

FOCAL POINTS

Vienna Photographic Society

OCTOBER, 2017

INSIDE:

Nature Visions News

Winners, Winners

Oct. 18 Competition

Field Macro Photography

Colvin Run Field Trip

Member News



OCTOBER, 2017

IN THIS ISSUE:

Nature Vision News	2
Oct. 4 Speaker	3
Oct. 18 Competition	4
Oct. 15 Field Trip	5
Competition Results	6
PSA report	7
Member News	8
Themes	9
Board/Focal Points	10
Membership App	11

VPS is a member of



<https://www.psa-photo.org>

VPS meets on the 1st, 3rd, & 4th Wednesdays, | September through June, at the Thoreau Middle School, Vienna, VA. Visitors are welcome. Please check VPS's calendar for details at <https://www.vpsva.org>



NATURE VISION NEWS

The photos are in. Results will be announced on lucky Oct. 13. But now, you can make a decision to improve your photos for future contests. Just take advantage of Nature Visions' unprecedented opportunity of a Portfolio Review by one of the expo's expert photography speakers. Space is still available for 20-minute critiques by Tim Grey, Denise Silva, Corey Hilz, Mark Buckler, Nikhil Bahl, Eileen Rafferty, Steve Gettle, Joe Brady, Roy Sewall, or Brian Zwit. Some other photo groups charge more than NVPE's reasonable \$60 fee. Click [HERE](#) to register. Visit NatureVisions.org for more info.

- Barbara J. Saffir



COVER PHOTO BY BILL MUGG

Bill shot the cover photo of a silverback gorilla at the Riverbanks Zoo in Columbia, SC about three years ago. He says: "This is a great small zoo for photographers. The gorilla exhibit is fantastic, especially since there is a great glass viewing area of the outside natural area (where this silverback was). One of the problems to overcome with glass at zoos is reflection, especially when there are a bunch of school kids standing next to you. Best approach: wait until they leave, which was about 30 minutes." Tech data: Sony A77, f5.6, ss 1/90, ISO 2000 Tamron 16-300mm lens, focal length 130mm.

Oct. 4 Speaker: Fred Siskind

Macrophotography in the Field

Fred Siskind is a nature photographer specializing in wildlife. In addition to regularly photographing in Washington area parks, he has traveled to many U.S. national parks as well as game parks in Kenya. He is a longtime member and former president of the Northern Virginia Photographic Society, and a member of the North American Nature Photography Association. He recently completed the Fairfax Master Naturalist Program.



Siskind will discuss macro photography in the field with an emphasis on photographing insects, such as dragonflies, damselflies, butterflies, and caterpillars. He will describe equipment he uses and cover the essential requirements for producing a good photograph: composition, background and foreground control, depth of field, gardening, and lighting. In addition, he will provide some hints on how to find dew-covered insects and present "Dew Trek," a short slide show set to music.

Siskind's photos have been published in many magazines (Audubon, Birder's World, Bird Watcher's Digest, National Geographic Kids, Natural History, Nature's Best, Outdoor Photographer, Smokies Life), books



(American Birding Association, Capstone, Kidsbooks, National Geographic, Western National Parks Association), calendars (Audubon, Shearson, Tildon), and used in exhibits (Huntley Meadows Park, National Park Service, National Arboretum) and brochures and posters (Huntley Meadows Park, Time-Life Books, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service). He collaborated with former U.S. Children's Poet Laureate J. Patrick Lewis on a poetry/photography book for children titled Face

Bug, which can be ordered on Amazon. His photos can be seen at <http://www.agpix.com/siskind>.

Oct. 18 Competition

Judge: Jean-Pierre Plé'

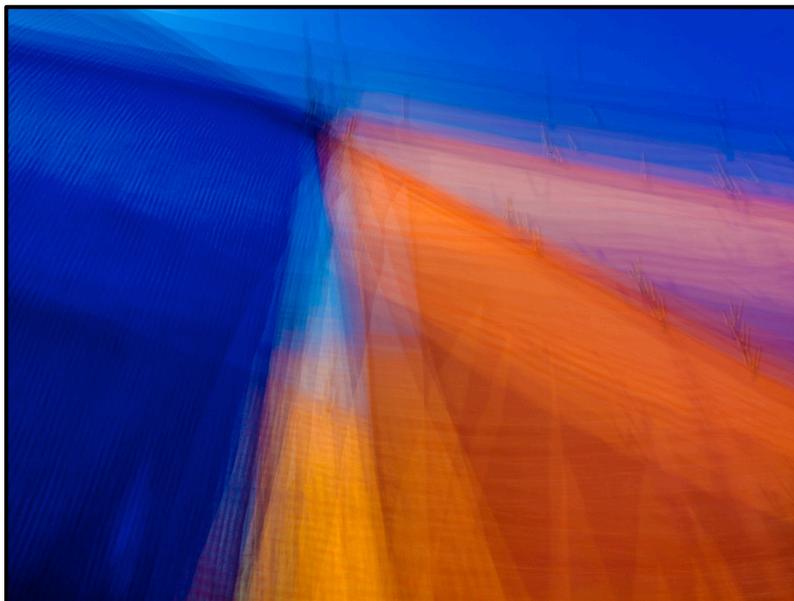
Themes: Ducks/Birds and Famous Places/Buildings/Memorials

Jean-Pierre Plé's interest in photography goes back to the 1970s in conjunction with his desire to record a solo crossing of the United States by bicycle. Influenced by Galen Rowell, his camera has since been an essential part of his gear whether sea kayaking in Alaska, trekking in Patagonia, or backpacking in West Virginia's Monongahela National Forest. His subjects have expanded from an original focus on nature and landscapes, to now also include abstracts, architecture, macro, contemplative, and street photography, almost anything where a strong visual and emotional message is formed by shapes, lines, or contrast in color or tones.

After growing up in Queen, NY, Jean-Pierre received his undergraduate degree from the University of Wisconsin, and went to earn a master's degrees from Duke University and a doctorate from the University of Delaware, in fields disciplines related to international affairs, natural resource economics, and marine policy. This academic training prepared him for a career in international ocean affairs and employment with the Department of State and currently with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. He also served 30 years in the Navy and retired at the rank of Captain.

Jean-Pierre switched from film to digital about 4 years ago, and his last film experience was with a large format (4x5) camera. He enjoyed large format because it forced him to slow down, to concentrate, and really think what he was trying to create (all the while looking at an image on the ground glass that was up-side down and reversed). His most recent work is greatly influenced from working with Freeman Patterson, Joseph Miller, Denise Ippolito, Joe Cameron, and Sam Abell, all of whom have helped him to improve his ability to "see" and to better incorporate principles visual design in his images.

He is a member of the North Bethesda Camera Club and Northern Virginia Photographic Society. His work has been part of numerous group exhibitions in the Washington, DC area, including Washington Printmakers Gallery, Waverly Street Gallery, the Photoworks Gallery, Nature Visions, Herndon ArtSpace, and Joe Miller's annual abstract exhibits.



Oct. 15 Field Trip

Colvin Run Mill

By Lori Saunders

For the busy (and hopefully) nice weather month of October, we will visit Colvin Run Mill on Sunday Oct. 15. Colvin Run, which is close by at 10017 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls, VA, is a restored mill originally built around 1811. The miller grinds grain on the first and third Sundays of the month between noon and 3 p.m., conditions permitting, so hopefully we will be able to photograph this while we are there.

Admission to the park is free; however, tours are offered on the hour (last tour at 3 p.m.) which costs \$7 for adults and \$5 for children and seniors. We will meet around noon in the parking lot. Please let me know if you need to arrive earlier or later. Fairfax County's 40-mile (plus) Gerald Connolly Cross County Trail runs by the mill.

For details, visit: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/colvinrunmill/>

Please post your favorite photos from the trip on our Flickr page

(<https://www.flickr.com/groups/vienna-photographic/>) and/or Facebook groups

(<https://www.facebook.com/groups/107509176593979/>) and I will pick one for the banner for the month.

Please RSVP with your cell phone number and email address to loriasaunders@gmail.com.



Sept. 20 Competition Results

Judge: Steve Gottlieb

Monthly Theme: Nature – 34 Entries

1st Place	David Kepley	Golden Crown
2nd Place	Mary Jane Fish	Sunflowers in the Fog
3rd Place	John Padbury	Sunflower Monochrome
HM	Kathleen Furey	Indian Summer
HM	David Kepley	Tide's Going Out
HM	Mary Rabadan	The Lunch Bunch
HM	Gwen Bowden	Beach Bird
HM	Fig Eater Face to Face	Alana Graves

Monthly Theme: Summer - 23 Entries

1st Place	Bill Mugg	Tipping Point
2nd Place	Alana Graves	Gardenia in Bloom
3rd Place	Mary Rabadan	A Summertime Visitor
HM	Joan Axilbund	Big Jump
HM	John Padbury	Water Fun
HM	Morton Friedman	Summer Silhouette
HM	Kathleen Furey	Summer Breeze

Open Digital Novice – 3 Entries

1st Place	Gordon Hay	Mom's Love (1 of 1)
-----------	------------	---------------------

Open Digital Advanced – 12 Entries

1st Place	Sharon Connolly	Spring Abstract
2nd Place	David Heagy	Tangier Transportation
3rd Place	David Kepley	A Blast of Pink!
HM	Gloria Spellman	Ballet Pose #1

Open Prints: Combined Novice & Advanced –12 Entries

1st Place	John Padbury	Along Brakeman's Bend
2nd Place	Patricia Deege	Musician and Friend
3rd Place	Bill Mugg	Tall Ship
HM	Kathleen Furey	Red & Yellow

Great photos everyone! A reminder: Please don't put your name or initials on your image in the competition or in the title of the image when downloading it for competition.

- Janet Gelb, Competition Manager

PSA Report

By Kathrin Swoboda, PSA Representative



The Photographic Society of America (PSA) is a worldwide organization providing a wide range of services that promote photography and benefits to its members. PSA publishes the monthly "PSA Journal," which can be found on our home page. Vienna Photographic Society is a member of PSA and competes in the PSA Interclub competitions, which pit clubs from all over the world against one another. Please see the home page of the vpsva.org for more details at "PSA News".

PSA Interclub 2017-2018: PSA Nature and Open:

PSA Nature round 1: Our three judges are currently reviewing the 41 entries and will select the 6 images that will represent VPS in round 1 at PSA.

PSA Open (or projected image division-PID) will be open for entry Oct. 4 with deadline Oct. 15. Any genre of photography is allowed and any post-processing is allowed. All images/ textures must originate from your own image. There is now a requirement for a model release for your image to be published on the PSA website should you win an award. The September PSA Journal has an excellent article about model releases. Specifically it states that "All recognizable likenesses of a human face must have a Model Release, unless the photograph was taken in a public location where people can expect that photos are being taken, whether the photo is used for monetary compensation or not." Please see the article for further helpful details. You CAN enter an image into PSA Interclub Open without a model release but it cannot be published should it win an award. The PSA website (psa-photo.org) has a sample model release.

Volunteer(s) needed: Please contact me if you are interested in being involved in PSA at Vienna Photographic Society or for any questions. - Kathrin Swoboda

Member News

Carla Steckley would like to invite the members to see her solo exhibit at the Jo Anne Rose Gallery, Reston Community Center, Lake Anne. 1609 - A Washington Plaza, Reston. The reception is Nov. 12, 2-4 p.m. The show runs from Nov. 1-26. Steckley has been taking photographs for 29 years. This show is a retrospective of her work from the darkroom days when infrared was her specialty to her most recent endeavors of printing on canvas. Carla is a former president of VPS.



"Focal Points" newsletter editor **Barbara Saffir** was selected to be the newsletter editor for Nature Visions Photo Expo. In September, Saffir won an honorable mention in the Kenilworth Park & Aquatic Gardens photo contest.

The Claude Moore annual photography exhibit took place Sept. 22-23 in the historic Lanesville House at Claude Moore Park. **Patricia Deege** won second place in the Advanced Landscapes category for her image of "Storm Clouds and Dead Tree," an Honorable Mention in the nature category for the image of "Polar Bears Shoving Match," and second place in the Paul Glascock Peoples Choice for "Claude Moore Cabin."



VPS THEMES FOR 2017-2018



- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| Oct. 18 | Ducks/Birds
Famous places/buildings/memorials |
| Nov. 15 | Working (animals, people, machines)
Street Photography |
| Jan. 17, 2018 | Simplicity
Abstracts in Nature Digital Art |
| Feb. 21, 2018 | Black & White
Winter Digital Art |
| Mar. 21, 2018 | Night Photography
Animals in Motion |
| Apr. 18, 2018 | Things that Fly
Photojournalism |
| May 16, 2018 | Town of Vienna
Flowers Digital Art |

VPS Board Members



President	David Kepley
First VP	<i>vacant</i>
Secretary	<i>vacant</i>
Treasurer	Burgess Levin
VP-Speakers	Julie Cochran
VP-Judges	John Padbury
VP-Comp.	Janet Gelb
Digital Proj.	Mike Cochran, Lilly Heagy, Lori Saunders
VP Mem Com	Gloria Spellman
PSA Rep	Kathrin Swoboda
Focal Points	Barbara Saffir
Dir Publicity	David Heagy
Membership	Paige Counts
Dir Website	Gloria Spellman
VP Forums	John Naman
VP Field Trips	Lori Saunders
VP Operations	George Silvas
Social Events	Carol Carroll
Exhibits	<i>vacant</i>
Gift Cards	Julie Cochran
50/50 Raffle	Julie Cochran
NatureVis.Rep	Bill Mugg

(To contact the club, please email webmaster@vpsva.org)

FOCAL POINTS newsletter is published monthly except for a combined July/August issue. Please email member news, story ideas, stories, and low-res photos to Editor Barbara Saffir (Barb22030 AT yahoo.com).

VPS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

JULY, 2017 through JUNE, 2018

Mail this application and your check (payable to VPS) or cash to:
VPS, c/o Paige Counts, 10315 Dunfries Rd., Vienna, VA 22181
or hand the payment and application form during any VPS meeting to
Paige Counts, Membership Director, or Burgess Levin, Treasurer

I am () a NEW member OR () RENEWING. I have been a VPS member since the year (_____)

First Name* _____ Middle Initial ____ Last Name* _____

Street Address _____ City-State-Zip _____

Home Phone _____ - _____ Work Phone _____ - _____ Cell _____ - _____

Email* _____ *=required

NOTE: To receive VPS's Newsletter (*Focal Points*) and other membership messages, you must provide a unique and valid email address. *Focal Points* is emailed to members and posted on the club's website as a PDF file. You need Adobe Acrobat Reader to open it.

PRIVACY: Membership records are maintained by the Membership Director. Periodically, the records are distributed to members to manage VPS's business. Membership records may also be shared with the Nature Visions Photo Expo as part of VPS's participation in that event. Membership records are also available on the VPS website to club members only. VPS will not provide member information to persons or to organizations outside the club, other than specified above. Members may opt to restrict the display of their membership records to other members as follows. Please check one of the options below. This will govern how your records may be displayed to other members on the VPS website:

INCLUDE ___ my name, phone number, home and email address. (This is the default option.)

INCLUDE ___ my name and email address.

INCLUDE ___ only my name.

I have enclosed my check.

() \$40 for a Single Membership

() \$60 for a Family Membership

DUES PAYMENT

() \$20 for non-renewing members joining after January 31.

() \$30 for non-renewing Family Members* joining after January 31

() cash for:

() \$15 for a Student Membership (age 18 or under)

*Family members, please make separate application and use unique email address for each member.

IMPORTANT: VPS Liability & Publicity Release

In consideration of being given the opportunity to participate in a Vienna Photographic Society (VPS) field trip or other event, I acknowledge, agree, and represent that I understand the nature of field trips and other VPS activities, and that I am qualified, in good health and in proper physical condition to participate in such field trips and activities. I fully understand that field trips and other VPS activities are conducted in different environments, and that, accordingly, my photography equipment and I may be exposed to dangers and hazards both natural and man-made. I fully accept and assume all risks and all responsibility for losses, costs, and damages I incur as a result of my participation in VPS field trips or other activities. I hereby release, discharge, and covenant not to sue VPS, its officers, directors, agents, independent contractors, volunteers, members and sponsors.

ADDITIONALLY, I authorize the use of any images submitted to VPS for use by VPS solely for publicity activities such as websites or brochures.

Acceptance of terms of VPS Liability Release (If under 18, parent or guardian must sign):

PRINTED NAME _____ Signature _____ Date _____

PARENT NAME _____ Signature _____ Date _____

HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT VPS?

- A Friend VPSVA.ORG Meetup.com Web Search VPS Card/Brochure
 Photo Expo or Exhibit _____ Photo Class or Store _____
 Newspaper _____ Other _____

PARTICIPATION IN VPS SUPPORT NETWORK

VPS has established a support network of members who wish to contribute a few hours each month to assist in VPS program activities, including providing assistance to VPS officers. This network is mentored by the First Vice President of the Vienna Photographic Society.

Are you interested in being listed as a member of the VPS Support Network? Yes No

If yes, please indicate in what areas you might volunteer to help us (a VPS officer will follow up by email):

- WILLING TO HELP WHERE NEEDED
 PUBLICITY: Providing publicity and information to the community about VPS
 INSTRUCTION DEVELOPMENT: Development of ideas for hands-on instructional programs like Forums
 FIELD TRIPS: Planning and arranging field trips
 AUDIO-VISUAL SUPPORT: Helping set up projection equipment at meetings.
 Learn to operate the projection program for competitions.
 SPEAKER PROGRAM: Help with planning guest speaker visits
 GREETING: Greeting new members and guests
 HISTORIAN: Assist in preparing historical documents about VPS activities
 TABLE SETUP: Help with setup for monthly photographic competitions
 COMPETITION JUDGING: Help with selection and planning of judges activity in monthly competitions
 PRINT HANDLING: Assist in passing prints during monthly competitions
 NATURE VISIONS EXPO: Help VPS Rep with the annual regional Nature Visions Photo Expo, Nov 11th-13th
 EDITORIAL HELP: Help by assisting editor with editing/production of monthly newsletter
 ARTICLE DEVELOPMENT: Writing, soliciting or editing articles for monthly newsletter working with the Editor
 PHOTO DISPLAY: Help with planning and arranging member photo displays and external Exhibitions
 WEBMASTER ASSISTANCE: Help with assistance to VPS Webmaster
 PARTY ASSISTANCE: Help setting up parties and social events

PLEASE PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION FOR USE BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

(Please print.)

Name: _____

E-mail: _____

Phone: _____

Questions? Contact David Kepley (*kepley.david AT gmail.com* or 703-978-2961)