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It's cold outside! Warm up with ...

Febrrrruary at SJCC



Sunrise Claude Monet by Doreen Rutherford

As I write this, I'm glancing out my office window at a thick blanket of snow extending as far as the eye can see. While we in South Jersey are enjoying yesterday's beautiful spectacle, a great many people worked (and continue to work) diligently to dig us out of a paralyzing mess. From the public works crews unclogging the roads with their salt spreaders and plows to the neighborhood kids wielding plastic shovels, a great many people got together to help us get past an enormous obstacle preventing us from getting where we need to be.

I can't help but see all this snow and think of our club and the seemingly impassable road we've been on of late. Hampered by the restrictions of the Covid era, we've been unable to gather together to enjoy the range of activities that drew us all to this club in the first place. We've been snowed in for two years and are well past the point of developing cabin fever. But the plows are on their way! Huge thanks go out to those of you who shared your thoughts and ideas at our recent Round Table and via email. **We hear you.** And we're taking steps to a path forward – some with plows, some with shovels, and some with a sprinkling of ice melt. With all of us working together, we're clearing the way for a safe, sensible, yet more rewarding SJCC experience. The Covid storm continues to rage, but we can enjoy the sunrises that each new day brings us. For the short term, we've reintroduced (outdoor) field trips, workshops, and are designing programs to showcase the talent of our members at all skill levels. For the long term, we're considering more enriching competition models based on the feedback we've received from our members. The challenges are many. But **together, we've got this.**

With warm wishes,
Sara Ascalon, President

Reminder: save this email for all the dates and zoom links provided... but, just in case, you'll find copy linked in the member drop down window at the top of our site.

FIELD TRIPS ARE BACK!

Here are the currently scheduled field trips with more in the planning stages. Additional details to come. To sign up, send a separate email for each event you would like to attend to info@sjcameraclub.org.

- **Saturday, February 26 - Palmyra Cove Nature Center:** Birds, wildlife and Delaware River Views. Lead by Bonnie Rovere and James Foy
- **Saturday, March 5 - Sandy Hook National Recreational Area and Asbury Park:** Old fort, ruins, landscapes, iconic NJ scene and maybe some seals at Sandy Hook. Lead by Rich Lewis and Jackie Touw
- **Saturday, April 30 - Forsythe Wildlife Refuge Revisited:** SJCC returns to the site of our recent workshop, hopefully, with warmer weather and birds doing interesting things. Lead by Sara Ascalon
- **Sunday, May 22 - Cape May:** Victorian architecture, WWII Ruins, lighthouse, bird sanctuary and a sunset at Sunset Beach. Lead by Rich and Vivian Lewis

Stay tuned as more field trips come online.

Coming up this Month

Workshop : Saturday, February 5 at 7pm

Building a Web Presence with Fine Art America, Zoom meeting hosted by Elvira Peretsman

Have you heard about Fine Art America? Most likely, yes. Have you ever wondered if you can sell your photographs using FAA services? Have you tried but haven't gotten far? Elvira Peretsman, who has been using FAA for about two years, will share her experience and will demonstrate how to set up the gallery, how to upload images, how to do pricing, etc. You will learn about the ways to promote your work in order to improve your chances of being found by search engines, the FAA community and ways to connect and be involved, as well as other features of FAA. Even if you are not interested in selling your work but currently don't have a website, FAA can be a good host for your photographs, so you can share your work with friends and family (with an option to buy your art).

Zoom Meeting Link

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87264833452?
pwd=NWN6TXM0cXZrRmlSTmtFVW5YSU0rZz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87264833452?pwd=NWN6TXM0cXZrRmlSTmtFVW5YSU0rZz09)

- Meeting ID: 872 6483 3452
- Passcode: 158908

Mobile Photography User Group (MPUG): Tuesday, February 8 at 7pm

From Our Mobile Photography Master, Jeff Feeny:

Our MPUG February theme is.....you guessed it - “Heart-shaped” and “Red Macro”! Get out those Valentines and shoot away. Or those candied hearts with the sayings on them would work! What about red macro roses or strawberry’s? Have fun with it. Bonus points for both themes in one shot.

Please make sure you get the images to Jeff no later than the Monday night before the meeting. Send them to foneartstudio@icloud.com,

Zoom Meeting Link

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89101490561?
pwd=c1RhbnZ2WVZOeXJodGh1N2hpM29MZz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89101490561?pwd=c1RhbnZ2WVZOeXJodGh1N2hpM29MZz09)

- Meeting ID: 891 0149 0561
- Passcode: 805631

Monthly Presentation: Thursday, February 10 at 7pm

**Attitude, Inspiration and Composition, A No BS Approach to Photography
by Richard Lewis**

This isn’t just a lesson in basic composition, it is a serious, but entertaining look at the 3 fundamentals building blocks required to create great photography. Composition is the thing many photographers struggle with the most. This is because composition is very subjective, but rarely taught that way. Composition also needs to be put in perspective with two other important components in

order to be applied to one's photography effectively. Those components are:

- Attitude – How to put yourself in the right mind and give yourself permission to create the way you want.
- Inspiration – We all need inspiration, but there is a fine line between imitating the work that inspires us and using it to create something unique. You will learn to navigate that fine line.
- Composition – Composition is more than a set of rules, learn how it is actually a method of communication.

All of this is covered in the presentation with examples and even a fun test at the end.

Bio:

Richard Lewis has been a professional and fine art photographer since the 1970's with a passion for landscapes, abandoned buildings, and interesting people. While he travels to find unique landscapes, his favorite location is the New Jersey Pine Barrens. He uses a professional digital camera, a drone and an iPhone to create his work.

Richard's inspiration comes from landscape painters and has developed a style he calls "Painting with a Camera". This involves equal effort in both creating and post processing an image.

Richard is an active photography blogger, lecturer, instructor and conducts workshops in the New Jersey Pine Barrens and other places to help photographers find their unique creative voice. He also has published a book titled "Photographing the New Jersey Pine Barrens".

Website: RichardLewisPhotography.com

Zoom Meeting Link

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84126318594?
pwd=dTBSaitSNHNoSm14bTJOUHpSNDR3Zz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84126318594?pwd=dTBSaitSNHNoSm14bTJOUHpSNDR3Zz09)

- Meeting ID: 841 2631 8594

- Passcode: 931327

Competition Night: Tuesday, February 15 at 7pm

Judged by Joe Gilchrist

- **Color: Open**
- **Mono: Circles** - Incorporate one or more circular shapes in your composition. The circles can be created with actual objects or implied, but they must be obvious.

Zoom Meeting Link

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82330778352?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82330778352?pwd=b0lzcTBLWHR0NWxPQnBHQVFoU0NtUT09)

[pwd=b0lzcTBLWHR0NWxPQnBHQVFoU0NtUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82330778352?pwd=b0lzcTBLWHR0NWxPQnBHQVFoU0NtUT09)

- Meeting ID: 823 3077 8352
- Passcode: 733506

If you are unsure of how to upload your competition entries, now is a good time to acquaint yourself with the process. [There are useful videos here](#). Even if you are comfortable with it, it wouldn't hurt to check to see if your password is working. Doing this before the deadline crunch will assure that Jim Foy, our Digital Competitions guru, can help you sort out any problems. To avoid disqualification and disappointment, it is also advisable to review the eligibility criteria of [our published competition rules](#).

Drone Photography User Group: Thursday, February 17 at 7pm

At the meeting we'll discuss the basics of composing a photograph with a drone's camera using its advantages and working around its limitations. We can also share some drone photography that we've been working on. **As always, no drone required.** Feel free to join us and ask questions and enjoy some fun stuff as SJCC's drone pilots take photography to new heights.

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89288402019?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89288402019?pwd=djZQcUluWDBvRkVJNjFDeFltYTN1dz09)

[pwd=djZQcUluWDBvRkVJNjFDeFltYTN1dz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89288402019?pwd=djZQcUluWDBvRkVJNjFDeFltYTN1dz09)

- Meeting ID: 892 8840 2019
- Passcode: 208046

Project Project: Thursday, February 24 at 7pm

These non-competitive programs are designed to encourage member's creativity and enthusiasm for photography and inspire out of the box thinking.

Presentations should include 3-5 images that when shown together either tell a story or illustrate an end result. Photos will be presented sequentially but in the case of a project series the finished project can be displayed as a grouping such as a layout, triptych, or finished piece of art.

Projects and Essays can be of any subject matter and will be completely up to the photographers keeping in mind the our club is family oriented and subject matter should be chosen appropriately. A short document should accompany each submission explaining the reason for the project shown.

Suggestions:

- Document an event or activity. (Girl Scout Cookie Drive or community cleanup campaign)
- Photograph a familiar subject in a different way using only a wide angle or telephoto lens.
- Photograph common household items or food to create fine-art displays.
- If you normally photograph in color, try shooting in B&W.
- Edit your photographs using unfamiliar software and learn new techniques.
- Too many ideas to mention. Think outside the box and have fun.

Email entries to sjccprojectproject@gmail.com. Deadline for submitting images is midnight the Sunday before the meeting. Photos should be prepared in the same way photos are prepared for monthly contests: 1400 px on the long side in the SRGB color space.

Each photo file name should include the following: Sequence Number_Photographer's Name_Title of Project_Photo Title (if applicable).
Example: 2_Bob Smith_Fall Colors_Tree In My Backyard.jpg

Here is the link to the Project Project gallery on our website. There is also a link to the Project Project "how to" Flyer there.

REMEMBER: All projects are due on the Sunday before the meeting.

Zoom Meeting Link

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81955069676?
pwd=RmdHc2E2bEdRb2lmYXpDZ3k3YVlKUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81955069676?pwd=RmdHc2E2bEdRb2lmYXpDZ3k3YVlKUT09)

- Meeting ID: 819 5506 9676
- Passcode: 885926

If you are using your smartphone, sign in with the Zoom app and use the appropriate meeting ID and Password.

IMPORTANT: Our presentation and competition meetings are recorded for members to review. The exception is when presenters do not want their presentation recorded. Links are posted in the SJCC Members Lounge Facebook group. Due to their file size, videos may be deleted after 30 days to make sure our drive has room on it. Also, please do not download them or share the links. All presentations are the intellectual property of the presenters. They allow us to record them if the videos are only viewed by club members. Out of respect for the privacy of our members, that also applies to recordings of our competitions. Thanks for your cooperation and understanding.

Competitions, Workshops, and Extras. Oh my.

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