Sara Ascalon

Listen up!

There’s lots to squawk about this month

Our April calendar was filled with events and, as you'll see, next month will keep us rather busy too. But, I'd like to look forward one more month to June, if I May…

Our popular **Behind the Lens** presentation is scheduled for June 8. For those of you new to the club this year, we invite several of our members to talk briefly about photographs entered in the year's challenges. Our fellow club members tell us what went into the making of their photos; from inspiration to capture to post processing. These mini-presentations are often eye-opening and always inspiring. But we don't chose the photographers and images that are honored. You do. In the past, we relied on a limited web gallery of photographs for you to select from. And the process – emailing a short list of nominations to us – was somewhat labor intensive. So we've done better this year. **Every single image entered**, not just those that appealed to the judge du jour, **is eligible for nomination**. And you're not forced to limit your picks to a mere 10.

Here's how it works this year:

Visit our **SJCC Photo Gallery on Flickr** and scroll through the images there. While you're enjoying the view, hover over your favorites and click on the star that appears at the bottom of that frame. It's as simple as that. All photos in the gallery (June through May) are eligible for nomination. There is no limit to the number you can favorite. We'll be adding those from our May challenge shortly after that meeting, so don't forget to visit the gallery again next month to spread more love.

We'll use the number of stars awarded to photos to inform our selections and invite the makers of some of the most noted photos to present. Your input is critical to this process, so please take the time to cast your ballot by selecting your favorites. Please note: you need a Flickr account in order to fave a photo, but opening an

account is free and fast if you don't already have one. The **nomination period will end May 20** to allow our participants ample time to prepare. For obvious reasons, please don't favorite your own photos.

Now that you have your assignment, let's explore what else May has in store for you.

Sara Ascalon, President

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

SJCC EVENTS AT A GLANCE

May 3: Field Trip - Bucks County, PA
May 6: Spring Fling
May 11: Presentation - Nancy Ori, Positive and Negative Space in Composition
May 16: Challenge Meeting
May 18: Drone User Group Meeting
May 20: Field Trip - Waterside Woolen Mill

UPCOMING EVENTS

THE SOCIAL EVENT OF THE SEASON!

SPRING FLING, May 6, 1-4 pm at Medford United Methodist Church, Bowker Hall, 2 Hartford Road, Medford

Mix and mingle with your fellow SJCC members! A fun afternoon awaits you with **planned social activities** and **discussion groups.** Plus, **turn your outgrown or redundant photography gear into cash at our Swap Meet.** That stuff you're not using can be just what another member has been looking for. Dust it off and bring it in along with a list of items and prices with your name on it to place alongside your treasures.

Light refreshments will be served.

Registration is now closed.

MEETINGS

Mobile Photography User Group (MPUG): Please note, the regularly scheduled meeting has been cancelled for this month. Meetings will resume in June.

Monthly Presentation: Thursday, May 11 at 7pm via Zoom
Positive and Negative Space in Composition
By Nanci Ori
The use of positive and negative space is key to a successful composition by creating balance and impact. Negative space in art is the space around and between the subject of an image. It is often used as a neutral or contrasting background to draw attention to the main subject which is the positive space. Photography is all about light and where there is light, there is shadow and negative space. What is the light doing to the subject and how does this relate to the surrounding area? How does the shadow support the subject? This lecture is filled with illustrations and tips to show how to control light and shadow for better control of the communication. Learning to see the quality, quantity, and direction of light and how that relates to creating positive and negative space is at the core of this lecture.
Zoom Meeting Link
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84126318594?pwd=dTBSaitSNHNoSm14bTJOUHpSNDR3Zz09

- Meeting ID: 841 2631 8594
- Passcode: 931327

Challenge Night: Tuesday, May 16 at 7pm, via Zoom
Judged by Denise Bush

- ***Assigned Topic:*** **Macro** – Get up close to reveal larger than life detail we may not typically see. The use of a dedicated macro lens is not required.
- **Open**

Zoom Meeting Link

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82330778352?pwd=b0lzcTBLWHR0NWxPQnBHQVFoU0NtUT09

- Meeting ID: 823 3077 8352
- Passcode: 733506

If you are unsure of how to upload your challenge 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 we can help you sort out any problems. To avoid disqualification and disappointment, it is also advisable to review the eligibility criteria.

Drone User Group: Thursday, May 18, 7pm via Zoom

For pilots and non-pilots alike. All that's required is an appreciation of the big picture. The REALLY big picture.

Zoom Meeting Link

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86506119258?pwd=am8rL0Nibnh3RkxEYnU5YUp6NkV6UT09

- Meeting ID: 865 0611 9258
- Passcode: 854995

FIELD TRIPS

Bucks County, PA, Wednesday, May 3, 2:30 meeting time

Philadelphia, PA

Led by Rich Lewis

Covered bridge, historic buildings, scenic river views and more. Drones are welcome but there are some restrictions. Optional group lunch prior to meeting time. Complete itinerary will be emailed to registrants.

Waterside Woolen Mill, Saturday, May 20, 9:00 am

Woodbury, PA

Admission fee: $80pp paid to the mill

Led by Jackie Touw
The centerpiece of this weekend trip will be this abandoned woolen mill. Also in the area is some beautiful scenery, covered bridges, farms and more. It's quite a distance from our area, so you may want to make optional hotel reservations for Friday (and maybe Saturday night) to arrive at the mill by our start time of 9am and take advantage of an extended opportunity to explore the surrounding area. Travel companions without cameras are welcome to enter and explore the mill free of charge. We need a minimum of 6 photographers to run this trip, so please sign up as soon as you can so we can reserve our spot. Non-paying guests do not count towards this requirement.

To register for these or any other field trips, please email us at info@sjcameraclub.org

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

IMPORTANT: Our presentation and challenge 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 challenges. Thanks for your cooperation and understanding.

Challenges, Presentations, and a Bunch of Other Cool Stuff.

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