"September - the golden threshold between summer and winter" ~ Meeta Ahluwalia*

Continued on next page

## Zooming Out - continued from page 11

A few club members (Glenn, Jim, Sheri, and Mary) met up to visit Red Acre Farm in Stow on August 31. Thanks to Glenn for arranging this. The day was gorgeous and the horses and their keepers/riders were very gracious as we shot many photos and asked many questions. Kathy Steege, owner and instructor, shared some of the history of the farm including the fact that Lizzie Borden contributed financially to the farm when it was operated as a rescue for downtrodden and abused horses by Harriet Bird. Miss Borden was granted permission to mount brass plaques over two stalls in honor of her horses Kenneth and Malcolm.



*Us with Kathy Steege, owner of Red Acre Farm in Stow - Glenn Fund*



*Mary Meeting George - Sheri Craig*



*Malcolm's Plaque at Red Acre Farm - Mary Coombs*



*In the Paddocks at Red Acre Farm - Glenn Fund*



## Zooming In

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We asked members to submit one favorite photo from this summer that captures their adventures or maybe something new or something they learned this summer. Here are some beautiful and fun images several members submitted. Enjoy!



*Mohonk Mountain House on our 45th Anniversary! -  
Glenn Fund*



*The Road to Vasiliki - Catherine Robotis*

This summer, we visited the beautiful island of Lefkada, Greece. Vasiliki is a seaside village on Lefkada that is very popular with the international wind surfing community. This photo was taken from a vantage point overlooking the tranquil sea with the village and mountains in front of us. Looking the other way, I could see the islands of Ithaca and Cephalonia in the distance. It's a happy memory of a perfect day, capped off with a perfect swim, followed by a memorable evening. - Cathy

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This is a favorite photo from babysitting one of my grandsons this summer. - Neil

*2025-08-09 Baby Sitting - Neil Swinton*

Here's my favorite photo of the summer. A goofy picture from my sister's wedding. It was the most beautiful wedding, with the funniest, most heartfelt vows I've ever heard. My daughters (and my sister) sang at the ceremony. A very, very happy day for our family! I am so grateful everyone was healthy enough to be there! - Natalie



*Wedding fun - Natalie Schiavone*

*"Summer means happy times and good sunshine." — Brian Wilson*

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*Blarney Castle - John Mauro*

This is an image of our summer Irish Adventure. It is the Blarney Castle, and yes, we waited in line over an hour to kiss the Blarney Stone. We were in Dublin, Kilkenny, Cork, Killarney, and Galway for 10 days in July. - Pudge



*17 years and then it rains - John Gill*



*NL Eagle Glacial Water - Darlene Holman*

This is a photo from my trip to the Discovery Islands, BC, with Mark Smith Photography in July. It pictures a juvenile eagle on beautiful, colored glacial water.

Continued on next page

Zooming in - Summer - continued from page 15



*"Summer Morning, Mist on the Assabet" - Lou Snitkoff*

Having just moved to Hudson in April, I am beginning to explore the beautiful natural places in our area. This part of the river is so peaceful. - Lou



*Rockport Morning - Blair Boudreau*

What I most enjoyed this summer was driving out to Rockport before sunrise and walking (and photographing) the quiet streets there as the sun rose. This was a special morning with a colorful sunrise and a sky that turned to a rich blue. - Blair

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Zooming in - Summer - continued from page 16



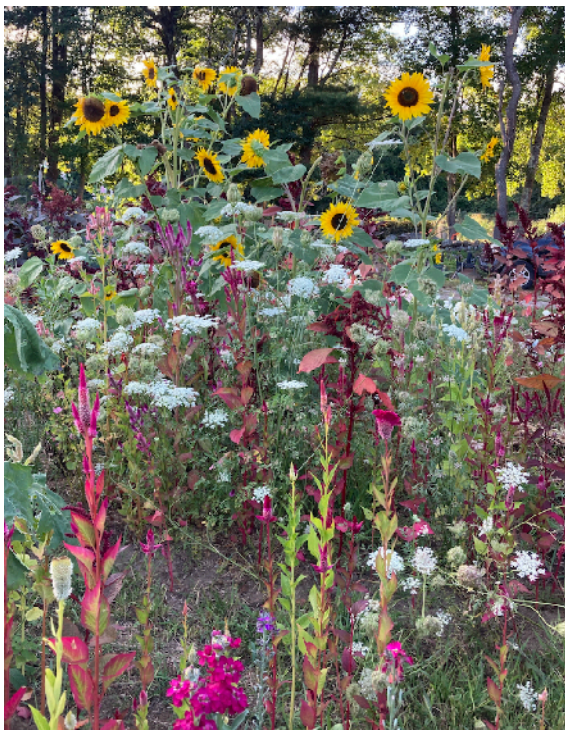
*July 4th - Rick Beauchamp*



*Scituate Lighthouse  
- Rick Beauchamp*

*"I could never in a hundred summers get  
tired of this." - Susan Branch*

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When I could not tend to my garden for many weeks this summer, nature took over. The result was a wild riot of color and texture that I could literally hide myself in. I call the result “Mary’s Meadow” and it is my favorite place to spend a summer afternoon.

*Mary’s Meadow - Mary Coombs*



*Lake Champlain Bridge - Lynn Kerner*

## Tips and Tricks - September's Theme: Monochrome Photography

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This month's competition theme is Black and White so we decided to reprint, with some modifications, the Tips and Tricks from the September 2023 issue of the newsletter. We also included Black and White images that AVCC members submitted to past competitions.

### Tips for Monochrome Photography

According to the PSA, an image is considered to be monochrome *only if it gives the impression of having no color*. In other words, monochrome images may only contain shades of grey (which can include pure black and pure white), or they may give the impression of being a greyscale image that has been toned in one color across the entire image (such as sepia, red, or gold). Monochrome photography allows us to tell a story and express emotion through the artistic use of light, shadows, texture, and contrast. You may find that some of your color images work very well when converted to monochrome, but to achieve more dramatic and interesting monochromatic images, you should try to train your eye to visualize your surroundings in monochrome, as this will help you identify potential interesting monochromatic scenes and elements. How exactly can you do this? Simply look around yourself, paying close attention to visual patterns, rough textures, and plays on light and shadow. Look for interesting shapes and gradations in tone, and imagine them all in one color. Look for contrast. Some cameras allow you to shoot in B&W or B&W preview mode; if your camera offers this function, experiment with it to get a feel for the world around you as seen through a monochromatic lens. Here are some additional tips to help you create meaningful images in monochrome.

#### Setting the scene

- Look for scenes with high contrast, such as a portrait against a shaded background or dark hills against a bright sky. Look for contrast between light and dark, and look for a wide range of monochromatic shades.
- Stronger contrast portrays greater strength and character in a monochrome image.
- Look for scenes with textural complexity and visual patterns of shadow and light. Look for interesting lines and shapes.
- If you are working on street photography, monitor your light sources, and use elements such as headlights, street lights, neon signs, and the sun to create a spectrum of various monochromatic shades.
- Prioritize subject placement. Make sure the subject has the right amount of emphasis. Try to isolate the subject by pulling it closer so the light will impart different shades. Maximize subject separation; strive for compositions where the subject is in sharp contrast to the background. Long exposures are also interesting in monochrome; they can be used to show movement. Silhouettes make a powerful statement in monochrome. Look for a strong light source to place your subject against.

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## Tips for Monochrome Photography - continued from page 19

### Camera settings for Monochrome Photography

- Shoot in RAW.
- Use an aperture around f/8-f/11 and as low of an ISO as you can manage; you generally want sharp, consistent focus and minimal digital noise.
- You may also consider using a slow shutter speed to capture movement.
- Try working with auto white balance.
- Consider using a polarizing filter. This will help reduce reflections and darken skies (without affecting the clouds).
- Consider using a graduated neutral density (GND) or neutral density (ND) filter. The GND filter will darken the sky but not the land in a landscape photo. The ND filter reduces the amount of light coming through the lens, allowing longer exposures in bright light to capture movement rather than freezing it. Remember to use your tripod when working with longer exposures.
- Consider underexposing your photo. While we typically avoid dark shadows in color photography, when shooting monochrome photos, the darkness can add an air of atmosphere and mystery and make the viewer wonder what is hidden in the shadows.
- If you are working with silhouettes, expose for the background in a scene where your subject is in front of a strong light source; this will underexpose your subject, creating a silhouette.

**Sources:** Masterclass.com, Adobe.com, Alphauniverse.com, Improvephotography.com, Studiobinder.com, Imaginated.com, Adorama.com, Iceland-photo-tours.com, Colesclassroom.com, Shotkit.com, Expertphotography.com, Imageexplorers.com.



*Bartlett Pond - Liz Krouse*

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**Did you know...**

**Dorothea Lange** (1895-1965) was an American documentary photographer and photojournalist who was well known for her Depression-era work, her documentation of rural poverty in the lives of sharecroppers and migrant laborers, and her work on the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II. Born in Hoboken, NJ, her family later moved to the Lower East Side of New York City, where she spent her free time roaming the streets, learning to observe people in their daily lives. She had polio as a child, which left her with a permanent limp, as well as a sense of empathy for human suffering. She studied photography under Clarence H White at Columbia University and then traveled, ultimately ending up in San Francisco. She was very moved by the suffering of people during the Great Depression, and she began traveling around California and other parts of the country, working for the Farm Security Administration and documenting the character and resilience of those who were unemployed and homeless. Her photography was a force for social change. “Migrant Mother” is one of the most reproduced photographs in the world. Her dramatic photographs served as an inspiration for the 1940 film adaptation of *The Grapes of Wrath*. Her poignant photographs of the internment of Japanese Americans focused on the waiting and anxiety caused by forced removal and internment. She subsequently co-founded the journal *Aperture*. In a 1952 documentary, she noted that photographers seemed to be more concerned with illusion than with reality; she urged photographers to reconnect with the world.

Here are some links for further exploring and a YouTube video about the life of **Dorothea Lange** for anyone interested in learning more about this very inspiring photographer:

- YouTube video about the life of Dorothea Lange: [Dorthea Lange - YouTube](#)
- Digital archive from the Oakland Museum of California: [Dorothea Lange](#)
- A collection of photographs from an exhibition (2023-2024) at the National Gallery of Art, entitled “Seeing People”: [Dorthea Lange "Seeing People"](#)

**Yusuf Karsh:** Recommended by Eric Frere, here is a link to learn about Yousuf Karsh, a highly acclaimed monochrome photographer from the 20th century: <https://karsh.org/photographs/>

Here is a link to a Bay Photo blog post that may interest you: [Honoring the Hard Work of Iconic Professional Photographers](#)



*Twilight - Royal Navy Dockyard - Theresa Vachowski*

## The Bigger Picture

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### **Happenings:**

By now most of you have heard of the 2 time Pulitzer Prize winner Essdras Suarez who has done several programs for us in the past and many of us follow him on Social Media.

He recently published a book which is sold on Amazon about his journey to becoming a successful photographer. His stories are quite compelling.

Order your copy at:

[My Lens Lessons: A Photojournalist's Journey from Chaos to Clarity](#)

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### **New England Botanic Garden (AKA: Tower Hill)**

<https://nebg.org>

#### **\*Focus in Bloom: Monthly Photography Club**

Whether you're just getting started or looking to refine your technique, this monthly club is the perfect place to grow your skills and connect with fellow photography enthusiasts. Join professional photographer Steve McGrath for a relaxed, hands-on session where you'll explore the Garden and Conservatories through your lens.

Each month, the group will focus on 3–4 areas of the Garden, using natural light, seasonal colour, and changing textures as creative inspiration. Steve provides individualized guidance tailored to your camera or smartphone, helping you better understand your equipment and elevate your work. You'll have time to take photos, ask questions, exchange tips, and receive feedback from both Steve and fellow participants.

All experience levels and equipment types are welcome. Sign up for one session or come monthly to see how your perspective—and your photography—evolves with the seasons.

#### **\*Art in Motion**

“25 Years of Sculpture”

Ends October 12

Explore an extraordinary collection of kinetic sculptures, masterfully crafted by talented artist and engineer George Sherwood. *Art in Motion* spans an impressive 25 years of Sherwood's artistic journey showcasing 17 intricate stainless-steel sculptures that move in the wind.

Really cool and unique photographic opportunities.

Continued on next page



Happenings - continued from page 22

**\*Botanical Photography from the 19th Century to Today**

Thursday, September 11 from 7 - 9 PM

Artist, writer, and curator Shelley Kirkwood presents a captivating talk tracing the evolution of botanical photography from its 19th-century origins to the early 21st century. Drawing from her own hybrid practice, Kirkwood sheds light on the techniques, stories, and images that have shaped our understanding of plants through the photographic lens.

For more information and to register: [Botanical Photography](#)

**Assabet After Dark**

There are some new and interesting photography offerings this fall at Assabet Valley Vocational School in Marlborough.

\*Butterfly Photo Workshop

\*Smartphone Photography Workshops

\*Pet Photography

[Assabet After Dark Fall Catalog](#)

**Blue Hour Photo Adventures**

“Autumn in Central Massachusetts” led by Dave Long

Oct 16, Groton, MA

A bit pricey but sounds like a great day!

[Blue Hour - Groton, MA](#)

For more information on additional workshops, virtual classroom activities and instructional materials, please check out Blue Hour Photo Ventures: <https://bluehourusa.com>.

**It's FESTIVAL time...**

This link will take you to the top 16 fall festivals in New England – lots of photo ops for sure!

[Best Fall Festivals](#)

**Old Frog Pond Farm and Studio**

September 7, from 1:00—5:00 pm

Join us in community for art, culture, and agriculture as we officially celebrate the opening of our 19th Annual Outdoor Sculpture Exhibit. Stop by on Sunday, September 7, from 1:00 —5:00 pm for live music, art, and more. [Old Frog Pond Farm](#)  
Free and open to all!



*Morning Neighbor! - Nick Andruzzi*

Continued on next page

Happenings - continued from page 23

### **Photo Contests:**

\*Found lots of ongoing photo contests on this site – changing constantly. World wide. Some have entry fees, some offer exhibitions as prizes.

Check it out and poke around:

[Photo.com Contests](#)

### **\*Garden for Wildlife® Photo Contest**

This contest celebrates the power of photography to communicate the importance of supporting wildlife where people live. Whether that is in a local park, community greenspace, balcony garden, or even your very own backyard.

[Garden for Wildlife Contest](#)

### **\*Mass Audubon**

Looking for photographs that highlight people in nature and the beauty of Massachusetts wildlife and landscapes! This year you can enter up to 10 photos taken in Massachusetts.

[Mass Audubon Photo Contest](#)

### **\*Black and White Magazine**

Reader-inspired competition comprised of four tightly focused sub-contests that blend old and new processes—both analog and digital—and imagery that spans the past, the present and the future. Receive prominent representation in one of the four regular issues of *Black & White* in 16-page contest sections. The added pages not only provide a showcase for your award-winning images, but also represent an added bonus for our readers.

[Black and White Magazine](#)



*Florentine Library - Natalie Schiavone*



AVCC is a member of the following organizations:

NECCC



PSA



AVCC website:

<https://www.assabetvalleycameraclub.com>

2025-2026 Executive Board Members:

- President: John Mauro
- Vice President: Mary Coombs
- Secretary: Neil Swinton
- Treasurer: Jim Williams

Editors' Note:

Many(!) club members work behind the scenes in various capacities to make the club run smoothly, to engage with the greater community, to reach out to prospective members, to communicate about our organization through the Facebook page, the AVCC website, the Focal Point Newsletter, the Action Unlimited, and provide opportunities for competition, exhibitions, fun, learning, and camaraderie. To see (most) of the volunteer positions and members please refer to your Member packet.

Many thanks to the following members for their contributions to this month's Newsletter: Cathy Robotis, Lynn Kerner, Mary Coombs, Pam Meoli, Jim Williams, John Mauro, Maureen Mathieson, Robyn Saur, Darlene Holman, Natalie Schiavone, Doris Monteiro, Rick Beauchamp, Terry Vachowski, Glenn Fund, Linda Shelales, Linda Gilberti, Dave Morin, and Blair Boudreau.



*Bug Light, Portland  
- Maureen Mathieson*