



FOCAL POINT

<http://www.assabetvalleycc.com>

HAPPY NEW YEAR !!

January 2015

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 program meeting: Jan. 7. Scheduled program:
"Exploring the Smokies" by Ron Wybranowski (see bio on next page)

Next competition meeting: Jan. 21. Scheduled subjects:
Prints "Open"
Digital "Open"
Digital assigned subject "Patterns"

GLPA International Salon:
This year is the 38th and final Salon. Cash prizes will be awarded.
To qualify as a club entry, the club must have at least seven members enter. Club entrance fee is \$7, to be paid by each member when they enter images.
Each entrant can submit up to four images. Each image must have a unique title. Images that say "No Title" or "Untitled" will not be accepted.
Entry deadline is Feb. 9, 2015.
Complete rules can be found at www.greaterlynnphoto.org. Click on International Exhibition; rules are on the left sidebar.

The club thanks Charlie Burke for the Image Study presentation he did for the club last month. Several members submitted images for the talk. Charlie suggested ways to improve each image and presented before-&-after comparisons for each. He is also a frequent judge at our club competitions.

NOTE: If Hudson schools are closed due to inclement weather on our meeting night, the Senior Center will also be closed, thereby canceling the meeting.

About this month's guest speaker, Ron Wybranowski:

Ron is a member of the Massachusetts Camera Naturalists, a by-invitation-only organization dedicated to the appreciation of nature and the natural environment. He is a juried member of the New Hampshire Art Association. He is also a member of the Merrimack Valley Camera Club (MVCC) in North Andover, MA, and has won many medals and ribbons at MVCC and in competitions sponsored by the NECCC and the PSA. Ron has traveled extensively to the National Parks, particularly those in the West. His favorites are the Grand Tetons in the fall, Arches and Canyonlands in the spring, and Zion and Grand Staircase-Escalante anytime he can get there.

As a nature photographer, Ron wants to encourage people to slow down and appreciate the beauty and magic of the world around us. It is all around us, not just in the iconic scenes of national parks, seashores and mountains. It is in the brooks and swamps in our neighborhoods and parks, there for the seeing. We just have to stop, look around, and let the beauty envelop us. His goal is to help others do that by photographing these scenes and presenting them in a unique way that emotionally moves and inspires the viewer.

Ron has been a guest presenter at the NECCC, as well as at local camera clubs and libraries. His shows include:

- "Exploring the Smokies"
- "Dream It! Plan It! Do It! Visiting and Photographing the National Parks"
- "The Great Smoky Mountains, the Blue Ridge Parkway and the Sunrise Highway"
- "Flowers, Pretty Flowers"
- "Everything's Beautiful" and "Reflections," two short presentations.

Acceptance in Juried Shows:

- Plymouth Center for the Arts - The Fine Art of Photography - March, 2013
- New Hampshire Art Association - Prescott Arts Festival - Summer, 2013

Exhibitions:

- Kimball Library, Atkinson, NH
 - Solo Exhibit - "Photographs of our National Parks," June, 2014
 - Solo Exhibit - "Impressionism in Photography," January, 2013
 - Solo Exhibit - "Flowers, Pretty Flowers," September, 2011
- Essex Art Center, Lawrence, MA
 - Annual New Paint Auction - Large framed prints - June, 2012, 2013, 2014
- Lawrence Heritage State Park, Lawrence, MA
 - "Capturing the Beauty"... Photography Art Show by the Merrimac Valley Group
....an exhibit by 12 Merrimac Valley photographers, February, 2014

NECCC Interclub Electronic Competition—fall 2014 club results:

Pictorial Class A:

AVCC placed 15th out of 18 clubs, with a total score of 80 points. Club entries:

Doris Monteiro, “Mountain Locomotive”, 23 pts, Honorable Mention

Maureen Mathieson, “Three Lotus in the Pond”, 21 points

Sue Abrahamsen, “Two Painted Buntings”, 18 points

Bob Escott, “Grand Prismatic”, 18 points

Nature Class A:

AVCC placed third out of 15 clubs, with a total score of 92 points. Club entries:

John Gill, “Welcome to My Pad”, 24 points, Honorable Mention

Doris Monteiro, “Preening Heron”, 24 points, Honorable Mention

Todd Mathieson, “Great Blue Heron with Fish, Great Meadows”, 22 points

Tony Monteiro, “Lunch Time for the Snowy White”, 22 points

Notes from December meetings:

Field trips: Bob C. is looking to organize a field trip to Lake Powell, AZ or Moab, UT in the fall. Also a snowy owl one-day trip this winter. If interested, see him at a meeting.

NECCC: John G. reported results for the fall Interclub Electronic competitions and presented ribbons for Honorable Mention winners. See club results above.

PSA: Todd M. reports that judging for the last Open competition has been delayed. He has collected images for January submission.

NECCC Conference: Scheduled for July 17 thru 19 at UMass-Amherst. The club will be selecting our guest attendant at our Feb. 4 program meeting. If you are 18 or older, a club member, have not been to a previous conference, and are interested in attending, let any Eboard member know before then.

Maureen M. displayed the winning images from last year’s Ocean State International Salon. Overall club results were published in last month’s newsletter.

The club is writing proposals to obtain two Cultural Council grants.

The Hudson Balloon Fest is back on for August. This event was cancelled last year.

Club members' exhibits at local shows:

Linda DeStefano Brown and Barbara Worrest have photographs in the latest exhibit at Citizens Bank, 17 Pope St, Hudson. The exhibit, titled "Winter Wonderland," is sponsored by the River's Edge Arts Alliance. The exhibit continues through January and can be seen during normal business hours: Mon thru Wed 8:30AM-4PM, Thu & Fri 8:30AM-6PM, Sat 9AM-1PM.

John and Stephanie Gill are January's featured photographers at Nancy's Air Field Café, 302 Boxborough Rd, Stow, MA. Directions and hours can be found at www.NancysAirFieldCafe.com. A reception, open to the public, is scheduled for Sunday, Jan. 11, from 3-4:30pm at the café.

Photo opportunities found by Bob C. in the latest *Yankee* magazine:

Maine:

Feb. 6-8, Camden: the National Toboggan championships, at the Jack Williams Toboggan Chute, the Snow Bowl.

Feb. 7, Greenville: the 100-mile Wilderness Sled Dog Race. Probably the best photos will be at or near the beginning.

Vermont:

January 17, Quechee: the Vermont Wildlife Celebration. Wildlife, including owls and eagles, will be on hand for viewing (and probably photographing) at the Vermont Institute of Natural Science (802) 359-5000.

Feb. 21, Quechee: the Owl Festival, also at the Vermont Institute of Natural Science.

New Hampshire:

January 23-25, Jackson: the annual snow-sculpting competition at Black Mountain.

February 7, Keene: the annual Ice and Snow Festival, including ice and snow carvings, in the downtown area.

Massachusetts:

January 24-25, Sturbridge: At Old Sturbridge Village, an old-fashioned winter festival with 1830s sledding, horse-drawn sleigh rides, and an ice-harvesting demonstration (weather permitting).

February 6-15, Salem: the "So Sweet Chocolate and Ice Sculpturing Festival" that ends with tasty and beautiful winter creations.

Enjoy. If you're going, please notify other AVCC members if you'd like company for the trip.

December 2014 Print Competition - MARITIME

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>SUBMITTED BY</u>	<u>SCORE</u>	<u>AWARD</u>
<u>GOLD</u>			
Bass Harbor, Maine	Bob Cooke	25.6	1st
Red Boat	Sue Abrahamsen	24.9	2nd
Tide's Out	Paul Weisbach	24.8	3rd
In the Shadows of the Light	Todd Mathieson	24.5	
Twilight Stroll, Newburyport	Cathy Simmons	23.5	
Newburyport Drawbridge	Drew Simmons	23.4	
Working the Trawler	Linda Gilberti	22.1	
<u>SILVER</u>			
Small Fishing Boats in Aruba	John Gill	24.7	1st
Ketch, Boston Harbor	Linda Shelales	23.7	2nd
Foggy Boat Scene, NS	Barbara Huntley	23.4	3rd
<u>BRONZE</u>			
Rockport in December	Bob Escott	28.3	1st
A Sea of Lobster Pots	Michael Doucette	25.8	2nd
Portland Head Light	Bill Tafuri	24.3	3rd
Waiting to Sail	Stephanie Gill	21.0	

Images Highlighted in Yellow are Eligible for the Quad-Club Competition			
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PRINT SUMMARY 2014-2015

	SEP T	OCT	NOV	DEC	
GOLD	Open	Open	Nature	Maritime	TOTAL
Paul Weisbach	26.1	30.0	29.3	24.8	110.2
Todd Mathieson	25.4	28.3	23.8	24.5	102.0
Linda Gilberti	24.2	25.0	25.0	22.1	96.3
Cathy Simmons	24.3	24.2	23.7	23.5	95.7
Sue Abrahamsen	24.0	21.0	25.5	24.9	95.4
Drew Simmons	23.0	24.0	23.5	23.4	93.9
Bob Cooke	23.0	21.5	22.7	25.6	92.8
Ginny Harris	25.5	22.5	22.1	0.0	70.1
SILVER	Open	Open	Nature	Maritime	TOTAL
John Gill	24.0	26.0	24.4	24.7	99.1
Linda Shelales	27.0	23.0	24.2	23.7	97.9
Barbara Huntley	23.3	0.0	22.5	23.4	69.2
BRONZE	Open	Open	Nature	Maritime	TOTAL
Bob Escott	24.5	23.5	22.0	28.3	98.3
Stephanie Gill	20.7	26.5	24.9	21.0	93.1
Michael Doucette	23.3	0.0	19.8	25.8	68.9
Bill Tafuri	0.0	0.0	0.0	24.3	24.3
John Sahagian	23.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	23.3
Linda DeStefano Brown	0.0	0.0	22.9	0.0	22.9
Larry Wellington	0.0	20.7	0.0	0.0	20.7

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

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December 2014 Digital Competition - OPEN			
<u>TITLE</u>	<u>SUBMITTED BY</u>	<u>SCORE</u>	<u>AWARD</u>
<u>CLASS AA</u>			
Going Around the Bend	Doris Monterio	27.1	1st
Squawking Cormorant	Tony Monterio	26.6	2nd
Water Drop in Pink and Yellow	Todd Mathieson	26.6	2nd
Dragonfly With Crooked Tail	Cathy Simmons	25.7	3rd
Poppy	Sue Abrahamsen	25.2	
Mine All Mine	Linda Shelales	24.4	
The Ambush Bug Waits For His Prey	John Gill	24.2	
<u>CLASS A</u>			
Greetings From the Grinch	Dave Reynard	27.2	1st
Keep Smiling	Marty Paulausky	26.4	2nd
Butterfly on Red Zinnia	Barbara Huntley	25.7	3rd
Juvenile Cardinal	Ginny Harris	24.9	
Ready to Bloom	Linda Gilberti	24.0	
Hendrick's Head Lighthouse	Stephanie Gill	23.7	
Blacklight Glass	Maureen Mathieson	23.2	
Good Day For a Dirt Bath	Dean Giolas	22.4	
<u>CLASS B</u>			
Camden Morning	Brad Barker	24.6	1st
Rose	Bill Tafuri	24.2	2nd
Katelyn	Jill Lockwood	23.9	3rd
Riverside Inn Citronella Candle	Michael Doucette	23.8	
Gloucester Garden	Liz West	23.7	
Cobblestones	Jim Quinn	22.5	
Promise of Spring	Theresa Vachowski	21.8	
One of Those and a Coffee Please	Diana Ledoux	21.8	
Bloom Where You're Planted	Bob Cooke	21.6	
River Foam	Bob Escott	21.6	
Irish Countryside	Marie Riley	21.5	
<u>Make-Up for November 2014 - Open</u>			
Water Drops	Jill Lockwood	27.0	
Join Me	Brad Barker	25.8	

December 2014 Digital Competition - NATURE			
TITLE	SUBMITTED BY	SCORE	AWARD
CLASS AA			
Huntington Beach Great Blue	Tony Monteiro	27.0	1st
It's a Wrap	Linda Shelales	26.9	2nd
Northern Pintail	Doris Monteiro	26.4	3rd
Green Darter	Sue Abrahamsen	26.0	
Twelve Spotted Skimmer #1	John Gill	25.7	
Tawny Edge Skipper	Todd Mathieson	24.6	
Bathtime for Mallard	Cathy Simmons	24.6	
CLASS A			
Osprey With Fish	Barbara Huntley	27.2	1st
Great Blue With Fish Concord	Maureen Mathieson	26.9	2nd
Black Swallowtail at Great Meadows	Ginny Harris	26.7	3rd
Water Lily in Maine	Dave Reynard	26.0	
Landing Gear Down	Stephanie Gill	25.8	
Whitmore Falls	Marty Paulausky	25.7	
Soaking Up the Rays	Dean Giolas	24.2	
Warthog	Linda Gilberti	24.1	
CLASS B			
Potpourri	Bob Escott	25.2	1st
Young Hyena	Bill Tafuri	24.8	2nd
Firey Fall	Diana Ledoux	24.4	3rd
Lotus Flower	Jill Lockwood	24.3	
Blue Heron in the Assabet River	Jim Quinn	24.2	
July Super Moon	Marie Riley	24.0	
Summer Swamp	Liz West	24.0	
Hoot to You Too	Bob Cooke	23.8	
Just Waiting	Theresa Vachowski	23.1	
Courting Sunfish	Michael Doucette	22.0	
Ugly Bench	Robert Beauchemin	20.0	

Make-Up for September 2014 - Ugly			
Warthog	Jill Lockwood	23.5	

DIGITAL SUMMARY 2014-2015

MEMBERS	SEPT		OCT		NOV		DEC		TOTAL
CLASS AA	Open	Transportation	Open	Nature	Open	Ugly	Open	Nature	
Doris Monteiro	27.2	25.2	28.0	29.5	25.9	24.0	27.1	26.4	213.3
Tony Monteiro	26.3	24.2	26.9	28.0	26.1	24.5	26.6	27.0	209.6
Cathy Simmons	23.4	24.6	24.5	24.5	29.2	25.4	25.7	24.6	201.9
Todd Mathieson	22.1	22.8	27.5	27.5	24.3	25.8	26.6	24.6	201.2
Sue Abrahamsen	25.1	24.6	24.5	23.0	27.8	24.7	25.2	26.0	200.9
Linda Shelales	24.5	23.7	24.8	23.5	25.8	26.3	24.2	26.9	199.7
John Gill	24.9	24.6	21.5	28.0	27.1	22.9	24.4	25.7	199.1
CLASS A									
Stephanie Gill	23.9	22.8	25.2	26.0	25.6	22.7	23.7	25.8	195.7
Barbara Huntley	23.6	23.7	27.5	20.3	25.6	21.1	25.7	27.2	194.7
Dave Reynard	23.9	24.6	24.9	21.0	20.8	22.8	27.2	26.0	191.2
Ginny Harris	24.9	21.6	25.4	21.3	24.9	21.0	24.9	26.7	190.7
Maureen Mathieson	25.1	23.1	27.4	22.8	21.5	19.8	23.2	26.9	189.8
Marty Paulausky	24.2	24.8	21.5	22.3	21.4	17.5	26.4	25.7	183.8
Linda Gilberti	22.7	23.4	21.3	22.3	22.5	21.0	24.0	24.1	181.3
Dean Giolas	21.5	22.0	21.5	25.5	22.0	20.6	22.4	24.2	179.7
CLASS B									
Jill Lockwood	23.7	21.6	23.8	22.0	27.0	23.5	23.9	24.3	189.8
Bob Escott	25.2	24.0	24.5	22.5	23.7	22.2	21.6	25.2	188.9
Liz West	23.1	21.6	21.0	22.5	27.0	24.3	23.7	24.0	187.2
Marie Riley	22.4	26.0	23.6	24.5	23.1	20.4	21.5	24.0	185.5
Bob Cooke	26.1	22.1	20.7	25.0	21.4	22.6	21.6	23.8	183.3
Jim Quinn	23.0	23.4	22.5	23.0	20.2	24.1	22.5	24.2	182.9
Diana Ledoux	23.6	22.2	20.4	21.9	20.6	21.4	21.8	24.4	176.3
Theresa Vachowski	21.0	22.2	21.9	19.5	22.2	21.0	21.8	23.1	172.7
Michael Doucette	22.7	23.0	25.0	21.0	23.5	0.0	23.8	22.0	161.0
Larry Wellington	24.2	21.6	21.5	23.5	19.8	21.9	0.0	0.0	132.5
Robert Beauchemin	23.0	22.8	22.5	21.4	22.0	20.0	0.0	0.0	131.7
Bill Tafuri	0.0	0.0	25.5	23.5	23.8	0.0	24.2	24.8	121.8
Brad Barker	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	25.8	0.0	24.6	0.0	50.4
Radha Raman Gargeya	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	25.3	20.4	0.0	0.0	45.7
Linda DeStefano Brown	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	23.1	21.3	0.0	0.0	44.4