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Polar Vortex putting the freeze on your photo mojo?

Go Ahead, February. Make My Month.





Damn Proud – Mike Pillows

Do You Feel Lucky?

Ice. Snow. Sub-zero wind chills. The last few weeks have hit us hard, making it tough to get through the everyday stuff, much less throw yourself into photography.

You've got to ask yourself one question. Do you feel lucky? Well, do you, fellow photographer?

With the engaging, doldrum-defeating programs in store for you at SJCC this month, there's really only one answer: Yes! Check out the cool February events below and come chill with us. But first, bear with me for a few announcements:

Changing the 11th Hour

We've done an analysis of when members are submitting their competition entries. Interestingly, roughly 40% of the files are uploaded during the last day of the entry

window, with the bulk coming in during the last three hours. Unfortunately, that's also when most people find that they need some sort of technical support. I'm sure that you all can understand that midnight on Sunday is not the best time to be fielding calls for help. So, in order to give us the ability to be responsive, as well as allowing us to respect the limits of our volunteers, effective immediately, **we are moving the submission deadline back to 9pm on the Sunday prior to our competition.** Please take note of this change. Your cooperation and understanding is appreciated.

Smartphoneography Initiative

You may have received and read an email recently that announced the formation of a separate SJCC Smartphoneography Club. That proclamation was both premature and erroneous. We are indeed exploring the possibility of creating an avenue for mobile phone photographers to share their passion and knowledge, but it is not yet a done deal. What we have done is assemble a committee, lead by Jeff Feeney, to assess the feasibility, needs, and direction for such a group and hope to, with feedback from our membership, be able to launch an appropriate program in the future.

Competition Records

A number of people have inquired about the way the competition records are sorted on our website. By default, they appear alphabetically by first name but, what may not be obvious, feature the ability to fine tune data sort to fit the way you like to view it. Look for the double triangles in the table header above each column. (See screen shot of cumulative records below)

2018/19 Season Cumulative Competition Points

Digital			
B Group		I Group	
Name	Total Score	Name	Total Score
Arthur Snellbaker	37	Albert Galanti	20
Karl Dunst	40	Barry Plimpton	20
A Group		S Group	
Full Name	Total	Name	Total Score
Alonzo Jennings	12	Amy Golden	39
Amanda Czerniawski	48	Barbara Doreste	46

Clicking on the arrows will toggle through different sorting options. For example, one

click on the total score arrow will display standings by points in ascending order. Another click will reverse that order. Names can be re-sorted in reverse alpha order. Likewise, the Individual Records scoresheet, with its many data fields, can be viewed in countless ways for those of you, like I, who love analyzing data. Go ahead, log in and play with the data sorts. Just don't get so lost in the numbers that you miss out on the joy of the competitions and all their benefits.

Coming up this Month:

Please note that in spite of our "Make my Month" bravado, it is February after all, and inclement weather that makes travel unsafe is still a very real possibility. If a storm hits on any of the dates below we may be forced to cancel or reschedule and will notify members via email and Facebook. Please keep on eye out for these messages should that be the case.

SJCC Saturday Member Workshop:

Photographing the New Jersey Pinelands, presented by Rich Lewis
February 9, 10am - 12pm, Medford Leas, Holly Room

This is not a field trip, but a basic introduction to the New Jersey Pinelands. The workshop will cover how to photograph in the Pines, when are the best times and what are the best things to photograph.

[Register for Photographing the New Jersey Pinelands](#) (password: sjcc)

Presentation Program: Thursday, February 14, 7pm

Focusing on the Details: Create Fine Art Photographs from Urban Exploration **Lisa and Tom Cuchara**

Lisa and Tom will discuss love for RUST and their approach to and experience with photographing historic and abandoned buildings, urban decay, etc. They will show techniques for wide angle and close-up photography including the use of HDR (high dynamic range), EDR (extended dynamic range), HDR-panoramas, and light

painting in this program. Equipment and techniques used to bring out the beauty and drama of these subjects will also be discussed as we show our fascination with RUST. They aim to inspire you: inspire you to visit new "old" places and to get to know them well enough to tell their story, inspire you to capture high dynamic range images and to light paint, and inspire you to create art from decay.

Lisa Cuchara, PhD, Cr. Photog., HonNEC, is very passionate about photography and enjoys both being behind the lens and in the digital darkroom. From birds and flowers to babies and UrBex/HDR, she appreciates the world around her and embraces the challenge of interpreting what her eyes see and her heart feels via her photographs. Lisa says that photography allows her to pay attention to the details, to be mindful, to slow down and appreciate all of the beauty, details and nuances of everyday life. Lisa met her husband Tom through photography and they are both very active in many local, national, and international photography organizations. Lisa and Tom have been photographing people professionally for more than 15 years and have their own photography study in Hamden, CT. They have had many successful gallery exhibitions, their work has been accepted into many juried exhibitions and their images have won awards at the local, state, national, and international levels and have been widely published in various media. They present a wide variety of motivational and instructional programs and workshops at many photography groups and organizations. You can check out their upcoming programs and view their photographs at www.photographybylisaandtom.com.

Lisa and Tom have authored two books about photography: "**Create Fine Art Photographs from Historic Places and Rusty Things**" and "**The Frog Whisperer**." You will have an opportunity to purchase signed copies at our meeting.

Special Opportunity: Exclusive Workshop for SJCC Members

**Unleash the power and creativity of blend modes! Hands-on workshop
Friday, February 15, 11 - 2pm**

Location: Center for the Arts in SNJ, 123 S Elmwood Rd, Marlton, NJ 08053

Lisa and Tom will be staying in town an extra day to offer one of their popular post-processing workshops to our membership. We've arranged a special rate of \$50/person for this valuable 3-hour session. We hope that you will be able to take

advantage of this educational opportunity.

[Register and pay by February 11 to reserve your seat](#)

If you registered for this workshop when it was originally scheduled last October, your registration is already complete. If you need to cancel, please contact Lisa and Tom directly for a refund.

Layers and masks are the heart and soul of Photoshop, but blending modes are the spice to allow you to blend layers together to create effects. Have some fun with your photographs and come join Lisa as she will show you how Blend modes will enhance your creativity. Changing the blending modes alters the way that particular photograph or layer or texture interacts with the photograph underneath. Be creative and experiment -- try different modes and use a specific opacity to get the creative result that you are looking for. Lisa will show you how to use the multiply and screen blend modes for compositing, the lighten and screen blend modes for night photography, the multiply and screen blend modes for exposure alterations, and for more effective, non-destructive dodging and burning.

This is a hands-on workshop, bring your computer with Adobe Photoshop CC installed (Photoshop CS6 OK). You can share a computer with a friend. You can come without a computer and just watch (some people learn better hands-on, some people learn better watching). Any skill level welcome but please note that this is *not* a computer class, so basic computer skills are assumed (you should be able to open files and navigate to and open files that will be provided to you at the start of the class, those skills are not unique to image editing and would apply to MS Word, Excel, etc.).

Competition Night: Tuesday, February 19, 7pm

Judge: Debbie Aniano

[Flickr](#)

- **Digital – Open**
- **Monochrome Prints– Street Photography** Photographs depicting chance encounters or random incidents in public places.
- Submission Deadline: Sunday, February 17 at **9pm**

- **Photo in a Bag** - participants, please drop your mounted print off at the table (designated by group) outside the auditorium
- **Pre-meeting Workshop:** TBA (Linden Room, 6:15pm)

Exhibition Opportunity:

The Odyssey Exhibition (formerly Americana)

The Pennsylvania Center for Photography has expanded their popular Americana show to allow images shot anywhere in the world, on any subject, with any process or style. This stellar dual-format (print and digital) juried exhibition includes a camera club challenge component with the winning club being featured prominently with its own show within the show. SJCC was the proud winner last year. With the talent this club has we can prevail again. Make sure to include your club designation when you submit your entries. Don't delay. **Entries close February 18.**

[Odyssey Prospectus](#)

[About the Camera Club Challenge](#)

Looking forward to seeing you all soon!

Best regards,
Sara Ascalon, President

Competitions, Workshops, and Field Trips. Oh my.

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