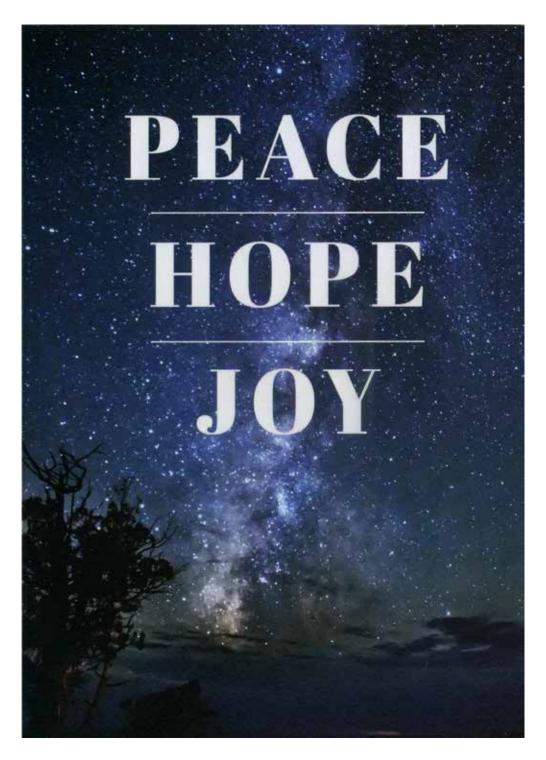


# Science Museum Camera Club





Congratulations
Mary Lou Frost

Details page 14

December 2022





# F R A A T

**December 2022**Volume 52. Number 2

# President's Message

The Holiday Season is here, this is the time of year that we celebrate with Family Friends. I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving and that you enjoy the Holiday Season ahead. Let's count our blessings and look forward to a successful New Year.

We are mid-way into our meeting year and slowly getting back to normal, Covid is almost out of here! We have been meeting in-person at the Museum. It has been nice to see old friends and make new friends. One of our goals for next year is to get our members back in the habit of coming to meetings and participating again. Having programs that interest you will help us accomplish that goal. This means we need to start planning for next year now. We need your input so we can help you accomplish your photography goals.

We will be sending out a questionnaire for your input, please respond when you get the email.

#### **Community Service:**

I want to THANK our members who volunteered their time to help with our community service requests. This year we have taken pictures for the Ride 4 Roswell, Kevin Guest House Family In Focus-Christmas Photos, Bubblefest and DinoFest at the Museum. Helping out at these activities can be Fun and rewarding.

Thank You: Frank Gaskill, Mary Lou Frost, Merle Tandoc, Mike Dziak, Mark Braun, Jeff Hayward, Billy Callaghan, Gerri Jones, Sande Barrett, John Griffin, Esther Kowal-Bukata, Tom Kerr, Moeen Abu-Sitta, Sharon Campenella, Anne Johnson Fera, Carmon Koenigsknecht. I'm sorry if Imissed your name.

Non-members even offered to help: Joan Erickson and Jessica Nicholsi

Continued on page 5

## Meetings:

1st & 3rd Wednesday **7 PM** 

September - May

1st Wednesday - competition3rd Wednesday - program

Buffalo Museum of Science 1020 Humboldt Parkway Buffalo, NY 14411-1293

### Website:

smcc.photoclubservices.com

## Facebook:

Find us on Facebook

Buffalo Science Museum Camera Club

## Member:

Niagara Frontier Regional Camera Clubs NFRCC.org

Photographic Society of America
PSA-photo.org

## Format Editor:

Cheryl Belczak
Email ideas & submissions to
SMCCFormat@gmail.com

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## Land's End SMCC Logo Clothing

You can order many styles of high quality Land's End clothing and accessories embroidered with the SMCC logo!

Follow this link for full details. https://business.landsend.com/store/smcc/

## 2022-23 Officers:

**President:** Sharon Dentice

Past President: Mary Lou Frost
VP Program Chair: Mike Dziak

Treasurer: Ted Lesinski

Recording Secretary: Sande Barrett

Historian: Sande Barrett

#### **Print Competition Chairs:**

Chair: Charles Bartolotta
Co-Chair: Mike Dziak

### **Projected Image Competition Chairs:**

Chair: Billy Callaghan

Co-Chair: Jeffrey Hayward

Webmaster: Billy Callaghan

#### Directors:

Format Newsletter: <u>Cheryl Belczak</u>

Membership: <u>Esther Kowal-Bukata</u>

**Education:** Kevin Flint

New Member Competition: John Griffin

## **Special Committees:**

Refreshments: Esther Kowal-Bukata

Museum Picture Cabinet: Cheryl Belczak

## Format Newsletter Editor:

Cheryl Belczak

If you have any information you would like to share with SMCC members please send it to Cheryl <a href="mailto:SMCCFormat@gmail.com">SMCCFormat@gmail.com</a>



## 2022-2023 Science Museum Camera Club Schedule

Date	Schedule	Meeting Details
12/21/22	Holiday Party	<b>Members night and digital holiday cards.</b> Members will be showing us their Holiday cards and some of their favorite images.
1/4/23	4th Competition	Entries due 12/31 for Assigned Subject Competition Projected Image: Corrosion Technical: In Camera special effects Prints: Animals
1/18/23	Program	Street Photography with Ed Bartel
2/1/23	5th Competition	Entries due 1/28: See page 11 for competition summary info.
2/15/23	Program	Creating in Collections - Cheryl Belczak Let's explore the value of relating your photos to each other. Use this approach for inspiration, motivation, storytelling, to master techniques, recognize patterns in your work, and more. Join us for ideas and reasons to create your own photo collections.
3/12/23	6th Competition	Entries due 2/25: See page 11 for competition summary info.
3/10-12	Annual Photo Conference	NFRCC Photo Conference Sheraton on the Falls, Niagara Falls, Canada <u>Details on page 9.</u>
3/15/23	Nature Competition	E. Thomas Smith Nature Competition
4/5/22	7th Competition	Entries due 4/1: See page 11 for competition summary info.
4/19/23	Program	<b>Sports Photography - Larry Mathewson:</b> Sports photography is exciting, fast-paced, sometimes scary and demanding at many levels. Equipment may include cell phones, point and shoot cameras, bridge cameras, or ultimately high end DSLR or mirrorless cameras.
5/3/23	End of Year Competition	Entries due 4/29: Each maker may submit images that were entered into 2022-23 SMCC competitions. See website for full details.
5/17/23	Awards Banquet	Chef's Restaurant, 291 Seneca St., Buffalo Details to follow.

## President's Message

Continued from page 2

#### **SMCC Photo Contest:**

We have decided to do something different, hold a Photo Contest for Members, the prize is a 1-year membership to SMCC. The contest is open to all paid members. If you haven't paid your dues, you can pay in January, and you will be paid up through May of 2024. Then you can enter the contest. The membership will pick the winning photograph. Billy will set up a competition on the website and you will be able to vote for your favorite image. The Votes will be counted, and the winners announced at the Award Banquet. There will be one winner in each category.

Categories: Color or Monochrome

Subject: open – anything goes. (We decided NO

Creative because that is difficult to Judge)

**Judges:** All club Members

## The Award Banquet:

The Award Banquet will be held on Wednesday, May 17, 2023 at Chefs Restaurant, 291 Seneca St in Buffalo. More to follow later when we get closer – we only have a location at this time.

## **NFRCC Photo Conference:**

**Dates:** March 11-12, 2023

**Location:** Sheraton on The Falls.

We have a good line-up of speakers, hands on opportunities. Reduced rates at the Hotel.

It will be great to be able to see Speakers and interact will people who have the same interest in Photography. People walk away from this event saying they learned so much and fun talking shop with like-minded people.

nfrccevents.org/nfrcc-photo-conference

### **NFRCC Speaker Series:**

The series started in September and runs through September. We have 1 program a month and you get a link for the recoding after the program. The link is good for 30 days, so you need to watch the recording soon after you get it. You can still sign up and you will get access to all past recordings. The full series cost is \$50 CA. You can also sign up for just 1 program that might interest you, single programs are \$15 CA.

nfrccevents.org/nfrcc-speaker-series

I hope to see you at the Holiday Party – Guests are always welcome.

Happy Holidays & Happy New Year,

Sharon Dentice

## President, SMCC

sdentice@me.com 716-912-5202

## **Thank You Volunteers**







Thank you to volunteer photographers Frank Gaskill, Jeff Hayward, Jessica Nicolosi and Joan Erickson who captured holiday photos at the Grand Victorian Russell J. Salvatore Hospitality House for the Kevin Guest House annual Family in Focus Holiday Photos fundraising event.

These photos came from <u>The Kevin Guest House</u> <u>Facebook page</u>. You can follow them and see more photos <u>here</u>.

"The Kevin Guest House campus is comprised of four buildings in the heart of the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus and can serve guests in these beautifully restored homes in a variety of rooms based on your need and availability."

Their mission is "To provide a comfortable and supportive home away from home for patients and their families traveling for medical care."

### Thank you, Billy Callaghan!

Gratitude expressed by Kevin Flint "You have done a significantly wonderful project in making for making it possible for those of us not in Buffalo or otherwise unable to attend meetings, to continue to be members of SMCC. Technology is great when someone like you are able to accomplish what you did. You are appreciated."

Billy does a lot of work that the rest of us probably don't even understand! We can never say "thank you" enough.

Also, thank you to Kevin who is still running online image review sessions even though he has moved to sunny Florida! Find out more in his articles on pages 10 and 13.

More gratitude on the next page.

## **More Thankfulness!**



## BubbleFEST

October 1

## **DinoFEST**

November 12



We are always thankful for the amazing meeting space we have at the Museum!

There are some fun opportunities to get involved, too.

Thank you to Frank Gaskill our star museum event volunteer photographer. Not only did he photograph for BubbleFEST and DinoFEST, but he really channels some dino energy! Thankfully he escaped these jaws to photograph again another day. Thank you for sharing these photos, Frank and including one of our Museum collaborators, Cassie who helped with the lighting test.

And yes, the same Frank Gaskill was mentioned on the last page for helping out at Kevin Guest House where he captured Santa with this fluffy pup. We're pretty sure Frank was only behind the lens here and not wearing the red suit too. (You never can be too sure with the beard though!)

Frank has also volunteered to take over as Treasurer for next camera club year. Thank you!



Photos from Frank Gaskill. **Left:** the Dino himself. **Above and below left:** BMS team member, Cassie. **Below right:** SANTA with sleepy, fluffy pup.





Of course that leads us to many, many thanks to our current Treasurer, Ted Lesinski, for his years of service and dedication to getting us set up as a 501(c)(3) organization as well as researching and coordinating our banquet spaces each year. (Did you see we're going to Chef's this year?) Yes, he also diligently manages and reports our club finances. Thank you for all your work, Ted.

Sharon started this newsletter with her President's Message (page 2) thanking many volunteers for service at several community events where our members generously contribute their time and skills.

While we're at it we should thank Sharon for serving as our President for several years including keeping us together through these last couple particularly challenging ones. Also she has several leadership and volunteer roles with the NFRCC! Thank you, Sharon for your continued energy and dedication.

It is wonderful to take some time this holiday season to be grateful for all the wonderful people we meet in our club.

## NFRCC Updates

## Niagara Frontier Camera Club

#### **NFRCC**

SMCC is a member of the NFRCC. It is made up of 20 camera clubs in NY, PA and Southern Ontario, Canada. Our membership in NFRCC gives us discounts at the NFRCC Photo Conference and you can attend any member club meetings. The NFRCC was formed in 1957 to help provide educational opportunities to members and assistance to Clubs. Every year the NFRCC holds a 1 day Fall Seminar and a 3 day Photo Conference in the spring. We have not been able to hold these events for the past 3 years but this year both events are returning. Because we are a cross border organization some events are in US or CA currency, depending on where the event is held.

nfrcc.org



## March 10-12, 2023

More conference information on the next page.

For full details and to register. NFRCCphotoconference.org

## 2022- 2023 NFRCC Speaker Series

This is a different speaker every month from Sept 19 through August 14 th . These programs will be over Zoom usually about 1 hour. The cost is \$50 (CA) so the US price will be lower depending on the exchange rate for the day. For more information see page 12

Website & registration: <u>nfrccevents.org</u>

# Photographic Competition Judge Education Opportunity

Canadian Association for Photographic Art (CAPA) is offering the CAPA National Judging Course

at the NFRCC Photo Conference Friday, March 10, 2023.

For more information and to register for the CAPA Judging Course please go to: <a href="mailto:capacanada.ca/judging-courses/">capacanada.ca/judging-courses/</a>

For more information about CAPA visit: www.capacanada.ca



Three Days Of Photo Immersion

# MARCH **10, 11 & 12** 2023

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES | SPEAKERS | WORKSHOPS CLASSES IN PHOTOSHOP, LIGHTROOM, MACRO, LANDSCAPE, NATURE, CREATIVITY, PORTRAITURE | OUTINGS | PHOTO SHOOT WITH MODELS DIGITAL AND PRINT SALONS | KEYNOTE SPEAKER | BANQUET AND AWARDS

## NFRCCevents.org

## SHERATON **FALLSVIEW HOTEL NIAGARA FALLS, ONTARIO**





























JIM BABBAGE

ANDRÉ GALLANT DARREN CREIGHTON

MARK BOWIE PETER BAUMGARTEN GAIL MACLELLAN

ELLEN ANON

ROLAND SHAINIDZE

TAKU KUMABE



















## **Members Helping Members - Photographically**

It was a year ago, I last wrote about this... The club has two times each month where members can help members with their images from post processing to composition to coloring to etc. The image sharing sessions are the second Thursday of each month and the Friday before the next week's Wednesday competition. I admit the first image sharing of the month has moved around as I struggle to find a day each month when a member does not have another club meeting conflict. I am hoping that the second Thursday of each month works.

The image sharing takes place over Zoom. We started this during the New York lockdown during the pandemic as a way of keeping in touch. The sessions have continued as those taking part have said they learned something or were helped along ... I have been recording the sessions. Billy has been extremely helpful. He posts the recordings on the SMCC website under Galleries.

So just what are these image sharing? What do I mean? We spend a lot of time "working" on our images... even getting some ready for competition. Prior to beginning these image sharings, we did not know if our images were "ready" or even competition appropriate. We just hoped. From competition judging what do we get? A number and maybe some useful comments. Competition judging is not designed to assist you in your growth as a photographer. These reviews are. Not only do you get feedback on your image, you listen and participate as others get advice, suggestions, etc. on their images. You also get post processing ideas and suggestions. Sometimes it is just a different crop. Other times it is the statement that the image is not competition appropriate. Since we started these reviews, personally I've come to prefer the comment that the image is not competition appropriate vs. getting a 9 score in competition.

Competition images are so very different than any other images even if the two versions are from the same image. These image sharings help us learn that.

The first image sharing each month is whatever you wish to share. For example, Mike and Mary Lou have led some field trips (Photo Adventures) in the past few months. The first image sharing of the month is a good place to share your images and get feedback, advice, etc. Bob Kaderabeck always has his creative versions to share... and tell us how he did it. We get to hear about Mary Lou's underwater adventures as she shares those images. Charlie gives us insights into his still life photography processes. We have watched Sharon grow in her flower images.

It is the give and take amongst those in the review which has helped us all who have participated. There is no competition amongst us ... we are all in the Image sharing to help each other. The real difference is that we learn how others see, capture and think about an image. OK there is YouTube and yes, you can watch videos until you are "video'ed" out. Our image sharing is completely different. When someone describes a technique, for example, it is on an image that maybe is yours but at least another club member. These image sharings encourage interaction ... encourage us to help ... encourage us to improve ... can't get that on YouTube. Plus, on YouTube you cannot ask questions or seek clarification, etc.

Lastly, we all have a good time. You know that premeeting chit chat we have at the museum? Join us for a image share ... it's there.

- Kevin Flint

## Image sharing sessions:

**Second Thursday** of each month **Friday** before Wednesday competition

#### **Previous session videos:**

Login to our website <a href="https://smcc.photoclubservices.com/">https://smcc.photoclubservices.com/</a>

To watch, go to **Galleries** - "SMCC Photo Challenge and Adventure"

# Monthly Competition Rules Summary

Competitions are held on the first Wednesday meeting of every month from October until April.

Per regular monthly competition each member may submit up to:

#### 2 Projected images

(color, monochrome or creative)

#### **4 Print images**

(2 color, 2 monochrome)

#### **Deadline:**

Entries for **all categories** (projected and print) must be submitted through the website by Saturday night before competition.

#### **Image Sizes:**

#### Projected:

May not exceed 1920 pixels wide and 1080 pixels high

#### **Print:**

Maximum size for competition prints shall be 320 square inches, including mat, not to exceed 30" in width or 24" in height

## For full, current details on all Competitions and standings go to:

SMCC.photoclubservices.com

When you are logged in choose "Competitions" from the menu bar.

**January Competition** is based on Assignments. 2022-23 Assignments are as follows.

#### **Projected Images**

**Subject:** Corrosion

**Technique:** In Camera special effects

#### **Print Image** Animals

Images must be taken between January 1st, 2022, and Dec 31,2022.

Assignments are intended to encourage you to get out and use your camera and maybe photograph in a different way.

No "resurrecting" old images!

#### **Additional SMCC Competitions include:**

E. Thomas Smith Nature Competition: March

End-of-Year Competition: May

Dorothy Ralph Essay Competition: May

Committees also select entries for NFRCC and PSA competitions from monthly SMCC entries.

## Note from the Editor

Thank you to everyone who submits information to the SMCC "Format" Newsletter! Your contributions add interest and are appreciated.

Many thanks to Board Members for all their work including collecting information to be included here.

Thank you to all members who send along information to share. It is always fun to hear about each others' successes and adventures. Keep them coming!

Please send all newsletter related correspondence to:

SMCCFormat@gmail.com

Please send any information you would like to share in the March newsletter by Monday, February 20, 2023.

Thank you all so much for sharing your ideas, interests and creativity with us at the Science Museum Camera Club.

Cheryl Belczak
Format Newsletter Editor



## Register at: www.nfrccevents.org

Visit our website **nfrccevents.org** for details on each speaker and their presentation. All meetings are held through the Zoom platform. Presentations are recorded and attendees will receive the access to view the recorded version after the live presentation date.

Choose to purchase the entire Series Pass or opt for Individual Speaker passes.

NFRCC members \$50.00 - Speaker Series Pass NFRCC members \$15.00 - Individual Speaker Pass Prices are in Canadian Funds and HST is included in the price.



Sept 19, 2022 Marlis Butcher Canadian Parks Explorer



Oct 17, 2022 Rick Friedman



Nov 14, 2022 Wayne Fisher Architecture



Dec 12, 2022 Charles Needles Abstract & Impressionism



Jan 16, 2023 Juraj Dolanjski In The Mood



Feb 13, 2023

Mark Zelinski
The Land Between Two Waters



Mar 20, 2023

Joe Edelman

What Really is "Correct Exposure"



Apr 17, 2023 Lisa Cuchara Macro



May 15, 2023

Jeff Vogan

Sports Photography



June 19, 2023
John P Stones
Storytelling For Photographers



July 17, 2023
Ellen Anon
Landscapes/Seascapes
That Take You Away



Aug 14, 2023
Monique Campbell
Street Photography

## **Kevin Flint**

### We are not quite "Where is Waldo" .....

The rumor is true ... Michele and I have moved. Michele landed a job as Professor of Accounting at St Leo's University in, yup you guessed it, St Leo Florida. St Leo's University is about 45 minutes northeast of Tampa, 1 ½ hours southwest from Gainesville FL where my Mom lives and 1 ½ hours northwest from Orlando where Andrea lives. David has moved to Atlanta which makes his Mom happy as he is onlya 6 hour drive away.

When we first moved here, we rented an apartment in Wesley Chapel FL ... a lot like living in suburban Buffalo. However, the commute to St Leo's of was 20 to 30 minutes. When we lived in Williamsville and Michele worked at Daemen College, her commute was 5 minutes, 10 minutes with snow. The goal for our house was to duplicate that

commute. So, we moved to Dade City FL. A much than Williamsville. My image of the rolled hay in competition tells it all. That ain't suburbia!! This was Publix where we get groceries.



different place December taken behind



There are lots of opportunities for landscapes ... Downtown Dade City is 1950's like. This is an image Town Hall.

Things are also different. In WNY we crammed our into the days between Memorial Day and Labor Day. lives are crammed into November through April, maybe May. Plus, most events begin at dusk ... at



of

lives Here

the

end of our street, so to speak, is the Dade City soccer fields which get a LOT of action. The November judge did not like this image ... to me it represents the shift in the time of activities

here.

Florida State Fair and Pasco County Fair are in February. I'm entering images in see how this goes. I'm entering an image from my days as a photographer for Music Hall of Fame, my daughter all dressed for her first Comic Con (an SMCC

winner) and a SMCC ribbon winner black and white image on St Leo's campus.



each ... we'll The Buffalo ribbon of a hallway



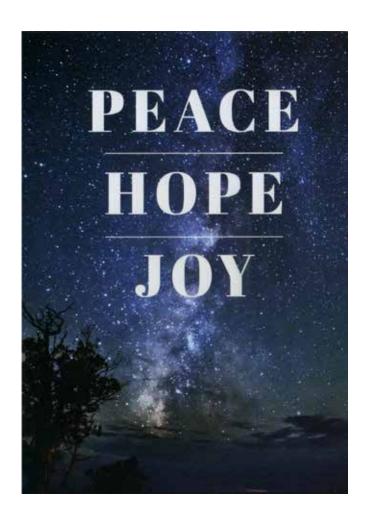
When you move like this, one has to figure out the lay of the land ... including where to shoot!!! I am working on that. We are still settling in the house and I have continued my financial advisory business, now all virtual. I am looking forward to having time again to get out with my camera. Classic Car "drive-ins" are every Saturday am in January through end of March in Dade City. There is a re-enactment of a battle between Seminole Indians and the US Army coming up. There were

Halloween parades. And there will be Christmas parades. There is also Zoo Tampa which I was told to wait until after Christmas to visit. The weather is not 90 - 100 degrees so the animals are more active in the 60 - 70 degree weather. Charlie has submitted images of the orangutans in SMCC competition in the past so I am looking forward to seeing these animals live.

I am continuing the twice monthly SMCC Image Sharing via Zoom so I will be showing images there. I have a Facebook page now. Billy has been a great help in master minding how I can participate in digital image competition via WebEx at the museum. Naturally images will show up there.

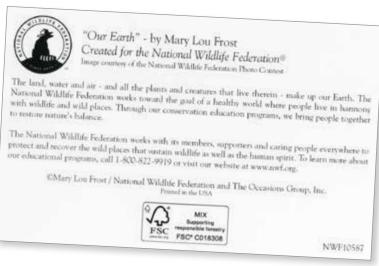
## Mary Lou Frost





When we enter large competitions we don't anticipate winning. When it happens, it is a pleasant surprise. I recently submitted a photo to the National Wildlife Federation for inclusion in their Christmas Card Cover Photo competition. This time I won. My image taken at night from the North Rim of the Grand Canyon was captured when I was traveling with Esther Kowal-Bukata and Cherie St. Pierre. Here is the original image and how it was used on the cover of the card and the credits given on the back. An early Happy Holidays.

Editor's note: I missed this exciting news when creating the September Format. I am so sorry. Thank you for your patience and huge congratulations, Mary Lou! Such an exciting accomplishment.



## **Jeff Hayward**

Jeff assisted the Science Museum with "The Fragile Bee" exhibit by artist Nancy Macko. He was asked to bring in a local perspective to the traveling show with photos of native wild flowers from Tifft Nature Preserve that attract bees and other pollinators.

At the end of our October 19 meeting we were able to check out the exhibit and see Jeff's contribution with the artist himself! Congratulations, Jeff!

"The intent of this exhibit is to look closely at the world of bees, not only to examine their biology and somatic features, but also to study their habitat

and highly organized society. The goal is not only to inform the public about the plight of the bees but also to raise awareness of our interdependent relationship with them."

You can see the large-scale photography, photo collage and mixed media exhibit at the Museum through December 26.

There is also an Artist Talk interview recording with Nancy Macko from the Phillips Museum about the exhibit. It is approximately an hour. You can watch it on YouTube here.











## **Ernie Yu**

## **Via Heart Dictates**



My heartfelt gratitude to our print chairman, Charlie Bartolotta, who cheerfully offered to let my print entries for the next several months to waltz on the spotlight. Such unsolicited courtesy is worth its weight in gold. Now, I am as good as not being missing in action in our monthly rounds of print competitions, though I am an open target to the darting eyes of invited judges. Truthfully, it was Charlie's viewfinder byproducts that got me out of my comfort zone, the same old, same old mold. His post-processing techniques, especially the dodge and burn strokes in black and white photography are so polished and sophisticated, beyond awesome and wow! Like him, over the years, I have amassed a cache of printed memories languishing in our basement. One positive spin of having an empire of basement dwellers: the lowest floor, foundation-pillars of our home have been transformed into "Hall of Frames" (samplers attached). A noted humanitarian once said, "At times, our own light goes out and is rekindled by a spark from another person. Each of us has cause to think with deep gratitude those who have ignited the flame within us." Charlie, thank you.

Continued on next page.

One sorry state of being a snowbird is I abandoned the prospect to showcase my color and monochrome prints in our club. Aside from writing off the opportunity to be active in our monthly "mating of artistic minds", I'll miss the exclusive excursions organized by Mike Dziak and Sharon Dentice, the didactic lectures of Cheryl Belczak, Larry Mathewson, Gerri Jones, Marylou Frost, Jeff Hayward and other supporting casts I failed to mention (mea culpa). These faithful volunteers are the grease of our education engine, keep us grinding for the better and lifting everyone's learning curve. Three cheers to the devoted crew. Their dedication to our welfare is highly appreciated. Like the selling point in United Way, "Thanks to you it works for all of us."



## Ernie Yu continued



If by chance, for any reason, you get to visit BSC (Buffalo Surgery Center at 3921 Sheridan Drive in Amherst), inquire about the Yu Hall (not UHaul!). Plastered along the hallways are 20, 16 X 24 metal aluminum prints of my photography portfolio. Those are living testaments of my "clicked" endearing passing moments in time. The tour is free if you have your frozen shoulder scoped or trigger fingers realigned.

Yuletide season is the selfless time to put the thought of thinking for others. After all, the joy of Christmas reverberates more in not receiving but in giving. On this happy holiday touch someone with love, forgiveness, hope and compassion. And for the New Year, with the Buffalo Bills inching towards grabbing the Lombardi trophy, let us all amplify in unison a modified Nike slogan, "Josh Do It".

