



FOCAL POINT

<http://www.assabetvalleycc.com>

January 2020

The club meets at the Hudson Senior Center, 29 Church Street, Hudson MA on the first and third Wednesdays of each month except July and Aug. Meetings begin at 7:30 PM

Next meeting: January 8th

Night Photography Tools and Techniques

On Wednesday, January 8, the Assabet Valley Camera Club (AVCC) is pleased to host John Slonina, a Massachusetts-based professional nature photographer, whose presentation will explore how to photograph various subjects at night. Attendees will learn the correct formula for night photography, reduction of flicker, time lapse photography and a few post-processing tips. Whether you are a beginner or a professional photographer, you will leave this presentation excited to try new strategies and tips that will create more dramatic images.



John Slonina's "Night Photography Tools and Techniques" is supported in part by a grant from the Hudson Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.



The presentation is free and open to the general public. AVCC welcomes anyone interested in learning more about photography as a visual art and its practical application as a science. This program will be held at 7:30 PM in the Great Room at the Hudson Senior Center, 29 Church Street, following a short business meeting. For more information check out the AVCC website at [assabetvalleycc.com](http://www.assabetvalleycc.com) or contact John Gill, club President, at 978-293-5192.

Competitions:

The next competition will be January 15th.

Digital subjects are "Simplicity" & "Open". The print category is "Open".

The deadline to submit digital images is January 12th @11:59 PM.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Night Photography Tools and Techniques

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John Slonina is an award-winning professional photographer, tour leader and writer. His initial passion for wildlife, wild places and sense of adventure led him down the path to photography. John's favorite photo subjects include landscape, wildlife, macro, and night photography. His work has been published in calendars, books, and magazines and has also been displayed in several galleries. Slonina's teaching style and humor make him a popular speaker. He has presented for numerous camera clubs, nature groups, and photo conferences throughout the USA.

Through his photo excursion company Slonina Photography John leads instructional tours and photo workshops across North America to national parks and areas such as Yellowstone, Katmai, Mt Rainier, Great Smoky Mountains, Kenai Fjords, Everglades, Big Cypress Preserve, Alaska, and Acadia. John's goal is to make everything a fun learning experience. More information about his tours and workshops as well as several photo galleries can be found on his website at www.sphotography.com.

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The presentation is free and open to the general public. AVCC welcomes anyone interested in learning more about photography as a visual art and its practical application as a science. This program will be held at 7:30 PM in the Great Room at the Hudson Senior Center, 29 Church Street, following a short business meeting. For more information check out the AVCC website at assabetvalleycc.com or contact John Gill, club President, at 978-293-5192.

Travel Images

If anyone has any travel or creative images that they would like to have considered for entry into the PSA competitions, please forward them to Glenn Fund by Jan 10, 2020. gfund@comcast.net

Glenn will be collecting them for Todd Mathieson. They should be sized the same as for club competition.

E-Board Meeting

There will be an e-board meeting Tuesday Jan 14th @ 7PM. All are invited and encouraged to come. This is your chance to voice your ideas, comments, and to vote on club issues. This is your club, so your presence and voice is important.

Hi Jinx

We have scheduled our annual Photo ops (aka Hi Jinx) for Saturday Jan 18, 2020.

It will start at 9am and run until 3 (ish). We usually send out for pizza, or you can bring your own lunch if you want to. It is mainly table top set ups, such as water drops & flowers, black lights, macro, green screens and more. We will have numerous objects to photograph, and play with creatively. This is a good opportunity to learn, ask questions, and impart your own techniques to other members.

If you have "things" that you would like to bring in to shoot, please do. If you have any ideas for a setup, please let John (jandsgill@verizon.net) know. You can get some good ideas by googling table top photography.

Competitions

NATURE MANIPULATION ADJUSTMENTS

ALLOWED IN NATURE COMPETITIONS

- EXPOSURE ADJUSTMENT (SELECTIVE AND GLOBAL)
- ADJUST HIGHLIGHT AND SHADOW DETAIL
- ADJUST CONTRAST
- WHITE BALANCE / COLOR CORRECTION
(HDR ALLOWED FOR ANY AND ALL OF THE ABOVE)
- BLACK & WHITE CONVERSION (GRayscale ONLY)
- ADJUST SATURATION
- DUST SPOT REMOVAL
- NOISE REMOVAL
- FLARE REMOVAL
- STRAIGHTENING
- CROPPING
- REVERSING (A.K.A. FLIPPING HORIZONTAL - USE CAUTION ON SCENICS)
- RESIZING
- SHARPENING (INCLUDING FOCUS LAYERING)

ALL ALLOWED ADJUSTMENTS MUST LOOK NATURAL

ADJUSTMENTS NOT ALLOWED IN NATURE COMPETITIONS

- ADDING OR REMOVING IMAGE ELEMENTS
- BLURRING BACKGROUNDS

NOTE: Reminder that the new image size is 1400 x 1050 pixels.

NOTE 2: Prints cannot exceed 36 inches in total Height & Width **(including mats)**. Examples: (16 x 20) (12 X 24), etc.

To submit your digital competition images, go to the club web-site and, on the navigation bar at the top of the home page, click on the "Competitions" pull-down, then the "Monthly Club Competitions" and the "Submit Digital Images" pull-downs. For information about rules and file setup procedures for submitting competition images, follow the "Rules" and "Digital Files Setup", also in the "Monthly Club Competitions" pull-down.

You may request a critique for only one digital image. If you select for both, only the "Open" image will be critiqued on competition night. In addition, you may request a critique for your print entry.

If you have any questions related to digital competition submission, contact Paul Weisbach by email JWeisbach@aol.com.

Please remember, print submissions need to be on the print table **by 7:15pm** on the night of the competition. When filling out the print entry form, check the provided box if your print image was taken after 04/01/2019. The new policy states that photos must not be framed or mounted on glass or metal. They can be matted, but not with glass or metal. Prints cannot exceed 36 inches in total Height & Width. Examples: (16 x 20) (12 X 24), etc.

Help Setting Up

We really need some help setting up the meeting room.

We typically start around 2:15 to 2:30.

It takes an hour or less, depending on how fast we move, or how chatty we get. For all of these past years, there has just been a few of us who do it each time. We need more members so we can spread out the work load.

If you haven't done it before, come this Wednesday and learn about what we have been doing to make the room ready. We start by taking down all the round tables that senior center uses during the day. We arrange all the chairs as you see them, set up projector etc. If we have enough people, we maybe can then schedule "teams".

It's not difficult, so please consider coming and learning what needs to be done.

Dec. '19 Print Competition - SHADOW(S)

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>SUBMITTED BY</u>	<u>SCORE</u>	<u>AWARD</u>
<u>GOLD</u>			
Symmerty at the Gardner Museum	Elliot Mednick	27.6	1st
On the Boardwalk	Bob Escott	25.4	2nd
Winter Magic	Sue Abrahamsen	25.3	3rd
Peeking Out the Window	Paul Weisbach	25.1	
Shady Places	Darlene Holman	24.4	
Arizona Slot Canyon	Bob Cooke	24	
Superstar	Dave Morin	23.5	
The Shadow	Todd Mathieson	23.5	
<u>SILVER</u>			
Shadows at the Ancient Agora	Cathy Robotis	25.7	1st
Box of Sunshine	Liz Krouse	25.3	2nd
Me and My Shadow	Larry Alley	25.2	3rd
Anious Father - Missed Curfew	Ann DeCristofaro	24.5	
Afternoon Shadows in the Denner Vineyards	Glenn Fund	23.7	
Leaves of Light	Mary Coombs	22.6	
Shadow	Heather Ruthoff	21.7	

Images Highlighted in Yellow are Eligible for the Quad-Club Competition

PRINT SUMMARY 2019-2020

	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	
GOLD	Open	Monochrome	Nature	Shadow(s)	Open	Still Life	Nature	Open	Open	TOTAL
Elliot Mednick	26.2	28	25.5	27.6	0	0	0	0	0	107.3
Paul Weisbach	27.8	22.8	29.6	25.1	0	0	0	0	0	105.3
Darlene Holman	25.7	25.7	26.9	24.4	0	0	0	0	0	102.7
Todd Mathieson	25.8	24.7	28.2	23.5	0	0	0	0	0	102.2
Dave Morin	22.4	28.7	27.6	23.5	0	0	0	0	0	102.2
Bob Escott	23.4	25.9	26.9	25.4	0	0	0	0	0	101.6
Bob Cooke	25.6	25.7	25.1	24	0	0	0	0	0	100.4
Sue Abrahamsen	23.8	21.6	29.2	25.3	0	0	0	0	0	99.9
Ginny Harris	24.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	24.2
SILVER	Open	Monochrome	Nature	Shadow(s)	Open	Still Life	Nature	Open	Open	TOTAL
Ann DeCristofaro	23.9	28.9	23.4	24.5	0	0	0	0	0	100.7
Liz Krouse	26.9	21.7	26.8	25.3	0	0	0	0	0	100.7
Cathy Robotis	24.6	21.5	26.9	25.7	0	0	0	0	0	98.7
Glenn Fund	24.7	23.2	25.9	23.7	0	0	0	0	0	97.5
Jane Parker	24.1	22.3	27.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	73.5
Larry Alley	0	22.7	0	25.2	0	0	0	0	0	47.9
Heather Ruthoff	24	0	0	21.7	0	0	0	0	0	45.7
Bill Weiblen	22	0	23.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	45.2
Mary Coombs	0	0	0	22.6	0	0	0	0	0	22.6
Maureen Mathieson	0	22.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	22.4

Images Highlighted in Yellow are Eligible for the Quad-Club Competition

Dec. '19 Digital Competition - OPEN			
<u>TITLE</u>	<u>SUBMITTED BY</u>	<u>SCORE</u>	<u>AWARD</u>
CLASS AA			
Tiger Sees the Light	Linda Shelales	27.4	1st
Rodeo Clowns at Work	Tony Monteiro	26.8	2nd
Mother Goose Guarding Her Clutch	Doris Monteiro	26.7	3rd
Nubble Light Christmas	Darlene Holman	26.6	
Painted Lady on Butterfly Bush	Ginny Harris	26.3	
Stuck	John Gill	25.9	
Yosemite Valley Reflection	Sue Abrahamsen	25.7	
Hoverflies on Daisy	Cathy Simmons	25.7	
Seagull With Shrimp	Drew Simmons	25.7	
Grey Screech Owl 3	Maureen Mathieson	25.6	
Cheetah #3	Todd Mathieson	24.9	
Morning at Mt. Ranier	Robyn Saur	24.7	
CLASS A			
Shore Bird Squawking	Barbara Huntley	26.2	1st
Reflected Watch	Elliot Mednick	25.9	2nd
Wingman	Natalie Schiavone	25.7	3rd
Brooms For Sale	Linda Gilberti	25	
Tight Passage	Bob Escott	25	
Intense and Proud	Jane Parker	24.7	
Piccolo's	Dick Tranfaglia	24.5	
Pastel Still Life	Dave Reynard	23.8	
I'm Think I'm Ready	Diana Ledoux	23.7	
CLASS B			
Feral Beauty	Cathy Robotis	25.7	1st
It's Christmas Time in the City	Mary Strachan	25.7	1st
French Polynesia Underwater	Glenn Fund	25.6	2nd
Old Soldier	John McKinney	25.5	3rd
Winter Wedding	Heather Ruthoff	25.3	
Vernazza Stairs	Peter Stultz	25.2	
Making a Beeline	Theresa Vachowski	24.9	
Feeding a Young Sparrow	Liz Krouse	24.9	
Waterfall in Croatia	Pam Meoli	24.3	
Daylight Saving Fog	John Mauro	23.9	
Tourists Go Home	Jim Quinn	23.8	
Turkeys on Fence	Larry Alley	23.6	
Come Fly With Me TF Greene	Lee Arnold	23.5	
Bluebird	Susan Nichols	23.1	
Grasshopper on Coxcomb	Ann DeCristofaro	22.9	
Fall Flower	Marie Riley	22.8	
Make-Up for Nov. '19 - OPEN			
Paris 2019	Jim Quinn	23.8	

Dec. '19 Digital Competition - NATURE			
<u>TITLE</u>	<u>SUBMITTED BY</u>	<u>SCORE</u>	<u>AWARD</u>
CLASS AA			
Least Terns and Babies	Darlene Holman	27.5	1st
Bathing Pyrrhuloxia 3	Sue Abrahamsen	27.3	2nd
Lizard With Dragonfly	Cathy Simmons	27.2	3rd
Sea Lion Chorus	Doris Monterio	26.4	
Walking on the Beach	Robyn Saur	26.2	
Young Ospreys 1st Landing	Tony Monteiro	26.2	
Nectaring	Todd Mathieson	26	
Saw Whet Owl	John Gill	25.9	
Osprey With Fish	Drew Simmons	25.8	
Mating Frogs	Ginny Harris	25.5	
Mallard Dropping in For a Landing	Maureen Mathieson	25	
Assassin Bug Looks For Prey	Linda Shelales	23	
CLASS A			
Lunch For the Great Blue Heron	Elliot Mednick	26.5	1st
Owl on Branch	Dave Reynard	26	2nd
Ring Billed Gull	Jane Parker	25.7	3rd
Clamming	Natalie Schiavone	25.1	
Lift Off	Diana Ledoux	24.6	
Anconmga At Villages	Bob Escott	24.1	
Florida Gopher Tortoise Feeding	Barbara Huntley	23.6	
Croatian Beauty	Linda Gilberti	23	
CLASS B			
A Very Special Kind of Beauty	John McKinney	26	1st
Lunchdate With a Dragonfly	Liz Krouse	25.2	2nd
Hummingbird at Honeysuckle	Larry Alley	25	3rd
Invasion of the Milkweed	Ann DeCristofaro	24.5	
Sandpipers in Water	Susan Nichols	24.5	
Patiently Waiting	Mary Strachan	24.1	
Turtle on Log Assabet River	Theresa Vachowski	24	
Doane's Falls Cascades	Peter Stultz	23.9	
Concord River After the Snow	Glenn Fund	23.9	
Hitching a Ride	Cathy Robotis	23.6	
Mountain Peace	Pam Meoli	23.1	
Come Fly With Me	Lee Arnold	22.9	
Connecticut Shoreline	Marie Riley	22.3	
Hermit Crab Trail	Heather Ruthoff	22.3	
Just Another Mushroom	Jim Quinn	21.3	
Spring Flow	John Mauro	21.2	
Make-Up for Nov. '19 - REFLECTION(S)			
Shiny Thumb	Jim Quinn	22.6	

DIGITAL SUMMARY 2019-2020																			
MEMBERS	SEPT		OCT		NOV		DEC		JAN		FEB		MAR		APR		MAY		TOTAL
CLASS AA	Open	Assn'd	Open	Nature	Open	Assn'd	Open	Nature	Open	Assn'd	Open	Nature	Open	Assn'd	Open	Nature	Open	Assn'd	TOTAL
Doris Monteiro	26.5	26.3	26.6	27.6	29	29.7	26.7	26.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	218.8
Tony Monteiro	27	26.7	26.1	28.4	26.8	28.8	26.8	26.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	216.8
John Gill	24.4	26.1	26.1	28.1	29.4	29.8	25.9	25.9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	215.7
Sue Abrahamsen	27.2	24.3	25.5	25.9	27.5	28	25.7	27.3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	211.4
Darlene Holman	23.8	25.6	25.5	25.8	27.6	28.2	26.6	27.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	210.6
Cathy Simmons	24.5	23	25.9	26.5	27.1	29.9	25.7	27.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	209.8
Robyn Saur	25.8	23.2	25.3	26.7	29	25.8	24.7	26.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	206.7
Ginny Harris	24.3	24.5	24.8	24.3	27.6	28.1	26.3	25.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	205.4
Todd Mathieson	23.3	24.1	24.9	24.6	28.1	28.5	24.9	26	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	204.4
Drew Simmons	22.8	23.5	23.7	25.4	27.9	27.2	25.7	25.8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	202
Maureen Mathieson	22.7	23.4	24.6	25.4	25.5	29.3	25.6	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	201.5
Linda Shelales	23	23.6	25	22.6	25.2	26.2	27.4	23	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	196
Dave Morin	24.4	24.9	28.3	26.5	25.5	24.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	154.2
CLASS A	Open	Assn'd	Open	Nature	Open	Assn'd	Open	Nature	Open	Assn'd	Open	Nature	Open	Assn'd	Open	Nature	Open	Assn'd	TOTAL
Jane Parker	25.7	24.3	24.5	25.5	27.8	27.8	24.7	25.7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	206
Elliot Mednick	23.8	24.2	24.4	26.7	25.4	27.6	25.9	26.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	204.5
Natalie Schiavone	23.1	24.5	25	24.2	26.6	27.4	25.7	25.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	201.6
Barbara Huntley	23.3	25.1	22.2	26.2	26.1	27.8	26.2	23.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	200.5
Dave Reynard	23.2	23.8	22.9	22.7	26.5	28.7	23.8	26	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	197.6
Bob Escott	23	25.1	25.8	23.4	27.6	23.6	25	24.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	197.6
Linda Gilberti	23.1	24.1	24.4	24.5	24.2	28	25	23	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	196.3
Diana Ledoux	24.8	23	23.4	22.7	25.7	26.9	23.7	24.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	194.8
Dick Tranfaglia	0	0	0	0	27.5	0	24.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	52
CLASS B	Open	Assn'd	Open	Nature	Open	Assn'd	Open	Nature	Open	Assn'd	Open	Nature	Open	Assn'd	Open	Nature	Open	Assn'd	TOTAL
Glenn Fund	23.2	22	27.4	25.5	25.9	28	25.6	23.9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	201.5
Mary Strachan	24.8	23.5	22.5	24.9	26.9	28.7	25.7	24.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	201.1
John McKinney	24.6	22.8	24.9	26.5	25.8	24.6	25.5	26	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	200.7
Peter Stultz	23.4	23.7	22	25.4	28	28.6	25.2	23.9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	200.2
Cathy Robotis	23.7	23.6	23.7	27	26	26	25.7	23.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	199.3
Liz Krouse	22.4	23.4	24.3	25.7	24.6	25.6	24.9	25.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	196.1
John Mauro	22.8	23.9	24.6	24.4	26.4	28.1	23.9	21.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	195.3
Theresa Vachowski	23.5	22.3	23.2	25	25.2	25.9	24.9	24	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	194
Pam Meoli	23.7	22.5	23.3	24.7	26.3	24.3	24.3	23.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	192.2
Susan Nichols	22.1	22.1	23.6	24.5	27.9	23.7	23.1	24.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	191.5
Lee Arnold	22.7	23.5	22.6	21.3	23.3	25.4	23.5	22.9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	185.2
Jim Quinn	22.6	22.2	22	22.4	23.8	22.6	23.8	21.3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	180.7
Ann DeCristofaro	23.3	25.7	23.8	0	26	24.3	22.9	24.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	170.5
Larry Alley	0	0	24.5	23.6	0	0	23.6	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	96.7
Dora Kleiner	26.3	22.1	23.2	23.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	95
Heather Ruthroff	0	0	22.9	24.2	0	0	25.3	22.3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	94.7
Marie Riley	0	0	23.2	24.4	0	0	22.8	22.3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	92.7
Bob Cooke	0	0	0	0	24.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	24.1
Bill Weiblen	0	0	0	0	0	22.9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	22.9