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February may be cold but ...

Things are hot at SJCC



Winter At Smithville by Susan Spitz

Don't Hibernate, Participate!

Even when it is cold outside our club is still hopping. With competitions and presentations, workshops and field trips, we provide the best opportunities for our members to learn, grow and thrive as photographers.

Don't forget the camaraderie of getting to know one another at the meetings during our social time.

By being a member of the South Jersey Camera Club, you've taken a big step towards becoming a better photographer. One way to take advantage of your membership is to participate in our monthly competitions.

Each month we hire judges to score and critique our photography. At first it can be a little scary to have your images judged and shown along with the work of photographers of a wide range of abilities. However, once you take that step, you will improve your photography. This is something that has been proven time and time again. The feedback you receive will be helpful and when you get a good score... well, there's nothing like some positive reinforcement. And don't discount the feedback given to others' work at every skill level. Soak it all in. There's a lot to be learned no matter who the maker is.

If you haven't competed yet, give it a shot. If uploading your photographs to our competition site seems confusing, we're here to help! Email info@sjcameraclub.org and someone will be happy to walk you through the process.

Photography Tip! Ever wonder how to get a starburst with points of light like street lamps or the sun? Put your camera in manual or aperture priority mode and set your lens to a small aperture like f/11 or f/16. and shoot away. Wider angle lenses tend to make a better starburst pattern than telephotos.

For the most current listing of our meetings and activities, visit our [website](#), but here's what's coming up in this month and beyond:

Coming up this Month

Presentation: Thursday, February 13, 7pm

Cliff Mautner: Creating Texture, Dimension, and Mood

Cliff Mautner is an award winning wedding photographer known for his unique use of light, texture, dimension, mood, and composition in his work. He is also an International Nikon Ambassador.

Competition Night: Tuesday, January 21, 7pm

Judge: Miles Truesdell

- **Digital:** Open
- **Monochrome Prints:** Broken Down: Tired, worn out, or dilapidated
- **Special Panorama Contest** – print entries, color or monochrome, must be at least 2:1 ratio. Cash prizes awarded. This contest is not scored and does not count towards the rest of the season.

Workshop: Critiquefest 2020 Saturday, February 29, 10 to noon in the Holly Room (next to where we meet) at Medford Leas.

Bring 3-5 of your photos that you'd like reviewed. Any topic, any format, any style. You can submit prints or digital images (formatted to our regular club specifications) on a flash drive. We'll go through as many rounds as time allows to give each participant equal consideration.

Too shy to put yourself out there? No problem. There's still great benefit to sitting in and just listening.

Field Trips:

Sunset Photo Walk At The Black Run Preserve - Saturday Feb 8 from 3:30

to 6:00pm

Join Amy Golden for a photography tour of the Black Run Preserve. No 4WD vehicle or long hikes necessary to get to this beautiful 1200 acre Pine Barrens preserve. Photographs taken here can be entered in the Friends of the Black Run Preserve Photography Contest. Find out more at BlackRun.org

Laurel Hill Cemetery At Night - Saturday March 28 from 7 to 10pm

SJCC Members have a unique opportunity to visit and photograph Philadelphia's beautiful and historic Laurel Hill Cemetery after hours. A marvel to see during the light of day, LHC is an entirely different experience after the sun goes down, and one that you won't want to miss.

[REGISTER FOR THE FIELD TRIP NOW](#)

More Field Trips Coming

We have been planning more field trips and they will be announced soon. Here is a sneak peak: .

- **Flowers, birds and butterflies at Palmyra Cove** - A short walk in a local preserve is a great place to experience spring.
- **Mud Sale and Auction** - This famous Amish equipment and livestock auction provides tons of photo ops.

Check out our photo gallery

Every month our top scoring photographs are placed in an online gallery on our website. If you haven't seen them yet, take a look.

[See The Website Gallery](#)

Looking forward to seeing you all soon!

Best regards,

Rich Lewis, President

Competitions, Workshops, and Field Trips. Oh my.

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