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Sandbox, by Bob Laramie

*A new year... What will you learn to enrich yourself?*

*"There is only you and your camera. The limitations in your photography are in yourself, for what we see is what we are."*

*Ernst Haas*



Happy New Year everyone! Did you add any widgets or thingamajigs to your camera bag? What about your mind... it's the most valuable tool you have. SJCC offers a vast amount of information & activities for everyone to expand your mind. New and current members be sure to sign-up and absorb all the club has to offer.

***Please welcome our clubs newest members:***

Daniel Begun

Bob Birdsall

Michael, Jack, Jennifer &amp; John Walsh

On behalf of the executive board, welcome and we look forward to meeting you.

*I am honored to welcome back to the club a founding member, Florence Robin! I meet Robin in the 1980's when I originally joined SJCC in the days when we mounted our own slides.*

Robert Zurfluh judged our December Challenge (digital "low light" & prints "open"), he is a member of our club, an excellent photographer and a great personality.

Robert had this to say after judging:

***"Celebrating Excellence in Photography at the South Jersey Camera Club Challenge in December***

*I had the privilege of judging the December '23 photo challenge. I was truly impressed by the exceptional skill level displayed across all competition groups, making it a stand out event. The low-light theme is challenging, but SJCC members rose to the challenge to skillfully capture their low-light images.*

*Having judged various competitions, I can confidently say that the South Jersey Camera Club surpasses expectations with the highest skill level of photography I've encountered in any club I have judged. The commitment to excellence is evident at every level, reflecting the passion and dedication of our members.*

*Looking ahead, I eagerly anticipate returning in 2024 to judge another round in May. The South Jersey Camera Club continues to set the bar high, and I am thrilled to be a part of this vibrant community.*

*Here's to the artistry, passion, and camaraderie that make the South Jersey Camera Club truly exceptional."*

*Robert*

The month of February our club will have an open exhibition (not juried) at Medford Leas. January is your action month for this exhibit - details are below.

Our private Facebook group is receiving more great posts from our members, In keeping with this month's theme of what's new and enriching our minds, if you have a great tip(s) feel free to post them.

**[SJCC Facebook](#)**

Remember to visit the **[Flickr gallery](#)** which is a complete gallery of every photo entered into our challenges and click on the star to mark your favorites which will become part of our "Behind The Lens" night in June.

Dwayne Botnick, President

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*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 JANUARY EVENTS AT A GLANCE***

Jan 4: 8PM Executive Board Meeting  
Jan 9: MPUG  
Jan 11: Presentation - Floral Photography with Passion  
Jan 13: Workshop - Lightroom Part 1  
Jan 16: Challenge - Digital: Action, Open Prints  
Jan 18: Drone Group  
Jan 20: Field Trip - Patcong Valley Model Railroad  
Jan 22: Registration deadline Medford Leas Exhibit  
Jan 25: 8PM Executive Board Meeting  
Feb 3: Medford Leas exhibit intake

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### **SJCC Medford Leas Exhibition**

This is a non-juried exhibition - chance for everyone to participate and display their work. Each club member may submit up to 4 framed images for display. ***Open topic and all images must be family friendly and appropriate for public setting.***

*Important note: currently there are renovations being done which affects the amount of wall space available for hanging, therefore we are limiting the frame size to a maximum of 24x28. If you submit an image larger, we may not be able to hang it and/or it will reduce the number of your images to be hung. If overall submissions exceed the available wall space, your images will be selected the the order on the email registration form.*

#### **Email Registration: No Latter Than Monday January 22 at 10PM**

This will provide efficient time to complete the tags - you are only providing information about the photos.

**[Email Registration Link](#)**

**Intake: Saturday February 3, 10AM to 1PM** (hallway outside of where our Challenge Meetings are held). One Medford Leas Way, Medford, NJ 08055

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## PRESENTATIONS - ZOOM

### Floral Photography with Passion

**Thursday, January 11 at 7PM**

**Presented by: Padma Inguva**

*Padma will share information about some of her techniques in creating stunning flower portraits.*

*These techniques include photographing flowers on Lightbox, multiple exposures both in Camera and via Photoshop, applying textures to floral images, selective focus, blurred backgrounds, compositional elements, backlighting, and bokeh! This program also includes tips on processing colors which are considered difficult to photograph, like red and purple.*

#### *Artist Statement:*

*In her own words "My goal as a photographer is to get people to slow down, unite with the natural world and absorb the beauty of flowers, create an oasis in this rapid, constantly demanding stressful daily life. There is no better way to escape this running-around than spending time looking through a lens. I want to set people on a path of inspiration, hope, joy, and love that comes from an appreciation of these tiny treasures all around us. It gives me immense joy in taking you down a beautiful journey into flowers through my lens where you admire and observe flowers with a whole new perspective and create art that lasts far longer than the flower itself." Website: [PadmasWorld.com](https://www.padmasworld.com)*

**Zoom Meeting Link: [SJCC Presentation](#)**

Meeting ID: 841 2631 8594

Passcode: 931327

Thursday, February 8: The Joys of Macro Photography by Todd Nettelhorst

Thursday, March 14: Passage to Loftén by Francie Schwabenland

Thursday, April 11: Done Doing Time by Linda Schuman

Thursday, May 9: Creativity-A Conversation with Yourself by Sara Ascalon

Thursday, June 13: SJCC's Behind The Lens Presentation

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## CHALLENGE NIGHT - In Person Medford Leas

## **Tuesday, January 16 at 7PM: Judged by Greg DeAngelis**

### **Digital Assigned Topic: Action**

*An object in motion stays in motion – until you point your camera at it. Freeze the action or accentuate it and capture the moment.*

### **Prints: Open**

Both digital entries and print entries must be uploaded to PhotoContest Pro

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 & instructions 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, you should review the [Challenge Guidelines](#) as they have been updated. The guidelines also contain all of the detail for your prints.

#### Medford Leas Information:

One Medford Leas Way, Medford, NJ 08055

Meeting attendees must enter at the rear Arts and Education Wing entrance (lower level and convenient to the auditorium). Masks are not required for the auditorium and you do not need to sign-in. As guests, please follow any Medford Leas guidelines.

Tuesday, February 20: Digital: Weather *[Neither rain, nor snow, nor sleet, nor hail shall keep the photographer from creating an engaging image of atmospheric conditions].*

Tuesday, March 19: Digital: Machines *[Apparatus using or applying mechanical power. Use your skills to turn work machines into works of art].*

Tuesday, April 16: Digital: Translucent *[Capture light shining through an object without seeing through it].*

Tuesday, May 21: Digital: Abundance *[There's a whole lot of opportunity to capture a whole lot of something. Your interpretation can be literal or figurative.].*

Tuesday, June 18: Digital: Street Photography *[Capture a candid moment of humanity in a public setting].*

Prints are always "Open" unless stated otherwise.

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## **MPUG & DRONE - ZOOM**

### **MPUG - Mobile User Photography Group**

## **Tuesday, January 9 at 7PM**

**Hoisted by: Jeff Feeny (SJCC mobile photography master)**

Theme is "Coins and or Numbers" - Seems like a macro kind of mobile photoshoot may be warranted. The newer iPhones & Androids make it easy, just slowly get closer to your subject and it will switch to macro automatically.

Be sure to email your images by Monday evening to Jeff at:

[foneartstudio@icloud.com](mailto:foneartstudio@icloud.com)

### **MPUG Zoom Link**

Meeting ID: 832 3980 4273

Passcode: 282398

The MPUG usually meets monthly on the 2nd Tuesday.

## **DRONE User Group**

**Thursday, January 18 at 7PM**

**Hoisted by: Leo Pelletier (SJCC drone aficionado)**

You don't need to own a drone to participate!

### **DRONE Zoom Link**

Meeting ID: 897 0437 3804

Passcode: 171821

The DRONE group usually meets monthly on the 3rd Thursday.

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## **WORKSHOPS - In Person**

### **Register-All Workshops**

**Saturday, January 13: Lightroom - Part 1**

**10AM - Noon at Medford United Methodist Church**

Presented by: Chuck Kuski

*Lightroom is a powerful image editing and organization program. In this workshop, Chuck Kuski, a longtime Lightroom user, will give a general overview for those who are new to Lightroom or just having problems getting started. What is Lightroom? What does it do? How do I install it? How do I get my images into it? Where are the pictures? What should I do next? It is intended to help the photographer get ready for more intermediate and advanced workshops. Chuck will also cover some of the "best practices" when editing your photos in Lightroom. It is expected that 1/3 of the workshop will be devoted to Q &*

*A. If you're expecting to learn details about the seven different modules in LR, this is not the workshop for you. If you do not know what modules are, or have basic knowledge of them, then this may be the workshop for you.*

## **Saturday, February 17: Lightroom - Part 2**

**10AM - Noon at Medford United Methodist Church**

Presented by: Mike Fox & Dwayne Botnick

*Many of us have thousands, if not tens of thousands, of photos on our computers which we have taken over the years. Adobe's Lightroom program has been a favorite tool for photographers to edit and to hone their images since it was released in early 2007. In addition to its editing prowess, Lightroom also has some very powerful features which can help us to organize and cull our collection and which makes it much easier to find photos that we are looking for in our photographic haystack, or to collect images into a group for a specific project.*

*One of Lightroom's standout attributes is its exceptional search functionality. With remarkable precision, these tools allow us to pinpoint images based on the lens used, shutter speed settings, specific dates, or any combination thereof. And once we get into the habit of using keywords, they can be a huge help in finding the photos we are looking for. In this workshop, Mike Fox and Dwayne Botnick will introduce and demonstrate the power of many of the tools mentioned above.*

**Saturday, March 2: Introduction to Adobe AI in Photoshop**

**Saturday, April 13: DSLR vs. Mirrorless & Full Frame vs. APSC vs. M4/3 vs. Phones**

**Saturday, May 4: Tech/Equipment & Sharing Lightning Talks**

**Saturday, June 8: Sports/Action**

[Link To All Workshops](#)

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## **FIELD TRIPS**

[Register-All Field Trips](#)

You must register for all field trips using the link above. Final details regarding a trip are emailed to all who have registered.

**Saturday, January 20: Patcong Valley Model Railroad**

**11AM - 1308 US-40, Richland, NJ 08350**

Led by: Diane Irrgang



*We will have private access with plastic barriers removed. They will also accommodate us in setting up shots!. This will be a great experience regardless of your skill level or genre. There are multiple web sites and YouTube videos with tips on shooting model railroads. For detailed information here is the link to their site: [Patcong Valley Model Railroad](#) [Google Map Link](#)*

## **Saturday, February 10: Simeone Foundation Automotive Museum**

**9:45AM - 6825 Norwitch Drive, Philadelphia 19153**

Led by: Diane Irrgang

*The museum opens at 10 AM and we will be there with the public. There is an entrance fee. As we get closer to this field trip we will coordinate transportation and other details.*

Website: [Simeone Foundation Automotive Museum](#)

Friday, March 8: Bryn Athyn Cathedral, Bryn Athyn PA

Monday, April 22: Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge, Delaware

TBD May: Sunset, Race Street Pier, Philadelphia

TBD June: Street Photography, Philadelphia

[Link To All Field Trips](#)

## **Links**

*If you are like me, I book mark everything and then find I have multiple links to the same or similar web page and never know which one to use! Here are links that you will use frequently.*

[SJCC Website](#)

[Challenge Guidelines](#)

[Challenge Topics](#)

[PhotoContest Pro](#)

[Facebook Private Group](#)

[Flickr Gallery](#)

*The fine print...*

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 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.



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