



Science Museum Camera Club

*Photography
Brings Us Together*

FORMAT

Buffalo

December 2019
Volume 49, Number 2

President's Message

Hello Everyone,

As we begin to wrap up "2019", the club is having a productive season. Our part in the Bubblefest and DinoFest event went off without a snag. A Big THANK YOU, for the time and help these Volunteers provided at those event: Cathi Barbera , Sande Barrett, Mark Braun, Sharon Dentice, Ron Dotzler, Gerry Fenclau, Kevin Flint, Mary Lou Frost, Frank Gaskill, Ed White and Rinaldo Zinobile along with the staff of the Museum for helping us with supplies and set-up. We also managed over 600 images with the collaboration of many, so just one person didn't get stuck with post processing all the images.

This season has also been about learning something new with teachable moments while attending the program and classes that are being offered. The classes continue to be before our program - on every 3rd Wednesday at 5pm. Do not get discouraged if your not able to get to class at 5. You're welcome to join when your schedule allows. Just make sure to sign up, so that your name is on the list with the front desk.

Our Show "Buffalo Visionaries - from Camera to Paper" is now hanging in the Arcangel Gallery at the Botanical Garden. Congratulations to these artist: Esther Kowal-Bukata, Tom Kerr and Marie Hutton for being selling their prints in the first week of the show. What a great start!! Also, a Thank you to Linda Przepasniak, Cheryl Belczak and Sharon Dentice the "Garden Committee" for their help! Great team work!

Also, friendly reminder of our Holiday Party on December 18th, looking forward to seeing you there.

Continued on the next page.

Meetings :

1st & 3rd Wednesday

6:30 PM

September - May

1st Wednesday - competition

3rd 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 :

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Email ideas & submissions to

cheryl@belczak.net

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See you at the

Holiday Party

Wednesday, December 18. 6:30 - 9 PM

Remember to bring a dish-to-pass
(and serving utensils) for 15 to 20 people.

Guests are welcome!

President's Message *continued from page 1*

Safety is always first, so on meeting night when we have inclement weather, don't forget to check the website and or your local news for closure information. If the Museum is closed, we will not have a class or meeting.

In closing, I would like to wish you and yours a Happy Holiday and a Safe and Happy "2020" New Year!

Sincerely,
Janet Baranska

2019-2020 Officers

Click on an Officer's name to send them a thank you, comment or question.

President: [Janet Baranska](#)

VP Program Chair: [Sharon Dentice](#)

Print Competition Chairs:

Chair: [Charles Bartolotta](#)

Co-Chair: [Mike Horigan](#)

Projected Image Competition Chairs:

Chair: [Billy Callaghan](#)

Co-Chair: [Jeffrey Hayward](#)

Recording Secretary: [Linda Przepasniak](#)

Treasurer: [Ted Lesinski](#)

Historian: [Sande Barrett](#)

Directors:

[Cathi Barbera](#) (Membership)

[Donna Brok](#) (Education)

[Mike Dziak](#) (Print Assistance)

[John Griffin](#) (New Member Competition)

[Cheryl Belczak](#) (Format Newsletter)

Past President: [Mary Lou Frost](#)

Special Committees:

[Esther Kowal-Bukata](#): Refreshments

[Billy Callaghan](#): Web Master

[Cheryl Belczak](#): Museum Picture Cabinet

2019-2020 Science Museum Camera Club Schedule

Dec. 11th	3rd Competition	Judge: Manny LoPresto DATE CHANGE (schedule conflict)
Dec. 18th	Program	Holiday Party "What We learned about Photography in Africa."
Jan. 8th	4th Competition	Judge: Doug Hansgate DATE CHANGE (No meeting on January 1)
Jan. 15th	Program	" Doug Hansgate : "Natural Light Portraiture" Doug will show us how to create all the classic forms of portraits using natural light. Bring your Camera and tripod if want to try it for yourself."
Feb. 5th	5th Competition	Judge: Ron Snyder
Feb. 19th	Program	" Jeff Barnes : "Competition Ready" Whether it be in studio on the street or at the zoo, Jeffrey will show us how he captures his great portraits. He will show us how he transforms his images into Award winning photographs for competition."
March 4th	6th Competition	Judge: Donna Brok
March 18th	Program	E. Thomas Smith Member Competition
April 1st	7th Competition	Judge: Norm Queeno
April 15th	Program	Cheryl Belczak Intro to Macro Photography: We'll discuss gear and technical considerations. Bring your camera and tripod if you want to try your hand with macro set-ups. Jeff Hayward will help with Macro Bugs. <i>Accessory flashes are useful, but not necessary.</i>
April 24-26	Can Am Photo Expo	Sheraton on the Falls, Niagara Falls Ontario, Canada canamexpo.com
May 6th	EOY Competition	3 Judges: TBA
May 20th	Award Banquet	Millennium Hotel 2040 Walden Ave, Buffalo, NY 14225



As an affiliate of the Buffalo Museum of Science we are very lucky to have our meetings in an incredible cinema-style meeting space.

We give back to the museum by photographing at some of their popular, large scale events. Thank you again to volunteers who helped at these events. See sample photos on page 8.

Pre-Meeting Classes for 2019-2020

Donna Brok and Mary Lou Frost continue teaching classes at the Buffalo Science Museum on the 3rd Wed of the month before our regular program begins. They will both be teaching the same subject. Donna will be teaching a more advanced version and Mary Lou will be teaching a basic version of the same subject. These classes have been designed to help us improve our Photography by learning how to use our cameras.

Classes will begin at 5PM. But feel free to come later if you can't make the 5PM start time.

All attendees must register with sdentice@earthlink.net before each class.

All Attendees must check-in at the front desk in the lobby of the Museum.

Classes are free to anyone as long as you have registered. If you are not on the registration list at the Front desk you may be asked to pay Museum admission. Please wear your Club name badge when you are in the museum.

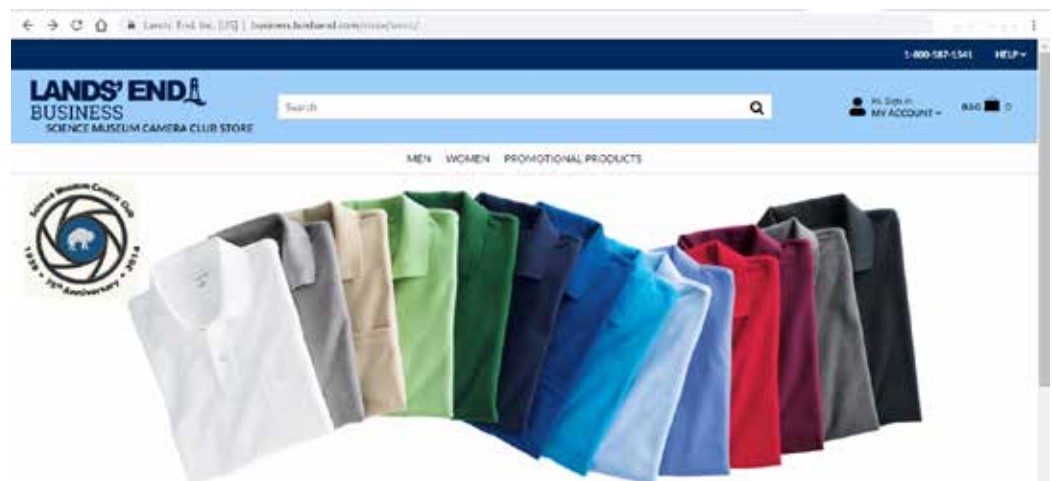
Donna Brok will be teaching in the Auditorium and Mary Lou will be teaching in the Jaeger room. Classes will run from 5:00-6:45 on program nights before our program begins at 7PM.

Date	Time	Location	Teacher	Title	Class Description
1/15	5PM	Aud	Donna	Solving Auto Focus Problems	Solving Focus Problems, it is Almost Always YOU. Learn how to focus the correct way.
1/15	5PM	Jeager	Mary Lou	How Cameras Focus	What focus settings in your camera will work best with different captures
2/19	5PM	Aud	Donna	Messy Backgrounds	Let's Fix Those Messy Backgrounds.
2/19	5PM	Jeager	Mary Lou	Luminosity Masks	Learning how to use Free Luminosity Masks from Tony Kuyper
3/18	5PM	Jeager	Donna	Luminosity Masks	Learn how to create your own Luminosity Masks and Use Them for Any Adjustment Donna's class has been moved to the Jeager room.
4/15	5PM	Aud	Donna	Cropping	The Cropping Obsession- Hacking Off Pixels and The Camera's Crop Modes-Learn when to crop and when not to crop.
4/15	5PM	Jeager	Mary Lou	Using Adobe Camera Raw on all image captures	Whether Jpeg or Raw, all images need to start their post processing in ACR

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/>

Current Monthly Competition Standings

2019 - 2020 Pojected Scores					
DIV	PHOTOGRAPHER	OCT		NOV	
B	Baker, Michael	11	13	12	11
B	Barbera, Catherine	10	11	10	11
B	Haag, Bob			12	13
B	Haag, Pat			12	12
B	Przepasniak, Linda			11	
S	Abu-Sitta, Moeen	12	10	14	13
S	Barrett, Sande	12	11		
S	Bartolotta, Claudia	10	13	13	13
S	Brunetto, Lynn	10	11		
S	Cadle, Diane	11	11	12	13
S	Carey, Shanlee	11	10	12	14
S	Crockett, Duane			12	13
S	Holmwood, Paul	12	12	13	13
S	Jaramillo, Patricia	11	10	13	13
S	Kerr, Tom	13	11	12	11
S	McDaniel, Kay			13	12
S	Meltser, Henry			13	14
S	Tandoc, Merle	14	10	12	12
S	Terranova, Patricia	12	11	12	12
G	Belczak, Cheryl	12	13	15	12

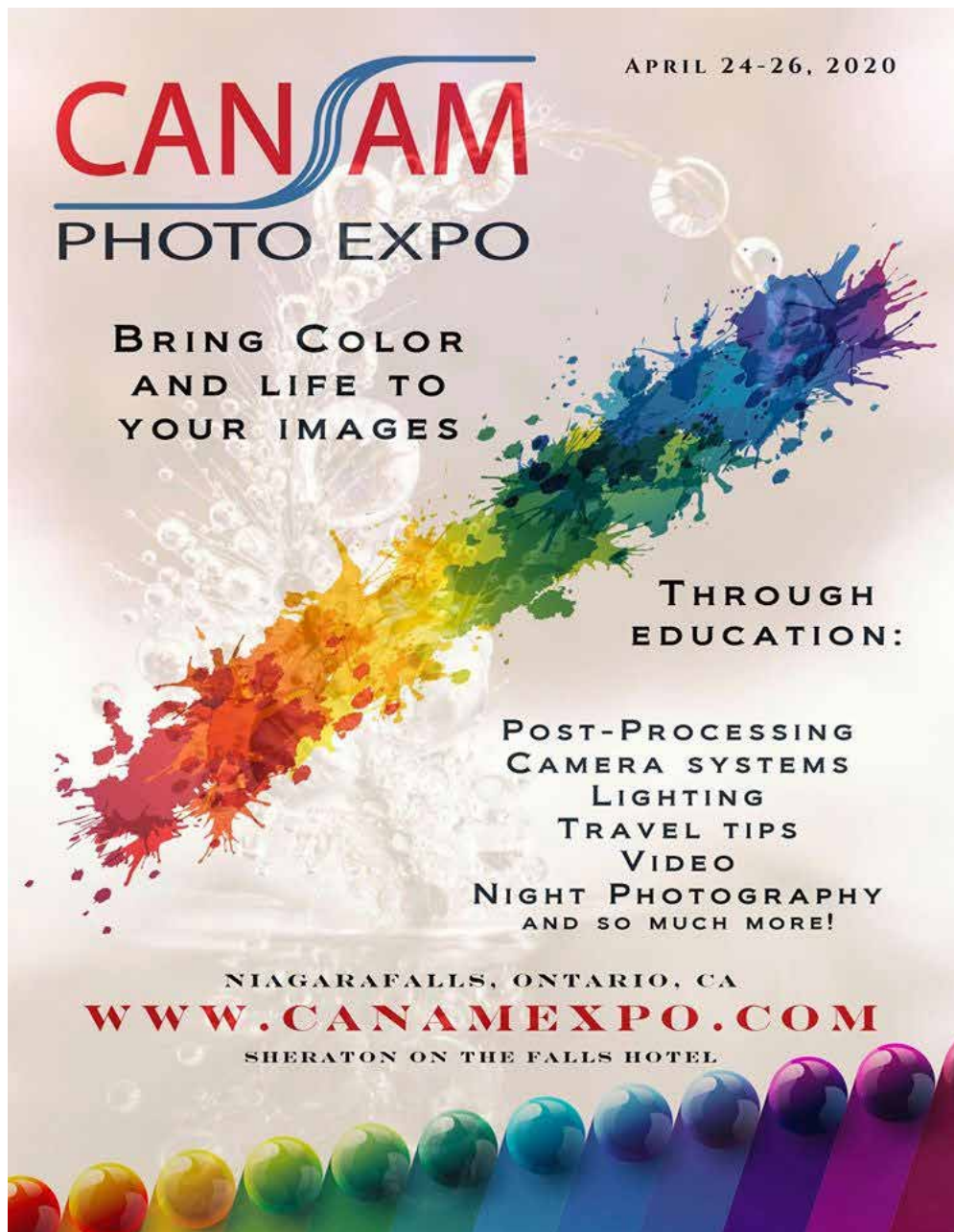
DIV	PHOTOGRAPHER	OCT		NOV	
G	Braun, Mark	11	13	14	12
G	Callaghan, Billy	11			
G	Castillo, Rogelio	11	9	12	12
G	Crane, Karen			15	12
G	Dentice, Sharon	10	10	13	13
G	Fenna, Kathryn	10	11	14	14
G	Flint, Kevin	12	11	13	14
G	Frost, Mary Lou	13	12	12	14
G	Kaderabeck, Bob	13	12	13	13
G	Lesinski, Theodore			13	14
G	St. Pierre, Cherie	12	13	11	13
G	Yu, Ernesto	11	11	12	13
P	Bartolotta, Charles	13	12	15	13
P	Braitsch, David	14	15	13	13
P	Dziak, Michael	11	14	13	14
P	Fenclau, Gerry	9	12	11	12
P	Hayward, Jeffrey	10	11	15	14
P	Kowal-Bukata, Esther	14	14	14	14
P	Kredo, Tom	13	13	13	14
P	Mathewson, Larry	11	14	14	12
P	Mathewson, Nora	12	12	13	12
P	Schwartz, Willis	10	13	14	12

2019 - 2020 Print Scores

COLOR					
DIV	MEMBER	OCT		NOV	
B	Dentice, Sharon	13		14	
B	Meltser, Henry			14	15
S	Abu-Sitta, Moeen	12	12	13	12
S	Carey, Shanlee	12		12	14
S	Holmwood, Paul			13	13
S	Jaramillo, Patricia	12	12		
G	Kerr, Tom	11	13	14	15
G	Mathewson, Nora	13	14	13	12
G	St. Pierre, Cherie	13	12	13	12
P	Bartolotta, Charles	13	15	15	14
P	Castillo, Rogelio	15		14	
P	Mathewson, Larry	13	14	13	13

P	Yu, Ernesto	12	14	14	13
MONOCHROME					
DIV	MEMBER	OCT		NOV	
B	Jaramillo, Patricia	11	11		
B	Meltser, Henry			14	14
S	Carey, Shanlee	11	9	13	
S	Holmwood, Paul			12	14
G	Castillo, Rogelio	10		13	
G	Mathewson, Nora	13	13	13	13
G	St. Pierre, Cherie	13	14	15	13
P	Bartolotta, Charles	13	14	15	14
P	Dziak, Mike	14		14	
P	Mathewson, Larry	11	11	13	13
P	Yu, Ernesto	11	12	13	13

Shooting and Learning Opportunities



"Lumagination" is the annual nighttime creative, light-plant fusion at the Buffalo and Erie County Botanical Garden.

Tuesday, January 28

(time not posted as yet)

This is the **ONLY** opportunity to use a tripod during this event.

Photo & Influencer Night

For professional or amateur photographers and invited guests. A special event discussion lead by Solis will also be held during a reception.

[For all updated information as it is available visit the event page.](#)

Saturday Morning Photoshop Classes with Mary Lou Frost

[Central Park Methodist Church](#)
Contact her for current schedule
mlfrost@verizon.net

\$5 donation for space rental

CanAm Photo Expo

SAVE the dates:
April 24-26, 2020

This year we'll be back at the Sheraton on the Falls in Canada with that amazing view!

Speakers and Field Trip details will be released soon

Look for them here:

<https://www.canamexpo.com>

SMCC Member Privileges

The SMCC Library

We have Books and Videos on the SMCC Library cart that are available for members to take home and return at the meeting for the next month. This is an "On your Honor" Free library. Look for the library Cart at every meeting.

No late fees here!

Online Critique Forum

Members can submit images to and get feedback from other club members here.

To access the Critique Forum, log into the [SMCC website](#) and then find **SMCC Image Critiques under Resources**.

Instructions for using the website forums can be found in the **Website Quick Tips**, again found under Resources. It is Tip #4.

Event Recaps

NFRCC Fall Seminar

with Don Komarechka
November 9, 2019



Photo courtesy of Andrea Burke.

Over 150 people gathered at Club Italia in Niagara Falls, Canada for an incredible learning opportunity served up with great food and photography friends.

The following day there was a (sold out) unique, hands-on opportunity to work on macro photography with supplies and help from Don. Sharon Dentice shares "He worked with each student at the workshop showing us how he makes his famous Bubble and Water Drop photographs. By the end of the workshop we all walked away with knowledge to do it at home. This will be a good winter project. The weekend was a great learning experience and Don was a spectacular speaker. If you missed it, you missed GREAT seminar."

Thank you to Scott Simons from Niagara Falls Camera Club for taking the lead on planning a great opportunity for NFRCC members this year.

SMCC Member Exhibition

Tuesday, November 26
a small committee hung
our show at the Buffalo
and Erie County Botanical
Gardens.

The Garden was closed
to the public as they set
up for their Poinsettia and
Railway Exhibit. It was
looking festive before
we left and they weren't
even finished.
Go check it out!



There are 30 images from Science Museum Camera Club members hanging. Thank you for your participation.

In the first 2 days 3 photos were sold!

Please mark your calendar for Monday, January 13, 2020 to take down your images from 10 am - Noon.
It is the responsibility of each photographer to pick up your framed photos.

NFRCC: Niagara Frontier Camera Clubs

As a member of SMCC you are also a member of NFRCC. This membership allows us to attend any meeting at any of the NFRCC clubs. The clubs and their programs are listed in the NFRCC booklet that you were given when you paid your SMCC dues. The booklet can also be downloaded on the [NFRCC website](#).

The NFRCC and its member clubs support the CanAm Photo Expo and the Fall seminar every year. Each year we ask for Volunteers to help with both events. As we get closer to April, we will be asking for help again this year at the CanAm in Canada.

[See Expo information on the previous page.](#)

Event Recap continued...

Inter-Regional Competition

NFRCC vs OCCC

November 23, 2019 | Hosted by Hamilton Camera Club
Presentation by Storm-Chasing Photographer David Chapman



2019 O3C-NFRCC Overall Point Accumulation				
Category	OCCC	NFRCC	Difference	Region Award
Animals Nature	6020	5860	160	OCCC
Creative Vision	5895	5645	250	OCCC
People in Action	5760	5435	325	OCCC
Pictorial	5890	5705	185	OCCC
Theme: Reflections	3485	3440	45	OCCC
TOTALS	27050	26085	965	OCCC

Thank you to Billy Callahan for providing scoring information and his impressions of the day.

Billy says "It was a nice day for a drive up to the location for the NFRCC vs OCCC competition. When I arrived, they had coffee and pastries to start the morning. They setup the equipment and we were off and running. There were many wonderful images in the competition, which is what I would expect. During the competition there were a couple of minor technical glitches but everything was sorted out in short order. The pace of the scoring went quickly and we had four of the categories judged prior to lunch. We enjoyed our Pizza and Salad and then went on to the fifth category. Since we were so far ahead of schedule, we took a break and the results were tabulated. (See above.) Discouraging, yes. But I look at the images and I know that members of the NFRCC are more than capable of putting in the winning images. We finished the day by listening to David Chapman talk about storm chasing and showing some of the images that he has taken over the years while chasing storms."

Thank you to the Photography Volunteers for the Buffalo Museum of Science special events: BubbleFest and DinoFest. See the full list of generous helpers in the "President's Message" on [page 1](#).



Frank "Dino" Gaskill ready to create some portrait magic.



One of **hundreds** of Souvenir Photos created for Bubblefest.



Watch out, Janet!!!
Stay safe Ms. President

Upcoming Competitions

January Assignment Challenge:

January 2020 Competition

Deadline for Entry: January 4, 2020

Photos must have been taken since January 1, 2019.

Projected Images

Subject: "Rain"

Technique: "Night Photography"

Print Image

"The Color Yellow"

It must be the dominant subject of this print.

Each year for our January Competition, we have assignments. Your entries need to fit the assignment to be eligible. (If you don't submit the assignment images in January, those entries cannot be made up later.)

Assignments are intended to encourage you to get out and use your camera and maybe photograph in a way you wouldn't normally. No "resurrecting" old images!

January 2021 Assignments will be announced soon.

E. Thomas Smith Nature Competition

This annual nature competition was initiated in 1968 by Mrs. Janice Healy in honor of her father. The winner receives the E. Thomas Smith trophy at the banquet in May. The winner holds it for one year, until the following May banquet, when it passes to the next year's winner.

This competition follows the Photographic Society of America's (PSA's) rules for Nature Images. These images shall be truthful to the subject as seen and shall not show evidence of the "hand of man."

You Should Enter the Dorothy Ralph Essay Competition!

The Dorothy Ralph Essay Competition is an annual competition that began in 1997 and is held in honor and memory of Dorothy Ralph.

Participants choose 12-20 images and write a statement of purpose to explain the connection within their collection of images.

During the banquet (May 20, 2020) each entrant reads their statement then a short slide show of their images is projected.

Dorothy was a longtime member of the Science Museum Camera Club who bequeathed a Hummel figurine of a photographer to the club. The figurine was mounted on the trophy that is awarded to the competition winner to keep for one year. All of the winners' names, and year awarded, are engraved on the trophy base. When the trophy is returned, a keeper award is given.

Do you have an idea for your entry?

Deadline: April 15 - *you have plenty of time to put together your entry.*

All entries will be privately screened and one winner will be selected before the banquet.

During the banquet on May 20, 2020 at the Millenium Hotel, all entries will be presented then the winner will be announced.

For full details, rules and current standings for SMCC Competitions, please visit the competition tab of our website.

<https://smcc.photoclubservices.com/CompetitionsMenu.aspx>

Member News:

Roger Castillo

OCEAN

I watch the ocean. A
wonderfully small person
am I.

People are small to the
vastness of the boastful sea.

Pleading lies beneath my
smile. Please don't pull me in
too far.

Powerful are the ocean tides.
My strength lead astray in
a momentary panic as a
rushing wave knocks me to
the sand.

I am at peace when I feel my
Mom watching me.

Safe each time a spoken
word reminds me I am your
son to love.

I mean to enjoy my Creator's
ocean. The awesome
vastness amount of water
infinitely looking at me.

Spanning the ocean the sky.
Talk cannot adequately
praise God's panorama.

Listen to the passing wave.
It amounts to a travel from
more than a thousand miles.

Each wave cadences to the
rhythm of a longing moon
alone in space.

It's pain drawing a beautiful
peaceful montage to notice.

Meaning is more fostered in
deep exploration.

I appreciate the ocean's
openness.

I am passing time like a
wave.

My life perfected in longing.



The author of this poem is Philip Mark Reyes after coming home from a family vacation in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic in Feb. 2015.

He was then 12 years old. He is a non-verbal autistic boy and was diagnosed as such at age 2-1/2. When he was 9 years old, he was found to be able to respond to a method of communication called the Rapid Prompting Method wherein he would communicate his thoughts, feelings and longings using a letter board and now, by using the keyboard. He is now 16 years old and remains non-verbal. However, he has been very productive and prolific and continues to advocate for himself and other autistic children in his Blog called faithhopeloveautism.blogspot.com.

Through his gift of writing and clarity of expression of his inner world he has been able to express how he perceives the world about him as well as his ability to explain the awful phenomena of disconnect between mind and body and also those movements and behaviors that seem uncontrollable that autistics experience. Through his writings he appears to have become a very much appreciated young man who is helping a lot of families understand this phenomenon of autism and help in understanding and communicating with their family members that suffer from this condition. Lately, Philip was invited to attend the ceremony in California for launching the book entitled, "Communication Alternatives in Autism: Perspectives on Typing and Spelling Approaches for the Nonspeaking" with Edlyn Vallejo Penna as the Author and could be found on amazon.com. Philip wrote a chapter in this book and as well as other autistic youngsters who have become well known for their abilities to enlighten the world about the nature and difficulties they are going through and their longing to be understood and to be helped by their families, physicians, educators and the community at large.

Philip is now in high school and taking some regular classes and is doing so with the help of an Aide who uses the Rapid Prompting Method also. He would like to become a writer someday. I happen to be his grandfather.

Member News: Bob Kaderabeck

Those of us who live in Western New York have the good fortune of enjoying four seasons, autumn being one of the most beautiful. In late October I took a two hour stroll through one of my favorite places, Reinstein Woods to appreciate the magnificent fall colors and to photograph them in all their splendor. Here are a few images I hope you will enjoy.



Member News: Ernie Yu



Ian Fleming's "From Russia with Love" has always intrigued me and made me intensely curious for decades to find out what is there to really love in Russia. Thus, when a rare, discounted

vacation package was emailed to us, I instinctively grabbed the moment, like a piranha recklessly snapping a good meal. Two weeks in mid-September River Cruise from Moscow to St. Petersburg at a hugely discounted rate to discover James Bond's love-adventure in the Soviet Union is a temptation I can be seduced.

Moscow's September month has similar weather pattern as Buffalo: Multicolored autumn leaves start to waltz with the chilly fall breeze, brilliant green landscape from sporadic raindrops here and there, fog swallows most early mornings that eventually surrender to the sun. In brief, every day is a fashion parade of light jackets and sunglasses. We were lucky to have an authentic Russian university professor in our ship who gave a daily one hour lecture on the history of the old and the new Russia. At one point, he asked the audience if we know the reason why in the Kremlin all restrooms have double-sided toilet papers. "Because the KGB always want a copy of everything," he answered with a hearty laugh. Moscow, St Petersburg and the in between towns that we made a few hours stop are all about grand castles and palaces, awe-inspiring cathedrals that stood the test of time, museums built with gold-plated pillars and posts packed with tons of art. Amazing what ancient people can create and build in the absence of TVs and football!

Saving myself from running out empty of descriptive vocabularies, I will let these visual memories that I captured to dish out the adjectives and adverbs.



Member News: Cheryl Belczak

Arts & Craftsman Guild on the Historic Roycroft Campus

Please join me **Saturday, December 14** from 12 - 3 PM for the exhibit opening at the Chur Family Gallery for the artist reception and refreshments.

In September I presented some of my work and a description of my methods to a panel of talented artists who represent the Guild. Later, I was excited with an invitation to join them as a Juried Member!

It is an honor to be recognized in a venue that showcases work "steeped in the tradition of head, heart and hand craftsmanship."

My work will be featured with three other newly juried members until February 3 in the gallery on the second floor in the Roycroft Power House. It would be wonderful to see you there!

Upcoming Presentations:

Niagara Arts and Cultural Center

Photo Pictorialism
Monday, February 10, 2020

Workshops: TBA

Southtowns Camera Club

Floral Photography
Thursday, March 5, 2020

Twin Cities Camera Club

Tabletop Experimentation
Tuesday, March 17, 2020

Science Museum Camera Club

Macro Photography
Wednesday, April 15, 2020
Presentation with Jeffrey Hayward



Flowers & Falls Workshop

September 16-20, 2020
Finger Lakes, NY

We would love to have you join us! Spots are already reserved and registration hasn't officially opened yet...

Jamie Konarski-Davidson and I will be leading a small group of photographers around some of the treasures in the beautiful Finger Lakes area. We will be focusing our attention on flowers and waterfalls.

For full details as they are available or to reserve a spot on the pre-announcement list - email Cheryl@Belczak.net & Jamie@newlifephotos.com

